

**Community Church of Chapel Hill Unitarian Universalist  
Congregational Meeting  
June 9, 2024**

**Minutes**

Welcome

**Confirmation of quorum: 97 members in attendance. Quorum met ( $\geq 15\%$  of congregation or 71 members.)**

Chalice Lighting and Congregational Covenant

President's Remarks

***Mary Beth Powell, President of the Board of Trustees, provided a review of the many highlights and successes of the concluding church year.  
Most successful pledge drive ever.  
Growth in membership: 474 members.***

Congregational Awards

- Al & Ann Sawyer Within These Walls Award

***Presented to Ivy Brezina in particular for her leadership of the Caring Ministry.***

- Joe & Lucy Straley Beyond These Walls Award

***Presented to Leigh Anne King for her leadership as chair of the Day of Service in 2023 and 2024.***

- Gertrude Willis Lifespan Religious Education Award

***Presented to Paige Smith for her long time service as chair of the Spiritual Exploration for Adults team.***

Financial Report

***Congregation in excellent financial health. Healthy operating budget, strong reserves including maintenance reserves. Very good governance structure.***

***\$60,000 increase in pledges over last year: \$710,000 in upcoming year.***

***Three major focuses of additional funds:***

- ***Increase in staff salaries of at least 4%, maintaining everyone at or above UUA midrange salaries.***
- ***Increase in buildings & grounds expenses, primarily insurance and utilities.***

- **Reduce projected deficit. (Typically actual financial report performs slightly better than budget.)**

**Much more information on website.**

Strategic Planning Report

**Two years ago: Report to congregation on accomplishments under previous Strategic Plan. Strategic Planning Committee is standing committee of Board of Trustees – led development of new strategic plan, supported by many other individuals.**

**Close to 200 congregants participated in a large number of strategic planning focus groups.**

**Five themes:**

- **Spiritual growth**
- **Building community**
- **Outreach**
- **Stability and organizational growth**
- **Infrastructure**

**Strategic Planning webpage lists specific goals under each theme, under jurisdiction of either various ministries or the Board (Church website > About Us > Governance > Our Strategic Plan)**

**Overall expected five-year timeline.**

**Board is committed to making annual reports to congregation on achievements under Strategic Plan to ensure this is a living document. Ministries will make semi-annual reports to the Board on progress.**

Creation of new rev. charlie kast Ministry Support Fund

**Document soon to be posted on website describes rev. charlie kast's life and role in the Community Church.**

**rev. charlie kast gave generously from his estate to our church both during his lifetime and in his estate.**

**Two major needs met during his lifetime:**

- **Closing the gap on costs for new building resulting in no outstanding mortgage**
- **Large expense of repaving parking lot**

**Additional amount bequested to church in estate, to be used at discretion of Board of Trustees.**

**Board wished to focus funds in an area close to charlie's heart: ministerial support including support for ministerial interns.**

**Inaugural holder of rev. charlie kast ministerial support fund: Jenn Kapranov, current intern minister.**

Endowment Report

**Two committee members rotating off, two new members joining.**

**Endowment funds invested in UUA Common Endowment Fund and managed by professional staff.**

***Purpose: Emergency reserves in case of disaster. 3% of funds each year provided in grants based on applications from staff. Recent examples: Support for new signage; Support for stewardship consultancy with Mark Ewert.***

***Current balance: \$305,429 in March 2024.***

***Goal: Grow to \$750,000-\$1,000,000.***

Announcement of election of Endowment Committee members and approval of endowment grant of \$6,300 to retain services of Mark Ewert

**Based on pre-meeting voting, members approved election of Endowment Committee members Ed Chaney and Ginger Long.**

**Based on pre-meeting voting, members approved endowment grant of \$6,300 to retain services of Mark Ewert**

Chalice Extinguishing

Adjournment

***SHARE SLIDES AND AWARD REMARKS***