

November 2020 Executive Report
Rev. Amy Petrie Shaw

Our Mission: Grow ethically and spiritually (G), serve justly (S), and love radically (L)

Our Ends Statements 2016 – 2021

We:

- 1. Grow spiritually, emotionally, socially, and ethically.**
- 2. Explore and experience what it means to be human.**
- 3. Cultivate compassion toward ourselves and others.**
- 4. Foster personal connections to life, nature and/or the divine.**
- 5. Seek, embrace, and share experiences of wonder.**
- 6. Develop our Unitarian Universalist identities.**

Lifespan Learning (Devon McClurken)

- CUUPS held a weekly chat on Monday nights and started a new 4-week course called Paganism 101 in November. (GSL) 1,4,6
- The Sangha continues to meet, with between 13 and 19 people attending. (GSL) 1,2,3,4,5,6
- Children's Chapel continues Sundays from 9:15AM to 9:45AM. We have an object lesson and story done by Rev. Amy and songs performed by Nancy Bratt. There is a mediation and activity and then a take home. (GSL) 1,2,3,4,5,6
- The Wednesday night classes continue. They are Sing and Play the UU Way, ChUUrch Craft and Talking Flight. (GSL) 1,2,3,4,5,6
- YRUU is doing social nights once a month and the Youth Council meets once a month. (GSL) 1,2,3,4,5,6
- There was a game night in November and new youth joined and a few 8th graders did as well. (GSL) 1,2,3,4,5,6
- There will be a gingerbread competition held in December. (G) 1
- Rev. Amy has the Koran study group on Friday nights with 13 people attending. (G) 1
- Humanism and Sage continue meeting online. (G) 1
- Soul Matters groups are meeting, and one Wellspring Group is meeting. (GSL) 1,2,3,4,5,6
- Two small social online Chalice Groups continued from the summer, to give people a chance to connect during this time of COVID. (G) 1
- Widening the Circle, the group to discuss the report on Institutional Change continues with an average of 25 people attending, and will end by January 1, 2021 (G) 1
- The RE Council meet and programming seems to be going over well with the youth that are participating and though it is not all the families that are members, the council is still encouraged by the amount and the variety of programming available. (GSL) 1,2,3,4,5,6
- ChUUrch Craft is scheduled to conclude after Spring Break but Chelsea Hayes has ideas for a class called Art Craft, which would be doing physical art projects that then the youth could replicate in Minecraft. (GSL) 1,2,3,4,5,6

Membership and Community (Lyra Halsten)

- Members of the Pastoral Care team continued to hold sessions of the informal grief circle group led by Sally Boeckholt by Zoom. (GLS) 1,2,3,4
- The Membership Committee met on November 14. We looked at the new Digital Pathways to Membership and are selecting podcasts and videos for potential members to listen to and watch. Our next meeting will be December 12, 2020 (S) 6
- Caring Ministry provided meals for 3 individuals/families. (SL) 1,2,3
- Caring Ministry sent cards to 5 people (SL) 1,2,3
- Pastoral Care Team spoke with approximately 15 people (GSL) 1, 2, 3

Facility/Grounds (Diane Ford/Doug Aupperle)

- Grounds look good and did not need a contract leaf clean-up (S) 4,6
- The roof does need to be swept and the gutters cleaned out, and Doug Aupperle was asked to clean the drains (S) 4,6
- Blocks from the retaining wall were “migrating” toward the parking lot in possible theft attempt. Doug A. returned the blocks to their original location and signs were put up warning people the area was under video surveillance. (S) 1,4,6

Social Justice/Outreach

(Morgan Dredge- Asylum Seekers)

- Immigration Justice meet via Zoom in November. (SL) 1,2,3,4,6
- Letters were mailed out to 270 members of the church asking for donations for ISM. (SL) 1,2,3,6
- Money is starting to come in from those efforts. (SL) 1,2,3,6

(Katie Allen- Social Justice Ministry Leadership Team (SJMLT))

