



THE UUS NEWS

2022 | November

From Your Board President

Rochelle Honey-Arcement

Dear beloved UUS congregation,

We have just made it through a full month with Rev. Diana being on temporary medical leave. It has been amazing to watch how so many of you have come together to support one another and our community through this challenging time. Our system of Shared Ministry has allowed us to navigate the obstacles in our path and encouraged greater collaboration between staff and lay leaders.

As president, it has been wonderful to be in meetings where people have stepped up and taken on further responsibilities and volunteered to fill gaps that need to be filled. Now, as we embark on our second month of Rev. Diana's healing journey, we may need more of you to share in your gifts and talents. With Rev. Diana being gone, it is clear how much she has been doing for all of us, and how her wisdom has been guiding decisions made in all aspects of our congregational life.

What gifts do you have that you could share with the congregation? Do you have a passion you would like to teach us about? How can we connect with each other even more than we have been? Is there someone you have not connected with in a long time? Reach out to them, find a way to connect.

With loss comes the reminder of how important connecting with others can be. The recent losses of Ricardo Sauro, Jim Norris, Jean Hood, Mary Fisher, and Simon Tunstall remind us that life is fragile and precious, and that each moment we have is an opportunity to connect with others and deepen our relationship with our world and with humanity.

At UUS we have been expanding our opportunities for being with one another, including social justice opportunities,

Diwali celebrations, Trunk or Treat and Haunted Trails, Game Night, WonderfUUI Wednesdays, Sacred Earth: Study and Spirituality Group, Mystics Group, and many, many other opportunities. Thank you to the staff and volunteers who are making these opportunities possible.

These opportunities would not be possible without the generous support of our members. There is still time to make a pledge to the Stewardship Campaign to support the work that we are doing and continue to grow our connections with ourselves, each other, and the wider community. The board and staff are working to develop the budget for our upcoming year that will be voted upon at our Congregational Meeting in December.

There are so many people that I want to thank, first, the staff, for the wonderful work you are doing and doing with such loving energy. Second, the volunteers, lay leaders, and liaisons whose energy and commitment also drive the functioning of our community. Third, everyone who shows up, shows up in person, or online, to services, meetings, events, one on one with others in the congregation, and those who are reading our emails and newsletters. Fourth, to those who are part of our community but are struggling to show up right now. Know that you are still a valued part of our community, and we are here for you and would like to know how we can support you.

The board and I are committed to getting us through this time of recovery and healing. We are a strong community and will come out of this experience even stronger and closer to one another. Please reach out with ideas and concerns.

With gratitude, Rochelle Honey-Arcement

Upcoming Services

Join us at 10 am on Sundays,
in-person or virtually

November 6th:

Making Good Trouble Part 2

John Lewis reminds us to “make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble.” At UUS we strive to act on our values and principles. Can we do more? Miriam Kashia and Sally Hartman will share personal stories about stretching our boundaries. We can make a difference! Let’s put out the fire!

November 13th:

Pathfinder or Whack-a-mole?

We will explore the challenges of energy expenditure as we create intentional paths of inclusion while being able to quickly respond to what arises. CB Beal will give the sermon for this service led by Jeff Walberg and Brenda Linley.

November 20th:

How We Come Together in Covenant

Join us for this all-ages service of commitment led by Nic Kaplan and Marsha Cheyney. As part of the service, the Religious Education (RE) Team will lead us in covenanting with Nic as our “new” Director of Religious Education.

November 27th:

Remembering Trans Lives

Remembering trans lives prompts new visions of how to build a just world in the present. Stories of the real lives of trans people frame our celebration of those who recreate gender, opening space for living in power and justice. This service is in honor of Trans Day of Remembrance and will be led by Nic Kaplan and Jenna Supp-Montgomerie.

Find more information on our Sunday Services
[on our website.](#)

November Offerings Benefit the Free Lunch Program

An open door, a full plate, no questions asked. Teams of dedicated volunteers ensure that the Free Lunch Program meets its mission to provide a free, filling and healthy lunch to anyone who comes to 1105 Gilbert Ct., six days a week. Volunteers from UUS have provided the meal on the second Friday of each month since 1986, and have never missed a shift!

All cash donations collected during or for the Sunday Services offerings benefit our monthly community partner, unless otherwise earmarked on a donation envelope. Checks for the offering baskets should have “Free Lunch Program” on the memo line. You can also donate online at <http://bit.ly/UUSPartner>, text “GivetoUUSIC Partner” to 73256, or mail a check to the UUS office.

