

ANNUAL REPORT

2018-2019



May 19, 2019

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH

801 East Washington Street

South Bend, Indiana 46617

Board of Trustees 2018-2019

Chuck Leone, *President*
Ron Robinson, *Vice President*
Melanie Smith-Guillaume, *Secretary*
Elena Wake, *Treasurer*

Janet Bogar, *Trustee*
Wendy Lohman, *Trustee*
Anne Mannix, *Trustee*
Rich Wallace, *Trustee (through 4-30-2019)*

Church Staff

Minister: Rev. Chip Roush
Coordinator of Religious Education: Rich Wallace

Office Manager: Peg Faulmann
Bookkeeper: Finda Kamanda
Pianists: Ian Bunker & Dylan Bajo
Nursery Care Provider: Diana Mendelsohn

Committee Chairs

Adult Religious Education	Gail deSomer
Aesthetics	Melanie Smith-Guillaume
Building	Roger Birdsell
Building Use	Gary Metzler
Care	Mary Hagen & Lois Holm
Committee on Ministry	Jim Curlee
Endowment	Joseph Gress
Events	Kathy Platt
Finance	Elena Wake
Grounds	Barb Carmichael & Susan Van Fleit
Marketing	<i>Vacant</i>
Membership	Gail deSomer & Anne Mannix
Peace & Justice	Andrea Vollrath & Kay Azar
Social	Kathy Platt
Stewardship	Ron Robinson
Worship Arts	Florence Klecka
Youth Religious Education	<i>Vacant</i>

**Annual Report
2018-2019
First Unitarian Church, South Bend**

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Draft Congregational Meeting Minutes

Annual Congregational Meeting May 20, 2018

***Note that motions are underlined.**

1. Call to order by President Susan Siemers at 12:13.
2. The Secretary determined that a quorum of members (38) was present plus proxies.
3. Opening — Susan Siemers
4. Approval of Congregational Minutes — Byrd Tetzlaff moved that the minutes of the May 21, 2017 Annual Meeting be approved as written. Rose Fournier seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
5. Review of Reports by the Minister and President Siemers printed in the Annual Report.

6. 2018-2019 Proposed Operating Budget

- Chuck Leone pointed out that line 205 lists the mortgage payment as \$22,200. This includes a \$10,000 reduction from the “Singe the Mortgage” campaign.
- Not included in line 205 is a \$5,000 transfer from the Endowment Fund which is the next item on the Annual Meeting agenda. This transfer would effectively reduce the size of the budget deficit from \$11,671 to \$6,671.
- Roger Birdsell asked about the deficit and wanted to know how much of a shortfall there is in the stewardship campaign. Chuck Leone thought a rough estimate of a final total would be \$153,000.
- Anne Mannix noted that last year we didn’t receive enough pledges to meet expenses either. Chuck Leone said that most years less pledges are compensated for by less expenses.
- Roger Birdsell moved, and Dale Gibson seconded that the operating budget be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Endowment Disbursements

- Joseph Gress introduced 5 recommended Endowment disbursements totaling \$14,081, the authorized disbursement amount. The individual or group proposing the project is in parentheses.
- The recommended disbursements are; \$5,000 for principal pay-down of the building mortgage (Board); \$4,000 for technology equipment and installation in the sanctuary (Rev. Chip Roush, Becky Lindstrom and Alan Hamlet); \$1,600 for an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) purchase and training (Barbara Williams); \$1,381 for Mobile Ecology Center (Diana Mendelsohn); and \$2,000 for miscellaneous grounds improvement projects (Grounds Committee).
- Barbara Boyd pointed out that there is \$1,500 already in the Funds Statement of the budget for and AED, but the true figure is \$1,600.

- A motion was made by Joseph Gress and was seconded by Rich Wallace to approve the proposed Endowment Fund disbursements for 2018-2019. The motion was passed with one abstention.

8. Elections

- The nominations as printed in the Annual Meeting Report need to be corrected to show that Melanie Smith-Guillaume is being nominated for a second two-year term as Secretary, not Treasurer.
- A motion was made by Roger Birdsell and seconded by David Mayfield to elect the corrected slate of nominated Officers, Trustees and Endowment Committee member as listed in the Annual Meeting Report.

Vice President	Ron Robinson
Secretary	Melanie Smith-Guillaume
Trustee, 2-year term	Anne Mannix
Trustee, 2-year term	Rich Wallace
Trustee, 1-year term	Janet Bogar (for the last year of Jim Ward's term)
Endowment Committee	Allen deSomer (3-year term)

The motion passed with one abstention.

- The nomination of Mary Alice Lundergan was made from the floor to fill the position of Alternate on the Nominating Committee.
- Dale Gibson made a motion and Ruth Regan seconded to elect the Nominating Committee slate and Alternate nominated from the floor.

Chair Person:	Susan Siemers (outgoing Board President, one-year term)
Current Member:	Lois Holm (activated as alternate this year, will serve for one year to complete the two-year term)
New Member:	Wendy Lohman (two-year term)
Alternate:	Mary Alice Lundergan

The motion passed unanimously.

9. Strategic Plan Discussion and Vote

- Melanie Smith-Guillaume gave a short history of the Strategic Planning process and thanked Suzanne Waller, Becky Lindstrom and Chuck Leone for writing the Plan with her.
- Becky Lindstrom explained the Task Force's efforts to make the Plan accessible with icons, a summary page of strategic ideas, and an easy-to-follow structure. The Task Force planned to create an "on-going, living document" that would help us to "work smarter not harder and become the best version of who we are". She also stated that the Plan does not preclude us from doing other things that are not in the Plan.
- Susan Siemers said that she thought the Plan should be accessible in digital form so that it can be updated and members can see it evolving.

- David Mayfield thought the Plan should not preclude other projects and that it should be updated at the Annual Meeting. He asked the question, “What authority does it give people to act?”
- Chuck Leone stated that it is a vision and a road map. Some actions would require Board approval, but Committees could take over.
- Anne Mannix suggested that Rev. Chip could give us feedback. But since we are all volunteers, we can’t make anyone do anything.
- Joseph Gress made a motion to adopt the Strategic Plan as a vision and roadmap and to thank the Task Force for all the work they have done. Dale Gibson seconded. The motion passed with three abstentions.
- Discussion continued about implementation of the Strategic Plan
- David Mayfield asked what mechanisms were in place to make changes in the plan.
- Bill Stevens said that the document should be seen as a statement of principle, not legislation of by-laws. The Task Force listened and synthesized feelings and aspirations of the membership. By approving the Strategic Plan, we are acknowledging a collective vision as a guide and a commitment to each other to follow the vision. Usually we don’t vote on these things, however, our vote equals thanks to the Task Force and acknowledgement of where we are.
- Chuck Leone said that the Plan can be changed. When issues come to the Board through committees and individuals, that starts us in a direction with constraints as we adjust to opportunities and threats.
- Kathy Vetter suggested a periodic update of where we are at given times.
- Barb Carmichael suggested that the Board report at appointed times through the Newsletter and the Chirp and the pulpit.
- Anne Mannix made a motion and Jim Curlee seconded to charge the Board with implementation of the plan and with responsibility of periodic reporting to the congregation. The motion passed with 3 abstentions.

