

Agenda for the  
179<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of our Church  
3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting as Open Table United Church of Christ  
Sunday, May 26, 2019

Agenda

Call to Order

Invocation - Designated Term Pastor Jennifer Amy-Dressler

Approve Agenda

Approve Minutes of 2018 Annual Meeting - Action

Reports from the Ministry Teams

Proposed Slate of Leadership Table Members - Action

Recognition of 2019-20 Ministry Team Facilitators

Annual Budget and Financial Review - Treasurer Jen Swanson - Action

Comments from the Moderator

Benediction - Designated Term Pastor Jennifer Amy-Dressler

Adjourn

Proposed Slate of Leadership Table Members  
2019-2020

Moderator--Sarah Reckmeyer

Moderator Elect--Dave McClure

Treasurer--Jen Swanson  
Shadow Treasurer--Donna Martin

Clerk--Jordan Johnson

Member at Large Focusing on Building and Grounds--Dan Rosier

## Designated Term Pastor's Report

As I come to know Open Table United Church of Christ in Ottawa more and more, it is abundantly clear that you travelled a long way with Pastor Kim during her tenure. You've done a lot of hard work, stepped out in new ventures, and recognized God's presence working new life in you. OTUCC is the sixth congregation I've worked with during an in-between time, and you demonstrate faith maturity at a level I have rarely seen. For all you who ask questions, who pray, who read or engage those with whom you do not agree in order to grow in new ways: keep it up! For all who serve in Open Table's community ministries or leadership or in countless behind-the-scenes tasks: you are making a difference!

In setting the goal of a balanced, sustainable budget, you took an enormous step in faithfulness. It was a step you could only take because of the journey you had been on with Pastor Kim, and while it was difficult and painful to see her go, God does not abandon. In fact, it is precisely in these times that God lifts up new things – new leaders, new possibilities, new life, new futures of hope. And it is this courage, faithfulness and vision that drew me to want to serve with you in this season as your Designated Term Pastor.

Just to be clear, the Designated Term for which we have covenanted together is one year, with the option of continuing on a month-by-month basis if Open Table is still in its pastoral search process. A Designated Term pastor has the option of applying for the settled pastor position, which an Interim pastor does not. As this year progresses, I will be able to discern if I wish to do that, and you'll be able to discern whether I or another candidate is better suited for your next season.

Regardless of the term used, we'll still attend to the five tasks and dynamics that are of particular importance during a pastoral interim time. These include:

1. Attending to History: What attributes are part of the DNA of this church? How do we draw up the threads that are blessings, and resolve or begin to heal the ones that can trip us up? How does our past tell us who we are?
2. Attending to the Present: What are the present realities of our church, our community, and our wider society / culture, and how do these affect who we are now? What are we doing presently, what has reached its usefulness, what can we do better? What does God have for us right now?
3. Attending to the Future: Where is God drawing us forward? What new thing is God doing in us and through us? Who will we become, and how might we get there? What might we look like if we were living by our greatest faith, deepest courage, widest love, and best discernment?

These three areas (which you have already been working with in recent years) will inform the Local Church Profile that interested pastoral candidates will read. They'll want to know the real you. I hope you'll take opportunity to join in some upcoming special opportunities to look at the past, present and future of Open Table UCC. The other two tasks are:

4. Attending to Denominational Ties and Identity: This you do very well already, both in accessing resources available to you and providing support of UCC entities and efforts. We'll keep it up, and perhaps tweak just how we do this.
5. Attending to Leadership: This may include resourcing leaders, helping persons find their niche in service and leadership, and solidifying organizational structure where needed.

These specific tasks help a church be aware, become its best self, and be able to identify what is most needed in new pastoral leadership. Of course there is also worship, pastoral care, administrative duties, resourcing the ministry teams, and engaging in church ministry efforts, community events, and wider UCC church roles. It is a lot at three-quarter time. But with good communications, flexibility on priorities, and awareness that God works as much in spite of us as through us, I will do my best, and you will too, and this church will receive exactly what it needs for God's purposes to bloom.

In Peace,

Pastor Jennifer Amy-Dressler

## Moderator's Report

Joshua 1:9 I hereby command you: be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

I was comforted by these words as I became the moderator for Open Table United Church of Christ (OTUCC). We have had strong lay leadership these past several years, and I hoped to continue the rich tradition and interesting history of our 180-year existence.

Much of my time as Moderator has been spent leading the congregation in becoming responsible stewards of our resources (reining in our spending and balancing the budget) while still maintaining a viable presence in Ottawa. Through a process of discussion and discernment, two 6-month budgets were adopted for the fiscal year. By the end of the first 3 quarters of fiscal year 2018-19, our income finally exceeded our expenses.

It has been a year of transition with our pastoral leadership. Pastor Kim Wood's time with OTUCC came to an end in January. We celebrated her 7-year ministry with a potluck and final "Moderators' Report." We reflected on her gifts: the ways she believed in us and encouraged us to dream BIG, her leadership as we reinvented our ministries and governing system through the New Beginnings process, her creative ways of leading worship, and her love for all of us. During February and March, various clergy served as pulpit supply and led us in worship. On April 8, we welcomed Designated Term Pastor Jennifer Amy-Dressler as pastor and teacher of OTUCC.

