

**Peace United Church of Christ
Governing Body Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2016**

Call to Order 6:05pm

Attendees: Rev. Wendy Bruner, Joe Kelly, Debbie Gregg, Melissa Hattman, Scott Guererro, Al Schon, Jenny Davis, Gary Boehnke, Sarah Webster, Marilyn Stavenger, Grace Morris, Sandy Bowe

Absent: Lola Contestabile

Opening Remarks- Rev. Wendy Bruner. Remarks were about commitment to mission. Referred to a book *Beyond Resistance* by John Dorhauer with a comment about council meeting agendas and how they say so much about our commitment to mission. Led us in prayer by Walter Brueggeman.

Future Story Discussion

GB discussed the Future Story Draft dated 4/2/2014 looking for a vision focus and actionable items... how we can be great at one thing and not just good at many. What makes PEACE UCC stand out in the community? What do people think of when they hear PEACE UCC?

Wendy brought up **Child Advocacy** as an example –we have the Waldorf School, partnership with Deaconess Foundation, youth group, etc.

Other things mentioned: **1) Anti bullying ; persecution of immigrants (Enough Is Enough, Rainbow Tree); 2) Social and Environmental Justice; 3) broaden “Open and Affirming” to multifaith areas with interfaith Partnership membership, 4) focus on local piece of ministry (Webster Groves to STL to UCC); 5) evangelism with signs, PSAs and adult education; 6) youth and /or volunteer coordinator position- “Instigator for the Youth”; 7) have a more outward focus on congregants and new people who find their way to PEACE UCC. Literature says that 3 contacts besides the minister encourage visitors to return. How to engage:**

- 1) Be intentionally conscious of new folks that enter the church
- 2) Provide training for ushers as they are front line and then how to hand off visitors
- 3) Send postcards to visitors (based on attendance books)

Summary of discussion: Be thinking of where we go from here.

Working items:

Welcome Sandy Bowe- new Servant Team chair

Approve the December minutes: MSP

Net Income: Scott and Joe

Carry over LY2015: \$15,422.00. Windfall an oddity and good news! Reached 99% of income budgeted, the Bruners covered their own moving expenses; facilities did not spend @2500.00 on tree trimming and the pastor search circle did not spend the allocated budget on the search.

How to invest that surplus is a discussion to carefully consider over time. GB did hear a motion made by Scott Guererro: "The Governing Body approves using \$838.48 of the 2015 net income to pay off the \$838.49 balance owed from the 2009 Phase I Capital Campaign." Seconded by Sarah Webster.

Discussion: None. Motion passed. GB referred to bylaws on expenditures for further discussion. By laws give GB authority to spend within a certain \$ amount without going back to the congregation. We distribute our benevolence giving based on income. Should meet pledges 100% when there is a surplus.

Approval of 2016 Recommended Budget: Scott

Scott made a motion to accept recommended budget for 2016 with amendment to add a line to pay pastoral mileage. Debbie Gregg seconded and with no further discussion, motion passed with unanimous vote.

212 Building Income proposals (see attached) Scott and Gary. After much discussion around these two proposals and motions, the GB requested that they continue the work on this with Paul and bring back a single motion to GB.

February 2016 Congregational Meeting Agenda Discussion- Sandy

Election of officers and team leaders? Joe Kelly did research on terms and found that Gary and Scott term out in July 2016 and Debbie added a term in 2016. No elections in February.

Endowment Trustees? Elected in January.

Team Leaders? Sarah, Lola and Sandy are fulfilling existing terms and will be eligible for their own full terms. No February elections.

Youth Rep is elected in July.

Other items: None

Meeting adjourned: 8:34 pm

Respectfully submitted

Melissa Hattman, GB Secretary

**Peace Governing Body
Executive Session
January 19, 2016**

Call to Order: Joe Kelly at 8:35pm

Attendees: Melissa Hattman, Jenny Davis, Sarah Webster, Debbie Gregg, Gary Boehnke, Scott Guerrero, Sandy Bowe

Absent: Grace Morris

Approval of December 15 2015 Minutes

Motion to approve- Jenny Davis; Seconded- Debbie Gregg; no discussion; Passed.

Other items: None

Meeting adjourned: 8:43 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Hattman, GB Secretary