

177<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of our Church  
1<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting as Open Table United Church of Christ  
Sunday, June 4, 2017

Agenda

Call to Order

Invocation

Approve Agenda

Approve Minutes of 2016 Annual Meeting

Annual Budget and Financial Review-Treasurer Jen Swanson-Action

Comments from the Moderator

Reports from the Ministry Teams

- Peace and Justice
- Community Outreach
- Spiritual Nourishment

Presentation of New Constitution-Action

- Briefing on By Laws

Building Question from New Beginnings

Update on the Wider United Church of Christ-Pastor Kim

Report from the Nominating Committee-Action

Benediction

Adjourn

## Pastor's Report

The inaugural year of Open Table United Church of Christ has been an eventful one, starting with:

- claiming God's new name for us;
- beginning our new annual meeting tradition of gathering on Pentecost Sunday; and
- enacting our new structure by voting in our first Leadership Table and beginning the stories of our new Ministry Teams – Community Outreach, Peace and Justice, and Spiritual Nourishment – as well as empowering our first Ministry Team Facilitators.

It has indeed been a year of many firsts and many exciting new ventures, as you will no doubt read in the many accounts shared throughout our annual report. The work we began less than two years ago through the New Beginnings process is bearing much fruit!

It has also been a year of deep struggle. At home and abroad, we have faced mass shootings; terrorist attacks; gang wars; racial and ethnic unrest; unwarranted and/or questionable actions by law enforcement officers indicating racial bias; political chaos; violence related to religious affiliation gender identity and sexual orientation; war; battles over immigration and the welcome of refugees; and natural disasters, including tornados and floods. The need for God's love and Jesus' light is abundantly evident!

We do not live in a bubble. Ministry does not happen in seclusion. In fact, we must remain vulnerable and constantly seek to be connected to the rest of the world in order to effectively serve as the hands and feet of Christ in this ministry to which God has called us. For us, this means:

- being attentive to what is happening in the world around us, acknowledging what is painful and evil, celebrating what is joyful and life-giving, and acting to lessen the power and influence of the first that the promise of the latter might blossom more fully;
- connecting with our brothers and sisters in the Prairie Association, the Illinois Conference, the wider United Church of Christ, and other denominations and faith traditions that the strength of the Creator God's love might bind us together;
- ministering faithfully and boldly in our own community, using the gifts with which God has equipped us, to bring about justice, that we "all may be one."

There is no question that the Holy Spirit is moving in unique and exciting ways at Open Table UCC. It moves when we worship, it moves when we study together and challenge one another with thoughts and ideas, it moves when we invite community partners in, and when we step out and partner with the community. It moves when our young people make tracks straight for the new Youth Room, a safe and vibrant space that they can claim as their own. It moves when poets gather to share, teens gather to turn lines on a page in to a dramatic story, when both likely and unexpected community members gather to hear one of our Social Justice Speakers. It moves when the music of the choir wells up in our hearts, and when the kitchen becomes a hub to fill hungry bellies and feed hungry souls. It moves when our Rainbow Flag waves in the breeze, and when a group gathers to volunteer assisting someone who needs their home repaired. It moves when our Leadership Table gathers to work and plan and contemplate, and when we gather around the Communion Table to share in the common meal of God's love through Christ's life, death and resurrection.

Of course, the Holy Spirit empowers us through the leadership and gifts of some pretty amazing people. I want to thank the members of this year's extended Leadership Table, which includes our officers, our focus at-large person, and the ministry team facilitators. Their wisdom and insights, their patience and creativity has been invaluable during this year of many firsts.

I also want to take time to acknowledge and lift up our talented and dedicated staff. From the building and operations duties to the program and ministry opportunities that they handle with grace and compassion, we are truly blessed to have Wendy Arceo, Anne Badger, Donna Martin, Sarah Reckmeyer, and Brenda Vercolio always at the ready, and always willing to go the extra mile. I hope you will find time to thank each of them for their dedication and service.

Finally, to each of you who has ventured into this faith community we call Open Table, whether you took the path of First Congregational UCC or merged in from another direction, each of us makes all of us stronger. May God continue to open our eyes that we might not lose sight of our call to love and serve. May God continue to draw our circle ever wider that our ministering together might remain fresh and relevant. And may God continue to fling the doors of our building and our hearts open that we might embrace the unique and critical opportunity which God has given us to weave our wider community together with threads of justice and love.

Yours In Christ,

Rev. Kimberly Wood

## Moderator's Report

“A mind is like a parachute. It doesn't work if it is not open.”

-Frank Zappa

I never imagined I would one day quote Frank Zappa in church, but as your lay leader I find his quote best sums up the year we have just completed as a congregation. I was blessed as your moderator to have been given a plan for the future based on the hard work of previous church leaders and our congregation, all of whom embraced the New Beginnings process which allowed us to look at our past, evaluate ourselves honestly in the present, and chart a course for the future. Our church's task this year was to sail the course that we set for ourselves, to carry out the plan, to not only imagine the future but create it, to open it up.

Over the past year we have opened our minds to new ways of serving God. As Open Table UCC we streamlined the way our church operates by giving responsibility for its governance to a single group known as the Leadership Table. That group built upon the name change by rebranding our church, adopting a new logo, creating new signage, and more importantly giving ourselves a new identity.

