



# THE UUS NEWS

October 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](https://bit.ly/UUSVirtualService). Meeting ID: 422-482-660

Or join via phone: Find your local number: [bit.ly/UUSServices](https://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.

### October 4th: "Walking The Perimeter of Truth"

Rev. Diana Smith

Join us to reflect on Indigenous Peoples Day, which will be observed on October 12th this year.

### October 11th: "A Community of Radical Love,"

Rev. Diana Smith

Join us as we launch our 2021 operating budget pledge drive by reflecting on how we create and strengthen our communities and our congregation.

### October 18th: "Member Stories,"

The UUS Stewardship Team

In this special service, members will share what they love about the Unitarian Universalist Society, how they support UUS, and how UUS sustains them.

### October 25th: Threads that Weave Us Together,"

Rev. Diana Smith

This Sunday we'll come together online to celebrate our commitments to UUS as we wrap up our 2021 operating budget pledge drive.

## Past Sunday Service Attendance

- August 30th: ~120 Participating Zoom Accounts
- September 6th: ~102 Participating Zoom Accounts
- September 13th: ~111 Participating Zoom Accounts
- September 20th: ~118 Participating Zoom Accounts
- September 27th: ~118 Participating Zoom Accounts

## October's Social Justice Offerings Benefit the Emma Goldman Clinic

Emma's continues to be a safe and caring clinic for women, men, and teens to receive client-centered medical care. Clinic staff and volunteers welcome individuals with diverse gender and sexual expression and offer total support of pregnancy choices. Flu shots, STI and UTI screening, and options counseling are also available during walk-in hours.

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 *Emma Goldman* on the memo line.)

## October Birthdays

- |                            |               |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Jeanette Corley            | Gray Linley   |
| John Cunningham            | Sue Otto      |
| Sherry Dolash              | Mark Penno    |
| Irvin Emig                 | Bruce Randall |
| Emi Estudillo              | Joe Rasmussen |
| Stephanie Gilbertson-White | Chris Rode    |
| Michael Honey-Arcement     | Rhonda Rowden |
| Lois Hughes                | Jeff Walberg  |
| Charlie Ingersoll          | Julia Wasson  |
| Grace Ingersoll            | Mark Yuskis   |
| Henry Ingersoll            |               |
| Sasha Jakob                |               |
| Emily Johnson              |               |
| Bailey Kelley              |               |
| Tom Larkin                 |               |
| Emerson Linley             |               |

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



### From Your Minister

As the days shorten and the calendar turns toward October, my mind is turning to our Soul Matters theme for the month, Deep Listening, and our pledge campaign theme, Threads That Weave Us Together. Together these two themes call us to a certain kind of mindfulness—attentive to others, ourselves, and the Earth—that can guide us into the fall, the election season, and the winter.

Our themes invite us to move more deeply into understanding what it means for each of us individually and for all of us as a congregation and as parts of wider communities to join in solidarity within a community of radical love and welcoming. During a month that promises to be divisive in broader American culture, pitting people against each other to deepen divisions and attempt to expand authoritarianism, I've almost never felt more counter-cultural than I do when I reflect on these themes.

In the early 1800s, our Universalist ancestor Hosea Ballou also lifted up these counter-cultural themes when he asked, "How

are we bound up together?" He answered that salvation for each person is bound up in the community as a whole: "One's lot is cast with the rest of the human race." We can start to appreciate how radical his statements were when we notice that he preached that all of us are one organic whole and all people are essential to our salvation. No one is left behind. As he wrote, "I neither expect nor desire perfect happiness while I see my fellow-man in misery."

Ballou's words connected theology, social justice, and questions of our ultimate meaning or purpose. While much has changed in 200 years, our Universalist belief in our deep interdependence and interconnection hasn't. It drives our justice work and how we center love in our interpersonal connections, our congregations, and in our work with our communities and the Earth.

So, as we enter October and this deepening time of year, what are you listening for? What thread of how we are bound together, how we weave together is it guiding you to? How does this weave into the story of our congregation, our community, and our work in the world?

