

**Second Unitarian
Church of Omaha
Annual Report**

2025-2026

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	1
Rules for Annual Meeting	3
Agenda for Current Annual Meeting	3
Minutes from Previous Annual Meeting	4
Nominees	6
Proposed Budget	6
Voting Membership Roster	9
Proposed Bylaws Changes	11
LEADERSHIP AND STAFF	12
Minister	12
Chair, Board of Trustees - Casey Horpedahl	13
Director of Religious Education	14
Office Administrator	17
Treasurer's Report	17
Connection	25
Caring	25
Connections Team	25
Fellowship	26
Faith	27
Adult Programming (formerly Faith Connections)	27
Religious Education	28
Social Justice	28
Worship Team	31
Fiscal	33
Endowment	33
Finance Coordinating Council (FCC)	36
Stewardship	38
Physical	40
Building & Grounds	40

Library	41
Technology	42
Facilitative	42
Marketing & Communication	42
Nominations & Leadership Development	43
Personnel	44
Oversight	45
Committee on Ministry	45
Mission, Vision & Covenants	46
Meaning & Purpose	46
Vision	46
Mission	46
Congregational Covenant of Right Relations	46
Board of Trustees Covenant	47
Staff Covenant	47
Membership & Life Changes	48
New Members	48
Reinstated Members	49
Departing Members	49
Marriages & Commitment Ceremonies	49
Deaths	49
Dedications	49
Graduating Seniors	50
Endowment Fund Donations and Full Circle Membership	50
Other Church Groups	50
Dulcet Singers	50
Writing for Spiritual Growth	50

Rules for Annual Meeting

1. A quorum of voting members is required for business to proceed to a vote. You must be visible on screen in order to count for the quorum. Once quorum is established, you may turn off your camera.
2. To contribute to the discussion of any item: Open up chat and let the moderator know you have a question by typing “???” , “Comment”, “Question” or use the “Raise Hand” function in zoom. You will be identified as the next speaker and unmuted in the order that your request is received.
3. Time limit: 2 minutes, and you may not speak again until everyone else has had the opportunity to talk.
4. Your comments have to stay relevant to the motion presented.
5. Voting will occur following the meeting. All those present will receive an email soon after the meeting with your ballot. Please complete it by 5:00 pm today.

Agenda for Current Annual Meeting

2025-2026 Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda

Second Unitarian Church of Omaha

Saturday, May 30, 2026 @ 9:00 a.m.

- I. **Welcome** - Casey Horpedahl (9:00)
- II. **Chalice Lighting and Opening Words** - Rev. Juniper Meadows and Casey Horpedahl
- III. **Plan for Meeting**
 - A. Chalice lighting
 - B. Determining quorum
 - C. Minister's report
 - D. Last year's minutes
 - E. Gratitude
 - F. Procedure
 - G. Approval of ballot
 - H. Chalice extinguishing
 - I. Closing
- IV. **Establishment of Quorum** - Co-Secretaries Vicki Pratt and Rachel Yamamoto: Voting members must be visible on the Zoom screen to count for the quorum. Members can turn off their cameras only after we have established a quorum (35% of the membership). The quorum is **46** eligible voting members present at the Annual Meeting.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

- V. **Minister's report** - Rev. Juniper Meadows
 - VI. **Approval of minutes from last year's Annual Meeting** - done by a hand vote.
 - VII. **Comments about the past year** - Casey Horpedahl
 - A. Gratitude for members instrumental to the year's achievements
 - B. Moment of Silence for Mark Siepker
 - VIII. **Procedures for the Meeting**
 - A. Review the 5 items on the ballot
 - B. Opportunity to ask questions, amend items, or propose new items for the ballot
 - C. After discussing the ballot, we will close the meeting and send out the ballot
 - D. Eligible members have until 5 p.m. to submit their ballot
 - IX. **Operating Budget**
 - X. **Slate of nominees**
 - XI. **Delegates to General Assembly**
 - XII. **Bylaw Revision**
 - XIII. **Endowment Fund Withdrawal**
 - XIV. **Chalice Extinguishing and Closing** - Rev. Juniper Meadows and Casey Horpedahl
- 64 Members attended via Zoom. 7 absentee ballots and 64 regular ballots were sent out, 51 total were returned. All motions and bylaw changes passed.

Minutes from Previous Annual Meeting

2024-2025 Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes

Second Unitarian Church of Omaha

Saturday, May 31, 2025 @ 10:00 a.m.

- I. **Welcome** - Anita Jeck welcomed everyone, introduced the Board, and reviewed the rules.
- II. **Establishment of Quorum** (Co-Secretaries Vicki Pratt and Rachel Yamamoto): Voting members must be visible (on screen and visible) in order to count for the quorum. Only after we establish a quorum (35% of the membership) should you turn off your camera if desired to improve your internet connection. Quorum is **42** eligible voting members present at our Annual Meeting. Please check in early to be included in the Quorum count.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

- III. **Discussion Rules:** To contribute to the discussion of any item: Open up chat and let the moderator know you have a question by typing ??? or Comment or Question or use the “Raise Hand” function in zoom. You will be identified as the next speaker and unmuted in the order that your request is received.
- A. Time limit: 2 minutes, and you may not speak again until everyone else has had the opportunity to talk.
 - B. Your comments have to stay relevant to the motion presented.
- IV. **Chalice Lighting and Opening Words** - Julie Kirn
- V. **Congregational Covenant of Right Relations** - Everyone
- VI. **Introduction of the Agenda and time keeper**
- VII. **Nominations:** Kathy Huggins of the Nominations and Leadership Development Committee moved to add the slate to the ballot. No discussions or objections, and the slate was finalized for the ballot.
- A. Board: Christopher Alberts, Karen Hux
 - B. Endowment: Gene Kopecky
 - C. Nominations and Leadership: Wesley Morrison-Sloat
 - D. Stewardship: Karin Brown (as co-vice chairs)
 - E. Floor nominations: none
- VIII. **Approval of Endowment Fund Distribution** Endowment Fund Committee presented a discussion of the parameters of the Endowment Fund and limitations of distributions.
- IX. **General Assembly Delegates** - We are allowed 3 delegates to GA. Carla/Bill Kuhn moved to approve these delegates, and they were finalized for the ballot.
- 1. Vicki Pratt
 - 2. Cheri Cody
 - 3. Open
- X. **Treasurer’s Report** (Cheri Cody, Treasurer)
- XI. **2025 - 2026 Budget** -
- A. Stewardship Report: Anita Meyer reported that there were over \$220k in pledges, a 15% increase, and half the increase was from new members and affiliates.

- B. Anita Jeck reviewed the proposed budget as presented. Discussion ensued. Tom Peterson moved to approve the budget as presented. Cheri Cody offered a friendly amendment to increase the cleaning budget to \$700 a month, not to exceed \$8400 a year, to add more cleaning services. Seconded by Wesley Morrison. Vicki Pratt made a friendly amendment to increase for inflation by \$500, amendment withdrawn. Motion passed by hand vote and amendment was added to the proposed budget.

XII. Bylaw changes were reviewed and discussed. The proposed bylaw revisions were reviewed, and Michael Lynne moved to accept the revisions as written. Joel Haskins seconded.

- A. Pam Curtiss-Smith moved to amend the proposed bylaw change regarding endowment distribution to include distributions limited to 150% of principal or suspend distributions when the fund total is below \$250k. No second. After further discussion Pam Curtiss-Smith moved to amend the proposed bylaw changes only to suspending distribution when the fund total is below \$250k. Amendment seconded by Karen Hux and approved by majority of voters present. The amended bylaw change was added to the ballot.

XIII. UUA Study Action Issues: Tera Kirk and Pam Miller-Jenkins presented three issues for potential action: Abolition, Fat Liberation, and Housing. The Social Justice Committee supported Housing as the issue to present to UUA. The consensus of the membership supported Housing. No vote is necessary.

XIV. Chalice Extinguishing and Closing - Julie Kirn.

Meeting adjourned 10:41.

55 Attended. 2 absentee ballots and 55 regular ballots were sent out, 49 total were returned. All motions and bylaw changes passed.

Nominees

These are the candidates who are up for election at the upcoming Annual Meeting. The following slate of church officers does not include any floor nominations.

- Endowment: John Knape
- Nominations & Leadership: Karin Brown
- Stewardship: Bud Kostic and Suzanne Kostic
- Board of Trustees: Laura Bergevin and Kathy Huggins

Proposed Budget

Second Unitarian Church
Proposed Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

Last Updated		4/15/26 Powerchurch	Net Balance: \$12,930		% Change	Notes 26-27
			Final 2025-2026	Approved 2026-2027		
Line #	Income					
1	Pledges Budgeted	4101	\$219,140	\$240,422	10%	Goal ↑ to \$230K approved by BOT; \$240,422 is up-to-date as of 5-12-26
2	New Pledges New Members	4103	\$4,000	\$4,000	0%	
3	Dividend Income	4401	\$0	\$200	-	
4	Interest Income	4402	\$5,200	\$5,200	0%	CDs & Money Market
5	Gifts	4410	\$1,500	\$2,500	67%	Higher this year bc some visitors give every month as a gift instead of pledge
6	Fundraising	4411	\$1,200	\$3,500	192%	May Day \$2,000; Don & Millie's \$500; book sale \$1,000
7	Miscellaneous Income	4412	\$2,200	\$315	-86%	Vanco Fee Offset \$315; Subtract \$2,250 music teacher rental income per Anita J
8	Offering	4420	\$15,200	\$15,500	2%	
9	Rent	4430	\$7,200	\$8,690	21%	Iglesias \$7,700 + other
9.1	Endowment Fund Distribution	4510-000	\$0			
10	Transfer from Set-Asides	4614-105	\$0			
11	Total Income		\$255,640	\$280,327	10%	
	Expenses					
	Salaries and Benefits					
12	Office Admin. Salary	5101-100	\$26,356	\$27,147	3.0%	Three % increase across the board per Cheri, Casey, Juniper
13	Office Admin Ins Benefits	5101-200	\$343	\$570	66.2%	Adding life policy
14	Office Admin Retirement	5101-300	\$2,636	\$2,715	3.0%	
15	OA Professional Expenses	5101-400	\$791	\$814	3.0%	
16	DRE Salary	5102-100	\$29,194	\$30,070	3.0%	
17	DRE Insurance Benefits	5102-200	\$623	\$635	1.9%	
18	DRE Retirement	5102-300	\$2,919	\$3,007	3.0%	
19	DRE Professional Expenses	5102-400	\$2,044	\$2,105	3.0%	
20	Unfilled: Instrumentalist/Choir Director	5103-100	\$0	\$0		
21	Childcare Staff	5110-100	\$1,512	\$1,500	-0.8%	Estimated cost of teens providing childcare. \$15/hr
22	Tech Coordinator Salary	5106	\$8,925	\$9,193	3.0%	
22.1	Tech Internet Stipend	5106-100	\$300	\$300	0.0%	\$25/mo for 12 mo
23	Payroll Taxes-Staff	5115	\$5,071	\$5,195	2%	
24	Staff Development/Appreciation	5117	\$300	\$330	10%	
25	Total Salaries and Benefits		\$81,014	\$83,581	3%	
	Ministerial Compensation					
26	Housing Allowance	5122	\$67,359	\$69,380	3%	
27	Insurance Benefits	5123	\$13,594	\$1,485	-89%	LTD & Life premiums
28	Minister W2 Salary	5124	\$0	\$0	0%	same as last year
29	In Lieu of FICA	5124-100	\$5,153	\$5,308	3%	
30	Professional Expenses	5125	\$6,736	\$6,938	3%	
31	Minister Retirement	5126	\$6,736	\$6,938	3%	

