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# Unitarian Universalist Church of the Desert

## Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2024

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### Attending:

A meeting of the UUCOD Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, June 18, 2024.

**Board Members attending in person:** Bob Rancourt, President, Julia Alberg-Burbank, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Claudia Simmons, Secretary, Rev. Ian W. Riddell, Minister, Jerry L'Hommedieu, Treasurer, Walter Gendell, Director at Large, Carol McDaniel, Director at Large

**Board Member Attending by Zoom:** Fran Hoag, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

**New Board Member Attending:** Frank Riela, John Ressler

**Others Present:** Barb Katay

**Others Present by Zoom:** Jane Zaun, Karen Goodyear

### Welcome and Call to Order

Bob Rancourt called the regular Board Meeting to order at 5:00 PST.

### Chalice Lighting

Rev. Riddell offered inspirational sentiments and lit the chalice.

### Check-In

Bob Rancourt welcomed everyone and he and the Board checked in.

### Process Moderation

Process monitor was assigned to Carol McDaniel.

### Consent Agenda

- The Board made a motion to approve the May 21, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes [Moved by Jerry L'Hommedieu and seconded by Carol McDaniel]. Minutes Approved.

### Voices of the Congregation

- Review and Discussions of UUCOD Delegation to UUA General Assembly
  - The General Assembly is occurring this week. Voting members attending: Jane Zaun, Walter Gendell and Linda Savard. Also attending: Bob Rancourt. Rev. Ian will attend as the Ministerial representative.
  - UUCOD attendees met in a private session with Jane Zaun to prepare for the Assembly meeting.

## Old Business

- Review and Consideration of Board Orientation
  - New Board Members Frank Riela, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, and John Ressler, Director-at-Large, were present at the at the Board Orientation on Sunday, June 16, 2024.
- Review and Approval of Committee on Ministry Board Appointee
  - The Board discussed this topic previously, and is happy to report that Linda Savard has agreed to be the Board's appointee to the Ministry Board
  - Bob Rancourt made a motion to the Board to approve this appointee. Carol McDaniel moved, and Walter Gendell seconded said motion. With no objection, the motion passed by acclamation that Linda Savard will be the Board's appointee to the Ministry Board.
  - Rev Ian will reach out to Linda Savard to confirm her appointment.
- Review, Consideration, and Discussion of Possible Board Resolutions Updates
  - Bob Rancourt is suggesting that UUCOD may need to propose a new Security Resolution or policy. There was concern by an ex-board president that there were too many building keys and building codes floating around, and that perhaps it is time to formalize an understanding or resolution around this subject.
  - Frank Riela proposed the idea that the Facilities Chairperson be the point person to manage disseminating and collecting keys.
  - The Board agreed that a "Security" policy or resolution should be prepared around this topic. A working group made up of Bob Rancourt, Pam Bibo, Julia Alberg-Burbank and Carol McDaniel (on behalf of Facilities) will look at this issue and bring suggestions back to the Board.
  - Fran Hoag brought up the subject of the use of cameras being placed around the property for security purposes. This may be looked at down the road.
  - Rev. Ian felt that the Board should be responsible for preparing this policy.
- The question arose about the possibility of amending the UUCOD's By Laws. If Article II passes at the General Assembly, and the UUA By-Laws change, we may want to consider changing UUCOD's Article II By Laws.
  - Perhaps some bigger changes will need to be made to include additional resolutions.
- Review and Updates of FY 2023-2024 Budget
  - Jerry L'Hommedieu reported the potential for a \$8,312 deficit at the end of June 2024.
  - The approved budget for FY 2024/2025, reflects a deficit of approximately \$18,000.
- Nomination and Designation of Attitude of Gratitude Note Recipients
  - Notes to Jane Zaun and Joaquin Galeano to thank for service on the Committee on Ministry.
  - Note to Tom Spencer for washing off solar panels and cleaning out gutters.
  - Note to Walter and Jack for hosting Board potluck and for Jack's great artwork.
  - Note to Bill Masco for his work on A/V.
  - Note to Jim and Lavonne Swanson hosted an end-of-year party for the choir team/
  - Frank suggested we or others could document the good things that happen for our church and each other. That way those items will not go unnoticed.

