

# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT



An authentic, caring, joyful, church and community where everyone matters.



# Annual Report

May 2024

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# Minister's Report Submitted by Rev. Laura Smidzik

This has been quite a year! I am so grateful for my sabbatical last spring/summer. The MSUS lay leadership and staff guided and supported the congregation through those months. I returned so hopeful to have the energy to continue to serve the congregation for several more years, but I found that despite a hopeful beginning of the year I realized that my energy was still divided between family and the congregation and it was time to move on. I believe that a change in organizational leadership is good and I recognize that it is hard. My prayer is that someone new will bring different energy and perspective. This is such a wonderful congregation and it is a joy to serve you so my hope is that your next minister and you will thrive in the years to come.

We started this year with the Board of Trustees focused on strategic planning. After having settled in following the pandemic and the sale of our building it felt like time to revisit our priorities and vision. I admire how the leadership of this congregation can balance dreaming and imagining along with realistic assessments and rightsizing how the congregation functions. Sometimes is hard to move to move forward when "what was" is so present. So much has changed and I realize that for some that is exciting and full of possibility while others are weary of change and miss what used to be. Keep being honest with one another and listen to each other's perspectives. The truth is that we don't get to choose whether things change or not, they just do. Our work is to do the best we can with what and where we are and to keep open to what could and may lie ahead. Comparison is always a challenge—whether comparing our current capacity to other congregations or to the MSUS of old. I know I get stuck in that dreaded cycle of trying to "measure up" to other congregations or what "was." We have so many positive things happening at MSUS and the spirit in the congregation is incredibly positive, caring, engaged, and hopeful. Hold on to that in the months and years to come and be open to the future.

We continued the conversation about a possible name. The Name Choice Task Force was faithful and thorough in their discernment and in moving the process along. We held several Congregational Forums to solicit congregational feedback and to allow all of us to understand the nature of this decision. The biggest push was to move from what each of us thought was a good name (the "I" statements) to a decision that would reflect the congregation capturing the "we" in this decision. "We," as a congregation, have to decide what the outward facing invitation is when it comes to the name of the congregation.

We are still in conversation with the UCC congregation in New Brighton about renting space initially with the possibility of moving into a long-term, shared space agreement. Each of the congregations has an exploratory team and after a number of joint meetings we will both make a recommendation to our governing bodies very soon. The conversations have been rich and I could see our congregations working well together in many ways if the decision is to proceed.

I have been part of a social justice leadership program/class this year at United Theological Seminary. One question that my peers challenged me on was the question of who is our neighbor? When I preached on the founding of MSUS it was clear that the founders were deeply grounded and connected to the City of Fridley. Now, we come from many different places and there is not the same tie to the local community. One of my classmates suggested that maybe our neighbors has less to do with geographic location than with who we are in relationship with. He



suggested, "What if the LGBTQ community in the northern suburbs were your neighbor?" It is a good question to consider as the congregation continues to look for a home.

We have not been able to find and keep a long-term Director of Family Ministry. Several years ago, Rev. Diana McLean accepted the position with an understanding that she was building her entrepreneurial ministry and would not stay long-term. This past year the position was posted, we hired someone who stayed for a short while, and then we decided to leave the position vacant in light of the ministerial search. I think it is a wise way to proceed at this point. Even though we have a number of families currently engaged at MSUS. There is grief in the congregation who once had a group of families with children present.

And finally, with my announcement to move on the search team has done an incredible job creating a packet for ministers who are interested (called the congregational record) and interviewing potential candidates. I have talked to a number of ministers who wanted to know more about MSUS. I am hopeful that new energy and perspective will be valuable to the congregation in this stage of its development.

What an honor to have served all of you for eight years! We have been through a lot together and our shared ministry has weathered and leaned into many changes and yet remained strong and vibrant. Linda and I raised our kids in a congregation of 800+ members, I interned at a congregation that reached 1,000 when I was there, and my first ministerial position was at another large congregation. I had no idea what I was getting myself into when I was called as your minister!