- Social Justice Ministry Leadership Team (SJMLT) met in November (GS) 1,2,3,6
- The group continues to attend the Widening the Circle Book study Group (Commission on Institutional Change Final Report) GS) 1,2,3,6
- SJMLT Wellspring Faithful Action Class offered to 6 participates with 2 facilitators (GLS) GS) 1,2,3,6
- The SJMLT is planning to create a 4 minute video to celebrate the SJ activities engaged in during 2020, even in the midst of the Pandemic and to invite others to engage in this work including POTUS. To be shown during the MLK service in January and broadcasted wide thereafter. We will invite other congregations to do this as well. GS) 1,2,3,6
- ARC- no activity

(Bruce Martin- FEDS)

- FEDS provided dinner at the homeless shelter. 5 volunteers prepared food, approx. 208 meals provided. No contact; meals dropped off. (GSL) 1,2,3,6

(Judy Haver- Faith in Action)

- The Faith in Action team did not meet in November. Our next scheduled meeting is 1/11/21 & 7:30pm via Zoom.
- Adele Villemez continues to work with the UU member champions to provide new content about the Community Partner organizations' activities in our weekly Intercom. (S) 1
- Each Community Partner did a spotlight during Sunday Services; one on November 11th and one on the 15th. (GS) 1
- Each Community Partner received a check for \$571 from October member donations. (SL) 3
- FIA is preparing a short (3-4 questions) Google forms survey for the membership to give input on Faith in Action activities during the month of January. (S) 2,3

(Barb Klubal- Write Here, Write Now)

- There was no Write Here, Write Now in November.
- Beginning in December, please contact Donna Wallace or Bill Brauch for information about Write Here, Write Now!

(Ron Heideman- We Are Church Confessing and Pachamama Alliance)

- On hold due to Coronavirus

(Gianfranco Berardi, Doug Aupperle- Transgender Action Group)

- TAG did not meet in November

(Birch Spick- Welcoming Congregation)

- Welcoming Congregation did not meet in November

(Elaine Imlau- Family Promise and FFFF/PPP 2020)

- FFFF had no activity this month
- Families will be housed at Westminster through 2020
- 27 volunteers provided meals and overnight hosts for our 17th hosting week November 8-14, beginning our fifth year participating in the program (GSL) 1,2,3,4

Barb Royal, Deidre Fudge, Liz Bredesen, Cheryl Long- Communication Group

- Continued to work on gathering information for our new website and adding it into an online form provided by our developer. (GSL) 1,2,4,5
- Worked closely with staff and solicited input from various groups and committees. (GSL) 1,2,4,5
- We expect to finalize what we have by mid-December and turn it over to the developer to start building our site. We are excited, to say the least! (GSL) 1,2,4,5
- Once it gets back to us, we will be showing it to staff and committees to get initial feedback before it goes live. (GSL) 1,2,4,5

- We are looking for a volunteer to manage a new Instagram account for the church - hoping to start in January. Rev. Amy has it set up, but we need someone to handle regular posts; some which the Communication Group will feed them, and some they come up with on their own. (GSL) 1,2,4,5

Updates

Service Attendance (# of households/screens, NOT number of people):

11/1/2020 Honoring the Ones Who Came Before (Amy)	100
Service 2.0 (30 minute micro-services) 2pm Facebook	297 views
11/8/2020 The Other Shoe (Amy)	99
Service 2.0 (30 minute micro-services) 2pm Facebook	225 views
11/15/2020 Where Shall We Have Lunch Today (Amy)	101
Service 2.0 (30 minute micro-services) 2pm Facebook	291 views
11/22/2020 We Give Thanks	110
Service 2.0 (30 minute micro-services) 2pm Facebook	186 views

UCDSM’s newest commercial on Facebook was released on November 18th, 2020 and can be viewed in the UCDSM private group, or here:

<https://www.facebook.com/AmyPetrieShaw/videos/10224810236302833>

Membership Numbers Summary:

Month	# of New Members	Deceased	Moved	Withdrew Membership
November				6
October				
September				1
August				
July	5			2
June				

Operations

- The refinance of the church’s mortgage was signed on December 11. The new terms will save the church \$200 per month.
- A gas leak was detected recently. MidAmerican Energy was called to investigate and found that 3 of the pilot lights on the stove had gone out. When they could not be relit immediately, the decision was made to turn off the gas to the stove until such time as we are ready to reopen the building. The pilot lights will need to be cleaned before they are relit.