It wasn't just cosmetic change. We retooled our facilities, created offices where our chapel used to be, rented out the brick house, and made our nursery into a youth room. Those changes were only possible because of the countless hours of volunteer labor from Open Table church members and supporters. That, however, was just the beginning. The biggest change came by opening ourselves and our church up more fully to the community, bringing others to the table.

In addition to partnering with the YMCA for their summer youth program and YSB for homeless youth, we crafted a new agreement with Bridges, a senior service provider, which transformed our church space into a downtown senior center where exercise, instruction, and socialization take place every weekday. We expanded our gift of space to serve another segment of the community.

Through our newly formed Peace and Justice ministry team we brought the community into our church to witness our faith in action. We sponsored a speaker series which detailed our values as Christians. In addition, we planned a program to fill a need we were convinced was sorely needed, a support group for LGBTQ youth. By partnering with Youth Outlook, an organization experienced and respected in providing such support, we created a wholly new resource for area youth and families. As part of our work we recruited and helped form a committed group of twelve trained volunteers, both from inside and outside the church, to help staff that effort. We created, from nothing, a resource which has unlimited value. Weekly group meetings began in April. After seven meetings, 21 youth age 12-18, from Ottawa and the surrounding Illinois Valley, have been served. Attendance has ranged from 5 (on an evening with many school conflicts) to 13 youth.

Those initiatives were planned, well thought out, and deliberately developed. But in addition to that mode of development, we found we were also agile and rapid in our response to community need. When a tornado struck our area on February 28<sup>th</sup> of this year we assembled, on the spot, an emergency meals response effort for those affected by the disaster as well as those helping address it. We provided 3,000

meals during a 13 day period, all prepared in our church's health department approved kitchen, and coordinated the work of over 180 volunteers providing 1,250 man hours of service while doing so.

As a congregation we reaped the benefits this year of a decision made last year to convert a blessing from the past, a local farm, into an investment fund which provided us with greater financial support. We're using that resource not only for ourselves but to support our new initiatives serving the community. In addition, we applied for and received our first grant, from the UCC Illinois Conference, which directly supports our Youth Outlook group and the just launched Community Outreach Teen Theater, which will perform in our sanctuary this summer. However, despite enhanced revenue, we have not yet achieved a balanced annual budget. That remains both a goal and a challenge. We have improved our finances considerably, but more work needs to be done.

Despite our challenges, Open Table UCC in its first full year has proved itself not only a revitalized member of Ottawa's churches, but a vital part of the community as well. We have moved beyond ourselves to be a vital part of Jesus' work helping others in the community.

It's been a busy year. Our church is different than it was a year ago. We've enjoyed the energy of new members, even as we lament the loss of those no longer with us. We are firmly focused on the future. The table is truly open, and the future looks bright. I was glad to be part of it.

Dave McClure, Moderator  
Open Table UCC

Minutes of the 176<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the  
First Congregational United Church of Christ  
Sunday, January 31, 2016

Called to order by Moderator Donna Martin at 11:07 a.m.

As the constitution is suspended, a quorum is the members in attendance. There were thirty-one voting members present at the opening of the meeting, as well as two non-voting friends of the church. Rev. Kim Wood gave the invocation.

Moderator Donna Martin reflected on how far we've come in the recent past: FCUCC recognized the need for help and sought it out, partnering in the New Beginnings program. She thanked immediate past and current leadership, including Ken Brown, Heather Francis, Judy Ilgen, Peg Kramer, Sharon Loudon, Mary Malinsky, Steve Malinsky, Dave McClure, Jen Swanson, and Ron Wood; she also thanked Rev. Kim Wood and FCUCC administrative assistant Wendy Arceo for all they do.

Gary Barber moved to approve the minutes from the 2015 annual meeting and special congregational meetings throughout 2015; Dave McClure seconded; the motion passed.

Donna Martin shared highlights from the financial report prepared by Treasurer Jen Swanson (shown on page 10).

A motion from Lee Ilgen was made to accept the 2015 annual reports; Eli Hayes seconded. It was noted that "Deacons" on page 18 should read "Trustees". Motion passed.

The "Refigure our Facilities" team leader, Ron Wood, shared:

- Although they have been meeting and exploring, due to many variables they could not yet make a recommendation to the congregation as to how to proceed with our properties.
- The church building needs extensive repairs to make it a usable, shareable, and welcoming space, and is not likely saleable as-is.
- Current normal expenses for the buildings are averaging \$4,000/month.

The "Partnering with Others" team leader, Steve Malinsky, reported:

- They are exploring partnerships with local groups:
  - Ottawa YMCA, Alternatives for the Older Adult/Bridges, Park Presbyterian Church in Streator, and Starved Rock Country Foundation

The "Refocus the Church" team co-leader, Ken Brown, shared:

- Initial ministry focus
  - Extending welcome to the LGBTQ community
  - Second Sunday Lunch
- The team's current thoughts on the structure of church leadership and ministry teams
- The possibility of changing the name of FCUCC to a more contemporary name, which would better reflect our identity

Rev. Kim Wood lifted a benediction prayer. A motion to adjourn was made by Gloria Gregor at 12:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Francis, clerk

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the  
First Congregational United Church of Christ  
Sunday, May 15, 2016

Meeting opened at 11:14 a.m. by Moderator Donna Martin. Rev. Kathy Lawes, Associate Conference Minister for Prairie Association, opened with prayer.