We've completed our third year identifying as Open Table United Church of Christ. Our intentional presence and ministries in Ottawa far outweigh any growing pains we still encounter. A list of our year's activities, events, and efforts include:

- Served 94 Community 2nd Sunday Lunches as of May 2019
- Hosted Community Outreach Teen Theater second annual production
- Celebrated the 2nd anniversary of our partnership with Youth Outlook
- Supported and hosted Ottawa PFLAG chapter
- Supplied safe space for recitals, social justice speakers, and a high school Drag Prom
- Conducted Cottage Meetings to talk about our "What Next?"
- Continued our partnership with the Youth Service Bureau and "Y" summer youth camp
- Staffed PADS shelter once a month
- Continued adult education and discussion on Thursdays and Sundays
- Continued to be a "5-for-5" congregation with our mission offerings in the Illinois Conference
- Supported local ministries with "Mission of the Month" giving
- Granted \$4500 in Hay educational scholarships
- Received UCC LEEAP Grant of \$10,000 (third and final grant)
- Purchased a new sound system for the worship space
- Purchased new tables and chairs
- Finished Fellowship Hall updates
- Conducted successful fundraisers - lasagna dinner, baseball fundraiser, Holiday Bazaar, plant sale

Thank you to the rest of the members of the Leadership Table for their dedication, insights, and thoughtfulness: Jen Swanson, treasurer; Jordan Johnson, clerk; Mark Bruns-Revell, moderator-elect (half-term); and Donna Martin, member at large (focusing on communication and care). The countless hours they have put in to lead our church is overwhelming. It has been my honor to work with them this past year.

Thank you to the Ministry Team Facilitators: Jenn Martin Olsen (Spiritual Nourishment), Sam Barbour (Peace and Justice) and Dave McClure (Community Outreach). I'm grateful for your help this past year.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be the moderator of Open Table United Church of Christ. Our church makes a difference in so many lives in so many ways, mine included. I look forward to the future as we continue to listen for the "Stillspeaking" voice of God as she guides us on our journey in Ottawa and beyond.

Jeremiah 29:11 For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

Sarah Reckmeyer, Moderator  
Open Table UCC

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of Open Table United Church of Christ  
Minutes of the 178<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
Sunday, May 20, 2018

Moderator Heather Francis called the meeting to order at 11:15 am.  
The meeting was opened in prayer by Rev. Kathy Lawes.

Dave McClure moved to approve the Agenda for the meeting; Greg Swanson seconded; the motion carried.

Wendy Asphahani moved to approve the Minutes from the 2017 Congregational Meetings; Jenn Martin Olsen seconded; the motion carried.

Reports from the ministry teams, contained in the 2018 Annual Meeting Booklet, were summarized for the congregation.

Nominating Committee: Officers for 2018

- Moderator: Sarah Reckmeyer
- Moderator-Elect: Mark Bruns-Revell
- Treasurer: Jennifer Swanson
- Clerk: Jordan Johnson
- Member at Large: Donna Martin

The congregation voted to confirm the slate of officers brought by the Nominating Committee.

Ministry Team Facilitators

- Community Outreach: Dave McClure
- Spiritual Nourishment: Jenn Martin Olsen
- Peace and Justice: Sam Barbour

Treasurer Jen Swanson presented a Financial Review, including a proposed Budget for 2017-18. Both are available in the 2018 Annual Meeting Booklet.

Budget. Current deficit not sustainable - what do we do?

- 15% reduction across the board
- 6 month budget
- A discussion was had of options and ideas.

Winn Alley moved that we table a vote on the budget until the ideas brought forth in this meeting are prepared into a six-month budget, which will be brought to a vote on June 3, 2018; Dave McClure seconded; the motion carried.

Comments were given by the moderator, also available in the 2018 Annual Meeting Booklet.

Rev. Kathy Lawes offered a benediction.

Dawn Haggard moved to adjourn the meeting; Greg Swanson seconded; the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm

Respectfully submitted by Jordan Johnson, Clerk – Open Table UCC

Special Congregational Meeting Minutes  
Open Table UCC, Ottawa, IL  
June 3, 2018

Moderator Heather Francis called the meeting to order at 11:20 am.

The meeting was opened in prayer by Heather Francis.

Treasurer Jen Swanson presented a new proposed six-month budget with expense deductions as outlined in the Annual Meeting on May 20, 2018.

Discussion of the proposed budget:

- Discretionary fund has been taken up with a Mission of the Month
- What will the six months after this budget look like?
  - The amount brought in by fundraising will need to be considered
  - We will need to decide what we can afford for a pastor
  - Missions of the month
- Possibility of striking the pulpit supply line item. The amount on the budget represents only what we have committed to for the remainder of Pastor's sabbatical, so that is not a number we can strike.

Winn Alley moved to approve the six-month budget; Marshall Wahlstrom-Helgren seconded; the motion carried.

Kevin Francis moved to adjourn the meeting; Mark Bruns-Revell seconded; the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 am.

