

# Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana

*Seeking the Spirit, Building Community, Changing the World*

## Special Congregational Meeting Minutes

April 28, 2024



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Submitted by Regina DiLamore, Secretary

### Opening

President Abby Gitlitz called the special congregational meeting to order at 12:09 p.m. and explained its purpose: to vote on whether to call Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray as the new settled minister. With over 250 members attending, the church met the quorum requirement of having more than a third of its 446 members present. The Chalice was lit at 12:11 p.m.

### Meeting Logistics

President Gitlitz explained the meeting logistics:

1. Brief comments from the Ministerial Search Committee
2. Motion to Call
3. 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion
4. Questions and Comments
5. Voting
6. Board Members Tally Votes
7. Presentation of Vote Results

President Gitlitz further explained that the members present will use paper ballots and online members will vote online when the vote is called. Bylaws require a supermajority vote of 90% approval from members present for Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray to be called as the settled minister. In practice, most ministers decline calls with less than a 95% approval rate. If Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray

is not called, then the ministerial search will begin with another search committee, new congregational record, with the goal of the search to conclude with a ministerial call in April 2025. Reverend Connie Grant may stay an additional year, or a new interim minister would be hired.

## **Ministerial Search Committee Comments**

The Ministerial Search Committee consisting of Mary Beth O'Brien, Mike McGregor, Christine Banister, Olayo Fernández Gayol, Von Welch, Ann Kamman, and Denise Breeden-Ost all spoke individually. Each committee member thanked the Congregation for the opportunity to be on the Ministerial Search Committee and for the Congregation's participation in the search process. They described the process of searching for candidates and then introduced and endorsed Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray. The committee asked for the congregation's vote. Denise Breeden-Ost moved to call Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray as UUCB's new settled minister. The motion was seconded by acclamation.

## **Congregational Questions and Comments**

One member commented on the positive influence Reverend Susan Frederick-Grant has had on her life.

## **Congregational Vote**

President Gitlitz provided instructions for in-person and online voting. The Congregation voted and Board members collected and tallied the votes.

During the tally, President Gitlitz described next steps if the vote is favorable.

President Gitlitz invited the Congregation to the June 9 Congregational Meeting.

## **Vote Results**

The result of the vote was delivered at 12:40 p.m. There was a 100% vote in favor of calling Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray to UUCB as follows:

In favor: 272

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray was called to be the settled minister of UUCB.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12:42 p.m. Following adjournment Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray accepted the call to be the called minister at UUCB.