



THE UUS NEWS

November 2020

WE ARE A WELCOMING, SPIRITUALLY DIVERSE HOME. WE ACT ON OUR VALUES:

- * HONOR THE EARTH
- * ADVOCATE FOR RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
- * FOSTER DEEP CONNECTIONS
- * EMBRACE THE ONGOING QUEST FOR MEANING

Upcoming Sunday Services

Join the Virtual Service via Zoom each week at bit.ly/UUSVirtualService. Meeting ID: 422-482-660

Or join via phone: Find your local number: bit.ly/UUSServices_FindZoomNumber.

Each week the Zoom meeting will open at 9:45 am, with the service beginning at 10. A time for virtual fellowship will follow.

November 1st: “Love, Hope, and Remembering,” Rev. Diana Smith

On November 1st we’ll celebrate a Day of Remembrance for all those we love and care about who have died, human and non-human. This year we’ll also reflect on searching for emotional and spiritual grounding, community, reconciliation, and the shadings of love and hope in a time of grief, uncertainty, waiting, and tension.

November 8th: “Resources for A Long-Haul People: A Post-Election Worship Service,” Rev. Diana Smith

No matter the outcome of the election or whether the outcome is unknown, we’ll join together for worship on Sunday to celebrate the calls of our religious movement and to build our resources for this long-haul work.

November 15th: “Transgender Day of Remembrance and Resilience,” Aiden Bettine

What does remembrance call us to do? Can the act of remembering result in healing and change? UUS Member Aiden M. Bettine will explore questions of collectivity and solidarity in the fight for transgender rights and offer reflections on how to build a trans-inclusive society. This service is in honor of the Transgender Day of Remembrance, an annual day of mourning that occurs on November 20th.

November 22nd: “Finding Hope, Healing, and Gratitude in a Hard Place,” Rev. Diana Smith

A Thanksgiving service and new member ceremony.

November 29th: “Compassion is the New Radicalism,” H. S. Udaykumar, PhD

In Eastern thought three poisons are named: Greed, Anger, and Misperception; all three lead to individual and collective suffering. The antidote to suffering is compassion. To celebrate the environmental work of the United Nations, the Green Sanctuary Team invites Dr. Uday’s reflections on how the environmental crisis can be addressed by cultivating and practicing compassion towards the planet and all sentient beings.

November’s Social Justice Offerings Benefit the Free Lunch Program (FLP)

Preparation and serving of the UUS Free Lunch shift every second Friday changed half a year ago to catered food, assembled in a clamshell container and handed out at a side door of the building. We have persisted, and those who make it to 1105 S. Gilbert Ct. get fed good food. As reported in the past, UUS has not missed a second Friday since 1986.

The Free Lunch Program as a whole is surviving with the help of continuing groups of volunteer servers—and many who support the program financially to offer “an open door, a full plate, no questions asked” six days a week. You can do that this month!

Cash or check donations can be given [online through Realm \(onrealm.org/uusic/-/give/SJOffering\)](https://onrealm.org/uusic/-/give/SJOffering), or mailed to the office. (Write checks to UUS, with *FLP* on the memo line.)



From Your Minister

On this eve of a monumental election, many of us wait with fear and anxiety, wondering what events around the election and the outcome will mean for our lives and our loved ones' lives. We wait, knowing that whatever the outcome, our quest to build a world of more justice, which is rooted in our Unitarian Universalist faith, is long-haul work. We sit here

knowing that this is long-haul work and we are long-haul people. We are rooted in a religious movement that gives us the strength, courage, patience, faith, and love that we need in order to be here and keep striving to build the world of greater justice that we seek.

And yet, as we sit here in a liminal space—a space where we are in between what has been but not yet in what is coming—I find myself just wanting to know. Anxious, not only about possible outcomes, but anxious because I have to wait. In this waiting, things that would normally frustrate us, like a dropped dish or the dog pulling too hard on the leash, can spark an outburst. Things that are a little bit funny can make us laugh, perhaps until we cry. And so, in the midst of this we can find ourselves simply wanting an outcome, an answer. Even as our rational minds tell us that could likely take weeks, and even once we have an election outcome, we will still be in the midst of the pandemic and we will still have the long-haul work.

So what do we do with this?

