

**EUCC Governing Body
Meeting minutes October 14, 2009**

Present: Laura Bardelmeier, Ken Ulmer, Paul Mack, Wynn Miller, Patty Pelikan, Katy Hawker, Lori Winter, Ruth Panhorst, Debbie Gregg, Lil Lau **Not able to be present:** Laura Evans

Opened with silent meditation and centering at 6:45 pm

Updates

Lori shared two items from the Servant Team: (1) students from the University of Georgia will be in St. Louis March 6-13; (2) she has been contacted about helping find funding for one to three adults who are interested in either a 10-week or 10-month youth ministry internship, connected to EUCC. More details were requested by the Governing Body in order to understand that program's goals and obligations of EUCC.

Laura shared notes from her attendance at a St. Louis Association meeting: attendance at mainline Protestant churches has experienced a decline since 1964 and a steeper decline since 1991, while evangelical churches and mega-churches have grown; this decline may be related to greater acceptance of ambiguity as well as fewer births among an older population at mainline churches. David Greenhaw regularly hosts "Imagine" meetings with area UCC ministers, to discuss growth and budget issues. Katy advised the GB of an emerging church movement, based on structured support for spirituality without being an organized church. She supplied two references to the work of Rob Bell <https://www.rob主ell.com/> and Brian McLaren <http://crcc.org/>. EUCC may need to examine alternate expressions as a congregation. Katy or Laura can inquire into attending "Imagine" meetings.

Gary, accompanied by Paul Kachulis, reported on the building committee's work. A revised plan of structural work will be presented on Sunday, October 18 at a between-services meeting, to relate that the following initial work is to be planned for: insulated roof and drainage system, replace the south wall, integrated HVAC system, and upgraded electrical system, for estimated \$629,000. The elevator is not included due to cost of a usefully-sized unit, for example, to accommodate a gurney: approximately \$271,000. Additional pledges will be invited to accommodate this cost. *Discussion 7:30 to 8:15 pm.*

2010 Budget and Objectives

Ken presented two documents: a budget worksheet as of 10/14/09 and a statement of the EUCC financial position as of 09/30/09. Several scenarios were laid out based on examples of different levels of giving. Ken reported that there presently is a \$12,000 shortfall, whose status has been reported regularly in the News and Notes and bulletins. With revised accounting procedures, and depending on income, this shortfall could be resolved by December. Discussion ensued about where to report certain expenses, and that all in-and-out money is not necessarily specifically assigned or used. Formal approval of the proposed budget did not occur. *Budget discussion 7:15 to 7:30 and 8:15 to 8:40.*

Katy shared that she has been approached by various members about continuing funding for the parish nurse position. She will advise these members that they need to bring a sustainable plan.

Other business

Ken asked GB to approve signatures for checking accounts: Laura B., Paul M., Ken U., and Sue S. Lori moved, Wynn seconded. Minutes from September retreat approved by voice vote.

Due to the late hour, the GB did not consider the following agenda items:

- Review team objectives as related to building the budget to present to the congregation
- Plan an event to share the proposed budget and team objectives
- Shared space policy was not considered

Adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Mack, Secretariat