- Suggested a book of thanks and acknowledgement, or
  - Blank cards at the bulletin board to write thank you notes
  - New Second VP Frank Riela, being the new liaison with Stewardship, agreed to take this up with that committee.
- It was reported that the Yard Sale will be headed by Jane Betts-Stover, with the team of Jim and Lavonne Swanson, Nancy Butkins, Margo Perry, and Pam Watson. The Yard Sale will be held on March 7-8, 2025. Storing items in the Community Room will not conflict with DOS's use of the room.

## Unfinished Business

- Further Review, Discussion, and Approval of the Personnel Advisory Committee's Draft Recommendations for Ministerial Evaluation Process and Procedures
  - Walter Gendell and Rev. Ian walked the Board through the process of reviewing the Ministerial Evaluation Process.
  - This is the first time UUCOD has prepared such an evaluation.
  - Various evaluators from a cross section of the congregation will be picked to participate in the evaluation process.
  - The Committee on Ministry will cull through the results.
  - The President of the Board will deliver the results to Rev. Ian.
  - Claudia Simmons made a motion and Julia Alberg-Burbank seconded the motion that the board approve the Ministerial Evaluation Process and Procedures, including the slight modification discussed at this meeting, and including the procedures discussed to move this forward.

## New Business

- Review and Discussion of Monthly Reports
  - See attached detailed reports.
- Review, Consideration, and Discussion of the Safety Committee's Proposed Active Shooter Procedures
  - Rev. Ian reported that the Safety Committee met and discussed the proposed Active Shooter procedures. Please reference the attached Active Shooter document.
  - The Safety Team includes Ginger Hemingway, Mel Wilkinson, Tracy Flynn, Randy Steele, Jerry L'Hommedieu, and Rev. Ian.
  - It is proposed that going forward, the doors will be locked when the service begins. The parking lot will be moderated by a team member or a greeter. Latecomers will be let in by this person.
  - Rev. Ian said that it is preferred that the Church bring in an outside professional to conduct the step-by-step Active Shooter training with the ushers and anyone else who wants this information.
  - There will also be an evacuation drill during a Sunday morning service.
- Review, Consideration and Discussion of Requested Board Involvement in the Membership and Stewardship Committees
  - Jerry L'Hommedieu discussed the fact that the Membership Committee does not have enough members, and with everyone traveling this summer, there is a question as to who

can step in on Membership's behalf. The Committee is asking the Stewardship Committee and Board of Directors help during this period.

- Rev. Ian suggested that a Board member sign up to help once a month.
- Rev. Ian will speak from the pulpit with an emergency 'ask' for assistance to be a greeter one or two Sundays during the summer months.
- Bob Rancourt suggested that Board Members reach out to Tracy Flynn to let her know your availability to greet on Sunday dates.
- The Board recommended that Jerry L'Hommedieu to go back to the Membership Committee and let them know that the Board will step in to help.

### Process Moderation

- Carol McDaniel reported that the Board Meeting ran on time and that everyone had been heard.

### Chalice Extinguishment

- Rev. Riddell extinguished the chalice with words of gratitude that we bring our hearts and minds and spirits to this work.

### Adjournment

- Bob Rancourt adjourned the regular Board meeting at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Claudia L. Simmons, Secretary

Date Approved: June 18, 2024.

Attachments  
Monthly Reports

## President's Report



MEETING DATE:	<b>June 18, 2024</b>
REPORTING PERIOD:	<b>May 19 to June 18, 2024</b>
TYPE:	<b>Monthly Board</b>
AUTHOR:	<b>Bob Rancourt</b>

My assigned Board liaison constituencies are the Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging Ministry (DIBM), Leadership Development Committee, and Personnel Advisory Committee. Additionally, I prepare agenda for and preside over Board meetings, and, as time permits, I volunteer as a greeter and usher for the Membership Committee.

