



# UNION UNIVERSITY CHURCH SEMIANNUAL MEETING

November 7, 2021

## Agenda

1. Call to order
2. Opening prayer
3. Vote on memberships
4. Approval of Annual Meeting minutes p. 2-4
5. Reports of officers
  - a. Minister's report p. 4
  - b. Music report p. 5
  - c. Tech report p. 6
  - d. Financial Secretary p. 7
  - e. Treasurer p. 8-11
6. Reports of boards, committees, organizations
  - a. Christian Education no report submitted
  - b. Diaconate p. 11
  - c. Elders p. 11
  - d. Fellowship no report submitted
  - e. Trustees p. 13-14
7. Old business  
None
8. New business
  - a. Christmas Party?
  - b. Election of Nominating Committee
  - c. Date for Annual Meeting, 2022
  - d. Other
9. Announcements
10. Adjournment

**UNION UNIVERSITY CHURCH**  
**Fusion Annual Meeting Minutes – May 16, 2021**

The Annual Meeting was called to order at 11:50 a.m. by John Buckwalter, Church Council Chairperson, following Fusion church, with members in the sanctuary and in Zoom land. Rev. DeMott opened the meeting with prayer.

Lana Meissner made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 15, 2020 Semi-Annual Meeting, seconded by Dave Porter. The motion carried.

**Minister's Report**

Rev. DeMott noted that attendance statistics are hard to determine with Fusion Church, but that attendance during the pandemic has been better than pre-pandemic. With the numbers for downloading the podcast (14,272) and sermon texts (1528), our small congregation has a tremendous reach.

**Tech Committee Report**

Laurie added a Tech Committee report for historical purposes.

**Music Report**

Laurie noted that music for church has kept going very well during the pandemic.

**BOARD REPORTS**

**Board of Christian Education**

No comments or questions.

**Diaconate**

No comments or questions.

**Board of Elders**

No comments or questions.

**Fellowship Board**

No comments or questions.

**Trustees**

It was asked if a further vote for transfer is needed. The congregational vote in July of 2019 was sufficient. The future name of the sanctuary building/historic Alfred Seventh Day Baptist meetinghouse and signage above the door will be discussed by the congregation in the future. A committee for looking at the needs of the sanctuary building has been formed by the trustees and will recommend action to the board when the transfer is final. Members are Jerry Jusaniec, Walter Schulz, John and Laurel Buckwalter, and Lana Meissner.

## **OTHER REPORTS**

### **Boy Scouts**

No report was available.

## **TRANSITIONAL MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE**

Dave Porter said that UUC is looking at a very strong candidate who is now an interim pastor in NC, whose current assignment has an uncertain end date. The committee hopes to have more information soon and to make a decision by the end of the month.

## **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

### **Financial Secretary's Report**

Joan Bowden had some updated figures to share. There are now 31 pledges for 2021-22 for a total pledged amount of \$85,000.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The balance in the general fund is still healthy at \$14,500. UUC has been paying all the sanctuary utilities and \$200/month rent since January 1.

## **PRESENTATION OF BUDGET FOR 2021-2022**

The motion to accept the budget was made by Dave Porter and seconded by Joan Bowden. The motion carried.

## **UUC CHURCH FUND REPORTS**

### **Church Investment Fund**

No discussion.

### **Church Capital Reserve Fund**

No discussion.

### **Endowment Fund**

No discussion.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

*Nominating Committee Report* John Buckwalter as chair of the committee thanked everyone who volunteered to serve the church in the coming year, filling all but one slot on the BOCE.

*Bazaar 2021* Laurie led the discussion about having a bazaar this year. Lana Meissner moved that we delay the bazaar another year and have the silent bazaar as in 2020. Laurel Buckwalter seconded the motion, which carried.

*100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UUC celebration* John Buckwalter asked for volunteers for a committee. He will serve and convene the committee made up of Dave Porter, Joan Bowden, Sharon Burdick, Larry Casey, Mindy Smith, Sharon Smith, and Mary Ann Whittemore.

*Resumption of coffee hour, greeters, and ushers* Laurie led a discussion which touched on the differences between CDC and NYS guidelines concerning masks and comfort levels within the congregation. The elders have been tasked with making the decision.

*Laurie's retirement on December 31, 2021* Laurie noted that her last Sunday will be the day after Christmas which often has a very low attendance and seems a "fizzle-y way to go out". Lana suggested that the King David room would be too small for a celebration and suggested the Lake Lodge. A committee of volunteers was formed to plan for this momentous occasion: Jan Porter, Catherine Chambers (convener), Cindy Tucker, Mary Ann Whittemore, Mindy Smith, Jan Casey, David DuBois, and Joan Bowden.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The nominating committee provided a slate of officers for the coming year. No new nominations were offered. Sharon Burdick made the motion to accept the complete roster of church officers, seconded by Jan Porter. Motion passed.

