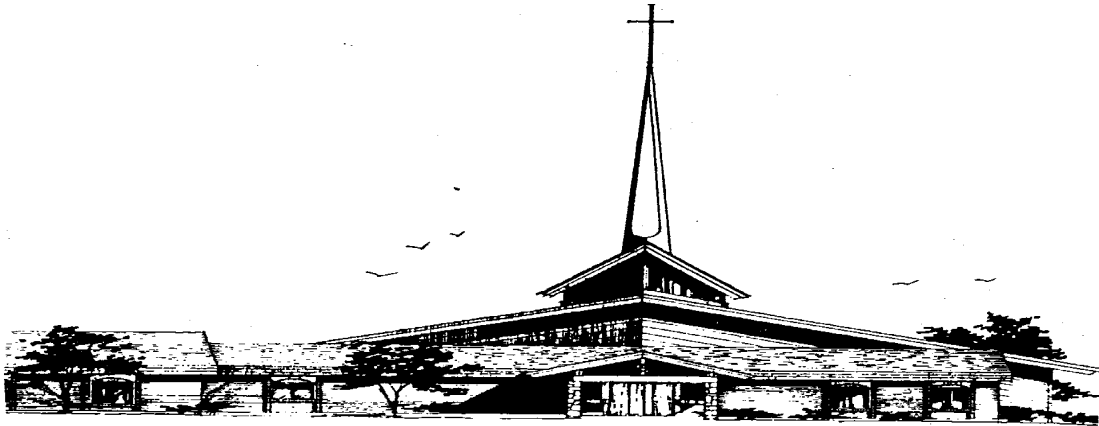


2017 ANNUAL REPORT

UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2707 5th ST., MONROE, WI 53566



2017 Staff

Moderator:	REV. CLARA D. THOMPSON, MODERATOR
E-mail:	claradthompson@gmail.com
Administrative Assistant:	LISA HALE
E-mail:	unionpresoffice@tds.net
Choir Director:	MAT ANDERSON
Accompanist:	MARY SODDY
Percussion Ensemble Director:	SARAH BODELL
Sunday School Assistant:	NATALEE VAVRA

Officers

Clerk of Session:	GEORGE VERNON
Church Treasurer:	PAUL NELSON
Financial Secretary:	BOB REFFUE

Elders

Class of 2017	Class of 2018	Class of 2019
GEORGE VERNON	GARY MANTHEI	TIFFANY EMBERSON
DARYL MILLER	SCOTT MOSHER	SUSAN ANDERSON

Church Office: 608.325.2519

UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT:

*“The mission of Union Presbyterian Church is to expand and enhance
our ministry of service, education, and dynamic worship
that is spiritually alive and inclusive of all.”*

–UPC Mission Statement

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sunday, January 22, 2017

The Annual Meeting of Union Presbyterian Church was convened in the sanctuary at 11:02 am on January 22, 2017. The 2016 Annual Report, a meeting agenda, and supplemental financial information on the 2016 budgeted income and expenses were distributed in advance. The moderator, Rev. Jesse Larson, opened the meeting with prayer. A quorum was declared, with 51 members present.

Agenda and Congregational Meeting Minutes Approved. A motion to approve the published meeting agenda was made, seconded and approved. A motion to approve the minutes of the January 31, 2016 Annual Meeting and the December 18, 2016 Congregation Meeting was made, seconded and approved. A motion to authorize Session to give interim approval to the minutes of this Annual Meeting pending their official approval at next year's annual meeting was made, seconded and approved.

Pastor's Report & Clerk's Report The Pastor's Report and Clerk's Report were presented. A motion to approve these Reports was made, seconded and approved.

Deacons Report and Prayer Shawl Reports. The Deacon's report and Prayer Shawl Ministry Report were presented. A motion to approve these Reports as published was made, seconded and approved.

Reports of Session Committees and Special Committees. The reports of Session Committees and Special Committees were presented. There was no discussion of these Reports. Thereafter, a motion to approve all of the foregoing Reports as published was made, seconded and approved.