This month, Director-at-Large Gendell and I planned and hosted a potluck transition party to welcome incoming Board Members and thank those departing the Board. It was well attended, enjoyable, and fostered a sense of collegiality and camaraderie amongst Board Members. Tangible expressions of our appreciation were presented to 2nd Vice President Hoag and Director-at-Large McDaniel for their years of service on the Board. Also, I planned and presided over a Board Orientation on June 16 with which the 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Director-at-Large McDaniel, Secretary, and Administrator assisted me in presenting information and materials for new Board Members.

### **DIBM**

Members are continuing to study possible accessibility recommendations to enhance diversity and help the community continue to work on being more welcoming to all. Soon, we anticipate making recommendations, including possibly an accessibility website statement, policy, and related procedures. Drafts have been written and are being reviewed and updated. Input has been sought from several committees, activity groups, and auxiliary organizations. We are also seeking to recruit more individuals to serve with us.

### **Leadership Development Committee**

Given the recent change in members, the committee is not meeting until after the new fiscal year begins. I recently met with Linda Savard, and we informally discussed possible candidates for future consideration.

### **Personnel Advisory Committee**

At this meeting, approval of the ministerial evaluation form and process for the new Settled Minister is on the agenda. Pursuant to prior Board referral, the committee

presently is considering possible employee manual and policy changes. The referral was substantial, so response and recommendations are likely to take some time.

### **Additional Information**

This month's President's Column discussed social justice issues, including our participation in last month's annual Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast and the proposed justice shared value to be decided at this week's UUA General Assembly. On June 17, the Denominational Affairs Liaison assembled a meeting of those attending this week's UUA General Assembly, including Delegates Gendell and Savard, and myself (non-voting attendee). We discussed congregational feedback on business to be conducted and developed a plan of participation.

On May 31, I met with Linda Savard pursuant to the Board's request to see if she would be willing to serve as the Board's next appointee to the Committee on Ministry. I'm pleased to report that she accepts the appointment, which is on the agenda for approval at this meeting.

On June 24, the Board's Ad Hoc Communications Team Creation Committee will next meet. Stakeholders, including the Administrator, Membership and Stewardship Committee representatives, and myself, continue to discuss via e-mail and research a combined possible replacement for MemInfo and the Instant Church Directory. Several candidate software applications are being reviewed.

Finally, I reached out to several Members and Friends to gauge interest in helping plan the Bake-Off fundraiser I'm spearheading that we approved for January 19, 2025. Several individuals expressed interest and agreed to help, so we're off to a good start.

To: UUCOD Board

From: 1st Vice President, Julia Alberg-Burbank

RE: June 2024 Board Report

- Further conversation, via email, was had with Jane Betts Stover:
  - Committee would be: Jane, Lavonne Swanson, Nancy Butkins, Margo Perry and Pam Watson
  - Jane checked in with Pam Bibo and confirmed that March 3-9th is available. They prefer this to the April dates the Board had calendared at Church Council.
  - The actual sale would be March 8th and 9th, with Galilee Center picking up items on Monday March 10th.
  - The committee would like to put something in the newsletter as soon as possible.

**Denominational Affairs:**

The Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly is upcoming, and fully on-line. We are well represented and have our voting members in place.

**Unitarian Universalist Church of the Desert**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> VP report to the Board**  
**June 18, 2024**

I attended the joint Membership/Stewardship meeting on June 6.

The online Instant Church Directory will replace the printing of a hard copy directory. A team will be assembled to announce and train UUCOD members on using the directory. I will lead a group separate from Membership to work on this implementation.

Jerry will bring a proposal to the Board Meeting that the Board, Stewardship and Membership share responsibility of organizing ushers, greeters and security [in lobby](#) during service.

There has been talk of merging the Membership and Stewardship Committees. There were varying opinions on whether combining the committees would be helpful. It was agreed that the two teams could look to each other when help is needed for various tasks.

