



2015-2016 Annual Report

OUR VISION & MISSION

The mission of Second Unitarian Church of Omaha is to be Authentic, Compassionate, and Transformative in our lives, in our faith, and in the world.

Our vision: Authentic, Compassionate, Transformative.

- ◇ **Second Unitarian Church encourages people to live with integrity, to nurture one another, and to change the world through acts of love and justice.**
- ◇ **We minister to each other through vibrant worship, religious growth and learning, and a commitment to advocacy, witness and action.**
- ◇ **We come together to comfort and to challenge. We enrich our lives by weaving together our personal experiences, theologies and practices into one larger tapestry.**

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Meeting & Voting

RULES OF ORDER

The Handling of a Motion:

- ◇ A member makes a motion. ("Member" means voting member of the Church.)
- ◇ Another member seconds the motion.
- ◇ The chair states the question on the motion.

Neither the making nor the seconding of a motion places it before the assembly; only the chair can do that (with step 3). When the chair has stated the question, the motion is pending and is open for debate.

Members debate the motion (unless no member claims the floor to do so). During debate, no one shall speak more than two minutes (unless the assembly declares its desire to waive this rule for a specific speaker). No one is entitled to the floor a second time on the same motion as long as any other member who has not spoken on this motion desires the floor. With the permission of the chair, a non-member may participate in debate (please identify yourself as a non-member when recognized by the chair, so there is no confusion).

The chair asks if there is any further discussion and, if there is not, puts the question to a vote, calling for those in favor, those opposed, and those abstaining.

The chair announces the result of the vote.

During the debate on the motion, a member may call for the "question," which is a request to close debate and proceed to a vote. The chair may observe that the question has been called and ask if there is any objection to closing debate. If there appears to be significant objection, the chair may allow the debate to proceed. If a member wishes to press for closure, she/he may seek recognition and "move the previous question." This is a priority-taking motion, which, if seconded, must be voted on immediately. If it carries by a 2/3 majority, then debate on the previous motion is terminated, and the chair proceeds immediately to put the previous question to a vote. Otherwise, debate on the previous motion continues.

In cases of questions on parliamentary procedure, the chair shall rule. If the ruling is contested, the assembly shall vote on whether or not to uphold.

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

June 5, 2016

- ◇ Call to Order and Opening Words
- ◇ Reading of Covenant
- ◇ Credentials Report and Certification of a Quorum
- ◇ Minutes of last annual meeting held May 17, 2015
- ◇ Approval of the Rules of Order
- ◇ Report of Nominating Committee (all for 3 year terms)—Additional nominations may be offered from the floor
 - Board of Trustees: Don Mundy and Joe White**
 - Endowment: Phil Phillips**
 - Nominations and Leadership Development: Monica Meier**
- ◇ Treasurers Report of current budget (2015-2016)
- ◇ Minister's Report
- ◇ Report by Developmental Minister Committee
- ◇ Approval of Proposed Budget for 2016-2017
- ◇ By-laws Revisions
- ◇ Election of Delegates to General Assembly—Additional nominations may be offered from the floor
 - On site delegate: Cheri Cody**
 - Off site delegates: Vicki Pratt and Pat Caffrey**
- ◇ Recognition of Those Completing Service to Congregation
- ◇ Closing Words
- ◇ Adjournment

VOTING MEMBERS

Stephen Abraham	Phil Dudley	John Knappe	Craig Piquette
Jan A Frank	Vicki Dudley	Norma Koelling	Vicki Pratt
Russ Alberts	Lorrain Duggin	Richard Koelling	Meg Quintana
Lynn Alsman	Judy Eller	Melissa Konecky	Roxanne Redd
Sana Amoura- Patterson	Gwen Eurich	Gene Kopecky	Gay Robinson Abraham
Nancy Amsler	Bob Fischbach	Vija Kopecky	Dodie Robison
Clyde Anderson	Betsy Fleckenstein- Phillips	Carla/Bill Kuhn	Shirley Rundquist
Jill Archer	Marcia Forbes	Larry Kurtz	Tom Rundquist
Sue Aschinger	Milton Forbes	Cindy Lynne	Betty Segell
Marco Ballarin	Louisa Foster	Michael Lynne	Jaime Short
Elizabeth Bange	Jack Frost	nellie sudavicius MacCallum	Justin Short
Kathy Bell	Greg Gage	Fiona Matthews	Krystal Skradski- Gage
Rick Bell	Debora Gibson	Rich McArdle	Ronda Stevens
Joan Benziger	Ben Godfrey	Monica Meier	Jeff Tessin
Ed Bok	Michelle Godfrey	Anita Meyer	Katie Tessin
Catherine Boscardin	Al Harrison	Carolyn Miller	Lolly Thomas
Elise Brazeal- Daganaar	Pat Hart	Pete Miller	Mark Tipton
Lisa Burnside	Joel Haskins	Pam Miller-Jenkins	Gary Toth
Pat Caffrey	Kathie Haskins	Greg Minter	Nancy VanderSluis
Cheri Cody	Bill Hay	Rebecca Monohon	Doris Wallace
Neva Cozine	Tammy Hunter	Don Mundy	Henry Weiss
Pam Curtiss-Smith	Ruthann Irby	Janet Nicols	Michaela Weiss
Todd Daganaar	Anita Jeck	Martha Nunn	Jennie White
Gay DeWester	Dave Jenkins	Dan Pearson	Joe White
Virginia Dodge	Carol Johnson	Ferial Pearson	Charles Woram
Darrel Draper	David Johnson	Chris Peters	Rachel Yamamoto
Joanne Draper	Jennifer Kelly	Stephanie Peterson	Darla Zink
Donna Dudley	Julie Kirn	Tom Peterson	
	Molly Kliment - Jenkins	Phil Phillips	
		Jonnathon Pinzon	

MINUTES OF 2015 ANNUAL MEETING

May 17, 2015

The meeting was brought to order at 11:30 am by Board of Trustees chair, Craig Piquette. A quorum required 35% of the voting membership which was 40 members. 59 voting members were in attendance. In addition, 11 Absentee Ballots were received.

The Congregational Covenant was read. The Minister's report and the Treasurer's report were received. Appreciation was expressed for the work of Vicki Pratt, Treasurer, and a gift presented to her.

Business Agenda Items:

The minutes of the 2014 Annual Meeting were unanimously approved.

(Motion by Tom Peterson, seconded by Carol Johnson)

The proposed slate of nominees for the Board of Trustees, Endowment Fund Committee, and Nominations & Leadership Development Committee were unanimously approved. Nominees included Carol Johnson and Gregory Minter for the Board of Trustees; Pam Curtiss-Smith for the Nominations and Leadership Development Committee; and Sue Aschinger for the Endowment Fund Committee. Motion was made by Craig Piquette and seconded by Chris Peters to vote as a block and was unanimously approved.

(Motion by Clyde Anderson, seconded by Fiona Matthews)

Proposed bylaw revisions were reviewed by Craig Piquette. A motion was made by Craig to accept the revisions as proposed; this was seconded by Gregory Minter. Further discussion ensued. Some of the discussion points included the following:

- ◇ A question of voting was raised regarding Member Emeritus. It was noted that if the individual wanted to vote, a Board Exception to Member requirements could be submitted.

Passed by a vote of 69 in favor, 0 against, and 1 abstention.

Presentation, discussion and Approval of Developmental Ministry. Craig Piquette provided an overview of the differences between Settled Ministry and Developmental Ministry. Further discussion ensued. Some of the discussion points included the following:

- ◇ The selection team has not yet been decided, it will be a smaller Search Committee than we had for a Settled Minister.
- ◇ The question of sufficient funds in budget was discussed. The process could require flights and lodging.
- ◇ Clarification of timeline will be helpful.

(Motion by Richard Koelling, seconded by Fiona Matthews)

Passed by a vote of 66 in favor, 2 against, and 0 abstention.

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The Budget for 2015-16 was presented. Amendment introduced to increase Pledge Income by \$2,500 to \$180,000 and lower the Reserve Fund Transfer by \$2,500. Motion to accept made by Clyde Anderson and seconded by Stephanie Peterson and was unanimously approved. The 2015-2016 Budget with amendment was unanimously approved.

(Motion by Stephanie Peterson, seconded by Gregory Minter)

Presentation and discussion of proposed UUA Bylaw change. The delegates to GA were asked to vote in agreement with the Board of the Mid America Region on this issue.

A motion was (made) that Cheri Cody and Pat Caffrey represent Second Unitarian Church at the 2015 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association in Portland, OR and that a third person may be chosen later by the Board of Trustees. This motion passed unanimously.

Discussion regarding Sunday Services:

There was a motion by Pam Curtiss-Smith, seconded by Kathy Bell to coordinate a meeting in August that would include, but not be limited to, Music & Worship, Membership, RGL, Finance, etc. to discuss options with a follow-up meeting at an upcoming Program Council meeting.

Motion passed with 43 in favor, 0 against and 1 abstention.

Topic of membership growth introduced by Phil Dudley and emphasized need to focus on what can be done today, starting with all of us talking to others including family and friends and invite people to visit, invite people to participate.

A gift of appreciation was presented to Craig Piquette as outgoing Board Chair. Craig presented gifts to Board members in appreciation for their service.

Closing words were given by Rev. Frieda Gillespie. The meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Submitted by Board of Trustees Secretary, Pat Caffrey

NOMINEES

Meet our candidates:

The Nominations and Leadership Development Committee is announcing candidates for Board of Trustees, Endowment Committee, and Nominations Committee. Additional nominations of any eligible voting members for these offices may be made during the Annual Meeting. All offices are for 3-year terms ending June 2019.



From Joe White - for the Board of Trustees:

I've long been a Universalist, though I didn't actually know the word until I started coming to 2U. Since I joined the congregation in 2002, I spent a few years on the technology committee, I've been an off-and-on member of the choir, and my "Tale of the Cult of the Fur-Bearing Trout" has become a fan favorite at Sing for your Supper.

When the church started small-group Covenant Groups under Reverend Josh, I was quick to join a group, and later I stepped up to be a covenant group facilitator. Even though I'm a natural introvert, my time in covenant groups has given me amazing connections to others in the church. I also encouraged teens to join covenant groups, and while only a few did, I heard amazing feedback about how much the adults loved hearing the teens' points of view.

My biggest involvement at church has been with the youth group -- not something I would have predicted, but there was a need, and I got hooked; I've been a fixture at Wednesday-night youth group for over a dozen years now. I've ferried teens across multiple states to youth conventions ("cons"), and can tell you exciting stories about getting lost in the woods and stranded in an ice storm (not on the same trip, thank goodness). I've been on the Youth-Adult Committee (YAC), the youth group's leadership team. And a few times, I've left my comfort zone and stepped up to do something or other that Had To Be Done -- often made possible only by the support of some of my dear friends from the congregation.

I've also been involved with the Our Whole Lives sexuality classes, as both member (Adult OWL) and facilitator (1st-2nd grade once, and 7th-9th grade three times). I particularly love leading the 7th-9th grade OWL class, because it's a chance to give teens knowledge that I wish I'd had at that age. (There's a whole session about how to ask people out. God, I could have used that.)

