

## **UUFH Board Meeting**

**June 17, 2025**

**Attendees:** Laura Otton, Liza Burby, Gerri Farrell, Allyson Barish, Jenna Kern-Rugile, Susan Peters, Jim Rubin-Perez, Jon Nielsen, Melissa Dinsman (incoming board member), Jim Ammerman (incoming board member).  
**Absent:** Pastor Madelyn Campbell, Connie Rinaldi.

**Chalice Lighting** – Laura – “The End is the Beginning” by Katie Sivani Gelfand

**Covenant**– Reviewed by Gerri.

### **Discussion and Vote Items:**

**Consent Agenda** – Minister’s Final Report, and May Minutes with addition of “submitted by Judy Greene” unanimously approved.

**Ad Hoc Team for RE Support** – Laura – Board discussed how to use the \$4000 that is set aside for RE support next year, whether to hire a LREDA consultant to create a five-year strategic plan, help with curriculum, and provide more big picture support of RE and guidance as we work toward a budget for a part-time DRE. Board discussed and agreed to create an ad hoc team, including a written charter, by the time Rev. Israel arrives in August, so the team will be ready to receive his needed input and move forward expeditiously. Members suggested and agreed that the Ad Hoc Team should include members from the RE Committee, Board, Strategic Planning Committee, and an RE teacher/parent. Board discussed wanting input from Rev. Israel regarding meeting the current unmet needs of the RE Committee, and getting input from the RE Committee about what it thinks is most needed to support the RE program, Sandra, etc. For example, finding someone to do “A Time for All Ages” and assist with Mystery Pals, and end-of-year RE party. Melissa will help create the charter.

**Finance** – Allyson – The end-of-the-fiscal-year forecast looks promising: current expectations are that there will be about a \$12k surplus. Discussion of the actual surplus and how to prioritize its use will take place at the August board meeting. Allyson is working to get Committee chairs and Teams to tally their expenses and submit them for reimbursement. Church Mutual Insurance (CMI) has taken issue with a “rusty electrical panel” in the fellowship. CMI expects the issue to be taken care of right away, and that we complete their “historic building” survey. Liza and Susan will help provide data to answer the survey, and Debbie Hocevar will provide the electrical blueprint from the Archives. The church management software is changing from ICON to Realm at the beginning of July. Allyson will help convert the data. Sandra, Allyson, Stewardship, Membership and Buildings and Grounds will then learn how to use it.

**Review of Minister Info** – Laura – The Board discussed a range of questions that congregants may ask regarding our new minister, and how to speak informatively about the position and be able to answer questions. For example, what is a contract minister versus a settled minister? How are those different from an Interim Minister? Which is Rev. Israel? What happens in two years when his contract is up? Rev. Israel is a contract minister. He is not an Interim Minister, which is one that cannot be “called” as a settled minister. Our search for a settled minister was incomplete, and Rev. Israel had his hat in the ring to become a contract minister. After interviewing him, the Board hired him to be our contract minister for the next two years, beginning Aug. 1, 2025. The Board can establish a “Call Process Task Force” in Spring 2026 so that in October 2026 the congregation may choose to call him to become our settled minister. This process is called “contract to call.” On the other hand, the minister

may decide to leave when his contract is up; or remain a contract minister and ask the Board to extend his contract.

**Summer Goals** – Liza, Melissa, and Sue McGovern will work on updating the policy manual. A fundraising policy is needed. Webinars are available from the UUA for onboarding new board members. Board and congregants alike need more visibility of/ brushing up on the Governance Structure. Board members need to spearhead a Volunteer Fair for September. Jenna would like to work with Membership Committee on ways to increase membership. Jon will become more familiar with governance and read the bylaws. Laura will add Jon to the Bylaws Committee. Jim will read the governance book that new Board members receive. Susan has ordered a new sign for his office and the Wayside Pulpit. The Board is planning a welcome basket. The next Board Meeting will take place on July 17 at 7 PM. The Board Retreat will take place in September.

*Submitted by Judy Greene, Board Scribe*