

University Christian Church

Board of Stewards Meeting

October 21, 2014

Stewards Present:

Phyllis Allen	Eldon Irving
William Butler	Sandi Kennedy
Carolyn Critz	Carol Jane Lawrence
Lori Gallagher	Gay McKeever
Brian Gibson	Monty Phillips
Heather Harris	Sean Strange
Don Houk	Carol Wilkerson

Ex-Officio Member Present:

Rev. Larry Thomas – Senior Minister
Rev. Ellen Lewis – Associate Minister

A meeting of the Board of Stewards of University Christian Church was called to order at 6:37 p.m. by the Chair, Sandi Kennedy. Eldon Irving offered a participatory prayer where we prayed for a meaningful experience, thanks to ministers, persons on each side of us and ourselves.

Listening to UCC Members – No one signed in to speak to the Board.

Approval of Minutes - The minutes of the September board meeting were reviewed. Jake Yarbrough made a motion to approve the minutes. Carol Jane Lawrence seconded the motion. All approved.

Assignments for Calls to New Members – Board members agreed to contact the new members.

Report from Choirmaster – Jerry McCoy offered a huge thank you for the investment of the scholarships in the chancel choir. They have added two quartets. These singers allow for seriously challenging literature that opens a door of powerful expression for us. All-Saints Sunday the choir will perform the second and third movements of “Tryptic” Terick O. Regan. Christmas will feature John Rutter’s “Gloria” with ten brass and percussion instruments. The piece for Veterans Day is called “The Mother” and it celebrates a mother who sends her two sons off to die (based on poem by Irish poet Patrick Pearce); “She cries at the empty hearth, but they fought for something they believed in.”

Jerry's goal is to give music each week that speaks to the choir and the congregation. MLK Sunday will have African American spirituals with TCU choir and Scola Cantorum.

Ken Davis has been hired as interim choir instructor at TCU which Jerry believes will reaffirm the relationship between TCU/UCC. Our community of faith is moving farther from spiritual and into the secular world. The music department is working to maintain a spirit of grace within the music to further the ministry of the church.

Youth Stewardship Video – Drew Ruiz showed the stewardship video made by the youth of UCC. Thanks were given to Christy Coffey and Tony Allred. This is the fifth video in four years. Since posting on YouTube, he has had 700 hits. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X6uQn6M6wPI>. – Who Are We, God's Hand and Feet ("Thank You"). Thirty youth plus a number of adults filmed the video in fifty minutes, not including the Fellowship Hall scene. Drew wants more exposure to highlight the work of the youth and for people to know that this is the place where youth can love and learn.

Update from Stewardship Committee – John Andrus reported that we are in Week 3. It has been a great calling campaign completed in just 5 days. There were fifty-five callers. We are cautiously optimistic. 72% of major donors have pledged. Administrative committees need to be urged to be 100%. James Chaffin commented that the choir has never had a stewardship presentation. John will check with Kyla to see if they can do it this Thursday. Don Houk mentioned that one area that does not have an endowment is music. We should have at least one million dollar endowment to fund the music at UCC. Raising funds for a music endowment need to be done intentionally. People respond to a specific purpose. Brian Gibson stated that it should be a process to identify donors to do this. Larry feels that we need a couple of years stability before soliciting new money for a purpose such as this. He will have a conversation with the endowment committee. They would probably be very receptive. Brian pointed out that we need the capital fund to maintain the building, rather than directing unrestricted endowment to music. The donor wall will raise awareness.

Senior Minister's Report – Rev. Thomas reported that the staff retreat at Glen Rose Retreat Center was very successful. Cost was covered by the Senior Minister's discretionary fund). They completely planned Advent, Thanksgiving and All-Saints Sunday.

The enrichment seminar speaker, Dr. Rita Brock, on Sunday very well received. We hope to do this a couple of times per year with one general adult theology speaker and something for younger adults. The stewardship calling campaign supplied information regarding members who have moved or who may have health issues. A list will be compiled for staff to address pastoral care issues. When asked about the Elder Shepherding program assisting with these matters, Larry says they cannot share personal information.

Joey Jernigan passed away and there will be a visitation in the Gallery. The service will be at Arborlawn due to a conflict with the Saturday service that is planned. Cyndy is doing the homily. Larry had committed to do the worship service at the Brite Trustees Board meeting and will be unable to participate in the funeral service.

Report from Deacons – Chair Lori Gallagher hosted a dinner for the Deacons at Joe T's with 20 people in attendance. She will ask for ushers and greeters for the Christmas Eve services. Larry feels that having lunch would help attendance and will provide the meal for the next meeting.