10 and 11. Review of Committee Reports

12. The Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to members: Kathy Platt and Alan Hamlet.

13. Susan Siemers recognized and thanked the Board of 2017-2018 for its service and wished the new Board the best.

14. No Other Business

15. Adjournment — Dale Gibson moved and Barbara Boyd seconded that the Annual Meeting be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously. Adjournment was at 1:08.

Melanie Smith-Guillaume
Secretary

Minister's Report, Rev. Chip Roush

Grief, I've learned, is really just love. It's all the love you want to give but cannot. All of that unspent love gathers up in the corners of your eyes, the lump in your throat, and in that hollow part of your chest. Grief is just love with no place to go. — Jamie Anderson

What a fascinating year! From a polar-vortex-related flood to staff turnover, from new initiatives to long-term efforts finally bearing fruit, from politics to anti-racism efforts, there was a lot going on!

We were very fortunate that the flood in the sanctuary was not more harmful; it made a mess, but did not damage any artwork, nor affect the sound equipment or piano. Many members showed up to help move, clean, dry and restore the items in the sanctuary and the basement. Thanks to all who helped!

Kathy Vetter did great work serving as an Interim Office Manager, and we are thrilled that Rev. Peg Faulmann has become our “permanent” Office Manager. We now have two qualified accompanists, with Dylan Bajo and Ian Bunker.

Dan Holm's work at IUSB increased, so he resigned as our Director of Religious Education. We used the opportunity to bring in a consultant from our UUA MidAmerica Region, to help us discern our vision for our Religious Education program. We've had several meetings with families and parents (and plan still more), to help us flesh out that vision. As a result, we've restructured the position, and welcomed Rich Wallace as our new Coordinator of Religious Education.

We now have an AED in the building (and have held two trainings to learn how to use it), and we have screens in the sanctuary. In the political realm, our own Anne Mannix is running for a seat on the South Bend Common Council, and Mayor Pete is running for President.

We were honored to host the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance service, which was well-attended. We also did a lot in the struggle against racism—including hosting a play, “The White Card” (directed by Carys Kresny and including Alan Hamlet as one of the actors), and a concert, “Deeper Than the Skin.” Kathie Carr and I co-facilitated a “Beloved Conversations” group, in which nine of our members and friends participated.

As for me, personally, it has also been a year of extremes. I spent my Sabbatical caring for my mother, who passed away in December, 2018. Most of this year has been an extended study in the effects of grief. Even with that as a backdrop, I've also had some wonderful professional moments. Working on the UUA Election Task Force was immensely rewarding; leading a “Beloved Conversations” retreat for another congregation was initially stressful, then deeply satisfying; and the response of the crowd, to my remarks at the Memorial Service in Response to the New Zealand Shootings, was heartening. I helped to ordain a friend, blessed some animals, and helped train some current seminarians. Best of all, I still get to serve this amazing congregation. I am grateful for all of the experiences in this rich year.

With Spirit,
Rev. Chip

President's Report, Chuck Leone

This past year has been a busy one with members and friends dedicating their time and treasure to the improvement of the life of the church. Accomplishments and new beginnings for the year included the following:

- A revisioning and reorganization of the children's religious education program and the hiring of our new Religious Education Coordinator, Rich Wallace. There's much to be done to make the program work well for our families and children, but we've made a good start to the process.
- The hiring of our new office manager Peg Faulmann.
- The implementation of new sanctuary technology. Thanks to David Mayfield for design and construction of the system.
- A renewed focus on our church grounds with the Grounds Committee taking on initiatives for the Rain Gardens and design of a Memorial Garden.
- The re-writing of the church's personnel policies and hiring processes, along with working with our minister Chip on development of his supervisory and management skills.
- Ongoing review of Strategic Plan goals and activities with various church committees.
- The initiation of the Outside Lighting Task Force to look at better and more efficient ways to illuminate the outside of the building.

Of course, challenges remain. In the coming year we'll need to move forward on each of the items on which we've made progress, while also meeting and addressing new issues that challenge us as a congregation, such as:

- The refinance of our mortgage in July 2019. Our mortgage is based on three 5-year renewable terms. We will have a higher interest rate for our next five years.
- Replacement of the north roof. We're starting the *Raise the Roof Campaign* with some funds in hand and other funds committed, but need to work together to identify and raise the additional funds to complete the work.
- Although we have discussed a Crisis Response Plan for the Church, we have not yet found a team to lead and follow through with the process.
- We have leadership positions to be filled on our Marketing and RE Committees.

Our resources as a congregation are significant, in the talents of our members and in our commitment to the principles of our faith. Our strength is in our mutual connection and support. In these difficult times, we need continually to renew our connections and our commitment, not only to each other but to the wider world. This church home is the place to do so.

Treasurer's Report and Finance Documents

For our current (2018-19) Operating Budget, we are expecting a surplus of approximately \$11,000. **This year our monthly mortgage payments were reduced from \$2,700 to \$1,914 by a successful donation campaign (*Singe the Mortgage*) that helped us to pay off part (\$75,000) of the principal.** This year the Stewardship campaign confirmed \$148,202 in pledges. The drive for next fiscal year (2019-20) is still underway, and has already received 152,000 in pledges.

We ended last fiscal year (2017-2018) with a deficit of \$5,358, which we covered from our Unrestricted Savings fund (see Tables 1 & 2 below).

Other notes:

- A campaign for the north side roof repair has begun (*Raise the Roof Campaign*). Depending on the outcome, we may need to take a loan from the bank.
- The remaining mortgage principal is \$ 151,766 as of April 30, 2019.

We appreciate the generosity of our members and friends for financial and service contributions. Our finances are stable.

Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair: Elena Wake

Finance Committee Members: Janet Bogar, Karen Dickson, Fern Hamlin, Chuck Leone

❖ Proposed 2019-2020 Operating Budget

At its May 8 meeting, the Board of Trustees agreed on the *Proposed 2019-2020 Operating Budget* as shown in Table 1 below, to be presented for the Congregation's approval.