Moderator Donna Martin gave a Moderator's Report.

- Thanked the current TLC: Donna Martin, Dave McClure (Vice Moderator), Jen Swanson (Treasurer), Heather Francis (Clerk), and Rev. Kim Wood.
- Thanked the upcoming Leadership Table, Ministry Team Leaders, and Ministry Team Members
- Reflected on our New Beginnings process and where we're headed as Open Table UCC

Minutes from the previous three Congregational Meetings: January 31, March 13, and April 24. Motion to accept by Dawn Haggard, seconded by Jenn Martin-Olsen. Motion passed by voice vote.

Vice Moderator Dave McClure spoke to issues of our building(s):

- Elevator: was repaired and passed inspection; we're disputing the bill; currently isn't sinking, but we think there's an electrical problem.
- Roof: insurance adjuster came this week; another company will have to come with a taller ladder/lift; with lots of rain this week, there was only minimal leaking, so the patch is holding well; have estimates from local roofer of \$9000 to just patch hole and \$110,000 to replace roof (not including steeple).

Facilities Team's next moves are reworking the chapel into office space and the nursery into a youth room.

Jen Swanson, treasurer, shared:

- Anyone can be offering counters. Jen will train all counters, new and experienced.
- Members of the Audit Committee are staying on.
- Jen will provide a monthly financial summary.
- Jen shared a tentative budget that she created (tentative, as it hasn't been approved by leadership and ministry teams haven't been formed yet).
- Potential shortfall for 2016-17 program year is approx. \$32,000, but investment from the Grove Hayward Farm will likely be approx. \$31,000 (this may be before fees, but fees are approx. 1%).
- Balance of Edward Jones account as of April 30, 2016 is approx. \$45,000. \$7500 will be transferred this month.

Nominating Committee (TLC) report:

- Slate for 2016-2017; Leadership Table (terms are for this cycle; other years will be different)
  - Moderator: Dave McClure (one year)
  - Moderator-Elect: Heather Francis (one year)
  - Treasurer: Jen Swanson (two years)
  - Clerk: Sharon Loudon (one year)
  - Member-at-Large (Facilities focus this year): Mary Malinsky (one year)
  - Rev. Kim Wood
- Peg Kramer accepted to accept the slate; Wendy Asphahani seconded; motion carried unanimously by voice vote. This group will take office on July 1.

Ministry Teams/Facilitators for 2016-2017 (will report quarterly to Leadership Table)

- Peace and Justice Ministry Team: Ken Brown
- Community Outreach Ministry Team: Steve Malinsky
- Spiritual Nourishment Ministry Team: Gary and Kim Barber

Puritan Chapter report

- Marge Doogan shared
  - Meeting dates; fundraising information; programs/topics of meetings; invitation to join at future meetings
- Peg Kramer shared
  - a proposal to move some pews (weatherized) outside, plant flowers, to create a reflection garden
  - proposal to sell the rest

YMCA Camp Partnership

- Guylene Strange will be the sole contact person
- Camp will run June 6-August 12

Rev. Kathy Lawes spoke about our name change from First Congregational UCC to Open Table UCC and led us in prayer.

A congregational photo was taken and the meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Francis, clerk



## Minutes of the Special Congregational Meeting March 13, 2016

Moderator Donna Martin called the meeting to order at 10:54 a.m. and opened with prayer. The quorum was reached, as with the constitution suspended, the definition of a quorum is the members present. There were thirty members present, two unconfirmed children, and three friends of the church.

An update on the farm sale was given.

- 163 acres sold
- \$1.97 million total
- \$12,085 per acre
- First National Bank will continue to manage investments for trust
- Profits from investments will go to church
- Land will continue to be farmed by local family

Treasurer Jen Swanson gave a Capital Campaign update.

- Original loan of \$70,000 from Ottawa Savings Bank (OSB) paid in full as of Jan. 2016 (ahead of schedule!).
- Initial campaign raised \$114,800 in 3 years to renovate the parsonage, repair the elevator, and initiate furnace maintenance.
- Congregation approved a second loan of \$20,000 through OSB January of 2016 for furnace repairs estimated to cost \$16,395.

Jen Swanson shared information regarding a new capital campaign as well.

- We have paid \$7,000 toward our bill with American Foundry & Furnace. We still owe approximately \$9,400 on our bill with them.
- Our loan of \$20,000 will mature in January of 2017 with OSB.
- We are launching a second Capital Campaign to raise the funds for this project.
- Donations of any amount are welcome. A letter with a commitment card was handed out to those present.

Steve Malinsky, leader of the Partnering with Others Team shared.

- Pastor Kim has visited Park Presbyterian Church in Streator.
- Local developer/entrepreneur toured the church, heard the organ, and sent their architect for a follow-up visit.
- The team is still trying to determine if the local developer still has interest.
- FCUCC will continue meeting with Open Prairie UCC (Princeton).
- The YMCA and Bridges are both still interested in renting space, though no concrete plans or financial arrangements have been made.

