



## 2023-24 Annual Report for UUCC Committees

| Committee   | Names of committee members   | Looking back at your year as chair, what do you consider the committee's greatest accomplishment?  | Describe any factors that facilitated or impeded your work this year.  |
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| <b>Finance</b><br>Ginny Verne                         | Jim Kimbler<br>Caroline Eastman<br>Deb Matherly<br>Bill Martin<br>Laura Miller<br>Robin Scherer<br>Jeanette Walton<br>Michele Currie   | Simplifying the pledge kick-off.   | In both (or either) of these instances it would have been very helpful to know precisely what decision may be made by committee and which must be approved by the Board. |
|   | Notes  | I am working on a notebook detailing the responsibilities of both the committee and the chair plus related dates. It will include information on processes and samples of the various letters to the congregation.   |  |
| <b>Worship</b><br>Linda Brennison                     | Marc Drews<br>Rebecca Drennan<br>Anna Hamilton<br>Kate Heald<br>Connie Quirk<br>Phil Turner<br>Deb Matherly<br>Richard McLeod<br>Abigail Brandon<br>Larry Siegel<br>Melody Smit<br>Ivy Coleman<br>Pat Mohr<br>Bethany Storlazzi<br>Laura Culler and<br>Emily Gunning | The Worship Committee consistently demonstrates exemplary teamwork among its members and with other committees, especially CYRE. One of the committee's greatest accomplishments this past year was coordinating with CYRE by implementing their recommendation to involve as many children and youth as possible in every service. The Worship Committee also edited the Sunday service script to make it more meaningful as well as more succinct. The committee has added three new members this fiscal year. | There are problems with communication such as failure to advise the Chair of decisions that affect the Sunday services .   |
|   | Notes  | <p>There are problems with communication such as failure to advise the Chair of decisions that affect the Sunday services .</p> <p>The Committee should make every effort to welcome and train its new members. The new members are very important for the future of Worship. The committee now has several younger members who will hopefully be able to lead this committee.</p> <p>We are only constrained by our own ability to either move into the future or stagnate.</p>                                 |  |
| <b>Membership</b><br>Annette Flavel and<br>Don Cooper | David Bryan<br>Mary McLaughlin<br>Abigail Brandon<br>George Johnson<br>(liaison)<br>Vera Espinosa  | our unwavering presence at the greeting table in the lobby on a Sunday, greeting, inviting new members into the UUCC, following up and making new members welcome  |  |
|   | Notes  | Abigail Brandon will join Annette and Don as chair 24-25   |  |

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| <b>Adult Religious Exploration</b><br><br>Rebecca Drennan      | Donald Cooper<br>Pat Mohr<br>Angie Rabon<br>Linda Brennon<br>Deb Matherly<br>Bethany Storlazzi<br>Melissa Bush<br>Kate Heald.   | Expanding ideas for programming.  | We need a larger program of publicity. We suggest a paid position for both publicity and technology.  |
| Notes  | We are opened and always curious to find programs which are in line with our principles.  |   |   |
| <b>Building and Grounds</b><br><br>Lis and Phil Turner         | David Bryan<br>John Logue<br>Bill Dolley<br>Peck Drennan<br>Shannon Edwards<br>Marni Southerland<br>Mary Martin   | Maintained the building and grounds including repairing windows, installing coat rack, repairing HVAC, repairing roof, mulching playground, and cutting down two large trees in the playground area. The last item saved the congregation considerable money. | Estimates for cost of replacing the platform in the Sanctuary were outrageous.  |
| Notes  | The Committee is grateful for the reserve fund this year and hopes that this can be continued so that some of the larger projects can be accomplished. As an example, removal of stage in the Sanctuary.<br><br>Funding, but the reserve fund and its rollover capability should help.  |   |   |
| <b>Personnel</b><br><br>Tom Clements &<br>Melody Smit          | Joan Watterson<br>Richard Culler<br>Bob Gillespie   | Finalizing DRE description/LOA and preparation of hiring.   | The lack of a board liaison impedes progress. In general communication with the board about pending decisions and decisions made could be better. A liaison would help with this. |
| Notes  | Continue with hiring responsibilities, strengthen our skills and continue to work on effective communication and continue with the responsibilities we have achieved this year. System communication is always a challenge, and we are committed to improving where we are able. We compile notes each month concerning our activities with the expectation of passing this information on to the next chair(s) of the committee. I will say that have co-chairs for this committee has been extremely helpful this year. I would recommend that going forward, if at all possible. |   |   |
| <b>Social Action</b><br><br>Kevin McKinney<br>and Connie Quirk | Deb Matherly, Sharon Givens (open participation)  | . SCUUJA Fall Festival  | Time pressures and a plethora of issues were two challenges   |
| Notes  | We plan to maintain our usual annual events, increase committee and congregational involvement, particularly around voting (e.g., UUtheVote.)<br><br>The ongoing constraints of time and energy. Also, for voting efforts, postage expenses; SCUUJA has got us a \$500 grant to mail our letters and cards, but we hope to exceed the number of pieces implied by that sum considerably.  |   |   |