Table 1: Operating Budgets: Final Prior Fiscal Year (2017-18), Current Year Status as of 4-30-19, and Proposed 2019-2020 Budget (next to last column)

Line Item	Final 2017-2018		2018-2019 YTD		Proposed 2019-20	Notes
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Thru 4-30		
<u>Income/Revenue Sources</u>						
110 – Pledges	150,000	147,564	153,000	126,390	152,000	
115 - Pledges – Additional	3,000	945	2,000	480	1,000	
120 - Loose Offering	5,000	6,357	5,000	4,700	5,000	
130 - Building Use Fees	1,000	1,151	1,200	633	600	
140 – Fundraisers						
142 - Holiday Bazaar	1,500	1,678	1,500	1,381	1,400	
143 - Service Auction	12,000	12,060	12,000	10,414	11,000	
144 – Concerts	3,000	538	1,500	30	600	
145 - Other Fundraisers	700	960	700	1,287	700	
150 - Other Contributions	500	1,065	700	1,492	1,000	
199 – Misc/Other Revenue	500	433	500	5,759	500	1
Total Income/Revenue	177,200	172,750	178,100	152,565	173,800	

Table 1: Operating Budgets: Final Prior Fiscal Year (2017-18), Current Year Status as of 4-30-19, and Proposed 2019-2020 Budget (next to last column)

Line Item	Final 2017-2018		2018-2019 YTD		Proposed 2019-20	Notes
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Thru 4-30		
Expenditures						
205 - Mortgage Payments	27,000	27,000	22,200	14,142	22,700	2
210 · Church Insurance	6,500	4,840	6,500	4,381	5,000	
220 · Cleaning Services	1,000	1,970	3,000	2,430	3,100	
230 · Building Supplies	500	116	500	0	500	
240 · Building (& Grounds)	3,000	4,507	2,500	2,836	2,500	3
242 · HVAC Preventive	400	0	400	0	400	
243 · HVAC Repairs	100	0	100	0	100	
250 – Grounds	0	---	1,000	563	1,000	
300 – Utilities						
310 · Gas	2,500	2185	2,300	1,986	2,300	
320 · Electric	2,500	2030	2,100	1,816	2,100	
330 · Telephone	1,050	1095	1,000	840	1,000	
340 · Water & Trash	1,050	1106	1,000	1,014	1,200	
351 - Endowment Repayment	1,000	1000	1,000	0	1,000	
355 · Snow Removal	500	875	500	750	800	
360 · Security	500	384	400	384	400	
365 · Alarm Fees	100		100	0	100	
370 · Elevator & Sprinkler	1,200	1900	2,000	455	2,000	
410 · Admin & Office Non-payroll	3,500	2373	3,500	1,722	3,500	
415 · Copier	1,000	468	1,000	0	1,000	
420 · Postage	300	150	300	107	300	
430 · Payroll Taxes & Expenses	2,040	1787	2,098	1,065	2,164	
435 - Payroll Processing	1,600	1191	1,500	934	1,500	
500 - Sunday Service						
510 - Sunday Service Com	600	0	600	200	600	
511 - Sunday Service Supplies	50	0	50	50	50	
520 – Music	4,300	4,050	4,300	3488	4,300	
620 · Service Charges	0	10	0	10	0	
700 - Committee Expenses						
710 - Membership Committee	400	174	400	0	400	
720 - Social Committee	200	51	200	0	200	
725 · Coffee & Tea	100	146	200	101	200	
730 - Events Committee	500	326	500	78	500	
735 - Aesthetics Committee	400	0	400	32	400	
740 - Care Committee	150	80	150	26	150	
745 - Peace and Justice Com	200	0	200	0	200	
746 · Marketing Committee	500	0	500	0	300	
747 - Finance Committee	250	221	250	172	250	
748 - Endowment Committee	200	165	200	141	200	

Table 1: Operating Budgets: Final Prior Fiscal Year (2017-18), Current Year Status as of 4-30-19, and Proposed 2019-2020 Budget (next to last column)

Line Item	Final 2017-2018		2018-2019 YTD		Proposed 2019-20	Notes
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Thru 4-30		
749 Inter-generational Choir	---	---	1,200	0	1,200	
7?? – Committee on Ministry	---	---	---		100	
750 · Denominational Dues	9,300	9,265	9,500	7,289	10,690	
760 - Fundraising Expense						
761 - Stewardship Campaign	500	11	400	319	500	
765 - Holiday Bazaar	150	0	150	81	150	
766 - Service Auction	500	519	500	634	500	
767 – Concerts	2,000	0	1,000		0	
769 - Other Fundraisers	300	0	300		300	
800 - Religious Education						
808 · DRE Professional Exp.	1,000	0	1,000	0	1,000	
809 · DRE Salary	7,646	7,646	7,799	1,950	12,500	4
810 · Religious Ed supplies	2,000	473	1,000	188	1,000	
812 · Background Checks	100	0	100	16	100	
814 - Adult RE	100	0	100	150	100	
815 - Child Care	1,000	990	1,000	1,090	1,000	
900 - Ministerial Expenses						
910 · M's Salary & Housing	56,200	56,200	57,324	47,770	57,324	
915 · in lieu of FICA	4,299	4,299	4,385	3,654	4,385	
920 - Sabbatical Funding	100	0	100	0	100	
930 - Minister's Expense	5,828	5,099	5,732	2,797	5,732	
940 - Minister's Pension	5,620	5,620	5,732	4,777	5,732	
945 · Minister's Insurance	13,000	12,337	13,000	10,433	13,500	
950 Office Personnel						
960 · Office Salaries	15,600	15,714	16,000	12,615	16,500	
999 · Miscellaneous Expense	1,000	25	500	0	500	
Total Expenses:	191,433	178,108	189,771	133,483	195,327	5
Surplus/Deficit:	-14,233	-5,358	-11,671	19,082	-21,527	

Notes:

- 1) For 2018-19, includes one-time revenues, most notably the grant for the Rain Gardens from the St. Joseph County Soil and Conservation District (\$3692).
- 2) The \$75,000 reduction in our mortgage principal from the *Sing the Mortgage* Campaign in June of 2018, as expected, significantly reduced our mortgage payments for this fiscal year.
- 3) For 2017-18, includes \$3294 in expenses for the Rain Gardens and for 2018-19 includes \$2131 in expenses to date for the "Sanctuary Flood," for which all but \$1,000 (deductible) will be reimbursed.
- 4) The DRE salary line was used to pay the RE consultant fee of \$625.
- 5) Actual expenses for 2017-18 were reduced by a reimbursement from the Archives Project for clerical work.

Principal Owed on Building Loan:

As of June 30, 2018: \$163,332 (This was after the \$75,000 additional payment on principal.)
As of April 30, 2019: \$151,766

❖ Non-Operating Funds Reports

The following four tables document activity and balances in the Non-Operating Funds.

