

2010-2011 Annual Report

Annual Meeting

Sunday, May 15, 2011

12:30 PM Channing Hall



Unitarian Universalist Society of Iowa City

MISSION STATEMENT:

We are a caring, inclusive community, celebrating a liberal tradition that nurtures social justice, stewardship of the earth and our lifelong journeys of mind and spirit.

Unitarian Universalist Society of Iowa City

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Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, May 15, 2011
12:30 PM Channing Hall
Agenda

Please pick up your yellow voting card at the table in the back of Channing Hall prior to the meeting. Thank you!

- Welcome: Russ Lenth, board president
- Opening words: Rev. Benjamin Maucere
- UUSIC Elections

Board Positions:

Vice President: Sally Hartman

Treasurer: Doug Wallace

Trustee: Jerry Nordquist

Trustee: Paul Pomrehn

Leadership Development Committee:

David Jepsen

Carolyn Johnson

Endowment Committee:

Nancy Lynch

- Continuing the building conversation
 - a. Summary of task-force findings (D. Siefers, D. Wallace, R. Lenth)
 - b. Floor discussion
- Closing words: Rev. Benjamin Maucere
- Adjournment

"We are a caring, inclusive community, celebrating a liberal tradition that nurtures social justice, stewardship of the earth and our lifelong journeys of mind and spirit."

OFFICERS

President: Russ Lenth
Vice President: Sue Otto
Treasurer: Dick Siefers
Secretary: Susan Salterberg
Past President: Arnold Lindaman

STAFF

Interim Minister: Benjamin Maucere
Director of Religious Education: Lois Cole
Office Administrator: Tyler Hanft
Music Director: Barbara Buddin
Accompanist: Joseph McKinley

TRUSTEES:

Lisa Kieffer-Haverkamp
Jim Laughlin
Steve Locher
Susan Kasal Young

LEADERSHIP: President's Report

This was not the program year we had expected back in, say, January 2010; for one thing, our Ministerial search had not ended in a match. However, I would say that it has been a very good year.

At its retreat in September, the board set four basic goals: to develop our theological diversity in productive ways, to work toward resolving where we stand with regard to our physical plant, to improve coordination of programs and committees, and to try to build an atmosphere of mutual love and respect in our community. The most visible and productive progress was made on the first two goals. Thanks to a terrific task force, the diversity effort began about a year ago and held several forums where those present learned a lot about engaging with one another based on our values rather than being divided by our beliefs. Subsequently, we held a workshop on right relations, and developed a Right Relations Agreement that now has been signed by many members. This is a significant step, but we must resolve to revisit this agreement periodically.

The goal that took up more of the board's and congregation's time than any other was working on the building issue. We held four congregation-wide forums and another one focused on RE-related facility issues. We did a phone survey of selected leaders known to represent different perspectives, along with several others randomly selected from the member rolls. We had an online survey. The results of these efforts were summarized and posted on the web, and the board held a special retreat to digest all of this information and identify common themes. And in January, we held a special congregational meeting to discuss these findings and initiate a paper-ballot vote, in which there was a clear majority who voted that continuing in our present facility with only essential repairs and improvements is not enough, that significant changes are needed to carry our mission into the future. The other question on the ballot, on whether voters prefer major renovation at the present site, building new elsewhere, or re-purposing some other existing building, yielded a fairly even split of opinion. Based on those results, the board designated a task force consisting of Dick Siefers, Doug Wallace, and me to gather more information to flesh-out what our options are and what is feasible. Please refer to

that task force's report, which is given separately among these annual reports.

I think that we made less progress on the goal of enhancing programs. This is not to say that we do not have great things going on here; in fact, in a way, that's the problem, as all this activity creates complexity in how to coordinate them all. Regarding the mutual-respect goal, the things we had in mind were programmatic in nature, such as starting a congregation-wide service project. I would still like to see something like this. The SJCC has its hands full already with its many other endeavors, and so we cannot expect them to lead on such a project, so it would have to be separate. Again, this is a challenge on the side of coordinating UUSIC programs. Where I think we did make tremendous progress on the mutual-love-and-respect front was in the conversations, meetings, and forums related to the building. This seemed like such a potentially volatile issue at the beginning of the year, and it was truly inspiring to see so many of us put aside the rancor of the past and just gather, speak, and listen. It is truly our faith in action.

I look forward to another year on the board as past president, and to continuing to help us grow into the future. By the time you read this, I expect that we will have called our new minister, and I believe I am far from alone in being very excited at the prospect of working with Rev. Protzman, and together discovering how we will work together. We have a lot to do. Among the huge tasks that lie ahead include resuming our work toward mission-based governance; strengthening our financial base—in all aspects including annual operating funds, endowment, special projects, and contingency funds; our physical plant; and all aspects of how and when we spent time together as a community, in worship, growth, service, and fellowship.

I want to end by saying a little about my experience as board president, and in the way of encouraging others to pursue leadership roles in UUSIC. Serving on the board provides a unique perspective on what UUSIC is all about, and how our religious values translate into actions and decisions. I have made some mistakes and also experienced some successes; and have learned from both. Most important, this work has truly deepened my faith in unexpected ways. I wish to thank the congregation sincerely for their support and trust.

—Russ Lenth
April 23, 2011

Leadership Development Committee

Diane Martin, Deb Schoelerman, Tom McMurray, Mike Cervantes, and Maureen Patterson served on the Leadership Development Committee this year. Deb, Tom and Mike will continue on the committee next year.

The committee's main duty is to nominate highly qualified members to serve on the elected leadership groups (trustees, endowment, leadership development) in the Society. At the annual meeting this year, the membership will vote on Leadership Development's slate for vice president/president-elect, treasurer, one three-year trustee and one one-year trustee (the latter to even the rotation), leadership development and endowment.

Last spring, Leadership Development recommended that Sue Otto, vice president-elect, and Jim Laughlin, trustee-elect, attend the UU Leadership School. They

attended and enjoyed it. Jim was asked back as staff. Nominations may be added to attend this year's session.

In December 2010, Leadership Development presented a workshop with the Cedar Rapids UU congregation. Mike Cervantes worked with Kevin Eck from People's Church to present "More Time Well Spent," a workshop focused on developing skills for leading and participating in efficient meetings. It was the follow-up to the "Time Well Spent" workshop presented in December 2009.

Leadership Development also organized a process for updating Board job descriptions. Diane and Maureen are creating a resource book that will include notes on past nominations, a list of board rotations, job descriptions, minutes, voting members, annual reports and other committees.

—Maureen Patterson, Chair

Ministerial Search Committee

At our 2010 Congregational Meeting, the Board proposed seven members for the Ministerial Search Committee to the congregation for approval. Those members were Pete Brokaw, Gary Lawrenson, Diane Martin, Mary McMurray, Nancy Noyer, Bonnie Penno, and Chris Taylor. Our charge was to find a minister who would be the best candidate for our congregation and to recommend to the Board and the congregation for their approval. Mary McMurray and Nancy Noyer assumed the co-chair role for the second year.

The 2010-2011 Ministerial Search Committee (MSC2) took advantage of the legacy from the previous year of the 2009-2010 Ministerial Search Committee (MSC1). In the early fall we added to the congregational self-study by extending the same survey to the 29 new members who had joined us since September 2009, and conducting several small group discussion open to all members. Committee members made themselves available to any Society member who wished to have individual input.

After combing and analyzing the data, we did some editing of our previous Congregational Record to reflect what had been learned and what had changed

in the past year. We posted our revised Congregational Record on the UUA Transitions website and waited anxiously for responses. 19 ministers proclaimed themselves interested in exchanging packets with us—meaning we needed to read each of their on-line Ministerial Records to decide who we might be interested in pursuing. As a committee we chose 13 candidates with whom to exchange packets. We contacted their references, reviewed their packets (on-line and hard copy) and searched the web for podcasts of their sermons, their websites, their current churches, etc. From this information we asked to have phone interviews with 10 candidates.

From the remaining candidates, we asked four to visit us and preach in a neutral pulpit in a nearby city. Four weekends were a whirl of meeting, eating, sharing, touring and interviewing to attempt to answer all the important questions for the committee and likewise, all the important questions for the minister and family.

After our last pre-candidating weekend, the committee spent many hours in discernment to rank and select

(continued on next page)

Ministerial Search Comm., Cont.

the ministers who we thought would match our congregational needs by:

- Their experience (church and other work) in leading people through major change – in consideration of future decisions concerning the building,
- Their ability to support our congregation as an inclusive, respectful and celebratory place for the many theological differences within Unitarian Universalism
- Their exhibiting an engaging, warm, friendly, collaborative nature,
- Their desire to assist us in extending our UU presence in the community—primarily through supporting and focusing our social justice efforts,
- Their interest in expanding our multi-generational opportunities for religious education and service

On the appointed day to call and offer, we experienced joy and gratitude when Reverend Steven Protzman accepted our call to be the candidate for UUSIC.

The MSC2 expresses appreciation to all those who contributed to the successful search:

- To the MSC1 for all their work, knowledge, and wisdom shared from the previous year
- To those who cleaned, repaired, painted, decorated, and organized the church building so it looks beautiful and well-cared for
- To those who prepared scrumptious food for every potluck and interview session
- To those who participated in growing our ability to celebrate theological diversity
- To Reverend Benjamin Maucere for ministering to us for a third year
- To all those who didn't lose faith that we would find a wonderful candidate

— Pete Brokaw, Gary Lawrenson,
Diane Martin, Mary McMurray, Nancy Noyer,
Bonnie Penno, and Chris Taylor

STAFF: Interim Minister's Report

Well, it has been quite a time! Two years of Interim Ministry, then a bonus year! In my last year with you we did some good work. My main areas of focus were diversity and the facility question.

We undertook the “Celebrating Theological Diversity” project, asking the question, “how can we view theological differences as a source of energy and learning rather than a source of misunderstanding and separation?” I worked with a great committee on this, and especially thank Karen Fox, Sue Eberly, and Kelly O’Berry for their commitment and efforts. We addressed the question in forums, in worship services, newsletter articles, and in general conversations. People spoke from the heart and really listened to one another. The Right Relations agreement was a logical outgrowth of those conversations.

I also moderated a series of forums in which we considered what type of facility is needed to support the congregation’s ministry. The Board of Trustees has been extremely active in gathering information that will aid you in decision making. I salute the Board and hope that you appreciate all their hard work. It was a pleasure to work closely with them all.

UUSIC continues to be in the forefront of the struggle for marriage equality! Over 100 couples, and your warm hospitality has been an important contribution to their experience.

Thanks to all of you, too numerous to name, who invest yourselves in the ongoing work of this Society. I have worked most closely with the Pastoral Associates and Worship Associates and it has been a gratifying collaboration. And I also thank your talented staff, Lois, Tyler, Barbara and Joseph. It has been a delight to work with them as well.

By the time you read this you will in all likelihood have called Steven Protzman as your next settled minister! I’m excited for you and I believe you are ready to move forward with new leadership. I have seen you grow stronger and more confident during our time together and I wish you the very best. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve you.

—The Rev. Benjamin Maucere

UUSIC Webmaster, Susan Eberly

During the 13-month period between March 1, 2010 and March 31, 2011, our UUSIC web site had a total of 49,976 visits, during which 121,732 pages were opened.

On average:

1. The site is visited 117 times each day, or 3,844 visits per month
2. During each visit, 2.5 pages were opened

During the past 13 months, the most popular ten pages on our site were, in order of the number of times they were visited:

1. Sunday services
2. Programs, groups, committees
3. Building discussion
4. UUSIC News (newsletter)
5. Site map
6. Calendar
7. Newcomers
8. About us
9. Membership
10. Staff

—Susan Eberly

Office Administrator, Tyler Hanft

Welcome to the newly designed Annual Report! As you've no doubt noticed by now, we've revamped the Annual Report format yet again, switching from a landscape to more traditional portrait format. Thank you to all contributors, we have three new reports this year: Celebrating Theological Diversity, Building Parameters Task Force and the Space Committee.

