President Christine Organ called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
Kathi shared the opening reading ("Don't Quit" by John Greenleaf Whittier) and board members recited the BOT covenant.

**Attendance:**
- Jeanie Michalec
- Kristin Huston
- Joy Simon
- George Motto
- duRhee Bryant
- Christine Organ
- Kathryn Hillyer
- Marcus White

**Absent:**
- Karen Epps
- Hilary Krivchenia (leave)

**Consent Agenda:**
1. June BOT Meeting Minutes
2. June Financials
3. July Finance Meeting Minutes

Marcus pointed out that we were able to complete the 2017-18 reinstatement list with the surplus remaining at the end of the 2017-18 fiscal year. There is approximately $6,700 additional funds after that.

Kathi moved to accept the consent agenda, (including one revision to the Finance Committee minutes, changing December to June) Joy seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Updates from Board Committees:**

**Executive Team:**

duRee, Christine and Laurie met last week and discussed the plan to have potlucks after church service next year rather than Circle Suppers. These would happen approximately once a month. A group would be responsible for set-up and clean-up for each potluck and the Board of Trustees will be hosting either October or November. This would also be the 25th anniversary party for the church. Jeanie asked about Circle Suppers and whether or not we could do both. She will discuss with Marty Farrington to take over the leadership of this event and keep it going.
Raja Krishnamoorthi will be hosting a town hall meeting on gun reform here at the church on Wednesday, August 8. Dan Yokas is taking the lead on this. It is a non-partisan event.

There will be a fall planning session for Ministry Council on August 26, after church. This is for the committee chairs as well as the ministry coordinators.

**Finance:**

Marcus raised the idea of revising the current year’s budget to a higher amount to allow reinstating some of the delayed budget items immediately. This would allow us to start the process of bringing the staff up to mid-range on salary. When we developed the budget in April we were working with a certain amount of money in pledges, but ended up with higher pledges. Marcus presented two options, one more conservative than the other as to how much to increase the budget.

Jeanie moved to use option B (add $13,400 to the budget), Joy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Foundations/Operations:**

Kristin will be meeting with Faith in Place and looking at lighting. She pointed out that the LumaStream proposal does not address the exterior lighting issues (parking lot and exterior building), as those lights are on the most and the most expensive. Faith in Place will give us an impartial opinion on what the best direction to go would be. Kristin asked, what is our ultimate goal with this? First of all, to save money (using the solar panels to help); secondly, to be more green. Are we looking to save money and be green?

Once Kristin gets the information the BOT will look at options in terms of lighting.

**Personnel:**

Joy said the scheduled meeting was cancelled.

**Special Task Forces/Teams:**

**Governance Process/Policies:**

Kathi reported that the Policy and Procedures manual is now online. She worked with Laurie to get it up on the CCUU website. As additional changes need to be made she’ll update it, but it is now accessible by everyone on the site.

**Safety:**

No report

**New Business:**

1. **Onboarding – responsibilities, goals for 18/19, assignments committees/teams**

   Christine welcomed the new members of the Board. She talked about how collaborative and cooperative the Board of Trustees is.

   Christine’s main responsibilities at this time are: Executive Team, getting the search committee going. She’d like us in the future to work more on Social Action and Social Justice issues and sees that we’re already moving forward. She’d like to advance our financial health even more, possibly with the mortgage paydown. She’d like us to continue with positive stewardship, as we did this past year.
Joy’s responsibilities are: Personnel. Her goals are also aligned with Social Action and Social Justice.

Kathi’s responsibilities are: Secretary (taking minutes) and the Operations Manual. Her goals are to reduce the “silos” separating different parts of the CCUU community. She said the potlucks will help, particularly if there are creative ways to mix people up to sit with those they don’t know.

duR ee’s responsibilities are: Vice President, oversee the Ministry Council, serve on the Executive Team. The Ministry Council is moving from once a month meetings to three times a year. She sees moving staff into a better position in terms of salary and benefits as an important goal.

Marcus’s responsibilities: Treasurer, in charge of the Finance Committee. The FC is made up of the Comptroller (Gary LaBedz) and two past treasurers (Greg Blus and Bob Spielman). As Treasurer, he has no direct access to the financial accounts. His goals are also to continue the positive stewardship action, which resulted in higher pledges. Another immediate goal is to make sure the calendarization of the 18-19 budget is in line with historical trends (which often aren’t monthly).

George’s responsibilities: Board representative to the North Property Team. His goal is to understand things he doesn’t understand to better serve. He likes to plan and integrate. He asks how can we distinguish ourselves and bring in more people.

Kristin’s responsibilities: Serve on the Foundations and Operations team. She is the link to Laurie on building issues. Her goals are to work on the lighting issues and continue to be involved in RE.

Jeanie’s responsibilities: She also works in RE, with the high school students. She is committed to the Welcoming Congregation, working on safety. Her goal is to have people learn what we do and to come in. She thinks we need to do more publicizing of what we do. She’s also taking over Circle Suppers.

Christine said she needs someone to work with Linda Berry on the staff salary and benefits improvements and will have George and Jeanie work on that.

Karen’s Responsibilities: Safety. Her goals: to help us continue forward on a path to financial security, to implement a building safety plan and to continue enhancing the connectedness of our CCUU community.

2. Chicago Coalition of Welcoming Congregations

The membership fee is $250 to be part of this group, which is aligned with our mission and values. This information was sent to us through Mike Gilley’s group, and this group is not just UU congregations. The question was raised as to where the funds would come from to pay the membership. Jeanie will contact the group and say that we are very interested and working on the financing. duR ee will bring it up at the fall Ministry Council meeting.

3. Board-coordinated potluck

   Discussed earlier.

4. Mortgage refinancing

   Christine talked to Greg Blus about trying to pay down the mortgage. He suggested that in the fall, tied in with the 25th anniversary, try to get people to
donate to paying down part of the mortgage. This would be a short plan, about 6 weeks as we’d need to know the amount raised by the end of November (the mortgage will be refinanced in January 2019).

There was a discussion about how to recognize people who donate; how to recommend an amount for people to donate; building in a budget line item each year to dedicate a certain amount of money to paying down the mortgage. One idea was to dedicate the $6,700 surplus from this year toward the budget, then build in a line item in the 19-20 budget and going forward.

Christine said we need to get data on who the top donors to the church are and those who are most committed to paying down the mortgage.

Joy moved that we start a pay down the mortgage campaign in conjunction with the 25th anniversary. duRee seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Christine will ask Greg Blus and Karen Epps to spearhead the project. She will ask Laurie for a list of the top 25 donors.

Ongoing Business:

1. **Capital Expense Projections**
   Handout provided for our information, also on the Drive.

2. **LumaStream lighting proposal**
   Waiting for Faith in Place energy audit.

3. **DLRE Search**
   They’ve had two meetings and are in the process of creating the job description.

4. **Minister Leave Procedures**
   Will wait until Hilary returns.

Looking Towards Next BOT Meeting: August 15, at 7:00 p.m.

- Readings:
  - August – Kristin
  - September – Marcus
  - October – Karen

Action Items:

Sunday Announcements:

- July 22 – duRee
- July 29 – Joy
- August 5 – Maryanne
- August 12 – Karen
- August 19 – Kathi

Closing Reading
Adjournment