

183rd
Annual Congregational Business Meeting
of
The Universalist Unitarian Church of Joliet

Sunday, June 23, 2019

**Universalist Unitarian
Church of Joliet
3401 W. Jefferson Street
Joliet, Illinois 60431**

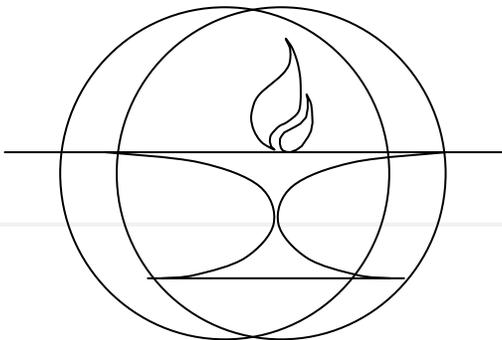
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UUCJ Board of Trustees

President: **Denise Curry**

Vice President: **Laurie Garland**

Secretary: **Scott Marshall**

Trustee: **Kerry Daimid**

Trustee: **Mark Daimid**

Trustee: **Charlotte Droogan**

Trustee: **Sean Gleason**

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Treasurer: **Margaret Juraco**

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Lay Community Minister:
Charlotte Droogan

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Call to Order

Opening Words

Appointment of Recording Secretary

Appointment of Proofreaders

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Past Minutes

President's Report

Lay Minister's Report

Current Business

2019/2020 Budget

2. Elections

a. Trustees

b. Endowment Fund

c. General Assembly Delegates

New Business

Adjournment

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Roster of Voting Members (86)

1	BATSON-TURNER, Jean	44	MAYER, Amy
2	BERGNER, Stephanie	45	McGUIRE, Chris
3	BOEHLE, Jonathan	46	McGUIRE, Mike
4	BOEHLE, Mike	47	McRENOLDS, Patricia
5	BOGASH, David	48	McRENOLDS, Roger
6	BOGASH, Debbie	49	MURRAY, Marimonica
7	BOROVICKA-ZAWITAJ, Jenna	50	NIEMAN-BOEHLE, Deborah
8	BROWN-BRUMBAUGH, Dorothy	51	O'BRIEN, Bob
9	BRUMBAUGH, Paul	52	O'BRIEN, Sarah
10	CARLISLE, Jillian	53	O'CONNOR, Lalanina
11	CHURCH, Allen	54	O'NEILL, Kim
12	COSS, Cathy	55	OWEN, Jeannie
13	COSS, Doug	56	PATTERSON, Sally
14	COSS, Jennifer	57	PEDERSEN, Lois
15	COSTA, Sandy	58	PLETCHER, Patrick
16	CURRY, Denise	59	PRELLWITZ, Grant
17	DAIMID, Kerry	60	PRICE, Lynn
18	DAIMID, Mark	61	PROGRESS, Mike
19	DOMBROW, Rose	62	PURDY, Barb
20	DROOGAN, Charlotte	63	RANGEL, Matt
21	DUZINSKAS, Drew	64	RODRIGUEZ-HAMMOND, Jesse
22	GARLAND, Laurie	65	RODRIGUEZ-HAMMOND, Roberto
23	GLEASON, Lisa	66	SALOIS, Gary
24	GLEASON, Sean	67	SMITH, Mike
25	GORCOWSKI, Mike	68	SPRENGEL, Melanie
26	GORCOWSKI, Pam	69	STEINACHER, Ron
27	GRAY, Brenda L.	70	STERNICKLE, John
28	GRIFFIN, Sandy	71	STOKES, CJ
29	HOPE, Katherine Faith	72	TALLER, Nannette
30	HOSFORD, Rebecca	73	THOM, Ray
31	IRWIN, Bruce	74	THOM, Tonja
32	JURACO, Margaret M.	75	THOM, Sue
33	KAES, Donald	76	THOM, Warren
34	KENNEDY, Richard G.	77	TOMASEK, Amanda
35	KREMSNER, Jerry	78	TREGGIO, Robert
36	LAYNE, Darla	79	TROUVIAS, Laura
37	LAYNE, Greg	80	TROUVIAS, Mike
38	LESTER, Gini	81	VONDRAN, Bill
39	LIPARI, Russ	82	VOSBURG, Karla
40	MAGRUDER, Gary	83	WACHENHEIM, Richard
41	MARSHALL, Greg	84	WELLS, Kim C.
42	MARSHALL, Scott	85	WESTHAVER-CHURCH, Debra
43	MARSHALL, Marsha	86	ZIELINSKI, Karissa

