

Shared Ministry Committee

September 2017

Present: Betsy Biesenbach, Barbara Bockner, Esther Johnson, Anne Perrin, Alex Richardson, Don Wages, Lynn Yates

Absent: None

1. Chalice lighting and check-in.
2. Welcome new member Esther Johnson.
3. Board Report – Lynn attended to observe the process. Board could use constructive feedback from an impartial person. Meeting began and ended on time and mostly stayed on track. This could be part of our monthly report to them. They dealt with building business and are planning to run a challenge stewardship campaign to raise \$16 - \$20,000. They are working on a change in board governance. A team was put together to address board policies. They will report in October. The congregation will vote on subsequent bylaws changes in May. We could use a town hall or listening circle as a forum.
4. Approval of minutes – approved without changes. The detail in the minutes are useful for committee members, but since there is so much we are considering on an experimental basis, they shouldn't be available to everyone. If this becomes an issue, we will redact sensitive information, but for now everyone prefers detailed notes.
5. Informal discussion with minister. Rev. Alex says UUCR is unique due to a dearth of data. We have no attendance numbers from past years. They got lost along the way. He is building systems to

better capture the data. It's important because the data is predictive of the future. We should be monitoring giving rates, household income rates, number of children and adults attending, and the number of people in the building during the week. The Church We Yearn For author says 80 percent of our churches are going to fail. Raising the Roof – author discusses transitioning from a pastoral to program church. Congregations have to decide if they want to grow. This book will help with collecting data. SMC is in charge of oversight. Can we take this on? Data on attendance never got put anywhere and was not collected in a consistent manner. There is also no electronic storage. Now stored on hard drive and on the cloud. New software, Power Church can be useful for us. The membership tool is up and running. Alan Moore is well-versed in the new software. Esther suggested giving everyone who comes in a card to fill out so we can follow up on attendance. We have not assigned people to count those coming in for events. Future topic – how to collect info about who shows up on Sunday. We could have everyone drop their name tags in a basket after services, as an alternative to filling out a card. Greeters could collate them.

6. Listening Circle wall. It was up for two weeks, and we got another eight or so comments. We will use the wall to coincide with listening circles. We can use it to collect town hall questions, as well.
7. Board retreat this weekend Sept. 30. Lynn has asked Spike if we should come. He has not responded. She will call Jennifer. We are invited for some or all of the retreat. Begins at 8:30 ends at 2:15. Some of us should come for lunch 12:15 to 1:15. Barbara, Don and maybe Betsy will come.

8. Town Hall October 8. It will be part of the service. We will print instructions on the question cards and give people a chance to send questions in advance the Sunday before. Barbara and Anne will not be there. Don and Esther will collate the questions. Lynn will moderate. Betsy will do sound and take notes. People will also be able to put their questions on the listening circle wall. People also will be able to send them in by e-mail to Megan. Lynn will take care of making the cards and getting publicity info to Megan. Laura Latham will take Alan Moore's place as the RE representative at the town hall. Henry Woodward can't come. Lynn will ask Bob Egbert, Lorraine Fleck or Judy Nelson to represent social action. We will have a power point with info about the speakers.
9. Next SMC Meeting October 24. Will discuss results of the town hall. Betsy will send report to committee, then to Megan for the newsletter. We can talk about the retreat and about participating in committee goal setting. We will set our own goals and create a form for other committees to track their own goals
10. Old business. Status of webpage – still waiting.
11. Future date. Meetings – Oct. 24, Nov. 28, no meeting in December, Jan. 23, Feb.27, March 27, April 24, May 22, no meeting in June. Town Hall meetings – Oct 8, March 18
12. Listening circles Dec. 3,7,10, April 29,3,6
13. Extinguish the Chalice.