

UUCSC Board of Directors Meeting  
December 13, 2022 at Elizabeth Donovan's home

**Present:** President Elizabeth Donovan, VP Trish Hindley, Treasurer Mary Alice Kimball, Clerk Mary Fulton, Directors Charlie Donnelly, Elaine Stannard, Russell Stokes and Rev. Denis Letourneau Paul

**Call to Order:** 6:25 PM by Elizabeth Donovan

**Reading of Covenant and chalice lighting:** by Elizabeth Donovan

**Invocation** by Rev. Denis Letourneau Paul

**MOTION: Elizabeth moves to ratify the November Board minutes that were approved via email. PASSED unanimously.**

**Staff reports: Appended.**

**Treasurer's report: A print copy is on file with the clerk.**

Pledge payments are increasing as they usually do at this time of year. The Hurdis fund has paid all of the expenses for OWL (Our Whole Lives) training. \$801.35 remains from the \$3000 allocation. The Chalice dinner cost was \$32 to serve approximately 30 attendees. Aline Couture has been contacting people to ask if they are able to complete their OLL (Our Living legacy) pledges and some have been paid. Sandy Ketrow and Sky Kimball are reviewing office software that can track financial and membership data. It will be necessary to determine who can access each module to preserve confidentiality.

**Holiday Fair:** Appreciation was expressed for Trish Hindley's leadership and the many volunteers who made the day a pleasure, as well as a financial success. It was noted that the closing time was advertised as 3:00 but people and vendors began to leave earlier. This should be addressed when planning for future events. The map of churches holding fairs on 12/3 was very well received in the community. It provides an opportunity to join together with those churches for other events. Rosemary Galiani sold Fair Trade items at the Fair. She will be asked to continue sales after Sunday services. She will need assistance. The Fair earned approximately \$3500. A donation of 5% will be sent to the UUA after figures are finalized in January.

**Chalice Festivities:** Very well received.

**Music and More at Lily Pads:** In the future, similar events, scheduled by a variety of people, may be smaller and earlier.

**Board succession:** 2023-24 openings are anticipated for the positions of president, treasurer and 2 directors.

**Online Sunday services:** The hybrid zoom services are well received but there are logistical issues. A person is needed to manage the scheduling and fill in if necessary at the last minute. There is also a problem sharing the Zoom account now that it requires double verification.

**Miscellaneous:** Susan Mondelo will install an ADA compliant railing on the front steps. The heat has been restored. Outside lighting is poor but another condo tenant is responsible for repairing the lights. Work delays have occurred. The Policy manual is being reformatted. Both Elizabeth and Mary Alice will be out of town in February so Trish will assume leadership as the vice president. The Board retreat will be held in the spring.

Adjourned 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Fulton, Clerk

**Next Board meeting Wednesday January 18, 2023 6pm via Zoom**

**Next Coordinating Council meeting: Wednesday, January 11, 2023, 4pm via Zoom**

As I promised earlier, here is my report for December:

**Minister's Report to the Board of Directors  
UU Congregation of South County  
Rev. Denis Letourneau Paul**

December 13, 2022

Dear Members of the Board of Directors,

Worship Life

Since my last report, I've been involved in the following services:

11/20 "Bread Communion," assisting Lee Cowan in an intergenerational service  
11/30 "Shadow to Light," mid-week Zoom service focused on extended Joys and Concerns

12/4 "Rituals and Traditions," with Marcia Boyd and Lee Cowan

12/11 "Presence and Presents," with Adria Evans and Lee Cowan

The staff and worship team have been focused on populating an accessible document on Google Drive with all of the pertinent information on upcoming services. We've all done a great job of getting information in at least a month in advance so that Sara and Etta can introduce a new section to the newsletter that will list upcoming services four weeks in advance on a continuing basis.

During December we've had a seven-pointed star, made by the children in RE, at the front of the sanctuary. Artist Jeanne Arthur also put up faux stained glass over the east-facing windows in the sanctuary. Both will remain up through the New Year's Day service. We already have art planned for most of the remainder of the coming year, and feel confident that we'll have theme-specific art up each month. The feedback on this project has been overwhelmingly positive.