Universalist Unitarian Church of Joliet
3401 W. Jefferson Street
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**182nd Annual Congregational Business Meeting
Sunday, June 17th, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Board President Denise Curry at 11:50am.

Cathy Coss volunteered to be the Recording Secretary for this meeting.

The minutes will be reviewed by Laurie Garland and Barb Purdy.

Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was reviewed. Dorothy Brown Brumbaugh moved, with Rebecca Hosford seconding, to approve the Agenda as presented. Discussion – Jesse Rodriguez Hammond requested that as no New Business had been presented for inclusion, that that item be removed from the agenda. Dorothy amended her motion to approve the Agenda as presented and amended and Rebecca seconded the amendment. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

For the minutes of the 181st Annual Congregational Meeting, held on Sunday, June 11th, 2017 and the minutes of the Called Congregational Meeting, held on Sunday, May 13th, 2018 there have been some grammar and typographical errors identified. Those corrections will be made. Barb Purdy moved to approve both minutes as corrected. Sean Gleason seconded the motion. Motion passed.

President's Report & Lay Minister's Report

Denise advised that Charlotte was out of town for her granddaughter's wedding. Both reports are included in the packet that was emailed to all voting members. Denise reported that it has been a great year. Our membership numbers are increasing; we are having more visitors; and we have families bringing their children for Religious Education. On behalf of the entire congregation, Denise thanked everyone for all that they are doing to keep our church going and growing.

CURRENT BUSINESS

2018-2019 Budget - Cathy Coss presented the proposed 2018-19 Budget. Since the Town Hall meeting on June 3rd we have received some additional pledges. Those funds have been allocated to fully fund Snow Removal; \$300 for Uncategorized Expenses – things that come up that there is no category for; \$1,400 for our own Reserve Fund; \$300 for Bank/Vanco Charges (our electronic payment system). At this time, we have \$221.20 in income over the budgeted expenses. We also have a CPA firm that is filing our monthly state withholding filings and also the Federal and State quarterly payments. These payments must be made electronically now and they perform this service for many of their clients. When the payment is made, the payment is debited out of our checking account and paid directly to the State and the Federal agencies and a statement is sent to UUCJ as a record. Our Committee requests for funding have been fully funded, including Music & Worship which has plans to expand musically and perhaps some worship training.

Elections – Denise reviewed the proposed slate of candidates and called for nominations from the floor. Barb Purdy moved that, hearing no nominations from the floor, the members accept the nominees for Trustees, Endowment and Delegates, as well as the proposed 2018-19 Budget as presented. Sean Gleason seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, all presented were voted by acclamation. Motion passed.

Denise encouraged everyone to read the committee reports contained in the packet.

There being no further business, Debra Westhaver Church moved, with Katherine Faith Hope seconding, that the meeting be adjourned at 12:06pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Coss
Board Secretary

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Universalist Unitarian Church of Joliet
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**Called Congregational Meeting
Sunday, July 15, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Board Secretary Jesse Hammond at 12:00pm.

Cathy Coss volunteered to be the Recording Secretary for this meeting.

Jesse reviewed the single agenda item for the meeting – the necessary repairs and the two estimates.

Sean Gleason moved to accept the lower estimate which has the longer warranty, from Mueller Roofing in the amount of \$27,700. Jean Batson Turner seconded.

Discussion was held on the two different repair methods. Mark Daimid provided information as his company makes roof repairing materials. Also the roof will need some additional repairs in the amount of \$3,300 however these do not have to be done at this time and will not affect the success of the repairs.

