

**Attending:** Luke Garvey, Catherine Onyemelukwe, Stapley Emberling, Steve Grathwohl, Andy Gundell, Ravi Sankar, Beth Cliff, Wendy Levy, and Rev. John Morehouse (ex-officio)

**Absent:** Bob Trefry

**Guests:** None

This month's Board meeting is brought to you by (End) Policy 1.1.2: "Embraced in a community of spirit and love where they can open themselves to pastoral care in times of joy, sorrow and transition, and are committed to the well-being of one another." And by (Limitation) Policy 3.1: "The Senior Minister shall not cause or allow any practice, activity, decision, or Congregational circumstance that is unlawful, in violation of professional ethics or commonly accepted business practices, or inconsistent with our values."

| Agenda/Topic        | Discussion   | Motions & Votes (M/S/V); Actions  |
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| Opening             | Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by L Garvey. A Gundell lit the chalice and read Opening Words from a chapter by Red Barber in the book, <i>Greatest Baseball Stories Ever Told</i> . Attendees checked in.  |   |
| Consent Agenda      | 1. Minutes: January 19, 2021 BOT Mtg   | <b>M/S/V: to approve the Consent Agenda. Passed.</b><br>Minutes from the January 19, 2021 Board meeting were approved.          |
| Information Reports | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. S Grathwohl gave the Treasurer's report orally, saying that the January numbers will be discussed next week by the Finance Committee, but that everything looks in good shape. The application has been started to apply for forgiveness of the PPP loan, right on schedule. The Capital Campaign Committee has been reactivated to assess and follow through with congregants on their CC pledges that are still pending.</li> <li>2. S Grathwohl introduced the preliminary budget reforecast for 2020-2021, which is better than expected, due, most likely, to diligent efforts to keep expenses down and to donations from congregants above and beyond their initial pledges. Although we will still be operating "in the red" (which is an expected consequence of the pandemic), the church has resources to meet this shortfall, if need be. Should the need arise, possible options include dipping into savings and/or requesting temporary assistance from the Endowment Fund. L Garvey suggested that we draw funds first from whichever account has the lowest rate of return.</li> <li>3. S Grathwohl reported that it has now been 4 months since the new</li> </ol> | S Grathwohl will circulate to the Board better information on the Reforecast for 2020-2021 shortly after this meeting concludes |

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|                      | <p>approach to the Monitoring Schedule has been in place and asked Rev Morehouse for his feedback on the new system, which replaces a pre-set monthly schedule of Limitations for Rev Morehouse to report on. The new system has a stronger focus on the Ends, giving the CEO the choice of when to address each Limitation. Rev Morehouse agreed that the new system is working well, and he appreciates the suggestions from S Grathwohl, B Trefry, and B Cliff each month recommending which Ends to interpret and report on.</p> <p>4. B Cliff gave an update on Linkages, thanking L Garvey for speaking to the Congregation about our priority Ends at the Service on January 31<sup>st</sup>. She and B Trefry are proceeding with plans for break-out groups of congregants immediately following the February 28 Service.</p>   | <p>B Cliff will be contacting Board members and arranging pairing up with COM members in order to prepare for facilitating the break-out groups on Feb. 28.</p>   |
| Minister's Report    | <p>Rev Morehouse gave his interpretation and progress report on End 1.1.2: <i>"Embraced in a community of spirit and love where they can open themselves to pastoral care in times of joy, sorrow and transition, and are committed to the well-being of one another."</i></p> <p>He also gave his interpretation and progress report on Limitation 3.1: <i>"The Senior Minister shall not cause or allow any practice, activity, decision, or Congregational circumstance that is unlawful, in violation of professional ethics or commonly accepted business practices, or inconsistent with our values."</i> (The Senior Minister's Report for February 2021 is posted on our website.) The work of the TUC Women's group was highlighted, along with that of the Pastoral Care Chaplains, the Addictions Recovery Ministry (ARM), the Shawl Ministry, Small Groups, Neighborhood Care Circles, A Better Man, and others. B Cliff remarked that there are many other lay-to-lay groups within the church that could also be included in this spirit of love and care that Rev Morehouse discussed in his report, such as the different Choirs, Beardsley School volunteers, the hiking, movie, and Sunday Morning Meditation groups, etc., because these groups do provide support and compassionate fellowship to their members, even though their missions are not explicitly supportive.</p> | <p>S Grathwohl will send Rev Morehouse the topic for the March Sr Minister's Report.</p>  |
| Governance Committee | <p>L Garvey reported on the initial meeting of the newly formed Governance Committee (now consisting of Luke Garvey, Stapley Emberling, Ken Vogel, and Mary-Jane Cross), and presented the revised Charter to the BOT for review. There are still several issues to be worked out, including the exact composition and number of committee members, the terms of service, and a satisfactory explanation of "Governance," without using the word itself to describe its purpose. The GovCom will address matters assigned to it by the</p>   | <p>S Grathwohl will review the Policy Manual and send to L Garvey and S Emberling a list of policies related to Governance to bring to the GovCom at their next meeting for examination and an evaluation of our compliance from the perspective of best practices of governance.</p> |