The Refocus the Church Team co-leaders, Ken Brown and Sharon Loudon, shared the proposals of the team.

- The “whereas” statements were shared, stating they are the foundation of what FCUCC will do and be.
- Members of the Leadership Table were shared.
  - Moderator
  - Moderator-Elect
  - Treasurer

- Clerk
- At Large
  - The “at large” position of the Leadership Table was explained.
  - The first year, the at large position will focus on facilities.
- Pastor (voice without vote)
- Ministry Teams
  - Peace and Justice Ministry Team
  - Community Ministry Team
  - Spiritual Nourishment Ministry Team
- All ministry teams will be led by a facilitator or co-facilitators.
- Church Calendar details
  - Program and fiscal year to be July 1 to June 30
  - Annual meeting on Pentecost Sunday
- Phase-in
  - May 15, 2016: annual meeting to elect officers and introduce ministry team facilitators
  - Positions at the Leadership Table will phase in and out so that no more than three of the five members will leave the table at the same time.

Moderator Donna Martin called for a vote on the Refocus Team’s proposals by a voice vote. The motion carried.

Refocus the Church team member Heather Francis explained the voting process for choosing a new name for our church (one of the Refocus Team’s recommendations). First choices will receive 5 points, second choices get 3, and third choices get 1. Voters could choose only one if they so chose, giving weight to that choice. Ballots were handed out to those in attendance who did not vote previously via phone or online.

Refigure the Facilities Team chair Ron Wood shared:

- After careful consideration, the Refigure Team concluded
  - that the congregation cannot afford to maintain the existing church building alone. In order to stay in our current facility, we need a partner or multiple partners in order to pay our bills and still be able to do the work of the church.
  - The church building is too large for our needs. There is a lot of wasted space that we pay to heat, cool, and clean, but don’t use.
  - The church building needs significant repairs over the next few years to keep it useable.
- After careful consideration, the Refigure Team has concluded
  - We have a couple of potential opportunities for partners or groups wanting to share our space, but nothing concrete at this time.
  - We need to allow for ample time to remodel our existing space, if we decide to stay or an alternate space, if we decide to go elsewhere.

Based on those conclusions, their recommendation to the congregation is that we begin the process of disposing of our church building as soon as possible. To start that process, they are proposing that we enter into an agreement with a realtor, Marquette Properties, to list the building for sale.

Motion to adjourn by Kevin Francis. Seconded by Eli Hayes. Motion passed.  
Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Francis, Clerk

# Minutes of the Special Congregational Meeting April 24, 2016

Called to order at 11:16 a.m. by Moderator Donna Martin.

Opened with prayer by Pastor Kim.

Opening comments were given by Moderator Donna Martin

Quarterly Financial Update given by Treasurer Jen Swanson

- Shown in its entirety below

Action for voting on Name Change

- To ensure transparency, ballots were given to members of the church listing the three name options (Open Table UCC, First Congregational UCC, and Ottawa Community UCC), with Clerk Heather Francis marking a list of members' names as they took a ballot. Ballots were initialed by Vice Moderator Dave McClure. Thirty-three ballots were taken.
- Ballots were tabulated by Heather Francis and Dave McClure.

Consideration of Refigure Facilities Proposal, given by chairperson Ron Wood

- Proposal shown in its entirety below
- Motion to approve the team's proposal (coming from committee); motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Moderator Donna Martin shared what comes next:

- Formation of ministry teams
- Pentecost Sunday - May 15, 2016
  - o Birthday of the church
  - o Congregational Meeting
  - o Installation of Leadership Table Officers

Results of vote on name change

- Clerk Heather Francis announced the results
  - o Thirty-three (33) ballots taken and thirty-three returned
  - o One (1) ballot was returned with no viable vote
  - o Three (3) votes for Ottawa Community UCC
  - o Ten (10) votes for First Congregational UCC
  - o Nineteen (19) votes for Open Table UCC

Meeting adjourned at 12:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Francis, Clerk

Treasurer's Report

INCOME	Current FY through May	Previous year
Church Usage/Rent	\$5,450	\$845
Pledge/Loose	\$69,747.11	\$69,272
Other (Rummage Sales)	\$3,361.19	\$2,241.06
Schoch Trust	\$13,189.52	\$12,751.62
Special Offerings	\$1,360	\$1,617
Grove Hayward Trust/Farm	\$45,706.26 (trust)	\$15,000 (farm)
LEEAP Grant	\$3,750	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$142,564.08</b>	<b>\$88,226.68</b>

EXPENSES	Current FY through May	Previous year
LEEAP Grant Related	\$2,366.10	\$0
Worship Related	\$1,239.35 <sup>1</sup>	\$517.45
Advertising/Marketing	\$1,580	\$0
Peace & Justice Ministry	\$587.95	\$0
Second Sunday Lunch	\$1,015.97	\$427.35
Music Related	\$1,385.30	\$710
Office Expenses	\$3,575.94	\$3,584.04
Professional Fees	\$0	\$1,462.75 <sup>2</sup>
Pastoral Expenses	\$61,097.95 <sup>34</sup>	\$60,350.02
Payroll	\$30,066.69	\$29,032.31
Maintenance	\$8,238.70 <sup>5</sup>	\$3,881.26
Insurance	\$13,134	\$11,057.62

<sup>1</sup> Bookkeeping changes reflect kitchen purchases here rather than previously under office expenses.

