

## UUSIC All-Congregation Meeting Highlights

January 22, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President Sue Otto at 11:20 am. Rev. Steven Protzman offered opening words. Otto welcomed the congregation, reviewed the agenda, and announced the February 12 Installation of Rev. Protzman as a Settled Minister. She invited the congregation to share in this celebration.

Otto then reviewed processes that have occurred since 2010 related to facilities issues, and the charge of the newly developed Facilities Planning Task Force, i.e., to review existing data, interview key people, identify and gather additional information as needed, assemble cost information, assess viability of options and make recommendations.

The work is expected to culminate in the drafting of a document that articulates specific recommendations on what facilities are needed for the UUSIC to fulfill its mission in the future and how best to achieve the goal of attaining such facilities. The task force will hold open monthly meetings. Its members are Sharon Booker, Adam Ingersoll, John Jennewein, Kurt Hamann, Lisa Haverkamp, Jim Laughlin, and co-chairs Maureen Patterson and Paul Pomrehn.

Otto explained that a Faith in Our Future (FOF) Fund was established by the Board because some members had requested a way to take action on the facilities issue by contributing; this fund allows for that. She also explained what the fund would be used for and what it would not be used for.

Next, Otto outlined the purpose of the Committee on Congregational Life and Ministry (CCLM), which is to monitor ministries of the UUSIC shared by the minister, the Religious Education (RE) Director and congregational groups. The CCLM is also charged with evaluating and strengthening the effectiveness of these ministries in supporting UUSIC's mission and the vision articulated by the board. Otto thanked those willing to serve on the committee: Jake Altman, Jeanette Carter, Diana Henry, Will Jewell, Kelly O'Berry, Jim Olson and Bonnie Penno. Lois Cole and Protzman are ex-officio members.

Board Treasurer Doug Wallace reviewed the 2011 budget, for which UUSIC was \$19,984 under budget because of savings such as ministerial

search costs, building and grounds, utilities and insurance. Wallace explained the 2012 proposed budget, which projects income at \$341,600, and has a budget \$9,000 greater than in 2011. Wallace thanked the stewardship committee and Dave Martin in particular for years of work on the stewardship campaign. The 2012 pledge amount is \$310,000, an increase of about \$33,000 from 2011. Wallace also acknowledged the diligent work of Dick Siefers, former Board Treasurer. In 2008, UUSIC's net worth (not including the building) was around \$402,000. At the end of 2010, it was ~\$777,000, and at the end of 2011 it was \$845,000.

Member Charity Rowley requested an explanation of the dues to the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and the Prairie Star District (PSD). Wallace indicated UUSIC has increased dues payments annually over the last several years, and will pay 70% of the dues in 2012. The plan is to pay 100% in 2013. Dave Martin thanked Wallace for his work, and encouraged the Board to consider paying more of the dues obligations if, later in 2012, it looks as though it's possible.

Ken Atkinson asked about the membership coordinator position. Otto acknowledged the good work of the Membership Committee. She indicated the Board believes this position will pay for itself in numerical membership growth. Membership Committee Chair Jean Reese thanked the Board for their commitment to hiring a coordinator.

Jean Hood asked why the Pastoral Care budget had been decreased from \$400 to \$100. Wallace explained that no money was spent in 2011. Otto explained that if there are needs in 2012, committees need to request funds from the Board.

Joe Brisben asked if endowment money is invested in socially responsible funds. Alice Atkinson, chair of the endowment committee, indicated funds were invested with Vanguard, which offers no-load funds. They are not invested in socially responsible funds because the committee found "socially responsible" challenging to define.

Brisben made a motion to approve the 2012 UUSIC budget. Diane Martin seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously (70-0). The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm.—*Susan Salterberg, secretary*