Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley

Rev. Kristin Grassel Schmidt & Rev. Christian Schmidt, Co-Ministers

1 Lawson Road, Kensington, CA 94707 * 510-525-0302 * uucb.org

May 3, 2019

Dear Congregants:

Our May Congregational Meeting as called for in the by-laws will be held after the 11:00 service on Sunday, May 19, 2019 in the Sanctuary at 12:45 pm. The meeting should adjourn before 2:30 pm.

The dedication and service of Ray Miles and Jane Lundin will be recognized with Schweitzer Awards at the meeting.

And the budget recommended by the Board of Trustees for the fiscal year 2019/2020 will be presented and voted on. There will also be a reports from the Social Justice, Stewardship and Endowment Committees.

We look forward to seeing you on May 19th. All Congregational Meetings are important but this budget proposal is especially important as it charts a course for the congregation during difficult times and includes substantial cuts to programs.

Yours,

Maryann Simpson

President Board of Trustees

Enc:

Agenda

Minutes 2-10-19

Recommended Budget

Board Motions and By-Law Changes

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Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley Congregational Meeting May 19, 2019 Sanctuary 12:45pm

AGENDA

12:45	Call to Order and Determine Presence of a Quorum Maryann Simpson, President, Board of Trustees
12:48	Chalice Lighting
12:51	Adoption of the Agenda
12:54	Reading of the Covenant
12:56	Approval of the February 10, 2019 Congregational Meeting Minutes
1:01	Schweitzer Awards Ray Miles and Jane Lundin
1:11	State of the Congregation Maryann Simpson
1:21	Social Justice Committee Beth Jerde
1:26	Stewardship Report Lynn Cahoom
1:31	Endowment Report Lenore Ralston
1:36	Draft Budget and Approval of Budget 2019/2020 Fiscal Year – Mary Muelbach and Dave Roberts
2:00	Forgiveness of the Land Use Task Force Loan from Endowment Fund and a draw of \$150,000 from the Endowment Fund Interest Earned to use for Cash Flow needs.
2:10	By-Law Changes – Nominating Committee Lee Lawrence Notice of other by-law changes
2:15	Comments and Questions
2:20	Benediction
2:22	Adjournment

Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley Congregational Meeting February 10, 2019

MINUTES Final

Call to Order and Determination of the Presence of a Quorum

President Jack Duggan called the meeting to order and asked for a count of the members present. Approximately 95 members were counted, substantially more than required for a quorum.

Adoption of the Agenda

Jean Gleason moved to adopt the agenda, Lynne Cahoon seconded, and the motion passed.

Covenant

Jack Duggan read the covenant.

Minutes

The minutes of the last Congregational meeting were not distributed; approval was deferred.

Nominating Committee

The proposed change in the bylaws was not presented with sufficient notice and will be presented for approval at the May Congregational meeting, but an advisory vote was taken on a motion made by Larry Nagel and seconded by Anne Greenwood so that the committee could recruit the additional members.

Ordination

Ordination of Zackrie Vinczen was approved by acclimation, and with enthusiastic applause.

Flaming Chalice Awards

Vice President (and Awards Committee chair) Maryann Simpson expressed her appreciation of Jack Duggan's service as President and asked the presenters and recipients to come forward. Paul Hudson presented to Jean Hyams, Virginia Silver Rimbach to Logan Stump-Vernon, and Debra Schmidt to Tom Tripp, and there was enthusiastic applause for all.

Finance Report

Linda Laskowski reprised her presentation on membership and pledging trends, Dave Roberts reviewed the work of the Committee on Financial Oversight, and Mary Muehlbach thanked them while announcing that she planned to retire in June. She also asked for applause for the members who loaned \$120,000 to the church for temporary working capital. A brief discussion followed, and it was acknowledged that there would be more opportunities for member input to the budgeting process.

Stewardship

Barbara Cullinane spoke for the campaign, in lieu of Patrick, the chairman, who was home with a cold.

Election

Jack Duggan thanked Richard Hanway and Maryann Simpson for their service and announced that Beth Pollard, Logan Stump-Vernon, and Maryann Simpson had been elected. He also thanked Grace Ulp for offering to serve.

Board Installation, Benediction and Adjournment

Rev. Kristin Schmidt installed the new Board, gave the benediction and the meeting was adjourned.

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BOARD MEETING

The members of the new Board met briefly to elect officers: Maryann Simpson, president, Logan Stump-Vernon, vice-president, Mary Muehlbach, treasurer, and Jane Lundin, secretary.

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Respectfully submitted, Jane Lundin, secretary.

Respectfully submitted, Jane Lundin, secretary

Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley Congregational Meeting October 21, 2018

MINUTES Draft

Call to Order and Determination of the Presence of a Quorum

Kay Fairwell called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m. and asked for a count of the members present. Approximately 100 members were counted, substantially more than the 56 needed to constitute a quorum.

Chalice Lighting

Rev. Christian Schmidt lit the chalice.

Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted with the deletion of the approval of minutes which had not been distributed.