<sup>2</sup> Professional fee in 2016 involved attorney fees related to farm sale and trust establishment.

<sup>3</sup> Does not reflect 2016 pension payment of \$8,418.20 to be paid by June of 2017 or \$4,209 due for 2017.

<sup>4</sup> Amount includes \$7,313 payment to establish 403b for Equity allowance, previously not paid

<sup>5</sup> Office renovation project of \$5,971.59 offset by rummage/pew sales (\$2,890.69) and memorials (\$3,448)

<b>Utilities</b>	\$18,635.06	\$16,224.82
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$142,923.01	\$127,247.62

- Paid Mediation off in July 2016. Total bill for the process was \$26,980.91 of which \$19,880.61 was donated leaving \$7,100 paid from the church general checking account.
- A \$500 donation was made for future Peace & Justice Speakers by one of the speakers we have had share a talk.
- Remember these totals only reflect 10-11 months of financial activity.

#### ***Edward Jones Investment Account***

- Balance as of 4/28/17 \$35,203.09
  - \$33,347.39 in mutual funds
  - \$1,855.70 in money market
- From July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016 we transferred \$44,500.
- From July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017 we will transfer \$8,418.

#### ***Hay Scholarship Account***

- Balance as of 3/31/17: \$54,156.19
  - \$53,347.78 in mutual fund
  - \$808.41 in “cash”
- Awarded scholarships totaling \$1,250 to two applicants.

#### ***Capital Fund***

- Balance as of 4/28/17 was \$987.06
  - Does not reflect final payment to Ted’s Aluminum for \$865 for window work in the office
- Building Fund Donations for FY 16/17 were \$2,300
- Received insurance payment of \$10,698.31 for window/roof repairs August 2016
- Repaid OSB loan amount of \$20,708.10 for furnace repairs completed in 2016 totaling \$16,067.28
- Total for window work in office is \$1,730

#### ***Memorial Account***

- Balance as of 4/28/17 \$2,495.26
- We have received no gifts into this account this fiscal year.
- Honorariums paid for Peace & Justice Speakers disbursing gifts given to the church honoring the late Rev. George Hohmann totaling \$600
- Previously received memorial gifts (non-restricted) were used for the Office Renovations (\$3,448)

#### ***Rabenstein Education Fund***

- Balance as of 4/28/17 \$11,543.31

**GROVE HAYWARD TRUST INVESTMENTS**

- Received \$15,000 in 2015. 2016-2017 Disbursements include:

<i>July</i>	<i>\$10,128.51</i>	<i>January</i>	<i>\$11,648.84</i>
<i>August</i>	<i>\$161.11</i>	<i>February</i>	<i>\$205.43</i>
<i>September</i>	<i>\$3,624.17</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>October</i>	<i>\$9,429.38</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>\$5,496.36</i>
<i>November</i>	<i>\$2,322.35</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>\$592.08</i>
<i>December</i>	<i>\$2,098.03</i>	<i>June</i>	
<i>TOTAL DISBURSEMENT FY 2016-2017: \$45,706.23</i>			

Please be sure to talk to me if you have questions. My thanks to the counters of our offering for volunteering their time every week, the auditors for their diligence each month and their help in keeping our books accurate, and to Wendy Arceo for her hard work and patience!

