

In response to the Resolution prepared at the 3rd dialogue session and passed by the Board of Trustees, the Board held a special meeting on Monday, October 2, 2023 in the Parlor. Board members present: Vic Elam, Ron Rees, Darryl Ting, Karen Binkley, Robin Bozian and Nancy Luthy. The purpose of this meeting was to do some preparation for our first meeting with team members from the UUA “Hope for Us” Team. To facilitate this first step, Beth Casebolt, our UUA Resource Person, drove to Marietta to meet with the Board, in person.

Beth had prepared some questions specifically to address Chris Keller's unsatisfactory performance evaluation which initiated much of the current turmoil in the congregation. The purpose was to hear “first hand” information from each Board member; then discuss common perceptions and assess the Board's position moving forward. Discussion included a broader representation of the concerns of the Congregation.

Beth then presented some of the options available to help a congregation transition from conflict to healing. Following that, each Board member was asked what he/she wanted to have happen. After all members participated in the discussion, Ron moved and Robin 2nd a motion: “The Board is seeking a reconciliation process to address the current concerns of the Congregation.” The vote passed unanimously. Beth will also meet with Rev. Kat to discuss the process moving forward.

Next Step: The Board will meet with Jacquis Robertson and Connie Goodbread from the UUA “Hope for Us” Team.