Respectfully submitted by Jordan Johnson, Clerk – Open Table UCC



Special Congregational Meeting Minutes  
Open Table UCC, Ottawa, IL  
October 28, 2018

Called to order at 11:20 am

Opened in prayer by Sarah Reckmeyer

Budget/Financial Review

- A budget was approved in May for July 1 - December 31, 2018
- Congregation directed LT to cut 15% from operating expenses across the board and not to touch salaries
- Set some ministry expenses as mission of the month
- Short review of expenses and income
  - Expenses are within budget
  - Income is generally within budget, plus loose offering and fundraising
  - 3-month quarters are not equal, so it is difficult to paint a perfect picture with that
  - Much of income is unpredictable: stock market, etc
  - We are on course to meet our budget, but we expect a \$6,000 deficit in 6 months
- Looking at the investment account
  - Balance is \$21,700
  - Contractual obligations total \$15,693
  - Leaving \$6,007 of unallocated funds
  - This could mean a balance of \$0 of unrestricted funds in 6 months

Discussion for 6 month budget Jan-Jun 2019

- What have we already done to reduce spending/increase income?
  - Maximize rental opportunities
  - Cut expenses: professional expenses, pulpit supply, maintenance, 15% reduction across operating expenses
  - Eliminated promotion/advertising, Discretionary Fund
- What have we already done to increase income?
  - Rely on donations for ministry funding
  - Missions of the Month for Discretionary Fund, Maintenance
  - Fundraising
- What is left to consider?
  - Salaries
- Discussion of all salaried positions and their approximate rate of pay
- Explanation of pastor's covenant agreement and compensation package
- We need to approve a budget for Jan 1 - Jun 30
  - We need direction from the congregation on how to proceed
  - A reduction in pastoral package would indicate a 90-day notice to our pastor
    - Question from Mary Malinsky about when that 90 days would be, with regard to the next 6 months' budget
    - No matter what the timing, it will go in to the next budget, at least 1 month

- Discussion
  - Steve Malinsky: do we have a plan for when those reserves run out?
  - Winn Alley: suggestion of estate tithing for the future.
  - Steve Malinsky: how do we compare with the rest of the churches in our area with regards to the pastor? Ordained versus licensed lay, etc. The majority in the area are licensed lay and part time ministers
  - Winn Alley: perhaps it is too early to think about what kind of leadership we would have in the future, as Kim is still here. We won't know who will fit us before we present our profile and see others as well.
  - Heather Francis: what Winn is getting at is that by considering what our next pastor will look like is skipping the step of understanding the current situation.
  - Kim Wood: this is a difficult discussion for Leadership Table to lead, and they need help and direction. This church needs to thrive right now. Cutting ministry funds is not feasible. While the words are not comfortable, the discussion needs to be had.
  - Jen Swanson: there was a time that this conversation could not happen. It is largely thanks to Kim that we are able to.
  - Kim Wood: while conversations about staff cuts across the board are being put forward, we cannot afford to make the cuts to anyone else because we need them. Be sure to keep that in perspective.
  - Donna Martin: we do hope for strong, clear guidance. But also we don't want to leave Kim hanging and wondering what is happening next. Maybe it is best to give her clear direction today so she can know and be prepared. But that is not up to Leadership Table.
  - Steve Malinsky: as far as the budget, are we to assume that revenue will stay the same and not increase or decrease. And the goal would be to balance the budget? And the only way to do so is to cut expenses.
- ***Motion made by Heather Francis that we provide 90 days notice to Kim as of Nov 1 and to direct the Leadership Table to make further cuts to personnel pay. Seconded by Winn Alley.***
  - Lee Ilgen: we cannot afford to cut the salary of our pastor. We have gone through part time pastors and poor pastors, and we are at the height of our pastorship right now.
  - John Breslin: unless we get another \$16,000 in income, the budget will be unbalanced, and that cannot move forward. But also, our pastor cannot accept a decrease. We cannot remove our ministries because that is who we are. We cannot currently expect \$16,000 more in income per year moving forward.
  - Kim Wood: it's great to talk about fundraising, but the business of the church cannot just be that, especially in a small church that needs our man power.
  - Mary Lindig: if we focused down to one or two ministries that do the most for the community, that could help close the gap. Recommendation that we consider narrowing our ministries and using some of those funds.
    - Jen Swanson: we cannot redesignate those funds that were given specifically for the purposes of those ministries. But people capital is important too, so if people are feeling too stretched thin by the number of ministries, we can see about removing some, but it would be through those steps.
  - Steve Malinsky: could negotiations continue through the 90 days?

- Kim has made clear that she cannot take anything less than what she currently makes, so that is the negotiation that has been had
- *Winn Alley calls for the question. Steve Malinsky seconds calling.*
- *Vote on call for question passes.*
- *Vote on the motion passes: 5 abstentions, 4 no, 15 yes*

Benediction shared by Sarah Reckmeyer

Motion to adjourn made by Kevin Francis, seconded by Chuck Maney

Meeting adjourned at 12:45

Respectfully submitted by Jordan Johnson, Clerk

Special Congregational Meeting Minutes  
Open Table UCC, Ottawa, IL  
November 18, 2018

