July 2020 Executive Report
Rev. Amy Petrie Shaw

Our mission at UCDSM is to:
Grow ethically and spiritually (G)
Serve justly (S)
Love radically (L)

Lifespan Learning (Devon McClurken)
- During the Summer there is 1 UU Faith Formation class on Zoom at 9:30 am before the service. Parents able to log in with the youth to do lesson with the DFF around the month’s theme. We have had an average of 2-4 families log in. We will continue this through the Summer. (GLS)
- CUUPS is holding a weekly chat on Monday nights and starting a new 4 week course called Paganism 101. (GLS)
- Rev. Amy continues the Bible Story group on Friday nights with attendance holding steady at 13 to 17. (GLS)
- Humanism and Sage have been meeting online in addition to all but 1 Circle Group. (GLS)
- Circle Groups ended in June but one group will continue to meet as a small group. They have been provided with resources to continue that. (GLS)
- A small committee met to discuss Adult programming for the fall. (GLS)
- Programming for the Fall is in the works with plans on starting virtually and seeing if Winter 2021 will allow us to meet in person. (GLS)
- OWL programming is still on hiatus but a roundtable group meeting in August will hopefully shed more light on what we can do. (GLS)

Membership and Community (Lyra Halsten)
- Caring Ministry: A meal was provided for one person. Seven cards were sent to members. (LS)
- Pastoral Care: 22 contacts with members.
  - Continue to assist with the phone trees by making routine calls to the people they are supporting (SL)
  - Members of the Pastoral Care team continued to hold sessions of the informal grief circle group led by Sally Boeckholt by Zoom. (GLS)

Childcare (Julie Morocho)
- On hiatus due to Corona virus
Facility/Grounds (Diane Ford/Doug Aupperle)
• Volunteers are still needed to assist with grounds cleanup and weed maintenance

Social Justice/Outreach
(Morgan Dredge- Asylum Seekers)
• Briana is doing well living in her own apartment. Our group is helping her get adjusted to apartment living and appliances she has not used before (laundry machines, dishwasher, etc.). Not much to report at this time. (GLS)

(Katie Allen- Social Justice Ministry Leadership Team (SJMLT))
• Social Justice Ministry Leadership Team (SJMLT) began meeting again in July (GS)
• The group is ready to begin inviting others to participate with them in planning intersectional social justice projects for the church, and whole church social justice projects (GS)

(Judy Haver- Faith in Action)
• FIA met twice in July.
• Covid Committee exposure plans at our church predict that it is unlikely there will be onsite opportunities this calendar year. Faith in Action engagement with church members will be digital through routine publications and Religious services. (GLS)
• We identified that we will need to better understand how to engage with Religious Services (RS) throughout the church year. Attempts to meet with the RS committee were not fruitful and we were referred back to Rev Amy to learn and collaborate. Since Amy was off, this meeting was scheduled for Sunday Aug 9th. (GLS)
• Katherine educated FIA on committees vs. teams within our church structure. (GS)
• FIA discussed their committee decision making style (consensus) and member roles. Emphasis on using the FIA email for clarity in communications was discussed. (GS)
• Adele has agreed to be our communications point person to write and liaison with the church staff. (GS)
• Judy will continue to facilitate the meetings and agendas. (GS)
• FIA continue to look for 1-2 additional team members and have gotten a couple of more "no's" to our invites to join. (GS)
• A kick off event for each partner was discussed. Katherine suggested lead a Trivia night via Zoom for church members. FIA will approach them when they meet with them in August. (GS)
• FIA will plan to meet with Champions & Partners in August to work on fall engagement after the meeting to glean RS information. (GS)
• Process for UU financial contributions to the Partner organizations finalized with UU Director of Finance. FIA provided confirmed organizations’ mailing addresses and name info for the checks to Charles. (GS)
(Barb Klubal- Write Here, Write Now)

- In November of 2017, First Unitarian Church began a partnership with the Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice Capitol Hill Advocacy Corps in their monthly “Write Here! Write Now!” letter-writing campaign. Ours was one of the first UU churches to join the effort. The Corps members help make the UU voice heard on Capitol Hill by delivering letters from UU’s nationwide to members of Congress and their staff. Priority issues include defending our democracy, economic justice, environmental and climate justice, immigration justice and other pressing UU issues. Among the approximately 9,900 letters delivered in the past 3 years were more than 550 letters from members of First Unitarian Church. (LS)

- Barb Klubal has decided to step away from a leadership role in Write Here! Write Now! effective after the October letter writing. October marks 3 years that she’s been heading up WHWN with much-appreciated help from Bill Brauch, Devon and Jean McClurken and Donna Wallace. She is ready to have someone else take over as she pursues other social justice interests. (LS)

- In July, Barb planned to contact the 100+ church members on our WHWN email list in the hopes of recruiting a new team. This will allow plenty of time for them to “learn the ropes” before she steps away in October. The word from the UUSJ is that it is unlikely that in-person letter delivery will resume before January 2021. Until it is safe to visit the Capitol, letters will be written from home and delivered via email. (LS)

- If anyone is aware of any church members who might be interested in assisting with WHWN, please have them contact Barb Klubal. (LS)

(Bruce Martin- FEDS)

- FEDS prepared & delivered food for 200 at the homeless shelter on July 6 (LS)
- Five volunteers involved this time. (LS)

(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 June

(Birch Spick- Welcoming Congregation)

- Welcoming Congregation did not meet in June
(Elaine Imlau - Family Promise and FFFF/PPP 2020)
- FFFF had no activity this month
- Family Promise had no activity this month

Barb Royal, Deidra Fudge, Liz Bredesen - Communication Group
- The new communication group has continued to meet to develop branding, marketing strategies, and social media platform strategies (S)
- The website vendor is Big Imprint, here in Des Moines and the group has met with them several times to brainstorm and develop ideas (SG)
- The committee continue meeting weekly with Rev. Amy and monthly with Kerrie Lee (S)

Updates
Service Attendance (# of households/screens, NOT number of people):
- 7/5 Blanket Forts and Comfy Chairs (Amy) 90
- 7/12 Laying Your Cards Out (Birch) 81
- 7/19 Please Don’t Volunteer (Patty) 80
- 7/26 The Love You Bake (Amy) 83

Membership Numbers Summary:
- Number of new members in July - 5
- Deceased - 0
- Moved – 2
- Withdrew membership – same 2 as above in Moved
- Number of registered adult visitors – N/A

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<th>Month</th>
<th># of New Members</th>
<th>Deceased</th>
<th>Moved</th>
<th>Withdrew Membership</th>
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Operations.
- The fire extinguishers were serviced and recharged