

Unity Christian Church Board Meeting

AGENDA

September 12, 2021

12:15 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84622474685?pwd=cG9RVjlOUdTdUd00xdTlXRHhlaDVnUT09>

Meeting ID: 846 2247 4685

Passcode: 503818

One tap mobile

+13126266799

- 1) **Prayer and Call to Order**
- 2) **Quorum: Yes or No** (Requires 9 voting members)
- 3) **Additions to Agenda**
- 4) **Approval of Minutes** from previous meetings July 11, 2021
- 5) **Reports:**
 - a. **Finance Team:** Attached
 - b. **Trustees:** Attached
 - c. **Minister's Report:** Attached
 - d. **Nominating Team:**
 - e. **Property Team:** Attached
- 6) **New Business:**
 - a. **Air Conditioning Expenditure Request – Property Team**
 - b. **Back to Church Celebration – Sept. 19**
- 7) **Old Business:**
 - a. **10 Year Anniversary Planning Team**
- 8) **Announcements:**
 - a. **Board Meeting Dates:** Next Meeting: Nov. 14, 2021
Future Dates: Dec. 5 and Dec. 12

Adjournment with Closing Prayer:

Unity Christian Church
Board Meeting in Person and by Zoom
Minutes for July 11, 2021

Members Present: Pamela Vicars-Runnals, Jesse Shepherd, Frances Hunter, Jenny Doud, Sonny Dodson, Becky Moore, Alicia Sutherland, Dan Cheverton, Natasha Pappas, Kathy Young, Gina Rhea

Upon establishing the presence of a quorum, Board Chair Jenny Doud called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. and opened the meeting with prayer. One item was added to the agenda: a proposal for a motorcycle run fund-raiser to support the Radford Clothing Bank.

Sonny Dodson moved to approve the minutes from the May 16, 2021 Board meeting as presented. Dan Cheverton seconded the motion. The motion carried and the minutes of the meeting were approved as submitted.

Reports

Finance: Jenny presented the financial reports, a copy of which is attached and is made a part of these minutes.

Trustees: Dan presented the investments report from Stifel, a copy of which is attached and is made a part of these minutes.

Pastor: Since Wendy is on sabbatical, there is no pastor's report.

Personnel: Pam reported that she will be sending out information concerning nominations for leadership positions for 2022. She also announced that following the approval of the position of Praise Band Leader, J.C. Hamilton was hired to fill this position.

CWF: Jenny presented a report of recent activities of the CWF from President Anne Chrisman, a copy of which is attached and is made a part of these minutes.

Old Business

1. Jenny reported that Radford City Schools has withdrawn its request to use space in the church for preschool program. Superintendent Graham cited transportation issues and gave appreciation for UCC's willingness to host this program.
2. Jenny reminded the Board of the upcoming 10-year anniversary of Unity Christian Church. She will be requesting volunteers to help with planning a celebration event.

New Business

Becky introduced the possibility of an opportunity to aid the Radford Clothing Bank by sponsoring a motorcycle run fundraiser. She suggested this be held in the fall. Sonny provided information on how this type of event is operated. Pam moved and Sonny seconded that the Board approve this fund-raising event. The Board supported this unanimously.

Announcements

Jenny reminded members of upcoming meetings: Sept. 12, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, and Dec. 12

There being no further business, Sonny offered a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 p.m. and closed with prayer by Gina.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Hunter, Recording Secretary

September 2021

Dear UCC Family;

Thank you for your financial support of the mission and vision of Unity Christian Church. Through your giving UCC continues to share God's love in countless ways. UCC has been able to adapt to changing circumstances and share God's word through open doors, personal connections, helping hands and on-line services. Our missions have clothed, fed and sheltered countless individuals and families in our community. We've continued teaching God's word and studying spiritual answers in a changing world. All this has been possible through the love and support of members and friends worshipping with Unity.

As one of 3,627 Disciples of Christ churches, UCC has used the last 18 months to evaluate how we can worship, connect, serve, and share with our community while managing our church operations. While we've used our resources wisely, meeting these challenges requires increased support from our members and friends. In 2020 tithes and offerings provided only 80% of the expenses for operations, education and personnel. This year, with fewer individuals meeting together, tithes and offerings are **18.5% less than last year.**

Enclosed is a statement of your support through August 31, 2021. As you review your statement, you're asked to consider increasing your giving to assist with operations with an extra monthly gift or a percentage increase in your regular giving. Your gift can be made before services, mailed or dropped off at the Church office, and also online through Givelify. There are other ways you can support UCC such as designating the Church for rewards from your retail and grocery purchases. Kroger Community Rewards can add up!