Called to order at 11:25 am

Opened in prayer by Sarah Reckmeyer

Budget: Expenses

- Operating
  - 15% cuts remain
  - Additional pulpit supply for February
  - Parsonage maintenance for cleaning
  - Removed professional services
  - Six month budget reflects increase of \$180
  - Overall 1 year reduction of \$783
- Payroll
  - All payroll deductions have been discussed with those effected by them, and they have agreed to the changes
  - 15% reduction for all 3 musicians
  - Reduction in housekeeping hours
  - 6-month budget reduction of \$2,214
  - Overall 1 year reduction of \$1,998
- Pastoral
  - One month of settled pastoral expenses (prorated pension, life/disability insurance through March)
  - One month of pulpit supply budgeted in Operating Expenses
  - Prorated Designated Interim expenses for March-June
    - The budgeted compensation for a full year is \$55,000
  - Six-month budget reflects reduction of \$8,687
  - Overall 1 year reduction of \$12,237
- Ministry
  - No recommended changes from first 6 month budget
  - 6-month budget reduction of \$506
  - Overall 1 year reduction of \$1,012
- Overall Picture
  - Reductions reflected in all areas of expenses
  - Expenses reduced by \$11,226 in proposed 6 month budget
  - Total expenses for 1 year (both 6-month budgets) reduced by \$16,030

Budget: Income

- Rent/Building Use
  - Decreased \$687 from previous 6 month budget
- Pledges/Loose Offering, Grove Hayward Trust
  - No anticipated changes from previous 6 month budget
- Schoch Trust
  - No anticipated changes from previous 6 month budget
  - Have not received disbursement yet.

- Other Income, Special Offerings, Fundraising
  - No anticipated changes from previous 6 month budget
  - Not budgeted for due to unpredictability
- Overall Picture
  - Meeting our budgeted pledges, but they are decreased from last year
  - Decrease in rental income
  - Only income within our control is our giving
  - Income reduced by \$2,842 in proposed 6 month budget
  - Total income for 1 year (both 6-month budgets) reduced by \$4,997

#### Discussion

- Mary Malinsky brought a question about the restitution item
- Heather Francis clarified some terminology about the interim pastor
- Lee Ilgen asked about the elevator
  - It is working! It passed an inspection
  - Also, the lasagna dinner proceeds and funds from the elevator mission of the month covers the total cost, plus an air conditioning repair cost

***Dawn Haggard moves to approve the budget, Greg Swanson seconds. Motion passes.***

Benediction shared by Sarah Reckmeyer

Motion to adjourn made by Winn Alley, seconded by Dan Rosier

Meeting adjourned at 12:05

Respectfully submitted by Jordan Johnson, Clerk

## Treasurer's Report

### General:

- Total Income July-April: \$171,380
  - \$61,878 Pledges
    - \$622 UNDER budgeted amount projected for 10 months
    - \$167 UNDER compared to same 10 months of previous FY.
  - \$57,186 Grove Hayward Trust
  - \$13,000 Schoch Trust
  - \$3,037 Loose Offering
  - \$5,905 building usage and rent
  - \$1,430 unrestricted special offering
  - \$6,290 restricted special offering\*\*
  - \$2,000 unrestricted memorials
  - \$4,842 fundraising Income
  - \$428 restitution payments
  - \$8,719 LEEAP income\*\*
  - \$6,665 restricted ministry income\*\* (COTT, Youth Outlook, Second Sunday Lunch, Pastor's Discretionary Fund)

\*\*denotes restricted income that cannot be applied in general to expenses incurred by the church\*\*

- **Total Expenses July-April: \$136,197**
  - \$56,577 Operating Expenses
  - \$29,586 Payroll Expenses
  - \$44,771 Pastoral Expenses
  - \$5,263 Ministry Expenses

### Memorial Account

- Balance as of 4/30/19 \$2,992.58.
- Reflects
  - \$1,195 restricted Youth Outlook funds given as gifts from Donna & Sarah's wedding
  - \$150 honorarium paid for a Social Justice speaker

### Rabenstein Education Fund

- Balance as of 4/30/19 \$13,631.67
- Reflects \$5,584 of restricted LEEAP funds

### Church Investment Account

- Balance as of 4/30/19 \$22,180
  - \$21,760 mutual fund; \$420 cash.
  - No transfers so far this fiscal year

### Hay Scholarship Account

- Balance as of 4/30/19 \$57,131
  - \$52,406 mutual fund; \$4,725 cash.
  - \$4,500 disbursed over 5 scholarships in 2018

**Capital Fund**

- Balance as of 4/30/19 \$6,322.45
- Reflects the following activity
  - \$5,105 restricted special offering from Donna & Sarah’s wedding
  - \$1,200 in-kind gift designated for capital projects
  - \$1,788 donations for elevator mission of the month
  - \$4,714.24 Capital expenses (air conditioning, elevator, heating, furnace)

**Disaster Relief Fund**

- Balance as of 4/30/19 \$1,501.76
- No activity this fiscal year.