Past Sunday Attendance

October 2nd:

Giving, Receiving, UUS Member Stories

84 in-person, 81 YouTube views

October 9th: ***Making Good Trouble***

73 in-person, 76 YouTube views

October 16th: ***Celebration of Commitment***

75 in-person, 62 YouTube views

October 23rd: ***Whose Stories Will We Tell?***

81 in-person, 59 YouTube views

Join Us in Celebrating Our November Birthdays



Dean Abel	Headings	Christina
Joyce Bernardy	Kathy	Randall
Kris Canfield	Hotsenpiller	Alyssa Selmer
Jeanette Carter	Kenn Hubel	Margaret Street
Edie Cawley	Judy Leavitt	Jonah Supp-
Ernie Cox	Kim McWane	Montgomerie
Laurie Cubit	Friese	Hudson Turner
Gail Garwood	Jane Miller	George
Paul Gilbert	Cecile Owings	Verhage
Joel Gilbertson-	Emma	Tova Vitiello
White	Peterschmidt	Kirk Witzberger
Peyton	Paul Pomrehn	

From Your Director of Lifespan Religious Education

Nic Kaplan

I am happy to share with you all that for October, our pre-k/kindergarten room saw 8 children participate during the month, 11 children visited our 1st-6th grade space, 8 youth participated in youth group gatherings, and 10 youth participated in the launch of our 7th-9th grade OWL class. So proud of the courage that everyone has shown. Thank you!

In November, we move on to the theme of change. Did you notice the change we made to how our chalice is lit each week? We're continuing to look for children, youth, and families who can help us with this ritual each week. You can sign up [here](#) and if you sign up by the Wednesday before the Sunday you'll light the chalice, your name(s) can be included in the Order of Service.

RE Classes

Nursery: Our nursery is open from 9:30 until 11:30 most Sundays. The nursery is intended for infants and toddlers through age three except on 3rd Sundays when preschoolers are also invited to the nursery if they wish. On the 3rd Sunday of each month, the nursery stays open until noon to allow parents and caregivers time to engage with our all ages activities on their own and then with their tiny tots.

Pre-k and Kindergarten: Preschool children and kindergarteners are invited to start the morning in the Juniper room or in service. If they begin in service with their families, they'll be invited to go to class after the Time for All Ages. These 3-6 year olds will be using the Soul Matters curriculum and have a variety of activities each week and they love to spend time playing together outside, so please plan accordingly.

1st-3rd and 4th-6th grade: Currently these age groups are gathering together in either the Redbud or Maple rooms after the Time for All Ages.

- 1st and 2nd Sundays - Soul Matters
- 3rd Sunday - No class during service; all ages activities afterwards
- 4th Sunday - Superhero Sunday (real lessons to be learned from superheroes about anti-oppression, personal responsibility, and love.)

Jr and Sr High: In November, we'll take a big breath and celebrate all of the youths' hard work on the Haunted Trails. We'll enjoy lunch, games, and looking to the future.

If you have any questions or if you'd like to volunteer with the Religious Education program in any capacity, please email me, Nic Kaplan, at education@uusic.org or call (319) 423-9924. I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Classroom Changes

After watching our numbers and assessing our needs for two full months of church/school year Sundays, I believe that it is in the best interest of the children and families we currently serve to relocate our nursery and preschool/kindergarten spaces.

I would like the Juniper room, which is located adjacent to the RE Commons, to operate as a nursery space for infants and toddlers. This would allow for our preschool and kindergarten children, with their larger numbers, bodies, and voices, to have a larger space. I see a myriad of other benefits, but wanted to notify everyone of my intent to make this change before it happens.

If you would like to hear my specific thoughts on benefits of this change or would like to share your thoughts with me, please reach out to me so that we can arrange a time to sit down and chat (virtually or in person).

WonderfUUI Wednesdays

Join us at UUS on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. Doors will open at 5:30 and we'll sit down for our potluck dinner about 6. Everyone is invited whether you can just attend dinner, just the activities, or you can stay the whole time. Activities will begin about 7 pm after we have all cleaned up from dinner.

For future WonderfUUI Wednesdays to happen, we need volunteers to make a main dish, set up, and coordinate cleanup each time. You can sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F4EA5A622A4F49-wonderfuul>.

If you have any questions or if you'd like to volunteer with the Religious Education program in any capacity, please email me, Nic Kaplan at education@uusic.org or call (319) 423-9924. I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Credentialing Update

As a part of accepting the DLRE position here at beautiful UUS, I agreed with the search committee, the Board, and Rev. Diana that it was a good idea for me to pursue Religious Educator credentialing. I feel that it's about time that I update everyone on how that's going.

I was officially accepted into the Religious Educator Credentialing Program and completed my first class ("Renaissance Module") on teacher development in September. In October, I was paired with my mentor and signed up for two more modules. I am currently taking those two courses: UU Theology and Family Ministry.

I love taking these modules, connecting with colleagues, and having the opportunity to deepen my understanding on these topics. However, because of the overlap occurring with theology and family ministry, at least 10 hours a week of my time will be devoted to these classes during November. Please keep this in mind and be patient with me as my response times to emails may vary week to week based on course loads. I appreciate your understanding and support through this process.

