

Church Council Notes for 3/24/2025

Opening words: Tom Finan

Check-in: 6:35-6:50pm

Old Business: Deferred to Admin and Cluster Report: Reminders: Annual reports due 4/21 , Budget Approval 4/28, Sung Chair for Annual Meeting on 5/18.

New Business : Review information on ICE policy for greeters see attached.
Review new RE job description and discuss budget implications
Review process for picking Sung Chair

Reports from the Administrator and Policy Board Rep:

Report from the Administrator: Lynn Hunt

Update on Website redesign project. Daniel Korte will have the framework for the new website together by mid-April when Lynn returns from vacation.

Old Bookstore Space – The paint on the walls did not test positive for lead. The mini-blinds and the radiator did. Taking care of this will be relatively simple. The group is meeting on March 30.

The 2025 Canvass is nearly completed. The Board will make targeted phone calls to some people who have not yet pledged. The Canvass Committee anticipates a total close to \$430,000 which is similar to last year's campaign.

Report from the Policy Board Rep: Larry Dusenbury

A survey was put together with 3 options for a Vision Statement for the congregation. It has been sent out.

Fathman and Ross award committees were put together.

The Board adopted a Conflict of Interest Policy that had been drafted several years ago.

The draft policy concerning what to do if Immigration Officers would come to the church was presented and discussed.

Reports from Cluster Chairs:

Programming Cluster: Grace Munie

Michele Grove will be in St. Louis next weekend.

Rev. Kim's sabbatical will be over in a month.

Stewardship Cluster: Kathy Wire

Discussion about the future budget and the wished for new Congregational Life position (which will include RE and other functions). At this point the plan is to go forward with the position with the idea that it is an investment in the future.

Will be working on a proposed budget for input and discussion.

Is still looking at ways to reduce our insurance premiums.

Outreach and Social Action Cluster: Lisa Ross*

Social Justice resumed their Saturday vigil and it is now for Human Rights.

The Impact Investing program was postponed and is being assessed as to when to present it.

People are encouraged to join the Social Justice Facebook page.

FCCF is having a bake sale and raffle on April 13th.

Partner church is active.

Welcoming Congregations is not meeting. Will wait till Rev. Kim is back to pursue this group.

Growth and Engagement Cluster: Erin Milligan

Luke Steffen agreed to take over the Young Adult group. Will have a planning meeting over the summer.

Care and Concern and Women's Alliance are status quo.

Membership Committee has new members. The last Membership Orientation will be on Fellowship Dinner and New Member recognition will be

Facilities cluster: Tom Finan

Mold and lead paint remediation has been taking place in the library. The most recent air test came back clean. Outside issues need to be addressed before work on the interior can continue.

A backflow preventer was added to the boiler.

The Chapel heat pump has been tested.

Building assessment – has received two proposals.

Closing Words: Sherry Bassi

*The following are notes that were shared at the February meeting, but left out of the notes of the meeting.

- **Social Justice** committee is in the midst of the adult RE class on Social Class and Social Justice in Unitarian Universalism.
- Would also like to encourage people to contact Margaret Weck to join our Facebook Group "First Unitarian St. Louis Social Action Opportunities", a site we can use to post time-sensitive social action opportunities in our congregation and in the community. It's a private group so you have to contact Margaret to get invited, or go to Facebook, look for the group and ask to be invited. It's called "First Unitarian St. Louis Social Action Opportunities."
- **Partner church:** Robert Kokenyesi will be traveling to our partner church to attend the installation ceremony of our minister Rev. Noemi Balazs as the minister. Our church's Makers' Ministry will donate gifts for Rev. Noemi