31.1	Minister Other Income	5129	\$0	\$4,073	-	New line item. Compensation for Juniper's premiums under Vincent's insurance for 12 months, anticipating an increase in January 2027, plus 15% income tax rate to offset her tax expense. \$3795 is for the whole of 2026, per Cheri (Dec. 2025). Assume 1/2 of \$3795 (\$1898) + \$1898 increased by 10% for 2027 (Jan. to June) (\$2088) equals \$3,986.
32	Total Ministerial Compensation		\$99,578	\$94,122	-5.5%	
	Administrative Expenses					
33	Administrative Expense	5131-100	\$1,920	\$1,939	1%	Specialty printing \$150; paper \$450; Sign up Genius \$115; Powerchurch renewal \$499; Background checks \$80; Office Supplies \$350; Constant Contact \$295. Not renewing Soul Matters or Costco
34	Treasurer Admin Expense	5132	\$2,620	\$2,945	12%	Monthly payroll processing fees \$2,300; Core Bank Fees \$450 (\$37.50/mo. x 12); Safe Deposit Box: \$55; 1099 filing \$5; NE Biennial filing fee \$35; IRS T-1099 vendor fee \$100; Workers comp insurance \$950 is included in treasurer's budget but is coded to 5522 below. Income tax \$975 is coded to 5517
35	Treas Exp - Transaction Fees	5132-100	\$850	\$975	15%	Vanco fees \$975
36	Total Administrative Expenses		\$5,390	\$5,859	9%	
	General Expenses					
37	Board Expenses	5500-100	\$200	\$200	0%	
37.1	Minister Installation	5504	\$2,500	\$0	-100%	One time cost - prior year
38	Share the Plate Donations	5505	\$7,600	\$7,750	2%	
39	Fundraising Expense	5506	\$100	\$750	650%	May Day signage & promotion - MAC
41	Religious Education	5515	\$3,015	\$3,350	11%	Cirricula (note: not planning to use Soul Matters pkg) \$150; OWL training (\$150/person) + travel (?) = \$700; YRUU (Youth Group) \$600; Supplies and snacks \$1,900.
42	Rental Event Support	5516	\$200	\$240	20%	\$60 x 4 events
42.1	Income Tax	5517	\$0	\$375	-	
43	Copier Expense	5520	\$722	\$1,731	140%	New copier. Copier lease \$70/mo; copier maintenance \$35.44/mo; copier lease financing \$21.43/mo; copier supply \$7.30/mo; copier overage change \$120
44	Denominational Dues	5521	\$13,518	\$14,807	10%	Per email from Casey on 11/30/25. Confirmed from Vicki 4/07/2026
45	Insurance	5522	\$8,091	\$9,851	22%	Multiperil \$8,901; workers' comp \$950
46	Janitorial-Cleaning	5523	\$8,400	\$8,736	4%	Mint Fresh \$168/wk
47	Janitorial Supplies/Trash Pick up	5524	\$2,500	\$2,450	-2%	Trash pickup \$1,750; Janitorial supplies \$700
48	Lawn Mowing & Snow Removal	5525	\$5,760	\$7,700	34%	Mowing church lawn \$3,300 (30 times @ \$110); Snow removal \$4,400 (8 snow events @ \$550 each)
49	OTOC Dues	5531	\$2,574	\$2,803	9%	Updated 4/14/2026
50	Postage	5532	\$300	\$315	5%	Assume 5% postage increase in July 2026.
51	Telephone & Internet	5533	\$2,200	\$2,200	0%	
52	Communications/Marketing Advisory Council	5534	\$1,250	\$900	-28%	Pride Festival \$350 (booth); Youth Pride festival & giveaways \$350; 2UU 50th anniversary book \$200. May Day festival signage/promotion \$750 coded to 5506. \$1,700 KIOS sponsorship is pass through so not included in total.
53	Utilities: Gas/Electric/Water	5535	\$6,520	\$7,000	7%	
54	Security Service	5536	\$735	\$735	0%	
55	Consulting		\$0	\$0		None anticipated.
56	Total General Expenses		\$66,185	\$71,893	9%	
	Committee Expenses					
57	Caring	5901	\$326	\$80	-75%	Ministerial Plaque \$30; Memorial Plaque \$50
58	Fellowship	5902	\$1,225	\$1,025	-16%	Thanksgiving dinner \$475; Winter event \$50; Coffee/creamers/supplies/compostable cups, etc. \$500
59	Finance Coordinating Council	5903	\$0	\$50	-	

60	Bldg & Grounds Maintenance	5904-101	\$1,370	\$1,550	13%	Heating and AC inspection and filters \$525; safety inspections \$175 (fire suppressions hardware); garden supplies \$150 (mulch, plants, irrigation parts); miscellaneous supplies for bldg. maintenance \$400; Exterminator \$300 (spray for bugs)
61	Bldg Capital Expense Repair/Replacement	5904-105	\$0	\$0	0%	Please note basement project won't occur until 2027-28
62	Committee on Ministry	5920	\$120	\$120	0%	Funds are available to start before 2027-28
63	Adult Programming (formerly Faith Connections)	5961	\$250	\$650	160%	Possible trainings \$60; incidentals for gatherings \$60
64	Library	5905	\$72	\$72	0%	Young Adult Retreat - Wesley \$250; program events \$400
65	Connections (formerly Membership)	5906	\$450	\$450	0%	TinyCat to run and display the library shelf list \$72
66	Worship/Aesthetics	5910	\$3,565	\$3,565	0%	Votives, bookmarks, welcome primer, pocket guide for gift bags, shipping \$330; Food for New Member Ceremony, Pathways \$120
67	Social Justice	5913	\$1,145	\$1,200	5%	Guest speakers \$1,950; piano tuning/repairs \$300; worship supplies/aesthetics \$715; Guest musicians \$600. Discontinuing Soul Matters.
68	Stewardship	5962	\$500	\$600	20%	Open Arms \$480 (food for meetings \$40/month); Community Garden \$150 (garden plot tilling, plot flags); Pride Parade Fee \$250 (expect slight increase in cost); Education \$250 (Events/Materials/Banners); Immediate Action Funds \$170
69	Technology	5914	\$1,955	\$1,555	-20%	Pledge drive event costs
70	Technology New Equip/Replacement	5914-105	\$600	\$800	33%	YouTube Pro account \$240; Box Online Storage account \$40; Zoom Subscription \$320; DreamHost DSN Reg./Dreampress web content mgmt. \$355; Audio/Video maintenance, unpredictable repair/replacements of smaller value \$800
71	Leadership Dev./Nominations	5921	\$125	\$125	0%	Security camera for foyer \$200; CD/DVD player & lapel mic \$600
72	Safety Committee	5959	\$0	\$0	0%	Coffee with potential nominees \$25;-Delegate Registration for MidAmerica Region Annual Mtg \$100
72.1	Endowment Committee	5963	\$0	\$0	-	Safety committee plans TBD
72.2	Personnel Committee	5964		\$100		All 2026-2027 Full Circle expenses (legacy recognition/participation, including annual dinners and gifts) will use the Nov. 2025 Endowment withdrawal of \$3000 (remaining as of 5-16-2026: \$2472.90)
73	Total Committee Expenses		\$11,703	\$11,942	2%	Per Sue A, comm chair
74	Total Cash Expenses		\$263,870	\$267,397	1.3%	
75	Out of Balance by:		-\$8,230	\$12,930	-257%	
7	Other Income					
76	Net Assets from Prior Years		\$4,076			
77	Building Set Aside from Prior Years					
78	Net Balance		-\$4,154	\$12,930		
	Other Expense					
79	Depreciation Expense	6500-100	\$1,162	\$840	-28%	

Voting Membership Roster

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

The following individuals met the requirements to be considered a voting member for at least one congregational meeting. An eligible voter is one who has been a member for at least 60 days and has made a recordable contribution or received a waiver from the Board of Trustees within the past year.

Record Count: 131 eligible voters; quorum: 35% = 46; 64 eligible voters present at Annual Meeting

ABRAHAM, Stephen	FRIESEN, Eric
AFRANK, Jan	FRIESEN, Tiffini
ALBERTS, Chris	GIBSON, Debora
ANDERSON, Clyde	GLENN, Keith
ARCHER Jill	GUEVARA, Keellia
ASCHINGER, Sue	GUEVARA, Pedro
BALLARIN, Marco	HANSEN, Pamela
BAUMANN, Rod	HASKINS, Joel
BELL, Kathy	HASKINS, Kathie
BELL, Rick	HAULBROOK, Alicia
BERGEVIN, Laura	HAULBROOK, Shannon
BROWN, Karin	HERNANDEZ JUKOVIC, Maja
BURNSIDE, Calvin	HESS, Bob
BURNSIDE GLENN, Lisa	HORPEDAHL, Casey
CAFFREY, Mary Jo	HORPEDAHL, Lucy
CAFFREY, Pat	HUGGINS, Kathy
CANTRELL, Tom	HUX, Alana
CODY, Cheri	HUX, Karen
CORWIN, Ruth	ILL, JJ
CUMMINS, Susan	JACOBSON, Stephen
CURTISS-SMITH, Pamela	JADHAV, Deborah
CUTLER, Dennis	JECK, Anita
DANIELSON, Dorothy	JENKINS, Jeffrey
DEFFENBACHER, Helen	JENN, June
DEFFENBACHER, Ken	JENSEN, Julie
DEWESTER, Gay	JOHNSON, Carol
DE YARMEN, DAVE	JOHNSON, David
DOAN, Janet	KIRK, Tera
DRAPER, Darrel	KIRN, Julie
DRAPER, JoAnne	KLIMENT-JENKINS, Molly
DUDLEY, Victoria	KNAPE, John
DUGGIN, Lorraine	KNAPP, Forrest
ELLER, Judy	KOHAMMER, Chris
ESCOLAS, Bobbie	KOHAMMER, Olivia
EVANS, Dana	KONECKY, Melissa
FLECKENSTEIN-PHILLIPS, Betsy	KOPECKY, Gene

KOPECKY, Vija	ROBB, Linda
KUHN, Carla/Bill	ROBINSON ABRAHAM, Gay
LEISE, Cy	ROSSITER, Rebecca
LEISE, Marcia	ROWAN, Mage
LISTER, Tom	ROWAN, Napalm
LYNNE, Michael	RUDY, Mary
MARSH, Rachna	RUNDQUIST, Shirley
MCCABE, Carol	SCARBOROUGH, Gary
MEIER, Monica	SHORT, Jaime
MEYER, Anita	SHORT, Justin
MILLER, Carolyn	SIEPKER, Jeff
MILLER, Pete	SMITH FERGUSON, Kim
MILLER-JENKINS, Pamela	SOLICK, Patricia
MORRISON-SLOAT, Wesley	STONEROOK, Carl
MUNDY, Don	SUSSMAN, Charlie
NAYLOR, Bonnie	SWIFT, Ayva
NELSON, Cheryl	TALUKDAR, Andrea
NESBIT, David	TALUKDAR, Anjan
NICHOLS, Janet	THOMAS, Lolly
NUNN, Martha	TOTH, Gary
PETERS, Chris	VANDERSLUIS, Nancy
PETERSON, Stephanie	WATTS, Andrew
PETERSON, Thomas	WEISS, Michaela
PETROW, Greg	WELLS, Randy
PHILLIPS, Phillip	WHITE, Jennie
PINZON, Jonnathan	WHITE, Joe
PIQUETTE, Craig	WIECZOREK, Judy
PRATT, Vicki	WILLIAMS, Suzy
RAMSEY, Cindy	YAMAMOTO, Rachel

Addendum: 71 ballots sent out (including 7 absentee ballots). 51 were returned by deadline. All motions and by-law changes were approved.