Sacred Earth: Study & Spirituality Group

Wednesday evenings, 7 to 8:30 pm
(November 16th and 30th, December 14th, January 4th and 18th, and February 1st)

At the Unitarian Universalist Society with Zoom option

Led by Peggy Garrigues, Nic Kaplan, and Sally Hartman

Sacred Earth is a six-session program that combines the wisdom of indigenous understandings of reciprocity with the sacred earth, and spiritual practices that connect our spirit to nature. The experiences, reflections and discussions strive to engage participants deeply in the web of life.

The work will be personal. As you move through the reflections and practices, you may find spiritual healing by creating a more intimate relationship with the natural world. The six sessions, two books, other readings and spiritual practices are the core of the Sacred Earth experience.

Some participants may be drawn to engage in Sacred Earth with the purpose of supporting or sustaining their own climate justice work. Activism may be an outcome of participation. Another goal of some participants may be to create a learning community that builds collective spiritual power in the work of climate justice. The issues of climate change require us to bond together, and Sacred Earth may be the impetus to increase our engagement.

Sacred Earth delves into two extraordinary books to guide the group:

- *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants* by Robin Wall Kimmerer
- *The Sustainable Soul: Reflections and Practices* by Rebecca James Hecking

Braiding Sweetgrass provides deep understandings of how we are connected to the earth, and *The Sustainable Soul* provides spiritual practices and reflections that deepen that connection. Let us know if you need help obtaining copies of the two books. You will want to begin reading before the first session.

[Please sign up at the link here.](#) The series is free for UUS Members, or active/donating friends of UUS. Others are asked to pay \$40 for the series. We ask that you plan to attend all or most of the sessions. The group will be limited to 12 participants.

Contact Peggy at dcce@uus.org if you need help getting the books, or are not clear whether you need to pay for the series.

Green Sanctuary Team

What is scarier than last month's ghosts and goblins? Climate change! The Green Sanctuary Team works to instill hope instead of fear or anxiety. If we work together, we can ensure that our children and our children's children will thrive. It takes all of us. For this reason, our Team is embarking on a project through the UUA's Green Sanctuary Reaccreditation Program. UUS first received Green Sanctuary Accreditation in 2017, and now it is time to seek Reaccreditation.

In this process we first build teams and provide educational opportunities, such as the movie "Youth vs US" shown last month, or the discussion of "Braiding Sweetgrass" completing in November. The second step is assessing where we are in addressing climate change. One activity might be to assess our climate footprints.

The third step is developing and carrying out an action plan. This action plan has three parts: 1) Mitigate the causes of climate change. We are partnering with Johnson Clean Energy District to decrease fossil fuels use. 2) Adapt to climate change. This could include examining water usage or establishing a cooling center network. 3) Secure justice for marginalized communities such as lowa indigenous people or work with farmers to ward off pipeline companies.

Finally, we submit a final report, and if it is approved we will be reaccredited as a Green Sanctuary Congregation, and everyone gets ice cream! Please join us! For more information, please contact Sally Hartman at sallyhartman@hotmail.com or Deb Schoelerman at Schoelerman@gmail.com.

Land Ministry

"Thank you to our team of builders, Steve Van Abbema, "team leader," Dave Gallaher, Bruce Alexander, and Jim Laughlin for building the newest addition to our playscape. The four built the playroom October 15 and 16th and were able to use much of the wood we already had. The platform is located on the south side of the building next the raised platform.



Covenant Groups

In October, covenant groups met to discuss what it means to think and act with “Courage.” We’re surrounded by hero stories in the media, stories of real people as well as those in fiction. It’s normal for us to associate courage with individuals who perform big actions that change the course of human events. But courage comes in many smaller forms, too, in moments from everyday life. It takes courage to have a different opinion than everyone around you. It takes courage to overcome your fears and accept a responsibility you think you can’t handle. It takes courage to be your genuine self, regardless of whether others approve or not. It takes courage to love someone. What little acts of courage do you find in your everyday life? Which people in your life inspire you by their courage, either the big, attention-getting or the quiet, unassuming kind?

The covenant group program offers its members the opportunity to share 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).



Free Lunch Team

On a gorgeous October 14th Autumn day, the UUS IC FLP gathered at the 1105 facility to serve 124 guests. 66 ate in and 58 had take out. The tasty meal was turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy augmented with our signature veggie and fruit salads that were donated by Bob Littlehale and the Nighthawk Covenant Group. Carol Lyons, per usual, provided a veggie lasagna.

The many who contributed other food were: Sue Eberly, Janet McKee, Terry O’Berry, Bonnie Penno, Nancy Lynch, and Russ Lenth. Those helping to serve in other ways were: Donna Simonton, Frank Waldensee (Welcome back Frank!), Joe Rasmussen, Vicki Siefers and Theresa Ullerich.