Table 2: Non-Operating Funds Balances and Activity, July 1, 2018 – April 30, 2019

First Unitarian Church, South Bend

Fund	Ending Balance 6-30-2018	Fiscal Year to Date (4/30/2019)		Current Balance 4-30-2019	Notes
		In	Out		
Building	4,317.74	2,180.00	5,925.00	572.74	1
Capital Campaign	2,849.05	200.00	0	3,069.05	2
Endowment Disbursements	5,112.56	13,981.00	13,507.95	5,585.61	3
Endowment Set-aside	1,100.00	445.00	1,100.00	445.00	4
Invisible Church	5,714.75	0	150.00	5,564.75	
Ministerial Discretionary	701.02	1,072.00	848.40	924.62	
Prepaid Pledges	21,820	6,900.00	0	6,900.00	
RE Capital Expense	483	0	0	483.00	
Sabbatical Fund	228.95	0	0	228.95	
Special Collections	236.42	5,665.68	5,299.44	602.66	
Special Projects	1,500.00	11,680.00	3,993.00	9,187.00	1, 5
Teen Service Project	157.98	0	0	157.98	
Unrestricted Savings	20,320.97	0	0	20,320.97	6
Women's Group Fund	162.00	0	0	162.00	
Fund Totals	64,704.44	42,123.68	30,823.79	54,204.33	

Notes:

- 1) We transferred funds designated for the Memorial Garden and Roof (\$1925) from the Building Fund to the Special Projects Fund (see Table 2). We paid \$4000 of the \$6639 south roof repairs from the Building Fund and the remaining \$2639 from new targeted roof donations in the Special Projects Fund (see Table 5).
- 2) The \$75,000 donated for the *Sing the Mortgage* Campaign, and kept in this Fund, was applied to our mortgage as an extra principal payment at the end of June, 2018, so does not show here.
- 3) For details of disbursements, see Table 4 below. The additional \$5.20 in the Disbursement balances here compared to those in Table 4 are due to a residual \$5.20 from a 2017-18 grant completed in its first year.
- 4) This fund holds Endowment donations and loan repayments until we attain the Unitarian Universalist Common Endowment Fund minimum deposit amount (\$1000). For transaction detail(s), see Table 3 below.
- 5) For details of each special project fund, see Table 5 below.
- 6) To cover the 2017-18 fiscal year deficit (see Table 1), on June 30, 2018 we transferred \$5358 from Unrestricted Savings to the Operating Fund. The total shown here is after that transfer.

Table 3: Endowment Fund* Balances and Activity, July 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019

First Unitarian Church, South Bend

Activity	Amount	Notes
Balance as of 6/30/18	\$ 304,571	
Deposit - Fund Repayment (\$1000) + Donation (\$100)	\$ 1,100	July deposit to UUCEF after transfer of 2017-18 building loan repayment (\$1000) from the Operating Budget to the <i>Endowment Set-aside</i> .
Withdrawal (for 2018-19 grants)	\$ 13,981	Funds put in <i>Endowment Disbursements</i> for new grants (see Table 2 above and Table 4 below).
Market Gain (or Loss)	\$ 4,620	Fund gain during this nine-month period.
Balance as of 3/31/2019	\$ 296,310	

* All of these funds are held in the Unitarian Universalist Common Endowment Fund (UUCEF), and are professionally managed using approved socially-responsible investing guidelines. Some of this fund (\$75,000) is permanently restricted to prohibit principal use.

Table 4: Endowment Grants - Payments by Grant, July 1, 2018 – April 30, 2019
First Unitarian Church, South Bend

Current	<u>Approved Amount</u>	<u>Prior FY Balance* 6/30/2018</u>	<u>Total FY Payments thru 4/30</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Notes</u>
2018-2019 Grants					
Defibrillator Purchase	\$ 1,600.00	--	\$ 0	\$1,600.00	
Grounds Improvements	\$ 2,000.00	--	\$ 354.94	\$1,645.06	1
Mobile Ecology Center	\$ 1,381.00	--	\$ 1,381.00	\$ 0	
Mortgage Principal	\$ 5,000.00	--	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 0	
Sanctuary Technology	\$ 4,000.00	--	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 0	2
2017-2018 Grants					
Archives Project	\$ 3,500.00	\$2,528.75	\$ 1,898.35	\$ 630.40	
GA Attendance	\$ 3,900.00	\$ 418.61	\$ 418.61	\$ 0	
Mobile Ecology Center	\$ 1,550.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 0	\$ 350.00	
2013-2014 Grant					
Website Upgrade	\$ 3,000.00	\$1,810.00	\$ 455.05	\$1,354.95	2
Totals		\$5,107.36	\$13,507.95	\$5,580.41	3

*Prior FY Balance: For grants from prior fiscal years (FY), the 6/30 balance is calculated based on the approved amount less expenditures in the prior FY(s). For new grants, because the funding begins at the start of the FY (7/1), the balance on 6/30, the end of the prior FY, is zero.

Notes:

1. Expenditures for installation of bike racks.
2. Per Nov. 2018 Board Minutes, the Board approved charging Sanctuary Technology costs over the \$4000 grant amount, but not to exceed \$1000, to the Website Upgrade grant. The amount charged was the \$455 shown.
3. Total balances are \$5.20 less than those shown in Table 2, *Endowment Disbursements Fund*, due to a \$5.20 residual in a 2017-18 grant not shown here because it was completed in its first year.

Grants Completed this Year

Sanctuary Technology 2018-19: Feb 2019	Mobile Ecology Center 2018-19: Sept. 2018
Mortgage Principal 2018-19: Nov 2018	GA Attendance 2017-18: July 2018

Table 5: Special Projects Fund* Activity by Project, July 1, 2018 – April 30, 2019
First Unitarian Church, South Bend

<u>Special Project</u>	<u>Prior FY Balance 6/30/2018</u>	<u>Year to Date (4/30/19) Totals</u>		<u>Balance 4/30/2019</u>
		<u>In</u>	<u>Out</u>	
Memorial Garden**	---	\$ 2,225.00	\$ 270.00	\$ 1,955.00
Defibrillator	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 0	\$ 1,084.00	\$ 416.00
Roof**	---	\$ 9,455.00	\$ 2,639.00	\$ 6,816.00
Totals	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 11,680.00	\$ 3,993.00	\$ 9,187.00

* This Fund was renamed (formerly Capital Improvement Fund) and re-purposed in January 2019 to keep and track all targeted donations for special projects pre-approved by the Board.

** Targeted Memorial Garden and Roof donations received prior to the creation of this fund (\$1925) were moved from the Building Fund into this fund.

Nominations

❖ *From the Nominating Committee:*

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate of nominees for the 2019-2020 Board of Trustees and Endowment Committee.

Board of Trustees

Officers

Vice President: Suzanne Waller

Treasurer: Elena Wake

Trustees

Two-year Term: Howard Berberick

Two-year Term: Camla Seegers

One-year Term: Janet Bogar (filling the last year of the term of Rich Wallace)

Endowment Committee

Three-year Term: Marilyn Shaul

One-year Term: Joseph Gress (filling the remaining term of Suzanne Waller)

Respectfully submitted by: Susan Siemers, Lois Holm, Wendy Lohman

❖ *From the Board of Trustees:*

The Board of Trustees is pleased to nominate the following members to serve on the 2019-2020 Nominating Committee.

