

**Annual Meeting**

**Sunday, May 21, 2023**

**Board President Steve Hershner convened the meeting at 12:15 pm**

**The purpose of the meeting** is to present a review of the year from Staff, the Board, the Treasurer, and the committees important to church life and operations. The [Annual Report](https://peoplesuu.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=20176d43bbde62c6d0e95f3d1&id=3665a4c49d&e=eb269a2b25) was distributed during the preceding week to all members; proposed policy changes were available online and at the meeting; proxies, the agenda and voting instructions sent three weeks prior to the meeting as required in the Bylaws.

**Board members present:** Sue Davis, Steve Hershner, Marcy Mattison, Cate Sheller, Lu Wilcox.

**Minister’s Report: Pastor David Wise**

* Update on Congregational Administrator Christine Kullander’s recovery – improving!
* The hiring of a temporary office person, Katie, beginning on Tuesday. Office hours roughly Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 am to 3:30 pm, with volunteers taking Thursdays to manage phone and email needs.
* Special appreciation to Ryan Roth-Klinck and Christine in the past year for their extraordinary efforts as the Church transitioned to in-person activities; Tech & Outreach manager Jackie Wedeking for continuing work to improve and expand Peoples’ online presence and connectivity; Walter, for work to keep the facility clean and welcoming; Childcare personnel for caring for the kiddos and keeping the nursery space safe and clean.
* Thanks to Board’s oversight and governance through various challenges, in support of Peoples mission and goals.
* Highlighted the solar panels – made possible through vision and generous donors – that now mean a $20 monthly electric bill.
* Appreciation for the support and encouragement he and Karen have received over the past six years at Peoples Church.
* Also see remarks in the [Annual Report](https://peoplesuu.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=20176d43bbde62c6d0e95f3d1&id=3665a4c49d&e=eb269a2b25)

**Board President**: **Steve Hershner**

Steve thanked David, Christine, and the Board of Trustees for leading and facilitating the work to meet Peoples various needs toward reaching Peoples’ goals. His additional remarks on Board governance over the past year are in the [Annual Report](https://peoplesuu.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=20176d43bbde62c6d0e95f3d1&id=3665a4c49d&e=eb269a2b25).

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**Interim Director, Faith Formation: Ryan Roth Klinck**

With mixed emotions, Ryan announced during the preceding service that he had accepted another position effective July 1. He outlined the many youth and children’s activities that have blossomed during his tenure: volunteer support and leadership; developing the breakthrough Youth Co-op, which enables Peoples to engage with with other progressive area churches; and creating engaging social learning activities in the community (from Eco-Fest to visiting cultural exhibits). He’s managed challenging post-pandemic issues, including nursery staffing and upkeep, and recruiting volunteers. The energized Folk Choir has enhanced worship with music under his direction. Ryan spoke of the support and encouragement he’s received, saying it’s the kindest place he’s ever worked.

**Search Committee Report: Robyn Meissler-Kubanek**

After two year’s work, we have a minister! Rev. Carin will be moving around July 1, and the team will keep us apprised on how we might help with her transition to Cedar Rapids.

**Stewardship: Brenda Meshak**

Current pledging levels for ’23 continue to be strong. Our target for 2024 will be $185,000. Members will be asked to “Blast Off” to reach the pledge goal and continue our mission. She asked everyone to pledge aloud that “WE WILL complete the 2024 pledge form as soon as it is received in July!”

**Technology & Outreach:** **Jackie Wedeking**

The tech team members are working. Hard to get out church and it’s message out to more peoples. She thanked the tech volunteers: Cate, Deb, Bryan, Kris, Gary and Bill for stretching their skills to do the job. The PCUU Facebook page now has over 600 followers, and we set a record of 19,000 views on YouTube.

**Financial Report: Gary McGraw, Treasurer**

After a $12,000 surplus in 2022, 2023 pledging continues to be strong. Pledges comprise 75% of total income, and the endowments provide 15%. We approved a planned deficit budget for ’23, knowing that significant growth-related spending was coming, particularly in technology and Faith Formations. See [Annual Report](https://peoplesuu.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=20176d43bbde62c6d0e95f3d1&id=3665a4c49d&e=eb269a2b25) for more details. The $21,000 remaining in the Ministerial Search Fund is very adequate for remaining expenses, and there should be some left.

**Solar Panel Update: Charlie Cizio**

After a full year (October 2021-October 2022), there was a 90% reduction in the electric bill. In the case of sustained clouds, we do have to buy a little from the utility company, bur as David said, it’s a fine thing to open a $20 electric bill for a month’s use!

**ITEMS TO BE VOTED UPON:**

* **A quorum was established** with 58 members able to vote. The Bylaws requires a **quorum of 40%** of members voting either in person, by proxy or remotely.