I have experienced and learned so much over these years. I have loved you, explored our faith, laughed with you, cried with you, strategized with you, lamented some changes and embraced others. I am forever changed by our time together and am grateful. As we move toward the end of June I will have time to say goodbye and lay the groundwork for a smooth transition. The UU Minister's Association recommends that ministers break all contact with a congregation and congregants for two years following their departure. This is so that the congregation and the next minister have time to establish a relationship and so that the prior minister makes room for that relationship to emerge. I plan to honor that two year separation period and then we will see if it makes sense to create a covenantal relationship with the congregation and the minister so I can return on occasion. Please know that you are forever in my heart!

I read an article by Dan Hotchkiss, a church policy expert, titled Governance Now that You're Smaller. Hotchkiss says, "Small congregations remain one of the most durable institutional life-forms on the planet. Many congregations dutifully try to fill the seats required by its formal structure. Others organize themselves to dream new dreams and make them happen." My prayer for all of you is that you move forward emboldened by the fact that MSUS is unique, valuable, and life-giving.

I created a list of all of the teams, committees, and volunteers who have done project based work this year. The list is included in this packet. I have very few names included in this report so I encourage you to review that list and thank those who have served. I want to call special attention to Katie Johnson, our Board President. Katie is a thoughtful and courageous leader who



has shifted the culture her at MSUS with bringing in all voices and opinions during meetings and leading with a high level of transparency. Chad Snyder. Our Commissioned Lay Minister, has also contributed in tremendous ways both in Sunday services and through leading the coffee house. He brings a joy and depth to this community. Laurie Young has worn many hats this year. Most of which are behind the scene. I am so grateful for her willingness to come forward and get things done in such a beautiful way. And I would like to thank the MSUS staff—Bruce VanBronkhorst, Director of Music Ministry, and Colleen Bemis, Communications and Office Administrator, both of whom have been wonderful colleagues and who share a passion for serving this congregation professionally.

The congregation, Board of Trustees, and staff created nine visionary ends statements and articulated three primary values of MSUS. I structure my monthly report to the Board of Trustees using these nine strategic areas. Although items do not always fit perfectly under each area, the statements help focus our work and name our accomplishments and limitations.

#### Ground ourselves in ritual and practice that develop lives of meaning and purpose.

Sunday morning services are the most visible ways we ground ourselves in ritual that develops meaning and purpose. Small groups of all sorts, leadership, and community service also contribute to this area of faith development.

- This year we had 16 service leaders participated in Sunday services. Service leaders have a choice of how involved they want to be in creating worship. Some actively plan the service and deliver a homily or sermon; some plan and contribute ideas and readings; and others receive the completed script prior to the service. It has been an absolute joy to work so many of you and to hear a range of voices from the pulpit. I encourage anyone else who is interested to let the new minister know.
- Chad Snyder, our Commissioned Lay Minister, will have led 14 services by the end of the year and he participated in several more. His ability to craft a meaningful service and his preaching have been such a gift to the congregation. He is actively exploring a congregation-based ministerial internship for 2024-2025. This will impact his involvement at MSUS. Since we don't budget for outside preachers it may be time to explore a different model for one Sunday a month.
- We worked to create one Sunday service a month that was intentionally "family friendly" and more interactive. Even though it was rare to have a family attend worship, it is good to offer worship that appeals to different ways of being together.
- We are intentional about using the Soul Matters theme to explore theology, social justice, UU history, current events, and spiritual practice and growth during services. This year the themes reflected the values of Article 2 (the revision of the UUA bylaws articulating our principles and purposes). Five small groups also use the Soul Matters themes as a focus of their monthly conversations.
- Our Tech Team has created high-quality, inclusive worship experiences that have allowed for



people to join us online and in person. I cannot express enough gratitude to the Team for their work during worship, Congregational Forums, memorial services, and our coffee houses.

• Our worship attendance was an average of 40 (online and in person) prior to January. January 1 to today our average is 45 with an average of 16 online and 29 in person though it differs week to week.

#### Create a loving community of intentional care and support for one another.

- Although we have not had a formal Congregational Care Team this year we continue to have a
  culture of people coming forward to help one another when needed. We have one person who
  has taken on bringing cards to services that the congregation can sign to support people in
  need of care. Others have arranged meals, taken people to doctor appointment and dropped
  off flowers. I have also continued to reached out to congregants and arranged calls and visits.
- The Blue Christmas service was larger than usual this year. It is such a beautiful way to support one another and witness each other's grief during the holiday season.
- Our Hospitality Team helped with providing food and hospitality for memorial services for Lois Roadfeldt Mullin and Richard Harju. The Kempers hosted a gathering for Sally Cagle since the family did not want a formal service.