Respectfully Submitted and in the Service of God

Jennifer Swanson, Treasurer

**Open Table United Church of Christ  
Ottawa, Illinois  
2017-18 Budget**

<b>EXPENSES: CHURCH/OFFICE/ PARSONAGE EXPENSES</b>	<b>Budgeted 7/1/2016 – 6/30/2017</b>	<b>Actual 7/1/2016 – 4/30/2017</b>	<b>Projected 7/1/2016 – 6/30/2017</b>	<b>Proposed 7/1/2017 – 6/30/2018</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
OCWM	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	
Pulpit Supply	\$728.00	\$530.15	\$530.15	\$728.00	
Worship Supplies	\$500.00	\$553.90	\$570.00	\$500.00	
Kitchen Supplies	\$0.00	\$155.30	\$393.00	\$400.00	
Office Supplies & Equipment	\$3,000.00	\$2,623.44	\$3,423.44	\$3,000.00	includes copier rental, postage, etc.
Choir Supplies	\$350.00	\$253.30	\$253.30	\$300.00	
Instrument Maintenance	\$1,200.00	\$1,002.50	\$1,002.50	\$1,200.00	
Subscriptions	\$1,200.00	\$834.86	\$894.86	\$1,000.00	
Church/Office Maintenance & Repair	\$10,000.00	\$7,903.95	\$8,292.03	\$10,000.00	
Parsonage Maintenance & Repair	\$2,500.00	\$506.28	\$600.00	\$2,500.00	
Insurance	\$12,500.00	\$13,134.00	\$13,134.00	\$13,000.00	workman's comp. & property
Waste Removal	\$1,056.00	\$1,071.61	\$1,156.61	\$1,020.00	
TV, Internet, Phone	\$5,000.00	\$4,250.90	\$4,867.50	\$5,000.00	
Electricity	\$6,000.00	\$5,758.50	\$6,158.50	\$6,000.00	
Gas	\$5,500.00	\$4,529.94	\$5,802.00	\$5,500.00	
Water	\$2,000.00	\$1,550.12	\$1,778.00	\$2,000.00	
Advertising/Promotions	\$500.00	\$550.00	\$550.00	\$500.00	
Professional Services	\$500.00	\$1,030.00	\$1,030.00	\$500.00	Hauser Design Group
	<b>\$58,534.00</b>	<b>\$52,238.75</b>	<b>\$56,435.89</b>	<b>\$59,148.00</b>	
<b>PAYROLL EXPENSES</b>					
Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper	\$13,200.00	\$12,042.00	\$14,685.00	\$20,000.00	
Organist (including substitute)	\$5,500.00	\$4,107.75	\$5,218.21	\$5,500.00	
Choir Director (including substitute)	\$2,100.00	\$1,923.23	\$2,364.20	\$2,100.00	
Housekeeper	\$8,160.00	\$6,897.80	\$8,265.00	\$8,160.00	
FICA	\$1,700.00	\$1,524.15	\$1,860.00	\$1,800.00	
Medicare	\$500.00	\$356.46	\$445.00	\$500.00	
	<b>\$31,160.00</b>	<b>\$26,851.39</b>	<b>\$32,837.41</b>	<b>\$38,060.00</b>	
<b>PASTORAL EXPENSES</b>					
Salary	\$48,750.00	\$40,625.00	\$48,770.00	\$48,770.00	
Pension	\$8,418.20	\$0.00	\$8,418.20	\$8,418.20	
Equity Allowance	\$2,184.00	\$7,688.00	\$8,063.00	\$2,184.00	
Professional Expenses	\$5,000.00	\$4,384.90	\$5,500.00	\$5,000.00	
Social Security Offset	\$3,750.00	\$3,107.80	\$3,729.36	\$3,750.00	
Pastor Disability Insurance	\$900.00	\$676.47	\$901.96	\$900.00	
	<b>\$69,002.20</b>	<b>\$56,482.17</b>	<b>\$75,382.52</b>	<b>\$69,022.20</b>	

<b>EXPENSES: CHURCH/OFFICE/ PARSONAGE EXPENSES</b>	<b>Budgeted 7/1/2016 – 6/30/2017</b>	<b>Actual 7/1/2016 – 4/30/2017</b>	<b>Projected 7/1/2016 – 6/30/2017</b>	<b>Proposed 7/1/2017 – 6/30/2018</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
<b>MINISTRY EXPENSES</b>					
<i>Spiritual Nourishment</i>					
Educational Programming	\$0.00	\$224.98	\$224.98	\$300.00	
CUE	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	
Camp Scholarships	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Conference Expenses (Laity)	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	
<i>Community Outreach</i>					
Programming	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$1,000.00	\$367.90	\$676.90	\$1,000.00	
Second Sunday Lunch	\$0.00	-\$172.94	-\$172.94	\$0.00	
Outdoor Ministries	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	
<i>Peace &amp; Justice</i>					
Programming	\$0.00	\$167.95	\$167.95	\$300.00	MOM funds minus TV reimbursements
Il Conf ONA Ministry	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	
UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	
	<b>\$2,450.00</b>	<b>\$1,787.89</b>	<b>\$2,096.89</b>	<b>\$3,350.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$161,146.20</b>	<b>\$137,360.20</b>	<b>\$166,752.71</b>	<b>\$169,580.20</b>	
<b>INCOME</b>					
Rental Income	\$3,850.00	\$4,555.00	\$6,005.00	\$10,260.00	\$550/mo Brick House, \$300/mo Bridges
Pledges	\$78,000.00	\$63,356.00	\$76,027.00	\$80,000.00	
Loose Offering	\$0.00	\$1,185.94	\$1,385.00	\$0.00	
Building Usage Fees	\$750.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	
Schoch Trust	\$12,800.00	\$13,189.52	\$13,189.52	\$13,000.00	
Grove Hayward Farm	\$50,000.00	\$45,706.26	\$46,706.26	\$45,000.00	
Other Income	\$0.00	\$2,592.69	\$2,592.69	\$2,500.00	2016 garage sale
Special Offerings	\$0.00	\$1,360.00	\$1,360.00	\$1,500.00	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$145,400.00</b>	<b>\$132,195.41</b>	<b>\$147,515.47</b>	<b>\$152,260.00</b>	
<b>Shortfall</b>	<b>\$15,746.20</b>	<b>\$5,164.79</b>	<b>\$19,237.24</b>	<b>\$17,320.20</b>	

\*\*\* Transfer from investments: Jan 2015 – Dec 2015 was \$48,000  
Jan 2016 – June 2016 was \$27,000