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Section 12.1. Treasurer

The Board of Trustees shall appoint annually at their June Board meeting a church member, who is not a Board member, to serve as Treasurer. The Treasurer's term of office will be July 1 through June 30. The Treasurer shall have custody of all church funds, and shall ensure deposit of all funds to the credit of the Second Unitarian Church of Omaha. The Treasurer, with the Board of Trustees approval, Article

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

12. Fiscal Matters SECOND UNITARIAN CHURCH BYLAWS 19 Article 13 The Second Unitarian Church of Omaha Endowment Fund shall determine that all bank deposits are held in FDIC insured deposit accounts or in minimally risk exposed investment assets as per the determined goals of the deposit. Minimally risk-exposed investments may be mutual funds or Exchange Traded Funds, for example, with investment strategy goals consistent with the particular set of deposits. Risk can be determined by comparing the timeframe of deposit need (withdrawal) versus the investment return expected by the fund over 1, 3 or 5 year investment. The Treasurer shall oversee receipt and disbursement of funds in accordance with the annual budget as directed by the Board of Trustees, and shall keep an accurate account of such. The Treasurer shall make this accounting open to inspection by any member, shall make periodic reports to the Board of Trustees and to the Finance Coordinating Council, and shall make a report to the annual meeting.

LEADERSHIP AND STAFF

Minister

This past year at Second Unitarian has seen us expand our relationships and explore more of the bounds of what worship might mean in this new day and age. It has also felt like the year that I have at last come into my stride as a minister, receiving full fellowship from the Ministerial Fellowship Committee (the credentialing body for UU clergy) and growing closer to regional colleagues despite the physical distance that exists between us.

We are on the precipice of a great deal of opportunity to deepen our commitment to be in solidarity with the marginalized in the Omaha community. For my part, these past few months I have begun organizing with two trans support organizations outside of the church; Trans Recess- a purely social endeavor intended to design fun experiences for trans people and their allies, and Trans Liberation Coalition (TLC)- a more involved group working to organize resources for the trans community. These and other community work being done more than fill the void left by the closing of our Open Arms Trans Social programming. Through these organizations there is the hope to launch a trans support space again at the church in the Fall, held by leaders who have approached me in these groups interested in such a ministry.

While there are many places we can and most certainly will place our efforts, I share the general opinion with the denomination that in this time of extreme animus against the trans community, our faith calls upon us to become radically pro-transgender with our time, talent, and treasure. It is as Jesus commanded his disciples, “What you do unto the least of these, you do unto me”. While we are a people of many religious persuasions, such words ought to call all of us to attend to those who are regarded as the “least of these” in our current

cultural context. As a trans woman myself, and as your minister, this is a fine way for us to “Meet the Moment” we are in.

Indeed this work has already born fruit. Trans people who would not touch a church with a ten foot pole before have found their way to us and have reported such a warm welcome from this community, and for that I could not be more proud. It is no small thing to affirm the worth and dignity of people that the powers that be would have us villainize and discard, and while there is no nobility in resting on our laurels I want to commend this community for its willingness to be present, be open, and be loving, especially when we don’t understand the particulars of our neighbors lives. Love does not require perfect understanding. Love only requires itself, and we have that in spades.

As for brass tacks, I am very happy to echo the fact that we have a balanced budget. This is all thanks to the tireless efforts of your congregational leadership to do the near unthinkable: present a sound financial plan for a small liberal congregation in red-state Nebraska. “Congregational Finance” might sound like a dirty word to some folks, but this is the means by which our lights stay on and this house of Love keeps shining in West Omaha, and it is a wonder of hard won labors that we are financially sound even as other congregations find themselves struggling. Suffice to say, I have no doubts this congregation has a long future ahead of itself.

An interesting note- I will reach my five year milestone serving as your minister next year. This means I qualify for sabbatical: a time to rest, reflect, and nurture my ministry that I may be of better service to you and to our tradition as a whole. This is not vacation, this is a particular time set aside to nurture my vocational call to goodness. This is wonderful, but it can also be hard for a congregation of our size to carry the full weight of a full time ministry over the months long period that sabbaticals usually entails. Fortunately, this congregation has some two decades of lay leadership experience under its belt and the board of trustees and myself are assembling a crack team of excellent leaders to help carry the ministry of the church while I am away. I have no doubts that we will all be better for the experience when the time comes.

Suffice to say, despite the condition of the world we’re in, 2U remains in a solid spot; dynamic, daring, and ready to roll up its metaphorical and literal sleeves to leave this world a little better than we found it. As you leave this minister’s report, may you be a fool for love, a pilgrim for justice, and until we meet again may you rock, roll, and move towards that beloved community on the horizon; the one we are all building together!

Chair, Board of Trustees - Casey Horpedahl

Board Members: Casey Horpedahl, Chair; Karen Hux, Co-Vice Chair; Anita Meyer, Co-Vice Chair, Vicki Pratt, Co-secretary; Rachel Yamamoto, Co-secretary

This year has been a momentous year for Second Unitarian! We have several highlights:

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Installation of the Rev. Juniper Meadows: During the fall, we had the honor of officially installing Rev. Meadows as our settled minister! She is an excellent minister, a visionary, who leads our church with courage and conviction. The future looks bright with her at the helm!

50th Anniversary: May 23, 2026 was our 50th Anniversary, and we celebrated with a meaningful service to which many current members, former members, and guests attended! Some artistic, talented, and dedicated members created a chalice for a wall of our foyer, and everyone added their thumbprints to a special tree to memorialize the event.

May Day Festival: For the second year in a row, 2U hosted a May Day Festival, which was a fun opportunity to celebrate spring and bring hope and warmth to the community. This unique fundraiser brings together the talents of many people in our community and draws upon the strength of several different committees. The joyful flea market was again a big success that found good homes in the neighborhood and church community for various donations and helped to raise money for our church. YRUU (the combined Youth Group from First and Second Unitarian) participated by grilling lunch food and serving drinks and snacks in order to raise money for a future trip to Boston for the youth. This was seen by many as the highlight of the day! In total, 2U and YRUU raised a combined total of over \$1700! We look forward to May Day as an annual tradition for years to come.

Growth and financial stability: Our church approved a balanced budget this year, which is a rare accomplishment over the past 15 years. In addition, we added 18 new members this year, one of the highest years of growth in recent memory. We can be optimistic that we are headed in the right direction! A big thank-you to all of the members and volunteers who have contributed to 2U over the past year!

Director of Religious Education

Children's RE (K-5th grade)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Backpack Blessing & Parent Luncheon (8/10/25)

Trunk-or-Treat (10/31/25)

Easter food donation hunt (4/5/26)

Planting of Serviceberry tree (5/3/26)

- This year's curriculum for RE was based on EPIC: Equal Participants in Community. The children grew plants indoors that they maintained each month when they met and eventually sold in the May Day sale.
- We have recreated the Altar Building stations for children on RE Sunday, including lessons about giving and stewardship.
- Children took time together each month to re-stock the Little Free Pantry.
- I really loved how the EPIC curriculum helped create so many opportunities for the to create visibility.
- We also used some lessons from the Climate Justice Revival curriculum. Led by Pam Miller-Jenkins we have learned about pollinators and building sustainable communities.
- New this year! at Rev. Meadows' suggestion: I have set up a "PrayGround" area in the sanctuary. A low table and child-sized chairs with plenty of books and quiet activities for our youngest UU's. This puts them close to the front where they can be more easily immersed in videos, music, and altar building and sits directly in front of a row of chairs to make caretaker supervision convenient. This is an important visual reminder that we practice Whole Family worship and welcome people of all ages in the sanctuary. Visitors have provided very positive feedback!
- Janet N. and MaryAnna A. collaborated to obtain and plant a Serviceberry tree with the children from RE. The planting was well-attended and the kids have shown continued interest in the tree and its care.
- On Father's Day we heard from Dave Hinegardner, Stephen Jacobson, and Pete Miller. They shared their reflections on fatherhood and it was a very special service.

YRUU

SPECIAL EVENTS

Parent Orientation and Ice Cream Social (8/27/25)

First Central Congregational church (09/28/25)

Roller Skating (10/1/25)

Bellevue Berry Farm bonfire (10/17/25)

Mass at Sacred Heart (11/9/25)

High School OWL (1/26 - 5/26)

Visit/tour of the Hindu Temple (2/8/26)

Late night service planning @ 2U (4/3/26)

CONjure - Youth Convention; Lenexa, KS (4/24/26 - 4/26/26)

May Day bake sale/fundraiser (5/2/26)

Youth Service @2U (5/10/26)

Overnight @ First U (6/6/26)

Pride youth & family night (7/17/26)

Pride Parade (7/18/26)**Margo Miller signed the membership book! (5/31/26)**

- As a part of our focus this year, YRUU is working on comparative religions. Ashleigh F. and Christina S. shared the cost of the Crossing Paths curriculum. We talked about several neighboring religious institutions and attended some services locally.
- The Youth Service, “A Bird’s-eye View of Diversity,” was hosted by 2U this year, next year it will be at First. Once again, the youth participants crafted an engaging and meaningful worship service that received the warmest feedback from all who attended!
- YRUU is planning a pilgrimage to Boston summer of 2027! Lots of fundraising will be happening in the upcoming year.
- YRUU participated in marching in the Pride parade for the first time (in my tenure) this year and their excitement and feedback was overwhelming. They actually became a tighter group after the brief debacle about if First and Second U would be marching together.
- Omaha represented the largest group of teens from one group at the youth con in Lenexa, KS. We took 7 youth, Ashleigh Fuson, Christina Strong, and Dave Hienegardner as chaperones. The trip went very smoothly and we hope to take even more to the next con!
- Share the Plate proceeds on the 5th Sunday of the month will be donated to the Boston Pilgrimage trip - from both First U and Second U.
- Special note: I have stopped holding overnights (previously called “lock-ins”) at 2U. These events seem to be phasing themselves out in general and, the last couple that we hosted taught us that enthusiastic, happy 2 AM teens are not the same as the grumpy and groggy 7 AM teens and managing to get cleaned up fell mostly on me. Overnights are still hosted at First U and 2U will host some “late night” events that end by midnight.

Childcare:

- This year our teen childcare providers were Iman Pearson, Margo Miller, and Greta Hienegardner. Unfortunately, Greta was not able to continue working because she was considered too young. It is my hope that we can find a way to create a position for younger teens. When Greta was working, her dad and sibling also attended. It’s important that young people feel not just welcome but valued in this community and it’s through service that value is created.

Professional Development

- Applied for and received a financial grant for 2026 UUMA Institute for the Learning Ministry retreat for shared ministry teams (Aug 25)
- Delivered service “Not Practicing” (9/7/25)
- Prof. Evaluation with Rev. Meadows (10/14/25)
- LREDA Fall conference (11/5 - 11/9)
- Early Childhood Social/Emotional training (11/18 - 11/20)
- Attended UUMA Institute with Rev. Juniper and Jaime (1/26/26 - 1/30/26)

Office Administrator

Office Administrator (OA) Annual Report 2025-2026

Accomplishments:

- Helped the SMART team with administrative tasks for their research.
- Helped the installation team with administrative tasks for the Installation Ceremony.
- As co-convenor of the marketing team I helped work on the 50th anniversary book.
- I went with Rev. Meadows and DRE Ashleigh Fuson to the UUMA Albuquerque Learning Retreat 1/26 to 30. The retreat was re-invigorating.
- Implemented the reusable order of service.
- My 10 year work anniversary was 2/18. I greatly appreciated all the well wishes.
- Worked with the marketing team on the May Day advertising.