Margaret Juraco called the questions. The vote was called by Jesse Hammond and it passed unanimously with no abstentions

Sean Gleason moved, with Scott Marshall seconding to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 12:08pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Coss
Board Secretary

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Universalist Unitarian Church of Joliet
3401 W. Jefferson Street
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**183rd Annual Congregational Business Meeting
Sunday, June 9th, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by Board Vice President Laurie Garland at 12:11am and the opening words were read.

Cathy Coss volunteered to be the Recording Secretary for this meeting.

The minutes will be reviewed by Jeannie Owen and Scott Marshall.

Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was reviewed. Jeannie Owen moved, with Mark Daimid seconding, to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

For the minutes of the 182nd Annual Congregational Meeting, held on Sunday, June 17th, 2018 and the minutes of the Called Congregational Meeting, held on Sunday, July 15th, 2018 Sue Thom moved with Sandy Costa seconding to approve both minutes as presented. Motion passed with two abstentions.

President's Report

Laurie Garland read the President's Report into the minutes as Denise Curry, President, is out of town.

Reports

All other reports are contained in the packet that was emailed out, with a few hard copies available today for reference. Please read them at your convenience and if there are any questions, please contact the respective committee or group chair.

CURRENT BUSINESS

2019-2020 Budget - Cathy Coss presented the proposed 2019-20 Budget. Since the Town Hall meeting on May 19th we have received some additional pledges. This leaves our Proposed Budget with a deficit of \$5,450. All Committee requests have been fully funded. We have several items for future discussion – if we move the budget will have to be revisited and updated with projected expenses in our temporary location. If we remain here, we have a fairly close approximation of our expenses. Historically people who can pay more do so during the year and also as new members join we have been supported by additional pledges from those folks. Laurie Garland stressed that we as a congregation, made the commitment a number of years ago to “Grow The Church” and we have been able to increase committee funding – especially Religious Education and Music & Worship funds (our rate of UU ministers in our pulpit has risen from 9% to over 60%) and that we have been good financial stewards which is reflected in the history included in the budget. Cathy Coss also stressed that we are entirely self-supporting and thanked everyone who has pledged to keep UUCJ moving forward. The balance of our Reserve Fund - \$26,606.83 and our Contingency Fund - \$16,209.09 were provided to the congregation. Scott Marshall stressed that these funds are held for specific UUCJ need and are not a part of the Operating Budget. If we do not complete this sale of our building, we will need to address our parking lot maintenance, roof repairs and also the possible street lights on Jefferson Street.

Black Lives Matter Resolution

Barb Purdy questioned this resolution. After a brief discussion, Barb moved that we table the vote on this resolution until fall and hold Town Hall meetings to discuss this and explore what the Committee is asking the Congregation to do and the involvement of the Congregation. Richard Wachenheim seconded the motion. The motion was voted down with 8 in favor of tabling this resolution and 16 opposed.

Elections – Laurie presented the slate of candidates for the three open Board of Trustees terms of 3 years each. The candidates are Denise Curry, Mark Daimid and Scott Marshall. Laurie called for Nominations from the floor. There being none, Paul Brumbaugh moved to close the nominations. Patricia McReynolds seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

For the open one year term to complete the position left vacant by Jean Batson Turner, Laurie announced Charlotte Droogan as the candidate. Discussion was held on having three members of the same family on the board at the same time. While UUCJ has historically tried to avoid this, it is not prohibited in the Bylaws. The

Board has committed to increasing our pool of members who have leadership experience so that there is a better group of available candidates. Gini Lester inquired about a copy of the Bylaws and Cathy Coss will email a copy of them to all members. There being no nominations from the floor, Laurie closed the nominations.

As an information item, Kerry Daimid and Laurie Garland will be attending Midwest Leadership School this summer. If anyone is interested in future years, please let a member of the Board or Endowment know. Laurie also emphasized that if you, or anyone you know within the congregation is interested in working on a committee or leadership position to please let the Board know. We want as many people actively involved as possible.