Nominating Committee

Maryann Simpson presented Don Klose, Ariel Smith-Iyer, Marta Tobey, and Gwenn White for confirmation as members of the Nominating Committee. Jean Gleason moved approval, Jim Milstead seconded, and the motion passed. Maryann also announced that additional members could be nominated by following the procedures in the bylaws.

Freestone Motion

Kay Fairwell presented the Board of Trustees' proposed motion:

Ray Nelson seconded, and after considerable discussion, a vote was taken by secret ballot. Including absentee ballots there were 79 votes in favor and 63 against, which did not meet the previously agreed standard of a two thirds majority, so the motion was defeated. Bob Moore, Freestone Committee Co-Chair, then withdrew the alternate motion that had been mailed in the packet, saying that the Committee intended to confer with the Board on creating a plan for the next several years.

Benediction and Adjournment

Rev. Kristin Schmidt read the benediction and the meeting was adjourned at 2:45.

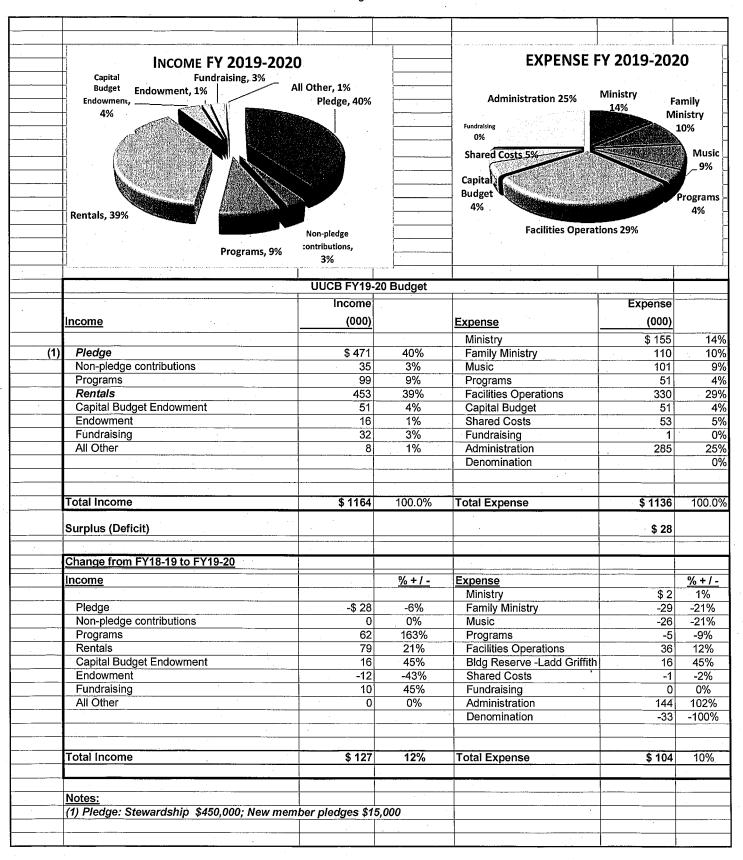
Respectfully submitted, Jane Lundin, secretary, with thanks to Ann Harlow for taking notes at the meeting.

MOTIONS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES for MAY 19, 2019 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

- 1. Forgiveness of the Land Use Task Force loan.
- 2. Authorize the treasurer to draw \$150,000 from the endowment interest to use for cash flow.

BY-LAW CHANGES

- 6.10 The Board of Trustees shall establish a Nominating Committee, responsible to the congregation, to identify the best candidates for Trustees to replace departing ones. This Committee shall be convened by the Vice President of the Board and eight (8) certified members, recommended by the Board in consultation with church members, and elected by the membership at the preceding Celebration and Planning Meeting. Committee members may serve for three years.
- 3. No person shall be eligible to serve partial terms or full terms aggregating more than six consecutive years. After a lapse of **six years** following service within the six-year limitation, eligibility is reestablished.



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Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley Draft Budget FY 2019-2020 Line Item Details

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Co-Ministers Annual Report 2018-2019

Dear members and friends of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley,

As the 2018-19 church year draws to a close, we reflect on a year of big strides forward in many areas of our governance and difficult financial decisions. This report follows the format of the global ends (long-term goals) created by your Board in Spring 2018 and just a few of the most important ways we have been working to achieve those ends as a congregation and as ministers.

In faith, Revs. Kristin and Christian

REACHING OUT

We invite people of goodwill to make a spiritual home with us

• This year (from May 2018-April 2019) we had 151 first-time visitors (who filled out information for us). We have welcomed 13 new members in that time. Cumulatively, this resulted in a small reduction in total membership due to death and members leaving. Next year's budget includes money for a Membership and Growth Coordinator, one of several changes we're excited about in efforts to grow church membership. Sunday attendance, both in service and overall, is up slightly over the previous year.

