

# USG Board Agenda / Minutes

18-December-2018

**Attendees:** Gloria Guldager, Nancy Anderson, Debbie Ward, Jenn Leiby, Sam Stormont, Kent Matthies, Jess Slivak, Michael Campbell, Joanne Davis

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## 1. Approve November Minutes

- **Decision:** The November-2018 USG Board minutes were approved.

## 2. Anti-Racism Task Force Update

Kent spoke with Treva Burger and others, and there was acceptance of the decision to dissolve the ARTF. Discussion ensued of various related topics, including how we can continue to appropriately celebrate and incorporate traditions from different cultures. A previous group called the Transformation Team was also brought up. Jenn Leiby will meet with Treva Burger to continue the dialogue on ways to productively move forward.

## 3. Gift for Connie

There is approximately \$1200 in a special projects account designated for ordinations.

- **Decision:** The Board resolves to give Connie Simon \$1200 with our gratitude for her service as intern minister. Unanimously approved.



#### 4. Elevator Loan/Pledge Campaign Update

- Linda Bernstein had identified at least the needed \$75,000 in commitments for elevator bridge loan funding, with several other potential lenders as backups. Loan documentation is being finalized.
- Kent has called approximately 10 households and sent letters to others soliciting contributions to close the operating budget campaign/budget gap. So far, \$20,500 in commitments have been secured. At least \$5600 of this is from those who had not previously pledged to the campaign this year.
- Fundraising for the capital campaign budget gap has been put on hold. There should be sufficient commitments to fully fund the elevator. Once the final expenses for the elevator are known, it will be determined how much is left and what still needs to be raised to complete the driveway. This will avoid the possibility of underestimating and needing to do multiple rounds of additional fundraising.

#### 5. Copyright Issues

- There is concern about posting materials other than the USG minister's sermon on the internet (specifically YouTube) for fear of violating copyrights and incurring fines or other legal action. Church counsel Dave Dearden conducted research and an analysis and proposed a new standard operating procedure whereby attempts are made to secure permission from copyright holders before posting copyrighted material (music, books, readings, etc.) from services on the internet. However, it was felt that this is somewhat impractical and would place an undue burden on staff.
- **Decision:** The Board endorsed MET's decision that the only recorded material from worship services to be posted on the internet are the sermons. For sermons delivered by those other than the USG minister(s), the speaker's permission will be sought first. Unanimously approved.
- The decision will be communicated by MET to the church's videographers.

#### 6. Nominating Committee Meeting 1/9/2019

- The Nominating Committee would appreciate Board input on priorities and characteristics for recruiting new Board members and church leaders. Jessica Slivak will participate in their meeting on 1/9/2019.

## 7. Board Retreat

The Board retreat will be held Saturday, 1/5/2019 from 9:00 – 12:00