#### Practice generosity that nourishes our spirits.

- We held two fundraisers this year—the holiday sale and cookie exchange and the service auction. Both events are both fun and joyful and fund raisers. It has been fun to see the enthusiasm of congregants who offered items and those who purchased them!
- Rosemary Hagen, a prior member of MSUS who now lives in another state, donated some of her stocks to MSUS. We have a policy of liquidating stocks once we receive them. If any congregants are interested in including MSUS in their estate planning please contact the office.
- The Generosity Joy Jam was so much fun this year! Hopefully the event and the matching gift inspired people to pledge. Thank you to the families who contributed to the matching gift this year!

# Build authentic connections across lines of difference; and provide radical hospitality for all.

- The sparklet circles following worship have created an easy way for new comers to connect with others in the congregation on an equal plane. People share their reflections on the service—a "sparklet" that caught their attention and then check in. If you are longing to connect with newcomers I encourage you to attend.
- I follow up on all visitors who sign in and if they ask to be added to our Thursday Update



distribution list they are added. Colleen Bemis responds to all email inquiries and forwards them to me so I can add a greeting.

- We now have "official" signs inside the Fridley Community Center directing people into our worship space. We moved the sign in/nametag table into the room where we meet so we can see newcomers as they enter. The flow feels more welcoming to newcomers.
- If you remember in the old days, we used to have the minister and the service leader retreat down the main aisle and wait outside the door to greet people. This was a connection point that I have missed. If we move to UCC in New Brighton that greeting and check in ritual could return.

# Articulate and explore our Unitarian Universalist faith identity as an intergenerational community learning as we live it together in the world.

- There is no one way that exploring and articulating our UU faith identity happens. I think the rewrite of Article 2 offers some new language around shared values. Those of you who participated in small groups this year had a chance to dive deeper into these values as we explored the monthly themes.
- Worship is a way that the preacher and service leaders dive into questions of faith identity. When there is a time for congregants to share in relation to a topic, I find the comments to be insightful and illuminating.
- A group of youth in grades 6-8 have been participating in OWL (Our Whole Lives). The curriculum offers important factual information and also explores creating a healthy self image, self confidence, and the ability to ask for what you want and need in relationships. These are faith and value-laden conversations.

# Discern our individual and collective work for justice and pursue that work with courage and Act as a trusted and committed partner with organizations that bring more love and justice to the world.

- We have continued with our connections with our community partners through social justice offerings and service. It was great to see a large team volunteering at SACA, and continuation of our collaboration to support the family from Guatemala, and Meals on Wheels.
- It is also wonderful to see a revitalized Action and Justice Team emerge this spring. This past Sunday voter engagement post care packs from MN UU Social Justice Alliance (MUUSJA) were distributed to congregants who were willing to write out 30 cards. It is a great way to activate people in the congregation who are looking for a way to impact the upcoming election but are unlikely to table at events or go door to door talking to voters.
- The Turkish American Society hosted another Iftar dinner this year. It felt different since it was the second time they hosted a dinner at Pilgrim House. There are definitely opportunities to continue to deepen that relationship in the years to come.



I brought a presentation about two shared buildings to a Congregational Forum. The buildings
are New Branches and Springhouse Ministry Center. Both of these buildings house three
congregations that work together on some aspects of their ministries and still maintain their
own distinct identities. The buildings are co-owned by the congregations. The forum was
well attended and congregants encouraged us to explore sharing a building as one course of
action for the future. There is real potential for shared social justice work there.