This month, when our Soul Matters theme is Healing, we'll be reflecting on different ways of engaging in the spiritual work of sitting in liminal space, making space for and processing our feelings, building our spiritual and emotional resources, and getting ourselves resourced for long-haul work. We'll be engaging in somatic work—work designed to help our bodies and limbic systems process the stress, anxiety, anger, fear, and trauma we're experiencing. We'll be holding vigils, worship services, and meditating or praying in the ways that speak to each of us. Some of us will be registering voters, making calls or sending postcards, attending marches, or being peacekeepers (a box on page 3 has information on UUS events surrounding the election). We'll be developing our spiritual resources as we engage with justice work as a spiritual practice, a spiritual path, and a faith journey.

And we'll be doing this together. We are not alone, none of us. No matter what our life circumstances are, how the pandemic has made us isolate, or our political views. None of us is alone. This congregation is here to hold all of us, to proclaim our inherent worth and dignity, even as it invites all of us to greater and deeper personal development and justice work, to help us cultivate compassion and presence, and to help us do the things that seem impossible when we're alone.

And so I hope you'll join us for worship services, vigils, classes, or other events this month. And may each and every one of us find the strength, courage, patience, faith, and love to keep our hearts open, to live love and justice, and to continue to do our healing work, alone and together.

Blessed be, Rev. Diana

From Your Board President, Joe Rasmussen

A New Thanksgiving

How did it get to be November? I have found myself lulled into a pandemic lockdown state of forgetting what day of the week or week in the month it is. Time has slowed down when so many days are the same routine. That has allowed time for reading, reorganizing, and reflection. The Thanksgiving holiday for many of us will be different this year, but we can still reflect on what we are grateful for during these unusual circumstances.

I am grateful for Zoom Sundays. It is so good to see and talk to people. I've met people I don't know in the breakout rooms. Sundays relieve the sense of isolation and foster connection.

I am grateful for Reverend Diana Smith. It takes great faith to move halfway across the country to start a new ministry during a pandemic. She has shown the skills and capacity to lead us through this time safely and bring us out to a new normal.

I am grateful for our Society's staff who all stepped up to reimagine how we do business and services. They have taken on new and additional responsibilities without being asked and done it very well. Our staff has responded with dedication and imagination.

I am grateful for the many volunteers who have taken care of our building, grounds, and programming while the building is closed. They have proven that not even COVID-19 can stop the work of this Society.

I am grateful that UUS has a decent financial picture. Other churches and organizations are approaching dire straits, but not us. Resource management by the staff, team leaders, and your leadership have given us the breathing room to look forward with optimism.

I am grateful for former and current Board of Trustee members. They have supported the work of this Society and each other through difficult decisions while addressing unexpected situations. They have laid the groundwork with bylaw revisions, a new covenant of right relations, a new mission and vision statement, and new governance policies and structure.

I am grateful for the energy and commitment that everyone has displayed to our common Mission and Vision for UUS. The prospect of a new year and a new normal with new opportunities is exciting. The congregational meeting planned for December 20th will start to shape our course for 2021. Some things will change in the new normal, but not our commitment to each other and the world around us.

Be Safe. Peace.

Post-Election Events

- **UUS Worship Service: “Love, Hope, and Remembering,”** Sunday, November 1st, 10 am via Zoom (link on page 1)
- **UUS Post-Election Vigil,** Wednesday, November 4th: The day after the election, we will be holding space online, from 9 am to 1 pm, and from 4 to 8 pm. Join at any time to listen to music, sing, read together, or talk. ([Join via Zoom](#), Meeting ID: 985 3342 7936, Passcode: 225085)
At the UUS grounds and entryway from 9 am to 6 pm, we will have materials and resources to engage in individual practices outdoors. Please wear a mask, as others may be present, and maintain physical distancing.
- **UUA and Side With Love Post-Election Vigil and Community Gathering,** Thursday, November 5th: Join the UUA, UU the Vote, Side with Love, and UUA President Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray for this event. Hosted on Zoom, Facebook Live, and YouTube. Link will be available at <https://www.facebook.com/events/3713971198666868>
- **UUS Post-Election Worship Service,** Sunday, November 8th, 10 am via Zoom (link on page 1): No matter the outcome of the election or whether the outcome is unknown, we'll join together for worship on Sunday to celebrate the calls of our religious movement and to build our resources for this long-haul work.

