

## MINUTES – FRIENDS OF SZENTLASZLO MEETING – OCTOBER 9, 2017

Attendees: Rev. Mitra Jafarzadeh, Rev. Alice Diebel, Mary Newman, John Kachuba, Debbie Combs, Emily Hodges, Meg Harman, Nikki Orleemann, Sarah Seibert, Rick Prairie, Mary Darner, and Tom Darner

After lighting a chalice, there was a brief mention of the summer pilgrimages to Transylvania by John, Mary, Debbie and Marc. Tom reported that Power Church shows \$731.53 in the partner church designated fund and \$411.63 in the partner church partner church donations designated fund. The current operating budget shows \$2,850 budget income for partner church with \$200 budgeted for our dues to the UU Partner Church Council and \$2,850 budgeted under mission council for partner church. Tom and Rick will meet with Jim Mc Donough to go over the partner church accounts.

Agenda items:

1. Soup & Bread Luncheons: The first luncheon of the fall will be on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Sufficient volunteers have come forward to staff the luncheon although one or two servers are needed. The following luncheon will be on November 12<sup>th</sup>. Tom and Mary will continue to do the organization, soliciting volunteers, preparing announcements and signage. Rick will continue to be our cashier collecting and depositing luncheon proceeds.
2. Skype calls – Our plan is to have monthly Skype calls. A Skype call with Szentlaszlo is currently scheduled for Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 10 AM in the chapel. The following scheduled call is Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, again 10 AM in the chapel. John and Mitra will work together to develop subject matter for these calls. Debbie Combs will handle set up of equipment and publicity of the calls. It was suggested that the calls include a mix of theology with current day events and life.
3. The group concluded that a paper previously prepared for the Committee on Ministry could provide the basis for a more formal program mission statement. Meg agreed to take the existing paper and condense it into a draft mission statement to be reviewed at our next meeting.

4. Monthly articles potentially with photo(s) will be prepared for e-News and inclusion into the partner church section of the St. John's web site. This would include publicizing any articles/photos from our partner congregation. It was suggested that articles written previously could be used again, an example being "how did St. John's get into the partner church program." Mary, Meg, Emily and Tom will work together on this project. Alice(?) will pursue the exchange with Bela of prayer and/or notes on UU theology.
5. History of Unitarianism – After the series of videos on UU history are completed on Sundays after church, there will be "bite size" history and food offerings by Mitra at 6 pm to catch people on their way home from work. The articles mentioned in 4 above can also be used to relay not only Transylvania Unitarian history but the history of the partner church program in North America.
6. The committee agreed not to pursue a formal partner church Sunday, but to instead find ways to include partner church connections throughout the year in worship services. We discussed having a joint communion service with our partner congregation via Skype.
7. It was decided to postpone efforts with children's RE until later in the church year.
8. Mary will see about getting Sandy Geiser's help with another photo art display for the lobby of the church. John, Mary and Debbie will send some of the photos from their trip to Mary who, working with Sandy, will have the photos enlarged and framed. We may not be able to do such a display for several months.
9. Mitra will explore with Mike the possible translation of "A St. John's Blessing" into Hungarian.
10. Travel to and from Transylvania was discussed. The possibility of a family trip to Transylvania next summer was mentioned. Also mentioned was the idea of having Bela bring some youth with him to St. John's.  
(Since our meeting there has been publicity of "Roots Pilgrimages" to Transylvania offered by the Hungarian Unitarian Church and the UU Partner Church Council. These pilgrimages offer in-depth discussion and sharing of

faith perspectives on a variety of life issues by both Transylvania and American Unitarians.)

11. Tom will do the program's annual report to the congregation at the end of the church year.
12. The next committee meeting will be November 6<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM at the Darner condo.