

# DRAFT

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## Congregational Meeting 2/18/2024

Minutes by Dan Secrest, Secretary

**Place:** UU Detroit Church Sanctuary

The meeting was called to order by Board President Jody Wise at 12:07pm

A quorum was present, with 14 voting members on Zoom and 25-30 in sanctuary.

Moved and seconded: Jody Wise will be representative to UUA regional conference. Passed unanimously.

Moved and seconded: Lorelei Muniz and Nancy Shattuck will be representatives to UUA national conference. Passed unanimously.

[PowerPoint Presentation](#) by Treasurer Dan Wiest.

- Deficit discussion:
  - Income
    - We've lost some large contributors in recent years. Have lost about \$17,000 net in pledges since pre-pandemic days.
    - Fundraising hasn't yet met hopes. But an auction is planned.
    - Prentis lot lease income gone because the leasing establishments are ending their lease with us.
      - It was noted that the alley by the Prentis Lot is in need of repair. We are probably responsible for that as city has turned over alley maintenance responsibilities to owners of adjacent property.
      - We pay property tax on this lot in recent years
      - Loss of rental income is a new issue. Options:
        - Parking management company
        - Our contribution to community – with optional donations
        - Work with Wayne State
        - Sell lot
    - We've haven't yet received any grants, but we are working on one.
  - Expenses
    - Joint ministry – our share \$58,000 / year. This is in effect for 6 mos this fiscal year. We are saving ~\$12,000 this year and double that next year because we're splitting costs with NW UU.
    - The rest of expenses are pretty much in line with budget.
    - We pay Eli, but have been saving on speaker fees.
    - We stopped contributing to EMEAC because of our deficit situation. Also, we are fixing organ this year. Want to resume contributing when we can. They have

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been responsive. Let EMEAC know when we will use building. Paul Jackson of EMEAC has created a calendar.

- Can pledge on a monthly basis. Sign up to do this and that will make finance/canvass teams' lives easier.
- Our church has a Trust fund which we borrow from occasionally. We also have put money into this in the past.
- We have a separate fund dedicated for organ repair.
- Dan W presented [slideshow](#): Ways to Support UU Detroit
  - Recurring donations
  - Bank withdrawals (no processing charge)
  - Text donation option.

## Building & Grounds

- Veronica Adams is Building & Grounds chair.
- Ideas to make building more lively.
- Make better use of signs.
- Gardening opportunities,
- Thanks to Veronica!!

## Joint Ministry

- First joint Board meeting recently went well.
- Shared Ministry Transition Team being formed. 3 members from each church.

## Member Thoughts

There was a period of questions and comments from members. Lots of good discussion!

## Minister Remarks

Rev Julie provided her perspective on our church and the issues related to recent changes including the pandemic and our joint ministry.

**Meeting Adjourned at 1:22pm**