Next year's goals:

- I would love to work on disability and accessibility awareness within the congregation.
- Get more organized! The church office continues to be a dumping ground for items.

OA Job Description

The role of the OA is to provide administrative and bookkeeping support for the effective operation of Second Unitarian Church of Omaha. The OA works cooperatively with the Minister, Director of Religious Education, the Marketing & Communications (MAC) committee, Board of Trustees and members of the congregation.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Administrative Duties
- Communications
- Financial
- Committee Support

Treasurer's Report

Our fiscal year is from July 1st to June 30th. The income/expense report compares amounts for 2025-2026 with end-of-year amounts for 2024-2025 and 2023-2024; the consolidated balance sheet compares the 2025-26 fiscal year to 2024-25 fiscal year.

Consolidated Balance Sheet

The Consolidated Balance Sheet shows restricted and unrestricted funds in both the assets and liabilities balances of the balance sheet. For monthly finance team meetings, the balance sheet is separated by Fund (Operating and Endowment) but the software did not offer a way to do that for a 2-year comparison.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

As of June 30, 2026, Current Assets (Checking, Edward Jones Account (CDs and money market), Prepaid Expenses and Set-Aside tracking balances) total \$174,601.22. Fixed Assets total \$390,506.00.

The Endowment Fund is detailed on the Consolidated Balance Sheet. Investments are comprised of our purchases of Vanguard Group funds. Changes in market value are recorded as "Unrealized Gain or Loss" accounts, on a monthly basis, on the balance sheet. The stock market has been good to us and current balance of the Endowment Fund is \$489,660.25 as of June 30.

Income and Expense Statement – Operating Fund

The Income and Expense Statement compares actual income and expenses to their budgeted amounts for the period ending June 30, 2026, as well as for the last two fiscal years. The projected shortfall for the budget is shown under Expenses total as Other Income. The good news for the 2025-26 fiscal year is that the church ended the year with a surplus, thanks in part, to lower health insurance costs for Rev. Meadows who moved to her spouse's insurance. A gift of \$7,000 was received and is restricted for the basement renovation project.

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 financial data analysis, presentation, retention, disbursements, plus preparing the workers comp audit report, income tax filing, and other essential outside reports. I also administer payroll and ensure that the proper employee and employer forms are completed, payroll is submitted on a timely basis, as well as updates to information for the UUA insurance and retirement plans. The office administrator, Jaime Short, is responsible for day-to-day activities such as recording deposits, contributions, offerings, and paying invoices.

Second Unitarian Church - Income and Expense Statement - Operating Fund (unaudited)



	as of 6/30/2026			as of 6/30/2025			as of 6/30/2024		
	Actual Year to Date	Annual Budget	% Actual to Budget	Actual Year to Date	Annual Budget	% Actual to Budget	Actual Year to Date	Annual Budget	% Actual to Budget
INCOME									
Pledges Budgeted	\$217,452.07	\$219,140.00	99.23%	\$188,005.46	\$190,542.00	98.67%	\$181,873.62	\$190,162.00	95.64%
New Pledges Current Member	679.80	0.00	0.00%						
New Pledges New Member	4,879.98	4,000.00	122.00%	5,432.85	3,500.00	155.22%	4,800.01	2,000.00	240.00%
Pledges for Previous Year	152.00	0.00	0.00%	403.00	0.00	0.00%	515.83	0.00	0.00%
Subtotal Pledge Income	223,163.85	223,140.00	100.01%	193,841.31	194,042.00	99.90%	187,189.46	192,162.00	97.41%
Dividend Income	231.00	0.00	0.00%	295.00	0.00		473.00	450.00	105.11%
Interest Income	4,320.65	5,200.00	83.09%	4,604.08	2,881.00	159.81%	3,294.20	1,848.00	178.26%
Donor Restricted Income	8,523.94	0.00	0.00%						
Gifts	3,565.00	1,500.00	237.67%	37,659.65	1,500.00	2510.64%	6,175.00	200.00	3087.50%
Fundraising	2,929.05	1,200.00	244.09%	3,047.43	1,000.00	304.74%	1,050.09	1,000.00	105.01%
Miscellaneous Income	2,805.65	2,200.00	127.53%	3,113.84	390.00	798.42%	294.80	290.00	101.66%
Offering	21,036.27	15,200.00	138.40%	17,337.46	17,000.00	101.99%	17,265.78	14,000.00	123.33%
Rent	7,872.00	7,200.00	109.33%	8,075.00	7,500.00	107.67%	3,269.00	1,000.00	326.90%
Endowment Fund Income	5,300.00	0.00	0.00%						
RE/YRUU/YA Program Income							637.00	0.00	0.00%
Trust Bldg/Tech Set-Asides							4,500.00	5,500.00	81.82%
Subtotal Income Received	56,583.56	32,500.00	174.10%	74,132.46	30,271.00	244.40%	36,958.87	24,288.00	152.17%
TOTAL INCOME	279,747.41	255,640.00	109.43%	267,973.77	224,313.00	119.46%	224,148.33	216,450.00	103.56%
EXPENSES									
Office Admin. Salary	\$26,346.00	\$26,356.00	99.96%	\$25,672.56	\$25,588.00	100.33%	\$24,537.30	\$24,843.00	98.77%
Office Admin-Ins Benefits	453.30	343.00	132.16%	304.92	345.00	88.38%	322.92	308.00	104.84%
Office Admin-Retirement	2,634.59	2,636.00	99.95%	2,567.25	2,559.00	100.32%	2,453.73	2,484.00	98.78%
OA Professional Expense	645.54	791.00	81.61%	125.00	768.00	16.28%	75.00	745.00	10.07%
DRE Salary	29,193.96	29,194.00	100.00%	28,344.00	28,344.00	100.00%	27,518.04	27,518.00	100.00%
DRE-Insurance Benefits	624.84	623.00	100.30%	634.32	630.00	100.69%	588.84	562.00	104.78%
DRE-Retirement	2,919.36	2,919.00	100.01%	2,834.40	2,834.00	100.01%	2,751.84	2,752.00	99.99%
DRE-Professional Expense	1,306.62	2,044.00	63.92%	1,644.88	1,984.00	82.91%	1,905.57	1,926.00	98.94%
Child Care Staff	813.75	1,512.00	53.82%	636.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	1,680.00	0.00%
Technology Coordinator	7,302.04	8,925.00	81.82%	7,941.46	8,665.00	91.65%	8,532.86	8,413.00	101.42%
Tech Internet Stipend	300.00	300.00	100.00%	300.00	300.00	100.00%			
Payroll Taxes-Staff	3,828.74	5,071.00	75.50%	2,509.79	4,812.00	52.16%	2,424.43	4,778.00	50.74%
Staff Development / Appreciation	300.00	300.00	100.00%	300.00	300.00	100.00%	240.00	250.00	96.00%
Subtotal Salary Expenses	76,668.74	81,014.00	64.64%	73,814.58	77,129.00	95.70%	71,350.53	76,259.00	93.56%
Housing Allowance	19,896.00	19,896.00	100.00%	18,468.00	18,468.00	100.00%	18,468.00	18,468.00	100.00%
Insurance Benefits	7,311.24	13,594.00	53.78%	11,179.72	9,634.00	116.04%	9,131.28	8,602.00	106.15%
Minister W2 Salary	47,463.00	47,463.00	100.00%	47,247.96	47,248.00	100.00%	43,827.96	43,828.00	100.00%
In Lieu of FICA	5,153.04	5,153.00	100.00%	5,027.04	5,027.00	100.00%	4,765.68	4,766.00	99.99%
Minister-Other Income	1,893.66	0.00	0.00%						
Professional Expense	2,166.68	6,736.00	32.17%	2,453.28	6,572.00	37.33%	2,770.50	6,230.00	44.47%
Minister Retirement	6,735.96	6,736.00	100.00%	6,571.56	6,572.00	99.99%	6,229.56	6,230.00	99.99%
Subtotal Ministerial Compensation	90,619.58	99,578.00	91.00%	90,947.56	93,521.00	97.25%	85,192.98	88,124.00	96.67%

Second Unitarian Church - Income and Expense Statement - Operating Fund (unaudited)

	as of 6/30/2026			as of 6/30/2025			as of 6/30/2024		
	Actual Year to Date	Annual Budget	% Actual to Budget	Actual Year to Date	Annual Budget	% Actual to Budget	Actual Year to Date	Annual Budget	% Actual to Budget
Administrative Expense	1,942.44	1,920.00	94.03%	1,659.90	1,455.00	114.08%	1,653.48	2,080.00	79.49%
Treasurer Admin Expense	2,905.14	2,620.00	110.88%	2,693.59	2,583.00	104.28%	2,391.73	2,400.00	99.66%
Treas Exp-Transaction Fee	1,004.05	850.00	118.12%	862.01	720.00	119.72%	648.55	750.00	86.47%
Board Expenses	233.67	200.00	116.84%	113.34	200.00	56.67%	310.17	600.00	51.70%
Minister Installation	2,913.35	2,500.00	116.53%	0.00	2,500.00	0.00%			
Share the Plate Donations	10,548.14	7,600.00	138.79%	8,643.73	8,500.00	101.69%	6,977.90	5,820.00	119.90%
Fundraising Expense	0.00	100.00	0.00%	222.80	0.00	0.00%	0.00	100.00	0.00%
Investment Expense				258.07	0.00	0.00%			
RGL- Childcare	96.00	0.00	0.00%	552.00	1,512.00	36.51%	1,086.00	1,344.00	80.80%
Religious Education Prog	2,129.38	3,015.00	70.63%	2,981.20	2,805.00	106.28%	3,398.09	3,950.00	86.03%
Rental Event Host	180.00	200.00	90.00%	60.00	200.00	30.00%			
Income Tax	358.11	0.00	0.00%						
Copier Expense	875.78	722.00	121.30%	1,247.13	1,250.00	99.77%	1,245.18	1,250.00	99.61%
Denominational Dues	13,518.00	13,518.00	100.00%	12,289.00	12,289.00	100.00%	11,909.00	11,909.00	100.00%
Insurance	8,206.00	8,091.00	101.42%	7,106.50	6,590.00	107.84%	5,523.00	4,978.00	110.95%
Janitorial-Cleaning	8,206.00	8,400.00	97.69%	6,000.99	6,000.00	100.02%	6,053.75	6,000.00	100.90%
Janitorial-Suppl/Trash PU	1,943.98	2,500.00	77.76%	2,244.19	2,380.00	94.29%	1,792.03	1,880.00	95.32%
Lawn Care & Snow Removal	6,258.00	5,760.00	108.65%	5,503.00	6,840.00	80.45%	5,110.00	6,080.00	84.05%
OTOC Dues	2,574.00	2,574.00	100.00%	2,223.00	2,223.00	100.00%	2,109.00	2,109.00	100.00%
Postage	286.30	300.00	95.43%	251.73	300.00	83.91%	347.44	450.00	77.21%
Telephone/Internet	2,181.92	2,200.00	99.18%	2,187.62	2,320.00	94.29%	2,081.90	2,200.00	94.63%
Communications/Mktg/Adv C	2,254.77	1,250.00	180.38%	989.30	710.00	139.34%	737.27	1,260.00	58.51%
Utilities	6,311.99	6,520.00	96.81%	5,863.92	6,333.00	92.59%	5,760.73	6,036.00	95.44%
Security Service	731.00	735.00	99.46%	725.60	720.00	100.78%	513.33	600.00	85.56%
Subtotal Admin/General Expenses	75,658.02	71,575.00	105.70%	64,678.62	68,430.00	94.50%	59,648.55	61,796.00	96.52%
Caring	276.00	326.00	84.66%	30.00	50.00	60.00%	47.58	100.00	47.58%
Fellowship	1,111.70	1,225.00	90.75%	871.41	1,100.00	79.22%	1,117.20	975.00	114.58%
Finance				0.00	50.00	0.00%	150.00	250.00	60.00%
Bldg/Equip Repair/Replace	1,811.90	1,370.00	132.26%	900.57	1,615.00	55.76%	6,024.00	4,700.00	128.17%
Bldgs. & Grounds Maint.	4,164.92	0.00	0.00%	5,997.69	3,700.00	162.10%	1,453.70	1,495.00	97.24%
Library	72.00	72.00	100.00%	72.00	72.00	100.00%	110.96	100.00	110.96%
Membership	436.76	450.00	97.06%	274.37	250.00	109.75%	437.53	550.00	79.55%
Worship/Aesthetics	2,811.65	3,565.00	78.87%	2,949.49	3,855.00	76.51%	3,194.53	6,080.00	52.54%
Soc Justice	693.23	1,145.00	60.54%	835.11	910.00	91.77%	580.78	1,386.00	41.90%
Technology	1,861.45	1,955.00	95.21%	2,094.89	1,256.00	166.79%	853.46	1,806.00	47.26%
Technology New Equip/Repl	0.00	600.00	0.00%	201.55	0.00	0.00%	560.27	800.00	70.03%
Committee on Ministry	57.60	120.00	48.00%	10.70	90.00	11.89%	34.56	300.00	11.52%
Leadership Dev-Nominations	28.02	125.00	22.42%	0.00	125.00	0.00%	176.47	775.00	22.77%
Safety Committee				0.00	25.00	0.00%	780.00	50.00	1560.00%
Adult Programming(Faith Connections)	308.77	250.00	123.51%	160.00	200.00	80.00%	272.35	305.00	89.30%
Stewardship	466.69	500.00	93.34%	375.24	500.00	75.05%	361.07	800.00	45.13%
Subtotal Committee Expenses	14,100.69	11,703.00	120.49%	14,773.02	13,798.00	75.05%	16,154.46	20,472.00	78.91%
RESTRICTED DONATION EXP									
Restric Endowment Comm Exp	527.20	0.00	0.00%						

