

Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting
Treasure Coast Unitarian Universalist Church
March 19, 2017

Call to Order: Vice-President Bill Falk called the meeting to order at 12:20 PM.

Establishment of Quorum: The Secretary, Ray Burdett, indicated that forty-six voting members of the congregation had signed-in to the meeting, confirming that a quorum was present.

Annual Report: The 2016-2017 Annual Report, compiled by Dixie Gray, Treasurer, was passed out to attendees. It included the following information:

- Report from the Board of Directors, submitted by Bill Falk, Vice-President
- Minister's Letter, submitted by Reverend Paul Johnson
- Slate of Candidates for the 2017-2018 Board of Directors
- Reports from the various church committees
- 2016-2017 Building Project Report, submitted by David Gray, Building Project Coordinator
- Narthex Art Gallery Committee Charter
- A sign-up sheet for individuals interested in joining a specific committee
- Proposed budget for 2017-2018

Approval of the minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting: The minutes were not included in the Annual Report packet, and Vice-President Bill Falk summarized these minutes for the members. **Martha Alfee moved to accept these minutes, and Jim Henderson seconded this. The minutes were accepted by voice vote with no dissents.**

Proposed Budget: Dixie Gray, Treasurer, and Bill Falk, Vice President presented the 2017-2018 proposed budget. Dixie and Bill made the following comments:

- The Board has proposed an increase from \$130, 535 in 2016-2017 to \$152,935 in 2017-2018, an increase of \$22,400. This increase is primarily due to the following items:
 - **Staff wages and Benefits: Increase of \$6450.** This is related to two areas:
 - Interim minister package for a full year. Paul Johnson will be with us for a full year, so costs will go up accordingly.
 - Ministerial Intern. We are taking on a ministerial intern, Claudia Jimenez, who will assist with community outreach, Sunday services, and act as a resource for our start-up of religious education
 - **Worship and Music: Increase of \$5200.** With this increase, we will be augmenting our Sunday services music program and paying for dynamic speakers on the days that Paul Johnson is not speaking.
 - **Religious Education: Increase of \$2000.** This increase will assist us in hiring someone to implement a children's religious education program.
 - **Congregational Life and Outreach: Increase of \$1750.** This is primarily related to an increase in social activities for our members and recruitment of new members.
 - **Facilities and Equipment: Increase of \$1350.** This is primarily due to upkeep of our expanded facility.
 - **Business Administration: Increase of \$5150.** This includes increases in website technical assistance and other professional services and increases in supplies.
- **Proposed Sources of Income for the 2017-2018 year:** Jim Henderson asked to see the sources and amounts of our proposed income, and this was printed out and distributed to those in attendance.

- **Pledges: \$125,000.** We have set a goal of getting approximately 80% of our income for this year from pledges. As of the day of the Annual Meeting, we have received pledges of \$110,000, with 15 pledges still outstanding. We are confident that we will reach our pledge drive goal during the year, either from the remaining outstanding pledges, from increases in pledges as the year progresses, or by adding new members to the congregation.
- **Cash Plate: \$7500**
- **Named Contributions: \$3000**
- **Fundraising: \$9000**
- **Building/Land Rental: \$8500**
- **Total: \$153,000**

Gail Deaver questioned if there was money in the budget and plans to encourage fellowship activities among the members of the congregation. Members of the Board explained that funds are available in the budget for this under the category of Congregational Life and Outreach, which has an increase in funding of \$1750 over last year's budget. We will continue to have activities such as Cook's night out, coffee hour, congregational dinners, new member greeting, the Adventure Club, and we are hoping to encourage other small group activities.

Martha Alfee moved to accept the budget, and Ronnie Dembowski seconded this. The budget was accepted by voice vote with no dissensions.

Minister's Report: Reverend Paul Johnson reported on some highlights of the coming year:

- **Adult Religious Education:** He has been presenting adult UU education on Sunday mornings, prior to the services on the days that he is speaking. He will continue to offer these sessions and other adult educational opportunities in the coming year.
- **Ministerial Intern:** Claudia Jimenez will serve as a ministerial intern this coming year, under the supervision of Paul. Activities that she will be involved with include: leading some Sunday services when Paul is away, involvement with community outreach, and serving as a resource for children's religious education.
- **Children's Religious Education:** We will be adding Religious Education for children this year, probably starting with the new school year. There are funds available in the budget to hire a director for this program.

Election Results: 50 members of the congregation voted for the new Board of Directors for the 2017-2018 year, including those members who voted by mail and those who voted at the meeting. The results of the election were the following:

- President: David Gray
- Vice-President: Bruce Olson
- Treasurer: Ray Burdett
- Secretary: Fred Dembowski
- Members at Large: John Fox, Betty O'Brien, Lin Olson

Recognition of Outstanding Contributions: Bill Falk recognized the following individuals and groups for their service to TCUUC over the past year:

- The outgoing Board members for their faithful and capable service, including: Susan Hemmer, President; Bill Falk, Vice-President; Dixie Gray, Treasurer; Ray Burdett, Secretary; and Members at Large, Fred Dembowski, Linda Irvin, and Lin Olson.
- Reverend Paul Johnson, for providing us with church leadership, wonderful Sunday services, and helping us with a legacy giving program, which will greatly enhance our endowment.

- The Pledge Drive Chair, Barney Moore, and her team, which raised the most pledge money of any previous pledge drive.
- The Membership Committee, chaired by Jon Page, for helping to bring in 13 new members.
- Ronnie Dembowski, as Chair of the Hospitality Committee, who organized the provision of all of the food and supplies, the set-up, and the cleanup for Sunday after-service coffee and conversation and church social events, and organized and coordinated Cook's Night Out.
- Fred Dembowski, as leader and organizer of "The Adventure Club"
- Dixie Gray, who essentially became the business manager of the Church.
- The Social Responsibility committee, which helped to make us a presence in the community through application of our Principles
- And many others who served on the various committees, without whom we would not be able to function.

New Board President's Remarks: Bill Falk introduced the new President, David Gray, and David addressed the meeting with the following points:

- We should all be very grateful for the foresight of David Craig and the many donors who helped to bring about our new sanctuary. We now have a greatly enhanced facility for worship, church activities, and as possible rental space.
- We are very grateful to the ministerial search committee for finding us a wonderful Developmental Minister, and we should call on Paul's experience to help with our continued development.
- David challenged us, in the coming year, to match the progress that we made last year by substantially increasing our membership, our fundraising, and our activities.
- He told us that "What first seems impossible can be done", and it is time to set and accomplish large goals.

Lin Olson then led everyone in a round of applause for the service of the outgoing board members.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. This was unanimously approved by voice vote, and David Gray, the new President, adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by Ray Burdett, outgoing Secretary of the Board of TCUUC.