Report from Elders – Chair Eldon Irving says the shepherding program continues to be well received. Elders have been asked to be pall bearers for Joey Jernigan's funeral which is an honor for the Elders. They are continuing the study of *Eating & Drinking from the Welcome Table*.

Finance Report – Michelle Ingram provided the following report.

Consolidated Balance Sheet

A. Comparative cash balances as of September 30, 2014 are summarized as follows:

	9/30/2014	8/31/2014	9/30/2013	12/31/2013 (Audited)
Operating	\$388,000	\$470,000	\$246,000	\$425,000
Restricted	509,000	504,000	623,000	704,000
Capital	491,000	348,000	362,000	350,000
Endowment	13,000	81,000	30,000	15,000
Consolidated	\$1,401,000	\$1,404,000	\$1,261,000	\$1,494,000

As of September 2014, Operating cash balance is positive and still up comparatively to September 2013 by \$142K. UCC Equity is also positive at \$145K which is higher than last year by \$118K. Our Capital cash balance increased significantly from last month due to the receipt of the increased amount of the TCU parking lease income.

Unified Operating Income/Expense Statement (Fund 1)

- B. Pledges, Contributions & Offering (PCO Income) are currently ahead of budget YTD by \$12K. Due to budget timing on WDS, total YTD income variance is behind budget by \$42K. On the expense side, B&G is over budget in September due to a high electric bill, final payment to Ideal Impact and budget timing of the annual fire inspection fees. Youth is over budget for the month due to timing of Back to School retreat expenses. Net overall income is \$64K positive variance to budget.

Capital Fund Reports (Fund 3)

- C. New carpeting for rental house, handbell tables and racks & minor computer supplies were purchased this month. The TCU parking lease payment of \$100K was also received this month and 3rd QTR Endowment earnings were posted. Income available for capital projects is \$467,992.

Restricted Reserve Report (Fund 2)

- D. Notable receipts this QTR:

- New gift to Senior Minister Donor Advised Fund
- Game Day parking receipts
- WDS fundraising transfer for tuition scholarships
- New gifts to Children's Closet
- Page Scholarship awards were made
- Additional payment of Disciples Crossing pledges

WDS Fiscal School Year Report

E. YTD WDS is behind budget by \$22K. They began a new budget year in July for their 2014-15 school year. WDS ended their 2013-14 school year behind estimated budget by \$26K, however, still ended with a positive \$70K over/under.

Other Committee Business

Budget Amendments – One budget amendment this month. ***Motion to approve*** “All Saints service musicians expense of \$5,000 to be paid for by the Senior Minister Donor Advised Fund.” No net impact to the Budget by this transfer.

2015 Budget (DRAFT) – Notable items to report:

- PCO Income left flat to 2014 until STW campaign is completed
- Reduced season game day parking income to actuals
- Adjusted WDS Budget from school year to Unified fiscal year
- Forecasted Endowment income at a 4.5% distribution rate (same as 2014)
- Forecasted General Endowment distribution at 60%/30%/10% (Operations/Capital/Outreach)
- Personnel budget reflects reduction in staff positions from 2014, legacy benefit costs, 10% increase to healthcare, one new part time Admin position, 5% cost of living increase and pay adjustments to six positions.
- Increase for credit card fees in Administration General
- Reduction in electricity in B&G
- Addition of income & expense for planned Music/Church & the Arts trips in '15
- Minor adjustments up and down in Ministry Area departments
- Adjustment of 10% to Outreach based on new income amounts

Stewardship Report – Week 3 Comparison Results at a glance:

	2015 - Week 3	2014 - Week 3	Difference
# of Pledges	346	318	28
Total Dollar	\$1,517,135	\$1,205,672	\$311,463
# Of New Pledges	26	15	11 - \$26,577
# of Increased Pledges	131	101	30 - \$23,534

Overall Increase	\$90,709	\$45,201	\$45,508
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- Stewardship mailer was sent on September 30.
- Campaign Kickoff was on October 5.
- The Committee continues to visit Sunday school classrooms with a Stewardship presentation.
- Larry preached on Stewardship the past two Sundays.
- We'll finish the campaign with a final Stewardship Worship moment on October 26.
- The Calling Campaign began on Oct. 13. We had 55 volunteer callers this year! We completed the calling campaign last night! The calls were all well received by our members.
- We have 72% of Major Donor pledges turned in for a net increase to date of \$32K.

There being no further business, following a closing prayer by Rev. Larry Thomas, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean Strange
Board Secretary

Thelia Chaffin
Assistant to Senior Minister