Second Unitarian Church - Income and Expense Statement - Operating Fund (unaudited)

	as of 6/30/2026			as of 6/30/2025			as of 6/30/2024		
	Actual Year to Date	Annual Budget	% Actual to Budget	Actual Year to Date	Annual Budget	% Actual to Budget	Actual Year to Date	Annual Budget	% Actual to Budget
TOTAL CASH EXPENSES	257,574.23	263,870.00	97.61%	244,213.78	252,878.00	96.60%	232,346.52	246,651.00	94.43%
EXCESS CASH INCOME/EXPENSES	\$22,173.18	(\$8,230.00)		\$23,759.99	(\$28,565.00)		(8,198.19)	(30,201.00)	
OTHER INCOME									
Net Assets from Prior Years		8,230.00			24,765.00		0.00	30,201.00	0.00%
Building Set-Aside from Prior Years					3,800.00				
OTHER EXPENSE									
Depreciation Expense	974.01	976.00	99.80%	532.08	322.00	165.24%	322.08	322.08	100.00%
TOTAL EXPENSES	258,548.24	264,846.00	97.62%	244,745.86	253,200.00	96.66%	232,668.60	246,973.08	94.21%
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	\$21,199.17			\$23,227.91			(\$8,520.27)		

Second Unitarian Church
Balance Sheet
Consolidated – June 2026

07/24/2026 04:24 PM

Page: 1

	Current Year	Previous Year
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
	\$60,321.63	\$25,407.63
	489,648.91	345,645.71
	0.00	57,895.84
Subtotal Endowment Funds	489,648.91	403,541.55
EDWARD JONES ENDOW FUND		
E Jones Cash Balance	11.34	0.00
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE		
Accounts Receivable		
	CHECK	
	ING	0.00
EDWARD JONES		
	Core	
	Bank-	
	Checking	
CD - Mature 12/8/25		
	ENDO	
	WMENT	
	FUNDS	23,000.00
CD - Mature - 9/11/26		
	Vangu	
	ard Group	13,000.00

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

CD - Mature - 12/30/27

	UUA	
	Common	
	Endow. Fund	0.00
Bond-Mature 12/01/2053	9,875.84	9,875.84
Bond accrue intrst-EJones	138.21	138.21
Money Market – Edw. Jon	61,231.34	58,826.97
Cash - Edward Jones	989.69	1,073.41
Subtotal Edward Jones	110,235.08	105,914.43
BAL-RESTRIC BLD SET ASIDE		
Rstrct Gift-Bldg Set-Asid	1,345.53	5,510.45
Endow-Bldg Set-Aside	2,766.31	2,766.31
Subtotal Bal-restric Bld Set Aside	4,111.84	8,276.76
Subtotal Current Assets	664,261.47	543,140.37
FIXED ASSETS		
LAND AND BUILDINGS		
Land	20,000.00	20,000.00
Church Building	88,744.00	88,744.00

Second Unitarian Church
Balance Sheet

07/24/2026 04:24 PM

Consolidated – June 2026

Page: 2

	Current Year	Previous Year
Subtotal Land And Buildings	387,356.00	387,356.00
Building Improvement 2021	278,612.00	278,612.00
Equipment Furniture & Fix	11,346.53	11,346.53
Accum Depreciation	(11,346.53)	(11,212.52)
Right-of-use Asset-Copier	3,150.00	3,990.00
Subtotal Equipment Furniture & Fix	3,150.00	4,124.01
Subtotal Fixed Assets	390,506.00	391,480.01
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,054,767.47	\$934,620.38

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

LIABILITIES

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Copier Lease Liability	\$3,150.00	\$3,990.00
PENDING DISPOSITION	(431.49)	0.00
Minister Sabbatical Fund	5,255.69	0.00

Subtotal Pending Disposition	4,824.20	0.00
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ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Accounts Payable Vendors	815.63	1,046.00
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MEMORIALS PAYABLE	0.00	4,805.69
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PREPAID PLEDGES/GIFTS

Pledges Prepaid-Next Year	37,545.00	21,415.00
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Pass Thru Account	1,916.00	0.00
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Subtotal Current Liabilities	48,250.83	31,256.69
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TOTAL LIABILITIES	48,250.83	31,256.69
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NET ASSETS

UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Unrestricted Net Assets	\$436,578.79	\$426,365.02
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RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Second Unitarian Church
Balance Sheet

07/24/2026 04:24 PM

Consolidated – June 2026

Page: 3

	Current Year	Previous Year
Reserve Fund Balance	63,455.58	63,455.58
Restr Gift-Bldg Set Aside	1,345.53	5,510.45
Building Fund Set-Aside	3,618.09	3,618.09
OATS Program	873.00	873.00
Endowment Fund Balance	178,524.74	155,115.12
Unrealized Gain/Loss Vang	311,124.17	229,215.23
Unreal Gain/Loss UUA Comm	0.00	19,211.20
Restricted Basement Renov	7,000.00	0.00
Restricted YRUU Exp	1,523.94	0.00
Restricted Endowment Exp	2,472.80	0.00
Subtotal Restricted Net Assets	569,937.85	476,998.67

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

TOTAL NET ASSETS

1,006,516.64 903,363.69

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

\$1,054,767.47 \$934,620.38

Connection

Committee/Team	Caring
Chair/CoChairs/Convener	Gay DeWester and Julie Kirn
Accomplishments	Assisted with memorial services, provided meals to members recovering from illness or medical procedures, provided transportation to medical appointments and church. Keeping the congregation informed about members experiencing challenges and celebrations.
Challenges	The committee could use one more person
Goals '26-'27	Assist with memorial services, provide meals and transportation and recruit two more volunteers for meal preparation.
Potential Teams '26-'27	Gay DeWester, Julie Kirn, Alana Hux, Rebecca Rossiter

Committee/Team	Connections Team
Chair/CoChairs/Convener	JoAnne Draper & Dorothy Danielson
Accomplishments	• Many new members - 12 joined in the fall and 7 joined in the spring for a total of 19. • The team began one-on-ones with the new members to match their interests with committees that could benefit from their input. Many new members are now actively involved. • Just the Basics: Karin Brown worked on improvising the packets that are distributed to the visitors who attend “Just the Basics.” New business cards and redesigned RE pamphlets were included as well as information about Unitarian Universalism. • Pat Solick worked with Jaime to update the Directory. • Lorraine reported weekly on how many “Zoom” visitors attended the worship service. • Lorraine and Sue Ashinger planned the New Member ceremony. • Dorothy and JoAnne presented the Pathways program to visitors interested in joining the church. • We are adapting to the desire of some committee members to remain involved without being expected to attend every

	meeting. This approach could serve as a model for other committees. Perhaps create a new designation of “Partners.” This keeps experienced members engaged on their own terms, which may be beneficial both for the individuals and the committee. It also creates a natural path mentoring and succession planning.
Challenges	It has been a challenge to “catch new visitors as they come through the doors. We put up signs to encourage repeat visitors to sign in.
Goals '26-'27	We would like to get more members involved in Connections. Currently we have two people who may be joining us.
Potential Teams '26-'27	JoAnne Draper, Dorothy Danielson, Pat Solick (Directory only), Karin Brown (Just the Basics only), MaryHJo Caffrey, Sue Ashinger. Possibly adding Susan Cummins and Lolly Thomas.

Committee/Team	Fellowship
Chair/CoChairs/Convener	Janet Nichols - Chair; Judy Eller, Julie Kirn - members
Accomplishments	● Switching our use of paper products to compostables and training Hospitality teams in disposing of the compostables ● Summer outdoor picnic ● Assisted with Rev. Juniper's Installation service by helping make the drinks, plate the cookies, fruits, and serving the cake ● Annual Thanksgiving Dinner, set up, prep, and serving the turkey with 55 attendees ● February: Share the Warmth Share the Love soup supper with donations of items to Project Harmony ● Assisted RE with Easter cookie decorating table after the service ● Provided a lemonade stand for May Day fundraiser ● Assisted with the 50th celebration with set up and serving refreshments
Challenges	● Having enough team members to help plan and provide social, fun activities throughout the year ● Coming up with fun and new ideas!
Goals '26-'27	● Providing enjoyable opportunities for church members to connect with each other
Potential Teams '26-'27	

Faith

Committee/Team	Adult Programming (formerly Faith Connections)
Chair/CoChairs/Convener	JoAnne Draper
Accomplishments	Special Events: 1) Made lunches for CIRA on Aug 5, 2025, for 84 kids & 15 adults, total 99 This was a “summer camp” by Monica Meier’s for immigrant kids. They went to the zoo. This was a joint venture between 1st Church & 2nd with 15 volunteers. 2) Feb 4th, 2026, presented “My Omaha” film in conjunction w/ SJ. 42+ people. 3) June 3rd, 2026: Speakers were Thai Pham, ACLU Associate Director from ALCU's Executive Office & Adairah Thapa, Director of ACLU of Nebraska. Total in attendance 51 which includes 3 on zoom. Program lasted 2 1/2 hours with everyone staying. The Q&A was particularly strong. 4) Our Stories: 1st event on June 27, 2026, with 25 people in attendance. First Hour events: Aug 10th: Review of General Assembly by Vicki Pratt & Cheri Cody. 10 people. Oct 12th: Presentation on Chief Standing Bear by author, Larry Dwyer. 12 + 9 on zoom Dec 14th: April Ajoy, author of ""Star-spangled Jesus"" -Anita Jeck, 20 + 5 on zoom Feb 8th: Marcia Liese did a presentation on Food Justice, 11 + 2 on zoom Feb 14th: Linda Robb's shared her Witch philosophy & experiences, 12. April 12th: Care Patrol by Joel High who assists retirees with housing options. 16 in person + 7 on zoom. After Hour:

	July 27th: 7 in person + 2 zoom Aug 31st: 11 in person Oct 26: 13 people Nov 30th: cancelled due to bad weather Jan 25th: 10 people Feb 22nd: 14 March 29th: 6 people May 29th: 8 people June 28th: 9 people Put videos of programs on church website.
Challenges	Need to update tech information as Greg Petrow is taking over from Clyde Anderson. Need new leadership as JoAnne has been doing this for 6 years.
Goals '26-'27	2 "revised" groups are starting so will need support/mentoring. 1) Our Stories (Soul Matters) by Neda 2) Retirees Group by Carol McCabe & Helen Deffenbach
Potential Teams '26-'27	Same as above. Team is good & has enough people.