Laurie introduced the nominees for the Endowment Fund – Sean Gleason and Debra Westhaver Church. The other three members are currently Warren Thom, Brenda Gray and Jeannie Owen. As there were no nominations from the floor, the nominations were closed.

UUCJ is entitled to two delegates for General Assembly this year and the nominees are Charlotte Droogan and Debra Westhaver Church who are attending General Assembly. Laurie asked for nominations from the floor and there being none, closed the nominations.

Charlotte Droogan moved to vote on the Budget, candidates for the Board of Trustees, Endowment and General Assembly delegates by acclaim. Barb Purdy seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was called for the Budget, Board of Trustees, Endowment and General Assembly delegates. All were unanimously elected.

Black Lives Matter Resolution

Jesse Hammond moved to recognize the resolution and open the floor for discussion. Scott Marshall seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Grant Prellwitz suggested removing the “Jefferson Street” language and replace it with language that would allow us to post the sign subject to legal agreements with our rental location if we move.

Dorothy Brown Brumbaugh responded that the intent was to provide a way to show our public support of the Black Lives Matter movement. Gini Lester suggested prominently displayed” for wording.

Scott Marshall spoke out against wordsmithing the resolution in public and recommended that we only suggest friendly amendments to the sponsors of the resolution.

Jesse Hammond spoke against the adoption of this resolution. He stressed that our first principle is “The inherent worth and dignity of every human being” and while the Black Lives Matter (BLM) committee says that all lives matter, the sign says “Black”. The correlation/causation factor is actually poor people, not only blacks and he feels that UUCJ should be more inclusive. Jesse supports the movement, but not the signage and resolution.

Richard Wachenheim stated that he agrees with Jesse and is concerned that not only all lives matter but our Earth and that he doesn’t see assistance being given to the children in detention camps, or cancer alley in the south. He supports Black Lives Matter but not at the expense of all others in need of support.

Scott Marshall spoke to this being a beginning. A beginning of conversations and further actions and support to more and more groups. He stated that we need to keep talking and growing. Warren Thom stated that he agrees with Scott but does have concerns.

Sue Thom supports the resolution and also feels that BLM is just the starting point. She made a comparison between when we became a welcoming congregation, supporting LGBTQ people. She feels that we need to show as a congregation that we support this issue as well.

Paul Brumbaugh said that Jesse's points have put this issue in a different light today for him. As a congregation we need to say that Black Lives Matter but also brown, and others.

Jesse asked that the congregation go to the website and research this further before voting. The Welcoming Congregation process was inclusive, Black Lives Matter is a sign that is limited.

Sandy Costa spoke in favor of the resolution and made all present aware of other groups working to correct economic issues such as the Poor People's Campaign and other advocacy and participation groups. She stated that she looks forward to a day when we have many flags of support displayed.

Ray Thom agreed that this is a starting point for UUCJ.

Jonathan Boehle moved to close the discussion and move to a vote. Warren Thom seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Barb Purdy moved to strike the wording "show up for" and replace it with "be encouraged to participate in". Roger McReynolds seconded the motion stressing that it is better wording. Scott Marshall commented that he supports this change and would like any further wording changes to be done by the committee.

Laurie Garland called for the vote – the motion passed with 2 abstentions.

The congregation was asked to vote by private ballot, on the issue of adopting the Black Lives Matter resolution.

At this point in the meeting Jesse Hammond called for a quorum. As a quorum of voting members (30%) was not present, the meeting was duly halted at 1:50pm. Laurie thanked everyone for attending and participating. The meeting for quorum will be held in two weeks – June 23rd – after the worship service. Notice will be sent to all voting members.

Meeting adjourned.

After the meeting Sandy Costa gave an update on the current situation with our building and Long Range Planning. She provided information on the criteria being used to locate possible permanent sites for UUCJ and also the locations that are currently being evaluated. She has further information available upon request.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Coss
Recording Secretary

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President's Message & Report – June 9, 2019

Dear Members and Friends,

This has been an anxious year at UUCJ, but amid the news of the pending sale, everyone has pulled together and worked to keep building community and being a force for liberal religion in the Joliet area.