Review of Budget and Financial Status. The 2016 Financials and 2017 Budget adopted by Session were presented. We acknowledge that we will once again have a deficit budget and the reasonable possibility that withdrawals from the Endowment Fund may be necessary before year-end. Session will monitor finances monthly and report to the Congregation as appropriate and necessary.

Adjournment. There being no new business and no further business proposed from the floor, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
George Vernon, Clerk

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

Sunday, October 1, 2017

Class of 2017
George Vernon
Daryl Miller

Class of 2018
Scott Mosher
Gary Manthei

Class of 2019
Tiffany Emberson
Susan Lawson

Moderator: Rev. Jesse Larson
Special Guest: Rev. Chaz Ruark

The Session of Union Presbyterian Church held a special meeting pursuant to notice following worship on October 1st, 2017 at the church. The meeting was called to order by the moderator at 11:20 a.m. and opened with prayer. Jesse reported that the Clerk of Session was not able to be present and he asked if Tiffany Emberson would be willing to fill in as clerk for the meeting. Jesse asked if there was a quorum and Tiffany responded that there was a quorum present.

Jesse asked for a motion to request John Knox Presbytery to concur with Jesse's request to dissolve the pastoral relationship effective October 8th, 2017. A motion to that effect was made from the floor, seconded and passed.

Jesse asked for a motion to close the meeting. A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and passed.

Jesse closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Tiffany Emberson, Acting Clerk

Minutes of Congregational Meeting of Union Presbyterian Church
Sunday, November 12, 2017

A meeting of the Congregation of Union Presbyterian Church was held, pursuant to notice, on Sunday November 12, 2017 for the purpose of acting on the report of the Nominating Committee. The meeting was presided over by Rev. Sue Ellis Melrose and was called to order at 11:05 a.m. A quorum was present.

On behalf of the Nominating Committee George Vernon presented the following proposed list of candidates for elder. If elected and approved, these elders will begin serving 3-year terms in January 2018. The elected elders will also attend Session meetings in an advisory capacity until the time they officially take office. The nominees are: Ben Beardmore and Diana Oostdik.

The chair requested additional nominees from the floor. Hearing none, a motion to close the nominations was made, seconded and passed. The chair called the question and the above candidates were elected by a unanimous voice vote.

The chair then requested a motion to dismiss with thanks the members of the Nominating Committee: George Vernon, Donna Schluesche, Al Hudson and Daryl Miller. The motion was made, seconded and passed.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made, seconded and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m. and closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted:
George Vernon, Clerk

PASTOR'S REPORT - 2017

After a four year ministry with Union Presbyterian Church of Monroe, Rev. Jesse Larson requested in the early fall that the congregation dissolve the pastoral relationship. This was met with sadness on the part of the congregation, and Jesse's last Sunday with the congregation was October 8, 2017. The congregation is truly grateful for Jesse's ministry and wishes him God's blessings as he continues to serve Christ.

The Worship & Music Committee of the Session got busy filling the pulpit for the final three months of the year. Rev. Matthew Ploeger led in worship through November, followed by a variety of Presbyterian pastors in December. The Worship & Music Committee is grateful for all those who led in worship and the congregation benefited from the variety of perspectives.

As temporary Moderator of the Session, I want to encourage the congregation to move forward into 2018 with hope and confidence. Times of transition are challenging, but you have a strong and faithful congregation and I have every confidence that God will help you to discern your pastoral leadership in the months and years ahead.

Blessings on the Journey,
Rev. Clara D. Thompson

REPORT OF THE CLERK OF SESSION - 2017

Clerk of Session: George Vernon

Elders:

Class of 2017
George Vernon
Daryl Miller

Class of 2018
Scott Mosher
Gary Manthei

Class of 2019
Tiffany Emberson
Susan L. Anderson

Church Membership as of January 1, 2017:	117
Members added on Profession of Faith	0
Members Added by Letter of Transfer	0
Members added by Baptism	0
Members added by Transfer from Inactive	0
Total Gains	0
Members Transferred to Inactive	0
Members removed at their request	0
Members removed by letter of transfer	2
Deaths	4
Total Losses	6