Committee/Team	Religious Education
Chair/CoChairs/Convener	See DRE report
Accomplishments	See DRE report
Challenges	See DRE report
Goals '26-'27	See DRE report
Potential Teams '26-'27	See DRE report

Committee/Team	Social Justice
Chair/CoChairs/Convener	Cindy Ramsey, Greg Petrow
Accomplishments	LGBTQ+ Collaborated with MAC and marched in the Heartland Pride parade; handed out bracelets that had Second Unitarian written on them, as well as messages like "You are worthy,"

	and "You are loved." • 2U renewed its status as a Welcoming Congregation for LGBTQ+ people for the third year in a row. • Attendance at Open Arms Trans Social Group has fallen off a lot since COVID; we are looking at options to evolve it to meet current needs better. Immigration/Collaboration with Local Organizations • Raised \$650 for the Center for Immigrant and Refugee Advancement's summer camp for refugee children; we had \$550 left over, which we gave to CIRA as giftcards and backpacks. Volunteers from First and Second Unitarian made 100 lunches for the summer camp in 30 minutes. Climate Justice/Community Garden • Pam Miller-Jenkins wrote a report about last year's Climate Justice Revival and put it on the social justice portion of the website, under Care for the Environment. She also put together a poster to track our progress on fulfilling the UUA's Green Sanctuary 2030 initiative. Our congregation has opted to use compostable cups. • Pam also organized making seedballs for Monarch butterflies at our May Day event. 300 seedballs were donated to Milkweed Matters. • Carol McCabe replaced Aaron Burbach as Community Garden coordinator. We got new contracts and voted not to till, which will save us \$150. (Also, not tilling is an example of community resilience to prepare for and respond to climate disruption.) • We're also working with Dorothy Danielson on the "Garden of Connection," creating a pollinator garden. We may apply for a Nebraska Pollinator Certification from UNL. Community organizing/Omaha Together One Community/Politics • Raised \$1,075 for OTOC's Internal Contribution Campaign • Held Issues Conference and post house meetings – approximately 170 attended • Participation/work for OTOC's fundraiser, which got \$27,000 in sponsorships, \$6,606 in ticket sales and \$43,000 at the
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	auction • In advance of the No Kings rally on March 28th, we held a sign-making party (including pizza). We also coordinated carpooling to the event. • Circulated petitions to get Respect Nebraska Voters on the ballot. Most of our church members have signed it. This initiative is a constitutional amendment that would make it harder for politicians to veto laws that voters have passed (Paid Sick Leave, medical marijuana), or institute things we've voted against (school vouchers for private schools). Racial Justice • Coordinated with the Adult Education committee to show the film <i>My Omaha</i> and host a discussion afterwards. (Social Justice contributed \$200 towards the fee.) 40-50 people came; 32 people signed up for pizza. Pizza cost \$135; there was \$220 in free will donations • 2U bought a brick (\$85) for the Omaha Star Park Brick Founders' Circle Misc. Business • Greg Petrow replaced Cheri Cody as co-chair with Cindy Ramsey on the Social Justice committee • Vicki Pratt and Cheri Cody did a First Hour about General Assembly • Second Unitarian Town Hall – SJ co-chairs presented what SJ committee is all about, as well as accomplishments, current activities and upcoming actions/events Share the Plate July/August: Restoring Dignity September/October: Inclusive Communities November/December: Siena Francis House January/February: Nebraska Journalism Trust March/April: Food Bank of the Heartland May/June: Black Votes Matter
Challenges	Again, the biggest challenge is increasing active participation in the Social Justice committee and work, plus OTOC leadership.

Goals '26-'27	1. Collaborate with Adult Programming on Voter Education Session in September 2. Promote UU the Vote and actions aimed at supporting free and fair elections in November 2026. Become a Good Trouble Congregation for 2026. 3. Expand communications to help find individuals who are interested in committee work and leadership 4. Work with OTOC to get record turnout and hold a successful candidate accountability session in September 2026 5. Establish Share the Plate Recipients 6. Stay within budget
Potential Teams '26-'27	Active Members: Cindy Ramsey, Greg Petrow, Vicki Pratt, Cheri Cody, Clyde Anderson, Tera Kirk, Pam Miller-Jenkins, Carol McCabe, JoAnne Draper

Committee/Team	Worship Team
Chair/CoChairs/Convener	Tom Peterson
Accomplishments	• Growing Music Program. • Zoom sound issues largely resolved • Two months values based themes were a good choice but will probably go into a themeless mode next year. • New Worship Associates - Sara Horpedahl, Dave Nesbit, Dallas • Money spent from installation on a new guitar. The guitar needs minor servicing. • Increasing shared input on music selection from church leaders has brought many new and wonderful pieces to the chancel including “Like a Rose” by Bette Midler recommended by Rachna and “Gentle Arms of Eden” by Dave Carter and Tracy Grammer recommended by Welsey. • Discord has been great for worship communications. • Upcoming pulpit swap in August with Unity Church. More pulpit swaps likely. • Increasing tech proficiency with several leaders having been trained. • Integration of new online Sing Out Love hymnal.

Challenges	• Still uncertain on whether pursuing a music director would be the right move for the church at the moment. It would be expensive but could bring a lot of energy into the program if we found the right person. • Two months of the same theme can be hard to design distinct services for after several weeks, hence our moving to a themeless model. • Tweaking Altar Building to flow more naturally with the service. • How to make the worship experience more accessible to all; from zoom participation to whether we choose to stand to sing to the order of service design. • Online videos from worship seem more oriented to archiving rather than “content”. This is fine, but with some polish folks might actually come across our content on youtube and engage with it. This would be new frontier for the worship committee and we would likely benefit from someone with social media savvy. • Juniper is toying with the idea of ending her social media hiatus to bring some elements of worship into short form video content as both a means of sharing the message of 2U while assisting with congregational branding and marketing, but again she would need assistance from someone with social media know-how. • We need to build out a roster of guest preachers, including congregants of 2U who would be interested in helping lead once in a while. • We need new folks on the Aesthetics committee. People with a perspective for design who could enliven the chancel, bring in plants, change the banner, etc.
Goals '26-'27	• Cultivate shared music leadership from within the church community. Bring in more instrumentation. • A homiletics/preaching 101 workshop offered by Juniper to help folks interested in guest preaching. • A guitar/acoustic circle outside of regular choir to nurture new musicians both for the choir and as a means of general spiritual growth for the congregation.
Potential Teams '26-'27	Juniper Meadows, Chris Peters, Lorraine Duggin, Deb Gibson, Pam Curtiss-Smith, David Nesbit

Fiscal

Committee/Team	Endowment												
Chair/CoChairs/Convener	Secretary – Rod Baumann Investment Monitor – Gene Kopecky Convener – John Knappe												
Accomplishments	- Review of Endowment Fund Fair Market Value (FMV) Five Most Recent Calendar Quarters: <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Quarter End Date</u></th><th><u>Fair Market Value of Endowment Fund</u></th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>June 30, 2025</td><td>\$403,541.55</td></tr> <tr> <td>September 30, 2025</td><td>\$434,291.20</td></tr> <tr> <td>December 31, 2025</td><td>\$441,427.20</td></tr> <tr> <td>March 31, 2026</td><td>\$419,763.60</td></tr> <tr> <td>June 30, 2026</td><td>\$487,849.34</td></tr> </tbody> </table> - Endowment Fund Distributions for 2025-2026 Fiscal Year -\$2,300 withdrawal used for Reverend Juniper's installation service -\$3,000 withdrawal used for endowment expenses Only \$527.10 of the \$3,000 amount was spent by EFC. The \$527.10 amount was used for a Full Circle dinner during November of 2025. The remaining amount will be held in an account and used by EFC as needed going forward, with approval of the Board. - Transfer of Endowment Fund Assets: EFC received approval from the Board to move assets from UUCEF (Unitarian Universalist Common Endowment Fund) to the Vanguard family of funds. UUCEF was notified of EFC's decision to withdraw all UUCEF assets and close the UUCEF account. The account closed on June 30, 2025. During the	<u>Quarter End Date</u>	<u>Fair Market Value of Endowment Fund</u>	June 30, 2025	\$403,541.55	September 30, 2025	\$434,291.20	December 31, 2025	\$441,427.20	March 31, 2026	\$419,763.60	June 30, 2026	\$487,849.34
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Committee/Team	Endowment																																																								
	early part of the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the UUCEF assets were transferred to the Vanguard Total International Stock Index Fund (VTIAX). Gratefully Accepted Gifts to the Endowment Fund During the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year from the Following: <table><tr><th>Contributor</th><th>Amount</th><th>When Given</th><th>Notes</th></tr><tr><td>Heidi Garvin</td><td>\$30.00</td><td>2025 Jul-Sep</td><td>General donation</td></tr><tr><td>Heidi Garvin</td><td>\$70.00</td><td>2025-2026</td><td>General donation</td></tr><tr><td>Shirley Rundquist</td><td>\$500.00</td><td>2025 Dec ?</td><td>General donation</td></tr><tr><td>Vicki Pratt</td><td>\$50.00</td><td>2025 Dec ?</td><td>Larry Kurtz memorial</td></tr><tr><td>Joanne & Darrel Draper</td><td>\$75.00</td><td>2026 Jan-Feb</td><td>Becky Siepker memorial</td></tr><tr><td>Clyde Anderson</td><td>\$200.00</td><td>2026 Jan-Feb</td><td>Becky Siepker memorial</td></tr><tr><td>Sue Aschinger</td><td>\$50.00</td><td>2026 Jan-Feb</td><td>Becky Siepker memorial</td></tr><tr><td>Rick & Kathy Bell</td><td>\$50.00</td><td>2026 Jan-Feb</td><td>Becky Siepker memorial</td></tr><tr><td>Cheri Cody</td><td>\$40.00</td><td>2026 Jan-Feb</td><td>Becky Siepker memorial</td></tr><tr><td>Lorraine Duggin</td><td>\$25.00</td><td>2026 Jan-Feb</td><td>Becky Siepker memorial</td></tr><tr><td>Joel & Kathie Haskins</td><td>\$50.00</td><td>2026 Jan-Feb</td><td>Becky Siepker memorial</td></tr><tr><td>Janet Nichols</td><td>\$75.00</td><td>2026 Jan-Feb</td><td>Becky Siepker memorial</td></tr><tr><td>Vicki Pratt</td><td>\$100.00</td><td>2026 Jan-Feb</td><td>Becky Siepker memorial</td></tr></table>	Contributor	Amount	When Given	Notes	Heidi Garvin	\$30.00	2025 Jul-Sep	General donation	Heidi Garvin	\$70.00	2025-2026	General donation	Shirley Rundquist	\$500.00	2025 Dec ?	General donation	Vicki Pratt	\$50.00	2025 Dec ?	Larry Kurtz memorial	Joanne & Darrel Draper	\$75.00	2026 Jan-Feb	Becky Siepker memorial	Clyde Anderson	\$200.00	2026 Jan-Feb	Becky Siepker memorial	Sue Aschinger	\$50.00	2026 Jan-Feb	Becky Siepker memorial	Rick & Kathy Bell	\$50.00	2026 Jan-Feb	Becky Siepker memorial	Cheri Cody	\$40.00	2026 Jan-Feb	Becky Siepker memorial	Lorraine Duggin	\$25.00	2026 Jan-Feb	Becky Siepker memorial	Joel & Kathie Haskins	\$50.00	2026 Jan-Feb	Becky Siepker memorial	Janet Nichols	\$75.00	2026 Jan-Feb	Becky Siepker memorial	Vicki Pratt	\$100.00	2026 Jan-Feb	Becky Siepker memorial
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Committee/Team	Endowment			
	David & Carol Johnson	\$100.00	2026 Jan-Feb	Becky Siepker memorial
	Judy Eller	\$50.00	2026 Jan-Feb	Becky Siepker memorial
	Pam Miller-Jenkins & Family	\$10.00	2026 Jan-Feb	Becky Siepker memorial
	Dorothy Danielson	\$50.00	2026 Jan-Feb	Becky Siepker memorial
	Mary Thorton	\$50.00	2026 Jan-Feb	Becky Siepker memorial
	Susan Hawkins	\$25.00	2026 Jan-Feb	Becky Siepker memorial
	Janet Miller	\$25.00	2026 Jan-Feb	Becky Siepker memorial
	Fred Schneider	\$100.00	2026 Jan-Feb	Becky Siepker memorial
	JoAnne & Darrel Draper	\$100.00	2026 Jun	Mark Siepker memorial
	Clyde Anderson	\$200.00	2026 May	Mark Siepker memorial
	Jill Archer & Gary Scarborough	\$100.00	2026 Jun	Mark Siepker memorial
	Sue Aschinger	\$100.00	2026 Jun	Mark Siepker memorial
	Rick & Kathy Bell	\$50.00	2026 Jun	Mark Siepker memorial
	Cheri Cody	\$100.00	2026 Jun	Mark Siepker memorial
	Lorraine Duggin	\$30.00	2026 Jun	Mark Siepker memorial
	Joel & Kathie Haskins	\$75.00	2026 May	Mark Siepker memorial