I'm excited for the upcoming year. Rev. Steven Protzman will become the new minister in August, full of new ideas and experience. Diane Martin will be joining the office volunteer staff. Susan Eberly continues to make our website better and better.

Thank you to the wonderful office volunteers that are in Tuesday, Thursdays and days when I'm absent: Jeanette Carter, Peggy Houston, Jean Reese & Gay Mikelson, coordinator.

As usual, if you have any ideas, tips or questions, please feel free to contact me at admin@uusic.org or 337-3443.

—Tyler Hanft

Music Director, Barbara Buddin

The music program at the UUSIC was expanded this year. It included the choir, pianist, and incidental music for activities outside the Sunday services. We inaugurated a Performing Arts Series to assist in procuring funds for the Music Budget. The choir begins to prepare for the services during the second week of August. We continued to June 12th with a farewell performance for Rev. Maucere. The choir meets each Thursday evening, performing anthems three times per month and introits weekly. We participate at both services on Sundays. This year we increased the number of performances from two Sundays to three per month. Choir membership is voluntary with no audition process. This year there were twenty-two members on the roster with a core group of twelve. Recruitment is ongoing with announcements in the Order of Service and the Newsletter. The door is always open for new members and all are encouraged to join. The repertoire consists of a variety of periods and genre. The subjects are chosen to support the topic of the service. The choir is a closely knit multi-generational yet welcoming group that feels a great responsibility to enhance the worship service.

The new Performing Arts Series presented three performances this year. We initiated the series to ease the budgetary constraints experienced recently. The first recital featured a horn ensemble, followed by a piano recital, and the Messiah. The funds raised by this will assist in the purchase of new music and to form a base to pay guest musicians. Joseph McKinley continues to share his vast repertoire with us. His piano recital was outstanding. He assists the choir rehearsals and plays for the services. Both Barbara and Joseph are ready to assist in the musical planning for special services.

Recruitment is the key issue in the music program. We will do everything possible to facilitate participation. We would like to add to the Performing Arts Series a cantata or other large work. This series may add a theater component. There is still a serious void in the music program and that is participation by the youth and children. We will seek to add this to our music ministry. As always, I praise the volunteer performers who are dedicated to the UUSIC through their love of music.

—Barbara Buddin

Lifespan Director of Religious Education, Lois Cole

Knowing that “Beloved Community” is something we Unitarian Universalists hold dear -- a vision of a world that transcends every difference of age, race, class, creed, ability, or sexual orientation -- we chose Building Beloved Community as our Religious Education theme this year. And indeed, it was the theme of the year. We witnessed this building of Beloved Community in the focus on local Immigration issues in a Welcome Home Wednesday adult class, and the intergenerational service trip planning to Guatemala in June; we witnessed it in the eagerness of our young people to learn how to craft origami dogs and cranes and airplanes and raise money for families in Japan devastated by the Tsunami; we witnessed this building of Beloved Community in the animated engagement of mentors and junior high youth, filling the library with laughter and earnest credo conversation.

We witnessed this building of Beloved Community in the integrity and quality our senior high youth programming this year – which culminated fittingly in a youth service about “living with purpose”; we’ve witnessed it in the creative outreach and dedication of the Children and Youth Committee to better meet the needs of families through social gatherings which have spanned bowling to discussing UU rituals in the home; we’ve witnessed it in the patience of our teachers, who have worked to make Bible stories fun, or sexuality education important, when sometimes faced with resistance. We’ve witnessed it in the haunted house our campus group constructed for our children around Halloween. We’ve witnessed it in the care given to ritual in all the classes – the opening words, chalice lighting, closing songs and circle squeezes, and the blowing out of the chalice together with cupped hands of our preschoolers. We’ve witnessed it in the acceptance and integration of children with special needs in the classroom. We’ve witnessed it in all of our teaching teams, who have built such community and welcome in the classroom. To all of you who have shared of time and talents to RE, I say thank you.

—Lois Cole

PEOPLE: Lifespan RE Long Range Plan

Past Year Achievements:

- Opportunities for parents to socialize together and explore RE related topics in bimonthly gatherings during coffee hour on Sunday mornings
- The Children and Youth Committee also sponsored monthly Saturday afternoon recreational events for families and Society members in an effort to create community for our busy families
- A variety of multi-generational events, and partnered with Campus Ministry for a Halloween FUUN Night
- Engaged children, youth and families in a number of service and action projects, which included fundraising for Neighborhood Centers, Domestic Violence Intervention Program, Free Lunch, and Japan Earthquake Relief, and building awareness around Immigration issues in Iowa
- Created opportunities for children and youth to participate in Sunday morning worship. Children performed Snow and Jerusalem and The Velveteen Rabbit, at our December and Easter multi-generational services. Youth participated in several services, presenting the intergenerational focus and providing special music, as well as creating their own service in May: The Places We Will Go
- Supported Campus Ministry in programming, Sunday evening dinners, publicity, and outreach
- Improved the comfort, presentation and purpose of the junior high and senior high classrooms. We are grateful to the Dee Norton Fund and services of the Building and Grounds Committee, who put in new windows, air conditioner, and carpeting in our Junior High classroom and provided funds for the senior high to paint their classroom. The senior high have also purchased a pool table.
- Our Whole Lives Grades 7 – 9, the lifespan UUA sexuality study program, on Wednesday evenings
- Coming of Age to grades 7 – 8 on Sunday mornings, which included a large mentoring program for 17 young

Lifespan RE Long Range Plan, Cont.

people and ended in a special evening celebration as the Coming of Agers presented their credos to mentors, parents and teachers

- Assessed the quality of our RE programming, and explored ways to better meet the needs of elementary aged children and parents in particular, by choosing the new Unitarian Universalist faith development curriculum, Tapestry of Faith, for the 2010-11 RE year.

Short Term Goals:

- Continue to develop family activities to help younger children and parents develop a sense of being a part of the UUSIC community
- Continue parent gatherings to help parents stay connected to RE program and to support each other in raising children with UUSIC principles
- Continue to assess the quality of our programming, and explore ways to better meet the needs of children, youth, parents and teachers.
- Assess multi-age programming for our 9:30 RE, which has a small attendance of children
- Try out Tapestry of Faith curriculum for grades pre/k – 6th grade, and supplement curriculum with the following: stewardship, worship, multi-generational activities, service projects, and meeting with the minister
- Plan to offer Our Whole Lives to elementary grades in the near future, and train teachers
- Develop resources for our educators in addressing the needs of children with Attention Deficit Disorder and autism
- Integrate youth in the life of the church, and encourage more youth participation in worship
- Work on campus ministry outreach and support for campus ministry

Long Term Goals:

- Address space and programming needs, providing adequate classroom space for grades preschool – senior high, and an area for physical activity and large programming.



The cast of The Velveteen Rabbit



Coming of Age kids meet their mentors



Michael Missen, Rai Tokuhisa, Danielle Jones, and Sally Hartman present "Reaching Outside the Box" at GA.

Membership Associates

The committee's activities relate to the mission goal of Membership and Community Life. Our goal is to create an inclusive, welcoming atmosphere for all members, friends, and visitors.

Our committee is responsible for being available at each Sunday service to greet members and visitors at the door. We secure ushers for each service. A table is set up and staffed each Sunday between services for visitors/members seeking information or answers about Unitarian-Universalism. We meet every third Sunday in the library.

Our members are: Larry Audlehelm, Pete Brokaw, Pat Ephgrave, Gary Lawrenson, Ruth Lindeen, Jean Reese, Mary Roth, Adam Tatro, Chris Taylor, and Peg Voelker. Adjunct member: Doug Wallace.

Past Year Achievements:

Sixteen people became members in 2010. We had two orientation sessions and two recognition ceremonies for new members. In February 2010 we hosted Cinnamon Roll Sunday to honor the 25 people who joined in 2009. We validated and organized voting cards for congregational meetings, took photos and biographical data of new members that were published in the UU News, displayed new members photos in Channing Hall, and provided food for Campus Ministry. We also submitted a request to the board for a part-time paid membership coordinator. We have a visitor coordinator (adjunct member) who reports to the committee information about visitor contacts and information.

Short Term Goals:

Formalize the membership process by having those people interested attend orientation sessions prior to signing the book. The hope is that the congregation will share in celebrating the membership event.

Long Term Goals:

To have a paid membership coordinator. We plan to use the information gleaned from the visitor coordinator to improve our relationship with visitors.

—Jean Reese, Co-chair

Pastoral Care

Begun in 2005, the Pastoral Care Team is completing its 6th year of existence. Its mission within the UU principles is to affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person, and to practice compassion in human relations. Its goal is to provide a ministry of support, hope and caring, so that no one connected to this congregation needs to feel alone.

The team meets monthly with the minister, reviews contacts that team members have had with congregational members needing emotional or physical assistance, and discusses other issues related to pastoral care at UUSIC.

Current members include: Diana Henry, Donna Johnson, Gail McLure, Ryan NeuCollins, Ricardo Sauro, Gordon Strayer, and Christopher Taylor.

Past Year Achievements:

- We continued to make phone calls and visits that provided attention and support to Society members and friends.
- We have in place a physical list of Community resources/services, as well as an online list that is linked to the Pastoral Care website; we continue to add to this list as new resources are identified.
- We have in place a system to loan medical and/or mobility aids to Society members according to their needs. We also have a database of these resources.
- We send cards in response to joys and concerns of Society members and friends.
- We have begun to record the situations of those Society members we are currently assisting, in order to better track their progress and to facilitate the integration of new Pastoral Care Team members.

—Ryan NeuCollins

Celebrating Theological Diversity

From May 2010 through January 2011 the Celebrating Theological Diversity Task Force met on a monthly basis and worked to foster communication and implement programming around the issue that is the namesake of the group – celebrating theological diversity among members of UUSIC. This work fit with the 2010-2011 mission of the interim minister and the congregation as a whole, to see our differences as a source of energy and learning rather than a source of misunderstanding and separation.

The task force consisted of eight congregation members (Jeanette Carter, Sue Eberly, Karen Fox, Steve Locher, Tom McMurray, Ryan NeuCollins, Kelly O’Berry and Susan Salterberg) and Benjamin Maucere, Interim Minister.

The activities of sponsored by the task force include the following:

- Three discussion forums in the summer 2010 – Benjamin Maucere led the first forum and the other two were led by Kathryn Henry and Nancy Noyer. Approximately 20-30 members and friends attended each monthly forum. Attendees were asked 1) If UUSIC is a safe place to talk about your theology, 2) If you have experienced theological diversity here as a source of energy or learning and what made that possible, 3) If you have experienced or witnessed dismissal or disrespect, how did you react, what were you feeling? What did you say or do? What did you intend to accomplish? 4) What can we do to improve the odds that our theological diversity will promote energy and learning rather than misunderstanding and separation? Notes from these forums were posted on the UUSIC web site.

- Welcome Home Wednesday session on Celebrating Our UU Sources, Finding Our Common Ground, October/November 2010 – This six-week series included different presenters for each session on UU sources such as Transcendentalism, Buddhism, Humanism, Judeo-Christian Sources, and Earth-Centered Spiritualism. The final class covered a broader discussion of theological diversity within the congregation. Approximately ten people attended this session regularly.

- Two Sunday Worship Services, November 28, 2010 and January 2, 2011 – The November topic was Working Toward Right Relations and included time for attendees to share from the floor microphone. The January sermon was given by Peg Voelker on UU Self-Culture as put forth by Channing, Emerson, et al.

- Newsletter articles – Congregation members and friends who spoke at the summer 2010 services were invited to post their sermons on the UUSIC web site. A brief summary was included in the November and December 2010 newsletters. These columns will continue into 2011 and there are plans to include some of the Credo Statements of the Junior High Coming of Age Religious Education class.