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|                           | Board and will meet monthly, or as needed. S Grathwohl and B Cliff noted that the intention of their new approach (established 4 months ago) to the monitoring of Policies was based on an expectation and hope that a new Governance Committee, if formed, could be assigned to review and evaluate some of the policies related to Governance and relations between the Board and the CEO (the executive side). However, this particular responsibility is not reflected in the current draft of the Charter for the new GovCom.   | L Garvey and S Emberling will take the list of Limitations to the next meeting of the GovCom for discussion. They will report back to the Board in March, further defining and clarifying the GovCom's role in regard to the monitoring process and schedule.  |
| Board Discussion          | The Board followed up on Rev Morehouse's Report in January, where he had raised the issue of a potential name change for the church. Rev Morehouse revisited this issue again tonight, and the Board shared research that B Trefry had distributed earlier about how UU groups are named, particularly in New England, and how many UU congregations use the word "Church" in their name. A motion was made: "To embark at this time on the process to consider a name-change for TUCW." After some discussion regarding how and when to pursue this, the motion passed. The crux of the discussion was not whether or not to initiate an assessment process to change the name, with full congregational engagement, but whether it was advisable to defer the start of such a process until after the return to a post-pandemic state of normalcy. A taskforce of C Onyemelukwe, R Sankar, W Levy, and L Garvey agreed to work together and present to the Board in March a more detailed plan on how to best approach this project. | <b>M/S/V: Passed</b><br>The Board voted to embark at this time on the process to consider a name-change for TUCW.<br><br>C Onyemelukwe, R Sankar, W Levy, and L Garvey will meet to discuss the project and will bring their recommendations on how best to proceed to the Board at the March meeting. |
| Generative Discussion     | B Cliff was to have led a generative discussion on the concept of MEMBERSHIP at TUCW (What does it mean to be a member of our Congregation? How will we define that status in the future? What implications does this have for us going forward—in the areas of Worship, Stewardship, Faith Formation, Social Justice, Community, etc.?) However, due to constraints of time, we have postponed this discussion for March.   | Board members will continue send to B Cliff ideas for topics.<br><br>We will discuss this particular topic at the March meeting.   |
| Board Huddle              | Time for Board-only discussions.   |  |
| Check-Out and Assignments | Board members stated the tasks they will handle before the next Board meeting.   |  |
| Process Observer          | S Grathwohl reported on how we did as a Board tonight.   |  |
| Closing Reflection        | S Emberling read excerpts from Dan Hotchkiss' January 2021 essay, "Lap Number Two" (published online in <i>PERSPECTIVES for Church and Synagogue Leaders</i> , by the Congregational Consulting Group).  |  |
| Adjournment               | The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 pm.  | Meeting assignments for the monthly meetings are posted on Dropbox and will be listed on the meeting   |

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|  | Next Board Meeting – Tuesday, March 16, 2021 | Agenda. |
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Respectfully submitted,  
Stapley Emberling,  
Secretary for the Board of Trustees  
February 16, 2021