Church Membership as of December 31, 2017: **111**

Marriages:	Brittany Emberson and Jeffrey Dahl	June 10, 2017
Deaths:	William Baker	January 21, 2017
	Charles Soddy	January 25, 2017
	Nan Edmunds	March 22, 2017
	David Eley	September 8, 2017
Baptisms:	William Tyler Donahue	December 20, 2017

Respectfully submitted,
George Vernon, Clerk of Session

UNION PRESBYTERIAN PRAYER SHAWL REPORT - 2017

The prayer shawl program is part of the Union's mission of caring and concern for its members and friends. The shawls are made not only with the creators' hands, but, also with their prayers. They are a visible sign of the congregation's commitment to prayer for the recipients. The shawls are available to anyone in need—all that is required is a request and for the recipient to accept. Eighty-one shawls have been prayerfully created and given since the start of the ministry in 2006. The shawls for 2017 were for prayers of care and concern, blessings and healing, baptism joy, and birthday blessings.

Shawls and prayers were made for the following individuals in 2017:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Creator</u>	<u>Prayers For:</u>
6-29-17	Stephanie Nesbitt	Kathy Fleege	Care and Concern
8-6-17	Bryson Curtis Dickau	Kathie Marty	Blessings and Healing
9-14-17	Mary Lynette Eley	Kathie Marty	90 th Birthday
10-29-17	Wanda Masshardt	Kathie Marty	Healing, Care, and Concern
11-5-17	Gwen Ambrose	Wanda Masshardt	Healing, Care, and Concern
11-5-17	Catelyn Ambrose	Kathie Marty	Healing, Care, and Concern
12-17-17	Barb Inman	Wanda Masshardt	Healing, Care, and Concern
12-17-17	William Tyler Donahue	Kathy Fleege	Baptism Joy

Prayer Shawl Creators

Susan Anderson	Kathy Fleege	Diana Oostdik
Carol Baker	Linda Garrow	Marilyn Sandin-Ross
Lois Baker	Kathie Marty	Lisa Vavra
Bobbie Bernet	Wanda Masshardt	
Sue Boelke	Jo Ellen Mosher	

Prayer shawl creators meet once a year and as needed. The creation of shawls is ongoing by many creators. Thanks to all of our creators for their time, talent, and prayers.

In His Service,
Susan E. Anderson

WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE REPORT - 2017

Guided by the Book of Order and the Book of Common Worship, the purpose of the Worship & Music Committee is to plan and oversee the worship of God through worship services, special musical offerings or other liturgical drama, arts, and creative expressions to make worship at Union spiritually meaningful and to glorify God. We also strive to use the gifts of all people in worship, young and old, members and visitors.

Members of the W&M Committee for 2016

Mat Anderson, Susan Anderson, Chair; Sarah Bodell, Larry Coffey, Linda Kafer, Diana Oostdik, Pastor Jesse Larson, ex-officio (until October.)

Committee Accomplishments in 2017

- Communion was served at least once a month in 2017.
- Sarah Bodell served as substitute choir director until an interim was selected.
- Mathew Anderson was selected as interim choral director and moved to a full-time position.
- The choir performed, on average, twice a month each month, with exception to summer.
- The percussion ensemble performed four times.

- Special music was arranged throughout the summer.
- Continued to use the Pew Booklet of music from CCLI license.
- Eric Anderson provided a wooden cross during the Easter season.
- Scheduled liturgists, ushers, and greeters throughout the year.
- Scheduled pulpit supply several times throughout the first part of the year, and then for October-December.
- Coordinated floral donations from the congregation at Easter, Pentecost, and Christmas.
- Coordinated and organized seasonal decorating of the sanctuary and the entrance areas outside during Thanksgiving, Advent, Lent/Easter, Pentecost, and summer.

The Sanctuary Guild, a sub-committee of the W&M prepares the sanctuary weekly for worship. Their duties include organizing pew supplies, keeping oil in our various candles, changing the paraments to reflect the liturgical calendar, etc.

