**MINUTES**

**Unity Center of Light**

**Search Committee for Right Physical Home**

**Thursday, January 8, 2015**

**2614 Kenthill Drive, Bowie, MD**

Members attending: Willie Sutton, Chair, Carolyn Dickerson, Phyllis Chesley, Linda Smith, Sharon Duncan and, via telephone, Maurice and Jacquie Jackson, Vice Chairs.

The minutes from the December 2, 2014 were reviewed and accepted by the committee members.

**Survey Results**

The survey results were presented by Linda Smith, and discussed in detail. More than 50% of the survey respondents are members of UCL. The responses will help inform the committee’s Proposal for the Right Physical Home to the Board of Trustees and the congregation in February 2015. Additionally, the Committee recommends the establishment of a permanent ***Outreach Committee*** for the purpose of growing and promoting UCL in the local Bowie community.

Next, Linda agreed to draft a summary of the survey results, and will include an analysis of how the responses differed between members and non-members, as well as age differences.

Lastly, the search committee agreed it would follow up with the Finance Committee and inquire about the ways in which it might be of assistance in the future.

**Commercial Broker**

The search committee unanimously agreed that it is prudent to engage a commercial broker to work on behalf of UCL to assist in identifying a new home. This is due to two concerns: (a) finding a more suitable location to rent, which would combine the sanctuary, office and possibly classrooms (rather than separate locations for office and sanctuary), and (b) UCL has a deadline of June 2015 for its current lease. Since finding a permanent home is a lengthy process, our interim situation more than likely require that we find another rental property that better fits UCL’s needs.

To that end, it is recommended that identifying a broker is probably the best option to help address the above need. Maurice Jackson will be the lead person take on the preliminary investigation of identifying a commercial broker. This will help inform our overall recommendations to the Board and congregation. Lastly, two websites were recommended as sources of information on availability of church properties for sale.

The next meeting of the search committee is scheduled for 6:45pm on Tuesday, January 20, 2015.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Willie Sutton and Jacquie Jackson