Dante's *Divine Comedy*: Our Journey toward Wholeness, Virtual Class Beginning November 5th

Daniel Christian, who has been attending UUS since he moved to Iowa City in the summer of 2019, will present three class sessions focused on Dante's *Divine Comedy*. This is a repeat of the class he offered in July.

The class will expand upon poet and Dante translator John Ciardi's assertion that "to read Dante is to educate the eye. We can see better after having looked through Dante's eyes." Those who participate will be invited to think carefully and to consider courageously how a Dante sharpened "eye" can enhance our individual and collective "I." Dante's story about the next life takes us, "in this life," on a journey to a place of better clarity about what it means to be and to become, more whole/holy human beings.

Daniel offered a senior elective on the *Divine Comedy* at the Baltimore, MD, high school where he taught for more than 40 years. He's also offered this class extensively at churches. UUS will offer this class on three Thursday evenings in November, from 7 to 8:30 pm: November 5th, 12th, and 19th. Sign up at <https://forms.gle/5EzFqUiX56oqADfjA>, and you will receive a Zoom link to attend the sessions.

Secular Humanists, November 17th

On Tuesday, November 17th, at 7 pm via Zoom, we will host Mark Stringer, Executive Director of ACLU-Iowa and former minister of the Des Moines Unitarian Universalist Church. He will share recent and current actions and concerns of the ACLU state-wide and nationally. We will invite UUDM Humanists and congregants, as well as SecSI (Secular Students at Iowa) to join us for this event. All UUS members are welcome. ([Link to Join](#), Meeting ID: 851 2816 3219, Passcode: 759979)

Winter Clothing Drive Is Complete!

819 coats were distributed along with other items needed for cold weather at the annual Consultation of Religious Communities (CRC) Winter Clothing Drive. Seventeen churches contributed, including UUS. Thanks to all who brought clothing! This drive was shorter than planned due to smaller amounts of clothing donated as well as a shortage of volunteers. COVID made it a difficult event to pull off!

New Prison Ministry Team Report

Thank you to those who responded to last month's UUS newsletter appeal for financial support of Simon Tunstall by the newly formed Prison Ministry Team. Simon, a UUS member and inmate at Iowa Medical and Classification Center, has served 34 years of a life sentence and is well known to several at UUS. Prior to COVID-19, Simon had UUS visitors, usually involving a Scrabble game, and a few who periodically helped with financial contributions for basic items.

Joe Brisben was the major financial supporter of Simon. In Joe's absence and memory, the Prison Ministry Team is trying to continue this support by asking UUS members to contribute \$100 in a one-time gift or recurring monthly donations of \$10 via Realm (onrealm.org/uusic/give/PrisonMinistry) for one year. We are close to our goal and only need a few more UUS members to answer this appeal. Please help if you can. Checks can also be sent to UUS at 2355 Oakdale Road, Coralville, Iowa 52241 with "Simon" on the memo line. Thanks again.



Volunteers moved branches, spread mulch, and did other needed tasks during a Fall Outdoor Workday on October 24th

Past Sunday Service Attendance

- October 4th:** ~122 Participating Zoom Accounts
- October 11th:** ~109 Participating Zoom Accounts
- October 18th:** ~113 Participating Zoom Accounts
- October 25th:** ~118 Participating Zoom Accounts



UU Free Lunch Report

After a cold, rainy second Friday in September, volunteer Bonnie Penno reports that a “fabulous Fall Friday” brought 73 guests to Free Lunch on October 9th. Many thanks to UUS volunteers Bonnie Penno, Vicki Siefers, Sherry Dolash, Lori Marshall, and Russ Lenth (masked, gloved, and social distanced for the 7th straight month) who assembled and handed out boxed lunches of chicken strips, baked beans, coleslaw, a banana, and a drink through a side door at 1105 S. Gilbert. In a show of support, Gay Mikelson stopped by to offer thanks to our volunteers and lend a hand. Bonnie also reports that the meal received many compliments! Grateful thanks to Caryl Lyons who generously provided the main dish of chicken strips and to UUS Free Lunch volunteers and other UUS donors whose money gifts once again purchased the side dishes and fresh fruit as well as the boxes, napkins, and eating utensils.