I look forward to exploring these questions with you this month.

Love and Blessings, Rev. Diana

### From Your Board President, Joe Rasmussen

#### *Moving Forward*

After six months of pandemic closures and disruptions, it sometimes feels like everything is at a stand-still. However, UUS is moving forward in ways that are not always obvious. Our Leadership Development Committee moved quickly to fill two vacancies on the Board of Trustees. Welcome to Carol Adamson, our new Board Secretary, and Julia Audlehelm, our new Trustee-at-Large. They will both be up for election to complete these terms of office at the next congregational meeting, December 20th. Carol and Julia joined the rest of the Board members in a three-day Ministerial Start-Up workshop with Reverend Diana and a UUA consultant. We will be working on a Board-Minister covenant going forward.

Two years of work by the Board's Governance Committee has received its final review by the Board at the September meeting. Our interim minister Reverend Diane had focused our attention on reviewing and updating UUS policies. The finished product, UUS Shared Ministry—Board Policies and Procedures, will be on the Board's October agenda for approval and implementation. This is important not only for updating and organizing church policies, but it will also formally confirm UUS structure as a policy governance church. UUS had been a committee-based operation. The bylaw changes approved in January combined with the new Board policies is a significant change. The Board retains its fiduciary and oversight responsibilities but will focus more on our mission and vision going forward. The minister and senior staff will be responsible for the teams that provide our programming and implement our mission and vision. The new policy book will be available on our website for review by UUS members prior to the October Board meeting. If you have questions about these policies, please email me and I will do my best to provide answers. The Procedures part to this is still in the works and will provide detailed instructions to some of the policies.

The September Board meeting also put into place a plan for re-opening UUS to in-person activities. There are five phases that require a benchmark to be reached to move forward from one phase to the next. Summarizing the five phases begins where we are now in Phase One, where the building is closed and no activities are being held. Phase Two allows for outdoor small group (seven persons) meetings at UUS if the Johnson County COVID positivity rate is 10% or lower for 8 out of 14 consecutive days. Phase Three allows for group gatherings of 12 persons outdoors and indoors if the county positivity rate is 8% or less for 8 out of 14 consecutive days. Phase Four has services, funerals, and gatherings of up to 50 persons when the county positivity rate reaches 5% or lower during the past 28 consecutive day period. Phase Five will be a complete re-opening of UUS when there are no new COVID cases for at least 30 days after we reach Phase Four.

These phases and benchmarks were recommended by the Board's COVID Task Force of informed congregational members. They are similar to how various governmental bodies and school districts are assessing what to do during the pandemic. Our primary concern is keeping everyone who attends UUS safe. The Board voted to have the minister and staff operationalize the rules for how each phase is put into practice, and provided them with recommendations on these practices. The unpredictability of the COVID pandemic means the Board may have to reverse which phase we are in as the positivity rates go up and down.

It is important to note that nothing is carved in stone. The Board policy book will be a living document that changes over time to meet new issues and refine our current practices. The COVID Phased Plan will have to be flexible to meet the unknowns we will experience in the next few months. Let's all root for Phase Five! Be Safe. Wear a Mask. Vote. Peace.



### Leadership Development Committee

The Leadership Development Committee (LDC) is charged with finding nominees each year to fill leadership positions. LDC members—with input from UUS members and friends—identify nominees for the Board of Trustees, LDC, and the Endowment Committee.

Even if you've never thought of yourself as a leader, you might be more suited to a leadership role than you think. In searching for congregational leaders, we are looking for people from diverse backgrounds and of various ages who do their best to live out the UUS mission and vision; who listen and collaborate well; who think independently, but honor the democratic decision-making process; who are accountable and follow through with their promises and commitments; and who want to make a difference.

Our elected bodies have the following specific responsibilities and terms of office:

**Board of Trustees:** Has general charge of the affairs and business of the Society, including formulating policies, implementing the vision and mission, and oversight of the property and finances of the Society. In spring of 2021 we will elect a new Vice President and two Trustees at Large. Terms are for three years.

