



*Vision: We envision a world of peace, abundance and respect for all creation.
 Mission: Aligned with the indwelling Christ, we co-create a world that works for everyone.
 Core Values: Spirit-Centered, Integrity, Oneness, Love, Engagement*

**Unity of Fairfax Board of Trustees
 August 27, 2024**

Board Members Present	Others Present	Board Members Absent
Russell Heiland, Senior Minister		
Bowman Kell, First Chair		
Millicent Eubanks, Second Chair		
Ed Merritt, Treasurer		
Sherrie Quander, Secretary		
Kalahn Taylor-Clark, Keeper of the Flame		
Midd Hunt, Member at Large		

Quorum present? Yes

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm EST
 Pray-in was facilitated by Kalahn Taylor-Clark

Executive Session

An Executive Session was called to order at 7:05 pm EST and ended at 7:18 pm EST.

Team/Committee Reports:

Financial Report: <https://www.unityoffairfax.org/board-financial-statements>

Minister’s Report: Attached as Appendix 1. Rev. Russ reviewed his monthly report. He also made a motion regarding accepting new members who will be presented for membership (see Motion 2 below). Any and all questions were answered.

Nominating Ministry Team: Bowman Kell and Sherrie Quander reviewed progress in efforts to move forward with two candidates who are in discernment about joining the 2025 Board. Kalahn Taylor-Clark will be assuming the role of Board representative for the Nominating Ministry Team during Sherrie Quander’s recovery.

Old business:

Fun Fest Auction Update: Millicent Eubanks provided an overview of the Fall Fun Fest Auction team’s progress to date. The Team, led by Rob Chavez and Rob Jacoby, is currently accepting donations. The Auction will commence on October 6th and conclude on October 27th.

Mildred Park Task Force: Bowman Kell reported the task force recommendations are underway and an update will be provided at the September Board meeting.

New business:

Secular Policy Recommendations. Ed Merritt shared the recommendations from the Finance Committee regarding grants from congregants’ employers who offer matching grants to charitable organizations and

requires that such grants can only be used for “non-religious” charitable purposes. A draft policy that aligns with the intent of the grants was reviewed and will be re-submitted at the September Board meeting.

Asset Transfer Motion. Ed Merritt reviewed the structure of short-term cash investments included among Unity of Fairfax’s assets. See motion 3 below.

UWM Delegates. Rev. Russ discussed UWM’s upcoming virtual Annual Business Meeting. Unity of Fairfax can have four delegates at this meeting, in addition to Rev. Russ and Linda Powell, LUT. He encouraged Board members to consider attending and taking the required voting delegate training. This matter will be discussed further at the September Board meeting.

MOTIONS:

MOTION 1: Approval of July 30, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes. The motion to accept the minutes was made by Bowman Kell and seconded by Kalahn Taylor-Clark. The motion was unanimously approved.

MOTION 2: Rev. Russell Heiland made the motion that Unity of Fairfax accept the following twelve (12) individuals as Voting Members (ceremony to be held on September 15): Sterling Wilde, Duane Bowers, Jack Tarr, Megan James, Sue Carillo, Soni Weiss, Guerline Osterval, Mary Histing, Cindy Vough, Floyd Perez, Patty Waschitzki, Cathi Stallings. Seconded by Ed Merritt. The motion was unanimously approved.

MOTION 3: Whereas the church currently holds a substantial amount of reserve funds in very low interest-bearing accounts, the Board directs the Director of Finance or other staff designated by the Minister to research options for obtaining higher rates of returns on these funds, taking into consideration as well issues such as:

- the future accessibility of the funds,
- that they are held in FDIC insured accounts, such as Certificates of Deposit, High-yield Savings and Money Market Accounts,
- along with any other considerations deemed relevant by church staff.

The Board further allows staff to present alternatives upon completion of its analysis for approval and authorization by the Treasurer. The motion was made by Ed Merritt and seconded by Millicent Eubanks. The motion was unanimously approved.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:06 pm EST.