We are happy to report that UUS donors have already committed to cover the cost of main dishes for the rest of 2020 but we do need to ask for additional money gifts to cover the considerable cost of the side dishes. If you are in a position to help, please send a check to UUS with “UUS Free Lunch” written in the memo line. You can also give through Realm: onrealm.org/uusic/give/FreeLunch. Any amount helps! In this time of COVID-19, a good hearty meal means so much to so many.

And, if you are interested in finding out other ways you can be of service to Free Lunch, please contact Carmen Griggs at csgriggsiowa@gmail.com.



Covenant Groups Report

Listening respectfully to one another is one of the foundations of covenant groups, one of the principal reasons they exist. But you can't take something this central to their mission for granted. It must be revisited from time to time so members can meaningfully recommit to its practice. Groups did just that in October in our discussions of “What Is It Like to Be a People of Deep Listening?” How does listening become deep? When listeners put aside their own assumptions, concerns, desires, including to be heard themselves—then they attain the state of receptiveness needed to truly hear what another is saying. As Henri Nouwen writes, “True listeners no longer have an inner need to make their presence known. They are free to receive, to welcome, to accept.” That's hard work, but it's what we must do to become or remain connected in a world that is pulling us apart.

If topics like this intrigue you, you may be ready to join a covenant group. The covenant group program offers its members the opportunity to their views and deepen their understanding of a wide range of issues while creating closer ties with other UUs. You can learn more about the program and how to join a group by contacting Jan Locher (354- 6260, locherj@mchsi.com).

Treats and Talents Holiday Auction, December 5th

The UUS Treats and Talents Auction is taking a COVID-19 diversion and offering a Holiday Auction for all your holiday shopping needs. The event of the year! Put the evening of December 5th on your calendar for an online gathering as the culmination of the online auction. Details will be worked out soon—watch the Wednesday emails!

What would you like to offer to the UUS community? Something you bought and didn't need? Some family treasures? Something you made? Something your child outgrew and another child would love? Something you would love to see as a treasured gift? Items should be new, like-new, or antique/collectible. (We hope to have a separate rummage sale in the spring if it can be done safely.) Gather the items you want to offer NOW for an online event to benefit the UUS and its many worthy causes.

What do you really want this year? The possibilities are endless:

- Virtual events, such as Zoom bingo, online card games, or a Zoom concert or cooking event (Peggy Garrigues and others are available to offer suggestions and technical help if you have an online idea but don't know how to make it work).
- Antiques and collectibles
- Homemade food items
- Handmade gifts
- Services that can be offered while social distancing.

Send your offers to judy.tokuhisa@gmail.com, providing a description of your offering (with pictures if appropriate) and a suggested price. Please consider safety during the COVID-19 pandemic when deciding on what to offer this year. Events or services that require meeting will require mutually agreed-upon times and following UUS guidelines for distancing and masks for whatever phase we are in when the event occurs.

The deadline to receive the donations is November 30th.

Treasurer's September Financial Report Excerpt

Overall, our bank accounts (cash available) remain stable. This is a credit to staff and committees effectively following the restricted spending guidelines the Board has instituted due to COVID. The end-of-month total for our various Operating Bank Accounts equals \$379,120. These include our several operating accounts and the remainder of the Capital Campaign funds. These accounts have been steady around the 350k-400k level all this year. (Income or Expenses can spike in any given month causing fluctuations within that 50k range.) This steadiness indicates no current concerns of overspending the 2020 budget.

Endowment Funds end-of-month totals equal \$1,402,000. These several stock funds' value generally follows the stock market values. We have been taking \$12,800 out per month for operating expenses beginning in May and ending in December. Despite taking these monies out, we are still on the positive side for the year.

The Finance and Endowment Committees continue to work on Policy and Procedures as the Board requested. The Stewardship Team has nicely launched the 2021 Pledge Campaign. Pledges are coming in and being tracked. The Endowment Committee has agreed to contribute 5% of the General Endowment to the 2021 Operating Budget as the Annual Spending Allowance (ASA). They look forward to receiving proposals for the use of Detiger and Reese funds for other appropriate necessary expenses.

After gaining approval from the Finance Committee and the Executive Committee, we have agreed to a proposal from Central State Bank to refinance our building mortgage on December 1st, 2020, with a balance owed of about \$840,000. We will have a loan of that amount at 3.55% interest on a five-year term, with \$500 in bank fees. These numbers are at the very low end of costs for the current market. We will amortize payments (\$5,000/month) over 20 years, instead of 15 years (\$6,000/month). We can, over the five years, make extra principle payments if we wish. We await the final contracts and a closing date.