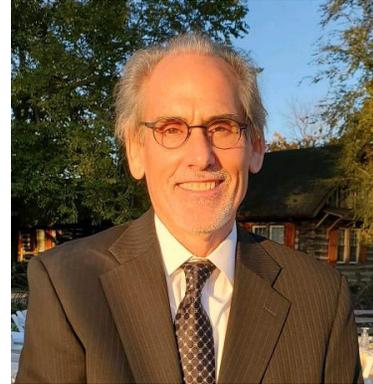
The UUS IC FLP program has been steady for 40 years. The “brain trust” with its FLP memory has passed the torch to new leadership. The most needed help for the newbies are the congregation’s desire to volunteer financial donations, as well as personal involvement by helping to prepare food and even cook it. Now that the Covid pandemic has receded, we FLPers would like to decrease our dependency on Hy-Vee for the main course, which has become more expensive (to which you all can relate).

Please kindly consider helping in any way you are able. Bob Littlehale has taken the lead; contact him at rflsal@yahoo.com or at (419) 297-7812.

Leadership Development Committee

Building Our Leadership Muscles

Today’s featured leadership practice: Enable Others to Act: Foster collaboration by promoting cooperative goals and building trust.



What do woodworking, computer coding, pharmacy management, picking up trash, and Pickleball have in common? Leadership at our UUS.

Bruce Alexander never really wanted to be in leadership at UUS. He would rather be out on the grounds digging holes or pounding nails. But currently Bruce is serving in his second year on our Endowment Committee. He does enjoy working with the other committee members and feels good about helping to secure our UUS financial future.

The leadership skills that Bruce uses grew from his many life experiences. Specifically, he credits the following “life lessons” with making him a better leader.

- Measure twice, cut once.
- Initial mistakes can grow exponentially when computer coding is involved.
- Visit with union reps at start of job. Good communication builds trust.
- If you are in charge of a bunch of volunteers with the task of cleaning up Kinnick Stadium remember to be flexible and not burn any bridges.
- Dinking (finesse) is more effective than slamming.

Bruce utilizes these lessons to guide his endowment committee work.

The Leadership Development Committee initiated this column to highlight leadership practices. We also want to connect and re-connect you to some of UUS’s leaders.

Highlighted Upcoming Events

Diwali Celebration, November 6th



You are Invited to a Diwali Celebration at UUS on Sunday, November 6th, at 6 pm!

Diwali or Divali or Deepawali or Deepavali is originated from the Sanskrit word “Dīpāvali” meaning “row or series of lights.” It is a Festival of Lights. It symbolizes the victory of light over the darkness. It is one of the major festivals in India and it is celebrated over 5 days by many people in India.

To learn more about Diwali with a short presentation by Dr. Shuvendu Das, and to celebrate it with diyas (oil lamps or candles), sparklers, and Indian sweets and savories (enough for a hearty snack or a light meal), please join us at UUS on Sunday Nov 6th at 6 pm. Dress to be festive, and to be outdoors for some of the time! There will be a charge of \$15 for adults, \$5 for children to cover the cost of the food, diyas, decorations, and sparklers. Questions? Contact Peggy Garrigues dcce@uusic.org.

Please [follow this link to register](#), so we will have enough food and supplies.

Diwali is now celebrated throughout the world by people of different faiths including many Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, and some Buddhists. It is now celebrated in White House as well! It was first celebrated in White House by George W. Bush in 2003. Its religious and historical significance was officially recognized by the United States Congress in 2007.

In order to celebrate Diwali, people clean, renovate, and decorate their homes with Diyas (oil lamps) and Rangolis (colorful art circle patterns). During Diwali, celebrants wear their finest clothes, illuminate the interior and exterior of their homes with diyas and rangoli, perform worship ceremonies of Lakshmi, the goddess of prosperity and wealth (by some people), light fireworks, and participate in family feasts, where sweets and gifts are shared.

Dr. Shuvendu Das and some of his Indian friends will lead this program in a miniature form. They organize different South Asian cultural programs in this corridor. Dr. Das has been living in Iowa City/ Coralville area since 2003. Dr. Das works at The University of Iowa as a Research Scientist. He is also an adjunct Professor in the Department of Chemistry.

Religious Education November Calendar

- **November 2nd: WonderFUII Wednesday:** 5:30 to 8pm; Potluck dinner & all ages activities
- **November 6th: RE classes** during service;
 - **OWL** from 10:30 to 3 (with lunch)
 - **Youth Group** from 11:30 to 1 (with lunch)
- **November 11th: Friday FUUn Night - GAME Night!** 6 to 9 pm
- **November 13th: RE classes** during service;
 - **OWL** from 10:30 to 3 (with lunch)
 - **Youth Group** from 11:30 to 1 (with lunch)
- **November 16th: WonderFUII Wednesday:** 5:30 to 8pm; Potluck dinner & all ages activities
- **November 20th: All Ages Service** followed by activities
 - (No Youth Group)
- **November 27 - RE classes during service**
 - **Youth Group** from 11:30 to 1 (with lunch)

UUS Holiday Auction, December 3rd

This year, after two fully online auctions, we will once again gather in person for a dinner along with our annual Holiday Auction! Many members and friends of UUS donate new or gently used or handmade items, as well coming up with many creative events to bring people together.

