



Mission  
We are a vibrant spiritual community  
awakening each life to the Christ within.

Vision  
Centered in Divine Love, we honor and  
celebrate a world awakened to peace,  
abundance, and respect for all creation.

## Unity of Fairfax Board of Trustees

### Monthly Meeting, Aug 23, 2022

Board Members Present	Others Present	Board Members Absent
Russell Heiland, Senior Minister		
Julie Fisher, First Chair		
Ed Merritt, Second Chair		
Dave Richardson, Treasurer		
Marangely Sandvik, Keeper of the Flame		
Midd Hunt, Member at Large		
Bowman Kell, Secretary		

**Quorum present?** Yes

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm

**Executive Session:** no executive session was called.

**Minister’s Report:** Attached as Appendix 1

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

#### Old business:

- 66th Anniversary campaign fundraiser good progress is being made. Board members are continuing to make calls to members to invite them to the September 18 celebration and discuss recent activities.
- Board meeting in Manassas VA set for Saturday, September 17

#### New business:

- Mara will lead the 2023 Board of Trustees nominating committee. Russ will reach out to members to join the committee.
- Julie will lead the 2022 minister review and all Board members are to review progress towards goals prior to our September 13 mid-month meeting. Russ will not attend.

#### Motions:

**MOTION:** Approval of July 26, 2022 Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes  
Ed Merritt moved, Russell Heiland seconded, unanimously approved.

**MOTION:** The Unity of Fairfax Investment Policy and Guidelines are modified as noted in the referenced revised version of those guidelines. Key revisions:

- Mildred Park Endowment Fund designated as primary investment account for Unity of Fairfax.
- Minimum endowment target revised from \$1 MM to \$100,000.

- Annual withdrawal amounts clarified and modified to 10% of total endowment value or 75% of prior year's investment gains, whichever is larger. Amounts require board approval.
- Authorized investment vehicles updated as specified.

Julie Fisher moved, Ed Merritt seconded, unanimously approved.

**MOTION:** The board authorizes transfer of \$10,000 from Mildred Park Endowment Fund to Unity of Fairfax Operating Cash account after review of tax implications.

Marangely Sandvikr moved, Bowman Kell seconded, unanimously approved.

**MOTION:** Move that the State of Unity of Fairfax Community Emergency under which the church has been operating since the adoption of Article XII of the Bylaws on November 1, 2020 be declared "over" effective August 8, 2022.

Ed Merritt moved, Julie Fisher seconded, unanimously approved.

**MOTION:** Move that Unity of Fairfax make a one-time \$1,000.00 tithe to Unity of Chautauqua payable in September from the regular August tithe amount.

Julie Fisher moved, Dave Richardson seconded, unanimously approved.

**MOTION:** Move that Unity of Fairfax make a one-time \$1,000.00 tithe the Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua (ECOC) in September from the regular August tithe amount.

Dave Richardson moved, Julie Fisher seconded, unanimously approved.

#### **Upcoming Dates:**

Board of Trustees Midd-Month Session on Sept 13th 7-8 pm EDT

Board of Trustees retreat, Sept 17, 1-3 pm.

66th Anniversary Celebration, Sept 18, after Sunday service.

Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting on Sept 27th 7-9:30 pm EDT

## Appendix 1 Minister's Report

### **Strategic Goals**

Here is the link to the [Progress Log](#) on my goals. I update it regularly.

On August 9, I contacted the 8 music teachers listed in the South Lakes H.S. Spring Choir concert program to suggest Unity as a performance/recital space.

On August 9, I booked Paul John Roach, author of Unity and World Religions as guest speaker on 10/23/22. He'll already be in the area, so no travel cost to us, save for 1 night of lodging. Unity Awakening 2022 will run Sunday, September 25 - Sunday, November 6. I will lead the Metaphysical Group in discussion of the topic of the week, and am in the process of securing guest speakers for a Zoom only meeting on Thursday evenings from 7 - 9 pm.

Peter Chapin is assembling a new Hospitality Team and is asking ministry teams to take 1 Sunday every 2 months to provide simple hospitality.

For Unity Awakening evening Zoom sessions, I am reaching out to GMU faculty to present about the different religions. This is a way to connect with the collegiate community in our area.

We hired a new facilities specialist, Ronald Sanchez, who officially starts on September 1. He will work 20 hours per week in the afternoons and other hours upon request. He has extensive credentials and excellent references.

### **Discussion Items**

As we look to the post-pandemic future, I think it is time to consider a review of our mission and vision statements and core values or have a review of how Unity of Fairfax is expressing them. Usually churches do this every 3 years, but there is no hard and fast rule about this, per Unity ministry consultant Rev. Steve Colladay. I think ours were created during the Transformation Experience of 2009-2012. This could be a project for the first half of 2023.

There have been 3 Benevolence Fund grants made this summer and the Benevolence Fund is now low - just under \$1,500. Would the Board consider making a transfer from other Unity of Fairfax accounts to this Fund?

### **Action Items**

I move that the State of Unity of Fairfax Community Emergency under which the church has been operating since the adoption of Article XII of the Bylaws on November 1, 2020 be declared "over" effective August 8, 2022.

Rationale: With the unanimous approval by the Voting Members present at the Special Membership Meeting on August 7, 2022 of the three proposed Bylaws changes, the church is

now free to operate in a hybrid fashion without having to invoke the provisions of Article XII of the Bylaws.

I move that Unity of Fairfax make a one-time \$1,000.00 tithe to Unity of Chautauqua payable in September from the August tithe amount.

I move that Unity of Fairfax make a one-time \$1,000.00 tithe the Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua (ECOC) in September from the August tithe amount.

Rationale for both tithes: Unity of Chautauqua hosted me as minister-in-residence, and Anthony and I stayed at the ECOC house. Unity of Chautauqua paid for that. I cannot express emphatically enough how exceptionally inspiring this experience was for me on all levels after contending with the “facts” of the world for the last several years. At the ECOC we made inspiring connections that enhanced the quality of the Chautauqua experience. If the Board approves these tithes, they would cause a reduction in August tithes sent to UWM and UWH.

### **Information Items**

I have been named to an ad hoc UWM Social Action Team whose mission is to draft statements, when needed, in response to social issues on behalf of UWM.

I have been asked to be a Unity minister-in-residence at Chautauqua again next year. Once the dates are confirmed, I will encourage members and friends of Unity of Fairfax to attend as well. I do not see this as an activity coordinated by Unity of Fairfax, but rather as an informal meetup type of activity.

Anthony and I have been invited by friends to stay with them at Smith Mountain Lake, VA August 28 - September 1, 2022. We will head down after church on August 28. I will be available for church business on a limited basis.

Debi Smith and I are creating a music-themed Sunday service for our 66th anniversary on September 18, 2022. Amy will be at Unity Village. I will coordinate a reception with staff and volunteers after church that day. I kindly request Trustees to be present if at all possible.

Hunter Mill Montessori is using Classrooms 6, 7, and the Men’s Room while renovations are taking place in the Mildred Park Center.