

**UNITY OF SYRACUSE**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SUMMARY**  
**Aug 23, 2021 @ 7:00pm**

Meeting began promptly at 7 PM.

**Present:** Byron Petraroja, Natasha Schmidt, Leland Jackson, Joanne Niedzwicki, Tommy Baniewicz, Natalie Dart, Rev. Pat Bessey, Joy Casey

**Opening Prayer** – Keeper of the Flame – Ann

**Check-In**

**Rev. Pat – Education**

- Fundraising webinar – “It’s all about connection!”
- Recommended we communicate Legacy giving opportunities to the congregation.

**Opening of the church** – Phase 1 remains for now.

- Masking required beginning next Sunday (8/29) along with a sign-in sheet for those in attendance (for contact tracing, if needed).

**Investigate air filtration**

- Board is researching a system in response to COVID.

**Follow up items**

- YFM –Marybeth will be Interim Director through 2021.
- Contract updates for office staff is in process
- Chicken BBQ- on hold at this time
- Board welcome packet created and approved to make for smooth transition-
- Ministerial search – Board clarified that the Search Team has not been disbanded but is on pause due to COVID, and the desire for candidates to physically meet and interact with the congregation prior to selecting the right and perfect match for our community. Marc will work with the Search Team to update our application, and they will renew active search efforts at the appropriate time.
- Congregational Survey around Ministerial Search process is in the works.

**New items:**

- Ministry Coordinator contract is being finalized-
- Online Church Directory approved – cost is approximately \$100 annually (onlinechurchdirectory.com)-
- Long distance (virtual membership) – no changes in by-laws are needed.

- Board is researching different tithing applications for online giving.
- Board is researching a tech consultant to give recommendations to upgrade our AV broadcasting.
- Calendar of Board Meetings will be on church calendar.

### **Closing Prayer**