Nominating Committee

Chair Person: Chuck Leone (outgoing Board President, one-year term)

New Member: Becky Lindstrom (two-year term)

Current Member: Wendy Lohman

Alternate: To be chosen at Annual Meeting

Special Reports

❖ **Endowment Fund Disbursement Recommendations**, Endowment Committee

The Endowment Committee considered 7 proposals totaling \$28,950 for endowment disbursements. This was challenging because all of the proposals had merit but we were authorized to recommend disbursements for only \$14,732.

To help make our decision, each committee member ranked the proposals based on the specified criteria and made notes about any questions, comments, or concerns that we had about individual proposals. Each member also considered whether a partial award would make sense for each proposal. We then discussed the rationale for our individual rankings. Based on the discussion, we came to an agreement on the proposals and amounts that we recommended for disbursements for 2019.

Proposed Endowment Disbursements

- **\$4000 Building Principal Paydown (80% of proposal)**
This proposal to contribute to the reduction of the church mortgage principal balance is made on behalf of the Finance Committee and the Board of Trustees.
- **\$4000 North Roof Replacement Project (80% of proposal)**
This proposal to contribute to the cost of replacement of the north roof of the Church is made on behalf of the Stewardship Committee and the Board of Trustees.
- **\$3550 Memorial Garden (50% of proposal)**
The Grounds committee would like to create a private space on the south side of the building for quiet reflection on the memory of deceased members and friends and the interment of cremains. This space would feature plants and boulders that supplement our rain gardens and create a semi-enclosed area with benches for seating, landscaping pavers and a walkway from the east side of the building. The dove that was hung near the entrance of our original church is currently being restored for future placement in the memorial garden on the south wall of the building.
- **\$2000 for Natural Playground (100% of proposal)**
The RE Task Force, in collaboration with the Grounds Committee, is requesting that we build a natural playground. We seek to build a playground that blends with the existing environment and creates play opportunities for children
- **\$900 Archiving Project (100% of proposal)**
Florence Klecka humbly requests up to \$900 in Endowment Funds during the 7/1/19-6/30/20 fiscal year, for up to 60 hours of archiving time. There may also be money spent on storage disks. There is an awful lot of scanning, copying, and other file maintenance still to do.
- **\$282 Mobile Ecology Center (~35% of proposal)**
The Mobile Ecology Center plans to host 10 ecology events at various locations including the church, Farmer's Market, local parks such as the upcoming Arbor & Earth Day Fest, Roseland Park, at Science Alive and South Bend Public Library. Each of the events will cost approximately \$75 to host.

❖ **Religious Education Assessment and Planning Task Force**, Chuck Leone, Chair

The RE Education Assessment and Planning Task Force was formed in August 2018 to address several issues that had arisen in the Church's Children's RE Program, specifically the following:

- A vacancy in the RE Director's position as of September 1, 2018
- An inactive RE Committee
- No formal program in place for children for the fall of 2018
- Declining participation by children and parents in the previous year's RE Program
- Unclear supervisory and planning responsibilities for the RE Program

The task force, consisting of Chuck Leone, Rev. Chip Roush, Dan Holm, Anne Mannix, Susan VanFleit and Rich Wallace first met on August 22, 2018. Over the next several months of the church year, the task force took the following actions:

- Engagement of Tracy Beck, a UUA consultant from Ames, Iowa, to conduct a visioning exercise with the congregation on the direction of the RE program. The visioning meetings were held on November 14-16, 2018 with 29 adult members of the congregation participating in discussions.
- Reinstitution of the background check process for all adults engaged with children, including nursery care providers and teachers.
- Holding of an after-service feedback meeting on January 13, 2019 on the characteristics of the person to be hired to conduct the Children's RE Program. 19 members participated.
- Creation of a updated job description for the position (now titled "Coordinator of Religious Education") at 12 to 15 hours per week with pay at \$20.00 per hour.
- Marketing and solicitation of applications for the CRE position, conducting of interviews, and the hiring of Rich Wallace as our new CRE. Rich began his position on May 1, 2019.

The work of the task force is now complete. Follow-up will be done by Rich Wallace, our new CRE, Rev. Chip as the overall supervisor of the program, and by the RE Committee, yet to be formed. Thanks to all for their hard work this past year in re-invigorating the program.

❖ **Board Update on the Strategic Plan**, Melanie Smith-Guillaume, Board Secretary

At the Annual Meeting in 2018, members of the congregation wanted continuing feedback about ongoing planning and work projects concerning Strategic Plan objectives. As your Secretary, I have put information throughout the year in the Chirps and Newsletters to keep you up-to-date as well as having the monthly Board Meeting minutes posted on the bulletin board outside the office workroom.

In order to implement the Strategic Plan, the Board has requested that major committees come to a Board Meeting and report on how the committee planned to meet Strategic Plan objectives. Here is a short recap of what some committees are doing with respect to the Strategic Plan.

Religious Education: Since there was no functioning RE Committee, the Board discussed Religious Education at every meeting this year. We began by forming a Task Force with parents, representatives of the Board and others to survey needs of parents and expand the focus of RE to include meeting the needs of families. A UU consultant was brought in.

A new job description for the Coordinator of Religious Education (CRE) was created and the Board voted to increase the pay for the CRE position. Several candidates were interviewed and Rich Wallace was hired as the new CRE.

Endowment: The Endowment Committee contributes to the financial health of the church by making distributions to fund special projects, such as support for new technology in the sanctuary, funds for an AED, and a disbursement to help lower the principal on our mortgage. The Committee has rewritten its criteria for distributions to include outreach to the community and support for diversity. This year the Committee put on a Wills Workshop which was open to the community.

Peace and Justice: In order to reach the interests of more members of the congregation and reach out to the community, Peace and Justice has organized around monthly themes with coordinated Share-the-Plate speakers, volunteer activities and workshops before Sunday church services. Some themes have included racism, immigration, and justice under the law.

Stewardship: The Strategic Plan suggested looking to new sources of revenue. The Stewardship Committee as part of Christmas giving ran a very successful Ginger Bear Bonanza. A list of what it costs to run the church on a day-to-day basis was generated. Church members could choose a Ginger Bear ornament with cost of the church operation attached and donate that amount to the church.

Worship Arts: The Worship Arts Committee continues to work to include varied voices in the pulpit. Lay-led services have included individuals, multiple readers and participants, and sermons from our archives. More members are always appreciated.

Membership: The Membership Committee makes sure that all visitors are greeted at coffee hour, that they receive a welcome email, and that UU classes continue. The art and concerts are going well in reaching out to the community. The Committee would like to make sure that newcomers are included in events like Trivia Night and Auction leftover places. There are several ideas for more outreach to newcomers. The Care Committee also reaches out to members who are unable to come to Church because of age or illness. More members for the Committee would be appreciated.