We celebrate the diversity of our congregation in the fullness of who we are

About two years ago, several members of our church who are people of color (POC) approached Rev. Christian about having some sort of support for POC in the congregation. Rev. Christian suggested the idea of a caucus – a group specifically for POC for support and fellowship. This, due to the hard work of members led by Helen Tinsley-Jones and others, became our POCC – the People of Color Caucus. An accountable, parallel group for white people concerned about racial justice also formed, what is now called the WOWS – Whites Opposing White Supremacy.

We reach out to one another across differences to connect in shared purpose

- The congregation has grown its multigenerational relationships and met people rooted in different programs during our "Reverse RE" Sundays during which we've engaged in a short worship service followed by opportunities for growth and learning for people of all ages. We look forward to offering three of these Sundays (now to be called "Learning Together Sundays") in the 2019-2020 church year.
- Both Immigration and Freedom Sundays were the result of deep collaboration among people from different programs in the congregation. We are excited that in the 2019-2020 church year the Program Council is planning four "all church" events meant to offer the same kind of cross-program, immersive experience on a shared topic.

We have fun!

 There are so many things to lift up! One recent events were Easter Sunday. Between an amazing brunch, great egg hunt, and wonderful field activities in addition to our worship

Co-Ministers Annual Report 2018-2019

services, it was a day to remember. This congregation knows how to let its hair down and party, even when we must also face challenges in our church, our communities, and our world.

REACHING IN

We are generous with our time, talent, and treasure

- We could spend many, many pages lifting up all the people who help this congregation further its mission. Your work and contributions are deeply appreciated.
- In particular, it seems important to lift up the Board appointed working groups who did deep research into investigating various possibilities to help the congregation be sustainable into the future. These groups, initially created by the Board in Fall 2017 at a retreat facilitated by Rev. Kristin, worked for most of a year in their assigned areas. The staffing group, alternative locations and alternative campus use group, and the capital campaign group did some of the most important work we've done in years, and we've already seen the importance of the staffing group's work in the budget for next year. The other groups' work will become more apparent in coming months and years.

We steward our financial resources responsibly

- This has been a year of financial reckoning. Due in part to the recent deaths of several big givers, the economic realities of the Bay Area in the 21st century, and the buildup of deferred church building maintenance projects, our desires and needs for our programs, our staff, and our campus are often outpacing our resources. With the help of the group that Rev. Kristin called together, which ultimately became our Committee on Financial Oversight, and much work from the Coordinating Team and Board, we believe we have a staffing plan to move into the future. We have also moved aggressively to get the most use and income out of our campus, though some of those moves will not pay off until next year.
- We hired an outside accounting resource, Shining Star, to provide services to help us better monitor and understand the complex financial picture of our congregation, its resources, and our budgets.

We are comfortable, open and transparent in discussing both personal and congregational financial matters

• The Budget Summit that we facilitated in February helped to educate and involve a large group of our lay leaders in the budget-planning effort. In what has been a difficult budget year, the summit helped people better understand and contribute to financial decisions that will have a huge impact on our congregation next year and in years to come.

BUILDING UP

We embody and share Unitarian Universalism

 Perhaps the most exciting work in the congregation this year has come from a group within our Family Ministry program. The group, R3 – short for REvise, REfresh, REnew! –

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is making suggestions to the family ministry program about the future of our program and changes that we should consider. Their work is not yet done, but it seems clear that their recommendations have the potential to be wide-ranging and transformative. Our church exists to nurture strong, deep, committed Unitarian Universalists who can transform our broken world, and this initiative has the potential to move us much closer to that goal.

Our communities experience UUCB as an active and dynamic partner in pursuing societal and environmental justice

• We continue to work with our Good Neighbor partners, many of them for several years now and others who are new. Our community connections, among them the Greater Richmond Interfaith Program, are a source of pride and meaning to our members. A new initiative just beginning is the Contra Costa County Clergy Cohort, a community organizing initiative starting among a diverse group of clergy, but expected to expand to include our congregations as a whole in coming months and years. Revs. Kristin and Christian have been a part of the group from its early stages and are excited about its potential to transform our county.

People rely on UUCB in times of need

- We have administered financial assistance to members of UUCB from the Discretionary Fund. It is a privilege to be able to provide this assistance when it is needed. Thank you to everyone who contributes to the Christmas Eve offering, half of which is given to this important fund.
- The UUCB Accompaniment Team has provided tremendous assistance of all kinds to the Cabezas family this year. The Accompaniment Team are a group of volunteers who are accompanying Mr. Cabezas through the legal steps necessary for him to gain legal residency in the United States and remain with his family. They have also provided significant support directly to his wife and children who have experienced some ill health and other challenges this year. We are so proud to serve a church with people living out so fully our call to side with love.

DENOMINATIONAL WORK / PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Rev. Christian chaired the Open UUA Committee for the second year and has been reappointed for another two-year term.
- Rev. Kristin is on the programming committee for the local UU Minister's Association Chapter.
- Both Rev. Christian and Kristin serve as regional transitions coaches for congregations in the Western Region going through ministerial search.
- Rev. Christian will conclude his service to our sibling congregation in Napa this summer.