Soon you'll receive a Commitment Form for 2022. Please review your current giving and consider how you can make a difference both now and in the future.

Your support is appreciated and shares God's love from your home to a multitude of others. Every gift, no matter the amount, supports what God seeks for His Kingdom.

Sincerely

Jenny Doud, Chair

Carlton Altizer, Auditor

Unity Christian Church
Minister's Report
Sept. 2021

Worship

--So great to be back with you!!!

--Tim Moore preached for me while I was away officiating a wedding. Grateful for his willingness to do this and for him to have the opportunity as he begins to work towards the license ministerial program through the Virginia Region.

--This Sunday is a celebration with music and special recognitions.

--Next Sunday, Sept. 19 is National Back to Church Day. We will have a special service and block party after worship. Teresa Orange has been pulling together all the activities and needs for the block party. We hope to make it an opportunity for the church to be together and to welcome and include RU student. The funds we are using for this event are coming out of the sabbatical fund designated for meal on my return. Next Sunday we will also recognize those who participated in Summer Sabbatical Challenge.

--From Sept.19-Oct. 24, I will be doing a sermon series on Altars in the World. There will be continued reflection on what I learned on sabbatical. I will be looking at some ways to emphasize stewardship and giving as well. Oct. 3 will also be World Communion Sunday.

--Oct. 31 we will have an All Saints Service in which we will lift up the saints of the church that have died in 2021. It has been a hard year with 7 deaths and I think this service will help us all with our grief.

Pastoral

--Daily phone calls with people and some one on one in person visits to homes. After the surveys came it out it was apparent that I need to do more checking in on our shut-ins. My goal is to make Mondays the day specific for calls and visits. Since my return from sabbatical, I have made 8 home/hospital/nursing home visits

--Officiated at the destination wedding of Parker and Nourdjan Chrisman's wedding

--Officiated at Geneva Mottesheard's funeral and beginning prep for Lila Lorton's.

--Elders will be meeting on Sept. 22 to revisit what it means to be an Elder and what Elders want to do at Unity Christian Church.

--More Conversations with Tim Moore as he prepares to begin the Commissioned Ministry program of the region. I will be setting up his team this month to begin the support process.

Outreach

--Community Table is going well and we are ready to open up to other Teams outside of our church. Grateful to all who cook and deliver meals.

--Partnership with Daily Bread and Ridgewood is going well and everyone who participates seems to love being a part. We now have two weeks under our belt.

--I believe work was done with Project Bluefield this summer. I loved seeing the video online of all the rooms. It is amazing what the team has done with the cabin. I love it!

Children/Youth/RU Students/Young Adults

--Children Worship and Wonder starts back this Sunday with a special training for our three year olds. Gloria and Gina worked on the room and organized stories several weeks ago to prepare. We are having trouble scheduling storytellers and greeters. We need to look at having more of both responsibilities.

--I heard One Day/All VBS and pool party went well. Not a lot of kids participated but those who did had a good time. I will follow up with Candace soon.

--We currently having nothing in place for youth, college, or young adult programming. I do know that Kathy and Morgan who have served the youth faithfully are checking in on youth by text. Kathy Young took Erin Wilson to dinner last week.

--The Mustard Seed Ministry for Children in Grades 1-5 will start back in October. Teresa Orange and Dottie Wheeler will lead the group and are both super excited about doing so. The group will gather two Sundays a month after worship.

--Teresa continues to mail out children bulletins weekly and prepares the children's worship bags weekly.

--We do have 4 regular RU attenders and had 2 new students come last week. I had a father of a student call me two weeks ago to ask me to check in on his son.

Evangelism

--Facebook posts are AWESOME and getting lots of likes and shares. Becky Moore took this ministry on while I was on sabbatical and has willingly accepted to continue doing this.

--The congregational surveys revealed to me that our church does not have a clear understanding of what evangelism is so I will be working on that in the new year.

Transformation/Visioning

--It sounds like the team that met with church consultant and did the reading of Piloting Church had a good experience. We will meet soon to share what they learned and what learned, wrap up with the consultant, and see how we need to move forward. The repercussions of COVID on the congregation are showing up and revealing that we need to regroup on some of our leadership structures and the need to put some of our dreams on hold.