Start imagining what you might enjoy donating to share with UUS friends! Everything from homemade jams or scones, to artwork and figurines, to a book collection, to a rocking chair, to a handknit scarf, to a group dinner, to a trip to a ballgame, to a night of storytelling, to a collection of toys, and many more items have been or could be offered. Winning bids on some items can be as low as \$5 or \$10. Contact Judy Tokuhisa with photo and description of your auction items! judy.tokuhisa@gmail.com or 319-331-3351.

Most items are offered through an online silent auction, that will close at 9:00 pm on Saturday, Dec. 3, at the end of the in-person dinner event. People both at home and at UUS will bid online, using their own cell phones or computers, or through several laptops available at UUS. Several items will be auctioned off live and must be bid on at the in-person event. (If you are not able to attend in person, you are welcome to have a friend bid for you!)

On December 3rd, the in-person event will include dinner, both alcoholic and festive non-alcoholic drinks, entertainment, and friendly competition to be the winning bidder(s), all to create an enjoyable gathering that helps to support UUS! Dinner tickets will be offered for a donation (suggested amount is still being determined). Some free tickets for the dinner will also be available. Children will be provided with a pizza dinner and childcare at UUS for \$5 for the evening.

Watch for more details about dinner, entertainment, and the auction items being donated in upcoming Wednesday emails!

Your UUS Auction Team: Judy Tokuhisa, Julia Audlehelm, Monique DiCarlo, Sue Kann, Pat Pavelich, and Deb Schoelerman, with staff support from Peggy Garrigues.

UUS Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Highlights

October 19th, 2022 (virtual via Zoom)

Find the full minutes on our website or inquire with the office.

Present: Rochelle Honey-Arcement (President), John Bowman (Vice President), Mike Pavelich (Treasurer), Christine Etlar (Secretary), Alan Swanson (past President), Jerry Wetlaufer (Financial Trustee), Diana Henry (Trustee), Hazel Seaba (Trustee), Julia Audlehelm (Trustee) **Absent:** Rev. Diana Smith (Ex-officio).

President Honey-Arcement called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Pavelich provided opening words.

Consent Agenda: The Board received the consent agenda which included the September 21st Board Meeting Minutes; October 12th Executive Committee Minutes; Treasurer's Report; Congregational Administrator's September Financials and Narrative Summary; Finance, Governance, Endowment, and Mission & Vision Review Committees August Minutes; September Staff Reports (DLRE, DCCE, Administrator), and Social Justice Team Report. *Wetlaufer moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Pavelich seconded, motion carried.*

Rev. Diana Update: Rev Diana spoke to Honey-Arcement in mid-October and shared that she has been resting and making progress. No decisions have been made on when she will return from medical leave. She plans to write a message to be shared with the congregation at an upcoming service. The Board discussed some options on developing content for Sunday services.

BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Governance: Swanson reported that Governance is reviewing policies. Most of the work is related to style, wording, typos, etc. An election planning meeting was held, which was well-attended and productive. The upcoming December and Spring elections will remain multiplatform. Finally, the committee has created a draft of a Public Statement Policy. After some discussion, Swanson agreed to bring the draft back to the Governance Committee without a vote.

Personnel: Bowman reported that members are working to recruit an additional person to be on the committee. Honey-Arcement suggests contacting the Leadership Development Committee.

Finance: Wetlaufer provided an update on the Stewardship campaign Average pledges are up from last year.

Right Relations: Audlehelm & Etlar reported that Colleen Higgins will help arrange a meeting but there may not be an update by the November meeting.

Mission & Vision Review: Henry & Seaba noted that recruiting new committee members is a priority; they are looking for at least two more people.

LIAISON UPDATES:

Pastoral Care: Etlar noted that Pastoral Care leader Maureen Patterson reports that they have no needs that the board needs to address.

Worship Associates: Bowman reported that the WAs are planning a retreat. Additional members have joined the team (and Bowman is temporarily rejoining during Rev. Diana's

leave). The group have decided to add additional associate to each service.

Stewardship & Endowment: Wetlaufer noted that the Stewardship Committee may need some funds to hold an event at Oaknoll.

Religious Education: Honey-Arcement reported that OWL will start soon. Nic is feeling somewhat overwhelmed. An education consultant will be here in November: planning one meeting with staff and one with RE volunteers.

Staff: Carmen Griggs of the Personnel Committee submitted a report noting that all the main staff had check ins. They are doing fairly well. They feel supported and appreciate transparency in communication.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

2023 Budget & COLAs, Board Budget Line: Our biggest decision will be how much COLA we will provide for salary raises. Staff are creating their budgets without taking the COLA increases into account. The Finance Committee will receive the suggestions from the staff and will meet in early November. Pavelich suggests that the board should leave the work of going over the line-by-line details of the budget to the Finance Committee. The board will receive draft budgets to provide feedback, but this discussion should be concentrated to email. We should concentrate our discussion at the November meeting on how much we are able to provide in COLA.