Committee/Team	Endowment			
	Tammy Hunter	\$100.00	2026 May	Mark Siepker memorial
	Janet Nichols	\$100.00	2026 Jun	Mark Siepker memorial
	Tom & Stephanie Peterson	\$100.00	2026 Jun	Mark Siepker memorial
	Vicki Pratt	\$100.00	2026 May	Mark Siepker memorial
	Anita Meyer & Gary Toth	\$50.00	2026 Jun	Mark Siepker memorial
	David & Carol Johnson	\$200.00	2026 Jun	Mark Siepker memorial
	Judy Eller	\$50.00	2026 Jun	Mark Siepker memorial
	Dorothy Danielson	\$50.00	2026 Jun	Mark Siepker memorial
	Karen & Alana Hux	\$100.00	2026 Jun	Mark Siepker memorial
	Tom Lister	\$100.00	2026 May	Mark Siepker memorial
	Irene Herz	\$36.00	2026 May	Mark Siepker memorial
	TOTAL	\$3,446.00		
Challenges				
Goals '26-'27	Bring a more heightened awareness to the congregation for planned giving to the endowment fund and Full Circle membership.			
Potential Teams '26-'27				

Committee/Team	Finance Coordinating Council (FCC)
Chair/CoChairs/Convener	Carolyn Miller – Chair, Convener Cheri Cody – Treasurer Vicki Pratt – Board Liaison Gene Kopecky – EFC Liaison

Committee/Team	Finance Coordinating Council (FCC)
	Anita Jeck – Stewardship Kim Smith-Ferguson, Bud Kostic – Members at Large
Accomplishments	● Reviewed financials monthly as prepared by Treasurer ● Completed 2026-27 budget – balanced thanks to successful stewardship campaign ● Finished the year with over \$22,000 in surplus cash flow with pledge collections at 99% of the budgeted amount ● Found new offering counter volunteers ● Welcomed new FCC members Kim Smith-Ferguson and Bud Kostic ● Rev. Juniper moving to spouse Vincent’s health insurance helped decrease budget expense needs ● Moved unallocated memorial funds to sabbatical fund for Rev. Juniper’s future sabbatical ● Filled vacancies for weekly offering counters
Challenges	● Biggest challenge both emotionally and practically was the loss of our Chair, Mark Siepker ● Getting Carolyn up to speed is going well thanks to the patient and knowledgeable FCC team ● Quartiles: most large donations are made by a very small pool of relatively old members. This puts our congregation at risk related to pledge income
Goals '26-'27	● Recruit additional members to help build a pipeline of knowledge ● Increase rental fees to help boost income ● Update gift policy
FCC '25-'26	Carolyn Miller – Chair, Convener Cheri Cody – Treasurer Vicki Pratt – Board Liaison Gene Kopecky – EFC Liaison Anita Jeck – Stewardship Kim Smith-Ferguson, Bud Kostic – Members at Large

Committee/Team	Stewardship
Chair/CoChairs/Convener	Anita Jeck, David Nesbit
Accomplishments	• The '26-'27 pledge drive theme was 'Celebrate,' in honor of 2U's 50th anniversary as well as to celebrate our gifts & strengths as a religious community. As recommended by the UU stewardship handbook, <i>Beyond Fundraising</i>, at the beginning of the church year, we held an "appreciative inquiry" discussion with committee leaders to discern 2U's special gifts and strengths. Their responses were categorized into five areas: Loving Community, Meaningful Worship, Spirit of Joy, Good Trouble, Faithful Caretaking. Monthly stewardship moments during Sunday worship Sept-Mar, focused on these five areas. • The pledge drive goal of \$230,000 was surpassed by \$12,000 during the annual pledge drive held in March. With this successful drive, 2U begins the new fiscal year with a balanced budget for the first time in several years. • 16 pledging households decreased their pledge from last year (including 3 that dropped their pledge and membership); 28 pledges were unchanged from last year; 61 households increased their pledge amount; 6 households had not previously pledged. • Instead of one large kick-off event, we recruited teams to plan and host several smaller events at a variety of days and times, each with a different theme. Themes included Icebreaker Brunch, Affordable Wine-tasting, Pizza & Game Night, Madhatter Tea Party, Name That Tune, Zoom Party. A committee member was assigned to each team to help with coordination and to present the pledge information at the events. The hosts were responsible for the food and the activities. Newer members were paired with longer-term members on these teams. This seemed to work well and there was positive feedback from participants regarding the smaller events with varied options of days and times.
Challenges	Holding several different events required some special planning and coordination with others.
Goals '26-'27	• As recommended by the authors of <i>Beyond Fundraising</i>, the

Committee/Team	Stewardship
	focus for the next couple of years will be on building upon our strengths as a church community. Time & Talent Drive: This was discussed in the stewardship committee this past year with the intention of initiating it this September. The purpose of the Time & Talent drive is to help nurture a culture of stewardship beyond the financial; and to encourage congregants to consider various ways that they can contribute to the health and wellbeing of Second Unitarian and support the church mission.
Potential Teams '26-'27	- Because the pledge event hosting teams worked out well this past year, we will be considering doing something similar this year. - Committee members for '26-'27 include: Anita Jeck, Chair; Sooz & Bud Kostic, Co-Vice Chairs; David Nesbit; Karin Brown; Anita Meyer; Dorothy Danielson; Sue Aschinger (for special tasks)

Physical

Committee/Team	Building & Grounds
Chair/CoChairs/Convener	Tom Peterson as of 7/1/2026, Clyde Anderson 2020-June 2026
Accomplishments	1. To eliminate further erosion on the southeast side of the building, installed a stormwater drain line to carry the water to an emitter in the grass near the Peace Cairn. 2. Managed tree issues in the church yard. The severe wind storm 8/9/25 took down the linden tree by Westwood and broke several limbs in the box elder tree, some landing on the power line to the church. OPPD had to drop the power line so our volunteers could prune the broken branches. Also had to remove a large dead limb in the remaining linden tree and prune other trees in the church yard. 3. At the request of the Board, installed signs in English, Spanish and Braille next to 7 doors indicating the rooms beyond. 4. Purchased a painting cart and restriped the parking lot. 5. Cleaned and repainted the RE closet under the front porch. 6. Hired a mudjacking contractor to raise the sidewalk on the west and north sides of the Bathroom Addition that had been sinking due to poor soil compaction by the contractor. This was necessary to deflect stormwater away from the building. However, the mudjacking resulted in a broken sewer pipe in May that had to be repaired at a cost of \$4,093. 7. Installed remote-control light switches for the Kitchen and upgraded the second Kitchen ceiling light to LED. 8. Managed the lawn mowing and snow removal work performed by contractors. 9. Managed the Fall and Spring Church Cleanup/Work Day

	events. 10. As a part of the 2U 50-year History Project, prepared a B&G history for the period 2010-2025. 11. Assisting the Basement Revisioning Team with plans for upgrading the Basement area of the building.
Challenges	#6 above was the most significant challenge, both in time and cost.
Goals '26-'27	1. Assisting the Basement Revisioning Team with plans for upgrading the Basement area of the building 2. Maintaining the building and grounds to continue to support and enhance the mission and vision of Second Unitarian Church of Omaha
Potential Teams '26-'27	Chris Alberts (Board Liaison), Clyde Anderson (Convenor), Rick Bell, Helen and Ken Deffenbacher, Lisa and Keith Glenn, David Johnson, Carla/bill Kuhn (Technology Liaison), Cy Leise, Michael Lynne, Carol McCabe, Roger Nicolaisen, Tom Peterson, Pete Sharp, Charlie Sussman

Committee/Team	Library
Chair/CoChairs/Convener	Melissa Konecky
Accomplishments	Our accomplishments include helping with the annual book sale last year; adding new books including Love at the Center which includes Rev. Juniper's writings, and Pillars and Dreams: A History of the First Unitarian Church of Omaha; including a page about the Macyl Boruff Library in the church's 50th anniversary book; and maintaining our excellent library including detailed instructions for checkout on the center shelf.
Challenges	Limited shelf space
Goals '26-'27	To assist in raising money during the annual book sale in September.
Potential Teams '26-'27	Potential committees we could team with would be Buildings and Grounds b/c of our shelves and Adult Programming since we support other committees in their work.

