**Special All-Congregation Meeting**

**May 19, 2024**

Boart of Trustees: Gary O’Connell (President), Jimmy Reeves (Vice president), Jane Horrell (Secretary), Robert Demko, Kathy Gillcrist, Jeannie Lennon, Dennis McCulley, Michael Sheridan, Fran Strauss

Settled Search Committee: Sara Jarvis, Dan Wheat-Rivers, Stephen Axhelm, Thea Hagepanos, Bob Harootyan, Cornelia Maxted

Members of the Board of Trustees checked-in congregants and ensured in-person voting members had paper ballots. Members of the Search Committee checked members in on Zoom.

Board of Trustees President Gary O’Connell stated the meeting goals:

* + Establish a Quorum –total of 35 members (20% of total membership of 173) either present or on zoom required to establish quorum.
  + Elect parliamentarian, Doris Chew. A simple majority is needed. Vote taken by raise of hands.
  + Move to call Alyssa Lee as minister and approve the Ministerial Agreement.
  + Open the motion for discussion about the merits of the motion. Speakers must be recognized by the chair to speak and use the microphone. Members on Zoom use the chat box.
  + Call the vote\*. Per our bylaws, the motion will pass if 80% of those present and voting approve the motion.
  + Board of Trustees Vice President, Jimmy Reeves, will immediately tally the vote and report the results.
  + Alyssa Lee returns to hear the results.
  + Pending a positive outcome, there will be a celebration in Dobkin Hall including cake and champagne.

*\*Note: the vote was not if Alyssa Lee is the best minister for you. We were voting to see if the congregation agrees that:*

* *the Search Process was comprehensive, inclusive, and collaborative*
* *that the congregation was heard and represented accurately*
* *that we agree that the Search Committee believes the candidate is a good match for the congregation’s needs,*
* *and most importantly, if the congregation is willing to move into a shared ministry partnership with Alyssa Lee*

Gary called the meeting to order at 11:45am. Gary read the Mission; Jimmy lit the chalice:

The Mission of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington is to:

Be a community of individuals who accept and support each other,   
celebrating our diversity and commonality in a safe and nurturing   
environment that embraces a wide range of spiritual beliefs and practices.

Offer diverse formal and informal worship services and forums that cultivate our spiritual and intellectual growth.

Provide vibrant religious education for youth and adults that encourages   
free expression of ideas in the search for meaning.

Engage in social action that promotes justice, freedom and compassion   
in the greater community.

Accept our shared responsibility for the health and well-being of our   
congregation and the larger UU community.

Foster friendships and fun by gathering for social activities.

**Quorum**: A quorum of 20% of 173 members is required, 35 members present is necessary. 114 voting members, both in person and on Zoom, were counted and a quorum was confirmed.

[**Parliamentarian**](https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=52e99386060f6961&rlz=1C1GCFB_enUS1102US1102&q=parliamentarian&spell=1&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjInJ65oZyGAxX948kDHeNEAnAQkeECKAB6BAgJEAE)**:** A majority vote, taken by raise of hands, required to establish a Parliamentarian.

Board of Trustees Vice President Jimmy Reeves read the motion: “On behalf of the Board of Trustees I move that we elect Doris Chew to serve as our Parliamentarian for the Special All Congregation Meeting on May 19, 2024”.

As the Board was putting forward the motion, no second is needed. There were no congregants that wished to discuss. Gary proceeded to the vote.

A majority was met and Gary moved that Doris Chew was elected the meeting’s Parliamentarian.

**Call for Motion to** Call Alyssa Lee: Gary recognized Settled Search Committee representative Sara Jarvis. Sara read the motion:

Whereas, UUCWNC recognizes the importance of selecting a settled minister who aligns with the values and mission of our congregation; and

Whereas, the search committee has diligently reviewed potential candidates and presented a qualified nominee for settled ministry; and

Whereas, the congregation has had the opportunity to engage with the nominee through various means such as candidate sermons, meet-and-greet sessions, and congregational committee meetings; and

Whereas, it is imperative for the continued growth and vitality of our congregation to have stable and effective spiritual leadership;

Therefore, I move to call Alyssa Lee as our new Settled Minister of UUCWNC and approve the Ministerial Agreement that the Search Team negotiated, presented to the Board of Trustees, was approved by the Board and mailed to all current members on May 1, 2024.

Gary asked for a second. Gary stated it was moved and seconded to call Alyssa Lee as new Settled Minister of UUCWNC and for approval of the Ministerial Agreement that the Search Team negotiated, presented to the Board, was approved by the Board and mailed to all current members on May 1, 2024.

Gary called for discussion, both in person and via Zoom. Seeing no discussion on the floor or in the Zoom chat box, a motion to vote was presented.

Gary asked in person members to mark their ballots “yes” or ‘no” and place in the basket to be counted. The ballots were presented to Jimmy to count. Dan Wheat-Rivers received the poll from those attending on Zoom.

Upon tallying the ballots, both in person and on Zoom, Jimmy presented the total to Gary. Gary announced:

100% of the 114 members present and voting were in favor of the motion. As 100% of the votes have approved this motion, which exceeds the required 80% required:

**The motion to call Alyssa Lee as the new Settled Minister of UUCWNC**

**and approve the Ministerial Agreement was passed UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:08pm. Alyssa returned and the celebration commenced.