



THE UUS NEWS

A DIVERSE SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY THAT TOUCHES HEARTS, CHANGES LIVES, AND TRANSFORMS THE WORLD.

July
2019

Sunday Services

A social hour follows the 10 am service.

Summer 2019's Spiritual Theme is "Identity"

July 7th: "Crazy Cripple: The Challenge and Opportunity of Living with a Troubled Mind and Body," Heidi Sinderman

New member Heidi Sinderman will continue the summer focus of identity. She will talk about living with chronic invisible physical and mental conditions. Heidi also will share how she practices present moment awareness and acceptance. Both tools help her better manage these conditions, as does her intentional move from isolation to community.

July 14th: "We Are What We Believe In," Marsha Cheyney and Dawn Marshall

We all believe stories about ourselves—stories others tell us and stories we tell ourselves. Some stories are that we are clever, beautiful, resilient, strong. Others are that we are incompetent, unattractive, jealous, weak. We rarely ask if these stories are true. Key to being our true selves is to know which stories are true and which we can let go.

Marsha Cheyney is a member of UUS and has been a leader in the Owl Moon Covenant of UU Pagans (CUUPs) group at UUS since 2013. Dawn Marshall has been leading earth-centered groups and events since 2003, and talking and listening to plants and animals since childhood. She is a friend at UUS and co-leader of CUUPs.

July 21st: "There But for Fortune," Mike Cervantes

Everyone is influenced by their childhoods. It shapes how we view ourselves even if one's grown-up life is very different from their younger life. This service will look at how a person who has never even been arrested can connect to those who have committed felonies and served time in prison.

Mike Cervantes is a member of UUS and has been a prison volunteer since 2008. Before that, he taught at the secondary level for 15 years. His hometown is Green Bay, Wisconsin, and he is married to Keri Hornbuckle.

July 28th: TBA, Rev. Diane Dowgiert

Our Interim Minister will lead her first service back at UUS after her summer travels. More details will be posted soon.

July's Social Justice Offerings Benefit Table to Table (T2T)

Working in teams of two, T2T volunteers collect and deliver rescued food to agencies in our community that serve those in need. Last year, teams collected 2.1 million pounds of wholesome food that helped nourish more than 19,000 people. Our UUS contributions provided enough support for 9,800 meals for our hungry Johnson County neighbors.

Cash or checks to UUS (T2T on the memo line) can be given on Sundays, online through Realm, or mailed to the office. You can also text "GivetoUUSIC Offering \$--" to 73256.

July Birthdays

<i>Bruce Alexander</i>	<i>Leigh Nida</i>
<i>Sharon Booker</i>	<i>Bill Nowysz</i>
<i>Alan Brink</i>	<i>Liz Noyes</i>
<i>Craig Christophel</i>	<i>Raymond (Butch) Perry</i>
<i>Monique DiCarlo</i>	<i>Lina Schmitz</i>
<i>Lee Eberly</i>	<i>Mahala Smith</i>
<i>Dave Gallaher</i>	<i>Cindy Spading</i>
<i>Winnie Ganshaw</i>	<i>Alan Swanson</i>
<i>Mike Haverkamp</i>	<i>Dan Tallman</i>
<i>Emma Jo Holmes-Wanluss</i>	<i>Adam Tatro</i>
<i>Larry Kent</i>	<i>Carol Throckmorton</i>
<i>John Lanaghan</i>	<i>Steve Van Abbema</i>
<i>Janet McKee</i>	<i>Zach Wahls</i>
<i>Alex Miller</i>	<i>Ruth Wirtz</i>
<i>Marcy Neumann</i>	

If you would like your birthday listed in the newsletter (or removed), contact dcl@uusic.org.