- Right Relations Retreat, December 4, 2010 – Benjamin Maucere led a retreat with the ultimate goal of developing a covenant or agreement for how UUSIC members and friends will be with one another. The invitation to participate in the retreat said: In a world of increasing incivility, we want our UUSIC community to be a place where we feel welcomed and safe, a place where we treat one another with respect and dignity. Conflict – “two or more ideas in the same place at the same time” – is inevitable in any community, but when differences are met with respect and civility, it can be creative and productive. (The workshop will focus on) ways to foster these kinds of positive interactions through what are known as Right Relations. Following a model workshop provided in Gilbert Rendel’s book, Behavioral Covenants in Congregations: A Handbook for Honoring Differences.

- Right Relations Agreement – After the retreat, Sue Eberly, Karen Fox and Dave Martin drafted a Right Relations Agreement based on the discussion at the retreat. This agreement was finalized in late December, 2010. On January 13, 2011 the Right Relations Agreement was presented to the board and signed by all board members. This agreement is now available to all members of the congregation to sign on and practice in our interactions with one another. The agreement is posted on the web site and a document is available between Sunday worship services for everyone to sign.

—Kelly O’Berry

(Please turn to the next page to view the UUSIC Right Relations agreement)

UUSIC Right Relations Agreement

We, as members of the beloved community that is UUSIC, share in the expectation that each of us will:

- Celebrate diversity as a source of energy, inspiration, and growth
- Model the behaviors we all aspire to: Loving kindness, responsibility, gratitude, accountability, and forgiveness
- Work to sustain a safe environment that encourages us to share our values and beliefs, and nurtures our spiritual and ethical growth
- Communicate with mutual respect in order to better understand one another, realizing that we may ultimately agree to disagree
- Have the courage to discuss our values, beliefs, opinions, feelings, and reactions with those who do not share them, as well as with those who do
- Take responsibility for personally addressing issues as we encounter them through dialog with the appropriate individual or group
- Be accountable for our words and actions; realizing that none of us is perfect, seek as well as offer forgiveness, and respond with compassion if our words have been unintentionally hurtful
- Support collaboration by asking for and offering help, and express our gratitude to others for their efforts
- Engage in congregational decision-making, actively seeking and sharing information, and supporting the decisions made by the congregation
- Understand that we are stewards of our community who must look to tomorrow as well as today, and recognize that our participation in this beloved community is essential if we want it to survive and prosper

UNICARE Committee

Our Purpose and Mission. In a caring, inclusive community, we can each play a part in keeping an eye out for the needs of our members and friends. We encourage this by placing occasional UNI-Care announcements and appeals in the Newsletter and in the Weekly Email. As we learn about member challenges, we consider what each of our UNI-Care and/or Pastoral Care teams can do to help. Physical needs are handled by UNI-Care, while social, spiritual, or emotional needs are referred to Pastoral Care. Sometimes, members from both teams may respond.

What UNI-Care Does. A major aspect of the Coordinator's role is communication—opening up dialogs with and among volunteers and the persons being served. Email facilitates face-to-face and telephone communication between the Minister, the Pastoral Care team, the UNI-Care team, and the Coordinator. UNI-Care usually keeps its volunteers and care recipients in touch with its schedules, the services it renders, and its plans for future services. UNI-Care offers:

•Meals or Helpers When You Need Them. Since July 2010, UNI-Care volunteers have prepared and/

or delivered evening meals for a few weeks/months for disabled persons. They have also provided packing/unpacking help for disabled persons who are moving to a different house.

•Transportation to Appointments. For the disabled, UNI-Care volunteers have provided transportation as needed, run errands, shopped for groceries, shoveled snow off walks, walked dogs, etc., as needed.

•Lending Library of Health & Medical Equipment. Many of us have medical equipment not currently in use and able to be lent out. This year, we have lent out such items as an adjustable quad-footed aluminum walking stick, an adjustable shower/tub bench, folding walkers, etc. Owners label and store the items before and after use.

•Assistance in Contacting Social Service Agencies. Because UNI-Care help is limited in scope, we offer to help locate community agencies that can help with on-going care.

•Receptions for Memorial Services. UNI-Care assists families of deceased UUSIC members with plans for a reception in Channing Hall following the Memorial

UNICARE Committee, Cont.

Service. We assist with plans and decisions about floral decorations, ushers, guest book, donations and cards basket, and other related matters. We may also offer follow-up help and support for survivors.

What UNI-Care Does Not Do. Some tasks fall beyond UNI-Care's scope or level of preparedness. For example, we are not prepared or licensed to offer in-depth respite care for care-givers, although we can help locate such agencies in the community. If you or the person you care for would like to have an occasional friendly UU visitor, we can refer your name to appropriate volunteers, e.g., the Pastoral Care team, where a team member can be assigned to visit with you to learn about how to provide support or comfort.

How We Coordinate the Work of UNI-Care. UNI-Care volunteers rarely meet as a group. We receive input from the congregation about those interested in or in need of help. After looking into such needs, the coordinator typically discusses the situation with the would-be care recipient and drafts a chart that fits the situation. The chart is e-mailed out repeatedly as more volunteers respond.

Creativity and Generosity. Sometimes, creative and/or extra offers of help are initiated by UNI-Care volunteers. One volunteer indicated she was "a better driver than a cook" so instead of offering to prepare a meal, she offered to deliver meals prepared by others, if anyone found this helpful. Several busy cooks have taken her up on this offer. Other volunteers have offered more than was originally requested, e.g., run errands, shovel snow off walkways and steps, walk dogs, tidy the living space, mop kitchen floor, etc. UNI-Care volunteers may sometimes stay and chat a bit, if the recipient seems receptive. Care recipients express gratitude for our volunteers.

Future Plans. We will continue to explore ways to support not only our volunteers but also our would-be care-recipients. We look forward to open discussions with leadership of how we may enhance our role and services. Some congregation members have been beyond our current reach. Some do not use email; some are in retirement homes; some are unaware of us and we, of them. The Coordinator always welcomes feedback from both volunteers and recipients of help. —Gail McLure

2010-2011 Ushers & Coffee Hosts:

Ushers:

Alice Atkinson
Ken Atkinson
Larry Audlehelm
Ann Bovbjerg
Rick Bradshaw
Pete Brokaw
Jeanette Carter
Penny Cazan
Christie Dancel
Rob Dietrich
Peggy Dietrich
John Elson
Pat Ephgrave
Jim Ephgrave
Karen Fox
Kathleen Henderson
Lois Hughes
Merle Ihne
Chris Johnson
Debbie Johnson
Jessica Johnson
Reon Kim
Betsy Klein
Garry Klein
Gary Lawrenson
Ruth Lindeen
Mary Losch
Dave Martin
Diane Martin
Mary McMurray
Gay Mikelson
Cliff Missen
Ruth Muir
Mark NeuCollins
Ryan NeuCollins
Carol Nordquist
Jerry Nordquist
Jim Olson
Cecile Owings
Ron Owings
Pete Paul-Petersen
Gerry Pearson
Bonnie Penno
Paul Pomrehn
Christina Randall
Jean Reese
Mary Roth

Ricardo Sauro
Kay Schneider
Deb Schoelerman
Sr. High Youth
Gordon Strayer
Faye Strayer
Jill Stephenson
Adam Tatro
Chris Taylor
Al Thomas
Betty Thomas
Carol Throckmorton
Theresa Ullerich
Peg Voelker
Lauralee Wilkins

Coffee Hosts:

Covenant Groups:
Third Monday
Second Sunday
First Thursday
Green Sanctuary
Social Justice
Membership Associates
UU Buddhist Sangha
UUSIC Board
Worthley Evenings
Vicki Siefers
Pete Brokaw
Peg Bouska
Sharon Booker
Ricardo Sauro
Pat & Verne Kelley
Carol & Jerry Nordquist
Jill Stephenson
Donna Johnson
Faye & Gordon Strayer
Kathy Henderson
Sherry Dolash

PROGRAM GROUPS: UU Book Discussion Group

The book discussion group offers an opportunity for all book lovers to join in a group to discuss what they have read. The group meets on the second Monday of each month from September through May. During our May group we select one to two books to start off the next year. When we meet in September we decide what books we want to discuss the rest of the year. Books are selected from suggestions compiled over the summer into a book wish list and new suggestions from anyone attending our first group in September. The wish list and a list of the books we selected are available to anyone who attends the group or requests the information.

The books we discussed in 2010-2011 were: *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett, *The Zookeeper's Wife* by Diane Ackerman, *Gardens of Water* by Alan Drew, *Making Toast* by Roger Rosenblatt, *Half Broke Horses* by Jeanette

Walls, *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese, *Half the Sky* by Nicholas D Kristo and Sheryl WuDunn, *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* by Stieg Larsson, and *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot.

The group is a free and open discussion and is open to anyone who loves to read and discuss books. Therefore, we have people who join us from time to time and those who come regularly. So listed below is some of those who attended one or more groups this year and I apologize if I missed you from the list. Some of those who attended this year were Mary Lou Welter, Dorothy Paul, Caryl Lyons, Sandra Bolton, Donita Hermsen, Kathy Henderson, Lynne Cannon, Nikki Herbst, Kate Kasten, Judi Gust, Jean Hood and Nancy Lynch.

—Mary Lou Welter

UU Buddhist Sangha

The UU-Buddhist Sangha is a community of people who gather weekly to explore contemporary Buddhist practice and teachings in the context of Unitarian Universalist principles. We rely on our collective wisdom and mutual support to promote clarity, compassion, and ethical behavior through the practices of meditation, mindfulness and discussion. We respect and nurture our unique journeys of mind and spirit. We welcome to our gathering people who wish to deepen their connection to Buddhist practice by participating in a sangha.

The UU-Buddhist Sangha meets weekly in the evening for meditation, reading, and discussion. The members sit in a circle, and use egalitarian democratic principles for discussion and for making decisions. Meetings typically open with a 30 minute silent meditation, continue with a 45 minute discussion, and conclude with a 10-15 minute silent meditation. One member may act as a facilitator for the meeting, handling meeting notices, announcements and, in some cases, preparing some remarks or excerpts for the discussion portion. The focus of practice and discussion is experiential, empirical, and pragmatic. Emphasis is given to the work of Western Buddhist teachers, to mindfulness-based practice, to a spirit of free and responsible inquiry, and to practical application of the teachings in daily life. Guests are

occasionally invited to share teachings, practices, and stories. Diversity of view and practice is welcomed as a foundation for collective wisdom. Members find that participation in the sangha gatherings provides a strong motivation for ongoing personal practice and study.

The sangha uses a listserv through UUSIC to communicate the schedule for meetings, to share the focus topic for the coming meeting, and to share reflections, insights, and ideas during the week. A summary of the meeting is often posted following the gathering. Typical attendance is between 5 and 10 members. During Welcome Home Wednesdays, meetings have been shifted to Thursday evenings. A number of new members have joined, bringing varying viewpoints and experiences.

During the past year the Sangha has continued to meet almost every Wednesday evening in the UUSIC library or in members' homes. We have used a wide range of resources for discussion topics, including articles from Tricycle, Shambhala Sun, texts and downloads from various internet sites, and the writings of contemporary Buddhist teachers such as Pema Chodron, Thich Nhat Hahn, Rodney Smith, Sharon Salzberg, Ezra Bayda, and others. Individual members have shared responsibility for finding materials for the discussion and take turns facilitating the meditation and conversation.

UU Buddhist Sangha, Cont.

The Sangha continues to welcome new members with an interest in mindfulness meditation and the application of Western Buddhist dharma teachings to every-

day life. We have had several new members join us over the year and our listserv currently has 36 subscribers.

—Steve Locher

Campus Ministry

The Campus Ministry group provides an environment for young adults to participate in and learn about Unitarian Universalism while having a good time and engaging with the congregation and the student community. Meetings: Weekly on most Sundays the University of Iowa is in session. 5:30 pm to 8 pm. Meetings include a short worship service and a meal provided by a church member or committee.