*Date of the Semi-Annual Meeting* was set for November 14, 2021, by consensus.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 with a motion by Dave Porter, seconded by Joan Bowden.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurel Buckwalter  
Church Clerk

## **Minister's Semiannual Report** November, 2021

### **Special services and events:**

Alfred University Commencement (virtual)	May 14, 2021
Wedding for Colleen Sarnicola and Oriya Moon	June 5, 2021
Provided a written Committal Service for Barry and Katy Smith	June 2021
Terry Finlay Committal Service	June 26, 2021
Alfred University Convocation	August 20, 2021
Roger Smith Memorial Service	August 21, 2021
William Crandall Memorial Service	August 28, 2021
Woodie Lange Memorial Service	September 4, 2021
David Meissner Memorial Service	September 18, 2021

### **Looking ahead:**

Infant Dedication of Oakley Jeannine Enser Parents Allie (Henry) and Travis Enser	November 28, 2021
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*Please check membership/confirmation/baptism records for November and December, 2021 for these additions between now and my retirement.*

## **Music Report**

Since May 1, 2021 we have had the following people and ensembles perform special music in worship:

### *Handbell Ensemble*

Lana Meissner  
Laurie DeMott  
Laurel Buckwalter  
John Buckwalter  
Luanne Crosby  
Deb Stephens

### *Bluegrass*

John Buckwalter, upright bass and vocals  
Peter O'Connor, piano and vocals  
Vern Burdick, guitar  
Laurie DeMott, mandolin and vocals  
(upcoming) Emma Brown-Shaklee, guitar and vocals  
(upcoming) Michele Hluchy, banjo

### *Piano and Guitar*

Peter O'Connor  
Vern Burdick

### *Early Music Ensemble*

John Buckwalter, mandola  
Laurel Buckwalter, piano  
Laurie DeMott, mandolin

*Violin* Candy Zhou

*Guzheng* Daisy Wu

### *Vocal solos*

Luanne Crosby (pre-recorded)  
Laurie DeMott

*Organ* Laurel Buckwalter

*Piano* Peter O'Connor

## Tech report

- This year we have held worship as a combination of in-sanctuary worship and Zoom.
  - A member of our tech team runs a laptop from the front pew logged onto Zoom. A camera hooked to that laptop can be swiveled to show the Lay Leader, altar and platform, or the piano. The tech laptop is mirrored to a screen in the sanctuary so that people in the church can see the people attending on Zoom and speakers on Zoom can be spotlighted as a full screen display.
  - I have a laptop on the pulpit with two cameras — one on myself and one on Laurel Buckwalter playing organ.
  - The audio from the mikes in the sanctuary is fed through the laptops to those on Zoom and back out to the church sound system for those in the sanctuary.
- On Thursdays, I post the bulletin along with scanned hymns for each service to our church webpage and send it by text to those who desire it through Remind, a free texting service
- Following worship on Sundays, I post all video and audio recordings of worship to our website, Facebook page, and Youtube channel
- I post photos of church activities to the church Facebook page and a church Instagram account as needed
- I post newsletters, reports, and other information as needed to the church website

*Larry Casey and John Buckwalter will be taking over Tech duties following my retirement.*

**Financial Secretary's Semiannual Report**

Submitted by Joan Bowden, Financial Secretary  
November, 2021

**OPERATING FUND**

Total number of pledges	37
Amount pledged	\$87,064
Total pledged receipts	\$ 59,050
Total non pledged receipts	\$ 6,385
Loose collection	\$ 1,185
Landscaping (Randolph)	\$ 1,300
Wall Repair (Tufty, Wisniewski)	\$ 300
Reception	\$ 1,952
<b>Total of all contributions</b>	<b>\$ 70,172</b>
Building use	\$ 00
<b>TOTAL REVENUE OPERATING FUND</b>	<b>\$ 70,172</b>
<b>BENEVOLENCES</b>	<b>\$ 3,305</b>