Sunday Attendance

June 2nd:	146 total: 125 service, 21 RE
June 9th:	149 total: 128 service, 21 RE
June 16th:	110 total: 93 service, 17 RE
June 23rd:	179 total: 156 service, 23 RE

Congregational News and Events

Ministerial Search Committee

The newly formed Ministerial Search Committee had its first meeting at a retreat on Friday, June 14th, and Saturday, June 15th. We met with Rev. Janne Eller-Isaacs (from UnityUnitarian Church in St. Paul) via Zoom. She will be the Transitions Coach for the Search Committee. We spent time getting to know one another; discussing the process and time line of choosing a new settled minister; and exploring and assigning tasks for moving forward. We will be meeting weekly during the summer and fall. In the upcoming months, we look forward to hearing from our members and friends in focus groups, a congregational survey, and ongoing communication. The Search Committee invites your engagement and support as we as a community move together on this journey toward a new settled minister.

Alison Oliver and Dave Martin are the co-chairs of the Search Committee. Other members are Jodi Linley, Carolyn Johnson, John Bowman, Jerry Wetlaufer, and Carol Adamson.

Inquirer Sessions to Change Format This Summer

We are changing the format of our Sunday Inquirer Sessions. We will continue to have frequent tours and UU 101 sessions, but most weeks instead of holding a formal meeting in the Conference Room, there will be a table in the Fellowship Hall with a “?” sign. Anyone who has questions about the congregation is welcome to bring their refreshments to that table for conversation with either Peggy Garrigues, our Director of Congregational Life, or one of our Membership Associates. We are still exploring how best to introduce visitors and friends to our groups and group leaders on an ongoing basis. Stay tuned! For July, our schedule will be:

- July 7 11:10 am UU 101 in Conference Room
- July 14 Q&A at “?” Table in Fellowship Hall
- July 21 Q&A at “?” Table in Fellowship Hall
- July 28 Tour of Building and Outdoor Areas - meet at “?” Table in Fellowship Hall

Covenant Groups

In June, covenant groups did their own version of celebrating “Summer of the Arts” by sharing favorite pieces of art with each other. We brought in artworks if possible, and if not, images or descriptions of them. Paintings, sculpture, music, poetry, literature, dance—all were welcome, in accordance with our broad and inclusive understanding of art. After each of us explained what we liked or found especially meaningful about our choices, the group used them as springboards into the larger discussions of what art means to us as individuals and as a society. Does art have a special place in our spiritual practice? Does it have any kind of unique meaning or significance in our lives as Unitarian Universalists?

In August, groups will not meet as we enjoy our summer travels or vacation activities here in Iowa City. We will reconvene in September. Happy Summer, everyone! Learn more about covenant groups by contacting Jan Locher (354- 6260, locherj@mchsi.com).

4thFest Parade, July 4th

UUS has marched the last several years in the Coralville 4thFest Parade. Set aside Thursday, July 4th, and join us in proudly representing UUS to the larger community!

The Parade begins at 10 am, and we will gather in the parking lots of GEICO/McGregor’s/LIFEChurch (off of 22nd Ave. and 2nd St. in Coralville). Plan to be there by 9:30 to march, and look for the yellow shirts and Peggy’s little yellow car. The theme for the 4thFest Parade is the 90th Anniversary of the Coralville Fire Department. Many folks wear their yellow “Standing on the Side of Love” or the newer “Side with Love” t-shirts in the parade. However, red, white, and blue, or rainbow apparel are also appropriate at the 4thFest parade. For more information, contact Peggy Garrigues at dcl@uusic.org.

UUA Common Read Discussion, July 8th

UUS is participating in the UUA Common Read of *Justice on Earth: People of Faith Working at the Intersections of Race, Class, and the Environment*, edited by Manish Mishra-Marzetti and Jennifer Nordstrom.

We held a discussion in June on the topic of “finding our religious ground,” which covered roughly the first half of the book. Our second discussion over the second half will be on Monday, July 8th, at 7 pm in the Oak Room, and the topic will be “embracing accountability and becoming partners.” For more information, contact Dave Martin (dndmartin1@mchsi.com) or Peggy Garrigues (dcl@uusic.org).