Committee Reports

❖ **Adult Religious Education Committee:** Gail deSomer, *Chair*

The Adult Religious Education Committee did not actively meet this year, however there were a number of opportunities for learning.

Rev. Chip Roush and Katie Carr coordinated the course "Beloved Conversations," a curriculum on race and identity. There were nine participants.

Barbara Williams and Marilyn Shaul coordinated the "Great Decisions" series. Twelve persons participated in the eight week Great Decisions Program that is developed by the Foreign Policy Association each year. \ The Foreign Policy Association was formed after WWI to educate the population about foreign affairs and to encourage support for the League of Nations. The Great Decisions program studies current issues facing our nation thru a short video and some reading materials by international experts providing information and opinions the topics followed by group discussion.

Anne Mannix and Andrea Vollrath of the Peace and Justice Committee coordinated Forums that met before the church service.

Rev. Chip offered Reflection Circles following the church service on Sundays when he was in the pulpit. A Reflection Circle was an opportunity for those who joined in to share how the service affected them

❖ **Aesthetics Committee:** Melanie Smith-Guillaume, *Chair*

This year the Aesthetics Committee continued ongoing activities:

- Watering plants weekly
- Updating photos of the Board and Committee Chairs on bulletin boards opposite Chip's office.
- Posting photos of church activities on bulletin boards opposite Chip's office.

The Committee has also consulted with three committees on projects.

- The Peace and Justice Committee wanted to have more room for pamphlets and notices. We consulted with P&J to find a pamphlet rack that matches the color and style of the one near the front door. The second rack will be beside the existing one.
- The Building Committee needed to find a way to cover the hole in the sanctuary where the pipes burst. We are pursuing finding an artisan who can create a cover which will allow air through in order to keep the pipes from freezing and which will complement design items in the sanctuary.
- The Memory Garden Task Force wanted to have some sort of plaque on the inside of the church to remember those church members who have passed on. We consulted about what kind of design would work on the wall of the conference room. We agreed that an artistic rendering of a tree of life would be appropriate for the setting.

We are planning a couple of other projects.

- Refinishing the bench opposite Chip's office. (We've added pillows to make it more comfortable and attractive.)

- We continue to search for a person who might refinish the ziggurat which is in the basement. It is made of copper and was part of a water feature in the building before we bought it.
- One of the design elements in the sanctuary which was never funded was decorative wooden molding on the sanctuary glass doors. The wooden molding would echo the designs on the pilasters and on the screen. We continue to search for someone who could create this effect.

Committee Members: Barbara Carmichael, Gail deSomer, Susan Van Fleit

❖ **Care Committee:** Mary Hagen and Lois Holm, *Co-Chairs*

The Care Committee (CC) endeavors to support the members and friends of our community by providing connections between those who are going through life's transitions and those who can help.

Some of the ways we support one another is by offering soups, meals, visits, phone calls, sending cards, providing transportation, and making loans from our reorganized "loan Closet", The "Loan Closet" contains durable medical goods and baby/toddler furniture for visiting family, with a sign "out" and "in" clip board.

The CC and its helpers gave support to about 12 people through recoveries this past year. There are probably many more acts of kindness from members and friends that were not brought to the attention of the CC. Thank you all for sharing your needs and allowing our loving service,

Through the year members grieved deaths of 5 parents, one sibling, and one spouse in our church community. The CC had the privilege to assist with the memorial service for Richard Hunsberger.

The CC and the Social Committee gave a baby shower to the Hulse's for their beautiful baby boys, who we have welcomed with open hearts.

The CC coordinated the purchase and training for the Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) to be installed in our building. Barbara Williams, Marl Kircheff and Richard Mah did research to choose the AED. Richard Mah and Bob Heiderman provided the training in the use of the AED and how it correlates with CPR. Eighteen church members attended a training session. There are six members who have CPR certification.

Every October we encourage everyone to fill out the "Emergency Contact" form. We are also compiling a "Medical Procedure /Services Resource List" to help support your decision process

There is a monthly Birthday Calendar on the board in the south hallway. Please add your name when your month is visible. We are also celebrating those monthly birthdays with a cake after the second Sunday service of each month.

The CC members distribute poinsettias during the winter holiday to cheer those who appreciate some extra attention.

During the pleasant weather in our court yard on Sunday morning at 9:30, the CC leads a 30 minute moving meditation through TaiChi/QiGong for any who is interested.

Our community appreciates all those members and friends who help one another. Please remember to notify Rev Chip or a member of the CC of a need for yourself or another.

Committee Members: Barbara Boyd, Jim Curlee, Gail deSomer, Dale Gibson, Wendy Lohman

❖ **Endowment Committee:** Joseph Gress, *Chair*

This year, the Endowment Committee focused on communications, service and process improvement.

In the area of communications, we prepared and gave a presentation to the congregation and sent a mailing encouraging members and friends to include First Unitarian Church in their will or estate plan. Once each quarter, we wrote an endowment report for the church newsletter. Also, once each quarter, based on a request from the board, we began collecting reports from each endowment grant recipient and made those reports available to the board. Finally, we solicited, reviewed and made recommendations regarding endowment distributions for 2019. These recommendations are presented separately on page 12.

The Endowment Committee planned, advertised and hosted a workshop on wills and estate planning for members and friends in November. Approximately 30 people attended.

In the area of process improvement, we enhanced and continued to use an electronic endowment ledger and introduced an endowment disbursement proposal form. We added criteria for recommending endowment fund distributions to this proposal form. We created a perpetual calendar. Finally, we put in place procedures to insure timely recognition of endowment gifts.

Finally, we want the congregation to know that a \$1,000 payment was made by our church to the endowment fund in the past year. This is a continuation on repaying the endowment loan that helped us to renovate our building.

Committee Members: Alan deSomer, Suzanne Waller

❖ **Events Committee:** Kathy Platt, *Chair*

The Event Committee has something special nearly every month. Most 'events' have different organizers and people who work on them, and can always use more help.

