

MEETING MINUTES
United Church of Christ Board
October 22, 2021

Members Present: Cameron Barr, Chair, Julia Gaughan, Vice-Chair, David Ackerman, Kearstin Bailey, Joyce Bathke, Traci Blackmon, Emma Brewer-Wallin, Charles Buck, Molly Carlson, Rachel Chapman, Eleanore Chong, Hannah Cranbury, Jasmine Coleman Quinerly, Tyler Connoley, Tom Croner, Edward Davis, Courtney Dobbins, John Dorhauer, Mark Dutell, Shernell Edney-Stilley, Derrick Elliott, Thaddaeus Elliott, John Folk, Darrell Goodwin, Kevin Graham, Tim Hachfeld, Richard Hom, Tracy Keene, Onyx Kuthuru, Gloria-Ann Muraki, Shari Prestemon, Gordon Rankin, Michael Readinger, Lawrence Richardson, Bethany Ruhl, Bob Sandman, Rushan Sinnaduray, D'Angelo Smith, Daniel Su'a, Paul S. Tch , Karen Georgia Thompson, Elizabeth Walker, Careina Williams, Marsha Williams, Jeanette Zaragoza, Lew Zeidner.

Non-Board members with special expertise: Lawrence Bashe, Ron Patterson

Absent: Faufau Alaelua, Brian Bodager, Eric Jackson, Kristie Nardini, Kylie Steever

Staff and Others Present: Donyale Copeland, Cynthia Gaffney, Chante Jones, Heather Kimmel, Alisa Lewis, Tami Marinella, Kent Siladi, Cheryl Williams

Heather Kimmel, Secretary of the United Church of Christ Board, declared a quorum.

Opening devotional by Shernell Edney Stilley.

WELCOME

Cameron Barr, Chair of the United Church of Christ Board, extended a welcome and thank you to the Board.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was VOTED:

UCCB-21-10-01 To approve the Agenda.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

It was VOTED:

UCCB-21-10-02 To approve the Consent Agenda.

UCCB-21-10-02a: grant voice without vote to the staff and others making presentations to the UCCB: Donyale Copeland, Cynthia Gaffney, Chante Jones, Heather Kimmel, Alisa Lewis, Tami Marinella, Kent Siladi, Cheryl Williams.

UCCB-21-10-02b: to approve that the Clergy Housing Allowance under Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder ("Section 107") during calendar year 2022 for each ordained minister in good standing with his or her respective denomination and any other

“Minister of the gospel” within the meaning of Section 107, who is in the employ of a Covenanted Ministry of the United Church of Christ, shall be a sum equal to such employee’s good faith estimate of the amount which will be excludible under Section 107 with respect to the providing of a home by such employee for such year; however, unless and until such employee shall provide in writing the estimate described above, the amount of said Clergy Housing Allowance for such employee shall be a sum equal to one third of such employee’s gross salary compensation.

UCCB-21-10-02c: to authorize the United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance, the philanthropic arm of the Pension Boards-United Church of Christ to provide supplementation of small annuities, effective January 1, 2022 based on an income level of \$35,900 with three-fourths of that amount, \$26,925, as the level applicable in determining supplementation for a deceased member’s surviving spouse/partner.

Supporting document: UCCB-21-10-FB-06 PBUCC Small Annuities

UCCB-21-10-02d: To receive the 501(c)(3) Group Exemption Compliance Report.

Supporting Document: UCCB-21-10-GOV-03 Group Exemption Report

UCCB-21-10-02e: To approve the election of Deb Blood to the Board of Directors of the United Church of Christ Church Building and Loan Fund.

Supporting Document: UCCB-21-10-GOV-04 Deb Blood Bio

UCCB-21-10-02f: to receive the minutes and written reports from the following Task Forces and Committees:

Racial Equity Advisory Task Force and Financial Sustainability Task Force

Supporting Document: UCCB-21-10-FinSusTF-01_Report

Supporting Document: UCCB-21-10-REATF-01_Report

Supporting Document: UCCB-21-10-REATF-02_Racial Equity DIA Timeline

APPROVAL OF UCCB JULY MEETING MINUTES

It was VOTED:

UCCB-21-10-03 To approve the minutes of the July 1, 2021 meeting of the United Church of Christ Board.

Supporting Document: UCCB-21-10-03-DraftJulyMtgMinutes_09.14.2021

APPROVAL OF GENERAL SYNOD 33 MEETING MINUTES

It was VOTED:

UCCB-21-10-04 To approve the minutes of the 33rd General Synod.

Supporting document: UCCB-21-10-04-DraftMinutes33rdGeneralSynod

Opening Remarks by Rev. Cameron Barr, Chair and Julia Gaughan, Vice-Chair

Cameron Barr expressed appreciation to those Board members who have agreed to service on the task force for the Church Workers resolution.

