**Unity Church of Peace**

**Annual Membership Meeting**

**February 16, 2025**

Board President John Krueger opened the meeting to order at 11:32 A.M.

Tracey Hynes was floor moderator.

Rev. Eileen Ramsey was virtual moderator.

**Opening Prayer:**

Rev. Donna Loflin led the members in an opening prayer.

**Roll Call**

Active members were in-person and/or logged into ZOOM and had agreed to the Standing Rules provided in advance. A total of 66 active members were present and constituted a quorum according to **Bylaws Article V Section 1-C,** read by Vickie Edwards, Secretary.

**Minutes from the February 20, 2024 Annual Meeting**

The minutes from the 2024 meeting were posted at **unitychurchofpeace.com** website and were available prior to the meeting. Secretary Vickie Edwards asked for any corrections to minutes. Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as written by general consent.

**Treasurer’s Report**

An internal audit was completed by Church members and all figures were found to be correct to the best of our knowledge as of 12/31/2024.

Renee Peters, Treasurer, presented the financial information for FY2024.

INCOME

• Building Fund $14,100

• Fundraising $3,000

• Legacies and Bequests $3,300

• Tithes and Offerings $145,000

• Interest Income $9,000

• Miscellaneous $8,100

TOTAL INCOME $182,500

EXPENSES

• Building & Grounds $25,000

• Employee Wages and Taxes $77,000

• Office/Non-employee Wages $9,000

• Insurance/Prop. Taxes $11,500

• Non-Employee Compensation $8,175

• Our Tithes and Gifts $17,600

• Utilities $7,400

• Miscellaneous and AED $12,000

TOTAL EXPENSES $171,285

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

• Operating Savings and Checking $1,842

• Building Fund CD $155,375

• Building Fund Money Market $58,613

• Prayer Room Money Market $13,154

• General Fund Money Market $126,178

TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS $355,162

The Treasurer informed members to contact Cindy Morrell if they want a detailed financial report.

There were no questions about the financial report.

**Bills and Communications**

President John Krueger was not aware of any additional bills or communications and that all bills and communication were up to date for the year 2024.

The Financial Report will be filed.

**Election of Board Members**

Vickie Edwards, Secretary read: **Bylaws Article VI Section 10- A and 11 A & B**

“Qualifications. To be eligible to be elected to the Board of Trustees, a person must be an active member of the Ministry for at least one year. In addition candidates for election shall endeavor to live in accord with the Jesus Christ principles of the Ministry through active interest, love, support and is regularly attending Sunday services and/or classes; be a sincere and continuing student of Unity always remaining conversant with its teachings; and shall have demonstrated leadership capabilities.”

Section 11. Nomination and Election. Section A.

Nominating Committee.

Duties and Responsibilities. The Nominating Committee shall initiate a search for at least one (1)

qualified candidate per opening for nomination as a member of the board of trustees. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be sent to all members at least ten (10) days prior to the annual membership meeting.

a. Other Nominations.

Any member wishing to nominate another member may do so by contacting the Nominating Committee no later than thirty (30) days in advance to the annual business meeting.

b. Self-Nominations.

Any member not nominated by the Nominating Committee may submit their name to the board of trustees no later than 30 (thirty) days prior to the annual membership meeting, such nominees shall then be placed on the board ballot for election at the annual business meeting.

This year’s Nominating Committee consisted of: Rev. Donna Loflin, Tom Clark, Mary Williams, and Richard Curtis.

NOMINATING TEAM REPORT.

Tom Clark reported three candidates for the Board of Trustee election today:

Kasey Conklin, John Krueger, Brian Selius.

Each candidate then introduced themselves and told the members why they would like to serve on the board.

Vickie Edwards, Secretary, read the election procedure: **Bylaws Article VI Section 11-C.**

“Election Procedure. The election shall be by ballot IF there are more than two nominees. The result of the vote shall be announced at the annual meeting. The two nominees receiving the largest numbers of votes will be elected to full three (3) year terms. The candidate receiving the next highest vote will be elected to the position of alternate for one year. The alternate will attend all Board meetings and if any board member is absent the alternate will have voting rights.”

John Krueger stated the vote was for two (2) people only, votes with more than two (2) would be void.

The in-person votes were counted, and virtual votes were tallied by the polling software and reported to the board president.

The results are as follows:

John Krueger was elected as a Trustee for a 3-year term.

Brian Selius was elected as a Trustee for a 3-year term.

Kasey Conklin was elected as Alternate for a 1-year term.

**Nomination Committee - election**

The nominations for next year’s Nominating Team were opened. Three candidates were needed.

Tom Clark, nominated by David Beard, accepted the nomination.

Kelly Connar, nominated by Richard Curtis, accepted the nomination.

Tracey Hynes nominated herself. f.

All members approved and nominating team for 2025 was established.

**Minister’s Report for 2024**

* We spent the whole year celebrating 100 Years of Daily Word.
* Rev Eileen created our church choir that performed on special Sundays.
* We provided 6 classes- 3 Spiritual Education and Enrichment and 3 other classes plus a successful weekly book study.
* Held 4 quarterly healing services plus monthly sound healing session.
* Presented a very fun talent show in March, pet blessing and fair in October, and very successful craft fair in December.
* Had the largest participation yet for Adventures in Faith, small groups.
* Held 4 Outreach events to support our community that were amazing.
* Provided a regional Prayer Training program.
* Hosted multiple musicians and concerts.
* Guest packets given out in 2024: 93 - 20 more than in 2023.
* Newsletter: added 63 in 2024 Total receiving the newsletter: 423
* Volunteers: A total of 64 people volunteered.
* About 25 people volunteered on several different teams and events.
* Total membership: on our current roster; 104.
* Most excited to have our first LUT, David dedicated and Tracey H deep into it.
* Our tithes this year supported these organizations: Silent Unity, Unity worldwide Ministries, Unity Urban Ministerial School, Truthunity,net, Empower Musicians, Unity World Headquarters, Southeast Regional Unity Ministries, and Suncoast Unity Ministers.
* Charitable gifts are given to local Non-profits.

**Unfinished or New Business**

**ANNEX / Clubhouse**

* John Krueger, President, presented to the members the approximate cost for the Annex building of $430,000 - $450,000. He also had a visual aid of the building layout. He explained that we need to hire a Project Manager and Civil Engineer and was requesting approval, via member vote, to spend up to $45,000 from our Building Fund for this purpose. The Project Manager will accompany John Krueger to a meeting with the City of North Port to present our plans and hear from the city about other requirements. The city cannot provide the other requirements without seeing the plans.
* Jim Ramsey motioned to accept the Board’s recommendation and approve the spending of up to $45,000 from the building fund to get the process started. Tracey Hynes seconded the motion.
* Votes were counted and 59 Approved the motion and 5 Opposed. The motion carried.

**FUNDRAISING**

* Jim Ramsey spoke to the members about some of the fundraising they did at their past churches which included Faith Bonds, Donations from local businesses, and selling a “square foot” for a determined cost. He also offered, to the first 10 people that booked a week or longer cruise, he would donate $1,000 per booking (Jim is a certified vacation planner with Expedia).

**NEW BUSINESS**

* Phyllis Stanzione wondered if we might find a way to enable voting for those members who may be in hospital, doctor’s appointments, and those unable to use zoom. This would require a change to the Bylaws and a vote by membership.

Rev. Donna closed with a benediction.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:49 PM

Minutes prepared by Vickie Edwards on February 24, 2025