November 2019 Executive Report
Rev. Amy Petrie Shaw

Lifespan Learning (Devon McClurken)
- Children and adult programming has been ongoing. Sage Bookgroup held a Lecture series. And Rev Amy started a Building your Own Theology class.

- We had a Thanksgiving break resulting in a week off from Wednesday classes.

- There has been a concerted effort to involve parents and other congregational members in faith formation, after the sign ups proved to be difficult, a schedule was made of parent’s that are on site to rotate through the classes. This goes until the end of programming.

- YRUU is planning their CON which will take place in December 6-8. Youth from congregations in Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, Michigan and Indiana have been have signed up to attend totaling 21 youth.

- Sign ups have started for youth participation in a traditional nativity pageant for the first Christmas Eve service. There is to be a Holiday Party in December put on by church members.

Pastoral Care
- Members of the Pastoral Care team have launched an 8 week formal grief group, created and led by Debra Rodgers, and an informal grief circle group led by Sally Boeckholt

Membership and Community (Lyra Halsten)
- The first New Member Welcome of the year was held on Nov. 4th, with a total of 12 new members joining

Social Justice/Outreach (Morgan Dredge- Asylum Seekers) Our immigration justice group continues to work with Dottie Matthews on potential sponsorship opportunities. Housing is in place and our lease began on Dec 1.

Our group is running with the giving tree. It will support 5 families and also supplies for Lutheran Services.

Members of the group are helping to support the Christmas Eve service - paint and create night, potential circles, etc.
The leftover funds for the Asylum shower will be donated to Drake Legal Clinic’s Refugee Legal Services Program to provide pro-bono legal services for people seeking refugee or asylum status as well as training law students.

(Gene McCracken and Katie Allen- Faith in Action) On Nov 3rd, 8 volunteers signed personalized letters to potential funders of Iowa Interfaith Power and Light, our Sept/Oct FinA partner. Half of the volunteers were from the youth group :-). We were joined by the film crew from the Netherlands.

On Nov 13th, about 10 members assisted at Al Exito’s Mary Campos Scholarship luncheon (and birthday celebration - Mary’s 90th! This is the third year 1st Unitarian has supported this event. In addition, 6-8 UUs attended the luncheon. Al Exito is one of our FIA partners with whom we are working to develop an ongoing long-term relationship.

The Iowa Sanctuary Movement finance team is fundraising to support asylum seekers.

(Barb Glass- Pastoral Care) We had a total of 13 contacts during the month of November, excluding Amy’s contacts. Amy had an additional 5 contacts.

(Barb Klubal- Write Here, Write Now) In November our members once again participated in the UUSJ’s "Write Here, Write Now!" letter-writing campaign. We wrote 37 letters to Senators Grassley and Ernst on the topic of the need for funding election security. This was a tie for the most letters written in since we began keeping track in October 2017.

(Bruce Martin- FEDS) FEDS provided an evening meal for the homeless at the Shelter of Central Iowa on Nov. 25. Two preparers, two shoppers & seven servers from the church. Approx. 200 meals served.

(Ron Heideman- We Are Church Confessing) First Unitarian has agreed to provide the service on Jan. 5, 2020 at the Polk County Jail

(Aidan Zingler, Doug Aupperle- Transgender Action Group) TAG First Unitarian partnered with:

- Transgender Alliance of Iowa
- Des Moines University
- Transformations Iowa
- Trinity Las Américas United Methodist Church
- Downtown Disciples: Progressive Faith Community
- Iowa Queer Communities of Color Coalition
- Des Moines University Multicultural Affairs

...to create a Transgender Day of Remembrance service on November 20, 2019 at Des Moines University. The service centered black and brown voices for the first time.

(Elaine Imlau- Family Promise) Family Promise is scheduled to return to First Unitarian on Sunday, December 15th, 2019.
**Updates**

**Membership Numbers Summary:**
- Number of new members in November- 12
- Deceased - 1
- Moved –
- Withdrew membership -
- Number of registered adult visitors –

**Perpetual Calendar Items**

January – Budget Roundtable
February
March – Draft Budget presented to Board, Monitoring Report II.A (Quarterly), II.C
April - Final Budget presented to Board for Approval, Monitoring Report II.B (Annual)
May
June – Monitoring Report II.A (Annual)
July
August
September – Monitoring Report II.A (Quarterly)
October
November
December – Monitoring Report II.A (Quarterly - Initial)

Included in this month’s reports is the Executive Limitation Policy A Monitoring Report. One item currently requires quarterly reporting. There is also a Monthly Miscellaneous Financial Executive Limitation Monitoring Reporting that contains the reports for Policies C.4 and E.8, both of which currently require monthly reporting. Monitoring Reports for Policy D: Financial Condition and Policy G: Gifts, both of which currently require monthly reporting for all elements, will be added to next month’s reports.