# Cultivate our covenanted relationships with the larger Unitarian Universalist faith movement.

- We continue to deepen relationships with other UU congregations through sharing space with Pilgrim House and combining programming with the UU Fellowship of Mankato and the UU Fellowship of Northfield. Also, our multi-year support of the family from Guatemala is now supported by congregants from three churches: MSUS, Pilgrim House, and the UU church of Minnetonka.
- I have been mentoring two ministers who are in preliminary fellowship: Sara Smalley from the UU Fellowship of Northfield and Stacy Craig who is the minister of the Chequamegon UU Fellowship and the Keweenaw Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

#### Extend a visible invitation to spiritual seekers in our broader community.

- I am so delighted by all that Colleen Bemis has brought to our marketing and communications. Our web page and social media presence is current, welcoming, and represents who we are well. She created a brochure and business cards that have compelling images, a noticeable rainbow flag that is trans inclusive, and a welcoming message. There is an awesome gayowned café and antique mall in Fridley called the Clapping Monkey where I have been stocking business cards in their information area. I don't know if anyone sees them, but it is joyful to see them there.
- Our conversations about potentially changing our name has to do with extending a welcome that may be more inviting to people who are unfamiliar with Michael Servetus or historical theology. I am excited about holding a marketing session with the congregation if we do choose a new name so we can capture the spirit behind the decision and what we want new comers and spiritual seekers to know about the name.
- Colleen and I have spoken about a fall press release which could announce the new minister, the new name if a new one is selected, and potentially a new place where we hold services. I think with the changing nature of churches and religious life it might be an interesting story for local papers.

#### **Another Update**

• The City of Fridley wants to create a historic corridor including parts of East River Road. We have been in conversation with them about their taking possession of the MSUS cemetery to include in that historic area.



#### 2023/24 Annual Report

### Board of Trustees Report Submitted by Katie Johnson, President

As we wrap up this year we remain at the threshold for a number of anticipated changes or decisions. Some of these unknowns will be resolved in the coming weeks, but others will carry over into the 2024-25 church year.

The biggest news of this year is the departure of Rev. Laura after 8 years of ministry here. I'm sure many of us have been cherishing these last few months of her time with us. I notice there have been a variety of people participating as Service Leaders at our Sunday services this spring, something that is almost certainly a part of how we are beginning to say farewell. We have a small team working on a celebration of Rev. Laura's time with us. We are planning a farewell service and casual reception on Sunday June 23. And we have a Ministerial Search Team diligently working through the process of finding a new minister for our congregation; hopefully we'll welcome a new minister in August.

The Board began this year with a Strategic Planning retreat supported by congregational forums. We got a good start on digesting the information and defining some focus areas for a deeper look. This work has paused as we switched our attention to searching for a new minister. A variety of insights from the strategic planning work have been informative to the ministerial search. We expect our final work with strategic planning will be part of the 2024-25 church year.

In May of 2022 we re-initiated active work about changing our name. Following an effort to finalize and then carry out the process of generating choices and then selecting a finalist, our decision about adopting a new name will be part of our 2024 Annual Meeting. If we do vote to change our name, that will kick off numerous administrative tasks to get documents and accounts changed over, and there will be creative tasks, too, to bring a new name out into the wider world.

We are thriving in many ways – we are seeing steady to slightly growing participation in Sunday services and at the monthly coffeehouse, we're having regular "sparklet circles" following Sunday services and other small groups, this spring we've got more Action and Justice events on the calendar, and congregants have joyfully supported MSUS youth and adults in ventures beyond MSUS. We have continued to meet at the Fridley Community Center and on Zoom for our Sunday Services, and to use the Pilgrim House Fellowship's building for a variety of other events. Though we are meeting our needs for gathering space, it is challenging to meet at two locations and to have to set up everything on Sunday mornings, and this is a stressor for the congregation. We currently have an exploratory team from MSUS working with an exploratory team from a nearby church with similar values, considering whether it might be feasible to rent space from/ share space with them. These teams are working through the practical matters of how well the space they can offer us will suit our needs and also exploring how we two congregations might find ways to thrive together. If they find a feasible framework, we'll have wider congregational conversations about this opportunity.

The role of religious institutions within society has been changing such that in general, these institutions are no longer a part of people's lives in the way they were 50 years ago when MSUS was in its formative years, or even ten or fifteen years ago. In this changing landscape, we can't rely on memories of how church looked or functioned in the past; the tasks ahead of us will ask for imagination and risk-taking.



#### 2023/24 Board of Trustees Report cont.

Whether or not we change our name, whether or not we find a partnership or other opportunity for our gathering space, and with whomever we hire as a new minister, let us move forward embracing new and emerging ideas of what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist congregation in Minnesota in the 21st Century.