**COTT Fund**

- Balance as of 4/30/19 \$4,111.71.
- \$4,109 restricted funds still be transferred from general checking account

**GROVE HAYWARD TRUST DISBURSEMENTS FY 2018-19:**

	<b>2017 (previous FY)</b>	<b>2018 (current FY)</b>		<b>2018 (previous FY)</b>	<b>2019 (current FY)</b>
<b>July</b>	\$10,203.50	\$10,832.93	<b>Jan.</b>	\$12,773.06	\$11,872.00
<b>Aug.</b>	\$1,294.21	\$1,547.01	<b>Feb.</b>	\$1,314.32	\$1,280.17
<b>Sept.</b>	\$1,091.79	\$2,888.09	<b>March</b>	\$578.83	\$3,235.12
<b>Oct.</b>	\$9,133.15	\$10,269.93	<b>April</b>	\$9,338.25	\$10,570.85
<b>Nov.</b>	\$1,008.03	\$1,580.48	<b>May</b>	\$1,106.22	\$1,247.86
<b>Dec.</b>	\$1,515.49	\$3,109.31	<b>June</b>	\$2,042.86	
This FY to Date: \$58,433.75, Last FY to Date: \$49,356.85 17-18 FY Total: \$51,399.71					

**LEEAP**

<b>Received 4/17 thru 4/30/19</b>	<b>Disbursed thru 4/30/19</b>		<b>Remaining</b>
\$25,000	COTT	\$6,550	\$3,743
	Youth Outlook	\$8,781	
	Peace & Justice	\$950	
	Youth Group	\$781	
	Programming	\$4,195	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$21,257</b>	

**RESTRICTED MINISTRY FUNDS (through 4/30/19):**

YOUTH OUTLOOK	\$3,687.66
COMMUNITY OUTREACH TEEN THEATER	\$4,109.00
PEACE AND JUSTICE	\$1,659.03
SECOND SUNDAY LUNCH	\$1,458.30

Respectfully Submitted and in the Service of God,

Jennifer Swanson  
Treasurer



Open Table United Church of Christ  
Budget 2019-2020

<b>OPEN TABLE UCC BUDGET</b>				
	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Difference</b>
	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>July 18-</b>	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>From previous</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>18-19</b>	<b>March 19</b>	<b>19-20</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>				
OCWM	\$5,100.00	\$2,550.00	\$5,100.00	\$0.00
Pulpit Supply	\$750.00	\$2,007.19	\$900.00	\$150.00
Worship Supplies	\$250.00	\$111.30	\$300.00	\$50.00
Kitchen & Cleaning Supplies	\$850.00	\$266.90	\$400.00	-\$450.00
Office Supplies	\$3,000.00	\$2,257.21	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Choir Supplies	\$250.00	\$138.58	\$250.00	\$0.00
Instrument Maintenance	\$1,200.00	\$585.00	\$1,235.00	\$35.00
Subscriptions	\$327.50	\$867.26	\$300.00	-\$27.50
Church Maintenance & Repair	\$10,000.00	\$12,432.54	\$7,500.00	-\$2,500.00
Rental Property	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Parsonage Maintenance & Repair	\$1,291.50	\$1,034.01	\$1,200.00	-\$91.50
Insurance	\$15,096.00	\$11,761.00	\$15,364.00	\$268.00
Waste Removal	\$1,120.80	\$886.86	\$1,187.10	\$66.30
TV, Internet, Phone	\$2,825.50	\$2,828.40	\$2,363.52	-\$461.98
Electricity	\$5,500.00	\$4,737.22	\$5,725.00	\$225.00
Gas	\$5,500.00	\$5,837.87	\$7,000.00	\$1,500.00
Water	\$1,500.00	\$1,274.82	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
Advertising/Promotion	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Professional Services	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$125.00
Music Supply	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
MISC Operating expenses	\$0.00	\$636.37	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$54,686.30</b>	<b>\$50,212.53</b>	<b>\$55,824.62</b>	<b>\$1,138.32</b>
<b>PAYROLL EXPENSES</b>				
Administrative Assistant/ Bookkeeper	\$20,000.00	\$14,532.76	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
Organist	\$5,030.00	\$3,527.02	\$5,472.00	\$442.00
Choir Director	\$2,045.00	\$1,238.07	\$2,592.00	\$547.00
Housekeeper	\$6,355.00	\$5,381.80	\$5,002.80	-\$1,352.20
FICA	\$2,100.00	\$1,530.14	\$2,100.00	\$0.00
Medicare	\$500.00	\$357.85	\$500.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Payroll Expenses</b>	<b>\$36,030.00</b>	<b>\$26,567.64</b>	<b>\$35,666.80</b>	<b>-\$363.20</b>

	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Difference</b>
<b>PASTORAL EXPENSES</b>				
Salary + Bonuses	\$52,184.17	\$33,878.30	\$36,534.48	-\$15,649.69
Pension	\$4,610.18	\$0.00	\$2,374.74	-\$2,235.44
Equity Allowance	\$1,265.94	\$1,266.58	\$0.00	-\$1,265.94
Disability, Life, & Health	\$676.47	\$451.00	\$11,332.42	\$10,655.95
Professional Expenses	\$583.33	\$433.25	\$750.00	\$166.67
Mileage	\$291.67	\$0.00	\$375.00	\$83.33
Social Security Offset	\$2,239.02	\$2,239.02	\$3,633.35	\$1,394.33
Sabbatical Related Expenses	\$500.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	-\$500.00
Misc. Pastoral Expenses	\$0.00	\$1,018.46	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Pastoral Expenses</b>	<b>\$62,350.78</b>	<b>\$39,686.61</b>	<b>\$54,999.99</b>	<b>-\$7,350.79</b>
<b>MINISTRY EXPENSES</b>				
<i>Community Outreach</i>				
Programming/MISC	\$300.00	\$40.16	\$300.00	\$0.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$0.00	\$390.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Second Sunday Lunch	\$0.00	\$299.37	\$0.00	\$0.00
Outdoor Ministries	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
COTT	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>Peace &amp; Justice</i>				
Programming/MISC	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
IL Conf ONA Ministry	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
Open and Affirming	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
Youth Outlook	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>Spiritual Nourishment</i>				
Programming/MISC	\$300.00	\$150.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
CUE	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
Camp Scholarships	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Conference Expenses	\$250.00	\$60.00	\$250.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Ministry Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,050.00</b>	<b>\$2,139.53</b>	<b>\$2,050.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$155,117.08</b>	<b>\$118,606.31</b>	<b>\$148,541.41</b>	<b>-\$6,575.67</b>
<b>INCOME</b>				
Rent & Building Use	\$7,287.50	\$5,355.00	\$6,600.00	-\$687.50
Pledges	\$75,000.00	\$57,277.32	\$75,000.00	\$0.00
Loose Offering	\$0.00	\$2,776.95	\$500.00	\$500.00
Schoch Trust	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$0.00
Grove Hayward Trust	\$50,000.00	\$46,615.04	\$53,000.00	\$3,000.00
Other Income	\$2,500.00	\$2,392.19	\$500.00	-\$2,000.00
Special Offerings	\$1,000.00	\$7,595.00	\$500.00	-\$500.00

