

Report to UUCB Board of Trustees, February 7, 2024

RE: Meeting with Partner church on Zoom

On Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup> we convened a Zoom meeting at 10AM pacific, 8PM Transylvanian time in Homorodufalu.

The meeting was attended by myself, Stephanie Ann Blythe, Dean Flint, and Board co-presidents, Pier Sun Ho and Helen Tinsley Jones, Rev. Marcus Liefert, secretary Selene Fabiano and Marta Tobey (newly approved convener of the UUCB Program Council. Ecaterina Isaak also attended to aid in translation, since she speaks Hungarian. Shahida Dossa logged on near the end.

From Transylvania the minister Gyerö Attila and about 15 members of their council attended, 5 women and 10 men.) Unfortunately, their President was ill. All were gathered in the Community House, dressed in warm clothes. It had just snowed there. A gift from Dean Flint many years ago had enabled them to purchase this meeting house.

We introduced ourselves, saying how long we had been associated with the church and our roles. Helen and Pier talked about our Board. They introduced by coming forward to the camera and saying their names. Gyerö Attila translated.

We told them how often our board meets and where our money comes from and how the minister gets paid. They wanted to know how many members we have and we talked about different portfolios that report to the board.

We learned that their council meets quarterly, that there are different responsibilities that different people have, such as education matters (including our scholarship assistance to students of their choosing), church building and money matters. We also learned that the minister there gets paid a small amount by the Romanian government determined by how many Unitarian members there are in the country, also by the Hungarian Unitarian Church, and by the people of 'ujfalu.

We asked about the need for church renovation and if there were plans to apply for any government funds. They told us it takes about \$25000 to make application and get permits, since it is an historic building that must abide by strict regulations.

They asked if we had received their Christmas card puzzle. We had, and it was put together on Sunday 1/21 by the Childrens' chapel. Here is a picture. The children also wrote thank you notes to send back to them. We are wondering where we can display this!

I'm hoping we can have another Zoom, perhaps around Easter.

The Zoom meeting was recorded and can be viewed on YouTube at:

<https://youtu.be/qphGocRHdWc>



## Partner Church initiatives with our congregation in Homoródújfalu, Romania

- Village Education Fund: supporting youth and young adults in furthering their education
- Connecting our respective Boards/Councils through Zoom meetings
- Restoring our Transylvanian Szekeley Gate on church grounds

- Aiding in restoration projects in the village:  
Community House basement, Parish house and  
Church restoration
- Travel to the IWC congress in September 2024 in  
Kolozsvár

Connect with the International Women's  
Convocation twice a month Zoom meetings. 7am  
Tuesdays. [admin@icuuw.com](mailto:admin@icuuw.com)  
<https://intlwomensconvo.org/page/donate/>