—Mike Pavelich

October Birthdays

Dean Abel	Cecile Owings
Joyce Bernardy	Emma Peterschmidt
Kris Canfield	Paul Pomrehn
Jeanette Carter	Christina Randall
Dixie Cassady	Alyssa Selmer
Edie Cawley	Margaret Street
Ernie Cox	Jonah Supp-Montgomery
Ava Su Gan-Wei	Carlos Tellez
Gail Garwood	Hudson Turner
Joel Gilbertson-White	George Verhage
Peyton Headings	Tova Vitiello
Kathy Hotsenpiller	Kirk Witzberger
Kenn Hubel	
Judy Leavitt	
Kim McWane Friese	
Jane Miller	
Ruth Muir	

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

Message on 2020 Budget Spending

Sent to group leaders and staff on October 25th

UUS Program Chairs and Staff,

Firstly, I want to thank all of you for following so nicely the restrictions on spending that the Executive Committee instituted when COVID-19 hit and we closed the building. Your restraint has allowed UUS to proceed with its essential functions and services to the community without harming our finances. Again, thank you.

In the early months of COVID, "Please don't spend" was the rule of the day for committees, teams, groups, and staff. In July the dictate was loosened. A catchphrase for where we are now is:

"If you judge that the health of the community or your program's work requires you to spend budgeted funds, do it. If not, please don't."

For donations of budgeted funds to justice organizations or efforts, please consider the question: **"Does this outside group need our help now, or can it wait?"**

These guidelines will be the rule of the day through the remainder of 2020. We will reassess spending guidelines for the 2021 budgets that will go into effect January 1st, 2021.

If you are unsure of action, you might want to run your ideas by me (treasurer@uusic.org) or your staff liaison.

May you enjoy the day, Mike Pavelich (Treasurer)

Congregational Administrator's September Financial Report Excerpt

September pledge payments are down again compared to last month (59% of budgeted monthly income was received in September compared to 74% in August). Year-to-date we are down from budget (59% of our pledge goal vs. an anticipated 75%). The deficit is due in part to a late September bank deposit that didn't hit the bank until October, but income is also clearly being affected by the anticipated decrease in pledge payments. Total Operating Income for August was \$23,359.27 (not including restricted giving).

In September, UUs raised \$1,177 for our various social justice agencies (including \$992 for Shelter House, \$135 extra for the Free Medical Clinic, and \$50 extra for the August 5th Sunday agency, the Eastern Iowa Community Bond Project). A Faithify campaign run by UUS and Peoples in Cedar Rapids raised \$3,481.72 for derecho relief in the Corridor. There was also \$120 in additional BLM sign sales, and \$400 for the RJT's Negro Artist online performance and book sales.

Expenses continue to mostly stay well below budget with staff and groups observing the non-essential spending freeze set in place by the Board.

—Emma Barnum

Unitarian Universalist Society Board of Trustees Meeting Highlights

October 21st, 2020 (virtual via Zoom)

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

PRESENT: Joe Rasmussen (President), Alan Swanson (Vice-President), Amy Fretz (Past-President), Mike Pavelich (Treasurer), Carol Adamson (Secretary), John Raley (Financial Trustee), Colleen Higgins (Trustee), Paul Pomrehn (Trustee), Julia Audlehelm (Trustee), and Rev. Diana Smith (Minister, Ex-Officio). **GUESTS:** Deb Schoelerman

Board President Joe Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

CONSENT AGENDA: Consent agenda and other items are uploaded to Dropbox for Board review prior to the meeting.

The Board voted and received the consent agenda and approved the September Board Minutes, October Executive Committee minutes, Staff report, Treasurer report and financial summary, affiliation agreement for Rev. Lois Cole.