It's been gratifying to see Sunday services full of new faces and returning ones, a consistent group of dedicated speakers, interesting music, and an RE program with dedicated teachers and students.

As president, it's been a busy year of amending and streamlining policies and procedures, keeping people informed about whatever news we have about the sale of the building and finding new property. Mostly, it's been a lot of just showing up for Sunday morning services, reading announcements, making coffee, taking out trash and running meetings. No one ever said being on the Board was glamorous, but with any committee most of the work is in just showing up and doing what needs to be done.

As we move ahead, depending on the sale of the building, we will need everyone to step up and do what needs to be done, whether it's packing boxes, going to meetings, making decisions about utilizing space and keeping the work of the Church going.

In times of transition we have to remember why we are here. It's not the building that makes us a church; it's the people. We are a community no matter where we end up. We need to support each other, listen to each other, and not let our personal wants and desires supersede the needs of the community.

We are all in this together.

Denise Curry
President, Board of Trustees

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Lay Ministry Report 2018-2019

I have been involved with the Southwest Suburban Immigrant project, joining them for a rally in Chicago and also participating in the 9th Annual Day of the Immigrant. I also have gone to Friday prayers at our local mosque when attacks were made on our Muslim neighbors multiple times this year.

Warehouse Workers for Justice has been making great strides with their campaign with Jobs for Justice. I have attended a few of their meetings, but mostly as an ally. Their march during this church year was very impressive, and many of our members were present. I, unfortunately, had another commitment and did not join them. I did, however, march in the Oak Park and River Forest High School protest against racial injustice at their school. The young people did a great job organizing that and I keep up with their issues.

I participated in several Celebrations of Life/ Memorial Services with some pastoral visits to the local hospitals and nursing homes.

I am very interested in continuing with Black Lives Matter by observing the handling of the death of a Joliet man by a police officer. I will keep you posted.

In solidarity,
Charlotte Droogan
Lay Community Minister

COMMITTEES

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Building & Grounds 2019

Building & Grounds has continued to maintain the building and surrounding property (excluding the pagan woods) as needed. Some highlights:

- Planted flowers around the outside free-standing sign near the sidewalk, weeded the area and watered as needed.

- Picked up litter from the green lawn areas, sidewalks, parking lot monthly.
- Checked paper retriever and when full emailed RE.
- Trimmed brush as needed.
- Changed light bulbs in building as needed.
- Replaced exit light LED's and replace Exit light fixture near kitchen; we passed Joliet Fire Department inspection.
- Place mouse traps in certain locations to catch mice that invaded building during the winter. Church office (?) secured an exterminator to treat suspected mice locations inside church.
- Roof was leaking in handicapped restroom and a roof inspection and temporary repair was made which at this writing is no longer leaking.
- Outside water spigot was leaking from inside mechanism being broken; turned off inside furnace room to prevent further leaking outside building. Not being repair since church is selling property. If requested a temporary fix can be made on the outside spigot.
- Weeds treated in cracks of parking lot.
- Supervision of Garden beds returned to B & G from Social Justice Committee.
- Spot cleaning of inside carpet done as needed.
- Weekly inspection of building and grounds are made as needed.
- Outside shed cleaned out of mouse destroyed material, material no longer needed/broken and old non-working lawnmower scrapped. Floor was swept out.
- Furnace room will be maintained as to keep material at least 36 inches away from electrical panels. (per OSHA regulations).

Future needs:

If we stay in the current location the rest of 2019:

- Replace torn flags on the poles on the Jefferson street side of church.
- Figure out how to better illuminate outside free standing sign.
- Request that the purchase of toilet paper have a recycled paper content of at least 50% recycled paper.

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Annual Report of Congregational Care 2019

Amy Mayer has been sending out greeting cards on a regular basis. We have had quite a few sad or scary medical situations both with our members and or their immediate families, so she was kept very busy. I thank her for her devotion to everyone.

