**UUFC Congregational Meeting Minutes 12/12/21**

President Holley Ulbrich, Called the meeting to order at 12 noon

President-Elect Del Kimbler, Election of Candidates, Trustees and other elective offices:

 Del Kimbler: President Elect

 Susan Peirce: Program Council Chair

 Sarah McNeill: Secretary

 Kathy Crain: Past President

Janie Shipley moved and Linda law seconded approval of the above candidates.

Approved.

Karl Dieter was approved to join the Planned Giving Committee.

Dave Sanders and Sarah Harcum were approved for the Search Committee.

Meg MacArthur was appointed Treasurer for 2022 by unanimous vote by the Board of Trustees on November 28. 2021.

Del Kimbler and Andi Nelson, Update on pledge status and stewardship campaign: We are doing well on funds. Just fill out a pledge card. There is no need to send a check.

CFO Michael Elder gave an update on our finances through November of this year. He reported we had $201,477 in budgeted and unbudgeted expenses, leaving a gain of $24,431 with one month left in the fiscal year. The gain in part, is a result of a one-time grant from the Federal Payroll Protection Program of almost $21,000. Any surplus funds at the end of the year will be added to our operating reserves. The unbudgeted expense was the result of several one-time projects, the largest of which was paying off the mortgage on our church property allowing us to now being debt free. The expenses were more than covered by grants from the Endowment and some special gifts by members of the congregation.

He then presented the proposed 2022 Operating Budget of $177,097. The budget was broken down and explained from a programmatic standpoint, indicating that 40% provides for our worship services, followed by 22% for religious education. pastoral care, music ministry, and membership/outreach make up 15%, 12% and 11% respectively. Looking at the budget from a functional standpoint, the largest expense is for personnel at $132,200. The next largest is to maintain our buildings and grounds at $30,127. On the income side, net pledges account for $156,747 of the total income. He pointed out that our expense budget is within a few hundred dollars of the current year’s budget. Minor increases in several areas are offset by the elimination of our mortgage principal and interest payments of almost $9,000 per year. If we achieve our pledge goal of $165,000 (before allowance for uncollectibles) we will be able to operate with a balanced budget in 2022.

Questions included:

How much have we contributed to our benevolences this year? Michael responded that he didn’t have that number because it is not tracked in our budget, but we do track that as a pass-through contribution, and he would ask our Office Administrator to report that through the Weekly Connection.

Are there any additional staff costs not in our current budget and are there additional staff in the proposed budget? Michael indicated that our part-time communications Assistant which began in March of this year was in the budget. We will have a Communications Intern and that expense is not included in the proposed budget because of a timing issue but will be added along with corresponding income from a planned giving grant. The result will be revenue neutral.

Approval of Budget: A motion to approve the 2022 Operating budget as presented was made, seconded and unanimously approved by the members present and online.

Melissa Berger or Mary Orem, Status on ministerial search:

Melissa Berger, The Search Committee co-chairs are Melissa Berger and Mary Orem. Other members are Diane Duciewicz, Janie Shipley, Karen York, Sarah Harcum and Dave Sanders. Over the last three months we have been reviewing the timeline and the handbook and mostly getting to know each other. Starting January, now that we officially have a full team, we will be starting to complete the administrative process, reaching out to the UUA’s Transition Team and formulating ways to get the congregation involved.

Announcement: August 2023, is the date the called minister is scheduled to arrive.

Questions/comments from the floor or chat room: How much did UUFC donate to Benevolence this year? The following has been donated as of December 15th

Family Promise-$310.00

Clemson Child Development Center-$475.00

Clemson Community Care-$1,428.00

Safe Harbor-$60.00

Ripple of One-$595.00

Adjourn: A motion was made and seconded to adjourn and approved at 12:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Martha Alexander