

## **UCC Annual Meeting Minutes - February 27, 2022**

[Board Members were seated on green chairs facing the front row of the Sanctuary; wooden lectern with mic stand at base of the stairs. Two Recording Secretaries, The Reverends Judy Tafelski and Rob Hammock, volunteered to compile notes for meeting minutes. Annual Meeting materials are distributed (and available by email or snail mail upon request by active voting members). An approximate count of voting members is recorded (50 present in person; about 10 present by livestream); our meeting is being recorded and it is helpful for speakers to speak the names of folks making motions/seconds/comments clearly into the microphone.

Present: Co-Presidents of Leadership and Community Development, Mary Haviland and Sylvia Alvarez; President of Prosperity (Treasurer) Deb Larkin (with us by livestream); Don Simon, President of Communications (Secretary); Pat Warren, President of Service; Grant Dansby, President of Hospitality, and Sr. Minister, Leddy Hammock; Financial Manager, Maria DeRee, and our Ministry Team: The Reverends Rob Hammock, Judy Tafelski, Cynthia Mackey, Mary MacKenzie, Sue Riley and Leddy Hammock (Magie Cook, Life Coach, is with us in Spirit).

The meeting is called to order about 12:20 pm by Co-President of Leadership Development, Mary Haviland, introducing herself and welcoming all to the 2022 Annual Meeting of the not for profit corporation, Unity-Clearwater, Inc., also known as Unity Church of Clearwater. Mary Haviland stated that, although only voting members can participate in this meeting, all are welcome to attend and active members are welcome to share comments by the chat function on livestream. Mary Haviland invited our Sr. Minister, The Reverend Dr. Leddy Hammock, to welcome us with an opening prayer.

Mary Haviland welcomed Don Simon, our President of Communications; Grant Dansby, our President of Hospitality; and Pat Warren, our President of Service, to read aloud our Church Mission Statement and our Church Vision Statement, in turn, followed by a brief Spiritual Baptism blessing by our Ministry Team, led by our Sr. Minister, The Reverend Dr. Leddy Hammock.

Mary Haviland then called upon our Sr. Minister to announce the intention of ordering two especially engraved bricks for our Prayer Walk in honor of retiring Board Members, Mary Haviland and Sylvia Alvarez, in appreciation for their lovingly serving terms on our Board, for our new Prayer Walk, as follows:

SYLVIA ALVAREZ 2019-2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNITY OF CLEARWATER and  
MARY HAVILAND 2019 – 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNITY OF CLEARWATER.

*(Applause followed.)*

Sylvia Alvarez entertained a motion to accept the minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting as shared by e-news (with available at today's meeting) as approved by the active and voting membership. The motion to accept last year's minutes as read was made by Don Simon and seconded by Sue Hammock. The motion carried unanimously.

Sylvia Alvarez asked whether there were any questions or comments regarding the 2021 Treasurer's Report / Financial Report, as had been made available to members on request through a link sent by email and shared here for active voting members who may request a copy; she noted the availability of our Financial Manager, Maria DeRee, to respond to questions or comments and noted the presence of our President of Prosperity (Treasurer to the Board), Deb Larkin, by livestream and encouraged interested members to raise their hands or comment by chat to livestream; no formal comments were offered at this time, but enthusiastic smiles and nods were evident.

Sylvia Alvarez noted that the Board of Directors is empowered to call for a regular review of the Church accounts by a Certified Public Accountant so as to assure that all is maintained in good order and/or to invite active voting members with experience in accounting to serve on a yearly Accounting Review Team and that we are very grateful for the wise counsel of CPA, Steven Regier (our Sr. Minister's eldest son, recent Chief Financial Officer of the Kearney Medical Center) and also for assistance from Board Member, Pat Warren, and former Board Member, Deb Frisch, who volunteer on our Accounting Review Team also. She welcomed other interested folks with backgrounds in accounting to volunteer. There being no further questions or comments, Sylvia Alvarez entertained a motion to accept the Financial Report for filing for review; so moved by Sue Riley, seconded by The Reverend Mary MacKenzie and unanimously affirmed by a show of hands.

Sylvia Alvarez called attention to Section 5, Article IV of the UCC Bylaws, regarding the election of Board members, which has been shared for review by email and available for participating members upon request. Sylvia Alvarez then called upon Karen Erickson, Chair of the current Nominating Committee (who was appointed by the other two Nominating Committee Members – Welcome Team Leader, Jeff Jones, representing the membership and Board Member, Deb Larkin, representing the Board of Directors – to stand and announce the names of our two new candidates to the Board. Karen Erickson announced the names of Trina Anderson and Sam Derrera as this year's candidates selected by the Nominating Committee. Sylvia Alvarez invited the candidates to rise; applause followed. Sylvia Alvarez noted that since no other nominations were received as of ninety days prior to this meeting, as provided by our Bylaws, she would entertain a motion to record a unanimous acceptance of both of these candidates to the Board of Directors; so moved by Karen Erickson, seconded by Jeff Jones, and unanimously affirmed by a show of hands. Sylvia Alvarez welcomed Trina Anderson and Sam Derrera to join the Board on either side of the lectern and noted that the next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for Wednesday evening, March 30 at 8:00 pm by Zoom. Congratulations and applause followed.

Sylvia Alvarez then entertained a nomination and a second of an active voting member of our Church for the congregation's Representative to this year's Nominating Committee, as per our Bylaws. Pat Warren nominated our Welcome Team Leader, Sherri Wallace, who confirmed her acceptance of the nomination when asked by Sylvia Alvarez, who then called for a second to the nomination. Karen Erickson seconded the nomination. Sylvia Alvarez entertained a motion to close the nominations. Pat Warren so moved; Karen Erickson seconded the motion, approved by all by a show of hands. Sylvia Alvarez noted that Board Member, Pat Warren, had volunteered to represent the Board of Directors on the Nominating Committee. Sylvia Alvarez noted that the two would be called upon later in the year to appoint a third active voting member to serve as Chair of the Nominating Committee to select two new candidates for the Board in the autumn of the year. Sylvia Alvarez encouraged all who were not already active voting members to become eligible to serve on the Board and express their interest to Board Members or Nominating Committee Members during the coming year. Sylvia Alvarez invited our Sr. Minister to share a brief message with the congregation on this anniversary of Leddy's forty-first year of service at UCC.

Leddy Hammock greeted the congregation and shared a brief message (with slides/video) of encouragement, including updates on the status of construction plans for the new Church Home that is being built for us and invites questions or comments from the membership. Applause followed. Current construction plans are on display at the rear of the Sanctuary. Leddy Hammock also shared that a Building Fund brokerage account has been set up through a gift by anonymous donors to provide matching funds for gifts to Unity Church of Clearwater's Building Fund up to \$100,000. We are grateful! God is our instant, constant, abundant Source!

There being no further business for this year's Annual Meeting, Sylvia Alvarez asked our Sr. Minister to conclude the meeting with a prayer about 1:00 pm. Leddy Hammock thanked the congregation on behalf of our Ministry Team and Board of Directors for their loving kindness, constant generosity, and faithful service as we go forth in peace, making peace, living gently, loving mightily, ever grateful for the unlimited blessings of the Most High, leading all present in this affirmation: "In our Unity of purpose, we are guided by infinite wisdom, renewed by abundant life and prospered by divine Love and so it is and so we let it be. Peace be with us all. Amen."

Submitted with blessings by

Associate Ministers, The Reverend Judy Tafelski and The Reverend Robert Hammock