The work of the Development and Marketing Committees has been split. Lawrence Richardson will Chair the Development Committee. We are looking for a Chair of the Marketing Committee. Thank you to Lawrence and Joyce for stepping forward to serve on the Financial Sustainability Task Force.

The goal for Board giving is \$20,000 and 100% participating by Board members.

Julia Gaughan expressed gratitude in the participation of the Board members in the work of the Board and extended an invitation to connect.

General Minister & President Report by Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer

John Dorhauer spoke on three matters before the Church:

Budget process and challenges, the pending move to AECOM, and state of the Church and the adaptations made during the pandemic.

John confirmed that he will not forward name to GS in 2023 for 3rd term as GMP.

Justice & Local Church Ministries Associate General Minister Report by Traci Blackmon

Traci Blackmon provided an update on Pilgrim Press, Youth Ministries, Manual on Church, the launch of the new ministerial and congregational profiles system, Join the Movement, Frontline Faith, work of the Washington DC office, medical debt abolishment and the co-sponsored fellowship with CHHSM on reproductive justice.

Wider Church Ministries Associate General Minister Report by Karen Georgia Thompson

Karen Georgia Thompson provided an update on the finalization of the GS33 report. Planning for GS34 has begun.

Many of our partners continue to struggle with COVID. Some of our partners are struggling with access to vaccines. We continue to deploy mission personnel.

We are giving attention to Common Global Ministries Board appointments and in bringing the standing rules of that body into alignment with unified governance.

Disaster Ministries is very active. We have a new staff person for refugee resettlement issues and continue to engage in work related to the United Nations.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

By Cameron Barr, Chair

It was VOTED:

UCCB-21-10-05: That the United Church of Christ Board, sitting as the board of Local Church Ministries (a Covenanted Ministry of the United Church of Christ), successor to the American Missionary Association, waive the right of reverter in the deed conveyed by the American Missionary Association in 1968 to New Emmanuel Congregational United Church of Christ, in connection with a transfer of New Emmanuel's property to Cornerstone Fund or Cornerstone Fund's transferee in connection with a foreclosure of Cornerstone's deed of trust, deed in lieu or other transfer in lieu of foreclosure, and to authorize the UCC General Counsel and Secretary to execute any such additional documentation as may be required to reflect the release of the right of reverter.

Supporting document: UCCB-21-10-ExCom-03_Right of Reverter

Supporting document: UCCB-21-10-ExCom-04_New Emmanuel Credit Summary

It was VOTED:

UCCB-21-10-06: To approve the withdrawal from membership in United Church of Christ Hotel Venture LLC the following corporations for which UCCB sits as the Board of Directors: Justice and Witness Ministries (a Covenanted Ministry of the United Church of Christ), Local Church Ministries (a Covenanted Ministry of the United Church of Christ), Wider Church Ministries (a Covenanted Ministry of the United Church of Christ), and United Church of Christ Board corporation.

TRANSITION TEAM UPDATES

SEARCH AND PROCESS TRANSITION TEAM

By Lew Zeidner, Chair

Oral Report: The Team hopes to create a process in which the majority of the church feels represented and engaged. The Team needs to understand their mission and what we need to discover for our mission.

SUPPORT, EMPOWERMENT & STRUCTURE TEAM

By Darrell Goodwin, Chair

Oral Report: The Team wants to create listening sessions in which we talk to the GMP and talk with the covenanted partners and harvest the successes as it is currently organized and the dreams of what it can be. The Team will come back with report at March Board meeting.

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

By Kevin Graham, Chair

It was VOTED:

UCCB-21-10-07

To receive the Combined Financial Report of the United Church of Christ Board and Certain Affiliated Entities dated December 31, 2020.

Supporting document: UCCB-21-09-AU-03 Audited Financial Statement

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

By Derrick Elliott, Chair

It was VOTED:

UCCB-21-10-08

To approve the proposed 2022 Combined Unrestricted Funds Budget with a total Revenues of \$19,898,977 and total Expenses of \$19,883,238 for the Office of the General Minister and President (OGMP), Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM), Local Church Ministries (LCM), and Wider Church Ministries (WCM).

Supporting document: UCCB-21-10-FB-04 Proposed 2022 Budgets

It was VOTED:

UCCB-21-10-09

To approve the National Basic Support allocation base of \$4,255,841 for 2022 and the funding to the Office of the General Minister & President, the Covenanted Ministries and the Pension Boards allocation as follows: Office of the General Minister and President (OGMP) \$1,167,604 or 27.4%, Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) \$1,884,435 or 44.3%, Local Church Ministries (LCM) \$259,998 or 6.1%, Wider Church Ministries (WCM) \$700,000 or 16.5% and The Pension Board \$243,805 or 5.7%.

