

Unity Church of Peace

Annual Membership Meeting via In-Person and/or Virtually (ZOOM)

February 20, 2022

Board President Mary Curtis called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m.

Tracey Hynes was moderator.

**Opening Prayer:**

Rev. Donna Loflin led the congregation in an opening prayer.

**Roll Call**

Active members were in-person and/or logged into ZOOM and had agreed to the Standing Rules provided in advance. A total of 61 (49 in-person and 12 virtual) active members were present and constituted a quorum according to **Bylaws Article V Section 1-C**, read by Vickie Edwards, Secretary.

**Minutes from the February 28, 2021 Annual Meeting**

The minutes from the 2021 meeting were posted at [unitychurchofpeace.com](http://unitychurchofpeace.com) website and were available prior to the meeting. President Mary Curtis asked for any corrections to minutes from 2021 Annual Membership Meeting. Minutes were approved as written by general consent.

**Treasurer's Report**

An internal audit was completed by Church members and all figures were found to be correct to the best of our knowledge as of 12/31/2021.

Pam Harrington, Treasurer, presented the financial information.

We have a strong balance sheet: \$76,000.00 in our operating funds and \$175,600.00 in our Building fund.

**Total Income: \$152,600.00**

Of this total – Tithes & Offering make up \$115,000.00 – (\$3,000.00 of which is marked for the Building fund).

Our online tithing is going strong with the Breeze platform now bringing in 23% of our total giving, PayPal is 13%, the balance (64%) is checks and cash.

**Total expenses: (\$163,000.00)**

**Net Loss: \$10,400.00**

This is due to the difference between the cost of the repair & renovation of the Church and the insurance money received. When you consider the fact that the building was closed for half of the year, we had major damage, and we underwent renovation of our sanctuary, office and added a new room, this was to be expected.

**Note:** Included in the expense numbers above is \$17,235.00 in tithes to various local charities, Silent Unity, Unity Worldwide Ministries, etc. We are “tithing” Church and give 10% of our income. We were blessed to be able to give over that in the year 2021.

### **Bills and Communications**

President Mary Curtis was not aware of any additional bills or communications and that all bills and communication were up to date for the year 2021.

The Financial Report will be filed.

### **Election of Board Members**

Vickie Edwards, as Secretary read: **Bylaws Article VI Section 10- A.**

Mary Curtis noted that the Nominating Committee included: Rev. Donna Lofflin, Tracey Hynes, Rima Riggs and Phyllis Stanzione alternate. Phyllis Stanzione presented the slate of candidates in alphabetical order: Aspen Bell (withdrew her nomination before the meeting), David Beard, and John Krueger.

President Mary Curtis asked if they were any nominations from the house or virtual floor. Nominees must have previously consented to be nominated. Renee Peters was nominated from the floor.

Each nominee, David Beard, John Krueger, and Renee Peters introduced themselves and talked about their interest in being a trustee.

Vickie Edwards, as Secretary read the election procedure: **Bylaws Article VI Section 10- D.**

Mary Curtis stated the vote was for two (2) people only, votes with more than two (2) would be void.

The in-person votes were counted, and virtual votes were tallied by the polling software and reported to the board president.

The results are as follows:

John Kruger elected as a Trustee for a 3-year term.

Renee Peters elected as a Trustee for a 3-year term.

David Beard elected as Alternate for 1-year term.

### **Nomination Committee - election**

The nominations for next year's Nominating Team were opened.

Richard Curtis was nominated and accepted nomination.

Martha Bireda was nominated and accepted nomination.

Rick Ramsey moved to accept the nominations of Richard Curtis and Martha Bireda by acclamation. David Beard seconded the motion. All members approved and the motion carried.

Tracey Hynes nominated Alicia Uselmann as an alternate. Renee Peters seconded the motion. All members approved and motion carried.

Richard Curtis and Martha Bireda will be the regular members with Alicia Uselmann being the alternate member on the 2022 Nominating Committee.