**Endowment Committee:** Raises, conserves, and administers funds for the UUS from memorials or as an endowment for investment. Terms are for five years and one new Endowment Committee member will be elected in 2021.

**Leadership Development Committee:** Identifies qualified candidates for those leadership positions that are elected by the congregation; assists the Board in supporting the active, ongoing, intentional cultivation of UUS leaders; and helps develop leadership skills at every level, including individual members, committees, and Board members. Two new members will be elected to the LDC in the coming year for three-year terms.

Serving on one of these elective bodies is among the most rewarding ways to contribute to the UUS and a great opportunity to engage meaningfully with others in the Society, helping to fulfill the mission and vision of the congregation. So, if you have served on a committee or belonged to a group but would like to step up your engagement with UUS, please nominate yourself (or someone you deem capable) for one of these positions. For more information or to submit a nomination, contact Sue Otto ([sue.otto.ic@gmail.com](mailto:sue.otto.ic@gmail.com)).

*Great leaders don't set out to be leaders.  
They set out to make a difference. —Lisa Haisha*

### Dinner Church Returns!

Sharing a meal with others is a sacred act that deepens relationships and creates lasting bonds between people and communities. By taking time to eat together, even if we are not physically together, we nourish ourselves in body and spirit.

Rev. Diana is beginning an ongoing series of virtual Dinner Church gatherings where we will eat and talk together about our monthly themes on the first and third Thursdays of the month. This month's Dinner Church gatherings will be on October 1st and October 15th.

All are welcome to begin joining these Zoom calls at 6:30 pm. We'll begin our formal time together at 6:45 with a chalice lighting, song, and reading before we move into small discussion groups, ending by 8 pm.

### 2021 Stewardship Campaign

Pledge materials for our 2021 stewardship campaign will be mailed to all members and friends at the beginning of the month. Our goal is to raise \$450,000 in pledges for next year's operating budget. The theme for the campaign is *Threads That Weave Us Together*.

Our actions as a community are the threads that weave our UU members together. A stewardship pledge is an action that deepens our connections to one another. Our community has a strong past to draw on. As we go forward, we will meet the challenges of these times collectively through our commitments to each other and our community.

We invite you to join us for the following services:

- October 11th: Stewardship Kickoff Sunday
- October 18th: Campaign Update
- October 25th: Celebration of Commitment

If you have questions about pledging, or need help entering a pledge or setting up a payment in Realm, please contact the office at [admin@uusic.org](mailto:admin@uusic.org) or 319-337-3443.

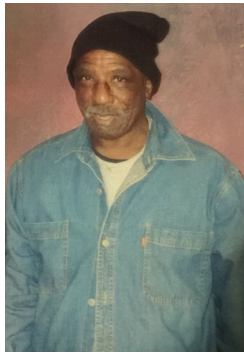
### UUS "UU The Vote" Team Formed

A new team dedicated to improving voter turnout has been created at UUS as a response to the service "Vote Love, Defeat Hate" on September 27th, which had speakers from the national UU the Vote campaign as well as from the local Voter Engagement Committee of the Johnson County Interfaith Coalition (JCIC). The new UUS team, led by Jim Olson, encourages all UUS members and friends to consider the following action steps ahead of the elections next month:

1. Join the UUS UU the Vote Team (contact Jim at [jimolson921@gmail.com](mailto:jimolson921@gmail.com))
2. Register and vote and encourage our friends, family, and networks to do likewise
3. Volunteer for voter registration events, phone banking, text banking and letter writing
4. Apply to be a poll worker
5. Donate to and partner with organizations promoting voter participation
6. Post and share the JCIC videos

## New Prison Ministry Team Seeking Donations

The newly-formed Prison Ministry Team is appealing for financial support of Simon Tunstall (pictured right). Simon, a 64-year-old African-American man, was born in segregated and disadvantaged north Omaha, Nebraska. He is currently serving a “life without parole” sentence at IMCC, also known as the Oakdale Prison. He’s been in prison for over 33 years. The presiding judge in his case called his severe sentence a miscarriage of justice but was bound by Iowa sentencing law.



