

**Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington
Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes DRAFT**

June 7, 2015

State of UUCA

11:38am Call to order and Chalice Lighting

In Memoriam-The name was read and a candle was lit for each UUCA member who passed away in the last year.

Mary Brown, Glenn Chase, Harold-Hal Cleary, James Derrick, Tom Hillegass, Elaine Kessler, Martin King, Bill Lillevig, Frances Maroni, John Morrison, Ruth Nuendorffer, Paul Peak, Burnley-Bee Perrin, Michael Serlin, Ruth Van Cleve, Eva Wohrisek

Hymn Singing: "Come, Come, Whoever You Are" #188 in Singing the Living Tradition

Executive Summary Report (Rev. Aaron McEmrys)

Rev Aaron focused his report on his first 11 months as minister by speaking on how the congregation has Connected, Grown, and Served.

CONNECT

UUCA is reaching out to those who cannot attend services, especially the elderly, by streaming services live on the internet. The retirement home, Goodwin House streams the services into their boardroom which has enabled many UU members to continue to be connected to the church even if they are not physically able to attend. Rev. Aaron and Rev. Linda have been spending time at Goodwin House as well, sharing meals and talking with residents. Rev Aaron wants to deepen and broaden those relationships at Goodwin House and tap into their depth and power.

The Soul Matters program enables the work of pastoral care to be spread out amongst many. Through the work of this important program we are building a congregation of circles not rows. 356 congregants are now participating and 60 are on the waiting list. New facilitators are needed. Please consider volunteering to be trained.

GROW

UUCA Sunday attendance is up 5% from last year. We have 69 new members. Visitors have expressed their pleasure with the inside and outside Greeters and special visitor parking. We are a welcoming church. Not every church can say that. Our online presence has grown as well. Regular viewers of the streaming services come from all over the world, from Afghanistan to Cleveland!

Our congregation is more racially and culturally diverse than ever. Rev. Aaron would like members to focus on a goal of becoming even more diverse so that we are a true reflection of the community of Arlington. We do this by continuing to be a welcoming church.

Music begins where the words stop. Music holds us and takes us deeper spiritually. Much of our great music takes place outside our walls. The Bell Choir and the Shine Choir

regularly perform for the community around Arlington. This is helping build a church without walls. We are like ripples in the water spreading out as we live and practice our values.

The NAMESTE cards have been very successful. They have been handed out all over the world by members. This is a way to tell people “the divine in me sees the divine in you”.

UUCA’s religious education program is flourishing. 350 children attend regularly and over 100 volunteers give their time to make RE happen. We are developing new programs such as “Spirit Play” which helps teach young children to have a sense of community through art, music, and play. UUCA is working to expand the way we teach RE so as to embrace different ways of learning. Teaching RE requires time and energy and commitment. Many RE volunteers do not get to hear Sunday services very often. Rev. Aaron would love to see them be able to cultivate their adult time so he asks us all to consider volunteering some time to the RE program. You will be richer for it!

SERVE

As a congregation, we are hungry to live our values. Our service projects this year spanned the globe from the Hopi Navajo Reservation journey with our youth, to the important work of VOICE, to planning the next Guatemala trip, to our fight for Gay marriage and LTGB rights. Other congregations look to us as moral leaders. Rev Aaron hears leaders at other churches in Arlington say, “Thank God for UUCA”. Sadly, the proposed budget cuts the position of Social Justice Organizer, but members are stepping forward to lead and help with this important work. Also, Rev. Aaron is seeing young people coming forward to work on issues such as Climate Change and Black Lives Matter. This year by using social media UUCA was able to coordinate an Immigration Reform protest with people in Texas. Petitions with 1000’s of signatures were simultaneously delivered to the White House.