Our Shared Stewardship

Our community shares a vision and mission that is dependent on our shared resources for substance and advancement. Without each of our contributions we leave opportunities under-resourced. Yes, volunteers are important, but your contributions to utilities, UUA dues, salaries, and educational materials are critical.

A letter from the Finance Committee will be sent out in early July along with mid-year giving statements. Please check your giving report carefully to make sure it is accurate and consistent with your pledge.

Your contributions over the next 6 months will set the tone for the search for our settled minister. We want to finish the year strong. We want to send a clear message that we are a vibrant and flourishing congregation with fantastic volunteers and strong resources.

We have a great vision and a progressive budget designed to accomplish these things. However, at this time we anticipate a \$42,000 to \$50,000 shortfall in our income.

The Board, Finance Committee, and Stewardship Committee are currently challenging one another to provide leadership to this effort by increasing their current-year gifts. Will you consider joining them to help us close this gap? You can increase your recurring pledge or make a one-time gift by contacting the office (admin@uusic.org, 337-3443) or through Realm. Please help as you are able.

Save the Date!

“Sharing Our Stories” Potluck Dinner, August 23rd

Mark your calendars! The Interim Transition Team will be hosting a special potluck dinner on Friday, August 23rd, from 6 to 8 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Childcare will be provided by advance request. More details coming soon!

Justice News and Events

UU Free Lunch Report

On Friday, June 14th, our UU Free Lunch team served 129 meals to an appreciative crowd at 1105 S. Gilbert Court. Sloppy Joes, pickles, cooked mixed vegetables, fresh fruit salad, green salad, amazing desserts, ice cream, and assorted beverages were on the menu. Free Lunch is always a team effort, and this meal was no exception, with a total of 22 great people pitching in by donating food, helping prepare and serve the meal, and then cleaning up after. Sloppy Joes are a favorite entrée, and supplies for this meal were generously provided by Russ Lenth and Jane DeWitt in memory of Jane’s mother, Mary DeWitt. One of our diners, coming back for seconds, grinned as he told us he hadn’t had such a great meal since just before Roosevelt left office. To learn more about ways you can participate on our UU Free Lunch program, please email Carmen Griggs at csgriggsiowa@gmail.com.

ACLU Candidate Engagement Workshop, July 21st

UUS is working with the ACLU of Iowa to host a “Rights for All” Direct Candidate Engagement Training on Sunday, July 21st. The ACLU will train participants on how to elevate civil rights and civil liberties by directly engaging with the 2020 Presidential candidates who are coming to Iowa (regardless of party) in a way that ensures clear, on-the-record policy commitments. They will also teach a few organizing tips and tricks—including the power of storytelling.

UUS and the ACLU are both strictly non-partisan and do not endorse candidates. The ACLU’s primary goals from the Rights for All engagement training campaign are to get all the presidential candidates on record concerning the ACLU’s prime issues, which include decreasing mass incarceration, preserving reproductive autonomy, and preserving and advancing voting rights. You can read more about the campaign at www.rightsforall.us. While “Rights for All” only focuses on Presidential candidates, the ACLU hopes that participants will gain and use the tools to hold other candidates and elected officials accountable this election cycle and in the years to come.

The July 21st workshop will be held in our Fellowship Hall from 4 to 7 pm and will include a meal. It will be open to the public. This event is being hosted by the UUS Adult Religious Education Program. Contact Jessica Zimmer with questions (education@uusic.org).

Upcoming UUS Events

UUS Bike Ride, July 11th

Join us for a bike ride from 6 to 9 pm. We’ll start in the UUS parking lot and ride up the trail to North Liberty where we’ll stop for ice cream at Heyn’s. Then we’ll head back down Front Street (on the street or the wide trail) to the trail on Forevergreen Road and back to the UUS. The full ride will be about 8 miles. Families welcome! Children should be accompanied by an adult. Helmets are required for all riders. We’ll take a leisurely pace, and no one will be left behind. This ride is sponsored by Bicyclists of Iowa City. Contact Vicki Siefers (vicki.siefers@gmail.com) with questions.