## Report of Church Membership

Membership, January 2016		101
Added		5
Removed		8
Membership, June 2017		98
Baptisms	December 4, 2016	Mark Bruns-Revell Steve Bruns-Revell
	February 26, 2017	Ella Rose Walker Quinn Ann Walker
	April 9, 2017	Kristin Ramirez Michael Serna Ivan Serna Mia Serna Henry Horn
Weddings	June 25, 2016	James Buckingham and Ashley Davis
	October 8, 2016	Ray Taylor and Ann Parker
Received in Membership		
Affirmation and Baptism		
	December 4, 2016	Mark Bruns-Revell Steve Bruns-Revell
	April 9, 2017	Kristin Ramirez Henry Horn
Affirmation		
	April 9, 2017	José David Ramirez
Removed from Membership		
Death		
	January 20, 2016	Francis Bybee
	January 30, 2016	Margaret Bybee
	May 9, 2016	Louise Hawthorne
	March 30, 2017	Frank Genter
	May 17, 2017	Verona (Ronnie) Hohmann
Transfer		
	December 21, 2016	Don Winslow
	February 14, 2017	Pat Reed
Request		
	February 10, 2016	Edmund Thornton

## Audit Report

Monthly audits have been conducted on the last Monday of each month. On about two occasions, audits were re-scheduled due to conflicts and two months' audits were completed at once. The auditors for fiscal year 2016-2017 include Mary Malinsky, Jenn Martin-Olsen, and David Hayes. A review of bank statements compared to checks written, payments made, and deposits posted, is completed for all the general checking account. A reconciliation of all 4 checking accounts with the bookkeeping software (QuickBooks) is completed as well as a reconciliation of the two accounts with Edward Jones Investments is completed.

Monthly audits have been helpful in identifying bookkeeping errors and maintaining accountability for invoices for expenses and payments as well as accurate deposit records. This helps us to maintain accurate financial records and helps us to remain vigilant about financial practices.

No abnormalities with regards to checks or payments issued were documented.

I wish to thank the auditors for their diligence and for their work each month on the audit.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Swanson  
Treasurer

## Community Outreach Ministry Report

Among the projects of the Community Ministry Team are: Mission of the Month, Second Sunday Lunch, PADS team, and Labor of Love. In addition we had a “Jesus Has Left the Building and So Have We” day spent cleaning up a couple of the Ottawa parks. Other events could include a day of volunteering at the Community Food Basket and other sites as recommend to the team. Bridges Senior Center is renting space in the church to provide programming. Ottawa YMCA has been partnering with our church for several years to be able to provide breakfast and lunch to children in their summer day camp program.

Mission of the Month is a special offering each month that is given to local nonprofits chosen by the church.

Thanks to Dawn Haggard for leading the effort to continue to provide a community lunch each second Sunday of the month. Church members and friends sign up to be responsible for the menu, shopping, preparation of the meal. There has always been plenty of help from the congregation, making some people comment that the Holy Spirit must be helping us. Our PADS (Public Action to Deliver Shelter) team once again volunteered on the second Sunday night each month. Thanks to our devoted regulars, Sharon Loudon and Ken Brown, Donna Martin and Sarah Reckmeyer, Nelson Nussbaum and Dave McClure. Jenn and Meredith Martin-Olsen helped us by subbing. Labor of Love is an annual United Way event to repair homes whose owners are unable to maintain the homes themselves. We had a big group that took on a home on the work day last October.

Mary Lindig has initiated a major outreach project with the creation of the Community Outreach Teen Theater. She will work with area teenagers to prepare and present theater productions each summer. New project ideas are always welcome. In fact everything that this team does started out as an idea in the mind of one person. Keep those ideas coming and let’s help this ministry grow!

Steve Malinsky, Facilitator

## Peace and Justice Ministry Report

The Peace and Justice Ministry Team began to meet during the summer of 2016. We decided to focus initially on three areas. The first goal was to start a drop-in center for LGBTQ youth. The second goal was to host a speaker series for the community by inviting speakers who would address topics relating to LGBTQ concerns and social justice issues. Our third goal was to form a PFLAG chapter in Ottawa. As the year progressed, we also decided to begin hosting an event once a month where people could gather to read and listen to poetry.

### **LGBTQ+ DROP-IN CENTER**

In September and October of 2016, members of our team met with Nancy Mullen, the executive director of Youth Outlook, the first social service agency in Illinois dedicated solely to supporting LGBTQ+ youth. On October 17, our team recommended to the Leadership Table that we pursue the goal of partnering with Youth Outlook to open a drop-in center for LGBTQ youth and their allies. The Leadership Table unanimously approved this recommendation.

In December of 2016, the team submitted a proposal to Youth Outlook requesting that we partner with them to begin a drop-in center in Ottawa. The Youth Outlook Board of Directors granted our proposal at its December meeting.

As part of our partnership with Youth Outlook, eleven individuals have participated in three days of training to become volunteers at the drop-in center. A large room on the first floor of our church has been completely renovated and furnished to accommodate the teens that will be attending the drop-in center.

The drop-in center opened on Tuesday, April 11, 2017. It is open every Tuesday from 6:30 to 9:00 pm. Attendance has thus far been good – between 5 to 13 teens each week in the first seven weeks.

