

September 28, 2020 Church Council Meeting Notes

Call to order and chalice lighting

Opening words - Steve Smidowicz

Quick check-in: Joys and concerns

Report of Policy Board Representative: Rosemary Lawton, Policy Board VP

The Board is forming a task force on congregational engagement. This will also include work toward the refinement/development of a mission statement. Staffing changes were reported. The Committee on Ministry made a report on Religious Education. Faith For the Sake of All is looking for volunteers to help with COVID Testing.

Report of Minister: Rev. Kim Mason

There are many pastoral needs arising in the congregation. Memorial services are complicated by COVID restrictions. Rev. Kim is working with Fellowship Friday and how to adapt it to an online program.

There were questions about the Memorial Garden and potentially having something other than a tree, which have a hard time surviving in the space.

Reports of Cluster Chairs:

- **Steve Smidowicz – Stewardship Cluster**
Finance will be meeting in October. Financially we are okay. Revenue is down a bit. Margaret Lampe may be joining the Finance Committee. Finance will be discussing a year round canvass (instead of once a year).
- **Clint Cruse – Facilities Cluster**
Landscaping has been having regular workdays. Clint and a few others will be doing a workday on the building itself. Hope to set up a regular routine of work days. Collecting bids for sealing the parking lot -- will probably be between \$5,000 & \$6,000. Fixing the leak in the RE wing is scheduled to begin in early October.
- **Sue Herzberg – Programming Cluster**
Has contacted the committee chairs in the Programming Cluster. ERDE met for Fall Equinox outside. RE classes have begun -- some on zoom and some in person outside. The Play Area group met again and will be starting shortly.
- **Erin Milligan – Growth & Engagement Cluster**
Reached out to committee chairs and some responded to Erin and others to Lisa Cary. Care and Concerns has been very busy. Young Adult group is not meeting and does not have a facilitator. (Will try to reorganize once we meet in person again). Membership Committee will be meeting soon. There was a Newcomer chat a few weeks ago that had several people attending. Rev. Mason added that she hopes to have the chats at the end of each month. There is interest in having a class to learn more about UU.

- **Cathy Rauch – Outreach & Social Action Cluster**

Welcoming Congregations does not seem to have an active chair and is not meeting. Social Responsibility has a speaker series coming up. Rosemary Lawton is overseeing the Social Responsibility Committee. Susan Lammert is the new chair of Toward Justice. Will send the committee info form to the chairs.

Having a Cluster/Council meeting for all committee chairs was discussed. This could be a time for committee's in a cluster to share their goals and plans for the year. Also a time for brainstorming. After church seemed best to people. It was decided to hold the event on Nov. 8th.

Church calendar

Old business:

- Church COVID-19 task force recommendations: Clint Cruse
Work day and contractor protocols are in place. Looking for a positivity rate of 5% or less before any gatherings are permitted. Will be flushing water on a regular basis. Clint Cruse suggests that we do a water testing before we reopen the building.
- Forms: Committee-Group Grid (contact info) and Committee-Group Info Sheet (goals etc.)
- 4 seminary students – how can we use their talents this year?
The interns are preaching on October 4th. Rev. Kim has put in a request for them to help with some Adult RE and UU the Vote projects. Send ideas for the interns to Kim and she will forward them to their overall coordinator.

New business:

- Worship Committee survey – help from Board, Council, Membership Committee
The survey will be going out soon. Then the Membership Committee will do follow-up phone calls.
- Ideas for a Committee-Group leader meeting and maybe a virtual committee fair? Let's be creative! (see above -- will be holding our Council/Cluster meeting first)

Closing thoughts and adjournment