

AUUF OCTOBER BOARD MEETING ONLINE 2020 (updated) *2020-10-18*

Trustees present: Rolf Habersang, President; Dwight Vick, Vice President; Cyndy Walton, Treasurer; Nina Stein, Secretary; Jeff Buck, Trustee; Tom Nichols, Trustee; Larry Miller, Past President.

Minister Present: Rev. Nell Newton

Staff Present: April Myers

Committee Chairs Present: Joan Urban and Sharon Baker. Keralee Clay came at end of meeting due to not having the link to get in.

Congregant Present: John Hintz

Open floor

John Hintz: tailgate party successful and thanks for doing it. Realized that there was concern about alcohol for some but didn't

think it was too bad.
Others agreed that it was nice to see everyone and would like to do it again.

Chalice Lighting: Nell

Quorum Established; Call to Order: 12:28

Approval of minutes from September Online meeting: (Nina)

Cyndy moved to accept and it was approved.

Treasurer Report: (Cyndy)

Income Sept	\$ 6506	
Expense Sept	\$ -12,532	(includes payment of \$2400 to UUA & \$528 for building insurance)
Net Income	\$ -6026	
YTD Income	\$ 95,159	
YTD Expense	\$104,922	
YTD Net Income	\$ -9,762	

These figures do not include the \$20,000 loan from PPP which we anticipate being forgiven nor the \$4000 base for the Love Dare which has just been received.

Tom moved that the report be filed for audit; it was seconded and passed.

Committee Reports from board liaisons:

Caring: Ann Hicks - Rosemarie Kirkland sent three cards in September---James Doores, Rick Todd, and Lyle Raker.

Finance: Bruce Fielder - the Finance Committee spent the last month preparing the proposed 2021 budget

Leadership Development: Keralee Clay - Keralee needs a list of board positions that need to be filled for board year 2021 so the Leadership team knows what nominations need to be made.

Membership - Deb Winters - resigned as interim membership chair.

Social Action: Krista Lee - Krista is setting the committee up as a participatory committee due to work demands. Ann Hicks is putting together a meeting with the Amarillo Police Department.

Stewardship: Joan Urban/Sharon Baker - Item in new business re pledge letter. Working on pledge campaign. Has a time line.

Worship: John Hintz/Bruce Fielder - YouTube viewership update - 30 to 35 a week plus 3 to 4 who are watching in the watch party.

Minister's Report:

Will be swapping pulpits with another minister active in BLM; says will be good for congregation to see other ministers.

Request for board re alcohol concerning our liability and inclusiveness. Liability - accident. Protect by having good policy and enforcing it. Inclusiveness - modeling to young people; feels unwelcoming to people working to stay sober. Nell has asked insurance to put her in touch with someone who can tell her how to set up policy. Suggest we do not have alcohol at the next tailgate party.

We will work on changing mobil app for newsletter to make it as useful as possible.

Ongoing Business:

Discussed: which board members will be staying on the board and who is stepping down; need two trustees, vice president, and secretary. Jeff Buck will get with Keralee and get the slate of nominees. Annual meeting will be December 6. Send congregational post card to call the office if need by mail.

Attendance at Board Meetings The current language from the policy and procedures manual is as follows: *Article VIII - Board "Any member of the Board who shall be absent from three successive meetings of the Board without valid cause shall be automatically dropped from membership on the Board, provided such member has had reasonable*

notice of the time and place of such meetings.” Occasionally we have board members whose attendance is sporadic enough to hinder their ability to fully participate but not miss three consecutive meetings. Is there a need to change this wording?

Brings up need to make job description much clearer with expectations of what the activities are and time commitments.

Leadership Training - Talk to Leadership Development team about need. Review training opportunities with Southern Region. Ask them to develop a plan for 2021 for training for leaders and congregation.

Legacy Giving - research, draft, and propose a program. Task to finance committee and work with stewardship committee in a review before presenting to board. Jeff Buck asked where this was brought up. Nell said it was executive committee and she thought it should be the finance committee with stewardship committee. Can get information from UUA on how to do. Jeff says finance can do mechanics and wants someone else to do ask.

Long-Term planning - Cottage meetings by zoom and/or in person to find out what/who we are, what we envision, and to build community; 2021.

Covid-19 Response Team Plan Update Amarillo is Red. Need to be careful.

New Business:

Stewardship Pledge letter - Discussed changing drive letter from using the Affirmation to use of the mission.

Budget for next year, 2021: Tight budget. 150,000 approximate expenses. Approximate income 125,000. Thinks it is pretty realistic. Will need to go into our reserves. Jeff moved that the board approve proposed budget. Passed.

Open Floor - No discussion

Chalice Extinguishing: (Nell)

Adjourn: Cyndy moved to adjourn and passed at 2:09

*Letter

Dear _____,

In June, your Stewardship Committee sent an email just to say 'hi' and 'we miss you.' We also thanked you for continuing to support the Fellowship financially during the challenges of the pandemic. **We say all those things again: 'hi,' 'we miss you,' and 'thank you.'**

In that letter, we said that we would initiate a **2021 pledge drive** in the fall. Well, that time has come! Of course, we were hoping that the COVID crisis would have calmed down quite a bit by now. It is still here; it is still something we are dealing with every day.

We are acutely aware of the range of hardships that have come with the pandemic. But we also know that our community needs us and the perspectives we bring. It needs every member of the Fellowship as we live our mission (out the values of our Affirmation) and 7 Principles right here on the High Plains.

Our mission states our values and our aspirations to live in healthy relationship with each other and in our community. We unite with each other, even in our differences, as people to affirm the following:

Our Spiritual Community:

Lives Courage

Nurtures Wonder

Inspires Justice

Includes All

(Our affirmation, taken line by line, states our aspirations to live in an open, searching, and loving way. We stand together, even in our differences, as people who affirm the following:

Love is the doctrine of this church.
The quest for truth is its sacrament
And service is its prayer.
To dwell together in peace.
To seek knowledge in freedom.
To serve humankind in fellowship.

For these high purposes do we unite in worship.)

It is true that supporting the Fellowship financially is just one way to uplift and sustain it. But financial support is ESSENTIAL to the Fellowship's health and welfare...and future.

As you consider your pledge, we ask you to consider the reasons why you have joined the Fellowship. And then, with the future and health of the Fellowship in mind and with the reality of your own household budget in mind, **please fill out the pledge card and send it in!**

Yours in service and love,

Sharon Baker, Claudia Stravato, Joan Urban, Marilyn Van Petten

PS. Enclosed is a pledge card and calendar of events for the pledge drive. *Letter