	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Fundraising	\$0.00	\$6,345.64	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$148,787.50</b>	<b>\$141,357.14</b>	<b>\$149,100.00</b>	<b>\$312.50</b>
<b>Shortfall</b>	<b>-\$6,329.58</b>		<b>-\$558.59</b>	

<b>Restricted Obligations</b>	
Youth Outlook	\$3,687.66
Peace & Justice	\$1,659.03
Second Sunday Lunch	\$1,458.30
COTT	\$4,109.00
	<b>\$10,913.99</b>

<b>Investment Account Balance 4/22/19</b>
<b>\$22,142.87</b>

## Report of Church Membership

Membership, July 2018	94
Added	2
Removed	4
Membership, June 2019	92

### Baptisms

September 23, 2018 Maleeya Sahvana Jonas

### Received in Membership

#### Affirmation

October 14, 2018 Dan Rosier  
January 20, 2019 Sharon Karasti

### Removed from Membership

#### Death

January 26, 2019 Jeanne Decker Wysocki  
March 4, 2019 Gordon Parker  
March 14, 2019 Ruth Martin

#### Request

May 6, 2019 Jasmine Leal

## Audit Committee Report

The audit committee continues to meet monthly to review all checks and deposits for all bank accounts, to complete the reconciliation in QuickBooks, to review credit card statements and receipts, and to ensure the proper financial processes are being followed by the treasurer, the bookkeeper, the pastor, and any others who spend money on behalf of the church. David Hayes, Mary Malinsky, Sarah Reckmeyer, and Treasurer Jen Swanson meet on the last Monday of each month in order to review the records from the previous month. Jen is always there to answer questions and respond to any minor errors in bookkeeping, reporting, or documentation that we occasionally find. She has managed to learn and maintain the QuickBooks system, and develop a streamlined auditing system for the many accounts that Open Table maintains. We are so very grateful for her time and talents, and the fun she brings to the auditing process.

Joyfully submitted by,

Mary Malinsky

## Communication and Care Report

The Leadership Table member-at-large position for 2018-19 was designated as “Communication and Care.” 2018-19 was the second and final year for this designation for the member-at-large position.

2018-19 was a year of transition for Open Table UCC, and the tasks of the Communication and Care position also changed from the previous year. Some projects were continued, new tasks were completed, and a handful of ventures are ongoing.

Following are the missions and projects which fell under the Communication and Care umbrella in the 2018-19 fiscal year:

- Church liaison for Community Outreach Teen Theater
- Sound system for worship space
- Weekly Menu via email
- Growth of email contacts for OTUCC
- Promotion of OTUCC mission via social media
- Tables & chairs for worship space
- Relocation and welcoming of designated term pastor
- Update of office desktop computers (ongoing)
- Coordination of “doing business as” (DBA) application process (ongoing)
- “Spirit Wear” with OTUCC logo (ongoing)

Being a member of Leadership Table with a variety of lay leaders has been an enriching and fulfilling experience. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Communication and Care member for the past 2 years. I sense the Holy Spirit nudging each of us to serve in challenging and exciting ways as we move forward as Open Table United Church of Christ in Ottawa, Illinois.

Sincerely,  
Donna Martin  
Communication and Care  
Leadership Table

## Community Outreach Ministry Report

Open Table continues to share its energy, talent, and time along with our church space to help the local community.

**Community Food Basket** held its first two monthly **Mobile Food Pantries** in our church during the winter. Fresh bulk produce was brought in for a day for those in need who made their own food choices. In addition, a team from the church once again helped Community Food Basket sort and shelve food donated to their major annual event **Freezin' for a Reason** in December.

**Ottawa YMCA**, our neighbors, partnered with Open Table as they have for many years by making use of our kitchen and dining area to provide breakfast and snacks to school age children in their summer day camp program in 2018. Following school's end, the 2019 day campers will once again be in our church.

**Mission of the Month** is a special offering each month, 100% of which goes to chosen recipients. We continue to divide our efforts between local charities outside the church, many identified and of interest to Open Table participants, and UCC charities.