### **Minister's Report and Ministry Teams**

- CLASSES: *I of the Storm*-6 weeks; *The Quest* was on Zoom about 18 months; Unity Basics for 5 weeks, *Metaphysics 4* with Rev Eileen for 5 weeks.
- SMALL GROUPS: Adventures in Faith series on Sue Monk Kidd's book *When the Heart Waits*-ended with a catered lunch celebration on November 21st.
- PRAYER TEAM: Held monthly meetings, made calls and created a Sunday prayer circle for several months before the church opened for services. Several team members left during the pandemic and will be honored next weekend-Feb 27th, when we dedicate our new Prayer Team. Vivian Walthall, LUT not only took over the prayer team but is still team leader for **Care Team**/Inreach that keeps up with our members who are facing health challenges.
- MEMORIAL SERVICES:
  - June-Chris Howard
  - July-Glenn Nelson
  - August-Lorraine Gallo Swaffield
  - October-Amy Barrett

Also, many of you lost family and friends-John Bauer made his transition, my mom too. Some of you said goodbye to your parent or your child. It was another year of changes. More changes, more adjustments.

- **COMMUNICATION:** In an effort to keep in touch with you we sent out occasional emails, postcards, Selah sent Birthday Greetings, Tracey provided a weekly emailed newsletter. I made many home, hospital, nursing home and rehab visits. Mary helped keep up our church Facebook page and Bob our website.
- Zoom opportunities offered throughout the pandemic:
  - Wednesday book group 10 AM-Vivian and Tracey
  - Wednesday meditation at 6 PM-Matt and Rev D
  - Thursday morning coffee with the minister-11 AM Rev D
  - Friday morning 10 AM-Writer's group-Tracey
- Largest expenditure of time and money was the **flood in the Sanctuary** Jan 21st. Damage to the sanctuary was extensive. Platform, carpet, sections of walls, new paint, carpet, adding the media booth, new floors in the foyer and office, small new conference room. While we were in the midst of it, we refurbished the office too. I hope you're as pleased with it as we are. None of it could have happened without **Ken Hill's dedication** to staying on the contractors and all the workers coming and going here for 6 months. Mary Curtis and Tracey pitched in hours of extra time too. Plus **Kent Hutchings** put all the office furniture together for us. For weeks we had to create a makeshift sanctuary in the community room so you could still watch every single Sunday service during the pandemic.
- We hired a new **professional cleaning** service so we were ready for soft opening on June 27th.
- **Reopened** the church for Sunday services on July 4th. That triggered the need for our volunteer teams to engage: Thanks to Diane for leading the Ambassador team with greeters, Richie and Phyllis for ushers, Grant and Sandy for hospitality, Pam and Alicia for counting team. Thanks to Bob, Sam, Eric, Rebecca, Tracey, Vivian, Cindy, for helping to keep us going every week. To Dave Beard for keeping our gardens so lovely.
- Held our first concert Aug. 15th with Armand and Angelina.
- **World Day of Prayer** was September 9th.
- **NEW MEMBER SUNDAY: On October 10-14** people joined our ministry and one virtual-our first ever-Tracey's sister Eileen Hynes.
- I'm so proud of the work your **Board of Trustees** accomplished during this year of so much construction and change. They held 12 monthly meetings-never missing a

beat. Their leadership through all of this is to be commended. It's truly a pleasure to work with them for our church. What about the future? No one has a crystal ball, but we walk by faith and remain Spirit Led. We will build back the \$12,000 we took out of savings for the renovations, we will start raising funds for a patio cover. We'll get the special doors installed so we can have our Youth ministry start back up. We will continue to teach our principles and concentrate on projects that fit our core values. As we grow our consciousness, we will grow our ministry!

### **Outreach Report:**

- 26 Easter Baskets, 7 Thanksgiving Dinner baskets, and 26 Christmas gifts to children. We regularly donate to the Homeless Coalition. Every quarter we send a \$250 to a different local charity on top of our 10% tithe to Unity organizations. This year we gave an additional \$2000 to Silent Unity to purchase a calling station since the prayer associates have been working from home!
- **Unfinished Business:** There was no unfinished business.
  - **New Business:** There was no new business.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:32 p.m.

Rev. Donna closed with a benediction.

Minutes prepared by Vickie Edwards on March 7, 2022