#### Treasurer's Report July 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024 Submitted by Liz Haworth

#### **EXPENSES**

	YTD 3/31/2024	FY 22-23 6/30/23	FY 21-22 6/30/2022
Major Sources:			
Salary and Payroll Expense	\$104,258.47	\$159,105.96	\$157,448.11
Building and Occupancy (rent)	\$19,362.65	\$27,924.41	\$37,734.94
Total Expenses	\$145,179.64	\$215,252.72	\$236,402.74

#### ACCOUNT BALANCES

	YTD 3/31/2024	FY 22-23 6/30/23	FY 21-22 6/30/2022
Checking	\$21,251.31	\$15,690.70	\$23,542.05
Investments	\$1,528,421.82	\$1,387,938.92	\$1,322,717.15
Totals	\$1,549,673.13	\$1,403,629.62	\$1,346,259.20

#### **INVESTMENT WITHDRAWALS**

	YTD 3/31/2024	FY 22-23 6/30/23	FY 21-22 6/30/2022
Amount	\$(45,000.00)	\$(75,000.00)	\$(50,000.00)



# Music Ministry Report Submitted by Bruce Van Bronkhorst, Director of Music Ministry

- I. Duties and Performances
  - A. Ongoing Responsibilities
    - 1. Select and keep track of music for the year
    - 2. Work with the choir, band, Delphi and individuals for performances
    - 3. Play hymns, prepare music for preludes, offertories, interludes for each Sunday
    - 4. Meetings with Rev. Laura, staff and music team
  - B. Performances
    - 1. Holiday concert, spring concert, Delphi concert, Fridley parade, Winter solstice, Pride Festival
    - 2. Special services: memorials
    - 3. help with Coffee House
  - C. Outside Exposure
    - 1. Performances give MSUS more exposure in the surrounding communities
  - D. Rehearsals
    - Choir rehearses Wednesday evenings, 7-8:30 PM at Pilgrim House

       a. special help rehearsals before concerts are Saturday mornings, 10 AM at our house
    - 2. Band rehearses the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays, 8:30-10 AM before church
    - 3. Delphi rehearses 3:30-5 PM, Sundays at our house
- II. Care and Support
  - A. Support each other in rough times; rehearsals are great for connecting with each other and providing help and care when needed by our members
  - B. Welcome New Member
    - 1. Kevin Sitter, who besides involvement with music, has taken on many roles in our church
  - C. Caring Choir Perform at Memorials, Funerals
- III. Concerns/Hopes
  - A. More members involved in music program
    - 1. Get youth involved
    - 2. More adults involved



#### 2023/24 Music Ministry Report cont.

- B. Equipment scattered
  - 1. makes it difficult to know where everything is and to get items as needed
- IV. Thank you to those who support our efforts!

A. Tech team, Music team, MSUS Board, Rev. Laura, you – the MSUS congregation and friends B. The great musicians I get to work with. Without you, none of this would be possible

# Committee and Team Leadership Report Submitted by Deb Schnieder, Chair

#### **Team Members**

Debbie Schneider - (3rd year - Chair) Pamela Brustman - (3rd year) Jamie Hubbard - (3rd year) Allen Grilliot - (2nd year) Jan Vasser – Board Liaison

Summary of responsibilities plus any goals for the current year

- Nominate candidates to the Board. There was one opening this year.
- Nominate candidates to the LDC. There are four openings this year.
- Provide Leadership training for members and friends. There was not any training done this year.

Any challenges to reaching those goals?

The reality of our smaller congregation makes it difficult to find enough people to run for the Board and the LDC, with many members taking on multiple roles to get the work of our church done.

We have one excellent nominee for the Board, but at the time of this submittal, we only have one excellent candidate for the LDC.

Successes or new initiatives that you would like to share?

Given the challenges mentioned above, we have proposed a change to the by-laws to make the LDC size change from five members to three to five members.

We have also proposed changing the LDC charter to be focused on nominating for the board and the LDC, and no longer have a training focus. Training can be initiated by the board or the LDC on a project-by-project basis using the training talents in the congregation as necessary to fit the need.



# Hospitality Report Submitted by Laurie Young, Chair

Coffeehouse Hospitality Team: Merle DeNuccio, Pat Ferrian, Joey Hunter, Kevin Sitter

Sunday Service Hospitality: Laurie Young

Celebration of Life Services and Special Events: Volunteers solicited by special request

There is no formal hospitality team, except for Coffeehouse. The team listed above does set up and clean up for the Coffeehouse at Pilgrim House once a month.