In the past year, the Campus Ministry group has been building on the work that began the previous year (becoming an officially recognized student organization with the University of Iowa, electing officers, writing a constitution, etc.). Recently, the group sent out an all-campus email to faculty and students inviting those interested to attend the weekly meetings and get involved with both the group and the congregation. As a result a few new faces have been added and the attendance at the Sunday evening meetings has stabilized to five regular members and hopefully more to be added as efforts to increase visibility continue.

One goal for the group this past year was to become more active in Sunday services and the congregation in general. Two of the campus ministry members have joined the UUSIC choir and have also served as a welcoming committee for college-aged visitors during the coffee hour between services. They've been able to answer questions and to invite the visitors to the Sunday evening meetings. We'll be creating special name tags that will help to help identify them better. The group has also had members act as mentors for youth in the coming of age program.

The campus ministry group created a haunted house at UUSIC last Halloween for kids of all ages to enjoy in conjunction with the Halloween carnival event. The event seemed to be a success (scary, but not too scary) and set a precedent for cooperation between the Campus group and the congregation that can be continued and built upon in the future. With leftover material from the haunted house, the group was able to build a sandwich board sign to place outside the church during meetings to advertise its presence.

The group is focusing now on how to become even more visible within the University. One possibility is to host movie nights or some other social events in Channing Hall. The group can also work to have a larger presence on the UUSIC web page. As a recognized student organization, they're able to send out more emails to all students to introduce themselves and to invite people to check out what UUSIC has to offer.

The group has also talked about hosting an event for senior high students to introduce them to the campus ministry group as a way to stay active in UUSIC as they transition from high school to college.

The group is also continuing to look for members who would be interested in helping to provide a meal for the meetings on Sunday evenings. They are very appreciative and have more information and guidelines available at their table during coffee hour.

—Mike Wilson (Programming Coordinator)
& Pete Brokaw (Faculty Advisor)

Children & Youth Committee

The purpose of the Children and Youth Committee (CYC) continues, as originally established, as a support unit of religious education and the Director of Religious Education in teaching values consistent with the mission of our Society, and to support and encourage intergenerational activities, social outreach, service and worship in the classroom and throughout our lives.

The members of the committee this year were: Meredith Mahy Gall, Chair; Sharon Dolash, Lori Enloe, Michelle Hosp, and Renee Speh. CYC meets monthly at UUSIC or in members' home. Committee members attended meetings, submitted monthly reports for the newsletter, were liaisons with the five age groups for RE, planned CYC sponsored events, and provided assistance to the DRE with RE registration, recruitment of teachers, selecting of curriculum, teacher orientation, discussing of RE concerns, and also filled in for the DRE in her absence.

This year's RE theme was Building Beloved Community and two new types of initiatives were developed with this in mind. Family Activities and Parent gatherings were held to increase social opportunities for parents and children and to help them develop meaningful church connections in their busy lives.

CYC invited families to arrange activities each month. These activities were planned with families in mind, but were also open to anyone in the UUSIC community. Family Activities included:

- November: Hiking and Reptile Presentation at Kent Park
- December: Ice Skating at Coral Ridge Mall
- January: Hawkeye Women's Basketball Game
- March: Bowling at Colonial Lanes

Parent gatherings were held in October, December and March providing parents the opportunity to socialize, learn more about the RE program, and share ways to bring UU rituals into their homes.

The CYC hosted three intergenerational events and a Candidating Week Family Potluck:

- October: Halloween FUUN Night with a meal, games, haunted house and pumpkins donated to the domestic violence intervention program
- December: Traditional Hanging of the Greens with a meal, decorating of ornaments for the tree in Channing Hall and making of animal toys for the animal shelter.
- April: Game Afternoon with church members of all ages engaging in a variety of board games and a donation to the Neighborhood Centers of Johnson County

Annual RE Events:

- February: RE Open House
- May: RE Teacher Reception

Multi-age programming for services with no RE:

- November: made granola to raise money for guest at the table
- March: made cards for members who are sick or can't come to service

The CYC was happy to collaborate with three other UUSIC groups this Year. The Stewardship Committee and the CYC worked together to make the annual stewardship picnic family-friendly. The Campus Ministry supported the Halloween FUUN Night by providing a spooky haunted house. At the request of the candidating committee, CYC planned a family potluck and question and answer session.

For the 2011-2012 academic year, the CYC has chosen to utilize the Tapestry of Faith curriculum for preschool—6th grade classes, a new series of programs and resources by the Unitarian Universalist Association. The curricula will be supplemented by activities to help young people become more active in the church and greater community in the areas of stewardship, worship, multi-generational activities, service projects, and the meeting of the minister. In addition to a new curriculum, CYC is focusing our efforts on supporting our teacher's growth and teaching experience. The RE program is also learning how to welcome a wide variety of children who bring unique gifts and challenges. To better utilize volunteer teachers' time, the CYC has decided to provide multi-age RE (preschool through third grade) at the 9:30am service.

—Meredith Mahy Gall

Covenant Groups

The covenant group program at UUSIC offers members and friends the experience of nurturing our connections and exploring our spirituality within small, committed groups. Each group meets once a month and is facilitated by two trained facilitators. The facilitators meet several times a year to select topics for upcoming months, to plan the annual All-Covenant Group Potluck, and to discuss any issues that may have arisen in the groups.

There are currently five covenant groups and approximately 60 active members. In the past we have recruited new members by announcing the program during the service once or twice a year and by inviting interested people to the All-Covenant Group Potluck. We are currently preparing a display that will be set up in Channing Hall on at least an occasional basis.

Covenant groups continue to do service projects as opportunities to act on our UU and individual principles. Some of the projects have included weeding the UU courtyard garden and planting the flower boxes, cleaning the Sanctuary, washing windows in Channing Hall, and providing home cooked meals for the Free Lunch program and the Shelter House. Groups often volunteer to provide a month of ushering and/or prepare and serve coffee between services. The goal is for each group to complete two service projects each year.

We would like to continue adding members and groups so the Covenant Group Program remains a vital part of the UUSIC community.

—Phil Beck and Debbie Johnson

Dances of Universal Peace

On the second Sunday of each month, September through April, members and friends gather at 6:30 PM in Channing Hall for Dances of Universal Peace -- simple folk dance movements, practiced in combination with chanting or singing of sacred words and phrases from the world's spiritual traditions.

Dance circles have spread around the world through the efforts of the Peaceworks International Network, celebrating both the unity and diversity of all beings, and fostering connections between people. No experience is needed, instruction is provided by Virginia Melroy, a certified teacher of the Dances. —Virginia Melroy

Free Lunch Program

The UUSIC continues to support the Greater Iowa City Free Lunch Program, with inception in 1983. The objective and mission are to provide hot meals on the second Friday of each month for approximately 120 guests at the Wesley Center. We continue to foster ethical and social responsibility, as well as to affirm the inherent worth and dignity of each person, by donations of cash, food, and physical service in the preparation, serving, and clean up of the meal and facilities.

Currently, Bonnie Penno is the monthly coordinator, with Sue and Lee Eberly overseeing the operations at the Wesley Center, and with Gay Mikelson and Jeanette Carter completing the Advisory Panel.

Past Year's Achievements:

- Offered hot nutritious meals on the second Friday of the month.
- Used "Theme Lunches" to ensure all guests receive a serving of the special entrée.
- Green practices, such as composting, and recycling materials used for the meal.
- Health practices followed for food safety such as wearing gloves on the serving line, effective hand washing, and suggested installing a hand sanitizer station for all using the Free Lunch facilities.
- Invited new volunteer involvement through the UU News articles.
- Support each committee member through acknowledging joys and concerns.
- Welcome youth and children into the program, including a service project for our Senior High group with the UU at Cedar Rapids.
- Welcomed ICE (Iowa City Experience) University of Iowa Students to be involved in a community program.
- Kept our expenses very low by having more volunteers donate most of the food items and using the surplus donations from the Free Lunch pantry.
- Update and continue to edit the email list to use for communication and coordination among our volunteers.
- Continue our involvement with the annual IC-FLP Christmas dinner.
- Distribute information initiated by Mary Palmberg, the Coordinator of the Free Lunch Program, in regards to additional requests, and have had UUSIC members respond to these requests.

Free Lunch Program, Cont.

- Increased interaction with the meal guests at the tables.
- Utilize the increased number of volunteers by having tasks divided up, with addition to a “fresh” clean up crew.
- Continue to submit monthly reports to the UU Administrator for the Newsletter.
- Maintain the Free Lunch historical materials in a safe container.
- Monitor the Checking Account held at the University of Iowa Credit Union.
- Jeanette Carter continues to serve on the Free Lunch Board.

Next 12-15 Month Goals:

- Continue to serve hot nutritious meals on a monthly basis.
- Continue to increase interactions with the guests seated at the dining tables.
- Follow procedures as directed by the Free Lunch Coordinators.
- Increase the health and safe precautions used in food preparations.
- Encourage new volunteers and youth to serve the food that they have prepared.
- Maintain an active and accurate checking balance.
- “Green” practices with composting and recycling material used for the meal.
- Encourage members to assist Mary Palmberg with additional community service projects connected with Free Lunch, communicated via email.
- Plan and offer a social event for all volunteers with the UUSIC.
- Assist the new settled minister to learn about Free Lunch as a valuable social service program.

Long Term Goals:

- Continue to offer a biannual Free Lunch Social Event.
- Encourage UUSIC volunteers to become active in IC-FLP leadership roles.

—Bonnie Penno

Green Sanctuary

Membership: Jeanette Carter, Arnold Lindaman, Mark Neucollins, Marianne Mason, Carol Throckmorton, Linda Farkas, Deb Schoelerman, chair

We maintain our membership in Iowa Interfaith Power and Light, the state wide organization of faith organizations in Iowa whose mission is to mobilize the religious community to become leaders in the fight against global warming through education, assistance with carbon footprints reductions, and advocacy for sustainable policies. We are also members of the Iowa City IEA (Interfaith Environmental Action).

In December we again partnered with SJCC to provide alternative gift giving. We facilitated donations to plant trees in national forests and donations to Backyard Abundance. Susan Salterberg from the program, Reclaiming Your Holidays, also shared alternative gift giving ideas that are environmentally friendly.

In January we submitted our application to the UUA and in February received news that we had been accepted in the certification program. We were commended on the progress that we have made and were given several suggestions on what we need to do to receive certification. Suggestions include continuing to offer educational opportunities and programs for children, youth and adults as well as including more Earth Stewardship elements to the worship service. We are encouraged to continue our community involvement in IEA and other activities such as the tree planting and making school bags for Grant Wood School.

On April 3rd our committee presented the Earth Day Sunday Service. At that service we invited Susan Guy, the executive director of IPL to give the sermon.

The committee is currently working on a policy statement that will be recommended to the Board of Trustees.

—Deb Schoelerman

Interweave

Established in 1997, the Unitarian Universalist Society of Iowa City Interweave Chapter is a membership organization actively working to end oppression based on sexual orientation and gender identity. We meet monthly to plan and socialize. Interweave is affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist Association, and our work is guided by Unitarian Universalist principles. By providing and supporting leadership, and working in collaboration with other organizations of similar vision, we strive to connect and nurture all lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender, questioning people, communities, groups, and their heterosexual allies. We are dedicated to facilitating the celebration of the culture and lives of its members, and we support our congregation's continuing commitment to being a Welcoming Congregation. The chapter's responsibilities include organizing and supporting programs that affirm lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender and questioning people within our congregation and Society.

Past Year Achievements:

- We participated in Marriage Equality forums.
- We helped with the marriages of LGBTQ people who came to UUSIC
- We continued our outreach efforts to both UUSIC and to the local community.
- We maintained an Interweave Bulletin Board in Channing Hall.
- We have representation at PFLAG.
- We have representation at OWLS (a lesbian/bisexual organization).

- We have representation at Connections.
- We were active participants in Pride Month.
- We marched in the Pride Parade carrying our UU Pride Banners.
- We attended political meetings, and stayed informed of political events.
- We hosted events that entertained as well as educated the UUSIC community on LGBTQ issues (films, discussions, dinners and game nights).