As a member of the board, I would bring an eclectic leadership background, my own unique way of seeing things, and strong connections with the youth -- all of which should make things interesting as we begin work with our developmental minister and try to figure out who we, as a church, want to be when we grow up.

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From Don Mundy - for the Board of Trustees:

Since finding Second Unitarian and becoming a member in April 2011, I have served as a greeter and am now on the *Journeys* hospitality team. I have served on the endowment committee and helped the team that performed the church audit a year or so ago.

I continue to serve as President of The Solutions Group, Inc. which is a financial planning firm. I have been in the financial services industry since 1974. I am a member of Financial Services Professionals and the Omaha Estate Planning Council, First

Financial Resources and am a Certified Financial Planner (CFP) and hold Security Series 6, 7, 25, 63 and 65.

Finding Second Unitarian was like a coming home experience for me. A home I hadn't realized existed. I feel fortunate to have found this place and the people that make it up. It seems in the last several years a lot of good work had been done. I'm encouraged that our members have been active and embraced the tasks of identifying large and difficult issues and shortcomings as well as searching for ways to improve the present and the future. It's not easy for any entity to self-examine honestly while defining the way forward and planning for the future,. Not to mention, we are in the midst of searching for a minister and rethinking many of our congregational goals. It seems like a pivotal point in time for our church. I am very flattered and honored to be nominated to the Board of Trustees. I'm hopeful that some of the experiences I bring can be helpful to the church.



From Monica Meier - for Nominations committee:

I found Unitarian Universalism after receiving the 100% UU result on the beliefnet.com quiz. It took a while to return to giving up my lazy Sunday mornings, but when I became pregnant with my eldest child, I knew I wanted to raise her in an environment where she would be learning the values I hold most dear. I love that my children have grown up in this church and if we ever miss a Sunday they notice.

I realize I was also seeking connection with like-minded individuals and people open to exploring – not just being told an answer. My husband and I officially became members of Second Unitarian church in 2014. We quickly became greeters and enjoyed doing that as well as participating in the many events. I helped with 2015's auction and currently teach RE for the elementary classroom. I participated in the Leadership workshop this year and very much enjoyed the experience. I look forward to continuing to grow in my church home as well as continue to make lasting connections with other members. I'm honored to be invited to join the Nominations Committee.

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**From Phil Phillips - for Endowment Committee:**

My wife Betsy and I joined Second Unitarian over two years ago. Since joining we have been involved in activities such as Build Your Own Theology, participating in circle suppers and serving as ushers. I am also on the Stewardship Committee. Prior to joining Second Unitarian I was a member of Unitarian churches in several cities, including Champaign-Urbana, Illinois; Lexington, Kentucky; and Minneapolis, Minnesota and participated in a wide variety of activities in those congregations.

PROPOSED BUDGET

Prepared by the Budget Team

Proposed to the Congregation- April 24, 2016

Line #		Approved 2015-2016	Board Adjusted 2015 -2016	Proposed 2016-2017	Change 2015- 2016 2016- 2017	% Change
Line #	Income					
1	Pledge Income/Current Yr	\$180,000	\$183,174	\$188,600	\$8,600	5%
2	New Pledge Current Member	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0	0%
3	New Pledges New Member	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0	0%
4	Pledges for Previous Year	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
5	Dividend Income	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$0	0%
6	Gifts	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0	0%
7	Fundraising	\$10,994	\$10,712	\$7,574	-\$3,420	-31%
8	Offering	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$0	0%
9	Rent	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$0	0%
10	Transfer from Boggs Fund	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	-\$5,000	-100%
11	Other Income	\$740	\$590	\$520	-\$220	-30%
12	Transfer from Reserves	\$2,227	\$150	\$0	-\$2,227	-100%
13	Total Income	\$216,761	\$217,426	\$214,494	-\$2,267	-1%
	Expenses					
	Salary Expenses					
14	Office Admin. Salary	\$22,488	\$22,488	\$20,390	-\$2,098	-9%
15	Office Admin Ins Benefits	\$398	\$398	\$360	-\$37	-9%
16	Office Admin Retirement Fund	\$2,249	\$2,249	\$1,020	-\$1,229	-55%
17	OA Prof Expenses	\$621	\$621	\$612	-\$9	-1%
18	DRE Salary	\$18,723	\$18,723	\$19,659	\$936	5%
19	DRE Insurance Benefits	\$331	\$331	\$348	\$17	5%
20	DRE Retirement Fund	\$1,872	\$1,872	\$1,966	\$94	5%
21	DRE Prof Expenses	\$508	\$508	\$590	\$82	16%
22	Music Director	\$9,888	\$9,888	\$10,086	\$198	2%
23	Connections Coordinator	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	Unpaid
24	Connections Coord Prof Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	Unpaid
25	Musicians	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,950	\$450	30%
26	Childcare Supervisor	\$0	\$0	\$750	\$750	New
27	Bookkeeper (combine with OA)	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$0	-\$1,800	-100%
28	Staff Payroll Taxes	\$3,909	\$3,909	\$3,893	-\$16	0%
29	Payroll Processing	\$1,225	\$1,225	\$1,445	\$220	18%
30	HRA Monthly Fees	\$0	\$72	\$0	\$0	0%
31	Staff Appreciation/Development	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$0	0%
32	Total non-ministerial staff	\$65,711	\$65,784	\$63,268	-\$2,443	-4%

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	Approved 2015-2016	Board Adjusted 2015 -2016	Proposed 2016-2017	Change 2015- 2016 2016- 2017	% Change	
<u>Ministerial Package</u>						
33	Housing Allowance	\$40,280	\$40,280	\$40,000	-\$280	-1%
34	Insurance Benefits	\$1,192	\$1,192	\$9,930	\$8,738	733%
35	Minister W2 Salary	\$27,140	\$27,140	\$15,450	-\$11,690	-43%
36	In Lieu of FICA	\$5,158	\$5,158	\$4,242	-\$916	-18%
37	Professional Expenses	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$5,545	-\$455	-8%
38	Minister Pension	\$6,742	\$6,742	\$5,545	-\$1,197	-18%
39	Moving Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	0%
40	Total Ministerial Expense	\$86,511	\$86,512	\$85,712	-\$799	-1%
<u>Administrative Expenses</u>						
41	Administrative Expenses	\$1,160	\$1,160	\$1,110	-\$50	-4%
42	Treasurer Admin Expense	\$842	\$842	\$873	\$31	4%
43	Total Administrative Expense	\$2,002	\$2,002	\$1,983	-\$19	-1%
<u>General Expenses</u>						
44	Board Mtgs & Retreat	\$275	\$275	\$275	\$0	0%
45	Ministerial Search Team	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	-\$5,000	-100%
46	Share the Plate Donations	\$6,500	\$6,500	\$6,500	\$0	0%
47	Fundraising Expense	\$774	\$774	\$500	-\$274	New
48	RGL-Childcare	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$750	-\$750	-50%
49	Religious Education Supplies	\$750	\$750	\$750	\$0	0%
50	Copier Expense	\$420	\$420	\$908	\$488	116%
51	Denominational Dues	\$9,744	\$9,744	\$9,520	-\$224	-2%
52	Insurance	\$4,800	\$4,800	\$4,150	-\$650	-14%
53	Janitorial-Cleaning	\$3,920	\$3,920	\$7,020	\$3,100	79%
54	Janitorial Sup/Trash Pick up	\$1,210	\$1,210	\$1,610	\$400	33%
55	Lawn Care & Snow Removal	\$2,490	\$2,490	\$2,665	\$175	7%
56	OTOC dues	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$1,414	\$114	9%
57	Postage	\$575	\$575	\$500	-\$75	-13%
58	Telephone/Internet	\$3,190	\$3,190	\$3,509	\$319	10%
59	Communications/Marketing Advisory Council	\$540	\$540	\$1,740	\$1,200	222%
60	Utilities: Gas/Electric/Water	\$5,339	\$5,339	\$5,220	-\$119	-2%
61	Depreciation Expense	\$0	\$591	\$0	\$0	Fully Dep.
62	Total General Expenses	\$48,327	\$48,918	\$47,031	-\$1,296	-3%

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	Approved 2015-2016	Board Adjusted 2015 -2016	Proposed 2016-2017	Change 2015- 2016 2016- 2017	% Change	
<u>Committee Expenses</u>						
63	Caring	\$260	\$260	\$260	\$0	0%
64	Fellowship	\$1,310	\$1,310	\$1,310	\$0	0%
65	Finance Coordinating Council	\$1,550	\$1,550	\$1,650	\$100	6%
66	Bldg & Grounds Mainten	\$800	\$800	\$850	\$50	6%
67	Library	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$0	0%
68	Membership	\$1,165	\$1,165	\$1,125	-\$40	-3%
69	Music and Worship	\$3,550	\$3,550	\$4,350	\$800	23%
70	Religious Growth and Learning Council	\$3,400	\$3,400	\$3,400	\$0	0%
71	Social Justice Coordinating Council	\$700	\$700	\$1,000	\$300	43%
72	Technology	\$525	\$525	\$405	-\$120	-23%
73	Denominational Connections	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
74	Leadership Dev./Nominations	\$600	\$600	\$1,800	\$1,200	200%
75	Transition Team	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$0	0%
76	Total Committee Expenses	\$14,210	\$14,210	\$16,500	\$2,290	16%
77	Total Expenses	\$216,761	\$217,426	\$214,494	-\$2,268	-1%
78	Out of Balance By	\$0	\$0	\$0		

CHURCH LIFE

2015 -2016

New Members

Jan A Frank
Bob Fischbach
Jeff Jenkins
Charles Woram

Reinstated Members

Russ Alberts
Catherine Boscardin
Ruthann Irby

Former Members

Aaron Loyd
Gary Scarborough
Merry Barney*
Stu Burns
Shari Busse*
Amy Carmichael
William T. Carmichael
Agnes Flamen*
Kim Hovseth
Ashley Huff*
Chris Kurth
Olga Kurth
Patti Meglich
Angela Nelson
David Nesbit
Eileen Novak
Sadja Qureshi
Cindy Ramsey
Dan Roth
Cade Ullerich
Kristie Ullerich

Graduating Seniors

2016

Greg Bellus
Shiraz DeVreede

2015

Jessica Archer
Sean McArdle
Evan Piquette
Emily Redd
Maya Smith

Births

None Recorded

Weddings

None Recorded

Deaths

Tom Blackstone
Carlynn Hartmann-Kurtz
Bill Woodhams

**Formerly Non-Voting Member*



Leadership & Staff

THE BOARD'S REPORT

Submitted by the Board of Trustees

Board Goals for the Year

- ◇ Developmental Ministry Application
- ◇ Maintaining open communication with congregation
- ◇ Clarification of the role of the Program Council
- ◇ Revise the Standing Rules to be owned by the Committees and used to define their charter and how to accomplish the work of the church

The primary goal for the board this year was to work with the congregation to develop goals that would define our developmental ministry. This began with an identity workshop developed by Rev. Gillespie and the Transition Team and was followed by three group meetings and a town hall meeting with the congregation in October. A Ministerial Search Team was named and they finished writing the application based on the minutes of these meetings supplied by the board.

