

President's Report - Mid-Year 2018

I would like to start by saying that the general state of Westside UU Church is very optimistic. There are many activities happening this year that I want to give you an update on.

On the social/fund raising end, we had a very successful Church Auction and Dinner in November, raising approximately \$25,000 for our Building Transition Fund.

Also, we have applied for two NTUUC Grants, one from the Music Task Force to continue to expand our Music Program and one from the Building Transition Task Force to assist with our renovations once AMS moves out. We will hear the results of the grant requests at the annual NTUUC awards luncheon that will be held on February 3, at the UU Church of Oak Cliff.

As for our Endowment Fund, between additional contributions and investment earnings, it has grown more than \$4000 over the last year and currently stands at \$54,736.73.

Through the help of the Committee on Shared Ministry, led by Jeff Rodriguez, we have revised our Disruptive Behavior Policy and have established a Right Relations Council who will assist with guiding and facilitating the way we interact with each other.

Other policies that have undergone revision or creation this year are the Safe Congregation Sex Offender Policy, the Social Justice Council Charter, the Donation Policy and Procedure and the Procurement Card Policy and Procedure. You can find all church policies and procedures on our website under Church Business and Policies and Procedures.

And speaking of Safe Congregation, the Safe Congregation Committee will be scheduling future showings of the Active Shooter Training Video. I want to encourage all Westsiders to watch this film. It is 20 minutes long and explains the steps you should take should an active shooter event ever occur.

As mentioned during the presentation to James Finn, the board is working on an organizational chart for the church so we can better understand our roles and relationships with each other.

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Also, there has been a major Bylaws Revision in the works, but more on that later in the meeting.

On the Financial end, I will let David present the details but I would like to say that right now we are in a very solid fiscal state. However, we do have some challenges ahead of us with the elimination of the AMS rental income. We do have the Betty Sanders Fund whose intent is to help us bridge the gap until our pledge income can catch up.

Regarding Social Justice, Westside continues to step up not only to assist community programs like Samaritan House, SCAC Thanksgiving Baskets and Toiletry Drive, Angel Tree Donations and others but also to support social justice causes like Reproductive Justice, Immigration Justice and Racial Inequality.

Our Green Sanctuary Committee continues to do good work, however Bob Vann will be taking a long deserved break from leading that committee in March. If anyone with an environmentalist leaning is interested, please contact Bob directly to learn more about leading this committee.

At the beginning of this fiscal year, we established a Building Transition Task Force, chaired by Dianne Nixon. They are working on helping us plan and prepare for the departure of AMS. This includes identifying our space needs, drafting a building usage layout for the board's approval and putting together a list of our remodel wants and needs to eventually be prioritized based on budget and need. As of today, those remodel wants and needs exceed our available resources. That being said, I am very excited and I hope you are too about the possibilities once we have the building to ourselves.

Regarding membership, our total number of members have remained fairly steady, with some member attrition as well as new members joining the church. It is my hope that we see a membership increase after the departure of AMS in May. In that same regard, the board has charged a number of committees with identifying strategies for better integrating new members to attempt to lessen the attrition. The Leadership Development and Nominating Committee are leading this effort.

One item we have yet to complete this year is the creation of a Personnel Manual and Policy for the church. We have a draft policy that Alex Holt provided while at Westside. We are looking for volunteers to review this and revise as necessary to

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fit our church. Preferably we are looking for someone with a Human Resources background to lead this. If you are interested or know someone who is, please contact myself or Sue Anderson.

I have touched on a lot of committee work, but not all the details. I wanted to let you know that the Mid-year committee reports are on our Mid-year Meeting webpage. Since we are not presenting reports from all the committees today, I wanted to end with a presentation of the many committees, task forces and affinity groups that are active at Westside.

(Present slide show of committees, task forces and affinity groups)

Total of all groups 38

First, I would like to ask all members of the board present to stand and remain standing.

Next, if you lead one of our Affinity Groups, please stand and remain standing.

Next, if you participate in one of our Service Groups, please stand and remain standing.

Next, if you are a member of one of our Task Forces, please stand.

Lastly, if you are a member of one of our Standing Committees or Bylaws Committees, please stand.

Take a look around at everyone that is committed to making our church work. I want to thank you all for your dedication and support. You may be seated.