**Second Sunday Lunch** gives continued thanks to *Dawn Haggard*. Families or individuals choose months, plan the menu, shop and prepare a meal for approximately 80 individuals who join us both during and after worship. Those monthly volunteers are joined by church members and friends who stay to serve and clean up, and by those who bring desserts. There has always been plenty of help from the congregation. So much in fact there are some who believe that "loaves and fishes" story may in fact apply to us. We take pride in collectively providing delicious and nutritious meals.

Our **PADS** (Public Action to Deliver Shelter) **Team** once again volunteered on the second Sunday night each month, covering a time period that begins on 5:00 p.m. Sunday and ends at 9:00 a.m. Monday. We serve meals, attend to the needs of the homeless residents, and interact with them socially during our stay. Thanks to our volunteers: *Steve Malinsky, Sharon Loudon, Ken Brown, Pam Simon, Donna Martin, Sarah Reckmeyer, Nelson Nussbaum, Dave McClure, Winn Alley, Terry O'Brien, Jenn and Meredith Martin Olsen, and Mary Malinsky.*

**Labor of Love**, an annual United Way one day event to repair homes in the Ottawa area for owners unable to maintain their homes themselves, was again helped by our church. *Steve Malinsky* heads up this project. Open Table partnered with First National Bank. Special thanks to *Jerry and Linda Dalton, and Helen Mlynarski.*

**Community Outreach Teen Theater (COTT)**, a major outreach project designed for youth age 11-18, continues following a transition in leadership. *Mary Lindig*, its founder and first director, turned over the reins as director to *Maggie Frost*, long known to those involved in local theater. This summer they will stage *Willy Wonka Jr.* in our upstairs sanctuary. This 2019 performance will be the third summer of COTT presentations at Open Table Church.

New project ideas are always welcome. Most if not all the efforts we currently support were once suggested by Open Table participants. If you have ideas for new activities, please bring them to the Community Outreach team. Better yet become part of the Community Outreach Team and support the local community through Open Table Church.

Dave McClure, Facilitator

## Peace and Justice Ministry Report

It was a quiet year for the Peace and Justice Team. We did manage to pull off a few events, but we continue to struggle with the larger questions of how best to engage in the work of peace and justice in the wider community. I will summarize briefly our activities this year before considering the questions before us.

*Other People's Poetry* Our monthly poetry reading continues on – we have had gatherings of usually around four or five people reading together in Fellowship Hall on the third Thursday of each month. There is a core group of regulars who attend, and we have grown friendly over the past two and half years. Early in the fall, one of the group regulars, Marydale Stuart of Spring Valley, put together a reading with a fellow novelist that took place in Fellowship Hall. They read excerpts from their recently published books, with short sets of songs in between played by me, Samuel Barbour. Over the winter, the regulars were invited by Stuart to an event at IVCC supporting the release of a collection of poetry entitled *Writers Resist*, where we were the featured readers for the event, which had strong attendance from IVCC students. Although the gathering has remained small, it has clearly engaged those attending and, to some extent, the wider community.

*Social Justice Speaker Series* This past year the church hosted just one Social Justice speaker, Rev. Robert Johnson of Calvary Baptist. As pastor of the only black church in LaSalle County, Rev. Johnson brought a perspective seldom appreciated in Ottawa. He engaged a small audience in our ground level meeting space on Thursday, the 21<sup>st</sup> of February, and spoke on building of Calvary Baptist's present sanctuary on the north side of Ottawa with the help of the wider Christian community here in town, as well as addressing more generally the experience of the local black community. Despite the underwhelming attendance at the event, Rev. Johnson expressed hope for a coming together of the wider Ottawa community.

*Field Trip to Trinity UCC* A small group of folks from Open Table travelled up to Chicago's Washington Heights neighborhood on the south side to Trinity United Church of Christ. With an active membership of 8000, Trinity is one of the larger congregations in the UCC association. In an afternoon meeting lasting about an hour, we discussed the work of social justice and community engagement with Rev. Rochelle Michael, director of pastoral services at Trinity, and Rev. Jasmin Taylor, pastor of Digital and Media Ministry (aka the "Digipastor"). We learned about Trinity's extensive work as a center of community organization, putting together festivals, meetings, conferences, and even a local basketball tournament; their focus on the needs of those on the margins; and the challenges of operating a large and multifaceted church organization. It was an immensely informative experience! Afterwards, we got a guided tour of the church's impressive building, which includes numerous multi-purpose community rooms, a fully functional kitchen and cafeteria, a credit union and bookstore, as well as its incredible sanctuary, equipped with mounted television cameras and a dedicated sound booth. We stayed for Sunday evening service, and stopped for dinner together on the way home.

*An evening of political discussion* Following the midterm elections this past November, we convened a small gathering to discuss the election season and its outcomes, with friend of the congregation Beth Vercolio-Osmund acting as moderator. In a wide ranging discussion lasting a little over an hour, we talked about ongoing political concerns from the national to the local level, and in particular the challenges of local organization. Of the various activities put together by the Peace and Justice Team this past year, this one perhaps seemed to have the greatest potential for expansion in the future. It focused not on action or solutions, but rather on the simple act of discussing politics, frankly and directly, in the presence of others (which is to say: not on social media).