<b>UNION UNIVERSITY CHURCH</b>			
<b>OPERATING</b>			
<b>SEMI ANNUAL REPORT 5/1/2021-10/31/2021</b>			
<b>Balance Forward May 1, 2021</b>			\$ 14,537.91
<b>Operating Income May 1, 2021-October 31, 2021</b>			\$ 73,526.00
<b>Operating Expenses May 1, 202 - October 31, 2021</b>			\$ (74,946.45)
<b>Ending Balance October 31, 2021</b>			<b>\$ 13,117.46</b>
<b>Income Detail</b>			
<b>Operating income</b>			
	Operating Loose Collection		\$ 1,185.00
	Operating Current Pledge		\$ 63,724.00
	Operating No Pledge		\$ 6,165.00
	Sunday School		
	Misc Operating (retirement party)		\$ 1,952.00
	<b>Total Operating income</b>		<b>\$ 73,026.00</b>
<b>Church Center Income</b>			
	Nutrition Site		\$ -
	King David Room Usage		
	<b>Total Church Center Income</b>		<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Miscellaneous Income</b>			
	Refunds		\$ -
	Reimbursements		\$ -
	Special donations		\$ 500.00
	Basket Bazaar (Donations)		\$ -
			<b>\$ 500.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>			<b>\$ 73,526.00</b>
<b>Expenses Detail</b>			
<b>Ministry</b>			
	Pastor Salary		\$ 29,534.76
	Flex Account(H S A contribution)		\$ 500.00
	Housing Allowance		\$ 5,400.00
	Social Security Offset		\$ 2,100.00
	<b>Total Ministry</b>		<b>\$ 37,534.76</b>

	<b>Fringe Benefits</b>		
		Retirement	5,826.78
		Medical Insurance	2,445.36
		Health Saving Account	2,500.00
		Professional Development	
	<b>Total Fringe Benefits</b>		<b>10,772.14</b>
	<b>Boards and Committees</b>		
		Christian Education	
		Fellowship Board	
		Elders	
		Diaconate	121.50
		Nursery	
	<b>Total Boards and Committees</b>		<b>121.50</b>
	<b>Worship Expenses</b>		
		Pianist	3,176.40
		Organist	1,297.14
		Music Supplies	
		Preaching Honoraria	75.00
		Copyrights/Royalties	
	<b>Total Worship Expenses</b>		<b>4,548.54</b>
	<b>Church Office Expenses</b>		
		Secretary	2,546.25
		Supplies and Postage	2,414.67
		Other	
		Treasurer	
		Financial Secretary	
	<b>Total Church Office Expenses</b>		<b>4,960.92</b>

	<b>Sanctuary Usage</b>		<b>\$ 400.00</b>
	<b>Church Center Expenses</b>		
	Insurance		\$ 4,772.00
	Gas		\$ 798.00
	Electric		\$ 301.44
	Phone		\$ 579.88
	Water		\$ 399.85
	Maintenance/Repairs		\$ 484.65
	Janitor		\$ 648.00
	Basket Bazaar		\$ -
	Kitchen Supplies		\$ 100.32
	<b>Total Church Center Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 8,084.14</b>
	<b>Church Expenses</b>		
	Electric		\$ 332.49
	Gas		\$ 190.80
	Phone		\$ 577.18
	Repairs and Maintance		\$ 1,231.14
	Organ Tuning		\$ 745.00
	Insurance		\$ 2,666.00
	Lawyer		\$ 619.00
	<b>Total Church Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 6,361.61</b>
	<b>Employer Payroll Taxes</b>		
	Disability		\$ 75.12
	Employer Social Security		\$ 577.42
	Employer Medicare Expense		\$ 135.04
	Unemployment		\$ 195.58
	<b>Total Employer Payroll Taxes</b>		<b>\$ 983.16</b>
	<b>Capitol reserve fund</b>		<b>\$ -</b>
	<b>Total Expense</b>		<b>\$ 74,946.45</b>

<b>UNION UNIVERSITY CHURCH</b>			
<b>BENEVOLENCE</b>			
<b>SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT May 1, 2021- October 31, 2021</b>			
		Balance/	
<b>Benevolence Collections</b>	Collected	Paid out	Balance
Habitat for Humanity	\$780.00	-780.00	\$0.00
Comfort House	\$1,510.00	-1,510.00	\$0.00
Allegany Senior Foundation	\$445.00		\$445.00
Haiti-Christian Sojourners	\$130.00	-130.00	\$0.00
SDB Food Pantry	\$457.77	-457.77	\$0.00
<b>Benevolence Balances</b>			
Pastors Fund	\$701.25	-100.00	\$601.25
Contingency fund	\$330.00		
Wellsville Community Kitchen	\$610.00		
<b>Miscellaneous Monies</b>			
Youth Mental Health	\$1,610.00		
Hymnals	\$264.42		
Community Organ Fund	\$32,207.98	-32,207.98	\$0.00
Landscaping	\$3,075.10	-1593.30	\$1,481.80
Memorials	\$660.00	-660.00	\$0.00

Submitted by Mary Stearns, Treasurer  
November, 2021

**Board of Christian Education Semiannual Report**

November, 2021

No report submitted

Members: Melissa Jusaniec, Monica Reginio, Tim Smith, Jan Porter, Mary Perkins, 1 seat open

**Diaconate Semiannual Report**

Submitted by Sharon Burdick, Chair

November, 2021

May-November 2021

Members: Jan Casey, Karrie Edwards, Barb Willis, Sharon Burdick, Mary Beth McDonough, MaryAnn Whittemore

At our May meeting we arranged our DOM schedule for the coming church year. Keeping our mailing lists up to date and checking on shut ins etc.