Faye Strayer Memorial, July 13th

There will be a memorial service for long-time UUS member Faye Strayer at 1:30 pm on Saturday, July 13th, in the UUS Sanctuary. Rev. Charity Rowley will lead the service, which will be followed by a reception. A second reception will be held Friday, July 12th, from 3 to 6 pm in the Community Room on the fifth floor of the Spring Street Building, Oaknoll Retirement Residence (735 George St., Iowa City).

CUUPs Tarot & Drumming Workshops, July 20th

Exploratory Tarot: The Cards in Conversation

How do you read tarot? It’s as simple as telling a story. Think of a card as a well-worn photo in an old scrapbook. What happened before and after this snapshot was taken? Think of a tarot spread as the plot that holds the story together. How do the characters interact? What wisdom does that story hold? Join the Covenant of UU Pagans (CUUPs) from 2 to 4 pm on Saturday, July 20th, in the Fellowship Hall, to take a deeper dive into how cards interact within a spread. Experience with the cards is not necessary, but please be aware that we will not be covering the basics in this interactive workshop. Please bring a deck if you have one. Some decks will be available to share. Please register here: bit.ly/2019CUUPsTarot.

Introduction to West African Drumming

If you have a heartbeat, you have rhythm! In this hands-on workshop (from 6 to 8 pm on Saturday, July 20th, in the RE Commons) we’ll learn the basics of West African drumming, including hand positions, traditional rhythms/songs, and drum circle etiquette. No experience necessary—just a willingness to join in the groove! We’ll be primarily learning how to play the djembe and other goblet-shaped drums. If you have a frame drum (tar, tambourine, buffalo drum, bodhran), then you are welcome to bring it, but you will get more out of the class if you have a djembe, ashiko, or doumbek. Some drums will be available to share, so if you don’t have a drum, don’t worry! We’ve got you covered. Let’s make some music together! Please register here: bit.ly/2019CUUPsAfricanDrumming.

Contact Marsha Cheyney at cuups@uusic.org with questions about either workshop.

Upcoming UUS Events

Find more information on all UUS events online (uusic.org/upcoming-events) or by contacting the office.

Monday, July 1st

- **Buddhist Sangha:** 7 pm at Oaknoll

Tuesday, July 2nd

- **Green Sanctuary Team:** 5:30 pm in the Conference Room

Thursday, July 4th

(Independence Day—Office Closed)

- **Coralville 4thFest:** 9:30 am in Coralville (see details, page 2)

Sunday, July 7th

- **Inquirer Session:** 11:10 am in the Conference Room (UU 101)
- **Racial Justice Circle:** 11:15 am in the Oak Room

Monday, July 8th

- **Kiirtan:** 6 pm at the Sycamore Rooms (2412 Towncrest Dr.)
- **All UUA Reads:** 7 pm in the Oak Room (see details on page 2)
- **Buddhist Sangha:** 7 pm at Oaknoll

Tuesday, July 9th

- **Social Justice Coordinating Committee:** 7 pm in the Conference Room

Thursday, July 11th

- **UUS Bike Ride:** 6 pm starting at UUS (see details, page 3)
- **UUS Board of Trustees:** 6:30 pm in the Conference Room

Friday, July 12th

- **UU Free Lunch Program:** 11 am at 1105 Gilbert Ct.

