

St. John's  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

# Congregational Meeting

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June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024



# Call to Order

- Many of the resources for the meeting can be found at:
  - <https://stjohnsuu.org/about-us/our-governance/>
- Meeting Housekeeping
  - When speaking, please state your name.
  - In the sanctuary: please use the microphone when speaking and raise your hand to be called upon.
  - Online: please mute your audio if not speaking. Questions and comments may be posted in the Zoom chat or you may use the Zoom “Raise Hand” function to be recognized by the Zoom co-hosts: Monica & Claire
  - Conducting Congregational Meetings both live and on Zoom requires patience and we may need to move a bit slower at times. Thanks to everyone who is participating and helping it to happen.

# Chalice Lighting

## **Chalice Lighting for the Work of the Congregation by Erik Walker Wikstrom**

As we approach our agenda  
let us remember that we are doing the work of the congregation.  
When we do the work of this church, we touch lives.  
When we touch lives, we change the world.  
May this chalice flame we now kindle  
remind us throughout our meeting  
of our ministry and our mission.

# AGENDA

- Call to Order
- Chalice Lighting
- Verify Quorum and review voting process
- Approve Prior Meeting Minutes
  - June 4, 2023 Annual Congregational Meeting
- State of the Congregation
  - President of the Board-Melissa Rowland
  - Board Covenant-Current Board Members

# AGENDA

- Election of 2024 -2025 Members of the Board
- Election of Leadership Committee & Fund Trustees
- Update on Master Plan
- Vote on 2024 – 2025 Budget
- Announcements
- Adjournment

# Verify Quorum

- Count how many members are in Sanctuary
- Check how many individual members are present in Zoom for each login, including via phone

# Voting Process Online

For those using Zoom, the Zoom host will post a “POLL” for you to respond to. The poll will display all 7 positions requiring a vote. Please scroll down to see them all.

If there are two voting participants using one computer, the second person will post their vote in the chat. This is best done by privately chatting to the Zoom host.

# Approve Prior Meeting Minutes

- Full copies of the minutes can be found at:  
<https://stjohnsuu.org/about-us/our-governance/>
- *Motion to approve the 2023 Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes*



# State of the Congregation

Melissa Rowland-President of the Board of Trustees

# Covenant of the St John's UU Church Board of Trustees as adopted on May 17, 2023

**Framing Statement:** This is a covenant for the Board of Trustees to guide our interactions with each other. We covenant to create a safe, caring community with each other as we do the work of the church. Our commitment to our mission and Unitarian Universalist values guides us as we rise to meet the challenges and decisions of this community.

# Covenant of the St John's UU Church Board of Trustees as adopted on May 17, 2023

1. We agree to treat ourselves with the patience and respect we all deserve. We will remind ourselves that we are worthy and competent individuals, but also that we can't do it all. We will communicate when we need help or when something feels like it is beyond our abilities.

# Covenant of the St John's UU Church Board of Trustees as adopted on May 17, 2023

2. We agree to treat each other with empathy, integrity, and open heartedness, remembering that we all come from different experiences. We will care for each other, recognizing our interdependence.

# Covenant of the St John's UU Church Board of Trustees as adopted on May 17, 2023

3. We work as a team, and so we will take time to welcome each other, check in with each other, and say goodbye to each other in our meetings. Respect for each other's humanity is the foundation upon which we will act.

# Covenant of the St John's UU Church Board of Trustees as adopted on May 17, 2023

4. We agree to make room for community building and spiritual care. We will show up prepared and focused to the best of our ability and take the time for breaks and humor when we need them. We agree to stick to our set meeting times to the best of our ability.

# Covenant of the St John's UU Church Board of Trustees as adopted on May 17, 2023

5. We agree to respect each other's boundaries, including our time and confidentiality. We agree to speak up and be honest with each other, and we agree to listen and acknowledge what is said. We will make our personal boundaries clear to each other.

# Covenant of the St John's UU Church Board of Trustees as adopted on May 17, 2023

6. We want our space to be a space for growth. To facilitate growth, we agree to check for understanding and encourage questions and discussions. We will take time for learning.



# Covenant of the St John's UU Church Board of Trustees as adopted on May 17, 2023

7. We recognize that we will make mistakes. When this happens, we agree to take the time to debrief, clarify what happened, apologize, learn from mistakes, and make changes to our processes. We will use positive and non-blaming language to discuss our mistakes (eg. “I need to give feedback”). We will return to this covenant and to our principles as Unitarian Universalists and use mistakes to grow and change.

# Covenant of the St John's UU Church Board of Trustees as adopted on May 17, 2023

8. We will work toward consensus, continuing discussion or postponing decisions if needed. Once a decision is made, we will speak with one voice.