Many UUS members have interacted with this kind, gentle man in various ways. In May of 2018, Simon became a UUS member when Joe Brisben and Mark Yuskis took the membership book into IMCC for him to sign.

Many prisoners have family and/or friends who help financially, but Simon relies on others for basic needs from the commissary as well as email communication. (Yes, email costs money in Iowa prisons.) Simon is unable to take an inmate work assignment due to his medical issues and time off needed for dialysis. In the past, Simon’s main source of financial help was Joe Brisben.

With Joe’s passing, we hope to raise enough funds to send Simon \$100/month. Contributions can be made through Realm ([onrealm.org/uusic/give/PrisonMinistry](https://onrealm.org/uusic/give/PrisonMinistry)) with a sustaining, monthly gift of \$5 or \$10, or a one-time cash gift to the Prison Ministry Fund (with “Simon” on the memo line). You can also send checks to UUS.

The Prison Ministry Team thanks you for your generosity and support! Team members: Sally Hartman, Kathy Huedepohl, David Martin, Kim Palmer, Ron Pile, and Mark Yuskis.

## Virtual Introduction to Walking the Labyrinth, October 6th & 20th

We have had a labyrinth on our land for just over a year now. If you are wondering what labyrinths are all about, or have been hesitant to try it, now is your chance.

The labyrinth is a powerful ancient symbol of our journey through life. In life, as with the labyrinth, we don’t always know where the path will take us, what twists and turns the future holds. Walking the labyrinth is a metaphor and an opportunity to trust that, if we just keep walking, the path will take us to the center and back out again. Labyrinths have been used for at least 3500 years and are found around the world.

Join Virginia Melroy on Tuesdays, October 6th and 20th, from 7 to 8 pm, for a two-session class on walking the labyrinth. In the first session she will give an introduction to labyrinths and their history, along with some guidance for walking the labyrinth as a spiritual practice. You will then be invited to walk the labyrinth yourself, on your own time, and share your reflections and ask more questions at the second session. Sign up for the class here: [forms.gle/JnpGAUe3DVEVr9X7](https://forms.gle/JnpGAUe3DVEVr9X7).

## UU Free Lunch Report

It’s hard to believe that Friday, September 11th, was the sixth month of the pandemic “new normal” for UUS volunteers serving at the Free Lunch Program.



The cold, rainy day kept our numbers down, but 50 intrepid Free Lunch guests lined up to receive boxed lunches through the side door at 1105 S. Gilbert. The small numbers meant more food for everyone! Many thanks to UUS volunteers Bonnie Penno, Ellen Funk, Gary Lawrenson, Linda Rice, and Robert Littlehale (still all masked, gloved, and social distanced), who assembled and handed out the boxed lunches of chicken strips, baked beans, coleslaw, a banana, and a drink. Grateful thanks to the Nighthawks Covenant Group who generously provided the main dish of chicken strips and to UUS Free Lunch volunteers whose donations 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 the main dishes for the rest of 2020, but we do need to ask for additional money gifts to cover the cost of the side dishes. If you are in a position to help, please send a check to UUS with “UUS Free Lunch” written on the memo line. Any amount helps! You can also give through Realm: [onrealm.org/uusic/give/FreeLunch](https://onrealm.org/uusic/give/FreeLunch).

And, if you are interested in finding out other ways you can be of service to Free Lunch, please contact Carmen Griggs at [cgriggsiowa@gmail.com](mailto:cgriggsiowa@gmail.com).

## Covenant Groups Report

After a summer of dealing with such demanding subjects as the pandemic and understanding anti-racism, covenant groups took a break from meeting in August. We came back together in September, however, refreshed (we hoped) and ready to talk about the future, especially our future with a new minister. Welcoming Rev. Diana into the UUS community and our own lives, and asking ourselves to examine, once again, what we want, expect, or hope for from a UU minister, formed the basis of our first group discussions of the new season.

