

**UJSS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
Thursday, August 28, 2025, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom and in person  
**MINUTES**



**Present in person:** Andy Cramer, Janet Lopes, Victoria Owens, Fred Pannek, Patty Innes, Rev Roger Jones

**Present on Zoom:** Dawn Huebner, Mathew Espinosa-Castro

Not present: Emily Moran-Vogt, Rev Lucy Bunch

6:32 PM: Andy called the meeting to order and Patty offered the centering for chalice lighting.

6:40 PM: **Board Business**

**1. Treasurer’s Report / Finance Committee Recommendation**

Victoria reviewed the highlight of the July 2025 Treasurer's Report, the first month of the 2025/2026 fiscal year. Victoria’s written report is attached.

Victoria presented the Finance Committee recommendations regarding budget surplus.

**2025/2026:**

The final pledge result of the 2025/2026 Stewardship campaign is \$665K, resulting in a projected budget surplus of \$17K. The Finance Committee recommended that the Board revise the 2025/2026 Budget to reflect the higher pledge income, and that these funds can be used for the mandatory transfer to the Capital Outlay Fund (rather than using the Heritage Fund to fulfill this obligation). A motion to adopt this recommendation was made and seconded, and the motion was approved.

**2024/2025:**

After discussion of alternative ideas, the Finance Committee recommended that the Board transfer the 2024/2025 surplus, of \$60,353, to the Heritage Fund. This amount would be available for future projects at the Board’s discretion. A motion to adopt this recommendation was made and seconded, and the motion was approved.

6:56 PM:

**2. Board Member Replacement**

Andy led a discussion of replacing the open Member-at-Large Board position. Andy presented several names that had been offered for consideration. **Action:** The Board agreed that Andy would reach out to identified members to ask if they would be willing to serve the remainder of the one-year term. If one of them agrees, the formal appointment will be made at the September meeting.

7:15 PM:

**3. Faithful Majority Pledge**

Dawn presented the Faithful Majority pledge in support of reproductive rights. Dawn referred the Board to [www.faithfulmajority.org](http://www.faithfulmajority.org), for further information. The UUA has recommended that UU congregations support the pledge. A motion for UJSS to adopt this pledge was offered and seconded. The Board approved the motion. **Action:** Andy to fill out the pledge form available on the website noted above. The Faithful Majority Pledge is provided below.

7:25 PM

#### 4. **Soup Sunday Scheduling**

Patty announced the schedule for 2025 Soup Sundays, beginning October 5, 2025, and concluding on February 15, 2026. The Board decided to skip Soup Sunday on October 19, 2025, date of the Congregational Meeting.

#### 7:30 PM: **Task Force Updates**

1. **Rental Building Group:** Janet reported that the team continues researching groups and organizations that would be good candidates to use our facilities. The team is awaiting development of a new UUSS website to enhance marketing efforts.

2. **Memorial Wall:** Dawn submitted a written report, included below.

3. **Website Replacement:** topic was part of the Board Goal Refinement discussion.

#### 7:33 PM: **Admin Update**

Roger reported that Krystal Gollaher's sister, Kayla has been hired to manage the new calendar, which has been updated through December 2025. Action: Mathew requested that the Board receive a demonstration of the new calendar at our September meeting.

Roger reported that new keypad locks will be installed on selected doors on campus to eliminate the need for a key lock box. Mathew requested to know the cost of this project.

#### 7:40 PM: Minister's **Report**

Rev Roger submitted a written report which is attached to these minutes. Roger reported:

- The correct date for the Fall Auction is November 8, 2025.
- Presentation of the GA Ware Lecture on August 12<sup>th</sup> was well attended and received.
- All Ages Camp was a success and netted a \$440 surplus.

#### 7:45 PM: **Committee Substantive Issues**

**FRST:** Dawn submitted this written report: Memorial Wall - Discussed a handful of open questions posed by the Memorial Wall committee, e.g., how much to charge for plaques, who can be named on a plaque, etc. The Memorial Wall committee will ultimately present a set of recommendations for Board approval. **Auction** - Committee is robust and plans are well underway.

**SJCC:** Andy submitted this written report:

- SJCC recommended that the Board sign on to the Faithful Majority Pledge (see the agenda for tonight's meeting)

- SJCC is planning for the first Social Justice Activity Fair on October 12

Other than that, SJCC is continuing to refine their goals for the year that focus on increasing congregational engagement with social justice and increasing our capacity to do the work (as a congregation and as SJCC itself).

7:50 PM: **Refinement of Board Goals**

Andy provided an overview of the 2025/2026 Board Goals, developed at the August 16<sup>th</sup> Board Retreat. Andy described the goals as **CHALLENGING BUT ACHIEVABLE** (the outline is included below).

Andy led the discussion beginning with **Website Replacement Task Force**. Action: Andy to email Sean Foutain regarding the Program Councils participation in the Website task force.

Action: Mathew to develop the scope of the task force.

The Board discussed the **Implementation of the Strategic Plan**. Action: Andy to work with Rev. Lucy and Rev. Roger to identify PWR programs and other consultants that would help the Board develop staffing and facility plans. Action: Andy to distribute a condensed version of the current UUSS facility plans, per Mathew's suggestion.

The Board will continue to refine our goals at future meetings.

8:15 PM: Recap Board decisions for September Leadership Update – Patty:

- Decision on the 2024/2025 budget surplus
- Adoption of the Faithful Majority Pledge
- Outline the 2025/2026 Board Goals
- SJCC Activity Fair: October 12<sup>th</sup>
- Gratitude to the Program Council for a successful Activity Fair on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

8:20 PM: Closing and extinguishing the Chalice – Patty

Meeting adjourned.

***FAITHFUL MAJORITY PLEDGE***

We affirm that each of us should be free to make personal decisions about our reproductive health guided by our own faith, values, and well-being — not by a politician's personal religious beliefs.

We pledge to speak out against the manipulation of religion to justify abortion bans and restrictions that harm our communities and violate our religious freedom.

We will not let our faith be weaponized. We will raise our voices to counter the harmful narrative pushed by anti-abortion extremists who distort religion to serve their agenda.