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| <b>Animal Ministry</b><br><br>Tom Clements & Melody Smit  | Anita Grossman<br>Patty and Marc Drews<br>Susan and Larry Siegel<br>Bonnie Stronach<br>Marky Deese<br>Linda Brennonson<br>Bill Dolly   | The Annual Blessing of the Animals<br>.....<br>Honorary members (who contribute to specific events):<br>George Johnson, Rev Stephen, Matt and Khorban Donahue, Mary and Joseph Cheatham   | The work of committee volunteers and volunteers unity greatly facilitated the success of the events                                 |
| Notes   | Continue to have monthly vegan events, involving not only Members of the Congregation, but further publicized in the community at large. Re-introduce "movie night," where a movie dealing with the virtues of veganism and other topics will be shown, followed by open discussion. The need for additional committee members and additional funding.   |   |   |
| <b>Leadership Development</b><br><br>Nancie Shillington-Pérez   | Deb Matherly<br>David Bryan<br>Bonnie Stronach<br>Matt Donahue   | Finding the best candidates available to fill anticipated voids but also organizing and implementing the first "Leadership Development Workshops 101" to identify and train UUCC leaders. | An aging congregation's ability to accept requests to fill chair or committee positions due to health issues or being overextended. |
| Notes   | <p>We expect that the Leadership Development Workshops 101 will be offered every 2 years moving forward and end dates for chairs/organizers that did not have those before, e.g. Website Chair and Money Counters' Chair. Certain skill sets are more challenging to find among our congregants and therefore volunteers frequently "get stuck" in these roles without end. That doesn't seem fair.</p> <p>Nancie has templates for the LDC worksheet, confidentiality form, meetings, and emails that will prove very helpful. We also have the Leadership D. Workshops 101 slides that Deb Matherly produced as a guide for topics of instruction, activities, and discussions. Nancie also plans on creating a folder with timelines for preparation for both the Leadership Development Workshops 101 and with various suggestions, i.e. How to Reach Consensus on Candidates to Ask to Serve and Approaching People to Request that they Serve.</p> |   |   |
| <b>Young Adults</b><br><br>Janae Walton,<br>Laura Culler (co-chairs)<br>Bethany Storlazzi (facilitator) | There are no official committee members  | The YA group had several interesting activities that resulted in good conversation which allowed this group to get to know each other better and form friendships.                        | This group likes to be fed. Having funding to provide food/drinks/snacks is always beneficial.                                      |
| Notes   | <p>I would like to see more leadership from within this group. This is a group that is busy finding their way in the next chapter of their life and they would rather just show up to an event rather than organize it.</p> <p>I support this direction by encouraging leadership without mandating it. I don't want to guilt or alienate anyone. As this group continues to grow I feel ownership will eventually surface.</p>  |   |   |