Goals For This Year:

- We want to continue to achieve the above listed activities.
- We plan to organize social events for the LGBTQ community and encourage participation of allies.
- We will continue to remain connected to the Continental Interweave, and to maintain our chapter membership within the UUA organization.
- In order to help members establish closer connections to one another and the UU community, we will continue to hold numerous social events.
- We want to bring about Marriage Equality throughout the U.S., and we will continue to work toward that goal.

Members:

Amy Butler, John Elson (Co-chair), Gail Garwood, Betsy Klein, Kathryn Messer, Gay Mikelson, Jean Reese, Ricardo Sauro, Merrill Sparks, Faye Strayer, Theresa Ullerich, Tova Vitiello (Co-chair), Peg Voelker, and Mark Yuskies.

—John Elson and Tova Vitiello, Co-chair

Partner Church

Our Partner Church committee strives to raise awareness of our shared Unitarian heritage with Romania and the partnership we enjoy with Parochia Unitariana in Janosfalva, Romania. We celebrate this partnership by holding a traditional Hungarian dinner, called Festival of the First Bread. In addition to providing the dinner guests with a program related to the culture of that region, we raise funds for specific projects in Janosfalva. This year we support the purchase of a van for the elderly and others who are isolated. Transportation for such necessities as health care will be provided by this van.

Past Year Achievements:

- A group of five from our church visited Janosfalva, Romania in September. Mary Kathryn Wallace, Doug Wallace, Arnold Lindaman, Joe Brisben, and Barbara Haring traveled to Hungary first, where a large Unitarian Church was a part of their tour of Budapest. Their trip then took them to Romania, where they visited several towns in Transylvania, including a stay in Janosfalva, where they stayed with members of our partner church.
- The Festival of the First Bread was held February 5, and successfully raised over \$3000 for our partner church. After the meal, Celia Garner-Prouty played Hungarian music beautifully on her violin. Mary Kathryn Wallace presented pictures and spoke about the September trip to Romania and the needs of the Janosfalva community.
- A presentation about our partnership at the Sunday service the morning after the Festival of the first bread further raised awareness of the great needs in Janosfalva.

Next 12-15 Month Goals:

- Continue support for scholarships in addition to church and community projects.
- Encourage RE class projects to learn about our partner church.
- Initiate a pen pal project between young people.
- Develop materials for R.E. classes to share about the partner church. Books, pictures, and handicrafts could be a part of a "Learning opportunity in a box".
- Make plans to fund raise for an intergenerational trip to Janosfalva, possibly in 2012.
- Hold a Festival of the First Bread in early 2012.

—Sally Hartman

Secular Humanists

UUSIC Secular Humanists take special inspiration from UU Principles and sources that affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person, call for us to engage in a free and responsible search for truth and meaning, counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit. In 2001, we celebrated our seventh year at UUSIC. Last year, 20- 25 people attended each of our meetings, and to date 75 individuals have asked to be on our email list. We continue to meet in the Fireside Room on the third Tuesday the month, August through May, with summer socials in June and July.

Past Year Achievements:

Mar 2010: Discussed our beliefs as secular humanists and ways to encourage dialog. On 3-28-10, shared information during coffee hour about Camp Quest, a secular summer camp, working with Jaime Sabel, camp director and nationally-recognized advocate for the separation of church and state.

April 2010: Planned UUnsung Heroes event

May 2010: Hosted celebration of UUSIC "UUnsung Heroes," sharing a meal, recognition ceremony, and entertainment. Raised \$330 for the UUSIC general fund.

June & July 2010: Secular Humanists Socials in June and July. Caryl Lyons presented a secular humanist perspective on a Sunday morning diversity panel on June 6.

Sept 2010: Discussed DVD Collision, the debate between author Christopher Hitchens and evangelical minister Douglas Wilson.

Oct 2010: Discussed demise of the Iowa Secularists group and the evolution of the Corridor A-Team.

Nov 2010: Discussed National Skeptic Society organization, web site, and publications

Dec 2010: Enjoyed DVD of an early "Daily Show" on evangelism, then shared a potluck meal, all at our Winter Solstice Celebration, again hosted by Jeanette Carter.

Jan 2010: Discussed "Science and Morality," from Skeptic Magazine. Also in January and February, members led a WHW class, "Science and Religion."

Feb 2011: Discussed "Science and Religion" DVD on Galileo's trial.

Secular Humanists, Cont.

Mar 2011: Jeanette Carter led a discussion of American Grace, a study of the role of religion in America today. Selected new leaders: Jeanette Carter, Ricardo Sauro, and Jill Stephenson.

April 2011: Louie De Grazia, professor emeriti of religion, spoke on the fundamentalist movement.

Throughout the year two members of our group served on Celebrating Theological Diversity team, and additional members participated in the summer diversity forums, the Right Relations Workshop, and the development of a UUSIC Right Relations Agreement.

—Susan & Lee Eberly, co-chairs

Social Justice Coordinating Committee

SJCC serves to apply UU principles by coordinating projects and events related to social justice, offering information and education about issues of social inequality, and distributing funding to service organizations (selected by the congregation) that work toward social justice as a primary concern.

SJCC functions as a committee of the whole: Set agenda and run meetings - group; Write and distribute minutes - Barbara Curtin; Treasurer- Gay Mikelson; Agency feature for newsletter - Peg Bouska; Newsletter articles - Barbara and Gay; Sunday bulletin announcements - Peg; Worship Associates liaison - Joe Brisben; CRC liaison - Charlie Eastham, liaison to Common Fund of CRC - Carol Nordquist. Additional members: Vicki Siefers, Kathy Henderson, Garry Klein, Diane Martin, Jaia Rosenfels. Many others participated in events and projects. We welcome anyone interested in social justice to join us on the second Monday of each month (usually not June to August) at 7:00 pm in the Fireside Room.

In order to keep the congregation informed of the money contributed on Sundays and how that money is donated to the agencies, a "SJCC Funds report" is available at our table during coffee hour. The 2010 funds report can be found within this annual report.

Past Year Achievements:

•Earle Canfield returned in February to speak at the morning services about his ANSWER program which initiates and administers educational support for low-caste Nepalese children. At that time, 24 of the 400 in the program were being sponsored by generous individuals and families in UUSIC who enjoyed a potluck lunch and informal time with Earle.

•The annual Shelter House Luncheon was held on June 10 and \$1000 was raised. This fun event included delicious salads and desserts made by many willing volunteers. Guests from the Society and community enjoyed each other and the lunch. Mary McMurray and Gay Mikelson continue to serve on the SH Board of Directors and were pleased to be part of the facilitating of the new shelter which opened in November. And the Sunday morning milk bottle keeps collecting quarters and dollars to buy milk for SH children.

•The second year of sewing book bags for Grant Wood Elementary School children was highly successful. About 20 people sewed the bags together after an additional 10 did the cutting and organizing of materials. In addition, 35-40 generous people contributed to cover the cost of the 250 bags.

•Vicki Siefers of SJCC brought interest and enthusiasm to us on current Immigration issues and several attended an evening vigil in front of the city buildings. Plans were made to include a session of the upcoming Welcome Home Wednesdays on a book about immigration.

•Project Holiday: more than 70 gifts for children were delivered to the Salvation Army for distribution to families. Other options for alternative holiday giving included Crisis Center food baskets, Elder Services gift certificates, Night of Shelter for persons who are homeless, and Green Sanctuary gift certificates.

•Crop Walk donors and walkers generated \$500 to help fight world hunger. UUSC is included in this group of international organizations and our local Crisis Center Food Bank also receives a portion of this money.

(cont. on next page)

SJCC, Cont.

Next 12-15 Month Goals:

- Continue to invite the UUSIC community to share their thoughts and ideas regarding social justice agendas and encourage more involvement.
- Provide opportunities for the Society's members and friends to become involved and energized in social justice activities.
- Work on homelessness and poverty issues in our community and support Shelter House through multiple program activities.
- Provide opportunities for Society's members and friends to learn more about the immigration issue in our community and beyond.
- Coordinate a nomination process and vote by the congregation on which agencies to support with our Sunday contributions.

Long-term Goals:

- Increase active SJCC committee membership to 12 people. —Barbara Curtin & Gay Mikelson

SJCC 2010-2011 Funds:

Balance on 1/1/10	\$1,009
Balance on 12/31/10	\$1,115

Disbursements from Cash

DVIP	\$1,035
Free Dental Clinic	\$1,135
Uptown Bill's	\$885
Emma Goldman Clinic	\$1,115
Crisis Center	\$1,500
Table to Table	\$750
NAMI	\$700
Shelter House	\$900
Elder Services	\$800
Free Medical Clinic	\$1,450
United Action for Youth	\$1,175
Free Lunch	\$1,100
Common Fund of CRC	\$1,000
Gospel Explosion Ministry	\$200
Access to Independence Table	\$20
Total:	\$13,940

Other UUSIC Fundraising

UUSC (Haiti, special solicitation)	\$1,185
UUSC (Haiti, youth fundraising)	\$1,295
UUSC Guest at Your Table	\$600
Partner Church	\$2,621
Gospel Explosion Ministry	\$250
CROP Walk	\$500
Shelter House Benefit Luncheon	\$1,000
Grant Wood School Book Bags	\$575
Total:	\$8,026

SJCC 2010 TOTAL GIVING \$21,966

Welcome Home Wednesdays

Description: Two six week sessions, one in the fall and one in the winter, which consist of weekly dinner, mid-week service, and classes/programs. Daycare and children's programming is provided after the meal for the midweek service and classes. Welcome Home Wednesdays gives the congregation an opportunity to reflect, share and grow intellectually or spiritually each fall and winter. The evening meal is a nutritious and joyful way to share with other members and to foster new connections. The mid-week service gives us all a chance for mid-week reflection and inner peace. The classes or programs offer opportunities for discussion, self-growth, new experiences, or service experiences.

Fall 2010 Classes:

- Tai Chi - Don Arenz
- In Search of Self - Gail Garwood
- Sacred Kitchen- Carol Throckmorton & Liz Weinberg
- Middle East Hot Spots- Tony Razavi and Caryl Lyons
- Celebrating Our Sources (UU Theology)-Lisa Stover, Lois Cole, Tom McMurray
- Drum Circle - Cliff Missen (2 sessions)

Winter 2011 Classes:

- Yoga Dance - Kathy Moon
- Food as Medicine - Terry Wahls
- Building Your Own Meaning Systems-
Rob Dietrich and Dave Jepsen
- Secular Humanists/Science and Religion-

Welcome Home Wednesdays, Cont.

Sue and Lee Eberly

- Immigration/Latino Migrant Workers -
Deb Schoelerman and Sally Hartman
- Drum Circle - Cliff Missen (2 sessions)

Committee Members: Lois Cole, Mary Jepsen, Gary Lawrenson, Tony Razavi, Lisa Stover, Lucy Choisser, Carol Throckmorton, Kathy Henderson, Gail Garwood, Wendy Brown, Linda Rice

Meetings: Our committee meets 4 to 6 times per year. We meet once in the summer to get things ready for the fall, after the fall session to evaluate and plan for the winter session, after the winter session to evaluate and sometimes again to start planning for both the fall and winter sessions. We meet on Wednesday nights for about two hours each meeting.

Purpose: We strive to offer intergenerational opportunities encouraging personal growth and fostering relationships and connections with others and with the environment. Also, we hope each session will provide a forum for discussion focusing on various personal, political, environmental, and spiritual topics. We want to maintain a healthy and delicious menu each session at a low-cost to our participants.

Achievements: This program year we again had a Green theme. Our wonderful creative cook Liz Weinberg buys most of the ingredients for our meals at the New Pioneer food coop. To continue the Green theme, the committee uses no disposables in serving the meals. We always invite members of the community to attend our classes by advertising in the Press Citizen and other

places. Those planning the mid-week services aimed to provide a balance between group participation and quiet meditation/reflection.