Committee/Team	Technology
Chair/CoChairs/Convener	Carla/bill Kuhn
Accomplishments	Repaired audio amplifier for foyer and coffee area, added a audio mixer and new microphones for dulcet singers, added two laptops received by donation, added a new portable speaker system to for outdoor events
Challenges	Additional members with personal computer audio audiovisual skills
Goals '26-'27	Planning an upgrade and reconfiguration of sanctuary sound system
Potential Teams '26-'27	

Facilitative

Committee/Team	Marketing & Communication
Chair/CoChairs/Convener	Carol Johnson and Jaime Short
Accomplishments	- Continued to Maintain and Update the Website as requested by various committees - Conducted the KIOS bundling campaign for free sponsorship for the church - Promoted MayFest Event - Promoted Events as requested by other committees (example: ACLU event) - Collaborated with Social Justice to organize Pride events in July, including giveaways - The overriding accomplishment for the year has been publishing the 50th Anniversary history “50 Years: A Beacon of Hope” - Solicited authors for chapters - Solicited contributors of stories, poetry and art works from current and past members - Edited for errors, omissions and clarity

	○ Edited for grammar, punctuation, sentence structure and spelling ○ Took photos of artwork for the book ○ Sequenced submissions of historical information, artwork and reflections ○ Developed Table of Contents and Appendix ○ Provided the layout for printing
Challenges	● Committees allowing time to plan/conduct promotions of events ● Distinguishing Second Unitarian from First Unitarian with the Pride event organizers ● Information for parade formation, schedule, etc coming very late from Pride organizers
Goals '26-'27	● Promote 2U's annual Book Sale to the neighborhood and beyond as requested by the Library Committee ● Consider Photo policy for updating as requested by the Board ● Conduct KIOS Campaign ● Promote MayFest ● Participate in Pride Festival/ collaborate with Social Justice ● Provide materials to promote Second Unitarian Church
Potential Teams '26-'27	We are a small committee working as a team

Committee/Team	Nominations & Leadership Development
Chair/CoChairs/Convener	Kathy Huggins
Accomplishments	Presented a slate of candidates at the congregational Annual Meeting
Challenges	Recruiting members for the Stewardship leadership position was the biggest challenge this year
Goals '26-'27	To recruit a slate of candidates, as described in the bylaws, with a particular focus on getting newer and younger members more involved in leadership
Potential Teams '26-'27	Elected team: Dorothy Danielson, Wesley Morrison-Sloat, Karin Brown

Committee/Team	Personnel
Chair/CoChairs/Convener	Co-chairs - Sue Aschinger (Convener) and Carolyn Miller
Accomplishments	- August 2025 - Initiated a Personnel Committee after a few years lapse. Set up Google folder and files. Holding regular monthly meetings. Developed a charter for our responsibilities. - Review monthly staff reports - Provided input on staff time sheet completion - Providing input on how best to support payroll. Church uses PayChex but need to be knowledgeable about tax changes, benefit deductions, employee questions, etc. - Provided input into OA work-study outcome and ways to relieve work load - Provided ideas on DRE workload and visibility - Updating the 2U Personnel Manual - Supported Juniper on planning, template, goal/outcome setting, and merit/COL increases for annual performance reviews. Helped organize staff recognition. - Support Juniper at her staff meetings if needed. - Received Board input for possible year end staff bonuses and how they could be rewarded - Began gathering information to prepare a Music Director job description for potential 2027 hire (budget)
Challenges	- Need succession plan to back up Cheri Cody for church payroll expertise. - Possible Music Director hire - Staffing needs to support our minister and committees as our church grows numerically and with increased involvement in various initiatives - Staff wage goals - COL, merits, and/or bonuses. UUA guidelines
Goals '26-'27	- Complete the Personnel Manual update - Succession plan for payroll expertise - Prepared if 27/28 budget will support a Music Director
Potential Teams '26-'27	Sue Aschinger, Carolyn Miller, Cheri Cody

Oversight

Committee/Team	Committee on Ministry
Chair/CoChairs/Convener	Pete Miller, chair; Stephanie Peterson, vice chair/CLC; Julie Kirn, member at large
Accomplishments	2025-2026 was focused on assisting Rev. Juniper with her MFC evaluations. Because Rev. Juniper entered into full fellowship, the CoM met irregularly. The CoM vice chair continued co-facilitating the quarterly CLC meetings.
Challenges	To identify ways that CoM can be of service to Rev. Juniper and the church.
Goals '26-'27	To support Rev. Juniper and the church when needed.
Potential Teams '26-'27	Pete Miller, chair; Julie Kirn, vice-chair/CLC; Steve Abramson, member at large

Mission, Vision & Covenants

Meaning & Purpose

The meaning and purpose of our church is to nurture each other toward our better selves, in order to transform our community and the world to be more just and kind, and toward becoming better stewards of the earth.

We are the village that has the potential and the power to transform ourselves, the community, and the world.

Vision

The church we envision is one where:

- We see ourselves as striving to live with integrity and working together to bring about needed change in our community and world through acts of love and justice.
- We find ourselves in ministry to each other and our community through vibrant worship, religious learning, and opportunities for personal and spiritual growth.
- We feel nurtured and challenged in the diverse tapestry of Beloved Community, where everyone can be their authentic selves and know they belong.

Mission

Through our mission to be authentic, compassionate, and transformative in our lives, in our faith, and in the world.

View our [Meaning and Purpose Document](#) to learn how we plan to make our mission more than simply aspirational. Learn of the concrete actions we are taking on connection, ministry, religious education, reflecting our values, and organizational structure. And, the questions we continually ask to ensure we are still on the path to who we strive to be as a viable vibrant religious community, living in covenant and trust with each other.

Congregational Covenant of Right Relations

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.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

- 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.

– Adopted May 23, 2010

Board of Trustees Covenant

We, the members of the Board of Trustees of 2U, agree to enter into this covenant promising one another our mutual trust and support to carry out our responsibilities. We are beholden to our church's mission of love and justice. Advancing that mission will be at the forefront of our work, grounding our planning and decision making. We will take guidance from our Covenant of Right Relations, our church mission, the Values of our Unitarian Universalist faith, and this covenant.

The work of the Board of Trustees is part of the spiritual aspect of each of our lives, nurturing and feeding us. We will encourage ourselves and each other to further our personal sense of meaning and purpose, as well as our spiritual development. It's up to each of us to make this a profound process, endeavoring to bring joy and reverential humor to our activities, acknowledging each of us brings unique gifts and insights. We hope that this fosters friendship, community, and fellowship.

We acknowledge that wisdom takes time, and is a process of thinking deeply, as no one person has all the answers. By practicing deep listening we will:

- Reflect before responding to opinions, ideas, thoughts and questions from other board members,
- Support constructive communication of differing opinions without judgment,
- Honor dissenting views,
- Seek outside sources for direction when needed,
- Respect BoT decisions, and
- Speak with one voice to the congregation.

Healthy churches are led by healthy leaders.

Staff Covenant

The staff of the Second Unitarian Church covenant to foster a beloved community as we support the congregation in achieving its mission. To live this covenant, we honor the following practices:

- We work to establish and nurture a culture of mutual trust and respect. We lean into accountability to one another and the mission of Second Unitarian Church.

- We will remain mindful of the dynamics of power within staff/supervisor relationships and actively work to mitigate the worst aspects of institutional hegemony in our team. Supervisory staff will advocate for those under their purview.
- We will make each other aware of our presence when arriving/leaving during the week.
- We commit to being open to direct and honest conversations, even in times of difficulty or conflict.
- We give honest feedback, both praise and constructive criticism, so we may all best serve Second Unitarian's mission and the congregation.
- We practice transparency, trusting each other by sharing information about our program areas.
- We respect our personal identities and full life outside of our work environment.
- Timely response and accountability to regular work tasks (expenditures, reports, requests, etc)
- Compassionate communication to members regarding boundaries, items out of our scope of practice (referring on) and timelines. We will call in our supervisor when we feel the need.
- We respect and appreciate our individual temperaments, work styles and means of communications and strive to accommodate each other according to our availability.

We take responsibility for reviewing and revising this covenant as needed, reminding ourselves of our intentions at the beginning of every staff meeting.

Membership & Life Changes

New Members

These individuals have made the decision to join our congregation. May the gifts of time, talent and treasure from these individuals help us live a fuller community life and feed their spiritual journey:

- Susan Cummins
- Dennis Cutler
- Bobbie Escolas
- Dana Evans
- Alicia Haulbrook
- Shannon Haulbrook
- Greg Petrow
- Mage Rowan
- Napalm Rowan
- Charlie Sussman
- Kim Smith-Ferguson
- Avya Swift
- Kaylar Fullington
- Dave Hamm
- Dave Hinegardner
- Bud Kostic

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

- Suzanne Kostic
- Allie McGinn
- Margo Miller

AFFILIATES: (pledged but have not signed the book) 4
Heidi Garvin, Sonya Greco, Roger & Julie Nicolaisen.

Reinstated Members

Life's journeys have taken each of us to new lands and experiences. May your return to our community come with a richness of experience to enlighten us on our shared path.

Departing Members

Those who came before helped support who we are today. We are thankful for the gifts of time, talent and treasure from these individuals who are no longer here with us in our building:

- Keellia Guevara
- Maja HJ

Marriages & Commitment Ceremonies

Committing to become a new whole is a journey not taken lightly. These individuals have made that commitment to each other.

Deaths

We drink from a well we did not dig. While these individuals may no longer be a part of our physical world, they live on in our memories. We are thankful for their presence in our community.

- Larry Kurtz
- Mark Siepker
- Becky Siepker

Dedications

When children are brought into our community, it provides a joyous light and playfulness that reminds us of those parts of our childlike selves that may need nurturing. We dedicate our community to being there for these children and their families as we all grow together.

Graduating Seniors

Life is full of transitions and finishing with high school is a major one. It has legal distinctions and it often comes with added responsibilities. We lift up your accomplishment and wish you a future filled with wonder, curiosity and joy.

Endowment Fund Donations and Full Circle Membership

Individuals who contributed to our Endowment Fund this past fiscal year include:

- Vicki Pratt
- Shirley Rundquist
- Mark Siepker
- Joel & Kathie Haskins
- Heidi Garvin
- JoAnne & Darrel Draper
- Clyde Anderson
- Sue Aschinger
- Rick & Kathy Bell
- Cheri Cody
- Lorraine Duggin
- Janet Nichols
- David & Carol Johnson
- Judy Eller
- Pam Miller-Jenkins & Family
- Dorothy Danielson
- Mary Thorton
- Susan Hawkins
- Janet Miller
- Fred Schneider
- Jill Archer & Gary Scarborough
- Tammy Hunter
- Tom & Stephanie Peterson
- Anita Meyer & Gary Toth
- Karen & Alana Hux
- Tom Lister
- Irene Herz

In addition to periodic donations, a commitment can be made to the future of Second Unitarian through a planned gift to the Second Unitarian Endowment Fund. The commitment can be made by listing Second Unitarian as a beneficiary in legacy (such as will, trust, life insurance policy, or estate plan). Individuals who communicate their planned giving intentions to the church become Full Circle Members.

Other Church Groups

Dulcet Singers

The Dulcet Singers meet weekly on Thursday evenings from 6:00 p.m. until about 7:00 p.m. in order to prepare music for the following Sunday service. We are a welcoming group of musicians with varying levels of experience, talent, and interests. We are holding a retreat for fellowship and planning this summer, and we are always happy to add new members, so please reach out if you are interested in music!

Writing for Spiritual Growth

Writing for Spiritual Growth (WSG) is a safe place for 2U members and friends to get creative and have some fun while digging into life's big questions. Before the group meets (the second Saturday morning of each month via Zoom), group facilitator Pete Miller emails a suggested topic and sends a few questions designed to inspire a poem, story, or personal essay. People can share what they wrote or not (no pressure!) and while there's never any critique of people's writing (this is not a creative writing workshop), there is a lot of freewheeling discussion about the topic at hand and whatever other subjects arise from the conversation, ranging from the profound to the absurd. We average about five participants each week and always welcome new members. If you are interested, please email Pete Miller at whirledtour@yahoo.com.