Sub-committee members include: Cindy Dickau, Pam Drafall, Linda Garrow, Barb Inman, Barb Manthei, Wanda Masshardt, Jo Ellen Mosher

Special Worship Services in 2017

- Epiphany with Communion
- Ash Wednesday joint worship with St. John's UCC
- Palm Sunday, Eco Palms
- Maundy Thursday with Communion
- Good Friday - Tenebrae Service
- Easter Services - 10:00 a.m. Worship, Communion
- Pentecost Sunday - Communion, geraniums, red balloons
- Two worship services held in Northeast Park
- Worship at Recreation Park followed by a luncheon and pool party
- World Communion Sunday - Communion and fondue coffee hour
- Teaching worship
- Reformation Sunday
- All Saints' Sunday - Communion; remembrance candles and Dixieland Jazz
- Stewardship Commitment and Thanksgiving Sunday
- Christmas Cantata
- Christmas Eve Service - Communion

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan M. Anderson

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT - 2017

Finance Committee Members: Paul Nelson, Elder Chair; Bob Reffue, George Vernon

The Finance Committee would like to thank all of the members, non-members and friends of Union Presbyterian Church who stepped up and gave generously to the support of the church and its mission during 2017. With this support, we have been able to keep up our obligations current and up to date.

As we look ahead to our 2018 budget and the future, we need to keep in mind the challenges of keeping our obligations current and paid in a timely manner. We need to continue to offer our financial support to keep our beloved church vibrant and full of vigor and energy in the years to come which also include the offering of your time and talents.

Once again, the Finance Committee would like to thank everyone for his or her continued financial support of the church and we all look forward to a prosperous 2018!

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Nelson, Chair

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT - 2017

Committee Members: Teresa Keehn, Susan Lawson, Jo Ellen Mosher, Pastor Jesse Larson, Jessica Wellington, and Tiffany Emberson, Chairman.

Mission Statement: The purpose of the Christian Education committee is to develop and oversee opportunities for spiritual growth for all ages in fellowship with other Christians at Union Presbyterian Church.

Christian Education opportunities were offered for all the ages. The fall session began on October 22nd, 2017.

We began the year with two Sunday school classrooms instead of 1. We split up the children according to their ages. We also started the New Year with new curriculum, Growing in Grace and Gratitude. We continue to have Sunday morning classes and they were held three out of four Sundays at 1000 during to worship after the children's sermon for children preschool age through grade school. The adult Sunday school is held every Sunday at 9am. We gather together in the classroom for snacks, bible stories, and then either complete a craft or a game together as a group. The committee has organized the classroom and labeled all of the weekly sessions through the end of December. We did not have Sunday school on Christmas Eve or New Year's Eve.

Mid-High/Senior-High Youth group has not met on a formal basis due to the decrease in attendance. The Men's group meets every Monday at 630 a.m.

Sunday school teachers include: Tiffany Emberson, Al Hudson, Susan Lawson, Chuck & Chris Wellington, Teresa Keehn, and Claire Leeds.

Youth Paid staff: Natalee Vavra, who assists 3 out of 4 Sundays from September through May exclusively teaching the preschool age kids as the other classroom is taught by an adult volunteer

Adult Sunday school teacher: no formal leader

Highlights from the year:

- Christian Education teachers and graduates were recognized during worship on May 15th. We recognized our graduates-Emily Emberson.
- Six of our Sunday School student received a 3rd grade Bible.
- Teresa Keehn & Marge Klinzing sorted through all of the toys in our basement and created a needs list that was placed on our Christmas tree in the Narthex and tags were placed on the tree for items we hoped to receive.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tiffany Emberson

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT - 2017

The Personnel Committee manages any personnel issues that arise each year. We also conduct year-end evaluations with each of our staff.

Personnel Committee Members: Al Hudson, Rev. Jesse Larson, Scott Mosher (Chair); Diana Oostdik

Session agreed to renew employment for Mathew, Lisa, and Mary for the 2018 calendar year, as well as continue to utilize Sarah for drums. Session is very pleased with the performance of all staff and impressed with the way everyone has stepped up to meet various needs while we are in interim searching for a new pastor

After considering various options, a motion was passed to incorporate a 2.5% pay increase for all staff. Session also passed a motion to include a cantata stipend for Mathew and Mary in order to adequately compensate them for the extra time spent preparing.

