

UCH Emergency Board Meeting  
Budget Discussion  
5/3/24

Meeting started 7:05 pm

Attending Bob Daniel-Wayman, Mike Pabian, Dave May, Karen MacDowell, David Mrazek, Susan Stephens

Church staff: Rev Beth Johnson

The agenda tonight was agreeing on how the Board will inform the congregation that, for the first time in several years the church we have a budget deficit of \$12,142. After our last emergency board meeting, and a meeting with the Personnel Committee to discuss budget cutting options, tonight Bob presented a rough draft of a PowerPoint presentation for the congregation that presents two budget options and the pros and cons of deficit spending. This section needs to be simplified (Rev Beth, Bob and David Mrazek will meet to do this in the coming days). One option is a budget with various cuts including a 2% COLA and reduction in admin hours to 12 hours, as well as utilizing \$3300 in dividends from the Endowment Fund, which brings the deficit down to \$8842.

The other option makes additional cuts (no raises for staff and administrative hours reduced to 10 hours a week, as well as reducing UUA contribution by \$1K) which essentially balances the budget; there is a \$30 deficit. This latter option is not one that the Board thinks we should pursue.

Bob also presented an Xcel spreadsheet of the entire budget with all line items, with additional tabs displaying the numbers of the two budget options.

Rev Beth presented cuts to various administrative line items as well as a \$5000K increase in rental income, due to interest in the Language Lab to increase the rental space in the coming year. Bob applied those cuts and additional income to the budget viewed tonight.

A discussion was had on how to present these options to the congregation. Reverend Beth spoke about the importance of making budget decisions through values-based decision-making. While nobody likes to start the fiscal year with a deficit, Rev Beth made the point that in the coming year she and the new Board, with congregational involvement, will be embarking on solidifying the UCH's short-term and long-term strategic planning; what kind of church do we want to evolve, and how will this help the budget.

It was agreed to have several different meetings to inform the congregation:

May 12 before church

May 13 Zoom meeting

May 14<sup>th</sup> afternoon in person meeting at church

May 19 meet after church

June 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting

Karen MacDowell moved to adjourn. David Mrazek seconded.

Meeting adjourned 8:44 p.m.