

UNITY OF BON AIR  
Annual meeting minutes  
May 19, 2024

Present:

President: Reverend Zita Correll

Treasurer: Myra Federspiel

Secretary: Amy Fulcher-Davis

Board Members: Reverend Lisa Marks; Chuck Clark; Joann Grayson, Mike Matthews

Trustees: Jane Gordon, Rusty Rothrock, Tom Layman

Senior Minister: Reverend Patty Bittner

Congregants in attendance live stream and in person in sanctuary

President Zita Correll: Joyous and enthusiastic celebration, thank you and welcome, key chains and other gifts passed out. On the key chains. "May you be proud of the work you do, the person you are and the difference you make". Susan Green passed out the key chains. Zita asked the Board members and Trustees to stand. Board members appreciated for their service.

Reverend Patty prayed us in.

MOTION BY MIKE MATTHEWS and seconded by HOWARD TO APPROVE THE 2023 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.

Welcome to online folks.

Zita introduced nominating committee for 2023 Reverend Patty. Need member representatives to serve on the nominating committee: Lawrence Schechter and Deb Stelmach.

Zita introduced the new Board Member. By laws call for 7 board members and 3 alternates. One member could not complete term, Harry Simmons. Reverend Lisa will finish Harry's term. Lisa will step into 2 new years.

MOTION: MOTION TO ACCEPT MICHAEL MATTEHWS AND MYRA FEDERSPIEL AS NEW BOARD MEMBERS FOR NEXT 3 YEAR TERMS. BY PROCLAMATION UNANIMOUS YES MOTION CARRIES.

Zita gave out gift: bookstore coupons.

**Susan Green Chaplin's Report:** Last May 2023 one chaplin stepped down for self-care. 16 chaplains; 155 contacts per month. Total 2,094 prayers/contacts. 228 prayers here at church from Sundays in person. Group text for prayer chaplains, can get prayer requests out to Chaplin's immediately. World Day of Prayer 2023, chaplains lead service with Reverend Patty and Julie Fulcher-Davis. Month of September focused on prayer with Chaplin's, Reverend Patty, Reverend Alva Pope and Reverend Sandra Campbell. Communion twice a year, Margaret Porter Daniel and Carrie Simmons prepare the day before and Chaplin's assist during service on Sunday. Workshop with Reverend Campbell, how to pray, afternoon how to prayer with other people.

Chaplin's sponsored Reverend Patty and Chaplin's attend Eastern Region conference; Christmas Celebration with Reverend Michael Gott "The Gift is You"; transportation and speaker fees for Sandra Campbell and Patty's installation Reverend Jim Rosemergy. Once again, we have 17 prayer chaplains.

**Janet Loving-Pitts Cares Team leader:** Mission Statement to live and express unconditional love and acceptance. Janet has been leading this group for over three years. Steadily grown over the years. Cares Team Serve our church family and friends with short term needs and health challenges. Primary areas phone calls, visits, cards meals, errands, and transportation to doctor visits, celebration of life receptions. Bought freezer to store food for people. Let Janet, cares teams members and Reverend Patty know if there are any needs. June 23, 9 am next Cares Team breakfast. T-shirts are coming to recognize Cares Teams members.

Zita called for ticket numbers for more prizes.

This year Board has focused on open honest communication. This is a safe place to ask questions, share concerns.

**Myra Federspiel Treasurer's report** (see Myra's Handout) Highlights:

1. Through April 2024
2. Summary of Accounts and Expenditures
3. Income tithes love offerings classes Montessori income
4. We are a prosperous community

5. Discussion on what designated checking is: funds that comes in for specific needs.
6. Remind congregation that while accounts look good; we have things coming that need funding: sign; building maintenance.
7. Encourage congregants to keep giving
8. Call for questions: anyone who can negotiate a better rate in money market. Response did take money out of money market to cd with a higher rate of return
9. Mortgage still owe \$450,000, are doing a refinance on interest in 2024. Every 6 years have to refinance. Is there a fund to set aside for building expansion
10. Congregant: suggested an ongoing expansion with the universe, providing a conscious awareness that will help to clarify the vision and therefore energize it in order for it to be realized as a matter of course. Discussion about putting together a master mind group to get the expansion fund started.

