

**Board of Trustees Special Meeting Minutes
April 9, 2026**

Vision:

Transforming Lives Through Divine Love

Mission:

Together We Nurture Spiritual Awakening, Cultivate Loving Community,
Serve Generously.

Collective Intention for Our 15th Year:

We are Creating Transformative Opportunities.

Attendees:

Minister			Secretary	Valerie McCloskey	X
President	Jan Larsen	X	Keeper of the Flame	Michelle Hayes	X
Vice President	John Fanta	X	Guest	Gail Parker	X
Treasurer	John Fanta	X			

Call to Order: Jan Larsen

Time: 6:00 PM

Opening Prayer: Jan Larsen

1. Discussion Regarding Congregational Feedback:

- a. The Board reviewed multiple emails from congregants expressing their perspectives regarding the blessing of the offering basket, and the Board's acceptance of Sherry Well's resignation. Jo Young has resigned her membership in the church due to these events.
- b. The Board discussed the "Karpman Drama Triangle" as a framework for understanding the current conflict.
- c. The Board decided to cancel the scheduled "Discernment" meeting for Sunday April 12th. In place of this meeting the Board proposed a "Community Circle" to give congregants the opportunity to express their feelings on how things are going. The Community Circle format uses a talking stick and two minute time limits for individuals to share I statements without Board defense or debate.
- d. John Fanta will reach out to Reverend Tracy Laveque regarding facilitating this Community Circle as an impartial outside party who has facilitated FoU Visioning in the past.
- e. Gail Parker will draft and send an email to the congregation announcing the cancellation of the Sunday meeting. Jan Larsen will respond to emails from Linda Grosscup and Jo Young. John Fanta will respond to Dean Georgoff and Phil Ernsen.

Friends of Unity

2. Future Leadership and Spiritual Director Model:

- a. John Fanta proposed a shift in strategy: instead of waiting for increased income to hire a spiritual leader, the Board could approach a candidate to ask if they are interested in the Spiritual Director role and what their financial requirements would be, then let the congregation vote on that specific proposal.
- b. The Board will review this suggestion at the April 19th Board Meeting before taking further action.

3. Treasurer and Administrative Business:

- a. Discretionary Tithes: The Board selected Samaritans (for February, \$198) and Detroit Rescue Mission (for March, \$147) as tithe recipients.
- b. Depreciation: It was noted that church assets, excluding the newer Lenovo laptop, are fully depreciated.
- c. Decision: The April regular Board meeting is moved to April 19th.
 - a. The May Board meeting is moved to May 17th to avoid Mother's Day.

Closing Prayer: Prayer for Protection

Meeting Adjourned: 7:36 PM

Board Meeting Calendar:

- April 19, 2026 following the Swap Party
- May 17, 2026
- June 14, 2026
- July 12, 2026