Worship in the early part of December has been focused on Chalica, the UU Festival of Lights celebrating our Principles. My goal for introducing the new holiday to the congregation is to encourage families to create their own traditions, so that their children have a sense of belonging to a UU that is not only value-laden and inclusive, but also celebratory and joyful.

### Congregational Life

At our Wednesday evening Chalica dinner, some moms of young children told me that next year they plan on making Chalica the center of their winter holidays! The dinner, attended by 30 people, felt like a huge success. My hope is that next year more members and friends, knowing what to expect, will attend. I also hope that the build-your-own-meal style of food offerings, which was appreciated by everyone present, may be a model for future gatherings with food.

Meanwhile, there are a lot of pastoral needs in the congregation, which is typical during this season with so much disappointment and physical illness. The pastoral care continues to do a great job defining their boundaries, their charge from the congregation and their role in accompanying members and friends who reach out to me directly for pastoral care.

### Community Life

One of the challenges of Chalica for the future is how it's framed: as a celebration of our Principles. At the moment, our Principles, part of Article II of the UUA bylaws, are under review and there's a slight chance that a new cluster of seven words could replace them and the previously proposed 8th principle already adopted by UUCSC. A few active members of our congregation have expressed worry or even dismay at the possibility, and within our continental association acrimony is erupting over the proposal. My hope is that folks who feel passionately about the topic step up to be delegates representing UUCSC at General Assembly in June.

On a happier note, it's been a pleasure to see local performances that include members of our congregation as I continue to connect with local colleagues.

Next Furlough Week: December 26 through January 2

In Peace,  
Rev. Denis Letourneau Paul

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Rev. Denis Paul  
Unitarian Universalist Minister

December 2022  
DRE Board Report

Dear Board,

I'm still waiting to hear from you about my request for going mask optional in RE. Could someone please get in touch with me about that?

We've had a very busy month! We had Bread Communion, the Holiday Fair, two Chalica services, and a Chalica dinner. I baked the salt dough sculptures that everyone made at the Bread Communion, and they're so beautiful. We're discussing some kind of art piece we can make with them. I sat at the RE table at the Holiday Fair and had a great time talking with new kids and families and current congregants. We made \$75 selling our little crafts. It was so joyful to be able to celebrate Chalica together. The dinner inspired so many of us and I'd love to do more community dinners in the near future.

We've moved forward with plans for 10-12th grade OWL. We have two facilitators from Westminster and one from our congregation who will be working together to offer this program. We currently have 4 youth from our congregation who have confirmed that they will take part and we're waiting to hear back from 4 more. Westminster has 2 confirmed. We plan to have a total of 7 sessions, spread out from the end of January thru the end of April. One idea is to have the first half of the sessions hosted at UUCSC and the second half hosted at WUC. We're meeting this week to finalize plans.

I got to facilitate my first OWL class last Sunday for the 8th-9th grade program. It really is even better than I imagined. I'm so so very grateful that we are able to offer this program for our youth. And I look forward to having all of our kids take these classes! Bethany is looking into hosting a training for the elementary OWL next year so that we can offer it to our large group of elementary aged kids.

I'm looking forward to our Solstice service this Sunday and to the spiral walk on the 21st.

Thanks all,

Lee

### **Office Administrator Board Report, December, 2022**

Thank you to the Board for allowing me to work Veteran's Day and have the day after Thanksgiving off. I had a nice holiday with my family and hope you did as well.

**Heat** As you are all aware, there were problems with the heat not working in the past month. I apologize for my part in the misunderstandings that contributed to the delays in getting it repaired. I am working on improving communication with Board members, committee chairs and other staff members to avoid such problems in the future.

**Board member photos** Board member photos have been posted in the Oneto Room  
**Holiday Fair and Chalica Dinner** I did some printing, brainstorming and general helping out with preparations for these two special events.

**Background Checks** Background checks are in process for staff and volunteers who work with children in the RE program.

**Tree of Life** Tree of Life forms were updated according to the policy decisions taken at the November Board meeting.

**Ongoing** I continue to perform various tasks in support of the work of many of the committees. I continue to produce the order of service weekly, to work with Etta on the newsletter and website, and to take care of the mail, email and phone messages and getting the bills to Sue Rogala.

Best,

Sara Kaplow

Office Administrator