We also supported our members with phone calls and visits. If you are interested in joining us, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlotte Droogan

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Finance & Fundraising 2019

The Finance Committee is pleased to report that this has been a good year for UUCJ! We will finish the year with our bills paid and a positive balance in the checkbook.

Our two largest fundraisers were successful with a total combined income of approximately \$6,500.

Our 2019-20 Canvass has been good with nearly all members responding.

Carry the flame of peace and love,
Cathy Coss
Finance Chair

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Hospitality 2019

The Hospitality Committee, as usual, had a full calendar this year with its main focus on Sunday morning coffee hour. In addition, there were various potlucks, the annual Thanksgiving Dinner, the Twelfth Night Party and the new Bring a Friend and a Pie Day, which was a great success (thanks Laurie Garland for the idea).

The kitchen is in pretty good shape with the addition of new rolling carts and a griddle. There are more plans to add a commercial dishwasher and a new shelving/work surface.

As usual, the biggest challenge is to get people to volunteer to sign up for coffee hour and to organize other events. We will miss Susan Sternickle who took on this challenge and was diligent in volunteering people and reminding them of their responsibilities.

Respectfully submitted,
Darla Layne

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Involvement 2018-19 Report

This has been a positive year for UUCJ. There are new brochures on the "Information" Table, event cards for our groups and the church events have been promoted through Save The Dates cards.

If you need assistance from Involvement recruiting people for your committee or with an event, please let Cathy Coss know.

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Membership 2018/2019 Report

We welcomed fourteen new members this church year. Possibly the most we had in recent history. The hard work of our Music and Worship Committee is paying off. Here are the names of the new faces you are seeing each Sunday morning.

- Stephanie Bergner
- Gini Lester
- Marsha Marshall
- Greg Marshall
- Roger McReynolds
- Patricia McReynolds
- Karisa Zielinski
- Drew Duzinskas
- Grant Prellwitz
- Sarah O'Brien
- Bob O'Brien
- Amanda Tomasek
- Michael Progress
- Lalanina O'Connor

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Music and Worship Committee 2018-2019 Report

New Members

As a measure of success in supporting the overarching goal of growing the church, there have been 14 new members in the last year. We continue to look for new ways to support this goal as we move forward.

More UU Minister Lead Services

One of the ways you have supported growing the church is through voting for increases over the last three years for our ministerial line item in the budget. Bringing in UU ordained ministers has enhanced the quality of our services as we strive for the ability to build on this growth to provide for a part-time minister sometime in the future. Unitarian Universalist minister lead services were increased from 9% of total services for the period January through June 2016 to 50% of the services for the period January to June 2019. The schedule for the next six months of services July through December 2019 which includes the budget increase for UU ministers is on target to increase that percentage to at least 68% of total services for the period.

Choir and Additional Musical Enhancements

The M&W line item of the budget was increased this year to allow for additional guest musicians as well as an occasional choir. In April our choir participated in the Western Crescent Choir Festival and had a great experience. Please consider joining the choir for rehearsals again in the fall.

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Religious Education Committee 2019

We've had such a great year in RE this year. The kiddos did an awesome job with our drive in the winter for the Morning Star Mission collecting personal care items that the shelter were in most need of. We also collected Christmas wishes and needs for the children. The Murray room was completely packed with boxes, bags and bikes. Doing a tour of the facility was the best part, to learn what an amazing program they run there. It was so rewarding to support such a phenomenal place. The kiddos were truly excited like little elves! We continued to study the same topics as the greater congregation this year grace, surrender, truth, salvation, mystery and transcendence, having fun all the way. The children bring us so much.

We're looking forward to another great year after our summer break!

Thank you!

Kim O'Neill

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Social Justice Committee 2019

Social Justice Committee annual report July 2018-June 2019

The Social Justice Committee of the Unitarian Universalists Church of Joliet Illinois supports the work of social justice and environmental justice in our congregation and beyond.