We continue to work well as a committee, to be very efficient in our planning sessions, planning most things through email, rather than hosting a lot of meetings.

Next 12 – 15 Month Goals:

- Provide multigenerational opportunities, encouraging families and young people to participate
- Expand our children's programming, using crafts, theater and music
- Evaluate our budget and adjust costs if necessary
- Continue to develop Unitarian Universalism faith development programs
- Provide large forums for engagement and enriching discussion among people of diverse beliefs
- Encourage involvement of youth and young adults, offering special classes for young adults and for teens

Long Term Goals:

- Encourage involvement of youth and young adults, perhaps offering special classes for young adults and teens
- Continue to have programs be self-supporting and low cost
- Work in conjunction with the membership committee to use Welcome Home Wednesdays as a means of involving new members in congregational life
- Bring in members of the community through effective advertising and recruitment

—Linda Rice & Lois Cole

Worship Associates

The 2010-11 Worship Associate Team consisted of eleven UUSIC members who have an interest in worship and the quality of the UUSIC congregation members' worship experience. The leadership of this team is typically shared among members. This year we decided to experiment with new approaches to leadership and monthly meetings. The group asked Will Coghill-Behrends to take responsibility for monthly meetings held between Sunday services and follow-up electronic communication. The Worship Associate Team looks

forward to new directions in this ministry led by the newly appointed minister, Steven Protzman.

The primary function of Worship Associates is to support and participate in worship services. On the Sundays when the Minister is here, Worship Associates welcome the congregation, lead the Chalice Lighting and Doxology, request that members participate in joys

Worship Associates, Cont.

and sorrows, and ask for the offering. On the Sundays when the Minister is not present, once each month during the academic year, Worship Associates take primary responsibility for planning services, including recruiting speakers. Again in 2010-11 there were no funds for outside speakers so, in the minister's absence, the speakers for services led by the Worship Associates came from within the Worship Associates group or other congregation members.

Worship associates are responsible for planning and leading Summer Services. During the spring, Worship Associates select a theme, recruit congregation members to speak, work with the speakers to plan the services, work with the Music Director to plan music and lead the services. In the Summer of 2010, the theme was "Constructing Your Own Theology" and each speaker shared his/her personal journey.

Speakers and their topics were:

- Pete Brokaw: "Welcome to Your Theology"
- Theresa Ullerich: "The Big Box of Meaning"
- Ryan NeuCollins: "Overlapping Realities"
- Chris Taylor: "My Life is a Winding Road"
- Jean Reese: "Things Happen Because They Can"
- Jaia Rosenfels: "Projecting Personal Theology Through Work"
- Vicki Siefers: "The Sanctuary City Project in Johnson County"
- Charlie Eastham: "Do We Really Care?"
- John Hudson: "Beliefs of a Social Scientist"
- Carol Wolfe: Losing Faith & Finding Acceptance
- Deb DeLaet & William Coghill-Behrends: "From Catholic to "catholic""
- Rai Tokuhisa: "Burnt Toast"
- Dave Tokuhisa: "Okonomiyaki"

—William Coghill-Behrends

Worthley Evening

Our purpose is social and educational. We had six dinner meetings this year but it seems probable that we will have to disband. No one of about 25 people attending the last meeting volunteered to fill the leadership roles needed to continue, including the current ones. We distributed a questionnaire which did not stimulate volunteers. We will call one meeting in October to see if enough people will step forward.

Attendance:

October 28 people
November 21 people
December 30 people
February cancelled due to storm
March 29 people
April 23 people

Speakers:

October: Wallace Chappell for the Coralville Center for the Performing Arts

November: Edward Miner spoke on special collection in UI Library.

December: John Spitzer spoke on Managing Personal Finances.

March: Sean O'Harrow spoke on planning for the new UI Museum of Art. The existing building was flooded out in 2008 and will have to be replaced.

April: Jan Cooke spoke of Four C's program and The Year of the Young Child.

—Verne Kelley

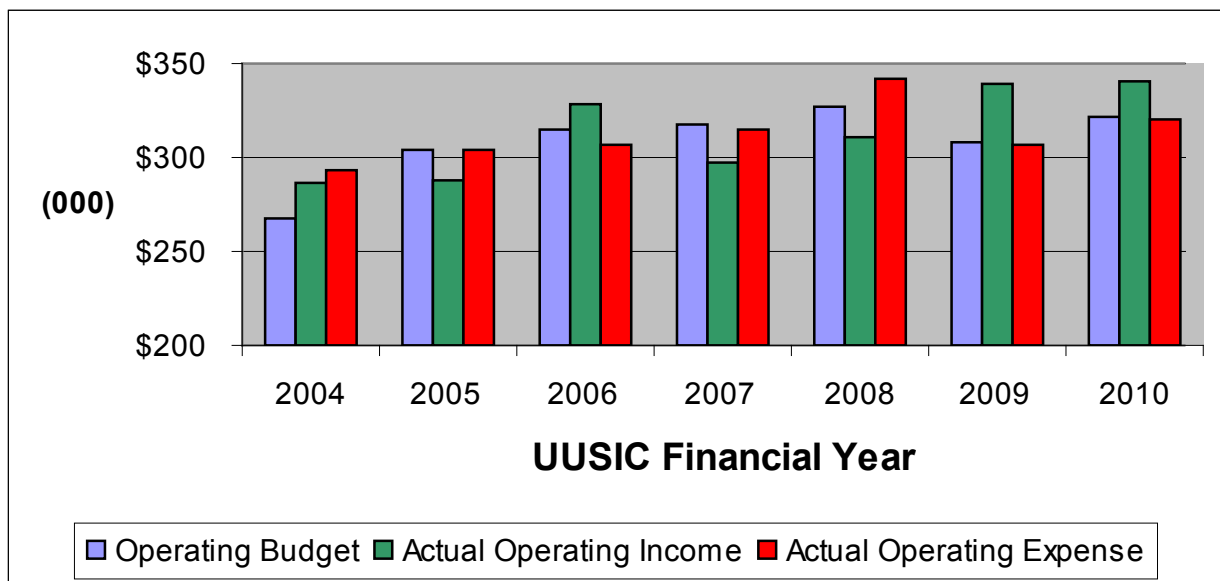
FINANCE GROUPS: Finance Report

UUSIC's management of its income and expenses in 2010 closely mirrored its disciplined and overachieving performance in 2009. As per the attached end of year 2010 financial reports, 2010 income was above the approved budget, expenses were less than budgeted, and our balance sheet strength increased \$255,000. It was a year in which most of our membership continued to make timely financial contributions while meeting and sometimes exceeding their Stewardship pledge commitments. It was also a year in which the Society received its largest endowment gift. In short, it was a remarkable financial year made possible by the generosity and commitment of the Society's members and friends.

As noted in the attached financial report titled "2010 Actual vs. Budget Income and Expense Summary", the Society's total income for the year was \$19,792 above budget forecast (over 6% better) while expenses were \$470 less than forecast. This resulted in Net Ordinary Income of \$20,262. If the Board of Trustees had not taken action in late December to set aside \$5,000 from this year's operating budget to increase the Building Reserve Fund by \$5,000 and make an additional payment of \$5,000 to the denomination, (both of which were outside the original scope of the 2010 Income and Expense budget) operating expenses would have been \$10,470 less than the budget forecast and Net Ordinary Income would have been \$30,262.

Our success in managing operational expenses was a collective effort of the Society's committees, staff, and board. As noted in the table below, in only three of the past seven years has the Society been able to manage both income and expense such that both had a positive impact on net income. It is worth noting that two of those three years have been the consecutive years of 2009 and 2010. Given the challenges that the overall U.S. economy has faced during these past two years, this is truly a remarkable achievement.

Historical Comparison Operating Budget vs. Actual Income and Expenses



Finance Report, Cont.

Total operating income in 2010 was nearly identical to 2009 operating income, a “watermark” year. Although we did not achieve a new income “watermark”, our income stability should be considered as a positive indicator of the strength, foundation and commitment of the Society’s members and friends given this is a period of interim ministry. While all of this is positive news it was achieved in part by limiting the Society’s giving to the Prairie Staff District (PSD) and the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) to 55% of the recommended fair share giving level.

The Society’s success in managing income and expenses improved the Society’s balance sheet by \$20,262. An improving economy also help improved the balance sheet as the value of the Society’s endowment assets increased by nearly \$57,700. However, all of this was dwarfed by an endowment gift from the Marcia Nagle estate of \$167,000. When combined, the Society’s balance sheet improved by over \$255,000. The Society’s total equity (total assets less total liabilities) is now at a record high and exceeds \$666,000.

While we have performed financially well during the past two years, we still have many financial challenges ahead. Over the next two to five years, the financial challenges of i) returning to fair share giving to UUA and PSD, ii) funding staff compensation and benefits at continued fair compensation levels, iii) increasing staff size to assist in membership growth and retention, and iv) funding major building and grounds repairs and/or system replacements will be difficult. We will not be able to meet these future challenges without foresight, planning and risk. A strong commitment in growing the Society’s membership and continued diligence in managing income and expenses will be needed. The use of the Society’s existing financial resources to address its longer term challenges will also be needed.

During the past two years, the Society has shown its financial strength. As the overall economy continues to improve and recover, the Society will need to continue pushing itself to not only meet the needs of its members and friends today but also the foundational needs of the future if it is to continue to prosper.

—Dick Siefers, UUSIC Treasurer

2010 Actual vs. Budget Income and Expense Summary

	<u>2010 Actual</u>	<u>2010 Budget</u>	<u>Over/Under Budget</u>
Operating Income/Expense			
Operating Income			
Total Pledges and Donations	\$ 305,813	\$ 291,993	\$ 13,820
Total Other Revenues	\$ 34,972	\$ 29,000	\$ 5,972
Total Operating Income	\$ 340,785	\$ 320,993	\$ 19,792
Operating Expense			
Total Religious Services	\$ (5)	\$ 1,900	\$ (1,905)
Total LifeSpan Religious Education	\$ 4,895	\$ 4,500	\$ 395
Total Adult Programs	\$ 4,119	\$ 4,250	\$ (131)
Total Membership Committee	\$ 513	\$ 1,925	\$ (1,412)
Total Endowment	\$ 272	\$ 400	\$ (128)
Total UU Board	\$ 7,857	\$ 10,700	\$ (2,843)
Total Denominational Expenses	\$ 12,350	\$ 7,300	\$ 5,050
Total Salaries & Wages	\$ 161,718	\$ 160,258	\$ 1,460
Total Employee Benefits	\$ 59,059	\$ 59,927	\$ (869)
Total Professional Expense Allowance	\$ 9,321	\$ 9,200	\$ 121
Total Administrative	\$ 32,649	\$ 34,828	\$ (2,179)
Total Volunteer & Unicare Expenses	\$ -	\$ 600	\$ (600)
Total Library and Historical Records	\$ 195	\$ 200	\$ (5)
Total Canvass Expenses	\$ 333	\$ 1,000	\$ (667)
Total Special Projects	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ (250)
Total Building & Grounds	\$ 12,214	\$ 5,650	\$ 6,564
Total Utilities & Insurance	\$ 15,033	\$ 18,105	\$ (3,072)
Total Operating Expense	\$ 320,523	\$ 320,993	\$ (470)
Net Ordinary Income	\$ 20,262		
Other Income and Expense			
Non-Operating Income			
Total Endowment Gifts	\$ 167,162		
Total Other Gifts	\$ 547		
Total Non-Operating Income	\$ 167,609		
Non-Operating Expense			
Additional SJCC & Special Solicitations	\$ (594)		
Total Non-Operating Expense	\$ (594)		
Total Other Income/Expense	\$ 167,015		
Total Net Income	\$187,277		