The four goals named in the Developmental Ministry Application were:

- 1) Be welcoming and engaging to newcomers and members.
- 2) 2) Strengthen our worship services by increasing the variety of worship styles, music and participants.
- 3) 3) Change the culture of how we work together to accomplish the mission and vision of Second Unitarian.
- 4) 4) Build a clear sense of our identity which defines our purpose and how we can best live out our mission.

As of this writing, the Search Team has received names of prospective Developmental Ministers and will be performing their due diligence over the next few weeks. We hope to have a minister in residence by September.

In an effort to maintaining open communication with the congregation, the board held two town hall meetings, one in October and another in April. The first meeting celebrated our accomplishments over the past year and outlined the process for our application for Developmental Ministry. The most recent one provided an update on Rev. Gillespie's interim ministry and an update on the Developmental Minister search. It also allowed the committees to celebrate how their work contributed to the life of the church. These meetings, along with the 'Planks and Slivers' monthly newsletter piece were designed to provide a window for the congregation into the workings of the board.

Pat Caffrey, vice-chair of the board and chair of the Program Council undertook an initiative to clarify the role of the Program Council and its governance. This was accomplished through discussions with the members of the Council, discussions with the board and consultation with Rev. Gillespie. The result will be a section of the committee governing documents or 'Standing Rules'. Under this same initiative, the committees were asked to review the section of the Standing Rules that outlined the role and work of the individual committees and to submit an updated section to the board. These will be reassembled into a revised 'Standing Rules' document that will become the governing document for the day-to-day running of the committees and the Program Council.

The current board has laid the foundation of Developmental Ministry at Second Unitarian and it is the fervent wish of the leadership that frequent conversations with the congregation and celebrations of our accomplishments continue to occur to build the sense of identity that is so important for fulfilling our mission to be Authentic, Compassionate and Transformative in our lives, in our faith and in our world.

MINISTER'S REPORT

Submitted by Reverend Frieda Gillespie



When I think back to my arrival at Second Unitarian and the conversations I had with many of you about your experiences in the church. There were many disappointments and lost dreams. During this year, you've been able to affirm the good things from your past and to begin to dust off those dreams that you, maybe, felt hopeless about. A momentum began, almost from the very beginning of the transition period, to reassess those dreams and begin to take steps toward realizing them.

At the Town Hall meeting a couple of weeks ago, I became aware of how much has been accomplished this year alone and how much pride, excitement and enthusiasm everyone has. If that isn't the embodiment of the Fifth focal point of Interim Ministry, I don't know what is! The answers to the short questionnaire many of you filled out at the Town Hall also reflect your readiness. To refresh your memory, the focal points for the transition time are (paraphrased):

- ◇ **Honoring your past with its joys and sorrows.**
- ◇ **Clarifying your identity and mission.**
- ◇ **Navigating changes in leadership.**
- ◇ **Increasing connections with the broader movement.**
- ◇ **Looking forward with joy to your future!**

The Transition Team: **Jaime Short, Meg Quintana and Joel Haskins** have been patient, steady and effective in the work that we did together. The Church Identity Workshop was a highlight for me and I think for the church as well.

I want to thank the excellent staff here: **Molly Kliment-Jenkins**, who has done a phenomenal job this year making possible OWL facilitator training, and creating a new YRUU policy which allows for the succession of youth advisors. Molly is a delight to work with — she is so creative and willing to jump in where needed. I especially am grateful for her work on multigenerational services with me. **Gary Emenitove** was wonderful to work with and kept us all on schedule. We hated to see him go but affirmed his need to simplify his life for the sake of his health. **Jaime Short** has been such a serendipitous and excellent replacement for Gary. She has all the competencies needed to do the job and additionally she is mature, good natured and willing to do whatever is needed. She will navigate the boundaries between being a member and an Office Administrator well. **Donna Zebolsky** has continued to bring her considerable musical talent to the worship services. The music she selects is always moving and adds a depth to the service. I'm leaving 2U knowing that the next minister will have the staff support they'll need.

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I also want to say what a great time I've had with both Boards that I've known here. They have given direction to the church through excellent communications and expressions of encouragement. The current Board, (**Craig Plquette, Carol Johnson, Pat Caffrey, Anita Meyer, Gay Robinson Abraham, and Greg Minter**) put together an excellent Search Committee for selecting a Developmental Minister: **Sue Aschinger, Jaime Short, Lorraine Duggin, Pete Miller, Rachel Yamamoto and Jack Frost**. They each bring something unique to the task. I think the choice to move forward with Developmental ministry is a great one and you will achieve the goals you've set forth for this in the fullness of time.

Another team that has been essential to my ministry has been the Music and Worship team: **Michael Lynne, Chris Peters, Tom Peterson, Julie Kirn, Vicki Dudley, and new member, Todd Dagaanaar**. They have made my job on Sundays so much easier.

It has been a great pleasure and honor for me to be your Interim Minister these past two years. You've confirmed my faith in the value of congregations and what they can do. Don't ever let go of your dreams of what UUism and this church can be. Keep the faith and share it with anyone who will listen.

I liked you all from the beginning, and I've come to love you as well over these two years. I will never forget what I've learned here and the richness of the interim ministry we've shared.

Blessings,

Rev. Frieda Gillespie



DRE'S REPORT

Submitted by Molly Kliment-Jenkins,
Director of Lifespan Religious Education

Note: For convenience sake, I am referring to adults in the classrooms as "teachers," caretaking adults of children as "parents," and the time for children on Sundays downstairs apart from worship as "Sunday school." My data collection starts with July 1, 2015 and continues to April 2016, when this report was written. Survey results are not included as I did not have enough responses to form any conclusions.



Adult Religious Education

This year we attempted to offer Building Your Own Theology 2, but due to surgeries, vacations, etc, we only ended up with 3 people registering, so decided to postpone it for a time. We also offered up a UU Heritage series of classes which could be taken independently or as a unit. Russ Alberts has been facilitating the classes, which have been held both in the fall and spring.

Young Religious Unitarian Universalists: YRUU

Inclucity

YRUU group attended Inclucity, an Inclusive Communities year long workshop, which includes leadership opportunities, 4-day residential retreat and two interns. Non-YRUU congregational members attended a workshop in December at UNO.

YRUU Policy

This spring, Jan Wilson (Director of Religious Education from First Unitarian) and I tackled the lack of a policy governing the relationship between First Unitarian Church, Second Unitarian Church and YRUU. We started with a visioning meeting on January 6, 2016 with facilitators, parents and youth. From that feedback and using past annual reports and brochures/flyers about the program, I created a draft policy. We then formed a Transition Team from a group of parents and youth to revise the policy and identify leaders for the coming year, as Ben Wallace and Shawne Coonfare are coming off of YRUU at the conclusion of this year. Their leadership of the group has been appreciated! Tom Rundquist and Joe White have also given much as our secondary youth advisors.

Curriculum for Sunday Mornings

We had 28 children registered for Sundays (51 according to the UUA) and an average Sunday school attendance of 3.8 in Spirit Play, 4.3 in Love Connects Us and 3.9 in Building Bridges. Attendance dropped this year.

I am thankful for the volunteers for this program: Michelle Godfrey, Rachel Yamamoto, Dave Jenkins, Pam Miller-Jenkins, Monica Meier, Jonnathan Pinzon, Janet Nichols, Pete Miller, Keri Norris, Todd Dagaanaar, Meg Quintana, and Justin Short.

The RGL Council and I selected three curricula for the 2015-2016 school year, and divided our students up into rough cohorts based on age/ability.

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The youngest group, our pre-readers to early readers (roughly three through first grade) continued with **Spirit Play**. Activities for this group do not require the ability to read yet. The Spirit Play curriculum is Montessori-based, adapted by Dr. Nita Penfold to the Unitarian Universalist tradition. This year we focused on the Seven Promises (promises=principles) stories and foundation lessons on the chalice, our principles and our inclusive community.

Feedback from parents, teachers and children has been positive. It has become one of the quietest classes in the lower level. Many teachers like the way the stories are presented to the children during the first part of the class. Since it has a self-directed element to it, a child can select responsive work that fits their mood (i.e., active, interactive, exploratory, etc) after hearing the story. We are continuing on with it into the next year as we have lessons for UU historical figures and the UU promises (seven principles). Average attendance came to 4 children, median of 4.

The **Love Connects Us** class was the elementary class. This curriculum focused on exploring the Blake Covenant, the same covenant we say upstairs. It had a stronger kinesthetic element to help active learners. Next year we will be referring to this as the Intermediate Class since some of the children are out of elementary but not ready for the youth class.

Our **Building Bridges** class for the middle and high school youth was selected by them during the prior year. The curriculum focuses on exploring world religions and will continue into next year. It included extensions: field trips or people brought in to talk about the different faiths.

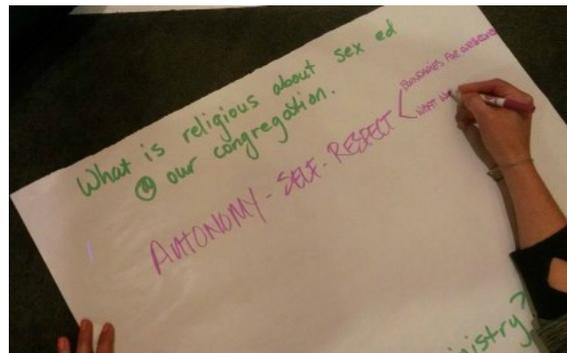
Childcare

This spring, Pam Curtis-Smith was provided with extra time each week to take over the management of child care at our congregation.

Our Whole Lives (OWL)

Facilitator Training for Child OWL

June Grubb and Ashley Johnson led our facilitator training July 30-August 1 at our church for child OWL. We had 6 people from our congregation receive training: Ed Bok, Michelle Godfrey, Jeff Jenkins, Molly Kliment-Jenkins, Fiona Matthews, and Joe White. There were an additional four people (three from the Lincoln UU congregation and one from a Lawrence, KS UCC congregation).



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OWL Classes for Children

Both classes were offered at the same time since there were a couple families who had children in both. Classes were held an hour following service to allow families to get lunch prior to class starting. We had mixed feedback about this approach. We taught the classes in teams of three - this worked out well for sickness and vacations. It also gave all six facilitators a chance to work with the material immediately following training. We now have an OWL library with materials for families and facilitators to check out during the class or outside of it.

Grades 1-2: We offered this class in the spring of 2016. The facilitators were: Ed Bok, Fiona Matthews, and Joe White. We had seven children take the class from: Second Unitarian (five children), First Unitarian (one) and from outside either (one). Good number of children and great feedback from families.

Grades 5-6: We offered this class in the spring of 2016. The facilitators were: Michelle Godfrey, Jeff Jenkins, and Molly Kliment-Jenkins. We had four children take the class from: Second Unitarian (one child), First Unitarian (one child) and from outside either (two). The size was definitely a challenge as were the fact that none of the kids knew each other coming in. That said, the group gelled around week 4 and the feedback from families was that it was a great experience for them all.

Service Learning Projects (SLPs)

As of March, it was decided to discontinue the monthly SLPs. The attendance has steadily decreased and has lost its multigenerational composition. I was also struggling getting help putting the SLPs on. I advertised a volunteer position for someone to take this over but had no one interested. We are going to resume with SLPs as part of our summer curriculum for the kids in the lower level. It will give us the opportunity to explore topics more in-depth and have bigger projects (= bigger impact).