The Social Justice Committee (SJ) continued from the previous year working on the Green Sanctuary project. By September 2018 we had almost completed the initial step in the Green Sanctuary process but moving forward it would depend on what the building/property status is as it unfolds. We have continued to educate our congregation on ecological issues.

Some other highlights:

- We promoted and practiced green values by educating the congregation on recycling, material use and what products to buy and where we buy them.

- We gave an educational church service on January 6, 2019 with a talk on what our ecological footprint is on this earth, a few videos on privatizing water resources for profit and the unsustainable use of plastic water bottles.
- Our chairman of SJ at the January 6 church service who also is the point person for environmental issues and recycling brought his recycling boxes for specific recycling goods and gave a short talk about the recycling of items that ordinarily are not recycled through the local municipalities.
- Members participated in the "Rise for Climate, Jobs and Justice" rally and march on September 8, 2018 in Elwood, Illinois.
- Continue to upgrade what can be recycled and provides more opportunities for recycling items that are not taken by local municipalities.
- Members have represented our congregation regarding climate change and are also members of the Climate Change Lobby.
- The beehive project which was coordinated by one of our members had a good start during the warmer months and the beehive was very active with bees buzzing in and out. However, the bees did not survive the extreme cold this past winter. We have suspended the beehive project and will re-access when we have a new church home.
- The compost bin project continues to host some compostable material with coffee grounds from coffee hour and weeds from the garden beds.
- Two of the garden beds that were tended by SJ for the benefit of church members provided cucumbers, zucchini and tomatoes for members who wanted them.
- The recycling project coordinated by our chairman continues and is expanding. More opportunities for recycling otherwise non-recyclable materials are being presented. A list of what we can recycle is attached to this report.
- A few members are attending meetings of the Task Force for Issues of Inclusion and Advocacy (TFIIA) which is an interfaith group.

Sadly, however since our January 14 meeting of the S.J committee, members attending the meetings have waned. Due to weather, health, other unforeseen distractions members are no longer attending. Due to this development the chairman of the S.J has suspended all Monday night meetings from June 1 thru the end of the year. Sometime in 2020 there will be a re-assessment of interest to determine if the committee will continue in the social justice area or environmental issues such as recycling. For now, the recycling of materials will continue, and the S.J Facebook site will continue. The Green Sanctuary project will be squeaking along as the chairman has time to devote energies to it and consult with the UUA for Green Sanctuary.

The S.J committee will continue online and possibly host a few physical meetings after a church service as needed. S.J will continue to support the First Thursday of the month film/video services with financial support as needed.

The Garden Bed project has been returned to Buildings and Grounds as of July 1, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Wachenheim

Chair Social Justice/Environmental Justice Committee

GROUPS

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Clara Barton Guild/Women's Connection 2019

The Clara Barton Guild meets monthly on the second Thursday from September through June excepting January. This year the Guild began with a Treasury of \$705.59 (plus \$6.35 cash for calendar contributions) and, as of the May Meeting, has ended with a Balance of \$590.59 of which \$105.00 was sent to Women's Connection for seven of the eight members. The Guild has accomplished sending 116 Birthday Cards and 43 Occasion Cards to Members and Friends of the Congregation. The Ladies have created and shared, by the time of the annual meeting, four shawls/stoles with those who have been ill. Members of the Guild provided Poinsettias and Spring flowers for Christmas and Easter, respectively. The ladies voted to reach out to other women in the Church to join them, particularly for the luncheon meeting held at Al's Steak House this June.

The ladies discussed activities such as updating the Clara Barton Guild History, a Sanctuary Quilt/Banner, a Cardmaking Workshop, and possibly more Puzzle Days. Most of the ideas have been put on hold due to the possible sale of the property. The Guild continues to support the National Women's History Museum with membership.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara J. Purdy, Secretary, CBG/Women's Connection, UUCJ

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First Thursday Films 2019

As I indicated last month, this month's movie would be on the medical use of marijuana. And that is almost the title of the film: **The Medicine in Marijuana**. (Actually, "marijuana" is a slang term for "cannabis sativa" which is the term I will use.)