Laurie Young provides treats and beverages at Sunday Services when there is a forum scheduled after service, usually once a month. Volunteers often pitch in and help with set up and clean up.

Hospitality is provided at Celebration of Life Services. Hospitality works with the family to order food if they would like the assistance and set up arrangements. They serve as greeters and help with set up and clean up. Volunteers are asked to bring cookies and bars.

Other special events that Hospitality supports includes recognition of staff that are leaving and for other events as requested by the minister.

Goals for next year:

Challenges: The main challenge is providing hospitality without access to a kitchen for storage, refrigeration, and sink for clean up. Currently coffee cups and other dishes are taken home to be washed.

- 1. Add members to the team.
- 2. Explore the potential of providing coffee and simple array of treats every Sunday.



### Finance Committee Report Submitted by Lynne Schuman, Chair

Members: Ed Burek (investments), Liz Haworth, Katie Johnson, Lynne Schuman (chair), Chad Snyder, Jan Vassar, Rev. Laura Smidzik (ex officio)

- The Finance Committee is a committee of the Board of Trustees and assists the Board with specific financial projects as the Board requests. Highlights this church year are:
- Writing a new investment policy to specify asset allocation targets and how they will be balanced as needed to maintain a 60%/40% allocation between stocks and fixed income investments. Adopted by the Board, December 2023.
- Formalizing a budgeting and fundraising schedule
- Making the budgeting process increasingly transparent
- Reviewing past expenditures and creating a proposed budget based on the most realistic numbers available, as well as following the new UUA salary guidelines; presenting that proposed budget to the congregation and the Board
- Salary research (thanks to Stephanie McDonald) and recommendations for minister salary and benefits to assist the Ministerial Search Committee

# Music Team Report Submitted by Brian Hill, Chair

Members: Brian Hill (chair), Bruce VanBronkhorst, Jamie Hubbard, Polly Philblad, Lynne Schuman, Ed Burek

The Music Team leads long range strategic planning for the music program to ensure its sustainable role in the ongoing ministry of MSUS, in partnership with the Music Director and Minister. The team also assists the Music Director with music programming as needed and with the organization and maintenance of music resources.

Highlights of this church year include:

- Supporting the Music Director with planning and execution of music events
  - Holiday Concert Dec 17, 2023
  - Spring Concert May 25, 2024
- Continuing work on a possible Royalty Reparations program.
- Continuing work on a revival of Special Music in services.



#### Action and Justice Team Report Submitted by Laurie Young, Chair

#### **Monthly Special Collections**

Following are the recipients of the monthly special collections

July	Hope Dental	\$361
August	INITC *	\$157
September	Backpacks	\$641
October	Transforming Families	\$425
November	Meals on Wheels	\$180
December	Minister's Discretionary Fund	\$3,888
January	Alexandra House	\$590
February	World Central Kitchen	\$529
March	SACA	\$596.
Total to Date		\$7,367

\*International initiative for Transformative Collaboration

#### Support for an Immigrant Family

This year the congregation continued to support the Lemus Perez family, a family of five from Guatemala that was separated at the border under the Trump administration and reunited in the US under the Biden administration. We are working in partnership with the Unitarian Universalist Church of Minnetonka and Pilgrim House. Assistance provided to the family included, transportation to the dentist, monthly grocery shopping trips with a budget of \$200, assistance in researching health insurance options, Christmas gifts, a summer picnic at French Regional Park, preparing for tax preparation and transportation to a tax preparation site.

#### Meals on Wheels

Volunteers continued to deliver meals for Meals on Wheel every seven weeks. Sixteen people volunteer on a fairly regular basis.

#### Southern Anoka Community Asdistance (SACA)

Several people volunteered at SACA filling grocery orders for people who can't get to the food shelf. Some volunteers also delivered the orders.

#### **UU the Vote**

MSUS will participate in UU the Vote. The first initiative will be to write postcards to renters to get out the vote. There will also be phone calling and door knocking later.

#### **Environmental Work**

This summer there will be several hands on environmental activities scheduled. The first project will be planting trees at Crosby Farm Regional Park.