Historical Comparison of Operating Income, Expense and Net Income

	2010 (A)	2009 (A)	2008 (A)	2007 (A)	2006 (A)
Operating Income					
Total Pledges and Donations	\$ 305,813	\$ 305,246	\$ 287,395	\$ 269,876	\$ 301,333
Total Fundraising & Other Revenues	\$ 34,972	\$ 35,726	\$ 23,473	\$ 27,549	\$ 27,101
Total Operating Income	\$ 340,785	\$ 340,972	\$ 310,868	\$ 297,425	\$ 328,434
Operating Expense					
Total Religious Services	\$ (5)	\$ 2,203	\$ 5,193	\$ 2,779	\$ 3,643
Total LifeSpan Religious Education	\$ 4,895	\$ 3,757	\$ 5,817	\$ 5,068	\$ 5,007
Total Adult Programs	\$ 4,119	\$ 2,290	\$ 3,219	\$ 2,733	\$ 1,812
Total Membership Committee	\$ 513	\$ 673	\$ 256	\$ 1,605	\$ 719
Total Endowment	\$ 272	\$ -	\$ 247	\$ 567	\$ 505
Total UU Board	\$ 7,857	\$ 11,409	\$ 12,149	\$ 1,453	\$ 7,357
Total Denominational Expenses	\$ 12,350	\$ 6,625	\$ 21,351	\$ 21,529	\$ 21,462
Total Salaries & Wages	\$ 161,718	\$ 159,373	\$ 165,873	\$ 172,258	\$ 165,662
Total Employee Benefits	\$ 59,059	\$ 51,736	\$ 45,199	\$ 43,066	\$ 38,266
Total Professional Expense Allowance	\$ 9,321	\$ 10,085	\$ 10,037	\$ 9,760	\$ 9,676
Total Administrative	\$ 32,649	\$ 33,321	\$ 42,848	\$ 29,431	\$ 28,409
Total Volunteer & Unicare Expenses	\$ -	\$ 156	\$ 69	\$ 445	\$ 484
Total Library and Historical Records	\$ 195	\$ 138	\$ 475	\$ 50	\$ -
Total Canvass Expenses	\$ 333	\$ 553	\$ (83)	\$ 503	\$ 982
Total Special Projects	\$ -	\$ 85	\$ 764	\$ -	\$ -
Total Building & Grounds	\$ 12,214	\$ 8,625	\$ 7,694	\$ 7,361	\$ 5,897
Total Utilities & Insurance	\$ 15,033	\$ 16,440	\$ 20,542	\$ 16,923	\$ 17,355
Total Operating Expense	\$ 320,523	\$ 307,469	\$ 341,651	\$ 315,531	\$ 307,236
Net Operating Income	\$ 20,262	\$ 33,503	\$ (30,783)	\$ (18,106)	\$ 21,198

UUSIC Historical Balance Sheet Comparison

	<u>31-Dec-10</u>	<u>31-Dec-09</u>	<u>31-Dec-08</u>	<u>31-Dec-07</u>	<u>31-Dec-06</u>
ASSETS					
Unrestricted Assets (Checking/Savings)	\$ 92,587	\$ 71,617	\$ 13,499	\$ 54,659	\$ 61,444
Endowment - Restricted	\$ 675,010	\$ 439,203	\$ 360,174	\$ 512,853	\$ 372,450
Board Designated	\$ 9,552	\$ 11,119	\$ 22,144	\$ 5,945	\$ 17,892
Other (Pledges Receivable/Prepaid Expenses)	\$ -	\$ 105	\$ 6,225	\$ 77,518	\$ 20,133
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 777,149	\$ 522,043	\$ 402,043	\$ 650,975	\$ 471,919
LIABILITIES & EQUITY					
Liabilities					
Accounts Payable	\$ -	\$ 800	\$ 415	\$ -	\$ -
Other Current Liabilities					
Deferred Expenses	\$ -	\$ 272	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
209 - WSUI/KSUI	\$ 1,171	\$ 1,907	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
212 - Secular Humanist	\$ 643	\$ 643	\$ 416	\$ -	\$ -
213 - SJCC Giving	\$ 794	\$ 1,807	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
214 - Prepaid Pledges	\$ 24,030	\$ 18,565	\$ 24,036	\$ 31,470	\$ 24,003
215 - Building Key Deposits	\$ 1,067	\$ 1,067	\$ 1,067	\$ 1,082	\$ 1,102
230 - Payroll Liabilities	\$ 3,429	\$ 5,470	\$ 5,591	\$ 3,243	\$ 3,995
241 - Interweave Reserve Fund	\$ 187	\$ 187	\$ 187	\$ 187	\$ 518
241 - Leadership Development Reserve	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 534	\$ 534
243 - Teen Reserve Fund	\$ 5,811	\$ 4,848	\$ 3,847	\$ 3,820	\$ 1,646
245 - Minister's Discretionary Reserve	\$ 2,539	\$ 1,618	\$ -	\$ 1,098	\$ 2,191
248 - Building Reserve Fund	\$ 11,112	\$ 8,598	Inc in Assets	Inc in Assets	Inc in Assets
249 - Memorial Fund	\$ 4,668	\$ 2,845	Inc in Assets	Inc in Assets	Inc in Assets
250 - Endowment Reserve	\$ 2,412	\$ 4,855	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
251 - Minister Search Expense Reserve	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
252 - Ditiger Fund	\$ 32,830	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
253 - Myrol Bristol Fund	\$ 7,909	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
254 - Music Reserve Fund	\$ 3,262	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 406	\$ 256
Total Liabilities	\$ 110,864	\$ 62,482	\$ 35,559	\$ 41,840	\$ 34,245
Equity					
Net Assets					
260 - Unrestricted Funds	\$ 34,537	\$ (29,816)	\$ 16,876	\$ 28,923	\$ 14,643
261 - Restricted Funds	\$ 396,111	\$ 364,623	\$ 515,795	\$ 378,701	\$ 357,808
262 - Deferred Pledges	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,220	\$ 74,257	\$ 11,703
263 - Board Designated Funds	\$ (9,323)	\$ 22,333	\$ 5,945	\$ 18,392	\$ 18,362
264 - Change in Market Value	\$ 57,683	\$ 69,765	\$ (147,458)	\$ 135,196	\$ 6,961
Total Net Assets	\$ 479,008	\$ 426,904	\$ 397,378	\$ 635,468	\$ 409,476
Net Income	\$ 187,277	\$ 33,503	\$ (30,895)	\$ (26,333)	\$ 28,198
Total Equity	\$ 666,285	\$ 460,407	\$ 366,483	\$ 609,135	\$ 437,674
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$ 777,149	\$ 522,043	\$ 402,043	\$ 650,975	\$ 471,919

Annual Treats & Talents Auction

The UUSIC Auction Committee conducted the annual Treats and Talents Auction events, held this year April 30- May 7, 2011. This Auction is a fundraiser for the general UUSIC budget, and the activities are a traditional and festive part of the UUSIC congregational life. The Auction committee meets about a half-dozen times, often on Saturday mornings, mostly in the two months prior to the Auction. Also, committee members serve as a set-up crew for the auction activities, and serve as representatives at the Auction Table in Channing Hall on Sunday mornings for about two months around auction time, to collect donations, sell tickets, and receive payments.

This year's auction theme was wedding celebrations – "The I-do-UU-do Auction". The activities loosely fell into four areas: gathering donations, Silent Auction (April 30-May 1), Live Auction and Dinner (May 7), and follow-up. Participation in the auction is congregation-wide. This year about 78 households made donations, about 124 households made purchases, and about 75 people attended the Live Auction and Dinner.

Net proceeds:	
Silent Auction bids, Cake Walk,	
Cash&Carry	\$9,894
Live Auction bids	\$5,772
Dinner tickets	\$1,278
Expenses	-1,500 (est.)
Total:	\$15,500 (est.)

About 200 recent auction participants plus new members and friends received the printed auction catalogue by mail. Tyler Hanft provided the catalogue lay-out and printing.

In the coming year, the Auction committee will finish sending out statements and bidder/donor contact information to participants, hold a wrap-up and review meeting on the 2011 Auction, and begin discussion of a theme for the 2012 Auction. We'll strive to be an enthusiastic resource for helping donors and bidders execute on the planned purchases.

The auction committee coordinator is Lori Marshall,

with very active participation by Jeanette Carter, Sherry Dolash, Gail Garwood, Elaine Mahler, Marianne Mason, Laura McMahan, Amy Pearson, Linda Rice, Mary Roth, Al Thomas, Betty Thomas, and Peg Voelker. In addition, Carolyn Johnson, John Lanaghan, Gary Lawrenson, Garry Klein, Sheri Waldron and Tyler Hanft provided critical support for focused areas. Refreshments at the Silent Auction Opening Reception were prepared by the Auction Committee. For the evening of the Live Auction & Dinner: the dinner was partly catered by Leaf Kitchen, with bread from Prairie Flour Bakery (Ann Burnside), salad greens from Echollective Farm, goat cheese from Brenneman Farmstead Dairy. Desserts were donated by (very skilled) bakers in the congregation. The Jr High RE Class served as our wait staff (and collected \$204 in tips, to be used for their class activities). The auctioneer contributing his services (for a \$50 honorarium) was Andy Tygrett, of Sharpless Auctions (and Oak Hill Acres Farm – produce at the Iowa City Farmer's Market, and C.S.A.).
—Lori Marshall



Elaine Mahler serving her delicious zucchini wedding cake at the annual Silent Auction on April 30.

Endowment Committee

The Endowment Committee consists of five members; each is elected for a five year term with one member rotating off every year. Current members are John Raley, Jean Hood, Larry Audlehelm, Chuck Whiteman, and Alice Atkinson. We generally meet monthly and more frequently when needed.

The purpose of the Endowment Committee is to oversee the Endowment Fund investments, provide an annual report to the Board and advise the Board on the use of Endowment funds. We also oversee the Memorial Fund that honors the lives of individuals by writing thank you letters to contributors and creating permanent recognition on the Memorial plaque.

The Endowment Committee is charged with identifying ways to increase the Endowment Fund through education and preservation of capital for future needs. Last year we were successful in holding an Endowment party that raised over \$3,500 for the general endowment fund. We have changed our investments in order to reduce costs and decrease risk in the short term market.

Next year, we plan to expand an educational outreach program encouraging deferred giving via the Chalice Society. We will also continue to develop documentation of Endowment Fund Policies and Procedural Policies that will make our responsibilities more transparent to all members. Long term goals are to increase the endowment funds to reach one million dollars, and in-line with the Society's mission and vision, create investments that will allow future goals to be reached.

—John Raley

Stewardship Committee



The Stewardship Committee met monthly in 2010 to plan events for the 2011 pledge campaign that took place during Fall 2010. Our theme was “Imagine the Possibilities”. We once again created a brochure that included a pledge card built into it.

We had a picnic at City park on Sunday, Oct. 3, small group potluck suppers in homes on the evenings of Oct. 8 & 9, and various special events during Sunday morning services.

Once many of the pledges were received by late October, we then conducted a “modified all-member canvass” to contact those who had not yet turned in pledges. Over 30 individuals helped make canvass calls. We ended up with 207 pledge units and a little over \$296,000 in pledges. This was basically a flat year compared with the previous year.

A special thanks to Sue Eberly and Tyler Hanft for their help with the campaign. Stewardship committee members were Dave Martin & Charlie Eastham, co-chairs, Chris Taylor, Tom McMurray, Peggy Houston, Sharon Booker, Gary Lawrenson. —Dave Martin

BUILDING: Building & Grounds

The Buildings and Grounds Work Crew completed a number of tasks this past year. Members and friends who served on this crew this past year are: Arnold Lindaman, Sue Eberly, Cliff Missen, Reon Kim, Dan Gall, Doug Wallace, Theresa Ullerich, Jerry Nordquist, Diane Martin, Chris Taylor, Nancy Purington, Russ Lenth, Mary McMurray, Merle Ihne, Jeanette Carter, Jerry McDowell, Gay Mikelson, John and Pat Hayek, Pete Brokaw, Dorothy Paul-Petersen, Brad McDowell, Gordon Strayer, Gail Garwood, Phil Beck, Lee Eberly, Gary Lawrenson, Rick Bradshaw, Kurt Hamann, Jim Laughlin, John Jennewein, Jill Stephenson, Deb Schoelerman and Adam Tatro. (My sincere apologies to anyone whose name has been inadvertently omitted.) The Buildings and Grounds Committee is Kurt Hamann, Rick Bradshaw and Adam Tatro.