Property

--Gina Rhea has really stepped up to take leadership over this team. First item of business, a new air conditioner. She organized a clean up sessions this summer and the team got a lot done. Grateful for the group.

Educational/Small Groups

--The Old Testament Study was a HUGE success and we will continue to offer various opportunities to learn and grown in the faith. Tentative schedule for these things will be out soon.

--Would like to see us do more intergenerational activities to promote building of relationship and trust.

--God and My Girlfriends begins this Monday.

--I hope to have continued learning, growing opportunities in person and on zoom.

--I hear the yoga was a big hit over the summer and would love to offer that again to the congregation.

Denominational Ministries

--Saturday, Sept. 25 will be a District Reunion Picnic Play Day at Bisset Park. I hope we have a good representative from Unity participate.

--Milo and Demi enjoyed camp this summer.

Community Involvement

--I continue to work closely with Radford Fairlawn Daily Bred as Co-Chair. We are currently in the process of hiring a new director. We will be interviewing 3 candidates next week. Also working on some restructuring and leadership. Dan Cheverton has become one of the cooks for RFDB and will take over as the bookkeeper on Sept. 21. Go Dan!

--I am grateful for our partnership with RFDB.

Sabbatical

--I'm so grateful for all I experienced and for the time off. So grateful that Gina was able to step in and serve as interim pastor.

--In the next few weeks I'll be wrapping up the financial piece of what we have spent and look at what is left for next summer's Africa trip. I'm so glad that the church had good participation in the various activities offered. Hopefully in October will we had the Contemplative Prayer piece.

--Two favorite experiences—family vacation to the beach (we haven't had a family vacation since 2016 so it was awesome,) and the retreat to Ghost Ranch.

--Along with trips, play, relaxing, prayer, etc. I did do some studying. I worked along side visioning team with reading "Piloting Church" and doing the video learnings and I did a learning webinar with 8 modules on "The Highly Affective Leader."

--3 top insights:

*I have got to stay spiritually connected and take care of myself and family so I can be more helpful and positive for the congregation.

**We need to have more fun together as a congregation and we need to have more opportunities to spiritually grow. I have some ideas I'm putting together for that. I will need help in implementing these opportunities.

***I have been reminded that as the pastor of the congregation one of my primary roles is to equip church leaders for ministry. In order to this we will have to do some restructuring and refocusing. As a result of the pandemic all churches are struggling, we are no different and need to reimagine and think outside of the box. That being said, we are in a much better place than many congregations and I have full confidence that we will follow God's lead in what we need to do to remain faithful and effective in the years to come.

Faithfully,
Wendy Wilson

Property Team Report

Sept. 2021

Activities since July Board Meeting:

Hobart-Wagner:

Repaired 2 eyes on the stove with new switches

Repaired the left oven, a wire to an element had burned into.

McGrady-Perdue:

Repaired water pipes on BOILER that were leaking.

Did maintenance inspection on Sanctuary AIR-CONDITIONERS and found problems.

RECOMMENDATION/REQUEST TO THE OFFICIAL BOARD

Date: September 1, 2021
From: The Property Team
Re: Proposal to replace sanctuary air-conditioning units

Background: During August, the Property Team had the sanctuary air-conditioning units serviced. It was discovered that one of the units was leaking refrigerant and the other had a compressor piston that was sticking. The technician advised proactively replacing the units since there was no way to estimate how long the units would continue to operate. As far as anyone can recall, the units were originally installed in the early 1990's meaning they have been in use 25-30 years, which may be well beyond their life expectancy.

Team Action:

1. The Property Team secured proposals from three companies to replace the units: Blue Ridge, McGrady-Perdue and New River. All three submitted proposals.
2. At a meeting on August 31, the team decided to recommend the McGrady-Perdue proposal for the Amana units to the Board (specs attached).

Cost: \$18,700, itemized as follows:
 \$17,500 – units
 850 – air purification system
 350 – thermostat

 \$18,700 – total

Request: Approve the Property Team's recommendation to purchase the Amana units from McGrady-Perdue and for that company to install them. The team also requests permission to spend up to, but not to exceed, \$20,000 in the event that a problem is encountered in the installation process.

Respectfully submitted,

The UCC Property Team