

**United Church on the Green
Leadership Board Meeting March 8, 2023
Minutes
via zoom**

1. The meeting was called to order by Tim Bertaccini, at 7:06 p.m. Present: Tim Bertaccini, Christine Maursky, June Richards, Karen Schneider, Interim Minister Rev Kevin Ewing. Absent: Don Bertrand, Jane Jervis, Julie Peterman, John Sawyer, Dennis Titley, Moderator Al Forino. Rev Kev opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. The Minutes of the February 8, 2023 meeting were approved by consent.

3. Tim presented the Treasurer's Report. We are 67% through the budget year. Our income is at 67% and our expenses are at 69%, giving us a \$29,000 deficit. Our annual giving, which has a goal of \$155,000 will come in at somewhere around \$145,000. Because of the increase in rental income, we should be pretty close to balanced. Tim then spoke about next year's proposed budget. The biggest variable is the salary and benefits for the new minister. The Stewardship committee will need to begin work in May, so Al is looking for volunteers. Tim is planning on making an announcement in church, asking for volunteers. Anyone can participate; you do not have to be a Board member. Tim has looked at pledging comparing last year to this year, and we went from \$138,000 pledged to \$123,000 pledged this year. More importantly, we lost 11 pledgers. Some have passed away; others did not pledge this year, nor did they give. What made up for some of it was the people that remain, pledged more.

4. June updated the Board on our Pastoral Search. They have three very good candidates that they are considering, and plan to make an offer to one of them soon. Stay tuned.

5. Pastor's Report. Rev Kev shared that one of the candidates for mayor of New Haven wanted to come to the church and talk. Rev Kev does not recommend allowing him to do so. Using the church as a "campaign stop" just doesn't feel right. We should come up with a policy. This can be discussed at our next meeting.

We had a problem with the street being closed last Sunday and they didn't notify us (after they said they would.) All three churches on the Green complained to the mayor but we have not yet heard back. So this coming Sunday being the St. Patrick's Day parade, we will go through that again. Notification went out last week to the congregation in the E-blast, and it will go out again this week. They shouldn't be starting to shut the streets down until 1:00, so we'll see what happens.

We had the new member orientation Sunday. We had two people, Dom and Joan Duffy. Joan, being an archivist, offered to go through any historical documents we have, so we should take advantage of that offer. Holly had trouble getting through to the church because of the streets that

were closed, and had to give up, and we have not heard from Abram and Lisa. We are still planning on having all of them join the church during a service, as well as having some type of “re-membering” for the rest of us. We will want to use the Bradley Room for a festive coffee hour or potluck, so this will probably take place in mid-April.

We had the NARCAN training, and Rev Kev has some kits. They are in a bag up in the front of the church where Rev Kev sits during the service. We have a few kits for the Parish House as well. Rev Kev encourages everyone to get trained. We are still planning on having the training on the defibrillator and CPR. We will probably do the training together with Center and Trinity churches.

Recently, Kathryn Thomas had some difficulties getting information from Nicole regarding an order Nichole was asked to place for the church. This is not the first time this has happened. Rev Kev has written a procedure for communicating with the office, specifically Nicole, and he will look into this and see if the procedure needs to be “tweaked” or if it just needs to be followed.

We have two guest preachers lined up in the next several months. Rev Marilyn Kendrick will be preaching this Sunday. Nancy Lupi needs to be told so she can prepare a check. Then on Mother’s Day, Rev Kari Nicewander will be preaching while Rev Kev is away.

6. Tim highlighted some items in Jack’s report. First is that Will is in Ohio with his family, and he is recovering from surgery. He has been in communication with Jack. We’re not sure of his return date yet, but he seems to be doing well. Raymond O’Connor and Dilton Smith are filling in while Will is away. The other item is about IRIS, who is having a summer program, and they don’t think our facility is big enough to handle that. So they are looking elsewhere, but they are still interested in renting two more offices from us which will increase the rental income from IRIS. The Finance Committee is deciding on whether we’re going to raise the rent for the next fiscal year. Our current agreement ends on June 30th, and we will have a new lease on July 1st. Tim feels we have to increase the rent somewhat because the utilities alone have increased dramatically (mostly the water and sewage charge as well as electricity). Chris asked if the new lease was going to be reviewed by a lawyer, as the Board discussed several months ago. Tim said that Jean Welty has reviewed our parking lot lease in the past pro bono. We will ask her.

7. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 7p.m. on Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.