

**Community Church of Chapel Hill Unitarian Universalist**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**Board Meeting: January 13, 2026**  
**MINUTES**

**Board Member of the Month:      Dean Peterson**

<u>Board Members</u>	Present	Absent
Dean Peterson, President	X	
Will Hoye, Vice President	X	
Dawn Carter, Past President	X	
Catherine Grodensky	X	
Heather O'Connor	X	
Briton Bieze	X	
Virginia (Ginger) Guidry	X	
Peter Hendee	X	
Deborah Day	X	
<u>Ex Officio</u>		
Thom Belote, Minister / Chief of Staff	X	
Andrew Wright, Treasurer	X	
Brian Pence, Secretary	X	
<u>Guests</u>		
Caleigh Grogan, Interim Minister	X	
Bonnie Nelson, Stewardship Chair	X	
Barb Chapman, Legacy Chair	X	

**Attachments**



Request for Other Non Board Volunteers  
Elect one Board Member as the Board Member at Large \*\*

**Committee on Ministry: Members serve for rotating three year terms. No members needed at this time.**

**Board Member at Large: Role defined by C3HUU Bylaws, Articles 5 & 6 . Elected by Board. Serves on Executive Committee, which is charged with any business that needs to be conducted between meetings. Executive Committee includes Officers of Church: President, Vice President, Past President, Board Member at Large. Also participating on Executive Committee as non-voting participants: Minister, Treasurer. Chosen each year, can serve up to two years.**

**Meetings variable in frequency: Some frequency during construction project; at other times very infrequent. Example: Contract needs to be signed with contractor.**

**Board ratifies Executive Committee actions at next meeting. Allows Executive Committee actions to be entered in minutes of Board.**

**Slate:**

**Executive Committee Board Member at Large: Deborah Day**

**Finance committee: Peter Hendee (chair), Deborah Day (member), Andrew Wright (member)**

**Governance: Will Hoyer (chair), Caleigh Grogan, Dean Peterson, Ginger Guidry, Barb Chapman**

**HR: Deborah Day (chair), Briton Bieze, Heather O'Connor, Catherine Grodensky, Mary Beth Powell**

**Stewardship: Bonnie Nelson (chair), Briton Bieze, Peter Hendee, Catherine Grodensky, Barb Chapman, Thom Belote**

**Strategy Management: Dawn Carter (chair), Heather O'Connor, Ginger Guidry**

**Strategic Plan:**

- **Manse can be removed - completed**
- **Tech: Needs lead and members - Dawn will follow up**
- **HR: Deborah Day (chair), Briton Bieze, Heather O'Connor, Catherine Grodensky, Mary Beth Powell**
- **Memorialization: Nicole Graysmith (chair), Heather O'Connor, Peter Hendee, Thom Belote**
- **Safety: Heather will reach out to potential lead. Dean Peterson, Heather O'Connor, Thom Belote, Rachel Rose, Demia Wright, Cal Lee**
- **Financial growth: Bonnie Nelson (chair), Briton Bieze, Peter Hendee, Barb Chapman, Andrew Wright**

**Nominating Committee: Names needed.**

**Legacy: Barb Chapman (chair), Briton Bieze, Peter Hendee. Barb to contact other potential members.**

**Webmaster: Heather O'Connor**

**UUA Relations: Remove**

**Action Items follow-up Will Hoye**

**Secretary Brian Pence**

**Treasurer Andrew Wright**

**Motion to approve slate moved by Deborah, seconded by Ginger. Motion passed.**

Board member of the Month Sign Up (Att #4) \*\* Dean Peterson 7:25-7:30

**Responsible for bringing food (whatever you'd like), opening and closing readings, leading plus/delta meeting evaluation process of what went well and didn't go well at meeting. Technically responsible for setting up room but Thom commits to help. Arrive 10-15 minutes early.**

**Sign-up completed online.**

Confirm/ Revise the Contact List (Att #5) \*\*

**Andrew added Tobin's cell phone to Google Drive  
Catherine provided correct email address to Barb**

## Discussion Agenda

7:30-8:40

**Google Docs** - What is it and how to use it

Brian Pence

7:30-7:45

**Orientation provided. Should be simple matter of clicking on link provided announcing each month's meeting agenda and minutes.**

**For preservation, minutes are PDF'd once approved/acknowledged at following meeting and are then posted on church website**

### **Board Retreat**

Dean Peterson /  
Heather O'Connor

7:45-8:00

Date and time: Sat 1/17, 9am-2pm

Location: Southern Branch Library, Carrboro:

203 South Greensboro

Southern Meeting Room 114 (see photo below)

Agenda input

Pre-retreat reading assignment:

Board Policy Book pp.1-10, Appendix A (Att #6)

Supplies (Bring covered thermos/water bottle; snacks will be provided)

### **Agenda circulated**

Pre-retreat: VIA character strengths survey / program

Complete this survey and bring results to the retreat:

<https://www.viacharacter.org>

**Identifies different character strengths.**

**Heather will ask for each person's results and will compile.**

**Go to site, click on button in top right.**

**Ask for PDF of report and send to Heather the top 5-6, ranked, that come out of report. By noon on Friday.**

### **Other Business**

Dean Peterson

8:00-8:05

- **Dawn: Board sent letter to UUA communicating concerns about Ministerial Formation Committee requesting meeting with UUA leadership. Meeting scheduled. Several Board members will attend. Dawn will put together tentative agenda and will circulate. Group may consider meeting Saturday after retreat.**
- **Bonnie: Annual pledge drive will kick off in February. Request for board members to speak at February services. 2 mins. 1 page, 250 words. Dean, Peter, Catherine, Ginger will speak. Theme is "A Pledge is a Promise". Tabling every week, Announcements. Culminates with Day of Service.**

- **Sanctuary refurbishment campaign: \$363,000 expected budget, requiring \$200,000 capital campaign. Quiet through annual pledge drive, then will pick up.**
- **Dec. 19th letter: Wonderful experience from new visitor!**
- **Family with donor intent form on file left \$14,000 to church.**

**Getting to Know Each Other** Dean Peterson 8:05-8:40

Backgrounds and Interests / what would you like to share  
*Start today, continue on the 17th*

- Why UU?
- Family
- Background / Education / Work
- Recommend a favorite movie!
- Check in - anything else to know how you are doing

**Closing** **8:40-9:00**

Action Item List (with due dates and who) Brian Pence 8:40-8:45

- **Dawn** to identify lead and team members for Strategic Plan Tech committee
- **Dawn** will thank DeeDee for Webmaster service
- **Dean** to identify further candidates to fill 2 open slots on Nominating Committee
- **Heather** will reach out to potential lead for Strategic Plan Safety Committee
- **All retreat participants** will complete VIA survey and send to Heather their top 5-6 characteristics, ranked, by noon on Friday

Meeting evaluation (plus / delta) Dean Peterson 8:45-8:55

Plus:

- Great start Dean!
- Great time management
- High level of enthusiasm and engagement
- Going through committee assignments is always tedious, but well managed today
- Materials well organized
- Google Drive a big improvement! Edits made real time.
- Excited about retreat plan, character traits assessment

Delta:

- Board can improve its work if members do work outside of meeting and come to meeting prepared to present at meeting so Board can react efficiently
- Can sometimes be hard to hear

- Regret not having time for everyone's background intro - looking forward to continuing at retreat

Chalice Extinguishing and reading

Dean Peterson

8:55-9:00

## Southern Meeting Room 114