Saturday, July 13th

- **Faye Strayer Memorial:** 1:30 pm in the Sanctuary (see details page 3)

Sunday, July 14th

- **UUS Accessibility Meeting:** 11:30 am in the Oak Room

Monday, July 15th

- **Buddhist Sangha:** 7 pm at Oaknoll

Tuesday, July 16th

- **CUUPs Full Moon Drum Gathering:** 8:30 pm at Terry Trueblood (4213 Sand Rd SE, Iowa City, IA)

The Owl Moon Covenant of UU Pagans (CUUPs) will gather at 8:15 pm at Terry Trueblood to celebrate the Full Moon. You are invited to bring a small amount of clear water to be added to the offering bowl, a drum or other instrument, and a snack to share. Bug repellent is suggested. This is a family friendly gathering. Note the gathering time is planned to allow us time to arrive and prepare offerings and blessings before the moon rises. Meet us in the small parking lot on the southeast side of the lake off Gilbert St. (Sand Rd.). To find it, go just past the lake on S. Gilbert St. (Sand Rd.) and turn right into the paved driveway. We will leave the parking lot 5 minutes after the gathering time for the event location. We will decide as a group where to go for the ceremony. If you miss us in the parking lot, some likely locations are the shelter on the peninsula or one of the two fishing jetties.

Wednesday, July 17th

- **UU Grief Group:** 12:30 pm in the Conference Room

Thursday, July 18th

- **UU Scrabble Group:** 1:30 pm in the Walnut Room

Friday, July 19th

- **Board Game Club:** 6 pm at The Hobby Corner (1606 Sycamore St., Iowa City)

Saturday, July 20th

- **CUUPs Exploratory Tarot Workshop:** 2 pm in the Fellowship Hall (see details, page 3)

- **UU Ethical Eating Class:** 4 pm in the Conference Room

Ethical Eating is a free class that draws on UUA curriculum for those who are interested in exploring a whole-food, plant-based lifestyle. It is led by the UU Vegetarian Community. Reservations are required; contact Carol Throckmorton (vegcommunity@uusic.org or 337-3030) if you would like to participate.

- **Vegetarian Community Potluck:** 5 pm in the Fellowship Hall
- **CUUPs African Drumming Workshop:** 6 pm in the RE Commons

Monday, July 22nd

- **Buddhist Sangha:** 7 pm at Oaknoll

Tuesday, July 23rd

- **Girls' Night Out:** 5:30 pm at Linn Street Dive (117 N Linn St., Iowa City)

- **Pathway to Membership:** 6:30 pm in the Conference Room

This is a one-session class for those who are considering becoming members of UUS, and who want to learn more about how our congregation works and the benefits and responsibilities of membership. You will get to know others who are considering joining, and meet with several members of our staff, board, and leadership. This class is one of the steps for membership. Contact Peggy Garrigues (dcl@uusic.org) to RSVP, to request childcare, or to clarify other membership steps.

Friday, July 26th

- **CUUPs Encounters:** 6:30 pm at Marsha Cheyney's home

Sunday, June 30th

- **Inquirer Session Tour of Building & Outdoor Areas:** 11 am; meet at the "?" table in the Fellowship Hall

Monday, July 28th

- **Buddhist Sangha:** 7 pm at Oaknoll

Unitarian Universalist Society Board of Trustees MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – May 9, 2019

Board meeting minutes are available on the website or can be requested from the UUS administrator.

Present: Jane DeWitt (President), Jim Laughlin (Past-President), Amy Fretz (Vice-President), Chris Rode (Treasurer), Peg Voelker (Secretary), Michael Honey-Arcement (Trustee), Paul Pomrehn (Trustee), Colleen Higgins (Trustee), and Peggy Garrigues (attending for Rev. Diane Dowgiert).

Absent: Sara Feldmann (Trustee), and Rev. Diane Dowgiert (Ex officio Interim Minister).

Guests: Joe Rasmussen.

Board President DeWitt called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and provided opening words.

Consent Agenda & Announcements: Consent and other items are put in Dropbox for Board review prior to the meeting.