Month	Date	Topic
September	9-27-15	Homeless Vet Mats: Made plan for crocheting mats for homeless vets.
November	11-29-15	Adopt-a-family through Heartland Family Service; wrap gifts
December	12-27-15	Youth Emergency Services: Cook New Years Eve dinner for homeless youth outreach downtown location
January	1-31-16	Standing on the Side of Love <u>Anti Muslim Education</u> Made winter hats for the Refugee Empowerment Center. Talk by Amanda Ryan - works with refugee group on UNL campus.
February	2-28-16	Pine Ridge - toothbrushes/toothpaste: dental health month
March	Skip	Already 2 multigenerational services this month.

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Submitted by Jaime Short

It's been a great pleasure to be the Office Administrator at our wonderful church. I had very large boots to fill and I know that Gary is greatly missed, none the less, I have felt very cared for as I make the transition from member to member & staff. But honestly, what else could be expected from our such an incredible congregation?!

I have enjoyed working with Molly for years as the chair of the Lifespan Religious Growth and Learning Council, and I feel we continue to work well together. I have enjoyed working with Donna, although we work mostly through email as opposed to face to face. It has been lovely getting to know Frieda on a different level, and I will miss her on both those levels when she moves on. However, I am of course excited for the possibilities and changes for the future of our church when our new Developmental Minister joins us.

For now, I continue to learn the ins and outs of the many different tasks that I perform as office manager. I am incredibly grateful to everyone for this opportunity and I love my new role at our amazing church.

MUSIC DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Submitted by Donna Zeblosky

Our small but dedicated choir sang 7 times this year, on September 7, October 4, November 8, December 6, January 24, March 27, and May 22.

Current members are:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| ◇ Tom Peterson | ◇ Deb Gibson |
| ◇ Julie Kirn | ◇ Bob Fischbach |
| ◇ Carla/Bill Kuhn | ◇ Vicki Dudley |

Others who sang for part of the year with us include Elizabeth Thompson and Santha Walters. Many thanks to all of our choir participants for their time, energy and wonderful voices!

We had several guest musicians this year, including Carla/Bill Kuhn, who sang and played guitar for several services during the year. Dan Pearson also played the clarinet, one time accompanying the choir, and once in a duo performing some clarinet/piano classical pieces with me. Thanks to both of these talented musicians from the congregation for their time and beautiful music!

STAFF COVENANT

adopted September 2009; rev. November 2010, April 2012

In the interest of promoting spiritual growth and right relations within and beyond the Second Unitarian Church of Omaha, we, the professional staff and the volunteer staff, covenant to:

- ◇ model healthy relationships and teamwork among the staff and with congregant
- ◇ promote healthy business practices in a professional manner, with attention to good stewardship of all resources.

Recognizing that the way we are with one another affects the entire congregation, we agree to:

- ◇ express appreciation and encourage one another
- ◇ attend to group process, taking time together to remember what is important (such as important dates – anniversaries of employment, birthdays, etc.)
- ◇ communicate openly with one another
- ◇ listen without interruption to what others have to say and process that
- ◇ encourage speaking and knowing when not to speak, in the interest of effective decision-making for the common good
- ◇ approach concerns and issues with direct communication, working toward resolution and with respect for confidentiality
- ◇ challenge assumptions (our own and others)
- ◇ avoid triangulation and offer mediation when appropriate
- ◇ inform each other about when we arrive and when we leave the building
- ◇ practice sensitivity to differences, cultural and otherwise and, allow for mistakes from ourselves and the members of Second Unitarian.

Faithfully done, our work carries forward the ministry of this church to create loving community and inspire spiritual growth and supports the mission to grow as a beacon of hope—sharing a vision of a world community that embraces diversity, justice, and respectful stewardship within the interdependent web of existence.



FACILITIES

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Submitted by Clyde Anderson

Committee Mission Statement: The Building & Grounds Committee works to insure the facilities of the Church are safe and meet the needs of its members and guests.

Committee Members: Clyde Anderson and Tom Rundquist (Co-Chairs), Rick Bell, Gary Emenitove/Jaime Short (Custodial Contacts), Jay Haskins, Carla/Bill Kuhn (Technology Contact), Larry Kurtz, Rebecca Monohon, Roger Nicolaisen, Tom Peterson, Craig Piquette (Board Contact).

Major Achievements:

- ◇ Thanks to the many volunteers who participated in the Church Cleanups Oct. 17, April 30, May 7 and all the other B&G volunteer opportunities during the year!
- ◇ A contractor who visited the church to provide an estimate for installing a gutter on the east side of the roof discovered extensive hail damage to the roof. The insurance adjuster agreed that there was significant damage with some leakage in the eaves, and the roof needed to be replaced. The project was completed in December at an out-of-pocket cost of \$634 after payments from the insurance company.
- ◇ The Marketing Advisory Council designed beautiful new exterior signage for the church, and B&G volunteers installed them.
- ◇ Thanks to a significant donation in memory of Gary Piquette, B&G assisted Technology to install a new audio-visual system for the Sanctuary including a new projection wall and ceiling-mounted projector. The audio system controls were relocated from the front of the Sanctuary to the back so adjustments can be made without disrupting the service.
- ◇ With expert advice from Technology, B&G replaced the broken draft inducer blower assembly in the North Furnace this Spring. Costing only \$105 on the internet, B&G was able to get the furnace running again in four days at a substantial cost savings.
- ◇ The frequent rains during Summer, Fall, and Spring minimized the need for irrigation at church, but the cost of lawn care was over budget and our volunteers were busy pulling weeds and edging the lawn.
- ◇ Affordable Maintenance Solutions did an excellent job clearing the church parking lot and walks after the Christmas Eve snowstorm making it possible to hold the Christmas Eve services on schedule. Too bad the City and its contractors didn't do a better job clearing residential streets so more members could attend!

Future goals:

- ◇ Make repairs to the Church parking lot, especially the north driveway.
- ◇ Paint the exterior roof beams and fascia plus changes to the colors and signage on the south side of the church being designed by the Marketing Advisory Council.
- ◇ Install a stormwater drainage system to prevent water from leaking into the southwest corner of the church.
- ◇ Install gutters and downspouts on the east side of the roof.
- ◇ Replace the metal doors at the main entrance with glass doors with panic exit bars to make the church entrance more welcoming and a safer emergency exit.

Leadership – Tom and Clyde have co-chaired Building & Grounds for five years, and we are seeking new leaders.





FINANCES

FINANCE COORDINATING COUNCIL

Submitted by Clyde Anderson

The Finance Coordinating Council (FCC) includes the Endowment Committee, Fundraising Task Force, Stewardship Task Force, and the Treasurer.

Council Members: Clyde Anderson – Chair, Vicki Pratt (Treasurer), Cheri Cody (Stewardship & Endowment), Pat Caffrey (Fundraising), and Joel Haskins

Endowment Committee Members: (Elected by the Congregation to 3-year terms) – Cheri Cody, Phil Phillips, and Sue Aschinger

Fundraising Task Force Members: Pat Caffrey (Chair), Monica Meier, Lynn Alsman

Stewardship Task Force Members: Cheri Cody (Co-Chair), Ed Bok (Co-Chair), Todd Dagonaar, Phil Dudley, Joel Haskins, Clyde Anderson, Phil Phillips

Treasurer: Vicki Pratt

Major Achievements during 2015-2016:

- ◇ **Endowment** –As of March 31, 2016, Endowment Fund assets totaled \$97,865. This Spring an account was established with Edward Jones to enable the church to handle trades more quickly, especially when securities are donated to the church.
- ◇ **Fun-Draising Team** – Decided to skip an auction this year and instead try some new techniques – e-Bingo and participation in the Omaha Gives Campaign. Under the leadership of Gay DeWester, the sale of Fair Trade products resumed at church with some new products added: olive oil, cocoa, and teas. At the recommendation of the Library and Social Justice committees, participation in Amazon.com's *Affiliates* rebate program was terminated because of Amazon's well-documented history of labor abuses that stand in direct contradiction to the social justice principles of fairness and human dignity that are the cornerstone of Second Unitarian Church.
- ◇ **Stewardship** - The theme for this year's **Stewardship Campaign** was *Faith, Funding, Action*. This theme focused on what do we need to change to get the attention of those members not extensively involved in church functions. **Stewardship Campaign Schedule:** Visiting Steward Training – Sunday, Feb. 7; Visionary Donor Event – Sat., Feb. 20; Kickoff Event – Saturday, March 5 at Church; and the Stewardship Campaign extended through March 20. We had a fantastic team of 29 Stewards, 84 members and friends were energized by Kickoff Event, and we achieved 100% of our \$188,600 pledge goal May 1!

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Statistical information:

- ◇ Managed the 2015-2016 Budget of \$216,761 which was increased by the Board to \$217,426
 - ◇ Held 13 meetings (FCC - 11, Stewardship – 11, Endowment – 3, Fundraising - 2)
 - ◇ Volunteers prepared the Weekly Deposit Forms from Sunday offerings
 - ◇ Terminated the contract Bookkeeper in Sept. with Pat Caffrey volunteering as Bookkeeper until Jaime Short was trained to take over in April.
 - ◇ Canvassed 3 new members for 2015-2016 and 87 member and friend households for 2016-2017
 - ◇ As of April 29 pledges have been made by 80 households totaling \$177,328 for the 2016-2017 Stewardship Campaign. A generous anonymous donor matched pledge increases totaling \$11,272 which brought us to our \$188,600 goal!
 - ◇ Reviewed 12 months of financial statistics
- Organized the Budget Team (Clyde Anderson (Chair), Cheri Cody, Craig Piquette, Rev. Frieda Gillespie, Pat Caffrey, Joel Haskins, Vicki Pratt) and prepared the Proposed 2016-2017 Budget which can be found on pages _____ of the Annual Report.

Members of Full Circle (those who have donated to the Endowment Fund or who have included the Church in their will): Vicki Pratt, Al Harrison, Pat Caffrey, Cheri Cody, Steve and Gay Abraham, Gene and Vija Kopecky, Louisa Foster and Bill Hay, Sue Aschinger, Kathy & Rick Bell, plus an anonymous donor.

Updated of April 29, 2016

TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted by Vicki Pratt

Thanks to your generous contributions Second Unitarian Church can continue our mission of being Authentic, Compassionate, and Transformative in our lives, in our faith, and in our world.

Our fiscal year is from July 1 to June 30. The following pages compare 2015-2016 amounts as of April 30, 2016 to end-of-year amounts for 2014-2015 and 2013-2014.

Consolidated Balance Sheet

The Consolidated Balance Sheet shows the restricted and unrestricted funds in both the assets and liabilities/members' equity portions of the balance sheet. As of 4/30/2016, Checking, Money Market, and Investment of Donated Stock Account Balances total \$81,686.46. Of this amount, \$67,365.73 is restricted (cannot be used for regular expenses) and \$14,320.73 is unrestricted.

2016-2017 pledges already paid in this fiscal year are recorded as a Liability (Payable) since we cannot spend this money until the new fiscal year starts on July 1.