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Of the (109 /116) members:

40 were present in person

12 present on Zoom

6 proxies received

58 votes available today

* **On the motion to elect Sue Davis and Marcy Mattison to the Board of Trustees** for two-year terms: A call for nominations from the floor x three; none being heard, Steve called the vote. Without objection the vote was in favor. Motion to accept: Robyn Meissler-Kubanek, seconded by Bryan Davis.
* **On the motion to elect Steve Hershner as President of the Board of Trustees**: A call for nominations from the floor X3; none being heard, Steve called the vote. Without objection, the vote was in favor of the nomination. Motion: Marcy Mattison, second by Susan Petersmith.
* **On the motion to elect the current slate of Nominating Committee members:** Jan Federer, Rich Patterson and Lu Wilcox, no other nominations were received from. The floor. The vote was in favor, and the motion was made by Rsois Rimrodt, seconded by Doug Ogle.

**GOVERNANCE POLICY UPDATES:**

* Policy on Endorsement of Ministers and Ministerial Candidates
* [Policy on the Ordination of Ministers](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_-aHXw02pm0tLEzOXeQ05jiKby-2w_Ct/view?usp=share_link)
* [Clarification of the Policy on Funeral and Memorial Services](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OAIYdXR_wkJhWhHQvA2nTzQwRFQUn4U9/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=111079179308221336383&rtpof=true&sd=true)

(See attached docs)

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Marcia Swift presented Pastor David with **a gift of appreciation** for his support on behalf of **Social Justice** at Peoples Church and in the Community.

**Closing Reading:** Pastor David

**Extinguishing of the Chalice:** Steve Hershner

**Benediction** by Pastor David

**Motion to adjourn** the meeting by Lu Wilcox, seconded by Bryan Davis at 1:15 p.m.

Submitted by Marcy Mattison, Board Secretary



**Funeral and Memorial Policy**

At present we have some people who volunteer to help with meals after services. There are not enough people unless the Van Vechten Guild (VVG) helps as well.

Thus far we have provided cookies, bars, napkins, beverages (coffee, tea (h/c), lemonade, water), and sugar and cream. This is the extent of what we feel as a congregation is possible at this time, based on our resources.

We have vases and placemats that go under the vases. We also have tablecloths.

For catered meals in, we have been getting volunteers to set up and serve/bring food to the counter and/or 6’ tables.

Additionally, the family can bring food themselves for us to put out and serve. This may be catered from a local provider or provided by the family.

From May through October, flowers are donated by those with flower gardens and table arrangements are made accordingly. In the winter we purchase flowers. It may be that we need to ask the VVG to assist with a donation for flowers.

* The Andre room occupancy is 90 with tables and chairs; 192 standing only.
* Tech Assistance: $75
* Video Assistance: $75
* Accompanist: $100
* Musicians: their rates
* Use of sanctuary: $200 (free to members)
* Andre Room rental: $200 (free to members)
* Honorarium for Minister: $250

5/21/23



**Endrsements for Ministers and Ministerial Candidates**

**Introduction:** UUA credentials only UU ministers as Candidates after Seminary or ministers in full Fellowship after the Fellowship requirements have been met. Other ministers may seek endorsement from a congregation.

**Policy: Ministers Seeking Endorsement from PCUU**

The Board of Trustees, in consultation with the congregation’s minister, may provide endorsement for other ministers connected to PCUU when requested. Endorsement will include description of the requesting minister’s role within PCUU, responsibilities of that role, and length of tenure in the role. The decision to endorse will be discussed and voted on by the Board.

**Policy: Seminary Applicants Seeking Sponsorship from PCUU**

The Board, in consultation with the congregation’s minister, may provide endorsement for seminary applicants who are or have been *active* PCUU members, in accordance with UUA Policy Congregational Sponsorship (link to policy) and utilizing form Statement of Congregational Sponsorship. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fAd9Q\_\_6sz5qBWrbkGp2CrCBxFWta8zXrezCOgFVjhA/e dit

**Notifications:** The congregation will be notified when a person is being considered by the board for endorsement or sponsorship. A notice will be published in the Voice and a verbal announcement will be made from the pulpit.

**Ordination of Ministers**

**Introduction:** It is the custom and recommendation of the Unitarian Universalist Association, Ministerial Fellowship Committee, and the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association that ordination occurs only after the granting of Preliminary Fellowship.

**Policy: Ordination of Ministers**

The PCUU Congregation may ordain a minister who has been granted Preliminary Fellowship through the UUA, in accordance with UUA Policy.

**Notifications:** The congregation will be notified when a person is being considered for Ordination. A notice will be published in the Voice and a verbal announcement will be made from the pulpit.

5/21/23