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| <b>CYRE</b><br><br>Jonathan White                                      | Nancie Shillington-Perez,<br>Bethany Storlazzi,<br>Meghan Lynch,<br>Lydia Ureda,<br>Emilia Gunning,<br>Janice Kline-Moore, and<br>a rotating cast of parents  | The growth and an abundance of opportunities for children and youth | As always, the needs of children and youth are diverse and require a lot of work and attention. In terms of impediments, CYRE must be much more than Sunday school which is problematic. The greatest obstacle to growing a community for children, youth, and families is having to reconcile the diverse needs of community with the over-simplified solution that we need to recruit volunteers (often the parents themselves) to watch children (their own?) during service. In terms of what facilitated our work most, what first comes to mind is families. As we add families, this gets easier. families with children and youth. |
| Notes  | <p>It is my sincere hope that the rest of the congregation, other committees, the board, and everyone who holds UUCC in the hearts and minds continues to ask, "what can we do, separate from CYRE, to welcome and serve.</p> <p>We will hire a DRE and share the work with that person. We will create a more robust, comprehensive calendar of activities early and make every parent's job easier as we work together. This will allow us to add more programming like youth groups and family gatherings for parents of infants and toddlers.</p> <p>This is mostly work we can do. It is possible that increased expectations from the congregation will play a limiting role once we hire a DRE. People must not expect a return to every-Sunday, Sunday school. It is not sustainable. If this causes people to want to push CYRE into a round hole, we must see more non-parent members lean into the work, and we must see more non-CYRE committees directly reach out to families, children, and youth</p> <p>They do not know it, yet, but I hope to share more and more responsibilities with others. I hope to come to an agreement of sharing some things over the summer as we head into the fall. Committee chair work is HARD for working parents.</p> |   |  |
| <b>Caring and Hospitality</b><br><br>Mary Maclachlan<br>Joan Watterson | Jean Capalbo, Jane Gillespie, Jim Kimbler, Jane Lawther, John Logue, Jean Lomasto, Mary Maclachlan, Morgan Maclachlan, Sandra Merritt, Regina Moody, Cheryl Soehl, Marleen Trader, Joan Watterson, Rev. Stephen Robinson  | Almost doubling our membership.                                     | Starting back having in-person meetings really helped with discussions.  |
| Notes  | Finding a storage place for medical equipment, initiating in-home assistance for Zooming service for shut-ins. B&G needs to ID location, board needs to OK our proposal.  |   |  |

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| <b>Green</b><br><br>Caroline Eastman                             | No official list. About 15 people involved at one level or another.   | Submitted Green Sanctuary action plan and started submitting descriptions of supporting activities.                             | Difficulty in formulating a reasonable plan for climate justice activities |
| Notes  | <p>complete sufficient items in action plan to achieve Green Sanctuary status</p> <p>I have been working with the incoming chair, Sharon Givens, to facilitate the transition.</p>  |   |  |
| <b>Partner Church</b><br><br>Lee Minghi                          | Jean Capalbo, Yolanda Ganong, Carita Barr, Donald Cooper, Anne Susan Robinson, & Anne Espinoza  | Bringing Rev. Zsolt Solymosi and Alex Balint, a Beszterce Congregation member, for joyful, educational 7-day visit in July 2023 | Aging of our committee members   |
| Notes  | <p>Small committee challenged to replace ourselves with younger congregants and poor health of some of our dedicated committee members.</p> <p>Recruit new &amp; younger committee members; then pursue leadership development. Continue awareness raising and organizing pilgrimages.</p> <p>Due to successful fundraising, which is designated for the Beszterce Congregation, the Partner Church is not currently in the UUCB budget, but reserves the right to ask should national dues or other expenses arise.</p> <p>Continue financial support of Beszterce, Romania Congregation, Send 11 UUCB pilgrims to Romania-July 2024, Convey concerns and needs between the 2 congregations &amp; keep connection to Unitarian roots in Transylvania alive, Cards/Greetings, and continued fundraising. Also participate in national PC meetings</p> |   |  |
| <b>Denomination Connections</b><br><br>Deb Matherly and Pat Mohr | Linda Brennon<br>Karen Brown<br>John Logue<br>Reina Moody   | .UUCB web page: we worked with web-master to update information and sources on our committee's page.                            |  |
| Notes  | <p>Rewrite of Article II of UUA bylaws: presented information and engaged participants in 4 congregational meetings and a Sunday sermon &amp; meeting.</p> <p>General Assembly delegates: elicited names indicating interest and selected nominees to submit to UUCB Board, where they were approved. Delegates are Deb Matherly, Karen Brown, &amp; Pat Mohr + our minister, Stephen Robinson.</p>   |   |  |