The Personnel Committee is wrapping up interviews for the interim pastor position, and is hoping to have that finalized by February 1, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Mosher, Chair

PROPERTIES COMMITTEE REPORT - 2017

Members: Eric Anderson, Bruce Duemler, Bob Fleege, Paul Klinzing, Hans Masshardt, Daryl Miller, Bob Reffue, Marv Rufi, and Gary Manthei, Chair

Properties committee usually meets one Monday a month to work on various tasks and so some planning. 2017 has been busy with a large number of projects completed besides the routine maintenance required daily and weekly.

Some of the projects that have been completed by volunteers working with the properties committee:

- Replaced insulation in the back wall of the sanctuary
- Curtains were donated and hung in the library, TV room, small nursery room in the basement, and window exiting fellowship hall going to the basement
- Trees pruned and sticks picked up, eave troughs cleaned
- Changed drainage to avoid water from going across sidewalk by lower basement door
- Raised cement under canopy and cement near entrance to basement to even walk way
- Students Week of Service projects included pressure washing the canopy and cold air registers,
- removing window well covering, pulling weeds and laying black landscape cloth
- Moved baby changing station from basement to upstairs men's room
- Pews were cleaned and oiled
- Kitchen and appliances cleaned

Future projects:

- Gas stove replacement
- The driveway/parking lot will need attention.
- The exterior of the building needs repair
- Work on more energy saving projects.
- Build a patio outside front doors.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Manthei, Chair

MEMBERSHIP

12/31/17

Ambrose, Bob
Ambrose, Caitlyn
Ambrose, Gwendolyn
Ambrose, Lenae
Ambrose, Robby
Anderson, Eric
Anderson, Susan
Anderson, Mat
Baker, Carol
Baker, Lois
Beardmore, Ben
Bodell, Patrick
Boelke, Gerald
Boelke, Susan
Cappel, Barbara
Cappel, Dennis
Cappel, Jon
Cappel, Mark
Chance, Gene
Chance, Wanda
Coffey, Cassandra
Coffey, Larry
Coffey, Shelby
Coffey, Vicki
Dickau, Justin
Dillon, Natalie
Dillon, Tracy
Dillon, Jared
Drafall, James
Dreikosen, Dennis
Dreikosen, Kathy
Duemler, Bruce
Duemler, Elliott
Duemler, Tina
Edmunds, Jayson
Edmunds, Todd
Egli, Dawn
Egli, Eric
Egli, Michael
Egli, Tabitha

Eley, Lynette
Emberson, Brittany
Emberson, Emily
Emberson, Tiffany
Fleege, Katheryn
Freeze, Jessica Ingalls
Garrow, Linda
Goltz, Linda
Grenzow, Esther
Hasse, Gene
Hasse, Jeanette
Hasse, Mitchel
Hasse, Todd
Hasse, Travis
Hasse, Trevor
Heins, Jonna
Heins, Maynard
Herbst, Noel
Hudson, Al
Hudson, Karen
Hudson, Katelyn
Ingalls, Myrna
Inman, Barbara
Kafer, Linda
Keehn, Teresa
King, John
King, Kathy
Klinzing, Kyle
Klinzing, Paul
Knudtson, Bob
Knudtson, Judy
Krupke, Gwenie
Lawson, Susan
Maliszewski, Nancy
Manthei, Gary
Marty, Kathie
Masshardt, Hans
Masshardt, Wanda
Maze, Lois
Miller, Daryl

Miller, Gerry
Miller, Tori
Mitchell, William
Mosher McGarry, Amy
Mosher, David
Mosher, Jo Ellen
Mosher, Scott
Nelson, Maren
Nelson, Paul
Nesbitt, Stephanie
Oostdik, Diana
Pooler, Gary
Pooler, Sally
Reffue, Bob
Reffue, Kathy
Robertson, Barbara
Robertson, Bernie
Rosberg, Jay
Rosberg, Pat
Ross, Bill
Roth, Dorothy
Rufi, Kay
Rufi, Marv
Schluesche, Donna
Schluesche, Lisa
Skibbe, Andrea
Speich, Chandra
Speich, Richard
Stewart, Phil
Stewart, Rhonda
Vavra, Lisa
Vavra, Natalee
Vernon, George
Wuethrich, Elaine

TOTAL: 111