This is a very hot topic right now. It has been in the news almost daily for the past month. My hunch is that nearly all of you by this time have a family member and/or a friend who is using cannabis for medicinal purposes. They might be hiding it from people, but it is now legal in Illinois to use it medically and there is a strong possibility it will soon be legal to use it recreationally here as well.

The Medicine in Marijuana is "based on the 2017 Nation Academy of Sciences report about the effectiveness of cannabis for treating the side effects of chemotherapy, chronic pain, epilepsy, and PTSD." The video was released for screening only about two weeks ago. We are among the first see it.

I urge you to open the two page attachment and read it throughout.

This is a shorter film than we normally have--only 35 minutes--but, so much the better for our discussion following the film!

Reminder: We take July and August off. The next First Thursday Social Justice Film Night will be in September.

My wife and I have moved. For more information, please call my cell phone at: **815/382-2082**. If I don't answer, please leave a message.

Yours,
Paul Brumbaugh

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Treibh Na Tintean 2018 – 2019 Report

Last year, TnT had three members attending a national festival (Pagan Spirit Gathering) in June and participate in presenting workshops, rites of passage, and general networking. This year, four of us will be attending PSG and doing much the same work!

Along with a monthly full moon ritual and the 8 major sabbats, we have provided ceremony for our members and interested parties. The Pagan community locally continues to grow, and we are fortunate to be have the opportunity to serve. We have added a special class in Italian Folk Magic by special request and a Dark Moon group for those interested in deeply transformational, personal work.

In October, I went to the Parliament of World Religions in Toronto to represent Treibh na Tintean and Circle Sanctuary. I networked with members of Canadian Pagan groups and members of other faith traditions from all

over the world. I helped present a planetary healing ritual with members of Circle and helped lead a Pagan Flash mob through the conference center.

In February five of us went to Circle Sanctuary for Imbolc—the first celebration of spring. Also in that month, I along with Joyce Ruhaak of Sacred Heart Catholic Church held the first meeting of the Task Force for Issues of Inclusion and Advocacy—an interfaith group that works on a wide range of topics and concerns. We meet once a month to learn the concerns of individual congregations and groups, and decide on actions we can take to help.

In March, two of us went to the Bloomington UU for a chant workshop with colleagues from St. Louis and the BI-N area.

Members of Treibh na Tintean continue to aid Long-Range Planning in the search for a new church site.

Covenant Woods Upkeep annual report June 2018-July 2019

Members of Treibh-na-Tintean (pagan group of UUCJ) and/or a designated person are/is responsible for the upkeep of the woods which includes the playground area as far as keeping the weeds out and mowed.

Highlights:

- Open ritual areas, labyrinth, trails stone circle, playground area was mowed and treated for weeds (teasel, thistle, poison ivy, poison parsnip, etc.).
- Limbs and brush overhanging trails and open areas were trimmed and cut up for firewood.
- Fire pit in the stone circle was clean out of ash after most ritual fires and a magnet on a pole was used to find burned nails/screws/staples and other magnetic trash.
- Litter was picked and either recycled or considered as trash and put in a designated trash receptacle.
- Some bare areas of the grounds were re-seeded with a combination of grass seed suited for partial shade. Mini clover, dutch white clover and candy clover seed were also planted.
- Containers holding water for more than a few days were dumped to prevent mosquito eggs/larvae from becoming mosquitoes.
- No re-painting of benches was done due to weather conditions. The picnic table at the parking lot did get a coat of white paint.
- Noticed this spring that there is a lot more ox-eyed daisy springing up probably due to the seed from established plants nearby. Also, there is a lot more bedstraw (spring woodland plant) than ever before.
- The Red bud trees that were planted a few years ago were completely bursting with reddish/pink blooms this spring.

Submitted by:

Richard Wachenheim

Druid/Covenant woods grounds keeper

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Endowment Committee 2018/2019 Report

Available at a later date.

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Universalist Unitarian Church of Joliet 2018—2019 Proposed Budget

See attached PDF.