Consent Agenda items: May Board Agenda; May Executive Committee Minutes; April Board Meeting Highlights and Minutes; Treasurer's Report & Financials; Month of April Staff Report (Peggy Garrigues); May Staff Relations Committee Report (Mary McMurray); MSC application (DeWitt); and Ministerial Search Committee (MSC) Information Sheet.

Other items: Detiger Fund Proposal (Sally Hartman); Congregational Meeting Agenda and back page (Voelker); and Draft Ballot (Voelker).

The Board approved the April Board meeting minutes and highlights and the May Executive Committee minutes and received the Consent Agenda.

Delegates to UUA General Assembly: The Board voted to accept Colleen Higgins and Sally Hartman as UUS delegates to General Assembly.

Detiger Funds Request: Sally Hartman submitted a proposal to hold a Sunday Forum on the *ANSWER program* (an educational program in Nepal) using Detiger Funds. *The Board approved the \$200 request.*

Governance Committee Report: Pomrehn shared two committee documents. First was a draft outline of the UUS Board Policy book (modified from that presented in *Governance and Ministry, Rethinking Board Leadership* by Dan Hotchkiss). Pomrehn called attention to Chapter two – *Delegation to Staff* that authorizes the Staff and the Minister as Head of Staff to manage the general affairs, work, and resources of the UUS, except as expressly limited by Board policies. He noted that this *Global Delegation Policy* is consistent with the Board's move to Policy Governance. The second document lists UUS By-laws and Policies that need review, revision and/or created – particularly because they are likely of interest to ministerial candidates.

Congregational Meeting Agenda and Process: Voelker shared a draft of the ballot and the Congregational Meeting Agenda along with its back page that included the Ministerial Compensation Package Resolution and voting instructions. Brief biographies of each Ministerial Search Committee (MSC) candidate appearing on the ballot will be shared with the congregation by May 15th. The Board discussed the Freethinker Friendly Congregation (FFC) resolution. DeWitt and Voelker will finalize its wording to include on the printed ballots. The Board outlined guidelines to communicate to the congregation prior to opening the meeting for discussion of the FFC vote. It was decided that the Board would meet after the congregational meeting to tally ballots and determine the seven MSC members. The FFC vote results and the introduction of the seven members to serve on the MSC will not be reported the day of the congregational meeting. Instead, the results will be reported via email announcement later in the week.

Closing: Pomrehn provided closing words. Fretz reported as Process Observer. The meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m. to a closed session about the Ministerial Search Committee nominees. The next Board meeting is Thursday, June 13, 2019, starting at 6:30 p.m. in the UUS Conference Room.

Submitted by Peg Voelker, Secretary

Unitarian Universalist Society Congregational MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – May 19, 2019

President Jane DeWitt called the meeting to order at 11:23 a.m. A quorum was established with 135 in attendance of the 283 eligible voting members. Rev. Diane Dowgiert provided opening words as the chalice was lit.

Outgoing Elected Board & Committee Members: DeWitt thanked the following outgoing Elected Board & Committee members for their service: Sara Feldmann, Jim Laughlin, Peg Voelker, Kirk Witzberger, and Larry Audlehelm. DeWitt also recognized other members of our community for their recent contributions of time and energy to UUS. Specifically, the Treats and Talent Auction Committee, their many other volunteers, and notably Committee Chair – Judy Tokuhisa! DeWitt also acknowledged the over 30 volunteers, led by Carol Throckmorton, who worked on UUS’s participation in the Coralville area garage sale.

Nominees for Elected Positions: Kirk Witzberger, representing the Leadership Development Committee (LDC), presented the slate of nominees for elected positions. Nominees for the Board: Joe Rasmussen (Vice President), Allison Bettine (Secretary), and John Raley (Finance Trustee); Leadership Development Committee: Marsha Cheyney; and Endowment Committee: Kris Canfield. The entire slate of nominees was elected, unanimously.