I attended the Board Orientation on June 15.

I want to thank President Bob Rancourt for relaying so much information in a comparatively short period of time. He is doing an excellent job of explaining all of the procedures and processes of the Board to the new members.

Respectfully submitted by Fran Hoag



## UUCOD Treasurer's Report May 2024

As of May 31, UUCOD held cash deposits of \$279,119 which includes \$219,015 invested with UUA and a CD with Pacific Premier Bank. Of the total amount, \$260,246 is held in either dedicated or restricted funds. This leaves \$18,873 in available unrestricted funds.

For the month of May, UUCOD received \$9,391 in revenue and drew \$3,836 from reserves for total revenue of \$13,227. Expenditures for the month totaled \$24,381; exceeding revenue by \$11,154. For the fiscal year to date, revenue exceeds expenses by \$6,020 but we continue to anticipate a loss for the year ending June 30. In May, the MacLean Endowment Fund lost \$3,852 in market value; the UUCOD Investment Fund lost \$4,266. Both funds, however, have had substantial year-over-year gains which will be reported in the July financial reports.

UUCOD received a \$305 (12%) rebate on its annual comprehensive insurance premium for having no filed claims for several years. As approved at the May board meeting, the Sacred Grounds team ordered three benches at a cost of \$3,836. Fiscal year-to-date, expenses for Sacred Grounds total \$20,380; slightly less than the not to exceed \$21,000 authorized by the Board at its July meeting. The May Share-the-Plate offering provided Martha's Kitchen & Village with a check for \$385.

Jerry L'Hommedieu  
June 6, 2024

Monthly Report – June 18, 2024  
UUCOD Secretary Claudia Simmons

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1. I was present and took the minutes of the May 21, 2024, Board Minutes. The draft has been prepared, reviewed by Board members, and is awaiting approval at the June 2024 Board Meeting.
2. I was present for and participated in the New Board Orientation on Sunday, June 16, 2024, where we welcomed Frank Riela as the new 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and John Ressler as Director at Large beginning with FY 2024-2025.
3. I had the pleasure of attending the Board Transition Potluck on Sunday, June 9, 2024, at Walter Gendell and Jack Fitzsimmons' home.

## **Minister's Report to the UUCOD Board**

June 18, 2024

The Rev. Ian W. Riddell

And so we come to the end of another church year. I am so grateful and appreciative of your service to this beloved community over the past year. As I said at our gathering at Walter and Jack's place, board work is ministry—your work is to collaborate with me and with the other leaders in the congregation to keep the mission and vision front and center, to make decisions about the congregation as an institution in ways that keep our values at the heart of what we do.

I have very much enjoyed our collective exploration of Transforming Conflict. I hope that you'll carry what you've learned about congregations and yourself and how we might better live into the inevitable conflicts of life and organizations into the coming months and years. Thank you for your honest grappling with this material.

A special thanks to Carol and Fran who are ending their service on the Board this month. Thank you for your broad vision and for bringing the work of our committees into the Board's deliberations and discernment.

The summer months bring some retreat and quieter times for many of us. I hope that you are able to stay cool and healthy—take some time to rest and reflect and just enjoy yourselves! I will be in Idyllwild for the month of July. Half of that time will be study leave and the other half will be our ongoing work. I'm still around! Reach out as you need to.

Know that you have my appreciation, gratitude, and love  
Rev. Ian

*Summary Outline of the work I've been involved with for the past month. This is not an exhaustive list, but is meant to give you a general idea of what I've been up to as your minister.*

### **A. Counseling and Pastoral Care**

- The Care Team continues to check in and share our contacts with congregants and offer each other guidance and support in our support of congregants' needs. Our reaching out to and connecting with "shut ins" continues to find that people are pleasantly surprised and mostly happy with how things are. Some of the people we've reached out to have moved and we'll make sure the Membership Committee gets that information.
- Our Circles of Caring Energy are continuing to bring comfort and a strong sense of connection to congregants dealing with surgery and illness.
- I continue to meet with congregants in need of connection and conversation by phone and Zoom and in person.
- I am heartened, as always, by the ways I see you all take care of each other when people are in need.