Zita calls more ticket #s for prizes.

### **Reverend Patty's Report:**

Wonderful things continue to happen here at UBA miracles of love! When we stand in appreciation, we raise our vibration and call to us more things to be grateful for. Thank you to all for being a part of my installation celebration. I wore my beautiful stole that was gifted by the church.

New sign has passed all the County hoops Rusty, Amy, Myra.

New sound booth.

Several wonderful Men of Unity meals and concerts, our music team with Jazz, Harold Payne; a way to gather together to have fun. Daniel Namod.

Spirit groups are gathering Community Connection, pickleball, music, hiking.

New members are involved.

Celebrating 20<sup>th</sup> year of Chaplins.

Smartflower working with Domion Power for new meter and paperwork, it is not broken. Will be back up and running soon.

Have been discussing some natural place spaces. Montessori has received a grant for \$3,400 for play spaces.

Acknowledged Cares Team has stepped up to prepare the reception for families who are moving through the grieving of loosing a beloved family member. Generous donation of \$5,000 from family outside of the congregation who had celebration of life at UBA.

Board level, Michael Regulinski, who has completed his second three-year term spear headed obtaining a new liability insurance policy for the church and preparing and LLC filing for Unity of Bon Air.

Beloved Harry Simmons has stepped down for personal reasons and Reverend Lisa has stepped up to complete his term. We are appreciative of Reverend Lisa. We wish Harry the best.

Reverend Patty will be gone to Annual Meeting at Unity Village and on personal leave to see her brother after that.

Hamilton Sage is coming, and Esther Nicholson will be coming.

August, Elaine Silver, Beatles She is doing 100 years of the Daily Word.

Several congregational meetings ago we had discussions on what did we want to be called. Took the suggestions back to Board. Board has decided moving forward that we shall be called *Unity Church of Bon Air*.

Zita called more ticket #'s

Rusty Rothrock: Update on where we are with our sign. That is our new sign. Two-sided sign. Lighted from within LED lights. Building permit is being obtained and work to begin to install is next week.

How much does the sign costs? \$25,000.00

Will take about two months to construct.

Thank you to Deb Thompson and Reverend Shari Mackenzie for tech support this meeting. Much applause!

**Joyful Planning Team Update** (architectural rendition of proposed plan on display during meeting) on Play trail, columbarium, Rendition of the garden area. On the team: Jim Lakin, Becky Mains, Reverend Zita Correll, Reverend Patty; Nadine and Amanda Bolton. Play trail through the garden, Amanda in the planning stages. Trail to be through the natural areas, researching and making recommendations for the play stations, i.e., where type of structures, funding, and safety regulations. Amanda is doing a great job. Team is looking at one area for cremains to be scattered, or to be buried in an urn in the ground with a marker or for the cremains to be place in a niche in a columbarium. The team's job at this point is to gather all the facts and all the considerations it is creating this area and that is where the team is at this point. Then we will come back to the congregation to decide what we want. It may be that we start with the scattering garden first.

Zita discussed that this is a huge project, and we are just getting started. Next step is feasibility study and cost analysis.

Jim Lakin Montessori School wants different areas for different activities that are made of natural products. Possibly relocating some of the benches. Chesterfield County government has grant money to help with areas in our garden that have drainage problems.

Zita called more numbers for prizes.

**Congregant Questions about:**

Fishpond, water stagnated mosquitoes will generate. There are a potential leak and water gets low. Looking for vendor to clean pond and repair. Some Benches have woodpecker holes what are we doing about that.

Racheal is doing a great Job with the youth. Reverend Patty is asking for volunteers to work with the youth this summer. First Sunday of the month after fellowship having a brainstorming session on how to get congregants involved with YFM (volunteers). Come be a part of the meeting.

Zita called more numbers for prizes.

Zita thanked everyone for being at the meeting and embracing UNITY CHURCH OF BON AIR.

Zita adjourned the meeting