Regarding the current year budget, any unused funds will be "returned" to the endowment. (Effectively the planned withdrawal from endowment for next year will be reduced.)

Motion: Swanson motioned to reduce the board budget line from \$500 to \$150; Bowman seconded. The Board voted to approve the motion unanimously.

BGI Metric to report at Congregational Meeting in December: For this year, we plan to gather quick quantifiable metrics – attendance at services and RE, volunteers, etc. Emma and Peggy are working on gathering such metrics. Mission and Vision will need to plan for collecting yearly metrics (both qualitative and quantitative) for next year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discuss idea of and options for recording meeting for note taking purposes:

Motion: By Etlar. We will record board meetings to be used as a reference when completing meeting minutes. The recordings will be destroyed once the minutes for the meeting have been approved. Henry seconded. The Board voted to approve the motion unanimously.

Supporting Rev. Diana: We discussed the ongoing weekly deliveries to Rev Diana, including her preferences, which can be communicated to anyone who asks how they can contribute. Any gifts need to be dropped off by Monday.

Balance: Rev. Diana is interested in using the Balance program as part of her rehabilitation. It is a pilot coaching program designed for developing and enhancing cognitive strategies for those with long COVID. Honey-Arcement proposes that we provide financial support for the program through donations. Donations are initially solicited from board members and may be expanded if financial goal is not met. Donations should be submitted to Emma Barnum.

Chalice Lighter Grant: Nic Kaplan & Barb Danielson are preparing a submission for the Chalice Lighter grant to fund several RE initiatives - a summer camp and a nature preschool. The grant deadline is 11/15/22. The board will need to vote on this and provide a letter of support. Through email, we will review the initial proposal, discuss, and vote prior to the next board meeting.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA:

Memorial Garden: There will be an Oaknoll meeting in early November to discuss the Memorial Garden. Audlehelm expects questions regarding internments. A discussion of the rationale for the \$500 fee followed. We will not plan to change the fee. A question remains for the Endowment Committee: can the fee be waived for those who have made donations to the endowment (as part of the Chalice Society)? Further discussion will be planned for next board meeting after we receive input from Endowment Committee.

Auction: The auction will take place on December 3rd, 2022, and the theme is Gifted and Gathering Together. Board members will contribute to a group item for auction.

CLOSING:

There were no guest comments. Etler provided process observer comments. Closing words by Henry. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm. The next board meeting will be at 7 pm, November 16th, 2022.

—Minutes submitted by Christine Etler, Board Secretary

UUS Endowment Committee Report

As members of the Society are aware, the Endowment Committee has annually reported the status of the General Endowment Fund as well as other endowment funds. Beginning this year, the Endowment Committee will be reporting the accounts to the board and the congregation on a quarterly basis. This change is in response to the Board of Trustee’s request to keep all of us updated on a more frequent basis. The accompanying table (to the right) is meant to show much of what you may be interested in, and if it brings up more questions, please contact any member of the Endowment Committee.

Table notes:

- ¹ Can only be accessed under very special circumstances
- ² Can be accessed by vote of congregation
- ³ Earmarked for specific purposes, e.g., music, outdoor projects, etc.
- ⁴ Amount/quarter to Annual Budget
- ⁵ Amount Approved by Congregation Above ASA
- ⁶ Total amounts will vary by quarter depending when business days appear in the month, i.e., sometimes two bills will appear in the same month, 1st and 30th.

September Financial Report Highlights

Our total bank balances at the end of September continue at a healthy level of \$320,090. Pledge giving remains healthy and that no budget line is overspent except Building Maintenance. However, spending is closer to budget this month and should continue as programming ramps up. We thank everyone for their commitment to careful stewardship of our collective re-sources. If we continue with such results, our budget deficit for 2022 may be significantly below the \$95,500 anticipated in the approved budget. If this proves to be the case, we may not need the full \$80,000 extra withdrawal from General Endowment earnings approved by the congregation for 2023.

Operating Income Received last Month:

- o \$26,460.27 in operating budget pledge giving
- o \$174.17 in non-pledge giving
- o \$390 in rental income

Justice Income Received last Month (Highlights):

- o \$20 additional raised for Inside Out (July agency, \$977.25 raised total)
- o \$45 additional raised for Free Medical Clinic (August agency, \$1,059.34 raised total)
- o \$719.24 raised for Shelter House (September agency)

The Finance Committee noted at their October meeting that the Stewardship’s 2023 Pledge Campaign goes on with good energy. The committee continues its follow-up work.

Emma and the staff have begun the 2023 budget process by asking teams and committees to send in their Wants and Needs. The Board in September asked for staff to create a base-line budget for 2023 that does not exceed \$600,000. The Board may need to go beyond that sum when they determine cost of living adjustments for 2023.