The **Endowment Fund** is detailed on the Consolidated Balance Sheet. Investments are comprised of purchased Vanguard Group stock and donated Citigroup stock. As per the accountant's recommendation in September 2008, the investments are market to market after dividends have been posted:

- ◇ Changes in market value are recorded as "Unrealized Gain or Loss" account on a monthly basis for the Vanguard Group and Citigroup stock.

A currently un-invested amount remains in the checking account pending Endowment Committee action on where to invest it.

Income and Expense Statement – Operating Fund

The Income and Expense Statement compares actual income and expenses to their budgeted amounts for the current and last two fiscal years.

Treasurer Duties and Responsibilities

The Treasurer is appointed annually by the Board of Trustees. Responsibilities include custodian of all church funds, weekly deposits, bill paying, record keeping for pledges and other contributions as well as disbursements, and financial data analysis, presentation, and retention.

Carrying out these responsibilities requires expertise, skills, and time commitments well beyond my capability. I am grateful for paid staff and volunteers who perform many crucial daily, weekly, and monthly tasks that segregate duties to ensure transparency as well as financial integrity.

My thanks to:

- ◇ Office Administrators - Gary Emenitove and Jaime Short. Office Administrator responsibilities include day-to-day activities such as recording deposits, contributions, offerings, and paying invoices. Jaime is currently training to take on Bookkeeper responsibilities such as accounting entries, bank statement reconciliation, and generating financial reports.

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- ◇ Weekly Counters – Kathy Bell, Kathie Haskins, Julie Kirn, David Johnson, and Clyde Anderson. As a team they organize the offering plate contents into pledge payments and Share the Plate.
- ◇ Payroll – Cheri Cody. This work entails making direct online changes to ministerial and staff compensation/benefits rather than relying on our payroll processor to accurately perform these tasks. From August 2014 through March 2015, Paychex, our payroll processor was charging the church for minister's Social Security and Medicare and forwarding this money to the IRS. According to ministerial contract, these charges are the responsibility of the minister. Paychex filed forms for us to be reimbursed by the IRS. To date we have been reimbursed \$1,062.23 of \$1,352.38.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

(Unaudited)

	<u>Current Year-to- Date 4/30/2016</u>	<u>Actual 6/30/2015</u>	<u>Actual 6/30/2014</u>
ASSETS CURRENT ASSETS			
Checking	55,366.91	39,373.42	38,671.70
Money Market	14,554.07	14,529.61	23,999.17
Investment of Donated Stock for Pledge	<u>11,765.48</u>	<u>17,407.38</u>	<u>0.00</u>
	81,686.46	71,310.41	62,670.87
Checking & Money Market - Restricted			
01 - OPERATING FUND - Payables / Receivables	9,609.00	13,844.83	4,835.00
05 - BUILDING	1,771.82	981.31	1,611.31
12 - NEW BUILDING FUND MON MKT	7,125.00	7,125.00	7,125.00
21 - RESERVE FUND	9,668.95	9,818.95	18,969.80
28 - GIFT-ELVERA BOGGS TRUST	7,200.00	7,200.00	7,200.00
29 - MINISTER'S DISCRETIONARY	2,574.02	2,461.30	1,847.55
31 - YRUU	151.85	320.32	151.85
32 - N. HEINEMEYER	1,355.00	1,355.00	1,355.00
33 - ANDERSON 2014-2015 PL MM	11,765.48	17,407.38	9,500.00
03 - Endowment (Sale of Jefferson Pilot Annuity)	<u>16,144.61</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Checking & Money Market - Restricted	67,365.73	60,514.09	52,595.51
01 - OPERATING FUND Less Payables	14,091.66	10,591.71	9,901.19
13 - INTEREST FROM MONEY MARKET	<u>229.07</u>	<u>204.61</u>	<u>174.17</u>
Checking & Money Market - Unrestricted	14,320.73	10,796.32	10,075.36
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	0.00	0.00	0.00
ENDOWMENT FUNDS			
Vanguard Group	82,001.71	84,061.30	77,986.82
Jefferson Pilot Annuity	0.00	11,149.02	11,149.02
Citigroup Inc. 5 Shs	<u>231.40</u>	<u>276.20</u>	<u>235.50</u>
Subtotal Endowment Funds	82,233.11	95,486.52	89,371.34
Subtotal Current Assets	163,919.57	166,796.93	152,042.21
FIXED ASSETS			
LAND AND BUILDINGS			
Land	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Church Building	88,744.00	88,744.00	88,744.00
Equipment			
Panasonic Copier	1,771.64	1,771.64	1,771.64
Accumulated Depreciation - Copier	-1,771.64	-1,279.46	-688.94
Furniture and Fixtures	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Subtotal Fixed Assets	108,744.00	109,236.18	109,826.70
TOTAL ASSETS	272,663.57	276,033.11	261,868.91
LIABILITIES (PAYABLES)			
Pledges Prepaid - Next Year	8,599.00	12,382.00	4,735.00
DRE HRA Ins Benefits Payable	0.00	1,462.83	0.00
Wages Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00
Memorials Payable - Blackstone	665.00		
Gifts Prepaid - Next Year	0.00	0.00	100.00
Security Deposits-Rental	100.00		
Pass Thru Account	<u>245.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES (PAYABLES)	9,609.00	13,844.83	4,835.00
FUND BALANCES / MEMBERS' EQUITY			
Fund Balances	122,040.60	112,981.45	118,384.71
Unrealized Gain/Loss Vanguard	27,864.04	29,923.63	23,919.48
Unrealized Gain/Loss Citigroup	-794.10	-749.30	-790.00
Unrealized Gain/Loss Anadarko	<u>-9,120.70</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL BALANCES / MEMBERS' EQUITY	139,989.84	142,155.78	141,514.19
Restricted Funds - Committees; Payables	11,532.67	15,146.46	6,598.16
Restricted Funds - Bldg, Boggs, Minister's Disc, Reserve, Heinemeyer,	39,688.45	45,367.63	45,997.35
Restricted Funds - Endowment	82,233.11	95,486.52	89,371.34
MEMBERS' EQUITY	123,064.73	120,032.50	115,519.72
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE /MEMBERS' EQUITY	272,663.57	276,033.11	261,868.91

INCOME & EXPENSE STATEMENT - OPERATING FUND

(Unaudited)