Minister’s Compensation Package: Chris Rode, Treasurer, provided an overview of the Minister’s Compensation Package. He explained that a congregational vote on this 2020 budget item is necessary now in order to include the information in our Ministerial Search materials. The congregation approved a maximum of \$140,825 for the Minister's Compensation Package.

Ministerial Search Committee: Voting to select members for the Ministerial Search Committee (MSC) was by printed ballot. DeWitt read the names of the 13 candidates for the seven positions on the MSC, and ballots were distributed to voting members.

Freethinker Friendly Congregation Resolution: DeWitt read the Freethinker Friendly Congregation (FFC) resolution as printed on the ballot (... “*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, That, UUS supports the UUS Secular Humanists moving forward with a formal application to the UU Humanist Association for the Freethinker Friendly Congregation designation.”). There was considerable discussion. At the end of discussion, DeWitt read the resolution again and asked members to mark their vote on the ballot.

Information on Fire & Tornado Emergency Procedures: The final agenda item was a brief introduction to UUS Fire & Tornado Emergency Procedures. The emergency map to be posted throughout the building was shown.

Announcements: DeWitt explained that immediately following the meeting, the Board of Trustees will count the ballots. As described previously, congregational voting will determine four of the MSC members (the four highest vote counts), and the Board will select the three additional members. Ballot voting results will be reported later in the week.

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m. Rev. Diane Dowgiert provided closing words and extinguished the Chalice.

RESULTS OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING VOTING BY BALLOT

The seven members of the UUS Ministerial Search Committee (MSC) were introduced to the congregation via an email announcement on May 20, 2019. The statement was: “As a result of the Congregational vote and the Board’s deliberations, the following UUS members will serve on the Ministerial Search Committee: Carol Adamson, John Bowman, Carolyn Johnson, Jodi Linley, Dave Martin, Alison Oliver, and Jerry Wetlaufer.”

The Freethinker Friendly Congregation (FFC) vote results were shared with the congregation via an email announcement on Wednesday, May 22, 2019. The statement was: “The UUS Board of Trustees reports the following results of Sunday's congregational vote on the Freethinker Friendly Congregation (FFC) Designation Resolution: 134 ballots were cast, with 78 yes, 42 no, and 14 abstentions.”

Unitarian Universalist Society Board of Trustees MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – June 13, 2019

Board meeting minutes are available on the website or can be requested from the UUS administrator.

Present: Jane DeWitt (President), Jim Laughlin (Past-President), Amy Fretz (Vice-President), Chris Rode (Treasurer), Peg Voelker (Secretary), Michael Honey-Arcement (Trustee), Paul Pomrehn (Trustee), and Sara Feldmann (Trustee).

Absent: Colleen Higgins (Trustee), and Rev. Diane Dowgiert (Ex officio Interim Minister).

Guests: Allison Bettine, John Raley, and Joe Rasmussen.

A potluck dinner with the newly elected Board members was held prior to the meeting, Board President DeWitt called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m. Sara Feldmann provided opening words.

Consent Agenda & Announcements: Consent and other items are put in Dropbox for Board review prior to the meeting.

Consent Agenda items: June Board Agenda; June Executive Committee Minutes; May 2019 Congregational Minutes; Interim Minister's Monthly Report; Treasurer's Report & Financials; 2019-2020 UUS Board Contact Information Sheet Draft (Voelker); and May 2019 Congregational Meeting Vote Tally (Voelker). Other items: Conflict of Interest Policy (Rode).

Noted from the minister's monthly report is that Rev. Dowgiert and the staff plan to hold a series of forums in the fall to continue and broaden recent conversations about the Freethinker Friendly Congregation designation and our theological diversity. Also, an all-congregation potluck is scheduled for Friday, August 23, to interactively reflect on the history of UUS. And a congregation-wide Mission/Vision Workshop is scheduled for Saturday, September 28.