—Submitted by Mike Pavelich, Board Treasurer, and Emma Barnum, Congregational Administrator

2022 3rd Quarter Endowment Holdings

	06/30/2022	09/30/2022
General Endowment Total Value	\$1,087,248	\$1,003,822
Corpus (Total Donations Invested) ¹	\$712,327	\$712,327
Donations this quarter ¹	\$1100	\$0
Non-corpus Total Earnings ²	\$374,921	\$291,495
UUA Earnings	\$375	\$0
Expenditures from General Endowment	\$27,621	\$36,828
Annual Spending Allowance (ASA) ⁴	\$16,371	\$21,828
Endowment-Approved Withdrawal ⁵	\$11,250	\$15,000
Other Endowment Funds Value ³	\$155,775	\$148,697
Other Endowment Funds Expenditures		
Jean Reese Fund	0	0
Music Fund	0	0
Detiger Fund	0	0
Bristol Fund	0	0

Ballot: Social Justice Agencies for 2023–2025

All adult UUS members and friends are encouraged to vote for **up to 12** of the following nominated nonprofit agencies to become our Community Partners for the next three years. Community Partners are assigned a month each year to receive cash and designated checks donated during the Sunday offerings.

Paper ballots should be returned to the UUS office by December 1st. An online version of the ballot can be found at <https://bit.ly/2023SJTVote>. PLEASE VOTE ONLY ONCE, by paper or online ballot. Ballots with more than 12 votes will be discarded, as will ballots with no name. The voting period will end December 1st.

YOUR NAME: _____

ABBE CENTER FOR COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH *

“Reaching out to improve lives in our communities through advocacy, support, and integration of mental health and wellness services.” The Center’s professional staff provides outpatient therapy and specialties such as home-based nursing.

ACLU OF IOWA

Since its founding in 1935 the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Iowa has protected the basic freedoms and liberties of everyone in our state. They work in the courts, in the Iowa legislature, and through public education and advocacy to assure the rights of everyone in Iowa—from atheists to devout Christians, from labor unions to businesspeople and more—to make sure that the constitutional rights of all are preserved.

THE ANTELOPE LENDING LIBRARY

Antelope Lending Library is an independent, non-profit bookmobile working to overcome barriers and provide full and equal access to information and ideas in our community. All materials are lent on a no-fees basis, so access is always free. All funding comes from grants, contracts, and the community.

BETTER WAY FORWARD

Better Way Forward is an affiliate group of the Clear Creek Amana School District that provides programs, activities, resources, and events to create more student-centric, forward-thinking, and all-encompassing approach to accessibility, justice, equity, diversity and inclusion.

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF JOHNSON COUNTY

Children and youth aged 6 to 18 can participate in both community and school-based mentor programs, along with after school mentoring and social clubs. Many of those served are low income, reside in one- or non-parent household, or are children of color. Participants are less likely to skip school, feel more confident in achieving their goals, and achieve a higher level education than they thought possible.

CENTER FOR WORKER JUSTICE *

The Center for Worker Justice of Eastern Iowa defends workers’ rights and supports immigrants in the community. Their activism includes fighting wage theft, hate crimes, and low wages. They have worked with positive results on the community ID, low income housing, and immigrant rights.

CHICO MENDES REFORESTATION PROJECT

The mission of Chico Mendes, in the northwest highlands of Guatemala, is to plant trees. This work slows global warming, promotes environmental justice, and protects forests from exploitation. UUS is a Chico Mendes partner and has sent volunteers, including youth, to Guatemala to plant over 1,000 trees over the course of several visits.

COMMUNITY (FORMERLY THE CRISIS CENTER) *

Emotional and material assistance are available 24/7 through a dedicated corps of volunteers. Programs include a 24-hour crisis hotline, food bank, emergency assistance, disaster recovery and relief, suicide prevention training, bus tickets and more.

THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM *

Founded on the belief that “Everyone has the right to live free of fear and harm,” DVIP provides services to victim/survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking and human trafficking.

EMMA GOLDMAN CLINIC *

Staff and volunteers provide quality reproductive health care to people of all ages, including abortion services, gynecology services, safer sex promotion, and active education. They offer total support of pregnancy choices, and healthcare to individuals with diverse gender and sexuality expression.

(More options on next page)

*Agencies with an asterisk were Community Partners in 2020-2022

[FREE DENTAL CLINIC](#) *

Dentists, dental students, dental hygienists and dental hygiene students volunteer to provide exams, treatment plans, cleanings, fillings for cavities, and simple tooth extractions to adults and children. Limited dental hygiene appointments are available.

[FREE LUNCH PROGRAM](#) *

Volunteer groups serve meals from noon to 1 pm Monday through Saturday, all year long, to anyone who shows up. UUS has provided the second Friday meal every month for over 35 years.