INCOME	As of 4/30/2016			6/30/2015			6/30/2014		
	Current Year to Date	Annual Budget	% Actual to Budget	Actual Year End	Annual Budget	% Actual to Budget	Actual Year End	Annual Budget	% Actual to Budget
Pledges Budgeted	\$153,309.50	\$183,174.00	84%	\$177,826.00	\$184,544.00	96%	\$179,936.36	\$181,841.00	99%
New Pledges Current Year (no longer used)							8,528.00	6,000.00	142%
New Pledges Current Member (new line '15)	1,520.00	500.00	304%	200.00	2,000.00	10%			
New Pledges New Member (new line '15)	1,150.00	3,500.00	33%	237.00	8,000.00	3%			
Pledges for Previous Year	1,890.00	0.00	0%	120.00	0.00	0%	6,065.00	0.00	0%
Subtotal Pledge Income	157,869.50	187,174.00	84%	178,383.00	194,544.00	92%	194,529.36	187,841.00	104%
Dividend Income	360.07	100.00	360%	240.86	100.00	241%	123.27	0.00	0%
Gifts	80.00	500.00	16%	450.00	2,500.00	18%	1,763.80	2,500.00	71%
Fundraising	1,381.34	10,712.00	13%	12,324.41	8,500.00	145%	5,646.45	7,500.00	75%
Other Income (new line '16)	2,836.40	590.00	481%						
Offering	9,301.58	13,000.00	72%	11,361.31	13,000.00	87%	9,960.52	14,300.00	70%
Rent	100.00	200.00	50%	100.00	500.00	20%	50.00	600.00	8%
HRA Terminated (no longer used)							1,625.00	0.00	0%
Refund Income (no longer used)							101.17	0.00	0%
Administrative Income (only used in '15)				79.62	0.00	0%			
Transfer Funds	150.00	300.00	50%	9,150.85	15,840.07	58%	-5,335.00	5,171.00	-103%
Transfer from Boggs Fund	0.00	5000.00	0%						
TOTAL INCOME	172,078.89	217,576.00	81%	212,090.05	224,984.07	94%	208,464.57	217,912.00	96%
EXPENSES									
Office Admin. Salary	18,946.76	22,488.00	84%	20,688.00	20,688.00	100%	20,085.00	20,085.00	100%
Office Admin-Ins Benefits	298.17	398.00	75%	1,865.76	1,868.00	100%	1,855.08	1,855.00	100%
Office Admin-Retirement	1,499.36	2,249.00	67%	2,069.04	2,069.00	100%	2,008.56	2,009.00	100%
OA Professional Expense	191.75	621.00	31%	718.81	1,045.00	69%	222.50	1,005.00	22%
DRE Salary	17,087.75	18,723.00	91%	16,337.75	17,823.00	92%	14,429.00	17,304.00	83%
DRE-Insurance Benefits	275.80	331.00	83%	1,736.34	1,816.00	96%	139.00	1,808.00	8%
DRE-Retirement	1,560.00	1,872.00	83%	1,337.04	1,337.00	100%	144.20	1,731.00	8%
DRE-Professional Expense	432.06	508.00	85%	0.00	1,782.00	0%	485.44	1,731.00	28%
Music Director	8,236.70	9,888.00	83%	9,884.04	9,888.00	100%	12,650.00	12,250.00	103%
Connections Coordinator Salary	0.00	0.00	0%	927.00	3,708.00	25%	3,600.00	3,600.00	100%
Connections Coordinator Prof Exp	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00	371.00	0%	0.00	390.00	0%
Musicians (new line '15)	1,875.00	1,500.00	125%	3,150.00	3,000.00	105%			
Bookkeeper (new line '15)	650.00	1,950.00	33%	1,650.00	1,800.00	92%			
Payroll Taxes-Staff	3,386.74	3,909.00	87%	4,543.13	3,986.00	114%	3,699.80	4,073.00	91%
Payroll Processing	706.28	1,225.00	58%	887.67	840.00	106%	886.99	804.00	110%
HRA Monthly Fees	70.40	72.00	98%	323.00	288.00	112%	191.23	288.00	66%
Staff Development / Appreciation (moved '15)	100.00	200.00	50%	0.00	200.00	0%			
Subtotal Salary Expenses	55,316.77	65,934.00	84%	66,117.58	72,509.00	91%	60,396.80	68,933.00	88%
Housing Allowance	33,566.60	40,280.00	83%	36,935.21	36,934.41	100%	18,000.00	18,000.00	100%
Insurance Benefits	993.30	1,192.00	83%	5,491.90	6,102.76	90%	9,326.10	8,981.00	104%
Minister W2 Salary	22,616.60	27,140.00	83%	28,040.87	29,031.90	97%	42,789.96	40,240.00	106%
In Lieu of FICA	4,298.30	5,158.00	83%	4,737.50	4,733.50	100%	4,455.00	4,455.00	100%
Professional Expense	3,674.96	6,000.00	61%	2,260.33	5,940.00	38%	3,274.00	5,824.00	56%
Minister Retirement	5,618.30	6,742.00	83%	6,187.92	6,187.50	100%	5,823.96	5,824.00	100%
Moving Expense				3,000.00	3,000.00	100%			
Subtotal Ministerial Pkg	70,768.06	86,512.00	82%	86,653.73	91,930.07	94%	83,669.02	83,324.00	100%
Administrative Expense	676.33	1,160.00	58%	595.03	1,305.00	46%	964.53	1,360.00	71%
Treasurer Admin Expense	448.13	842.00	53%	806.82	625.00	129%	584.29	485.00	120%
Youth Director Contribution							0.00	200.00	0%
Staff Development / Appreciation (moved '15)							0.00	300.00	0%
Office Equipment	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00	0.00	0%	617.79	700.00	88%
Board Mtgs & Retreat	47.33	275.00	17%	201.30	275.00	73%	150.00	300.00	50%
Search Committee (new line '16)	0.00	5,000.00	0%						
Share the Plate Donations	4,623.30	6,500.00	71%	5,680.67	6,500.00	87%	5,082.78	7,150.00	71%
Fundraising Expense (new line '15)	0.00	774.00	0%	0.00	0.01	0%			
RGL - Childcare	567.50	1,500.00	38%	1,774.60	2,500.00	71%	1,525.00	3,200.00	48%
Religious Education Supplies	323.18	750.00	43%	793.68	750.00	106%	750.00	750.00	100%
Copier Expense	493.39	420.00	117%	327.89	420.00	78%	369.95	2,090.00	18%
Denominational Dues	9,744.00	9,744.00	100%	10,956.00	10,956.00	100%	10,624.00	10,624.00	100%
Insurance	4,197.00	4,800.00	87%	4,265.00	4,265.00	100%	3,987.00	3,130.00	127%
Janitorial-Cleaning	2,730.00	3,920.00	70%	6,205.00	7,020.00	88%	5,460.46	5,098.00	107%
Janitorial-Suppl/Trash PU	505.70	1,210.00	42%	1,562.03	2,058.00	76%	1,034.27	1,785.00	58%
Lawn Care & Snow Removal	2,021.75	2,490.00	81%	2,413.75	2,500.00	97%	1,140.00	1,200.00	95%
Leadership Development (moved '15)							100.00	100.00	100%
OTOC Dues	1,300.00	1,300.00	100%	1,500.00	1,500.00	100%	1,507.00	1,507.00	100%
Postage	334.88	575.00	58%	317.73	675.00	47%	191.81	475.00	40%
Telephone/Internet	2,498.35	3,190.00	78%	2,936.26	2,900.00	101%	2,650.79	2,520.00	105%
Communications/Mktg/Adv C	520.00	540.00	96%	1,710.00	1,540.00	111%	1,990.00	1,690.00	118%
Utilities	3,424.29	5,339.00	64%	5,656.12	5,268.00	107%	5,170.95	4,572.00	113%
Depreciation Expense	492.18	591.00	83%	590.52	240.00	246%	7,366.24	0.00	0%
Subtotal General Expenses	33,822.85	48,918.00	69%	46,890.55	49,367.01	95%	49,100.25	46,191.00	106%
Caring	0.00	260.00	0%	56.65	610.00	9%	235.99	650.00	36%
Fellowship	1,230.77	1,310.00	94%	1,319.23	1,453.00	91%	1,011.54	1,350.00	75%
Finance	1,070.91	1,550.00	69%	1,219.14	2,075.00	59%	2,379.04	2,440.00	98%
Bldgs. & Grounds Mainten.	582.58	800.00	73%	548.21	950.00	58%	2,213.88	1,690.00	131%
Library	199.79	150.00	133%	238.51	300.00	80%	371.88	450.00	83%
Membership	366.31	1,165.00	31%	596.14	1,500.00	40%	351.03	1,750.00	20%
Communications (moved '15)							0.00	50.00	0%
Music & Worship	893.25	3,550.00	25%	3,418.17	6,750.00	51%	3,462.01	5,400.00	64%
RGL Council	2,896.30	3,400.00	85%	573.14	1,400.00	41%	1,366.13	1,200.00	114%
Social Justice	295.00	700.00	42%	768.99	700.00	110%	747.91	700.00	107%
Technology	99.00	525.00	19%	166.21	772.00	22%	171.20	389.00	44%
Denominational Connection	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00	300.00	0%			
Committee on Ministry	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00	0.00	0%	39.53	250.00	16%
Leadership Dev-Nominations	176.00	600.00	29%	2,021.95	1,988.00	102%	681.75	100.00	682%
YRUU Program (only in '15)				0.00	200.00	0%			
Transition Team (new line '15)	0.00	200.00	0%	0.00	250.00	0%			
Subtotal Committee Expenses	7,809.91	14,210.00	55%	10,926.34	19,248.00	57%	13,031.89	16,419.00	79%
TOTAL EXPENSES	168,842.05	217,576.00	78%	211,990.05	234,984.08	90%	208,364.57	217,912.00	96%
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	\$3,236.84			\$100.00			\$100.00		



Programs & Groups

CARING COMMITTEE

Submitted by Kathie Haskins

Members: Kathie Haskins (chair), Dodie Robison, Cindy Lynne, Vicki Dudley and Lolly Thomas. Reverend Frieda Gillespie (ex-officio member).

Mission: The Caring Committee's mission is to build a caring community that will help and support each of our members as we experience the events, stages and transitions of life.

Activities:

- ◇ From July 6, 2015 through May 1, 2016 we have sent **65 cards** to members who are celebrating joys or dealing with illnesses, deaths, and other sorrows. Other contacts are made by calls, emails, and visits. Information for these contacts is gained from the Sunday service Joys and Concerns, from members of the congregation, and from the Rev. Frieda Gillespie.
- ◇ Provided cards, stamps, pens and addresses for members, during fellowship, to write notes of caring as a way to facilitate congregational connections. This continues to be well received. An average of 2 - 4 cards are written each Sunday and are mailed by the committee member supervising at the time.
- ◇ Provided assistance for members with special needs.

Goals:

- ◇ Recruit new members so that we are better able to continue our mission of caring and support.
- ◇ Continue to facilitate connections and communication within the church community.
- ◇ Offer a pastoral care program that addresses addiction (on hold from last year).
- ◇ Address the topic "Aging in our Culture", i.e. a pastoral care program for older members.
- ◇ Continue to update and expand list of volunteers to call upon to help members in need.

CIRCLE SUPPERS

Submitted by Cheri Cody

This was another active year for circle suppers. Close to 90 people signed up for circle suppers and a majority attended all three dinners. We had fewer hosts this year so we had to do some juggling and in one instance the circle supper had 16 people scheduled. The spring dinners have not yet happened at the time of this writing but eight are scheduled. There were eight dinners during the winter round and one of those was the “double-size” dinner. In the fall, ten dinners were held of varying sizes.

Circle suppers are a wonderful way to get to know other people in the church in a relaxed, fun atmosphere, while eating great food, and having lots of laughs. These dinners would not be possible without the hard work and generosity of these wonderful hosts:

Nancy Amsler *

Jill Archer

Clyde & Mary Anna Anderson

Kathy & Rick Bell

Cheri Cody *

Neva Cozine & Daryl Hansen

JoAnne & Darrel Draper *

Bob Fischbach

Jack Frost

Michelle & Ben Godfrey

Gay DeWester & John Knape

Julie Kirn & Carla/Bill Kuhn

Tom & Stephanie Peterson *

Betsy Fleckenstein Phillips & Phil Phillips *

Jaime & Justin Short

Ronda & Ken Stevens

Nancy Vandersluis & Craig Piquette

Rachel & Tak Yamamoto

* Hosted twice



FELLOWSHIP

Submitted by Betty Segell

Members: Judy Eller and Betty Segell, co-chairs; Dodie Robison and Lynn Alsman, members

The mission of the Fellowship Committee is to enhance the vision of the Second Unitarian Church by providing a ministry of welcome and celebration.

Fellowship committee is proud of the special events we sponsor each year. We support the mission of Second Unitarian of being authentic, compassionate and transformative by providing radical hospitality. We also partner with other committees to support special events.

- ◇ Commitment Sunday with Stewardship committee
- ◇ Thanksgiving Dinner
- ◇ Sing For Your Supper
- ◇ Spring Celebration
- ◇ Potlucks



HOSPITALITY TEAMS

Submitted by Kathy Bell

Hospitality Teams have been formed and we now have a total of nine teams comprised of 69 participants. Thank you to everyone involved.

Transformers

1st Sunday Odd Months

Kathy Bell*
Tom Rundquist
Shirley Rundquist
Rick Bell
Larry Kurtz
Clyde Anderson
Tom Cantrell
Martha Nunn

Pleasant Porters

3rd Sunday Odd Months

Fiona Matthews*
Kathy Bell
Elise Brazeal-Daganaar
Melissa Konecky
Michaela Weiss
Doug Walters
Santha Walters
Mark Tipton

Chalice Bearers

1st Sunday Even Months

Joanne Draper*
Darrel Draper
Greg Mintor
Jack Frost
Julie Kirn
Carol Johnson
David Johnson
Ray Harris

Joyful Servers

3rd Sunday Even Months

Meg Quintana*
Tom Peterson
Ed Bok
Dodie Robison
Carolyn Miller
Melissa Konecky
Michaela Weiss

Beacons

5th Sundays

Michelle Gogfrey*
Ben Godfrey
Cheri Cody
Janet Nichols
Betty Segell
Sabrina Short
Izzy Short

Flames

2nd Sunday Odd Months

Donna Dudley*
Phil Dudley
Katie Tessin
Rhonda Stevens
Anita Meyer
Vicki Pratt
Jan A Frank
Sana Amoura-Patterson
Joan Benziger

Journeys

4th Sunday Odd Months

Janet Nichols*
Phil Phillips
Betsy Phillips
Don Mundy
Nancy Amsler
Katie Tessin
Judy Bler
Pat Hart

@UU'r Service

2nd Sunday Even Months

Nancy Vander-Sluis*
Craig Piquette
Katie Tessin
Betty Segell
Gene Kopecky
Vija Kopecky
Pat Caffrey
Charlie Woram

The Welcomers

4rd Sunday Even Months

Gay DeWester*
John Knape
Lynn Alsman
Roger Nicolaisen
Julie Nicolaisen
Katie Tessin

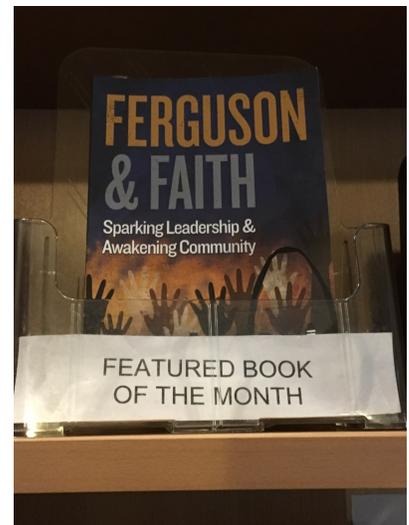
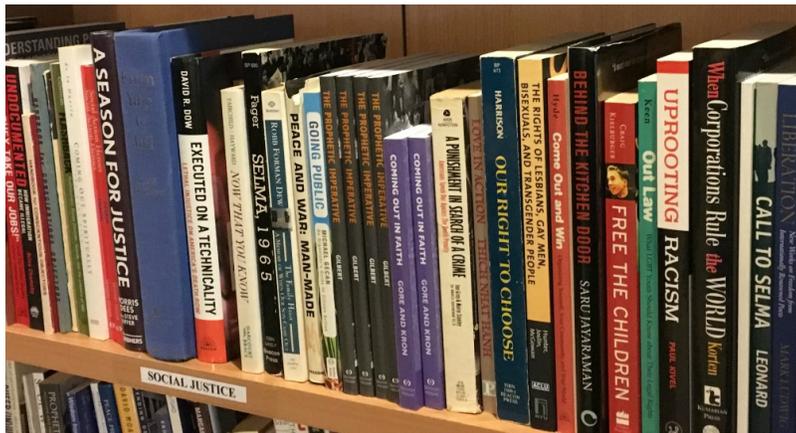
*Team Leader

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Submitted by Pete Miller

Members: Pete Miller, Chair; Gwen Eurich, Vicki Pratt, Lorraine Duggin, Melissa Konecky

The Macyl Boruff Memorial Library Committee continued to meet monthly on the third Monday. The annual library sale was a success. There were several new titles added, especially in the Social Justice category. The committee removed several outdated editions and duplicate titles, and replaced missing books. We continue to struggle with books not being returned and with our shelves being blocked by chairs and tables. Our agenda going forward includes coordinating with RGL to build and stock a Little Free Library that will go near the church cairn. We are also working on improving the archival process for documents and photos important to church history.



LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS GROWTH & LEARNING

Submitted by Jaime Short

Members: Jaime Short, Chair, Pam Miller-Jenkins

Adult R.E. Subcommittee: Ed Bok, Fiona Holcomb,

Director of Religious Education: Molly Kliment-Jenkins

Due to the small size of our committee we have difficulty fulfilling our mission. We put most of our efforts into assisting and supporting the DRE.

- ◇ **Service Learning Projects:** We continued to offer Service Learning Project (SLP) opportunities. These projects were meant to be **intergenerational** service projects as part of our lifespan offerings. However, they started to become attended by mostly youth and a few of the youth's parents. Because of this we have changed the focus. This summer the youth will work on service projects during Sunday services and the Service Learning Projects will be put on hold for now.
- ◇ **Adult Education:** The sub-group focused on Adult Religious Education is offering wonderful programming! We are very pleased with their hard work to increase the quality and quantity of programs we are able to offer.
- ◇ **Teen Movie Night:** We hold a teen movie night once a month, where watch a movie and follow with pizza and conversation. We have three teens that regularly attend, but would love to have more! A BIG thank you to Bob Fischbach who leads engaging discussions and Anita Meyer who makes everything happen!
- ◇ **YRUU:** Currently undergoing a large transition due to changes in Advisors.
- ◇ **Weakness:** Our main weakness is people willing to be on the council. We are trying hard to keep programming engaging for all ages, as well as expand opportunities but this is very difficult when we do not have people willing to invest time and talent in the development of new programs.
- ◇ **Strength:** Our dedicated DRE. Molly is wonderful to work with and has done incredible things with our programs. We also have strength in volunteers! Members do not seem interested in committee meetings, but thankfully some are ready to jump in to teach a class or be a helper.
- ◇ **Goals:** One of our goals is to offer more levels of OWL classes, and we need individuals to teach those classes. We had two major boosts to this goal. Next year's budget was kept intact, so that we may afford to train these individuals. And an OWL training was announced in Lawrence, Kansas for some of the levels we were looking into. So far Molly has 4 members signed up to train.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Submitted by Nancy Amsler

Committee members: Kathy Bell, Elise Daganaar, Carol Johnson, Ed Bok, Nancy Amsler, Reverend Frieda Gillespie, Gary Emenitove/Jaime Short, Molly Kliment Jenkins, and Carlynn Hartman Kurtz (deceased).

Activities:

- ◇ Combined the Marketing Advisory Committee and the Communications Committee. Name is now Marketing and Communications.
- ◇ Advertising - 3 church ad in the River City Mixed Chorus spring playbill, ad in the PFLAG online newsletter, ad in the Douglas County Historical Society Dickens event playbill.
- ◇ Revising the website to utilize the UUA platform
- ◇ Replaced the exterior signs
- ◇ Coordinated the KIOS fundraising to advertise the church
- ◇ Social media - started the 2U Forum a Facebook closed group for church members and affiliates, expanded the number of posts on the church Facebook page, planning to reactivate the Twitter account and looking at other social media opportunities.
- ◇ Working on updating the Master Communications policy



MEDITATION REINCARNATED

Submitted by Kevin Dunlop

Chair/facilitator: Kevin Dunlop We don't have a true membership roll, but our regular members include Gwen Eurich, Ronda Stevens, Diane Gowens, Ed Bok.

The Meditation Group struggled quite a bit with attendance this past year. We have changed meeting nights in an effort to increase attendance. As always, we have been learning about and encouraging lovingkindness, mindfulness, and spirituality. We encourage each other to improve our lives, as well as the lives of those around us, by using meditation to reduce the effects of stress and to find peace of mind.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Submitted by Kathy Bell

Members: Kathy Bell, chair, JoAnne Draper, Donna Dudley, Phil Dudley, Lorraine Duggin, Tom Rundquist, Katie Tessin, and Rev. Frieda Gillespie, interim minister.

Activities:

- ◇ **Hospitality Teams:** The Membership and Fellowship Committees jointly decided to rethink how we welcome people on Sunday mornings. We replaced individual sets of greeters, welcome desk staffers and fellowship hosts with nine hospitality teams. Each eight-person team is led by a team leader and serves one Sunday every other month. Team members received training to greet people at the front door, help orient newcomers, pass out the order-of-service, collect offering, and prepare coffee and treats.
- ◇ **Pathways to Membership Classes:** We have restructured the Pathways class into a two-part series.
 - ◇ *Part 1 - Explore Second U* - Provides an overview of Unitarian Universalism and an opportunity for participants to share their religious journeys with each other, hear about upcoming opportunities to get involved in church activities, and learn about the steps to become a member.
 - ◇ *Part 2 - Become a Member* - Designed for people who are ready to sign the membership book, participants may share with others their experiences at Second U, followed by a brief ceremony during which they turn in their pledges and sign the membership book.
- ◇ **Calls to Newcomers:** We have resumed the practice of making welcome calls to newcomers thanks to the assistance of Betty Bange.
- ◇ The committee has continued to coordinate monthly newcomer lunches, organize new-member ceremonies, post new-member biographies, and contact members who have become inactive.

Statistical information:

112	Members reported on the UUA census on February 1st, a decrease of 4.
62	Members and Affiliates serving on a Hospitality Team.
8	Newcomers attended Pathways to Membership Classes.
7	New or resumed memberships.
62	Average Sunday morning worship service attendance, May 1, 2015 – April 30, 2016.

MUSIC & WORSHIP

Submitted by Michael Lynne

The Music and Worship Committee of Second Unitarian helps support the spiritual focus of the Church through ritual, song, and sermon. Worship Associates from the Committee see what we do as a form of ministry offering a deeply satisfying fellowship with a central role in the life of this congregation. Serving both in support of the minister but also acting independently and in coordination with the Music Director and Director of Religious Education, with input from the congregation, Worship associates from the committee assist with and/or carry out the planning, development, and delivery of more than 50 worship services each year.

During the 2015-16 church year, worship associates independently developed, planned, and led 13-14 Sunday services. They helped to recruit and coordinate with guest presenters, plan for and assist with the presentation of an additional nine services.

Committee members: In addition to the ex officio membership of Interim Minister Reverend Frieda Gillespie, include co-chairpersons Chris Peters and Michael Lynne, Lorraine Duggin, Vicki Dudley, Tom Peterson, Julie Kim, and new members this year Todd Dagenaar and Carla/Bill Kuhn. The affiliated Aesthetics sub-committee of Music and Worship includes Dodie Robison & Pam Curtiss-Smith.

Activities & Goals:

- ◇ Both as a whole and as individual worship associates the Committee has worked to incorporate the new A-V projection system into worship this year. We see the system as a critical means of creating a more innovative, immersive and engaging worship experience for the congregation. We plan to continue development and application of the system over the coming year.
- ◇ A second major priority for the Committee during the 2016-17 Church year will be working with the newly-designated developmental minister to assure a constructive transition in support of the mission of Second Unitarian.



NOMINATIONS & LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Submitted by Tom Peterson

Members: Tom Peterson, Chair, Janet Nichols, Pam Curtiss-Smith

Nominations and Leadership Committee members are elected by the Congregation to serve three-year terms. The primary purpose of the committee is to seek out candidates who are eligible, experienced, and capable of fulfilling the duties for terms of office on the Board of Trustees, Endowment, and Nominations and Leadership Development Committees. The Nominations and Leadership Development Committee is also charged with promoting and developing leadership skills within the congregation.

During the 2015-2016 church year, the Committee:

- ◇ Met with the officers of the Board of Trustees and interviewed outgoing Board members to identify needs of the Board.
- ◇ Recruited nominees for the Board, Endowment, and Nominations committees.
- ◇ Conducted a successful Leadership 101 one-day training session in December. Attending were Elise Brazeal, Pat Caffrey, Vicki Dudley, Lorraine Duggin, Judy Eller, Joel Haskins, Lori Janis-Schaaf (from 1st U), Gene Kopecky, Monica Meier, Pete Miller, Greg Minter, and Mark Tipton. We would like to extend a special thanks to the following persons who helped plan, present, and carry out the session: Kathy Bell, Rev. Frieda Gillespie, Carol Johnson, Fiona Matthews, Phil Phillips, Craig Piquette, Ben Wallace, Neva Cozine, and Jim Fields. Conducted orientation for incoming members of the Board of Trustees.
- ◇ Coordinated scholarship funding to send Sabrina Short to the Youth Midwest Leadership School in July, 2016.
- ◇ Requested, and received funding from the Congregation of Second Unitarian to provide a full tuition scholarship for an adult member of the church to attend the Midwest Leadership School in July, 2017.

Thank you to all members, staff, and clergy of Second Unitarian Church who support programs to help all our leaders reach their full potential.

PROGRAM COUNCIL

Submitted by Pat Caffrey

This was an awesome year for Program Council! The focus continued to be on deepening our connections within our shared ministry and our spirituality, whether individually or as a faith community. One meeting that was particularly inspiring included the leaders' experiences in how their ministry provided a spiritual experience. This also connected to the recent congregation workshop on Identity that was led by Rev. Frieda Gillespie in August.

Leaders had an ongoing opportunity to share their highlights, concerns, opportunities – grounded in our mission and shared ministry - at each Program Council meeting. This was energizing and greatly appreciated by those attending as it enhanced communication and coordination of the happenings at Second Unitarian Church.