- Our annual Ice Cream Social was July 22 following the Service.
- Kay and Deeb Azar again hosted the Family Picnic Sunday August 3.
- On Sept. 16, the *Activity Fair* provided information on church committees and groups.
- Our 40th annual Service Auction on November 3, again with auctioneer Chuck Leone, raised over \$10,000.
- The Holiday Bazaar in December, under Kathy Carr's leadership, made over \$1,300 with the Cookie Walk, Gift Baskets and Dessert Raffle.
- Jim Ward pulled off three fabulous concerts: Timbre / Chris DePont (July); The Dean's List / After Ours (August); and Babylon Sneakers / Frances Luke Accord (February).
- Family Game Night was Jan. 25.
- Our church's 67th Anniversary was celebrated following the Service on Feb. 24 with stories of our history. To help us celebrate, Lois Holm provided delicious cake.
- The Art Committee, consisting of Kay Azar and Dan & Lois Holm, has kept our walls covered with beautiful Art. Art Openings featured Joan Tweedell, Dan Slattery, Janet Johnson, Fern Hamlin's quilts, and art from our own RE students.
- Our fourth annual Trivia Night April 12 raised over \$1,100 and was tons of fun. Thanks to Rev. Chip, Cindy Benedict, Dale Gibson, Catherine and Mary Alice Lundergan, Chuck Leone, David Mayfield, Tom Platt, Byrd Tetzlaff and Rich Wallace for the challenging questions. Again, Forest Wallace was our entertaining MC and Stuart Mayfield our excellent score keeper. Our new screens and AV system, installed by David Mayfield, made it so professional!

❖ **Grounds Committee:** Barb Carmichael and Susan Van Fleit, *Co-Chairs*

The Grounds Committee has completed several projects this year. We continue to strive to create an overall vision for the aesthetics and environmental issues facing the church property.

The following projects have been completed:

- *Installation of rain gardens.* The gardens are doing well and provide a natural storm water management and a habitat for beneficial native birds and insects, thanks to the guidance, expertise, and effort of Garry Roberson. We were able to use almost all of the \$4,000 grant awarded to us by the St. Joseph County Soil and Water Conservation District.
- *Installation of bike rack.* A rack that accommodates several bikes was installed by the shed.
- *General maintenance such as snow removal, lawn mowing, weeding, and tree trimming.* We purchased a battery operated lawn mower and scheduled lawn mowing by church volunteers. Thanks to Alan Hamlet, the snow blowers were overhauled and are now in usable condition. We were unsuccessful in selling one of them but will try again next fall. Thanks to Kathy Vetter who coordinated ongoing snow removal.
- *Seasonal work days.* We had 2 work days in the fall and one in the spring. It has been a continual challenge to get sufficient support and we are always thankful to those who show up.

The following projects are currently in progress:

- *Creating a memorial garden and remembrance wall.* We spent a great deal of time this year gathering information and ideas about developing a memorial garden on the south side of the building. The committee, with input from Barbara Williams and Mary Hagen, began by researching gardens at other Unitarian churches and at local sites. We then consulted with an architect who drew up preliminary plans. We presented our ideas at a congregational meeting using more detailed images prepared by our committee member, Roger Foreman. We will take initial steps to create the garden this spring beginning with the addition of boulders and large plants purchased with our current funds; however, additional funds will be needed to complete the garden.

We also met with Fire Arts personnel to discuss a locally designed sculpture to be placed on a conference room remembrance wall. After input from the congregation, we decided to continue to look further for a locally produced artistic piece on which to memorialize our members and friends. John Hagen cleaned the dove sculpture from our previous church and the committee is proposing that it be placed on the west side of the building near our church name.

- *Addressing water run-off on the north side of the building.* The rain garden on the northeast side of the building was primarily funded by the St. Joseph County Soil and Water Conservation District grant, and completes the capture and infiltration of roof runoff for the north side of the building.

The rain garden is designed to: 1) move water from our large roof area away from the building and prevent occasional minor basement flooding and 2) collect and infiltrate storm runoff rather than routing it to the parking lot and the street. This simultaneously reduces flooding in our parking lot and helps protect the St. Joseph River from storm water impacts. When completed, the rain garden will function as a multi-purpose open grassy area. We will be improving the drainage of the soil and then laying sod. After heavy rain it will be wet for several hours until the water infiltrates, but in most respects it will function like a normal lawn.

- *Installation of playground equipment.* The Endowment Committee disbursed funds to the RE Committee for playground equipment. We will coordinate with them to decide on optimal placement.
- *Restoring fencing in the north back area.* A fence will be erected between the shed and the building to provide safety and privacy.
- *Lawn fertilization and soil improvement.* We have contacted an organic lawn care company about improving the quality of our soil.

The following is a long-range project that has not yet been addressed:

- *Building an outside deck with possible future access from the west RE classroom*

We have made good progress this year toward our goal of preparing an inviting landscape that is well-utilized and consistent with our environmental principles. Many thanks to committee members for their active participation and engagement.

Committee Members: Alice Bentley, Howard Berberick, Roger Foreman, Alan Hamlet, Kathy Platt, Garry Roberson

❖ **Membership Committee:** Gail deSomer and Anne Mannix, *Co-Chairs*

Greeters for each Sunday were coordinated by Alice and John Bentley. Thank you to our greeters: Alice Bentley, John Bentley, Lois Holm, Dan Holm, Tom Platt, Kathy Platt, Michael Coppedge, Ruth Regan, Karen Chambers, Ken Chambers, Joseph Gress, Ron Robinson, Jim Curlee, Emily Wetheral, Kay Azar, and Susan Van Fleit.

A person wearing the "mint green scarf" was available to speak with newcomers each Sunday. For those who signed the visitor book, a welcome letter in the form of email was sent out.

Anne Mannix has agreed to co-chair the committee with Gail deSomer. At the most recent meeting, ideas were generated in response to the Strategic Plan.

The "New UU Class" was offered in the fall and spring with an Ingathering following each time.

New Member - December 2018 - Larry Dzuagis

New Members - April 2019 - Camla Seegers and Jamie Fisher

Committee Members: Rev. Chip Roush, John Bentley, Dale Gibson, Wendy Lohman, Kathy Platt, Jim Ward. Recently joining the committee - Anne Mannix and Danielle Wood.

❖ **Committee on Ministry:** Jim Curlee, *Chair*

Committee membership this year consists of: Jim Curlee, Chair, in 2nd year of 3 year term; Kathie Carr, in 1st year of 3 year term; Susan Van Fleit, serving the final year of Jessica Collet's term. We need a new member for a three year term beginning July 1.

The purpose of the Committee on Ministry is to assess and support the effectiveness and health of the ministries of the church. "Ministries" means everything the congregation and the minister do to live the mission of the church. This includes celebrating and reflecting together, providing quality religious education, affirming our UU identity, working toward the common good and creating and sustaining a diverse and loving community.

We have a committee description and will assess and update it annually as needed.

We have created a Minister Evaluation format to serve our needs. We decided to strip out long descriptions of activities which make up the eight categories. A separate document containing those descriptions will be included in our files.

We have prepared an evaluation of Minister Chip Roush and shared it with Chip and the Board.

We obtained a copy of Chip’s contract with the church for our reference and will maintain it in our files.

We are receiving monthly copies of Chip’s report to the board and of the board meeting minutes to help give us a picture of the broader Ministry of our Church, in which we all have a role alongside Chip, as our Ministerial Professional.