STAFF HIRING: Rev. Smith provided a summary of the work she has done so far to find a replacement for Aura Strohschein (Accompanist/Music Facilitator) whose last day at UUS will be September 20th, 2020. Rev. Smith will be hiring a new (permanent) Accompanist and a (temporary) Music Facilitator.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Rasmussen reviewed the current membership of the Board Committees. Next month we will have a formal appointment of the non-elected Board Committee members. There was discussion about their term of appointment, serving as co-chair, and ex officio status of staff members. Pomrehn and Raley said each committee has its own needs and cycles, and they would like to determine terms, etc., in consultation with their committees.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **UUS Shared Ministry: Board Policies and Procedures**—*The Board substituted the endowment sections with sections proposed by the Endowment Committee and voted to officially adopt with immediate effectiveness the UUS Shared Ministry—Board Policies and Procedures.*
- **Building Re-opening: Benchmarks and Phases**—Rev. Smith reported that the COVID team has determined safe practices for Halloween, Remembrance Service, and Treats and Talents, and for those working on the grounds. The team has also developed safe practices for in-person pastoral care at the building. The COVID team asked for approval to change the benchmark measurement to a 14-day rolling average and, if the 14 day rolling average is 1% above the current phase for more than 7 days or if there is a bad outbreak, the UUS may go back to the previous phase. *The Board voted and approved these changes to the benchmark criteria.*
- **Mortgage Refinance**—Pavelich provided an update on the status of the mortgage refinance. The Finance and Executive Committee have already unanimously approved the agreement, and the Finance Committee is awaiting the final contract and a closing date. *The Board voted and approved the CSB agreement for an \$840,000 loan refinance with 3.55% interest on a 5-year term, with \$500 in Bank fees, and amortize payments (\$5,000.00/month) over 20 years.*

NEW BUSINESS

- **Memorial Garden Proposal**—Audlehelm described the Land Ministry's plans for the UUS Memorial Garden. Since the original site plan had the garden placed in an inaccessible location, the site has been changed to an accessible spot closer to the back of the building and visible from the sanctuary.
- **Purchase of Audio-visual Equipment for Live-streaming**—Rasmussen reported that AV equipment is now more readily available but there is a 4-6 week lead time for the installation. Raley said the Endowment Committee will need to approve the funding source and will need to ensure that the purchase will involve outreach to the greater community. *The Board voted and approved the purchase of the AV equipment regardless of the funding source.*
- **Budget line items for Board of Trustees**—*The Board voted to approve adjustments in its line items for 2021 and forwarded those to the Finance Committee.*
- **Follow-up Meeting with UUA Consultant & Board-Minister Covenant**—There was consensus that an initial meeting with Rev. Sharon Dittmar (UUS's new UUA MidAmerica Region contact person for Congregational Life) would be held on the morning of Saturday, November 21st, 2020, to acquaint Rev. Dittmar with UUS and develop the Minister Covenant.
- **January Planning Meeting**—Rasmussen suggested we have a Planning meeting in January 2021 and a Board Retreat in June 2021. The Retreat would include both old and new Board members. After discussion, there was consensus to schedule these events as Rasmussen suggested.
- **Group Read: Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times by Peter Steinke**—Rev. Smith recommended this book for a group read as we are in anxious times. The book gives us a common language and tools to explore and understand how to best lead through these difficult times. The group discussed part one: "The Leader's Presence." At the November meeting we will discuss part two: "The Leader's Functioning."

Rasmussen adjourned the meeting at 9:42 pm. The next meeting is Wednesday, November 18th, at 7 pm.

—Carol Adamson, Secretary

The UUS News

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Community Minister: Rev. Lois Cole (community.minister@uusic.org)

UUS Board of Trustees, 2020-2021

President: Joe Rasmussen (721-7777, uusicc.joe@gmail.com)
Vice President: Alan Swanson (321-3129, alan-swanson@mchsi.com)
Past President: Amy Fretz (720-207-4513, amymhere@gmail.com)
Secretary: Carol Adamson (855-8625, cadamson2@zoho.com)
Treasurer: Mike Pavelich (338-5168, treasurer@uusic.org)
Finance Trustee: John Raley (321-5437, jraley@amfam.com)
Trustee: Colleen Higgins (646-6564, colleeniris9@gmail.com)
Trustee: Paul Pomrehn (594-2371, paulpomrehn@gmail.com)
Trustee: Julia Audlehelm (530-4471, juliasdrawings11@gmail.com)

Our Mission: We are a welcoming, spiritually diverse home. We act on our values: Honor the Earth; Advocate for racial and social justice; Foster deep connections; Embrace the ongoing quest for meaning.

Our Vision: We aspire to be a more inclusive, loving, diverse congregation that welcomes all people. We will defend and celebrate the Earth, confront racial and social injustice, and nurture deep connections.

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.