Leaders were engaged in the discussion of congregational goals for Developmental Ministry. Anita Meyer and Greg Minter, Board Members, created a section in the Standing Rules for Program Council to help clarify the purpose and goals of the Program Council. Leaders shared their feedback and the final version will be instrumental in the ongoing success of the Program Council and the benefits to the congregation. Committees updated their Committee Descriptions in the Standing Rules which hadn't been done since 2010. The final rewrite of the Standing Rules will be completed in June and submitted to the Board of Trustees.

All of the talents, commitment, energy, accomplishments, highlights, challenges, and yes, a bit of humor, were clearly demonstrated by the Committee leaders during the Town Hall Meeting on April 24, 2016, which was a celebration of Second Unitarian Church.

Recognizing the need for ongoing leader succession planning within Committees, discussions in March and May centered on this topic. Leaders shared their experiences and also what worked, what is needed and best practices. Proposals for next steps were discussed and will be part of the Program Council meetings in 2016-2017.

RETIREES' GROUP

Submitted by Carol Johnson

Retirees Group is not just for persons officially retired—it's for anyone looking for socialization, fun, personal growth and learning. The group meets monthly (typically the second Tuesday of the month at 1:00) for a topic or activity of interest to the group. Programs this year included:

- ◇ "Prospect Hill Historical Cemetery" presented by Ray Harris, Prospect Hills Board Member
- ◇ "Nebraska Passport Program" by representative from Nebraska Tourism Commission
- ◇ "Trans Matters" presented by Fiona Matthews and Carla/ Bill Kuhn
- ◇ "Death Penalty Repeal—Good Decision" by a representative of Nebraskans for Public Safety
- ◇ "Health Care Access for Nebraskans" by a representative of Nebraska Appleseed
- ◇ "Mindful Self Compassion" led by Louisa Foster
- ◇ Lunch at Big Mama's Restaurant
- ◇ "Behind the Scenes of Eldercare" by Lolly Thomas
- ◇ "Life as a Civil War Soldier" by former Civil War Reenact-or David Lundholm
- ◇ "Homestead Exemptions" by representatives of the Douglas County Assessor/ Registrar of Deeds Office
- ◇ "Paganism and Unitarian Universalists" by Mark Tipton
- ◇ "Volunteers Assisting Seniors" by Charlie Graham, Board President of the organization

All are invited to attend-regardless of retirement status. Retirees' Group is not just for persons officially retired—it's for anyone looking for socializing, fun, personal growth and learning.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Submitted by Cheri Cody

Many people have participated in the work of social justice:

Russ Alberts	Mary Anne Chisholm	Tammy Hunter	Jocelyn Owens
Clyde Anderson	Cheri Cody	Deb Gibson	Ferial Pearson
Sue Aschinger	Ruth Corwin	Rev. Frieda Gillespie	Tom Peterson
Marco Ballarin	Bob Fischbach	Carla/Bill Kuhn	Vicki Pratt
Betty Bange	Deb Gibson	Larry Kurtz	Dodie Robison
Joan Benziger	Ruth Ann Irby	Carol Johnson	Betty Segell
Ed Bok	Pat Hart	David Johnson	
Pat Caffrey	Fiona Matthews	Chris Owens	

The Social Justice committee started the year with a multi-pronged look at racism, white privilege, and to assess our own attitudes, values, and behaviors. Although it was not intentionally planned, many of the Share the Plate recipients this year resulted from a desire to build relationships across race. Early in the church year the committee watched the Mosaic Talk from General Assembly (GA) given by Miguel de la Torre who advised that if your church wants to increase diversity, then the members should get out in the community and develop relationships. Having some of our members involved in Inclusive Communities Table Talk and Sacred Conversations on Race led to meeting people affiliated with organizations that were eventually supported by Share the Plate. Also following GA, the committee felt compelled to make a statement of our church values and to display a “Black Lives Matter” banner in our mostly White, suburban neighborhood.

In April 2016, we combined the church service, Share the Plate, and social justice movie night around Russ Alberts’ sermon on Whitney Young. Whitney Young was a Unitarian Universalist and was the executive director of the Urban League in Omaha from 1950-1954. In 1961, he became the executive director of the National Urban League and served until his death in 1971. The Urban League of Omaha was chosen as the Share the Plate recipient for April and the social justice movie *Powerbroker* about Whitney Young was shown the same day as the sermon.



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This year was a year when the congregation focused on creating and writing an identity statement and some on the social justice committee believed that social justice should also articulate its identity. The group agreed and this is our statement: ***Our social justice identity is grounded in Unitarian Universalism which asks us to value all people, be ethical, work for equality, and respect the earth. We are optimistic, engaged and willing to take risks. We are willing to be public, to stand with those who are discriminated against, and engage with others as we build a community that works for all. We seek relationships, speak and gather with others, are aware of our community and have a conscience that compels us to act to make a difference in our world.*** It is a touchstone in all of our work.

- ◇ In October 2015, the LGBTQ Welcoming Congregation Committee again worked with Rev. Frieda to present the Sunday service in recognition of National Coming Out Day. It featured young adult poets and musicians. The Open Arms Transgender Youth Group ministry continued to meet monthly and is an important support for the youth and young adults who attend. The committee will again join First Unitarian in marching in the Pride Parade and hosting a booth at the Pride Festival in June 2016. The committee followed proposed legislation regarding transgender use of school bathrooms and transgender participation in school sports. The committee supported two Nebraska legislative bills: one to support putting LGBT Work Place Protections in place and opposed another which would impose adoption agencies to discriminate against LGBT if the agency had “sincerely held beliefs” that would allow them to not work with LGBT.
- ◇ In January 2016, Second Unitarian Church again purchased a table for the Martin Luther King Luncheon. Nine Second U members attended the luncheon; participants reimbursed the church for their tickets at the level affordable to them.
- ◇ Carol Johnson, Vicki Pratt and Cheri Cody attended the social justice workshop at the Mid America Regional Assembly in April 2016. The title of the workshop was *Prophetic Partners: A Capacity-Building Workshop for UU Justice Leaders*. The learnings will be shared with the committee as planning for the coming year begins.
- ◇ The community garden plots are completely booked for another season.
- ◇ Second Unitarian did not have a booth at Earth Day this year. Leaders did not step forward to organize so we decided to pass for this year.
- ◇ The committee also investigated how they could have an impact on voter registration and voting participation.
- ◇ Second Unitarian Church has been a member of Omaha Together One Community (OTOC) for 20 years. OTOC is what the UUA calls a congregation based community organization which trains neighborhood leaders how to advocate for their interests and how to help each other advocate on broader issues. Vicki Pratt details this year’s work:

OTOC unites more than 20 congregations in Omaha to build relationships and make our community a better place to live. OTOC teaches people to become effective leaders in their congregation, explore common interests, research ways to resolve concerns and issues, present solutions to decision-makers, and hold elected officials accountable.

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Extensive discussions around strategic planning and increasing institutional membership resulted in goals for 2015 through 2016:

1. Add four dues-paying congregations or solidarity members by the Fall of 2016.
2. Hold a minimum of 500 conversations related to OTOC Agenda prior to the Fall 2016 elections. Our congregation held two of the 34 Listening Sessions that identified emerging issues. Our members were among the 144 in attendance at the February Issues Conference where those issues were evaluated and prioritized.
3. Twenty OTOC leaders will attend regional training in Des Moines in August 2015. Ten OTOC leaders will attend an IEF training seminar by the Fall of 2016.
4. Increase dues paid by institutional members

To better achieve these goals, Steering business meetings are now held only four times a year (March, May or June, September, and November) in order to focus on training and actions during the rest of the year. Action Team updates:

- ◇ **Immigration Reform:** The team contacted many state senators during the successful overrides of the governor's veto of bills in the 2015 and 2016 legislative sessions allowing DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival) immigrants to apply for a drivers license and to apply for licenses in professions such as teaching and healthcare.
- ◇ **Medicaid Reform:** For the fourth year, team members met with all Omaha state senators in support of expanding Medicaid so low income Nebraskans can be covered by health insurance through the Affordable Care Act. Bills never advance to a vote even though each year's legislation addresses opposition from the previous year. The team will continue to meet with bill sponsors who will again introduce legislation to prevent needless deaths due to lack of health insurance coverage.
Environmental Sustainability: In addition to following state legislation, this team fought OPPD's rate restructuring that increases rates for low energy users, often the elderly and those who have intentionally reduced home energy consumption. The team held an Accountability Session for OPPD Subdistrict 5 candidates so voters know where they stand on the rate restructure.
- ◇ **Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization:** After successful City Council action on continuing to budget for demolition of condemned and dangerous structures near family homes, the team turned attention to creation of a Vacant Property Registry. The ordinance would require property owners to continue upkeep of vacant buildings. These properties are often foreclosures by out of state lenders.
- ◇ **Retain the Repeal of the Death Penalty:** This new Action Team is the result of Listening Sessions at Omaha congregations. The team is in the process of determining how to partner with existing organizations to educate congregants on the status of LB268 which stopped the death penalty in Nebraska. November voters will be asked whether to retain the legislation. A vote to RETAIN stops the death penalty.

TECHNOLOGY

Submitted by Carla/Bill Kuhn

Committee Mission Statement: Provide technology consulting and support for the effective operations and out-reach of the congregation, related to personal computing and networking, electronic file systems, audio, video, and telephone and security systems.

Activities:

- ◇ In coordination with Aesthetics, Buildings and Grounds, and Music and Worship, Engineered and planned the installation of the new projection system, to display documents, graphics, and video, as an enhancement to our services and meetings.
- ◇ Relocated the sanctuary sound system to provide for better control of sound for services, and integrated with the projection system to allow video projection of movies with audio.
- ◇ Provided familiarization and training for use and operations of the Audio/Visual system.
- ◇ Installed a new Power Church server in preparation for replacement of the existing outdated server.

Future goals:

- ◇ Install passive switching system for projection system, enabling projection from front or rear sanctuary.
- ◇ Upgrade Sanctuary sound system with a commercial grade amplifier, and improved podium microphone.
- ◇ Install a video monitor in foyer, as a welcome and message announcement board.
- ◇ Implement a way to project announcements, song lyrics, readings, etc, in support of worship services.

WRITING FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Submitted by Pete Miller

Members: Pete Miller, Richard Koelling, Chris Peters, Lorraine Duggin, Vicki Dudley, Charlie Woram

Writing for Spiritual Growth met every second Saturday. The group chooses a topic and writes on that topic for the next meeting. Members read their pieces at the meeting and the group has a discussion about the topic.

CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT OF RIGHT RELATIONS

adopted May 23, 2010

To strengthen the bond of peace within and beyond the Second Unitarian Church of Omaha:

We pledge

- ◇ to create a religious community where we freely explore our values and honor our diversity as a source of communal strength.
- ◇ to build healthy relationships by respecting our differences and assuming good intentions.
- ◇ to listen appreciatively and endeavor to speak directly, honestly, and compassionately, particularly when we are in conflict.
- ◇ to do our best to forgive if we hurt one another, to make amends and to reconnect in a spirit of gratitude and generosity.
- ◇ to abide by this covenant in celebration of the common purpose that unites us.

Faithfully done, our work carries forward the ministry of this church to create loving community and supports our mission to grow as a beacon of hope—sharing a vision of a world community that embraces diversity, justice, and respectful stewardship within the interdependent web of existence.

