



**Unitarian Universalists of Southern
Delaware
Board of Trustees Planning/Business
Meeting
December 10, 2024**

In attendance: Paul Barnette, Donna Davis, Carol Huckabee, Beth Law,
Linda Marsden, Jane Miller, Rev. Heather Rion Starr
Guests: Linda Lewis, Kent Sprunger, Ellen Lytton

Check In and Chalice Lighting (Paul)

- I. Call to Order- called the meeting to order at 10:08 am.
- II. Approve Agenda- A motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Jane Miller and seconded by Carol Huckabee. The vote was unanimous to approve.
- III. Items for Action:
 - a. Review/Approve November 12 Business Meeting Minutes- A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Donna Davis and seconded by Carol Huckabee. The vote was unanimous to approve.
 - b. Signing of Corporate Resolution Signature Page - All
- IV. Items for Discussion:
 - a. FY26 Pledge Campaign Update - Linda Lewis: Budget and timeline document presented (copy in meeting's Google Drive folder). Theme this year is Writing Our Next Chapter Together. Pledge Committee would like Board help with identifying key messages for brochure and website, identifying speakers for testimonials in March, and pledging early. Elizabeth Shepley willing to do graphic work for pledge drive. The importance of personally contacting members and friends was discussed. Pledge team will focus on how we support our community by pledging and not focus on the confidentiality of pledging. Having a kickoff dinner was discussed - possible chili cookoff March 1st. Donna Davis and Linda Lewis will take the dinner idea to the Pledge and

UUSD Cares committees. Hosting small group meetings in members' homes could be introduced in FY27. Board needs to provide brochure input by January 22nd.

- b. Followup on Facilities Task Force & Stewardship Ministry Team Startups - All: Linda Marsden and Donna Davis met with the Facilities Task Force on Sunday. The meeting went well and the committee has hit the ground running. The Stewardship Ministry Team is meeting this Thursday evening. Carol Huckabee and Jane Miller are liaising with the team. They are having difficulty getting the entire team together at the same time; Carol Huckabee and Donna Davis will reach out to a few more people to see if they will join the committee.
- c. Sunday Attendance Numbers - Paul: Before the election we averaged 130 people in the sanctuary; now we are seeing about 150 people. To make more room we could put the choir on the chancel every Sunday. We can also try to make sure there are as few single empty seats as possible. A third usher, and possibly a second greeter, would be helpful for busier services - Paul Barnette will ask Barb Barnette to reach out to Donna Dolce about this. In the new year we will look into having a hymnal drive where people can buy hymnals in memory of loved ones. Paul Barnette will count the grey and teal hymnals so we can see how many we need.
- d. Ministerial Evaluation Process Update - Paul: The Ministerial Evaluation Team will meet in January. They will come up with a list of 12 people to send an evaluation form to.
- e. Handicap Accessibility - Jane: It was brought to our attention that the family bathroom toilet seat is not high enough for a wheelchair user to use comfortably. Paul Barnette will reach out to Cheri Garnet, our Facilities Point Person, and ask her to look at the family bathroom as well as the ladies' and mens' handicap stalls to ensure that they are ADA compliant.

V. The meeting was adjourned at 12:07 pm.

Next Board Planning Meeting: Tuesday, January 14th at 10:00 am (in person/hybrid).

Respectfully submitted-

Beth Law

BOT Secretary