### **B. Administration, Governance, and Staff**

- I meet weekly with Pam Bibb and every other week with Jim Tong to check in on work expectations and how things are going.
- The current Committee on Ministry is finishing its time together this month. Walter Gendell will remain on the committee to work for one more year and help me welcome our newer members. Please share your gratitude to Joaquin Galeano and Jane Zaun who complete their terms on the committee this month. They have brought skill and care and a willingness to learn and grow together to our work and I'm deeply grateful for their ministry.
- Upcoming shift in services from MemInfo: I gathered a set of questions and criteria for use as we assess software packages and shared this with the group. Rod used ChatGPT to gather some initial information about the products we are considering as a starting point for our deeper explorations. The next steps will be for the group to begin to assess individual projects and collect information so that we can assess how they might meet our needs.
- The Safety Team met to discuss and finalize our draft of an Active Shooter Procedure which you'll be seeing today. Next we will begin planning trainings for the congregation in the fall on responding to active shooter situations and general evacuation drills.

### **C. Membership and Committees**

- I meet monthly with the DIB Ministry team. The DIBM Team is currently seeking to expand our membership. Our work in the fall will be to continue our accessibility work and also pick up some of the diversity work done by previous teams, including looking again at the original DIBM Teams call for a congregational policy around diversity and anti-racism..

- The DIBM team is proposing that we appoint/choose an “Accessibility/Accommodations Point Person” to whom members and visitors can go directly to request accommodations and changes to help our services and events continue to be more accessible. We are thinking about a few candidates for this role and will be reporting to the Board more clearly about this over the summer.
- I am also working with the DIBM team to call a group of leaders together to discuss/discern how we can better use the space and furniture in our sanctuary to be more accessible as well as functional for our ongoing use. I imagine convening this group in early fall. We have been working towards putting information on our website about the ways that our congregation is accessible.
- I am part of the team planning for our involvement in the 2024 Pride Parade in November. We are working on securing rental for a vehicle and planning other parts of our parade presence to build on the success of last year.

#### **D. Lifespan Faith-Development**

- Chalice Circles are on hiatus over the summer and I’ll be working with the CC leaders to plan themes for the coming year.
- I have been in contact with the Agua Caliente band requesting a speaker to come to our congregation. So far we’ve not had success in scheduling – I don’t think they send out speakers on weekends – but I will be contacting their scheduling person after GA to see if we can find a time.
- Lauren Nile has agreed to come to our congregation and share a workshop on unconscious bias, which is one of her areas of expertise. We have agreed that she’ll come on Saturday, October 26, and are working together on the details and logistics.

#### **E. Worship**

- Other than one Sunday in early November (Pride Sunday), we have service leaders planned through the middle of December. The Worship Team is discerning what to do on Pride Sunday when so many of our congregation will be participating in the parade. We are committed to having a meaningful experience for those who are present at UUCOD on that morning, and are figuring out what that will look like.
- The Worship Team will be sharing our monthly themes for the 2024-25 church year in the next month..
- I continue to lead the weekly Production meetings, though others take the lead when I am out of town or away. In our production meetings, we continue the practice of reflecting on the service the day before and noting any issues we need to address.
- I led or participated in worship several times:
  - May 26 — “Memory and Respect” with Julia Alberg-Burbank as Worship Associate.
  - June 9 — “First Contact: Encountering Possibility” with Walter Gendell in his debut as Worship Associate!
  - June 16 – “Facing the Future: Faith vs Fascism” with Steven Toporoff as Worship Associate.

- We welcomed Rabbi Jules King back into the pulpit on June 2 to talk about Inherent Worth and Dignity.

