

## **Church Council First Unitarian Church June 29, 2026**

### **Notes Respectfully Submitted by Grace Munie**

Present: Stephen Wilke, Chair, Fran Hoffmann, Kathy Wire, Tom Finan, Grace Munie, Sabrina Trupia, Margaret Weck

Absent: Erin Milligan, Carl Bassi, Board Liaison

New Business:

#### **Margaret Weck, Church Treasurer: Discussion of Reserve Funds**

Which funds need permission (by whom) to spend? Treasurer should work closely with the Stewardship (Finance) Committee to review each fund for guidelines for expenditures and if Council, Board or other has authority.

Council activities to council: if a cluster is using less than their budgeted amount okay <Board only involved if a group is going over these limits or requesting additional funds> Music Staffing, for instance, earlier budget assumptions are not appropriate and \$2000 additional will be needed to fund the coming year.

Finance Cluster needs and wants to review requests first. Cluster makes recommendations to Council. Following discussion and vote of Council decisions go to the Board for approval of expenditure changes.

Council members are encouraged to go to the File Cabinet on the church website and read each of the funds guidance documents to determine the appropriate level of review, amount available for expenditure for each fund in a given time period.

Concern expressed that Council needs to be included in the roles discussion for the Administrator Position Visioning so that their needs and wants are met.

**Check in: Are you a dog, cat, neither or both person?** Nice assortment of answers.

#### **Report from the Board: Steve Wilke (for Carl)**

Partners Sacred Places awarded a \$40,000 grant toward the copper replacement after robbery.

Turning Sacred Space into Community Space training is occurring in Philadelphia. First Church hopes to send several to the Retreat Spring 2027. Cost is \$2000 per attendee and deposit is required now so all spaces not filled before application is submitted. Several members have expressed interest in attending.

#### **Reports from the Cluster Chairs:**

##### **Outreach and Social Action-Fran Hoffmann**

Freedom School PM Volunteers are still needed.

Kingshighway street repairs are completed so Vigils Return on July 14.

Designated Collections for 2026-2027 year is in the Application period. Robust number of applications received so far. Submitted applications will be reviewed after the application period.

Environmental Justice Task force is working on the checklist to become recertified as Green Sanctuary.

Trinity Community Cleanup days and Tabernacle Food Pantry need volunteers regularly. Information posted in weekly e-news.

Sunday, September 20 Heather Vickery, UU Coordinator for Congregational Activism will speak at First Unitarian.

Saturday, October 24 The UU Justice Summit will be held in Columbia, MO to prepare for the Spring Lobby Day.

July 12 Lisa Ross will be present at Coffee hour activity supporting the Women for Social Justice Postcard Writing Campaign regarding No on Amendment 4 on the August Ballot. Completing postcards is totally voluntary. The Church will not put church name on cards. A voter list is available to receive cards.

Partner Church No report.

Holy Ground Inactive.

### **Stewardship Cluster-Kathy Wire**

Canvas Circle Suppers did not happen. Hosts made homes available but there was too much going on in the community to get good participation so events were postponed. Who should host and when?

Additional information from the committee discussed during the church treasurer discussion earlier in the meeting.

### **Facilities Cluster-Tom Finan**

Copper Replacement mentioned earlier with Grant Received.

Grease Trap-Repair Kitchen

Rain Garden-French Drains were installed by volunteers

Library Window Wells Updated

### **Programming Cluster-Grace Munie**

Worship Committee-summer services continue

RE Committee-the committee is hosting 3 RE Services during summer. Children are invited to attend the sanctuary service with family on other Sundays. Childcare is available for children under 5 available each week.

Sandwich Making for Gateway 180 continues one Sunday monthly with Youth group participating.

**Upcoming Plans:**

No July Council Meeting. Any urgent business will be handled by e-mail.

Board and Council Retreat will be held August 15 at First Unitarian with ice breaker August 14.