We resumed the Listening Center during coffee hours and find it continues to be a useful venue for feedback from members and friends.

We engaged with Chip and the Board as needed in support of the churches ministries, in keeping with our purpose and responsibilities.

We have received comments, concerns and recommendations from members during the year relating to matters as diverse as door signage, politics in services, length of services, specific areas of high or low satisfaction and the like. We have addressed these in our monthly meetings, which Chip attends.

❖ **Peace & Justice Committee:** Andrea Vollrath & Kay Azar, *Co- Chairs*

Monthly Spotlights: Beginning last October, we have coordinated a “learn event” and a “do something event” matching the cause of the *Share-the-Plate* Offering recipient (“give event”). The structure seems successful in raising awareness for the charities. We’re still working to find the best time to maximize attendance at the “learn” forums and find a regular way to “do something” that is easy to arrange and take part in.

Past Year: The congregation continues to collect donations for the Northeast Neighborhood Food Pantry, delivered by Dan Holm. We took a tour of La Casa de Amistad and volunteered with the Kankakee Wetlands Organic Gardens. We hosted a showing of the documentary “Children Next Door” with the YWCA during Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The congregation’s main interests as of a 2017 poll were Education and The Environment, with Immigration and Feminism as runners-up, so we included opportunities for the congregation to engage with these causes.

	Month	Agency	Amount
2018	May	YWCA of St. Joseph County	\$ 310.00
	June	Unity Gardens	\$ 302.00
	July	466 Works	\$ 445.00
	August	Bowman Creek (BCe2)	\$ 329.00
	September	A Rosie Place	\$ 526.00
	October	YWCA Domestic Violence Fund	\$ 523.44
	November	La Casa de Amistad	\$ 816.45
	December	Dining for Women	\$ 440.00
2019	January	Parlak Defense Fund	\$ 692.45
	February	MLK Jr Scholarship Fund	\$ 646.43
	March	Planned Parenthood of Indiana Kentucky	\$ 634.00
	April	Sunrise Movement	\$ 402.66

Communication: An ongoing concern is to make the congregation more aware of our events. We publish events in the newsletter, CHIRP, and order of service, and are working to add a second brochure shelf in the foyer to publicize accomplishments, upcoming events, and information relating to the month’s spotlight.

Collaborations: In choosing *Share-the-Plate* recipients, we have decided to focus on organizations that **help people in our community**. We have talked about, but not yet found the opportunity to organize, a “do something” event out in the community wearing tie-dye UU shirts. We are helping the Sunrise Movement get a bus for the primary debates in June. Planned Parenthood would be interested in working together to bring programs like OWL to local schools. We could participate in a Habitat for Humanity build next summer. Looking forward, we are hoping to collaborate with other committees, particularly RE and Grounds, for some of our “do something events.”

Future Spotlights

Month	Spotlight	Month	Spotlight
May 2019	Guns (Mamas Against Violence)	October	Addiction/Opioid Crisis (Upper Room)
June	Criminal Justice (ND’s Law Clinic)	November	Immigration (La Casa again?)
July	Education (YWCA’s Pack a Backpack)	December	CASIE Center? “Caroling for Cans” event?
August	Racism (BLUU)	January 2020	Service Animals? Resale to the Rescue for “Learn event”
September	Hunger (Crop Walk/Food Pantry)		

Thank you to Anne Mannix, Lois Holm, Dan Holm, Dale Gibson, Phil Badger, Bob Cope, Ann Cope, and Kay Azar.

❖ **Social Committee:** Kathy Platt, *Chair*

We are mostly about providing food and beverages when people get together. However, the Feasters, a dinner group coordinated by Cathy Duncan, meets at a different restaurant each month. And the Women’s Potluck meets most months in different homes.

Our big job is organizing Coffee / Social Hour each Sunday and the 1st Sunday Potlucks, coordinated by Kathy Vetter. We are always looking for volunteers to help throughout the year to make Coffee or to help set-up or clean-up for Potlucks. We also take care of the Reception following the Christmas Eve Service (thanks Janet Bogar!). And provide food for other occasions, such as congregational meetings.

More members for either the Events or Social Committee would be very welcome!

❖ **Stewardship Committee:** Ron Robinson, *Chair*

The Stewardship Committee completed the following during the church year of 2018-2019:

- The Ginger Bear Fundraiser (December 2018): The fundraiser raised \$1441.88 for the church and educated the congregation regarding the various operational costs of the church. Got positive responses from the congregation that it was creative and a fun thing to do during the holidays which supports the church.
- Church pledge drive for the church year of 2019-2020. At the time of submitting this annual report the Stewardship Committee has raised \$152,000.00. A few more pledges may still find their way into the drive increasing the final tally. Thanks to all church members and friends who made a pledge this year.
- The Stewardship Committee along with the Finance Committee is kicking off the “Raise the Roof” fund raiser to raise money to replace and repair the leaky roof on the north side of the church. Donations for this project have

Members: Roger Birdsell, Janet Bogar, Barbara Boyd, Joseph Gress, Chuck Leone, Gary Metzler

❖ **Worship Arts Committee:** Florence Klecka, *Chair*

We began the church year with the last two months of Rev. Chip’s mini-sabbatical, so there were many lay-led services, by guests and congregants. These were performed with the help of so many congregants that it would take too much space to name them. Because Rev. Chip often swaps pulpits, usually outside guest ministers do not need to be paid. We are always on the lookout for other topics and speakers, both inside and outside the congregation, so feel free to suggest your ideas to us.

Alan Hamlet, Garry Roberson, David Mayfield, and Neil Taylor took turns manning our sound system; and Allen DeSomer, Alan Hamlet, and Deb Carew rotated special music duties, with several guests in the lineup. This year, we welcomed Ian Bunker and Dylan Bajo, who played the piano for most of the year. Dylan has left for the summer, and Ian will be filling in until his return this fall. We also enjoyed several performances of our intergenerational choir, led by Alan Hamlet and Carys Kresny.

We now have screens in the sanctuary! These have been used for putting lyrics up, giving pre-service announcements, and other exciting things. Thank you to David Mayfield for installing them.

As always, we can’t stress enough that almost everyone who contributes to the weekly services is a **volunteer**. The committee thanks you all for taking part, but remember that this is *your* church, this is *our* church, and we are *all* truly blessed to have each other.

Committee Members: Kay Azar, Rose Fournier and Mara Scott

2018-2019 in Pictures



Off to the Easter Egg Hunt



Another Art Opening



Enjoying the Cookie Walk



The Dessert Raffle – YUM!!



The new Rain Gardens in fall color



The Bazaar Offerings



The Great Sanctuary Flood ☹️



Oh the color of the Silent Auction

Dressed for Alice's Restaurant aka The Auction





*Love is the spirit of this church, and service is its law.
To dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in love,
and to help one another: this is our Covenant.*

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