#### **F. Denominational Activities**

- It was a great joy to virtually attend and offer blessings and greetings (by video) for the ordination of the Rev. George Grimm Howell. I served as George's vocational mentor over the past two years and it was an honor to see him move into this next stage in ministry. He will be serving a congregation in Hendersonville, North Carolina.
- I will be traveling to Las Vegas the weekend of July 20-21 to offer a memorial service for a man who was a congregant while I served there. They do not currently have a minister. While I'm there, I will be preaching for their Sunday service.
- I regularly consult with local and regional colleagues on issues affecting our congregations.
- I have been meeting monthly as a mentor to a new minister as he works through his Preliminary Fellowship.
- I completed my participation in an online training for mentors offered by the UUA and the UU Ministers Association.
- I am participating in the UU Ministers Association annual meeting online on June 4 and 6 and attending UUMA Ministry Days and General Assembly later in June.

#### **G. Prophetic Outreach, Interfaith Activities, and Local Collaboration**

- I offered the Invocation for the Memorial Day gathering at Forest Lawn in Cathedral City on Monday the 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Rabbi King (of DOS) and I hosted a gathering of our communities on Friday, May 31, to come together for support and care and inspiration in these challenging times. People were able to share their fears and anxieties in a loving space and be heard and held by community. It is likely we will hold more of these gatherings in the fall.

#### **H. Personal and Professional Growth**

- I continue meeting monthly with a coach for ongoing support, learning, and accountability as I minister to the congregation in our diversity transition work. My coach is Rev. Julica Hermann de la Fuente
- I meet monthly with a small group of colleagues in our region in reflection, sharing, and collegial support and learning.

#### **My weekly schedule is as follows:**

Currently, my day off is Friday. I plan to shift my writing/reading day, which I try to keep free of meetings, to Mondays and work in the office on Thursdays starting in August.

#### **Upcoming Travel Schedule:**

- I am grateful for a recent week of vacation which Mark and I (and the dogs!) spent in San Diego where we got to visit with friends, enjoy the beach, eat in some favorite restaurants, and read and knit a lot.
- I still have one week of Study Leave to take, and I'm going to spread this out by taking a few Saturdays off over the coming months as things get quieter in the congregation. I will keep Bob and Pam and the congregation informed of when I'll be available.
- Mark and I will be staying in Idyllwild for the month of July. I will be taking two weeks of Study Leave in July. The weeks that are not Study Leave, I will travel down to the church office three days a week (usually Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday) and work the remaining days from "home" as I have done the past few years. I will be fully available for planned face-to-face appointments and emergencies during this time—and I'll remain fully available by phone, text, e-mail, and Zoom as well.

in peace and deep love

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Doe', written in a cursive style.

## **Board Member at Large Report June 2024**

### **Hospitality**

- Sandy and Margaret will be stepping down effective June 30, 2024, from their role as Chairs of the Hospitality Committee. Great news – Rob DuWors will become the new Chair of Hospitality effective July 1, 2024.
- Sandy and Margaret have already spoken with him on several occasions and sent him all their written instructions and list of volunteers. He has volunteered on Sundays over the past few months and is ready to go.
- Sandy and Margaret will cover for him during August when he and Jerry will be in Sea Ranch for the entire month.
- Sandy and Margaret are still willing to serve as volunteers on Sundays from time to time.

### **Human Resources**

- Rev. Ian distributed the Minister's Evaluation form to the Board at the May meeting in my absence. It was requested the Board review the document and provide feedback at the June Board meeting in the hopes it can be finalized and approved at that time.
- I met with Rev. Ian and discussed the potential list of congregants that would be a part of the evaluation team. There are 36 individuals currently on the list representing the Board, all Committees and staff. This will be discussed at the June Board meeting.
- I will begin to review a number of potential policy additions/changes to include:
  - Jury Duty
  - An employee holiday pay policy
  - A telecommuting policy
  - A policy to address partial workdays
  - A revision to the employee vacation policy
- There were also suggested wording revisions to our current Employee Manual that will be reviewed and discussed and presented to the Board.
- Given the amount of revisions being reviewed I anticipate this will be a "summer" project with recommendations coming to the Board in the fall.