The Board decided that Congregational Meeting Minutes need to be approved by the congregation at the next congregational meeting, instead of by the Board. The Board approved June Executive Committee minutes and received the Consent Agenda.

Leadership Development Committee vacancy: DeWitt reviewed that our by-laws state that the Board has the power to fill vacancies on elected committees until the next Elections Meeting. Therefore, *the Board approved the recommendation from the Leadership Development Committee (LDC) to appoint David Tokuhisa to the LDC.*

Financial Issues: The Endowment Committee notified the Board that the 5% annual spending allocation (ASA) for 2019 is \$50,413 – \$10,000 less than budgeted. This brings the projected budget shortfall for the year to approximately \$52,000. The Board discussed the recent message to the congregation from the Stewardship Committee and available options to cover any budget shortfall. These options include an increase in contributions/revenue, drawing from unrestricted cash reserves, obtaining congregational approval to use additional non-corporate endowment funds, and cutting back on UUA dues. No action is needed at this time. The Board will continue to monitor the situation.

Conflict of Interest proposed policy and statement: Rode developed and shared a UUS Board Conflict of Interest Policy. The second reading of the policy and Board vote will occur during the next Board meeting.

Departing Board Members Appreciation: The following departing Board members were recognized for their service: Sara Feldmann (Financial Trustee), Jim Laughlin (Past-President), and Peg Voelker (Secretary).

Closing: Laughlin provided closing words. Michael Honey-Arcement reported as Process Observer. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. The next Board meeting is Thursday, July 11, 2019 starting at 6:30 p.m. in the UUS Conference Room.

Submitted by Peg Voelker, Secretary

The UUS News

The Unitarian Universalist Society
2355 Oakdale Road
Coralville, IA 52241

Website: www.uusic.org

Office Phone: 319-337-3443

Our Mission: *We are a diverse spiritual community that touches hearts, changes lives, and transforms the world.*

Our Vision: *To be a loving, inclusive, and growing spiritual community. We celebrate life and a liberal tradition that leads social justice work, heals the earth, and nurtures the lifelong journey of mind and spirit.*

Our Seven Principles

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person.
2. Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations.
3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations.
4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning.
5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.
6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.
7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

UUS Staff

Interim Minister: Rev. Diane Dowgiert (minister@uusic.org)

Congregational Administrator:

Emma Barnum (admin@uusic.org)

Director of Lifespan Religious Education:

Jessica Zimmer (education@uusic.org)

Director of Congregational Life:

Peggy Garrigues (dcl@uusic.org)

Music Director: Gloria L. Corbin (music@uusic.org)

Accompanist: Peng Zhang (accompanist@uusic.org)

Publicity Coordinator:

Jeff Walberg (publicity@uusic.org)

Administrative Assistant:

Nik Jakob (admin.assistant@uusic.org)

Childcare Coordinator: Anna Rode (nursery@uusic.org)

Facilities Coordinator:

Lesanne Fliehler (facilities.coordinator@uusic.org)

Building Steward: Ron Wright (contact_admin@uusic.org)

Community Minister:

Rev. Lois Cole (community.minister@uusic.org)

UUS Board of Trustees, 2019-2020

President: Amy Fretz

(720-207-4513, amymhere@gmail.com)

Vice President: Joe Rassmussen

(721-7777, uusicc.joe@gmail.com)

Past President: Jane DeWitt

(621-5033, jane.dewitt@drake.edu)

Secretary: Allison Bettine

(630-272-6907, allison.bettine@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Chris Rode

(520-241-1431, ccrode@gmail.com)

Finance Trustee: John Raley

(321-5437, jralley@amfam.com)

Trustee: Michael Honey-Arcement

(563-289-7153, mike@gwn-ws.com)

Trustee: Colleen Higgins

(646-6564, colleen_iris1950@yahoo.com)

Trustee: Paul Pomrehn

(594-2371, paulpomrehn@gmail.com)