# Committees, Teams, and Group Leadership

#### **Board of Directors**

President: Katie Johnson Vice President: Jan Vassar Treasurer: Liz Haworth Secretary: Kathy Forbes Members: Anna Landes Benz, Kathy Forbes, Lynne Schuman, Jan Vassar Recording Secretary: Brian Hill

#### **Action and Justice Team**

Lead: Laurie Young Members: Kathy Burek, Jaime Hubbard, Katie Johnson, Ah-li Monahan, Marie Phillips, Deb Schneider, Lynne Schuman, David Weiss

#### Band

Director: Bruce Van Bronkhorst Anna Landes Benz, Ed Burek, Faith Johnson, Polly Philblad, Sam Sharp, Mary West

#### **Cemetery Exploration**

Allen Grilliot

#### Choir

Director: Bruce Van Bronkhorst Kathy Burek, Jamie Hubbard, Byron Johnson, Faith Johnson, Marie Phillips, Lynne Schuman, Kevin Sitter

#### **Coffee House**

Coordinator and Emcee: Chad Snyder Occasional Emcee: Kevin Sitter

Commissioned Lay Minister Chad Snyder

#### Congregational Care

Marie Phillips and lots of informal care givers

#### Delphi Jazz

Director: Bruce Van Bronkhorst Ed Burek, Kate Burek, Brian Hill, Charlie Martin, Polly Philblad

#### **Finance Committee**

Chair: Lynne Schuman Members: Ed Burek (investments), Liz Haworth, Katie Johnson, Chad Snyder, Jan Vassar, Rev. Laura Smidzik (ex officio)



#### **Fundraising:**

Cookie Exchange Leads: Jenn Grilliot, Joey Hunter, Deb Schneider, Laurie Young Service Auction Leads: Deb Schneider and Laurie Young

#### Hospitality

Lead: Laurie Young Coffee House Team: Merle DeNuccio, Pat Ferrian, Joey Hunter, Kevin Sitter

#### Leadership Development Committee (LDC)

Chair: Deb Schneider Members: Pamela Brustman, Allen Grilliot, Jamie Hubbard

#### Meals on Wheels

Coordinator: Laurie Young Regular Volunteers: Ed Burek, Kathy Burek, Merle DeNuccio, Pat Ferrian, Chris Greene, Sarah Greene, Marilyn Hiatt, Scott Hokenson, Lisa Monson-Hokenson, Eric Noren, Marie Phillips, Marti Reckdahl, Doug Root, Deb Schneider, Lynne Schuman, Ben Withhart

#### **Ministerial Search Team**

Anna Landes Benz, Kathy Burek, Lori Gazda, Katie Johnson, Kevin Sitter

#### **Music Team**

Lead: Brian Hill Ed Burek, Jamie Hubbard, Polly Philblad, Lynne Schuman, Bruce VanBronkhorst Board Liaison: Jan Vassar

#### Name Choice Task Force

Lead: Byron Johnson Members: Marie Phillips and Janice Sankot. Rev. Laura Smidzik joined in when needed.

#### New Brighton UCC (UCCNB) Exploratory Team

Convener: Rev. Laura Smidzik Members: Jenn Grilliot, Liz Haworth, Brian Hill, Laurie Young

#### Our Whole Lives (OWL)

Facilitators: Amy Luedtke and Kevin Sitter One time presenters/guests: Lois Burnett, Lori Gazda, Ah-li Monahan, Sawyer Olston, Kaj Reinholdt

#### SACA (Southern Anoka Community Assistance)

Liaison: Polly Philblad

Michael Servetus Unitarian Society Transforming ourselves and the world.

#### Committees, Teams, and Group Leadership cont.

#### **Service Leaders**

Anna Landes Benz, Kathy Burek, Lois Burnett, Jenn Grilliot, Liz Haworth, Jamie Hubbard, Joey Hunter, Katie Johnson, Amy Luedtke, Sawyer Olson, Marie Phillips, Kaj'Or Reinholdt, Lynne Schuman, Kevin Sitter, David Weiss, Laurie Young

Sunday Night Book Group Coordinator: Doug Root

Sunday Service Flowers Laurie Young

**Tech Team** Brian Hill, Byron Johnson, Katie Johnson, Chad Snyder

#### Women's Book Group

Coordinator: Pat Ferrian