### **General Assembly**

- I will be attending General Assembly as a Delegate from June 20 – 23.

### **Sacred Grounds**

- Participated in the research, review and recommendation to purchase three benches to be placed throughout the Sacred Grounds.



**Worship Associate**

- Made my worship associate debut for the June 9<sup>th</sup> service.

**Attitude of Gratitude**

- Carol handled writing and mailing notes for the month of May.

**Submitted by:**

**Walter Gendell**

**Board Member at Large**

**June 14, 2024**

From Carol McDaniel, Director At Large

These are the committee's I check on:

## **AV**

We are having difficulty with the captioning computer talking/connecting to the other.

## **FACILITIES**

1. We will meet in July but not in August.
2. Solar panels and gutters were cleaned ( :) Jerry). One solar panel is shattered and another has discolored cells. We'll have the contractor check. NOTE: We own the panels. There are also small holes that the roofer needs to watch.
3. Grounds: are OK but Rod & John suggest comparing plants (Bladder Pods) on regular watering vs. having supplemental water.
4. Building:
  - . The community room closet is to be cleaned.
  - . Carpets will be cleaned in late Summer.
  - . Supplies are up to date
  - . We're discussing adding panels in the Community Room to absorb sound.
5. Arriving Oct. 1st, three 6' light red benches on 2 pallets (for gardens).

## **SOCIAL JUSTICE**

1. We will hold a Backpack & School Supply Drive for Galilee Center
  - July 1- 31
  - In July we will call for volunteers to fill backpacks & distribute them
    - Fill Backpacks: August 6 & 7
    - Distribution Date: August 8 at 3pm
      - Held in place of the food distribution
2. Summer Share the Plate
  - July 21: Galilee Center with money going towards backpacks & school supplies
  - August 18: Galilee Center
  - September 15: Galilee Center
3. 2024-2025 Share the Plate calendar has been determined & posted in the newsletter:
  - October 20, 2024: Laundry Love, Liaison: Sheryl Eaton
  - November 17, 2024: SafeHouse of the Desert, Liaison: Bob Rancourt
    - Will provide Target e-gift cards to Harrison House residents to buy holiday gifts
  - December 15, 2024: CSUSB Nursing Street Medicine, Liaisons: Margaret Beaman & Denise Stevens
  - January 19, 2025: Safe Schools Desert Cities on behalf of The Gloria Kapp Scholarship, Liaison: The Social Justice Committee

- February 16, 2025: Barkee LaRoux House of Love Animal Sanctuary, Liaison: Joni Paddock
- March 16, 2025: Volunteers in Medicine Coachella Valley, Liaison: Jack Fitzsimmons
- April 20, 2025: Alianza Coachella Valley, Liaison: Denise Janssen Eager
- May 18, 2025: Shelter from the Storm, Liaison: Bryna Blum
- June 15, 2025: Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest, Liaison: Sandy Sladen

4. Upcoming Volunteering Events:

- June 19: Laundry Love in Palm Springs - 7 UUCOD volunteers: Randy Steele, Steven Toporoff, Julia Bell, Celia Grohmann, Pam Watson, Jill Donovan, Tracy Flynn & Michael Mullins, the organizer
- The next Laundry Love event will be on November 20, which is a month after we Share the Plate with them
- Last call for Volunteers to sign up to register voters 9/17 - 10/21 at Mary Pickford Movie. Final article will be in this Friday's newsletter. Contact Denise Janssen Eager to sign up.