Supporting document: UCCB-21-10-FB-05 NBS Allocation for 2022

INVESTMENT AND ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

By Tim Hachfeld, Chair

**It was VOTED:
UCCB-21-10-10**

To approve a draw rate of 4.75% on the unrestricted investment portfolio based on the average balance of the preceding 20 quarters for the year 2022.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

By Shernell Edney Stilley, Vice-Chair

**It was VOTED:
UCCB-21-10-11**

To initiate a task force led by Traci Blackmon to begin conversations with the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM) regarding securing a viable future for CAIM.

**It was VOTED:
UCCB-21-10-12**

To adopt the attached amendments to the existing articles of incorporation of United Church of Christ Board corporation; and to further authorize the officers of the United Church of Christ Board corporation are hereby authorized and directed to prepare or cause to be prepared an appropriate certificate of amendment to execute such certificate as required and cause the same to be filed in the office of the Ohio Secretary of State and to take such further action, execute and deliver such other documents, and obtain all other such governmental approvals, as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

Supporting Document: UCCB-21-10-GOV-06 Proposed UCCB Articles of Incorporation Amendments

**It was VOTED:
UCCB-21-10-13**

To adopt the attached amendments to the existing bylaws of the United Church of Christ Board corporation; and to further authorize the officers of the United Church of Christ Board corporation to take all actions necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

Supporting Document: UCCB-21-10-GOV-07 Proposed UCCB Bylaws Amendments

**It was VOTED:
UCCB-21-10-14**

To adopt a policy requiring demographic information from organizations for which UCCB nominates or elects the boards of directors.

**It was VOTED:
UCCB-21-10-15**

To approve the proposed amendments to the UCCB Standing Rules.

Supporting Document: UCCB-21-10-GOV-08 Proposed UCCB Standing Rules Amendments

GENERAL SYNOD PROGRAM & PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

By Bob Sandman, Chair

Oral Report - Planning for GS34 has already begun. The Committee reviewed the special edition GS and appreciated the different opportunities and limitations. The Committee will meet again to look at the future.

Q & A WITH AFFILIATED AND ASSOCIATED MINISTRIES

UNITED CHURCH FUNDS

By Charles Buck, President and CEO

Links to videos provided – Town Hall and Climate Symposium

Supporting document: UCF Report to UCCB 22Oct2021

COUNCIL FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN MINISTRIES

By Michael Readinger, President and CEO

Highlighted Cornerstone investment; CBLF partnership working on Molo Village which will become a member of CHHSM and the Fellowship sponsorship with Justice Ministries.

Supporting document: CHHSM Report to UCCB 10.22.2021

PENSION BOARDS

Written report only.

Supporting document: PB Report to UCCB Oct 22, 2021

COUNCIL OF CONFERENCE MINISTERS UPDATE

By Gordon Rankin, CCM Chair

This is a period of high transition; new Conference Ministers coming on board and a high rate of retirements and clergy leaving for other settings, and some leaving the field all together. The CCM supports a culture of call.

It was VOTED:

UCCB 21-10-16 to move into Executive Session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION
(see separate minutes)**

It was VOTED:
UCCB-21-10-17 to return to Regular Session.

REGULAR SESSION

COUNCIL OF CONFERENCE MINISTERS UPDATE (con't)
By Gordon Rankin, CCM Chair

New officers to be elected in November.

Point of Privilege – Jeanette Zaragoza de Leon

What is happening with the Amistad Chapel in context with the move?

Traci Blackmon responded: Amistad Chapel is not being dismantled and being reassembled in the new space. The new space cannot accommodate it. We will be using the wood in the new space. It will not look like the Amistad Chapel but the spirit will be with us.

We are pursuing conversations with covenanted partners on the story of Amistad and contacted Franklinton Center at Bricks and asked if they would be willing to receive the gift of the organ from the chapel.

How are we addressing the issue of the Shrinking Church?

Traci Blackmon responded: This issue has been before the Board for years. We need to create a group to hear from others who have gone before so we are not re-doing work that had been going on in the past. We are looking for new ways of being church that we are not currently exploring.

It was VOTED:
UCCB-21-10-18 To approve the minutes of the July 1, 2021 Executive Session of the UCCB.

It was VOTED:
UCCB-21-10-19 The UCCB expresses its gratitude to Rev. John Dorhauer for his ministry this year, and celebrates his gracious pastoral presence and faithful leadership. We give thanks to God for our General Minister and President and for the National Staff, and we offer our prayers of blessing for Rev. Dorhauer's sabbatical to be a period of sustained rest and renewal.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Kimmel
Secretary to the United Church of Christ Board