The painting of the sanctuary being the largest project we did this year and maybe decade, so I have provided more detail. The project began with the selection of the colors by the Aesthetics committee. The Buildings & Grounds work group began removing the furniture and laying down the tarps on Sunday afternoon, June 13. Over the next six weeks, 32 people assisted in the painting of the walls, applying polyurethane to the floor, widening the entrance to the fireside room, a new threshold between the fireside room and the sanctuary, painting the designs in the chancel, opening windows high up on the west wall, and doing the cleanup. And because people cared, a bit of glue got added, a few cracks and blemishes are no longer visible, a few hinges shine, and all the little details were attended to that no one will ever notice, but overall make a huge difference in the appearance of the sanctuary. Lunch was provided for the workers twice.

The sanctuary was last painted twenty-two years ago and we listened to one of the same music tapes that we played back then. The project was finished by July 24, 2010. Twenty-two years ago we had just one crew working, and this time we had two crews. The daytime crew was mostly retired folks and the nighttime crew was mostly working folks. "The two crews made fairly short work of this project for it took all summer last time. This project was made more affordable by the loaning/donation of scaffolding, polyurethane, dollies, tarps,

tools and bundles of talent as well as hundreds of hours of time. Those who worked on this project are: Arnold Lindaman, Sue Eberly, Cliff Missen, Reon Kim, Dan Gall, Doug Wallace, Theresa Ullerich, Jerry Nordquist, Diane Martin, Chris Taylor, Nancy Purington, Russ Lenth, Mary McMurray, Merle Ihne, Jeanette Carter, Jerry McDowell, Gay Mikelson, Adam Tatro, John and Pat Hayek, Pete Brokaw, Dorothy Paul-Petersen, Brad McDowell, Gordon Strayer, Gail Garwood, Phil Beck, Lee Eberly, Gary Lawrenson, Rick Bradshaw, and Kurt Hamann, with Jim Laughlin and John Jennewein as co-chairs. With the completion of the painting of the Sanctuary, most of the interior of the UUSIC church building has now been painted in 2010.

Other Tasks completed:

*On Saturday, August 14, we cleaned all the carpets in the two buildings with the exception of the stairs in Worthley House. We had a wonderful volunteer crew composed of: Pete Brokaw, Rick Bradshaw, Jim Laughlin, Dan Gall, Kurt Hamann, Adam Tatro and John Jennewein. This task used to be hired out at a cost of about \$900 more than renting the Rug Doctors.

*Touch up painting in Channing Hall.

*Jim Laughlin and Pete Brokaw repaired the latch on the north boiler room door.

*Kurt Hamann and John Jennewein repaired the Worthley House roof. This was a major repair (for volunteers). We also checked for all suspicious spots on the roof; several were repaired, including the replacement of our repair a year ago - this time we had the correct repair materials.

*We sponsored a fall cleanup day where the brush got trimmed around both buildings and trimmings were hauled away. Fireside windows got cleaned as well as some other areas. Jill Stephenson, Deb Schoelerman, Gary Lawrenson, Jeanette Carter and a few others helped on this task.

*In September, we replaced the carpet in the Junior High room, (# 16) and replaced a window. Rick Bradshaw, Kurt Hamann and John Jennewein worked on this project.

Building & Grounds, Cont.

*Rick Bradshaw installed the 2X4 bar with a rope and pulley system to provide a place to hang decorations (thereby allowing for the east wall of the chancel to have no holes). John Jennewein watched.

*Kurt Hamann and John Jennewein examined Worthley House roof and found no problems needing immediate attention.

*Reattached ceiling tile in CH

*Replaced a light switch in Worthley House

*The toilet under the stairs was repaired

*All painted doors and frames were repainted.

*Posted the inspection certificates for the Boiler

*An outside technician was brought in and repaired the dishwasher

*The NW entrance was cleaned and the paint was touched up

*We repaired one stained glass window

*An air conditioner was purchased for the teen class room

*Hung a tack board in children's class room

*Installed a new safe on the bookshelf in the administrative area

*Installed a new fixture by organ

*Remounted a kitchen drawer

—John Jennewein & Adam Tatro

Building Parameters Task Force

This task force was designated by the board after the January, 2011 vote to gather information about the requirements, limitations, possibilities, and opportunities connected with building options. Its members are Doug Wallace, Dick Siefers, and Russ Lenth. The group met several times, with one another and with others.

The group made contact with a large number of individuals and organizations. The summary below obviously omits a great deal of information.

•Jim Novak, author of a report for the previous Vision team in 2002. We could expect a project of the same size as discussed then to cost around 10-15% more, or just over \$2.3M (without the cost of the land).

•The City Manager and City Planner. They are interested in our property, but also supportive of us if we want to stay here.

•Representatives from other churches that have recently remodeled or built: St. Thomas More, Zion Lutheran, and Trinity Episcopal. We learned a lot about their processes; use of consultants, contractors, and architects; costs; unexpected surprises; capital campaigns; and debt loads.

•Representatives of Hills Bank, discussing how churches can finance building and remodeling projects.

•The UUA to find out what kinds of consulting and other resources would be available and, on average, what a UU congregation could expect to raise from a capital campaign.

•Individuals interested in a land swap for property on East Rochester Avenue.

•Architects Wynne Yelland (who exhibited at the PSD conference) and Neumann Monson, who toured our building and submitted a Q&E (Qualifications & Experience). Monson was the architect who worked with Trinity on their renovation project.

(cont. on next page)

Building Task Force, Cont.

•Contractor Jason Imhof, of Miron Construction Co., who built the new St. Thomas More church. He gave us a lot of information about how to structure and coordinate a project, and will provide rough cost estimates if we were to build a new facility based on our square-footage needs and basic needs regarding façade, interior finishes, and technology.

We are about ready to bring this back to the congregation for discussion. Our basic findings are that, with some limitations, a major building or renovation project—one consistent with our vision and aspirations—is doable. This conclusion is based on comparing our congregation's size and needs with those of other

churches who have undertaken and financed major projects. For building new, one big cost concern is site preparation. For renovation or re-purposing another building, costs are somewhat less predictable due to the possibility of uncovering unexpected problems (e.g. termites, asbestos) and requirements to bring stairwells, entryways, etc. up to code.

Whatever direction we go, we recommend that the congregation elect a committee that oversees the whole project throughout its duration. It is also important to get good, effective outside help to design and manage a capital campaign.

—Russ Lenth

Space Committee

The Space Committee is a small group focused on maximizing the best use of our building and furnishings. The group was chaired by John Jennewein and includes Jim Laughlin, Deb Schoelerman, Vicki Siefers, and Lois Cole. The committee works with Building and Grounds and Aesthetics committees to maintain and improve the physical space we use.

This year the committee finalized a policy for accepting donations of art and furniture and another policy for disposal of unneeded furniture.

This year committee activities:

•Sold an old piano in Channing hall which was replaced

with the more versatile Clavinova.

•Removed the puppet table and is working with the historical committee to have a display case built for historical documents and photos.

Future and ongoing activities:

•Sort through furniture, closets, and repair or remove broken items.

•Work with staff and other committees to find adequate storage space.

•Assist with improvements and repairs in the building.

—Vicki Siefers

ADMINISTRATIVE: Historical Records

Members: Jeanette Carter, Susan Eberly, Marilyn Jennewein (chair), Charity Rowley, Faye Strayer

The UUSIC Historical Records Committee meets periodically to plan or work on projects to preserve and disseminate historically significant information about UUSIC. This year much of our energy has been focused on photographs.

•We sorted, organized and labeled several boxes of photographs from the 1970s, 80s, 90s, and 2000s. We are working at placing the best of these in archival quality photo albums. We have digitized some of these

photos, and we hope to digitize more in the coming year.

•Thanks to the artistic talents of Sue Eberly, we framed a collection of photographs of 18 of the settled ministers who have served our congregation since 1869. These now hang on the west wall in the Fireside Room. We continue our quest for photographs of additional ministers to add to this collection. This project was made possible thanks to a generous donation for the cost of the frames.

•We have identified two boxes of materials to be transferred to special collections at the State Historical Society of Iowa in Iowa City.

Historical Records, Cont.

Because the Space Utilization Committee deemed the Taylor Sisters' Display Table to be no longer suitable for our congregation's needs, we have not created any exhibits during the past year. We have worked with that committee to try to identify a location for a new display case, and we continue to investigate possibilities for acquiring a new display case within the confines of our small budget.

Plans for newsletter articles and for additional work with photographs are being made as we continue to work to preserve and share our society's rich past for both current members and future generations.

—Marilyn Jennewein

Volunteers

Each year I try to find something new about which to report and this year it is an addition to our small group. Newly retired Diane Martin will be joining us soon and we welcome her because she is a great team player and also because it will make our individual loads a little lighter.

On our Tuesday and Thursday work days, we interact with Tyler quite a lot and continue to find him a very capable and friendly administrator. We help him with UU tasks and he in turn helps us with things such as computer problems - it's win-win...

Members: Jeanette Carter, Peggy Houston, Jean Reese and Gay Mikelson.
—Gay Mikelson

Passages:

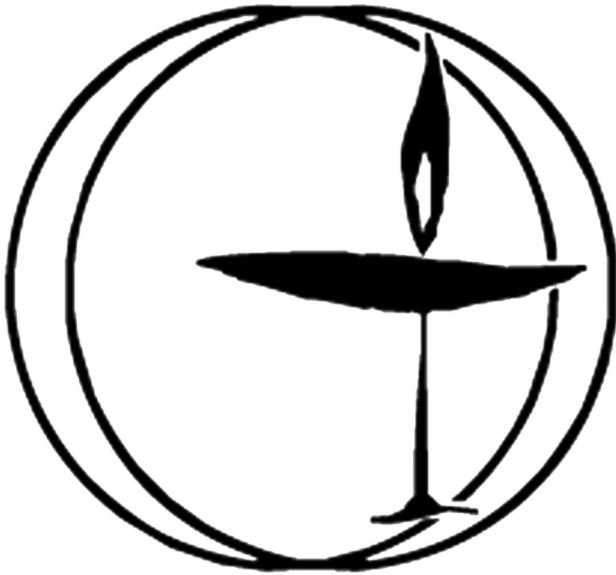
New Society Members:

Through May 2010

Michelle Hosp
Jane Cranston
Tom Cranston
Sara Feldman
Scott Wittenkeller
Michael Gregory Post
John Bollenbacher
Lauralee Wilkins
Amy L. Pearson
Maryellen Cazanans
James W. Olson
Cory L. Stover
Lisa N. Stover
Howard K. Butcher

Members Who Died:

Rev. Nancy Jo Haley
Carrie Pearson



MISSION STATEMENT:

We are a caring, inclusive community, celebrating a liberal tradition that nurtures social justice, stewardship of the earth and our lifelong journeys of mind and spirit.

Mission Goals:

(Adopted May 20, 2007)

1. We provide inter-generational worship services to educate, inspire, celebrate, and nurture our Unitarian Universalist community.
2. We provide lifespan religious education to support the intellectual and spiritual growth of our children, members, friends and the wider community.
3. We practice shared ministry and build caring, supportive relationships within a diverse congregation.
4. We take action to create an environmentally sustainable culture, both within our congregation and in the wider community, through education and advocacy.
5. We work for social justice on behalf of those who are oppressed or in need, through education, direct service, financial support, and advocacy.
6. We provide facilities that meet the needs of our congregation and advance our principles and our mission.
7. We promote our principles and programs in the wider community and welcome those with whom our principles resonate.