# Election of 2022 – 2023 Board Members

Report of the Leadership Committee regarding slate of candidates

- Vice President: Wanda Crawford
- Secretary: Monica Pellman
- Finance Director: Meredith Green

[Note: Board appointments require Congregational Vote today]

# Election of Leadership Committee & Fund Trustee Candidates

## Leadership Committee slate of candidates

- Emily Hodges
- Rich Overturf

## Fund Trustee Committee slate of candidates

- Linda Heath
- Nancy Johnson

St. John's  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

# Master Planning Congregational Update

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June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024



Thanks to the commitment, generosity and flexibility of the congregation, we were able to do some great things last year...



# Capital Campaign

- Thanks to the generosity of the Congregation, we have received pledges of over \$1M, exceeding our stretch goal. We were able to pay for the repairs to the Sanctuary facade without taking out a loan.
- We have received payments of over \$740,000!

# Sanctuary Façade Work Completion

- We survived the construction! And it came in under budget!

- Completed Work at \$566,250
  - \$ 77,729 less than Initial bid
  - \$ 52,290 savings from Signed Contract with Beischel

**2022 FACADE REPAIRS**  
**ST. JOHN'S UUC**  
320 RESOR AVE.  
CINCINNATI, OH 45220

PERMIT / BID - 06/17/2022

OWNER: **ST. JOHN'S UUC**  
320 RESOR AVE.  
CINCINNATI, OH 45220  
(T) (513) 961-1958  
www.stjohnsuuc.org

ARCHITECT: **MSA DESIGN**  
318 W. FOURTH STREET  
6TH FLOOR  
CINCINNATI, OH 45202  
(T) (513) 241-5666  
www.msaarch.com

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER: **THP LIMITED, INC.**  
100 E. EIGHTH STREET  
CINCINNATI, OH 45202  
(T) (513) 241-3222  
www.thp1td.com

**CODE NOTES**


**SHEET INDEX**

**VICINITY MAP**

**2022 FACADE REPAIRS**  
ST. JOHN'S UUC  
320 RESOR AVE.  
CINCINNATI, OH 45220

PROJECT NO: 202204  
DRAWING DATE:  
COVER SHEET

**GO.0**





**So... what comes next?**



# Discussions with Architects

- There are two options we wanted to have more detail around, as they align well with our Congregation's priorities. We've asked for a proposal from Architects on:
  - Rosa Parks & Lower Level
    - Religious Education
    - Hosting Families
    - Family Restrooms
    - Maintenance (windows, asbestos, airflow)
  - Welcome Center
    - Updated Restrooms
    - ADA / Accessibility
    - Improved Entrance

# Why do we need a Proposal?

- A proposal is not a contract. No cost to us.
- We have good faith pricing on options, but it lacks details and timelines.
- Some options are easily within our budget. Some are easily outside of it. These two represent the fuzzy area in between.
- We are at the point where the details and helping reduce that fuzziness is important.

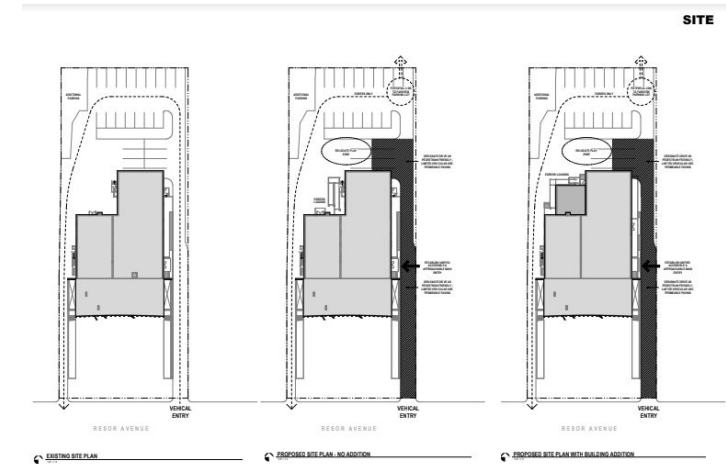
# How do we finalize the options?

- The Master Planning team will use the Architect's proposal to help shape our own proposal. This is based on:
  - The feedback we've gotten from Congregants
  - Our financial status after paying for the Sanctuary.
  - The strength of our Capital Campaign (and continued support of pledges!)
  - Contributions from Church Assets (\$100K commitment from the board)



# How do you get involved? A potential timeline

- **June** – Receive Proposal & discuss options as subcommittee
- **July** – Discuss with incoming board and make recommendation
- **August / September** – Input and Information sessions with the broader congregation
- **September** – Vote!



# Remember...

This is the fun part of the process, when we get to  
improve our Church!

Questions?



# Announcements

- ★ Read the ENews to find info on Article II
  - Click the link to the survey and fill it out
    - Educate St John's delegates on your thoughts about Article II
  
- ★ The results of the election are:

# Adjournment

**We did it!**