

WNYACIC Council

Minutes for October 21, 2024

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86063962940> Meeting ID: 860 6396 2940

1. Call Meeting to order - *Rev. Elizabeth Duffy*
2. Opening Prayer/Devotional
3. Approval of Minutes from previous meetings –
 - a. *September 16 minutes received*
 - b. *Once we have minutes we will put them on the Area website*
4. Review Financial Report - Rev. Lynn Morgan – *attached*
5. Review COM Report - *no report*
6. Review Conference Report - Rev. Gary Ferner - *attached*
7. Discussion Items
 - a. Plan for November 9 Annual Meeting
 - i. *Rev. Gary Ferner will be there and he will speak on behalf of the conference*
 - ii. *Registration begins at 9am, Meeting starts at 9:30am.*
 - iii. *Rev. Hope Schwartz and Epiphany will plan a short worship service.*
 - iv. *Business - nominations/budget*
 - v. *Nominations: Dona Moderator, Krista Associate Moderator, Vanessa Secretary*
 - vi. *A light lunch will be served*
 - vii. *After the meeting there is a packing event for the Emergency Supply Kits.*
 - b. *Ruth Snyder's team working on updates to the Constitution/Bylaws - will present in January*
 - c. *Michelle will send an e-mail letter to all pastors requesting that they join a committee/council/COM.*
8. Review Other Reports (please reply all to the email with any reports)
 - a. *Interfaith activities and UCHS/Senior Wishes*
 - i. *the Network of Religious Communities has postponed its Appreciation Dinner until the Spring - more info to come*
 - ii. *the NRC will be holding its Interfaith Thanksgiving service - info to be announced soon.*
 - iii. *we shared information via email about a statement for religious leaders (and others) to sign onto about the importance of not letting religion and politics divide us. There will be a press conference on Nov. 3*

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- iv. *UCHS/Senior Wishes will be delivering Hero Boxes for Veterans and will be starting its Christmas drive soon.*

9. Closing Prayer/Devotional

- 10. Last meeting of this year: November 18, 2024, 7pm. (I will not be at this meeting since I'll be away)
 - a. Meetings are on the Third Monday of the Month

WNYACIC Treasurer's Report — October 2024

Again, this month the salient point of my report is our operating deficit, which is (\$8,738.95) as of this writing. Our income, year over year, is about \$1000 ahead. This year, however, we are expending our budget more fully than in the recent past which is revealing the strain that has been masked but the reduced activity (and costs) in the immediate post-Covid era which has ended.

Several churches have paid their Covenant Share and Per Capita assessments in response to the letters mailed out last month with year-to-date reports of congregational giving. This last quarter of the year is always crucial to reveal if we will finish the year in deficit or in balance. I will remind folks at the Annual Meeting of the need to get year-end giving under way.

All our obligations are paid to date, and we are reconciled with all bank statements. Our operational cash balance on hand is \$13,629.73.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Morgan
10/1/24

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Council

October, 2024

(September numbers)

The Numbers: 32 new Ministerial Profiles arrived for circulation
6 UCCNY Ministerial Profiles validated
0 new Settled Pastoral positions posted on Opportunities
0 new Interim positions posted
6 requests for UCC Pastoral Profile to go to UCCNY churches
1 requests for a Non-UCC Profile to go to UCCNY churches
22 Postings on the Opportunities Web Page
20 Churches need the Congregational Welcoming Diversity Inventory
0 Churches completed the CWDI
0 new Pastors Called

43 UCCNY Churches currently in transition:

Gary: 16 searches
Ryan: 0 searches (on Sabbatical)
Marjorie: 8 searches
Marsha: 7 searches
Barbara: 7 searches
Noel: 6 searches

Total 44 Searches

Congregations with Intentional Interims: Bayberry, Carthage, Webster, Mt. Rise

Congregations Assisted: 20

Organizations Assisted: 3

Pastors Assisted: 33

The Basics:

Managed and forwarded UCCNY U.S. Mail, prepared checks received for deposit.

Maintained and updated *Churches in Transition* spreadsheet.

Attended UCCNY Staff Check-ins.

Met with and assisted Rev. Noel Vanek in his search and call work as Conference Ministry Associate in Metro, approved his timesheets.

Attended Western COM September Meeting

Worked with multiple congregations seeking to re-purpose or sell their building.

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Noted increased difficulties with the new Local Church Profile portal.
Assisted Oneida Association COM while Marjorie was on Sabbatical
Fielded numerous inquiries from authorized ministers looking to initiate a
Ministerial Profile and complete background check.
Researched history for several UCCNY congregations in our stored files.

Projects: *Modifying UCCNY Call Agreement Template to align with UCCNY
Conference Guidelines, Draft Search and Call Policy for Churches not in covenant, Build
a quarterly Search and Call zoom for churches in transition, Property disposition: 2417
Tilden Avenue, Brooklyn, Connecting with Jeff Nelson from MESA re: LCP portal
difficulties.*

Challenges: As usual, find balance in meeting the needs of churches and pastors
in transition

Allocation of Time:

Email, phone calls, in person meetings:	<i>Search and Call: 50%</i>
Mail, managing other projects, Staff meetings:	<i>Admin: 20%</i>
Association and pastor needs:	<i>30%</i>
Vacation days (4-hour days) taken in 2024: 12 (no change)	