[FREE MEDICAL CLINIC](#) *

Committed to the widest primary care possible to those who do not have access to other healthcare providers, the clinic services include exams, medications, immunizations, labs, radiology procedures, case management, prenatal and postpartum care.

[HEALTHY KIDS SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CLINICS](#)

An extension of health services offered in the Iowa City Community School District, Healthy Kids is a community-supported, free medical clinic that works collaboratively with local medical partners to provide primary care, mental health care, and access to specialty care for underserved/ uninsured children. They also help connect families who are eligible for healthcare assistance or newly insured to resources in the area.

[INSIDE OUT REENTRY COMMUNITY](#) *

Based in Iowa City, Inside Out serves people returning to Johnson County and elsewhere after incarceration. Starting before release and continuing, there is help with re-entry plans, including work, a place to live, and connecting to community resources.

[IOWA VALLEY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY HELPING HANDS PROGRAM](#)

Iowa Valley Habitat brings volunteers together to build, rehabilitate, and maintain safe, decent, and affordable homes in our area, often for disabled, ethnic, or immigrant families. Barriers to obtaining are especially significant for those with insufficient income. The Helping Hands program provides affordable critical home repairs and accessibility modifications for residents of Cedar, Iowa, Johnson, and Washington Counties.

[LGBTQ IOWA ARCHIVES & LIBRARY](#)

The LGBTQ Iowa Archives and Library is a community archives and lending library with a mission to collect, preserve, and share the queer history of Iowa and increase access to queer literature for all ages.

[SHELTER HOUSE](#) *

Since 1983, Shelter House has provided safe shelter and helped people improve the quality of their lives as they move beyond homelessness. Programs and support services including housing, employment, and mental health recovery that help hundreds of adults, children, and families each year to get back on their feet.

[SOUTH DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION](#)

The South District Neighborhood Association, a non-profit organization, sponsors the Diversity Market, among other community events. The market, held in the Pepperwood Plaza during the summer months, empowers minority entrepreneurs, including women, youth and those in the Black, Indigenous, Latino, Asian, LGBTQ+, refugee, immigrant and returning citizen communities.

[TABLE TO TABLE](#) *

The mission of Table to Table is to keep wholesome, edible food from going to waste by collecting it from donors and distributing it to those in need through community agencies. A vast network of donors and volunteer drivers makes this possible.

[UNICEF](#)

UNICEF is the United Nations Children's Fund, working in the world's toughest places to reach the most disadvantaged children and adolescents – and to protect the rights of every child, everywhere. Services include child health and nutrition, safe water and sanitation, quality education and skill building, protection from violence and exploitation, and relief and support before, during, and after humanitarian emergencies.

[UNITED ACTION FOR YOUTH](#) *

UAY works with young people and their families to help them reach their goals. Prevention Programming consists of out of school activities that encourage youth to connect and express themselves through creativity. Intervention Programming offers support, advocacy, counseling, and community referrals to youth and families facing adversity.

Return paper ballot to UUS (2355 Oakdale Road, Coralville, IA 52241) by December 1st, 2022.

Review carefully before submitting: Ballots with no name or more than 12 votes will be discarded!

[Visit our website for more information about UUS: www.uusic.org.](http://www.uusic.org)

[Subscribe to our email list](#) for weekly updates and important announcements.

[Find a full list of upcoming events and group meetings on our online calendar.](#)

Our Mission: We are a welcoming, spiritually diverse home. We act on our values: Honor the Earth; Advocate for racial and social justice; Nurture 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.



2022-2023 Board of Trustees

President: Rochelle Honey-Arcement
(president@uusic.org)

Vice President: John Bowman

Past President: Alan Swanson

Secretary: Christine Etlar

Treasurer: Mike Pavelich
(treasurer@uusic.org)

Finance Trustee: Jerry Wetlaufer

Trustee: Julia Audlehelm

Trustee: Diana Henry

Trustee: Hazel Seaba

UUS Staff

Minister: Rev. Diana Smith (minister@uusic.org)

Congregational Administrator: Emma Barnum (admin@uusic.org)

Director of Congregational and Community Engagement:
Peggy Garrigues (dcce@uusic.org)

Director of Lifespan Religious Education: Nic Kaplan (education@uusic.org)

Director of Congregational Music: Alex Heetland (music@uusic.org)

Administrative Assistant: Nik Jakob (admin.assistant@uusic.org)

Communications Coordinator: Barb Danielson (communications@uusic.org)

Staff Pianist & Music Outreach Coordinator: Hsin-Hui Liu (pianist@uusic.org)

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

UU Eight 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.
8. Journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.

UU Six Sources

1. Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;
2. Words and deeds of prophetic people which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love;
3. Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
4. Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;
5. Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit;
6. Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.

The Unitarian Universalist Society

2355 Oakdale Road

Coralville, IA 52241

319-337-3443

www.uusic.org



THE UUS NEWS

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