Upcoming Dates:

Board of Trustees Midd-Month Session on September 10, 2024 at 7:00 pm EST

Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting on September 24, 2024 at 7:00 pm EST

Appendix 1:

Strategic Goals

I keep the [2023-2024 Minister’s Progress Log](#) current.

Discussion Items

N/A

Information Items

The Freedom to Thrive course ended on August 15. Participants appreciated having 3 facilitators - Revs. Sandy, Sherrie, and me. We enjoyed the collaboration, too!

Midd Hunt's Vietnam presentation to the Sages on August 21 had a full house and was much appreciated by all. Tammy Nguyen provided additional support.

We distributed over 250 Unity bags at Oakton Day in the Park on August 25.

Unity of Fairfax officially enters into a relationship with a new non-profit Fairfax Secular Homeschool Collective (FSHC) whose Board President is Annie Tomastik, daughter of Nina Gibson and Tim Tomastik. FSHC will be in the building on Tuesdays and use a few rooms. This is an organization that brings together children who are homeschooled, and although this is not a big money-maker, it is a great way to introduce many families to Unity of Fairfax.

Prayer Chaplain installation will be in Sunday Service on September 8.

Homecoming/New Member Sunday is September 15. The church will provide expanded hospitality that day. New Voting Members will be installed. Daniel Nahmod will be our guest musician on September 15. He will do a concert that day as well.

Unity Awakening 2024 will run September 22 - November 3. The source material will be *In the Flow of Life* by Eric Butterworth. I am reprising this material from 2013. On Sunday, September 29, Revs. Johnson, Butler, and Karstetter will be joining me on the platform for the message. I expect to have 6 small groups, something I consider a win since we haven't had small groups in a few years.

Jan Garrett and JD Martin will be guest musicians on September 29.

The Celebration of Life Service for Rev. Jane will be on September 29 preceded by a luncheon. Church will most likely be set up cabaret-style that day. Concelebrants will be Rev. Donna Johnson, Rev. Sandra Butler, Rev. Ron Karstetter, Rev. Trish Hall, and me.

I am working with staff, Marketing Team and riders Midd Hunt, Steve Marcom, Luco (Steve's grandson) and Becky Bruner to make the 150 mile Great Allegheny Passage Trail ride (9/30-10/4) into a fundraiser for Unity of Fairfax. Folks can sponsor x amount per mile. My goal is \$13,800 (the equivalent of 1 mortgage payment).

I will be going to Indiana for a family visit October 9-14. (Sunday the 13th is my 59th birthday and I'm choosing to spend it with my family this year. Rev. Sherrie will be guest speaker that day.)

Unity of Fairfax will host a concert to benefit Rosie's Farm Sanctuary in Potomac, MD in conjunction with UUCF on Saturday, October 19.

Unity of Fairfax will host the Eastern Region YOU Fall rally October 25 - 27, 2024. Anticipate about 25 fully-chaperoned kids to attend. This will help boost the consciousness of Youth Ed at Unity of Fairfax.

The Fall Auction is slated for October 27. Please plan to contribute and buy!

The Prayer Chaplain Ministry is crafting a special prayer for the election and will host a prayer vigil at the church on Election Day. These are responses to requests I made to them.

I have been invited to install Rev. Shea Maultsby as minister of Unity of Sussex County, NJ on Sunday, November 17th. I will add a few days vacation to this trip.

I am working to reconstitute the Health and Safety Team. Midd Hunt and Gladys Robinson are supporting this work and will be attending a County meeting on this topic on September 19. We also had a community meeting with FCPD coming up.

I have been invited to return to Unity of Chautauqua as a minister-in-residence for 1 week in the 2025 season. Date TBD this fall.

Action Items

Motion: I move that Unity of Fairfax accept the following twelve (12) individuals as Voting Members (ceremony to be held on September 15): Sterling Wilde, Duane Bowers, Jack Tarr, Megan James, Sue Carillo, Soni Weiss, Guerline Osterval, Mary Histing, Cindy Vough, Floyd Perez, Patty Waschitzki, Cathi Stallings.

Rationale: These individuals have successfully completed the requirements for Voting Membership.