5. Planning for the Sunday, Nov. 3 Pride Parade is already underway.

Committee Members: Reuben Gallardo, Bob Rancourt, Michael Allen, LeGrand Velez, Rev. Ian Riddell, & Denise Janssen Eager

6. We are discussing with Rev. Ian having volunteers from UUCOD be part of UUA's Pilgrimage to the Border & House Build on April 4-6, 2025. For more info, contact Denise

Carol McDaniel  
6-18-24

## UUCOD 2024-25 Annual Calendar

### September

21 Board Retreat

### October

2 – 11 High Holy Days

13 - In gathering event

19 – Church Council

20 & 27 – New Member Orientation

### November

3 – Pride Parade

8 - Shabbat challenge

8 & 9 Auction

10 – 30 Fundraising for food boxes and toy drive

10 – 30 Safe House Christmas fundraiser

17 - New Member Induction - social event

27 – Thanksgiving Volunteering at Galilee center

### December:

7 – Migrant Food Box assembly

8 – Christmas Tree Trimming

19 – Christmas Volunteering at Galilee center

24 – Hanukkah

### January

12: habitat dedication

19: board fundraiser: after service (Bob)

### February

1: Pledge Drive packets distributed

2 - Pledge Drive Kick-off. (Chili cook-off)

8 & 22: weed pull party

15: Second Board Retreat

### March

2 - Pledge Drive Celebration

8 – weed pull party

15 – Church council

9 & 16 – New Member Orientation

30 – New Member Induction event

31 – April 5: community room reserved for fundraiser

### April:

5: Fundraiser

6 – Budget meeting

4-5: board fundraiser

17: Galilee Center

20: Easter

27: Annual Congregational Meeting

### May

### June

18 – 22 General assembly, Baltimore

**From:** Barb Storms bastorms@gmail.com

**Subject:** Annual notice about availability of church documents.

**Date:** June 16, 2024 at 3:14 PM

**To:** Walter Gendell wgendell@msn.com, Claudia Simmons secretary@uucod.org, Robert Rancourt president@uucod.org

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FYI--At the front of the print directory there is a notice about how people can access church documents. However, since there will be no print version this year, I wanted to remind the Board that somehow you'll need to meet this requirement of notification. I worked on the policy -- communication I think or maybe ended up a separate policy--and that will have to be reworked too as it states the notification will be print directory.

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Barb Storms

**From:** treasurer@uucod.org  
**Subject:** Membership  
**Date:** June 9, 2024 at 7:22 AM  
**To:** Bob Rancourt (he/him/his) president@uucod.org, Rev. Ian Riddell minister@uucod.org  
**Cc:** Fran Hoag vicepresident2@uucod.org, LeGrand Velez lev62@yahoo.com

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Hi Bob & Ian. I have attached below a segment of the minutes from the combined Stewardship and Membership Committees meeting in April. This topic was also recently discussed at the June combined meeting. We agreed to bring this to the attention of the board and I wonder if you want it on the agenda for the next board meeting.

*5. Possibility of Board, Stewardship and Membership sharing responsibility of organizing ushers, greeters and security in lobby during service. Each person would fill in 3 or 4 times a year. Maybe ushers and greeters (and security) could be a stand along committee. A bit of training required for security volunteers. Discussion of a member of the Board coordinating ushers, greeters and security. Fran and Jerry will bring to Board.*

At the June joint meeting, Membership continued to address the issue of not enough people on the Membership Committee to continue all the functions it currently does. With the exception of LeGrand, there was no great interest in merging Membership and Stewardship. Membership wants the Board's assistance in recruiting individuals to help with some of the tasks and the administration of those individuals. Of course, it is important to help maintain a vibrant Membership Committee as it is the first face of our community to new and existing members and friends.

On a separate note, Fran will leaving the Board as of June 30. Fran has served as coordinator/board liaison to the Stewardship Committee and board liaison to the Membership Committee. Stewardship is in the process of identifying a new coordinator and the liaison to the Membership Committee will be open. I think it is important to identify a Board member to serve as the Membership Committee liaison as soon as possible to help them resolve some of these challenges. If needed, I can serve as the Board liaison to the Stewardship Committee since I am an active member of that committee. If you plan to include this on the board agenda, I would ask that you let LeGrand know so Membership members can attend and be part of those discussions. Thanks.

Jerry