### It Is a Great Time to Join a Covenant Group!

Covenant groups have been an important way for people to stay connected during the pandemic via Zoom. Meeting once a month with lively and ever deepening relationships, groups extend members’ social and spiritual lives. There are two facilitators for each group and groups are made up of 8 to 15 members. Topics will be focused on the monthly themes of Rev. Diana’s sermons. If you are interested in joining or rejoining a group, contact Jan Locher at 331-2723 or [locherj@mchsi.com](mailto:locherj@mchsi.com).

## Anti-Racism Study Groups Formed

We are excited to announce that we have had sufficient interest in the Anti-Racism Study Group offered by the Adult RE program and the Racial Justice Team to form two groups, which will begin meeting in October!

The focus of the groups will be on personal and internal growth so we do not cause harm when working for racial and social justice at UUS and in our communities. Members include both those who are just starting and those who have spent more time on racial justice and anti-racism work. Through personal reflection, discussion, small-and-large group sharing, creative and spiritual practices, reflective activities, and actionable goal setting, we will engage with our own experiences and those of other participants to support and help further each other's understanding and embodiment of anti-racism.

At this point, however, we do not have the capacity for more people to join the groups. Keep your eye on other offerings and opportunities related to racial justice in the Wednesday emails.

## Secular Humanists Report

We have no planned meeting in October. 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. Zoom details will be in the November UUS Newsletter and the Wednesday emails prior to the event.

## Treats and Talents Holiday Auction

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! Date is not set yet, but we are planning on early December.

What have you got 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?

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, or a Zoom concert
- Antiques and collectibles
- Homemade food items
- Handmade gifts
- Services that can be offered while social distancing
- OR Make a WISH: What do you really want? "I would pay \$150 if I only had ..."

Send your offers to [judy.tokuhisa@gmail.com](mailto:judy.tokuhisa@gmail.com), providing a description of your offering or wish (with pictures if appropriate) and a suggested price. Please consider the COVID-19 pandemic rules when deciding on what to offer this year. Items for sale, events, or services that require meeting will require mutually-agreed-upon times and social distancing.

## Treasurer's September Financial Report Excerpt

In August, our second month of doing all accounting in-house, Emma and Nik continue to do an excellent job. Bills and donations were handled in a timely and orderly fashion, end-of-the-month summaries were detailed and understandable, and glitches with QuickBooks are decreasing. Emma will be preparing a spreadsheet using new account numbers for us to start playing with 2021 possible budgets.

Overall our bank accounts (cash available) remain stable with end-of-month totals for all accounts equalling \$380,430 for August. These are 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.

Our various Endowment Funds ended August with a total value of \$1,432,200. These several stock funds' value generally follows the stock market values. As such they popped up by another \$50,000 over last month's closing. Don't get too excited, the stocks lost most of that 50k in the next few days before they steadied out again. We are still on the positive side for the year. We have been taking \$12,800 out per month for operating expenses beginning in May and ending in December.

The Stewardship Team reports that they will have Pledge Drive brochures mailed to congregants in early October, with October 11th set as Kick-Off Sunday and October 25th as the Celebration of Commitment. They ask that the Board set pledge goals and rationales much earlier in the summer next year, say June or July.

The Endowment Committee has refined their Procedures for the Manual and will submit in-progress verbiage to the Board. Stock accounts are healthy. I am beginning discussions with the Endowment Committee on Endowment support for next year's Operating Budget.

Our 850k mortgage contract with Central State Bank expires on December 1st, 2020. Mike, John, and Emma have sent them the data they need to make an initial offer of a replacement contract. We should see that before October 1st, and I have good vibes from them. —Mike Pavelich

## Congregational Administrator's September Financial Report Excerpt

August pledge payments were down compared to last month (74% of budgeted monthly income was received in August, compared to 96% in July). Year-to-date we are down slightly from budget (54% of our pledge goal vs. an anticipated 67%). Total Operating Income for August was \$27,816.83 (not including restricted giving).

In August UUs raised \$2,428 for our various social justice agencies (including \$968 for the Free Medical Clinic and \$1,010 for the 5th Sunday agency, the Eastern Iowa Community Bond Project). There was also \$315 in additional BLM sign sales. A face shield fundraiser started in August has raised \$510 towards our mortgage expenses.

