

Harrisonburg Unitarian Universalists

Annual Congregational Meeting May

25, 2025

1. President Nancy Barbour called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.
  - a. A quorum for doing business was met.
2. Approval of the minutes of the May 26, 2024 Annual Meeting (attached)
  - a. Martha Faw moved to approve; Irvin Peckham seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
3. Congregational Report. Nancy reported on the many ways in which the congregation has grown:
  - a. New members - 12
  - b. Hiring of a Part-time Minister – Rev. Janet Onnie
  - c. Revitalization of social justice work – thank you Wendy Wintermute
  - d. Coffee hour management – thank you Cathy Gardner
  - e. Regular performances of the choir – thank you Dee and all choir
  - f. members
  - g. Robust RE program with a full range of ages thanks to Paula, Sandy, and Maeve and their faithful volunteers:
  - h. 21 children in CRE
  - i. RE Volunteers – Judith and Bill and many others
  - j. Social events on a regular basis that are fun and well-attended, including family events and Circle dinners
  - k. Developing outdoor “arboretum” – thank you Pete
  - l. Landing pad to make HUU more accessible
  - m. The formation of a Program Council – a means of organizing committee-board-congregational communication – Sandy and Rev. Janet, thank you
  - n. Thanks to the rest of the staff -Tom Hook, Dee Black, Kim Newton
4. Election of new Board members - Sarah Cheverton, Lee Anna Farrall
  - a. Nancy thanked Jo Bowman and Rich Sider for their service and announced that she also will be leaving the Board.
  - b. Pamela Beverage moved to accept the nomination of Sarah and Lee Anna to the Board; Sandy seconded the motion. The new board members were unanimously approved.
5. Election of the Treasurer - Grayson Sless
  - a. Charlie Strickler moved that we confirm Grayson as the new treasurer; Merle Wenger seconded the motion. The motion to confirm Grayson as treasurer was unanimously approved.

6. FY 2026 Budget presentation and vote.

- a. Treasurer Rich Sider presented the July 2025 to June 2026 budget showing projected income of \$126,950, which includes 54 pledges totalling over \$90,000, and expenses of \$126,906. After reviewing the different categories in the budget, he opened the discussion.
  - i. Merle Wenger asked if there is a catastrophic recession and it was decided not to hire a new minister, would that decision require congregational approval? Rich responded that reductions in budget don't require congregational approval.
  - ii. Pamela Beverage asked a question about the ministerial reserve. Rich explained how much is projected to be drawn in the coming year and the balance remaining..
  - iii. There were a number of questions about congregational input in the ministerial hiring process, which will need to be developed by the new Board. .
  - iv. In response to the discussion on congregational input, Les Grady proposed an amendment to the motion to pass the budget: That after developing a hiring procedure and documents, the Board make all of that information available to the congregation and give opportunity for congregational feedback before proceeding with the hiring process. Merle seconded the proposed amendment. Since approval of the budget authorizes the Board to hire the half-time consulting minister, this amendment was attached to the budget to clearly include the congregation's condition on hiring the minister.
  - v. The congregation unanimously approved the amendment as stated.
  - vi. Bill Howe moved to accept the budget, with the approved amendment. Martha Faw seconded the motion. The congregation unanimously approved the budget with the amendment.
  - vii. Shirley Nagle asked why there was less money for community support this year. Rich explained we lowered one fund and added two, which accounted for the difference.

7. Bylaws Revision ([attached](#))

- a. Nancy described the new additions to the bylaws
  - i. Cathy Strickler moved that we approve the revised version setting term limits for the Board of Directors. Les Grady seconded the motion
    1. After discussion, the motion was unanimously approved
  - ii. Irvin Peckham moved that we accept the revision of the paragraph governing the Committee Members and Chairperson. Pamela Beverage seconded the motion.

1. After some discussion about the proposed term limits for committee chairpersons, the motion was unanimously approved.
8. Recognition of volunteers
  - a. Sandy Greene acknowledged HUU staff and people who have volunteered this past year, including CRE volunteers who received certificates of recognition.
9. Rev. Onnie extinguished the chalice.
10. Other Business
  - a. None
11. Nancy Barbour adjourned the meeting at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Irvin Peckham, Secretary