Sharon has been arranging coffee hour hosts from the members who attend church in person.

Thank you so much for you who have been willing to serve a simplified coffee hour.

We are in the process of helping arrange and provide the Christmas Box Project.

We had no graduating seniors from high school this past June.

**Board of Elders Semiannual Report**

Submitted by Deb Stephens, Chair

November, 2021

Members: Deb Stephens, Chair, John Buckwalter, Mary-Lou Cartledge, Larry Casey, Eliza Ordway, Jen Smith

The new Board of Elders convened in late May to select a chairperson and "Elders of the Month" for June 2021 through July 2022. It was agreed to continue meeting on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM on ZOOM.

The Elders continued to work closely with Reverend DeMott regarding reopening plans and adjustments to technology for Fusion Church. In June volunteers were scheduled to provide altar flowers and to be lay leaders, and a monthly benevolence recipient was chosen. Plans for pulpit supply included guest speakers Rick Stephens, transitional pastor candidate Reverend Louise Barger, Sarah Jacoby-Murphy, and John Buckwalter. Other Sundays included a hymn sing in May and the annual prayer breakfast in July.

With Reverend DeMott's retirement in mind, the Elders set up a Music Committee and a Technology Committee to help with the planning and delivery of worship services in 2022.

### **Fellowship Board Semiannual Report**

November, 2021

No report submitted

Members: Luanne Crosby, Cathy Rees, Myrna Berrios, Cindy Tucker, Beth Slack, Daisy Wu

### **Board of Trustee Semiannual Report**

Submitted by Laurel Buckwalter, Chair

November, 2021

Members: Denise Grandusky, Walter Schulze, Jerry Jusianiec, Laurel Buckwalter, Catherine Chambers, Dave Porter

The transfer of the church building was finalized on June 30<sup>th</sup>. New garnet red carpet was installed on the platform and stairs in August and makes the sanctuary look much better. New easier to navigate stairs were built at that time by Dave Porter and Gary Porter.

Pigeons in the church attic that were not dealt with promptly by the SDB left a horrific mess to be cleaned up. Screening the entry holes in the louvres and clean up was done by Walter Schulze, Dave Porter and John Buckwalter, earning extra stars in their crowns. Clean up of the church basement was also done by the same group. The locks on the two side doors have been replaced, with plans to replace the front door lock as soon as the locksmith is able to get it done.

Painting of the west porch and east basement entry structure was done by a crew of many volunteers, greatly improving the exterior of the building. Dave Porter and Bill Sortore installed white aluminum flashing over the wide trim boards on the bottom of each side wall to prevent further rotting.

The empty shelves in the foyer were removed, and the wall painted, along with the hallway by the bathrooms and half of the stairway, thanks to Lana Meissner and John and Laurel Buckwalter. The antique altar chairs that were broken were repaired and recovered. A new sink was installed in the ladies' bathroom with water lines put to normal placement, thanks to Bill Sortore and Dave Porter.

Walter Schulze has committed numerous hours to videotaping critters that visit the church basement and trying to discourage them from doing that. Skunks especially are not welcome and are difficult to get rid of. Efforts are ongoing.

Many compliments have been received about the improved looks of the church building. Having the trees removed allows for visibility of the church architecture. Thanks go to Jerry Jusianiec for the great reseeded of the lawn. The Garden Guild, whose members are Denise Grandusky, Deb Stephens, Luanne Crosby, Lana Meissner, and Laurel Buckwalter, has done a great job in tending the gardens at the church and the center.

Hopes were to have the concrete and brick wall next to the church worked on in October by the Alfred State masonry students. That has not happened yet, likely due to weather.

Two roof leaks were repaired this very rainy summer and gutters cleaned at a cost of over \$1,000. The workmen from General Roofing have advised that the roof needs to be replaced. This was not a message we wanted to hear. The age of the current roof work is unknown and may be up 35 years old. A new roof will be exceptionally expensive. The trustees will be getting quotes on having the work done and discussing financing of the project. A community fundraising campaign as well as grant applications are likely. The trustees moved to have a designated sanctuary maintenance fund to encourage community support for the preservation of the historic SDB sanctuary.