### **SOCIAL JUSTICE SPEAKER SERIES**

The team initiated a Social Justice Speaker Series in November of 2016. So far, we have hosted five speakers as follows:

- November 10, 2016: Justin Nixon spoke on the challenges and joys of growing up as a member of the LGBTQ+ community in the Illinois Valley and beyond.
- January 12, 2017: Reverend Tom Gaulke's topic was "One Love: One Church's Journey into Sanctuary, Home, and a Renewed Welcoming Community."
- February 19, 2017: Reverend Mary Ann Dier-Zimmerman spoke on the topic "Spirituality and Transgender -- a Path of Hope."
- March 26, 2017: Joshua Hoyt spoke about current refugee and immigration issues.
- April 7, 2017: Lawayne Childrey shared "Exposing the Layers," his personal story of trauma, grace, and triumph.

Our next scheduled speaker will be Nancy Mullen, the executive director of Youth Outlook. On June 5, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., Nancy's topic will be "LGBTQ+ 101 – Education and Terminology." Attendance at these events has averaged between 42 and 80 individuals.

### **PFLAG CHAPTER**

As part of our speaker series, we provided a sign-up sheet for those interested in learning more about forming a PFLAG chapter. Several individuals signed up. However, other efforts to begin a chapter have

stalled. The team would recommend that forming a PFLAG chapter in Ottawa be a priority in the next year.

### **OTHER PEOPLE'S POETRY**

On Thursday, January 19, 2017, the first session of Other People's Poetry (OPP) was held. Eighteen people attended. The goal of OPP is to provide a space to share original poetry and poetry written by others (together with some occasional music). OPP has been meeting at the church on the third Thursday of each month, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

### **Giving Thanks to the Team**

We give thanks to the dedicated efforts of all who participated in the Peace and Justice Ministry Team this year: Wendy Asphahani, Sam Barbour, Linda Dalton, Corinne Francis, Heather Francis, Henry Horn, Mary Lindig, Sharon Loudon, Donna Martin, Meredith Martin Olsen, Sarah Reckmeyer, and Jen Swanson.

Peace (and Justice),

Ken Brown, Facilitator

## Spiritual Nourishment Ministry Report

Serving on the Spiritual Nourishment Ministry team during 2016-17 were: Gary Barber, Kim Lisanby-Barber, Jenn Martin-Olsen, and Mary Malinsky.

We have sung on occasion "Surely the Spirit of the Lord is in This Place." That is what this past year has been all about – the movement of the Holy Spirit as we have become Open Table UCC. With the spiritual gifts of so many people and Pastor Kim's guidance and love at Open Table UCC, a lot of new programs have touched our hearts in different ways and at different times, including:

- Wednesdays at the Well, our weeknight night Bible studies and reflections that have opened our hearts to welcome Christ anew.
- an experiential opportunity to “visit” the Marketplace of Bethlehem
- our Lenten Wednesdays, where we shared “Worship at the Table”
- weekly sharing of Holy Communion, including gluten free elements.
- mutual sharing of our facilities with the public for programming.

There is so much more we have left unnamed here which went on.

Never has there been a moment in this past year when an event has gone on without our leadership's guidance, the creative ideas and energy of our church family, and our pastor's touch. The Holy Spirit has truly been at work in this place.

In Christ,

Gary and Kim Barber

## Puritan Chapter Financial Report

Balance on Hand January 1, 2016      \$1397.12

### **Receipts**

Offering      \$140.00

Pecans 2015      \$666.00

Total receipts      \$806.00

Total balance      \$2203.12

### **Disbursements**

SRRC (Easter Seals) 2016      \$100.00

SRRC (Easter Seals) 2017      \$100.00

Red Stocking Fund      \$100.00

Christmas gifts;  
Brenda, Wendy, Dale and Dave      \$100.00

Total disbursements      \$400.00

Balance on hand May 1, 2017      \$1803.12

Submitted by Gloria Gregor, Treasurer

## Benevolence Summary

7/1/2016 – 6/30/2017

Mission	Amount Disbursed July 2016-May 2017
<b>DESIGNATED (BUDGETED) MISSIONS</b>	
CUE (2016)	\$300
Illinois Conference ONA Ministry (2016)	\$300
OCWM	\$6,000
Outdoor Ministries (2016)	\$300
UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns (2016)	\$300
Discretionary Mission Fund	\$2,177.90 <sup>6</sup>
<b>MISSIONS OF THE MONTH</b>	
ADV/SAS (2017)	\$390
Ann Marie Foundation (2016)	\$305
Christmas Fund (2016)	\$480
Community Food Basket	\$335
Crossbridge Backpack Meals Program	\$1,036
Neighbors In Need (2016)	\$370
One Great Hour of Sharing (2017)	\$581
Peace & Justice Ministry	\$920
Second Sunday Lunch	\$1,141.55
Strengthen the Church (2017)	\$470
Youth Service Bureau (2017)	\$290
<b>OTHER</b>	
<i>Disaster Relief</i>	\$4,799.04 <sup>7</sup>
<i>Youth Outlook Drop In Center</i>	\$1,650
<b>TOTAL Mission Giving</b>	<b>\$22,145.49</b>

<sup>6</sup> 1,500 of this amount is offset by a restricted donation made in 2016

<sup>7</sup> \*\*A total of \$12,652.6 has been received to date. The remaining \$7853.56 will be disbursed.