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

September 16th, 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: None

Board President Joe Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

INTERIM BOARD APPOINTMENTS: Having been recommended by the Leadership Development Committee, Carol Adamson has agreed to complete the term of Allison Bettine (Secretary) who resigned on August 27th, 2020. Bettine's term ends in 2022. *The Board voted to appoint Carol Adamson as Board Secretary.*

Having been recommended by the Leadership Development Committee, Julia Audlehelm has agreed to complete the term of Kim McWane Friese (Trustee-at-Large) who resigned on August 26th, 2020. Friese's term ends in 2023. *The Board voted to appoint Julia Audlehelm as Trustee-at-Large.*

Appointees serve until the next congregational meeting (December 20th, 2020), at which time they shall be elected to complete the remainder of the term of the person they replaced.

CONSENT AGENDA: Consent agenda and other items are uploaded to Dropbox for Board review prior to the meeting. Consent Agenda items for August: August Board Minutes, September Executive Committee minutes, Staff Report, Treasurer Report and Financial Summary. *The Board received the Consent Agenda and approved the August Board Minutes, September Executive Committee minutes, Staff Report, Treasurer Report and Financial Summary*

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

- Finance: Pavelich reported that the Stewardship Committee has set dates for all pledge benchmarks.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- The Governance Committee met on September 8th and made a few additions to the Policy Book which Rasmussen outlined. The 09-09-2020 version is the final version of the Policy Book that will be voted upon by the Board at its October 21st meeting. It will be available for the Congregation to read during the coming weeks.
- The Board voted to approve the UUS Phased Opening Phases and Benchmarks. These Benchmarks and Phases will be used to operationalize/create guidelines for each phase of the re-opening. A list of the Benchmarks and Phases will be published on the UUS website.

## NEW BUSINESS

- Alan Swanson and Marsha Cheney have volunteered to attend the annual Midwest Leadership School which will have a virtual format. Marsha requested to be reimbursed the cost of tuition. There is a Board budget line for scholarships. *The Board voted to reimburse Marsha Cheney \$150.*
- Pavelich reported that the Finance Committee has begun work on refinancing our building mortgage. The Board was previously advised that the current mortgage is not sustainable in our current operating budget. Pavelich hopes to have a contract to present to the Board in October. A decision must be reached by December 1st, 2020.
- It has been suggested that the Board make a proposal to the Endowment Committee for funds to be used for equipping live-streaming of UUS services and events. *After discussion, The Board voted to request \$5,000 to \$7,000 from the Detiger Fund to pay for live-streaming equipment.*
- As part of the UUA Minister Association fellowship process, Rev. Smith will need a Ministerial Formation Team (MFT) in place by November. Rev. Smith has just completed her second year of this three-year process with her last congregation. After discussion, Rev. Smith said she will be creating her MFT by the November deadline.
- As we can anticipate that this pandemic situation is not going away anytime soon, it has been suggested the Board engage in a group read and discussion of Phil Steinke's book *Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times: Being Calm and Courageous No Matter What.*

GUEST COMMENTS: none present

CLOSING: Fretz gave process observer comments, Pomrehn provided closing words, and the chalice was extinguished. Raley moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Audlehelm. Rasmussen adjourned the meeting at 9:11 pm.

The next meeting is Wednesday, October 21st, 2020, at 7:00 pm.

—Carol Adamson, Secretary

# The UUS News

The Unitarian Universalist Society  
2355 Oakdale Road  
Coralville, IA 52241  
**Website:** [www.uusic.org](http://www.uusic.org)  
**Office Phone:** 319-337-3443

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## UUS Staff

Minister: Rev. Diana Smith (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)  
Publicity Coordinator: Jeff Walberg (publicity@uusic.org)  
Administrative Assistant: Nik Jakob (admin.assistant@uusic.org)  
Religious Education Assistant: Anna Rode (re.assistant@uusic.org)  
Building Steward: Ron Wright (contact the office)  
(Temporary) Music Facilitator: Dave Rowe (music@uusic.org)  
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.