

Attending: Beth Cliff, Stapley Emberling, Luke Garvey, Steve Grathwohl, Jen Gerometa, Brian Lasher, Ravi Sankar, and Rev. Alan Taylor (ex-officio)

Absent: Wendy Levy, Deb Garskof

Observers: None

Guest Speakers: None

Board Meeting via Zoom to Discuss Proposed Budget for 2024/2025

Agenda/Topic	Discussion	Motions & Votes (M/S/V); Actions
<p>Discussion of Proposed 2024/2025 Budget</p>	<p>Budget: The meeting (via Zoom) was called to order at 7:04 by Steve Grathwohl, Treasurer, who asked Board members for any remaining questions or concerns they had about the proposed budget for 2024/2025. The purpose for this meeting was to provide an opportunity to continue the budget discussion from the April 16th BOT meeting and delve more deeply into any details or questions there may not have been time to explore at the April meeting. Board members asked several questions that were answered in detail by S Grathwohl and/or Rev. Taylor. A robust discussion about various aspects of the budget ensued. Expenses were closely examined line by line, as was anticipated income.</p> <p>Stewardship: L Garvey and others remarked that the current Year-Round Stewardship Committee has been working very hard all year with only 2 active members: Co-Chairs Elena Rockman-Blake and Sam Somashekar. In past years, the Stewardship Committee consisted of 20 or more people who were willing to make phone calls and home visits to congregants to discuss pledges and to follow up on Stewardship initiatives. Others talked about the success and popularity of the Cottage Parties that were held this year with the hope and intention that they will be continued next year. There was consensus among Board members that a way must be found to recruit more congregants to join the Stewardship team, to bring in fresh ideas and enthusiasm. Rev. Taylor agreed that this is vitally important.</p> <p>Fundraisers: There was much discussion about possibly taking a new approach</p>	<p>M/S/V: To approve the proposed budget for 2024/2025 as written – but allowing S Grathwohl, Treasurer, a chance in the next day or two to clarify and finalize the category titles of two small items. APPROVED.</p>

	<p>to our traditional fall and spring fundraisers. Ideas were shared for adding more fun to the events. B Cliff also mentioned that, despite notices in SOUNDINGS, she has had a difficult time stirring up any excitement for – or volunteers to help plan – the 75th Anniversary Celebration, now tentatively scheduled for 11/9/24. It was agreed that planning for that event and any fundraisers for the fall should start now, and a renewed effort must be made to recruit volunteers to help.</p> <p>B Lasher Called the Question to bring focus specifically back to the budget. S Grathwohl asked for help clarifying the language in two places, one a category title for expenses for the Social Justice Committees and the other a name assigned to a fundraiser. A discussion followed but without an immediate resolution on appropriate wording for those two items. It was decided that the Board could vote now whether to approve the budget, with the understanding that S Grathwohl would change a couple minor words if he could clarify the language. M/S/V: The budget was approved – and will be brought before the Congregation on June 9 for a vote.</p> <p>The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm</p>	
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Respectfully submitted,
Stapley Emberling,
Secretary for the Board of Trustees
May 25, 2024