*Possibilities for the future* There are several potential directions for the Peace and Justice Team that I'd like to explore in the following section, which I will divide in two categories: those that continue and build on the work we've done, and new areas for the team to consider in the future.

In the former category we have the field trips and discussion groups. When I originally suggested the possibility of a field trip, my hope was to take a group up to the Jane Addams Hull-House museum, a site dedicated to the history of the social work and its development in Chicago in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries – a trip I think would still be very much worth making at some point in the future. Additionally, it seems there are likely numerous places in the city that would appeal to our Peace and Justice ministry in a similar way, engaging our members in a deeper contemplation of the work of social justice. Likewise, the possibility of a regular meeting dedicated to civil discussion of politics holds out the potential of helping us to understand politics better, and weather the vicissitudes of the election cycle more readily. Looking to the world of cable news and social media, it seems plain that it is all too easy today for people to fall into patterns of fear, loathing, and despair – the seeking out of signs of hope, as well as opportunity for engagement, is needed perhaps more than ever.

The second category in part emerges from my own meditations upon this past year. Following the speaking engagement of Rev. Johnson, I personally went through a period of depression, in part because I blamed myself for the lack of community involvement. On reflection, it occurred to me that the team might discuss how to engage the community on issues concerning mental health, and work towards broader recognition of the challenges it presents. Additionally, the ministry team could perhaps consider difficulties encountered in outreach and organization: it has been my observation that many of our members and associates are deeply engaged in community building work, and as a result we are often stretched a bit thin. New possibilities are precluded by a lack of available time and energy – how to face this is, in my view, an open question for the ministry team going forward.

*In closing* – it has been my distinct honor and pleasure to be the facilitator for the Peace and Justice ministry this year. I look forward to participating actively as a team member in the future and helping to continue this important work of the church.

Sam Barbour, Facilitator

## Spiritual Nourishment Ministry Report

What an awesome year! Thank you to all that have volunteered and helped out! We truly have beautifully soul full people at Open Table UCC. I can honestly tell you that God and love rule our decisions. I see good and wonderful things happening in our future.

This year was a rough year saying good-bye to Pastor Kim, but God always takes care of God's people and we said, "Hello" to Pastor Jennifer Amy-Dressler. It is truly a joy to have Pastor Jennifer and exciting to think of the year ahead of us. I still have hopes and dreams:

- Prayer Chain
- Prayer Groups
- Meditation Groups
- Getting everyone involved!

We also had a good night last night with Dungeons and Dragons. We are having fun and working hard to serve community as well. We continue with 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Lunches and Vine Brew and Bean with Winn Alley and Winn continues to help us grow with Bring Your Own Brain Study at Jeremiah Joe. Molly Breslin held the Plant Sale again and did so wonderful! I just thank God for each and every one of you. Thank you again to everyone that volunteers! You truly do make a difference!

It is my hope that more people will get involved and continue to help Nourish Open Table UCC.

You are loved,  
Jenn Martin Olsen, Facilitator

## Fellowship Puritan Chapter Financial Report

Opening Balance (7/01/18) Checking Account	\$1,498.68
12/15/18 Red Stocking Fund (donation)	-\$ 100.00
12/18/18 Open Table UCC (donation)	-\$ 500.00
12/18/18 Deposit Dues from 3 members	+\$ 45.00
Ending Balance (5/30/19) Checking Account	\$ 943.68
Petty Cash (started 9/06/18) from 9 members' dues	\$ 135.00
12/03/18 Pay for Booth at Bake Sale	-\$ 25.00
5/02/19 Pay for "Welcome Jennifer" coffee hour cake	-\$ 29.00
Ending Balance (5/30/19) Petty Cash	\$ 81.00

Respectfully submitted: Wendy Asphahani, Treasurer

**Benevolence Summary**  
**July 2018 – April 2019**

MISSION	RECEIVED	DISBURSED
CUE* (2018)	---	\$300
Illinois Conf. ONA Ministry* (2018)	---	\$300
OCWM* (2018-19)	---	\$5,100
Outdoor Ministries* (2018)	---	\$300
UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns* (2018)	---	\$300
<i>Pastor's Discretionary Fund</i>	\$480	\$450
<i>Second Sunday Lunch</i>	\$88	\$626
<i>Christmas Fund (2018)</i>	\$605	\$605
<i>YSB (Nov MOM)</i>	\$485	\$485
<i>Neighbors In Need (2018)</i>	\$576	\$576
<i>Anne Marie Foundation (Sept MOM)</i>	\$571	\$571
<i>Strengthen the Church (June 2019)</i>	***	***
<i>One Great Hour of Sharing (2019)</i>	\$560	\$560
<i>ADV/SAS (Jan MOM)</i>	\$320	\$320
<i>Community Food Basket (Feb MOM)</i>	\$807	\$807
<i>Anne Marie Foundation (April MOM)**</i>	\$505	\$0
<i>Community Outreach Teen Theater Ministry</i>	\$1,532.60	\$3,164.02
<i>Youth Outlook Ministry</i>	\$1,945	\$575
<i>Gay Straight Alliance</i>	\$340	\$340
<b>TOTAL Benevolence (through April 2019)</b>	<b>\$8,814.60</b>	<b>\$15,379.02</b>

\* Indicates budgeted giving

\*\*not yet paid at the time of the report

\*\*\*not yet collected or paid at the time of the report