

UUSJ Meeting Minutes

September 5th at 3:00 p.m.

Present: Rev. Peggy Clark, Chloe Emily Ockey, Mariano Vera, Rev. Kristen Schmidt, Vonna Heaton, Sandra Wilmore, Rev. Latifah, Jan Pierce, Dan Schneider, Meleah Houseknecht, Pablo De Jesus

- Report from Pablo (with focus on current federal issues)
 - Everyone is worried about a potential shutdown - now at a higher chance after August. Congress' attention is at negotiating
 - 10.5 out of 12 pieces regarding appropriations have yet to be touched
 - Farm Bill - continuing resolution of some sort proposed within a week or so. Current leads want the Farm Bill done by the end of the year.
 - Conversation around Fentanyl is emerging as staffers look for a point of agreement between divides
 - Pablo is talking with our teams to help them understand now is the time for relationship building and "deep tissue advocacy"
 - A similar update is expected for October
 - Might see an escalation arc as we move into the new year
 - A couple of upcoming events
 - October / November might be a good time to invite our members into a conversation / briefing & open house dynamic conversation
- Power Sunday Planning - Rev. Peggy and Rev. Kristen
 - In progress - more information coming soon!
- Treasurer's Report - Mariano
 - Slow month for donations on both congregational and individual levels
 - Full report was sent email, more complex version will be sent by Paulette
- Committee Reports
 - Finance Committee - Meleah
 - First meeting several weeks ago
 - Focusing on roles and responsibilities
 - Next two things:
 - Setting a formal policy around an operating reserve - Finance committee is working on a recommendation for the board
 - How we can be reporting (monthly or quarterly) to the board on spending vs. budget in a way that is rooted in our mission and goals for a year. The goal is values based discussion on a regular basis!
 - Development (Discussion) - Rev. Kristin & Meleah
 - Date and time is set for regular monthly meetings
 - Introducing a Development scorecard at each meeting
 - A policy regarding board expectations
 - 1 on 1 check ins with each board member for in depth discussion regarding comfort levels in terms of engagement and development
- Management vs. Governance Boards
 - There is a serious discrepancy between members of what our role is as a board

