

# Spring 2022 Board Update

*Hello, everyone, from the Board of Trustees. Here's a spring update on the work of the board during the last several months.*

## **Board work:**

- Completed work on the Congregational Survey. If you have not seen the report or results yet, find the [full survey](#) here.
- Met Feb. 19 for a one-day winter retreat on the topic of interim ministry and budgeting.
- Reads and discusses articles related to church changes.
- Held several listening sessions to hear about the congregation's priorities in the areas of church life, religious education, and worship as the church reopens. As a result of these meetings, Rev. Krista Taves has resurrected the FUN committee, which has planned a church-wide potluck dinner on June 5 from 5-8pm; Scott Stewart has restructured his RE planning process and the church is currently recruiting volunteers to help with various committees, including the fundraising committee and coffee hour.
- Helped with the UU Palooza on Saturday, April 9. It was a great success with popcorn, a visit from the Red and Black Brass band, and Kona Ice Truck.
- Hosted a series of meetings in person and online about the financial future of Eliot Chapel and budget planning for 2022-23.
- Supported the Stewardship team by making follow up calls to members who had not yet pledged.
- Formed an interim search committee to find an interim minister to serve Eliot from 2022-2024 as we search for a settled minister. Read updates on the [search for a new minister](#) here.
- Planned for the Annual Congregational Meeting to be held in person May 15.
- Organized the annual summer retreat scheduled for August.

## **Board membership:**

- The board elected **Sara Fleming** as Chair Elect at its March 2022 meeting. Sara's term as Chair-Elect begins July 1, 2022; she will succeed to the chair position July 1, 2023.
- **Claire Wyneken**, the current Chair-Elect, will become the Board Chair on July 1, 2022.
- Board chair **Steve Harvey** and member **Paula Fulks** will complete their terms on the board June 30, 2022.
- The church membership will elect new members during the May 15, 2022 annual meeting. Interested in learning more about serving on church boards and committees? Reach out to the nominating committee.

The rhythm of this church year has been greatly disrupted due to Covid. After meeting outside for several weeks, we were able to move briefly inside in the fall. With the Omicron variant, we had to close again. As of April we are fully reopened. These changes have made it hard to feel a sense of community, something we all want so much.

We are in a time of transition as we say goodbye to our beloved minister, Rev. Barbara Gadon, whose last week on the pulpit will be May 22. We plan to select and hire an interim minister to begin work with us in August. As we begin this search process, we are also wrapping up our 2022 stewardship campaign and finalizing the budget for next year.

Times of great transition are a time for reflection and an opportunity to examine who we are as a community and who we want to be. We have a chance to keep growing and working together. Please participate. Please give generously with your time, talent and treasure. Together we can help Eliot to recover and grow!