Much of the work UUCA does is invisible, however. The work carried on by the Board of Trustee’s is important and ongoing. By using Policy Governance, every month church policies are evaluated and monitored. This in depth work allows for efficient and effective problem solving. Plus the budget team has developed a 5 year financial plan. This long term planning has helped to bring about a balanced budget for the first time in over a decade. We now have in place a solid plan for the building and facilities for the next 20 years. The Stewardship Team is working to grow the church responsibly by exploring legacy giving, expanding rentals and the annual auction. Diane Ullius is leading this important expanded committee.

This year UUCA raised more in pledges than ever before, but the hard truth is it is not enough money to run the church “as is”. We need to be creative and look at new ways to raise pledges and other sources of income. The church’s work will continue no matter what size we are. Rev. Aaron expressed his deep appreciation for the congregation and the staff during his first year at UUCA.

Board of Trustees Update (Steve Brannon, Chair, and Wendy Jessup, Member)

Steve Brannon reported on the work of the Board of Trustees over the past year. The board developed better relationships by doing deep listening and looking at the feelings, values, and emotions that underlie our decisions. By sharing our wildest hopes and worst fears, the board better connects with each other and the congregation about what UUCA should achieve and avoid. Building relationships this way helps the board steer the church into the future.

Wendy Jessup explained how the board is rounding out its policy-based governance

work. Linkage is a systematic process of staying in touch with the congregation. The linkage activity this year asked the church “What does it mean to connect, grow, and serve at UUCA?” The board asked the congregation these question with a survey online and after services on Sunday in April. The results of the linkage project will be published soon. What we learned from the linkage will drive the evolution of our policy over the next year. Monitoring is the board’s activity to ensure that Rev. Aaron, as the church’s Executive, is accomplishing our ends while staying within the executive limitations board policies set. This year, the board is on schedule to monitor all of its policies with Rev. Aaron for the first time to establish a baseline for progress in the future.

Transition Team Update (Jacomina de Regt)

Jacomina began her report with the quote “change is inevitable, growth is optional”. Our expectations of Rev. Aaron were incredibly high when he arrived last August. Above the individual hopes that Aaron would fix what individual people thought was needed, we collectively hoped for distinctive leadership of our congregation.

Upon arrival Rev. Aaron said he needed a three year horizon, a first year to get to know UUCA. So, that’s where the Transition Team came in. They filled the role of sounding board and occasionally pitched in to get things going.

Last year’s transition team consisted of Bill Fogarty, Warren Wright and D. Ohland who came on from the search committee, Linda Battaglini, Chuck Maclane and Ron Cima from the transition team and added Emily Goodin as well. Jacomina has served on the team for the last three years.

The team also helped out when Aaron wanted to have a platform to kick start new leadership models, new cross cutting teams that look at how to create circles, not rows or silos. And that’s where the transition team will transition to now. Together with staff, the team members will take on leadership roles in the new teams of Connectors, Communicators, Inter-cultural Competency leaders and Producers.

Jacomina said she has seen growth in our congregation over this past year. A growth in trusting our leadership and trusting each other. To her, that growth in trust was needed to heal us. Now it is time to begin the work for the next 12 months. Please consider joining one of these leadership teams. Together we can continue to grow and change with Aaron’s leadership.

Awards were given out to congregation members who went the “extra mile” this year with their service to UUCA.

Erica Shadowsong gave the Jack McWethy Award to Mark Deegan.

Sarah Masters awarded the Unsung Hero Award to Linda Lutes Corsoro.

Bob Griffith gave Incredible Lightness of Being Award to Kate Beyselance.

He gave the Vera Tilson Award to Marilyn Baker and Cynthia Young.

Rev. Aaron gave the Joseph Fisher Award for Social Justice to Pat Findikoglu.

He gave the UUCA Distinguished Service Award to Tom O’Reilly.

Steve Brannon gave the Chairman’s Award to Julia Zhu Meade.

Staff Recognition

Rev. Aaron recognized Brian Smith and Erica Shadowsong for their outstanding work this year and announced that both are leaving UUCA for positions elsewhere.

Business Meeting

Call to Order 12:55pm

Establishment of a Quorum (Teller Committee)

Under Article IV, Section 5 of the UUCA bylaws, a quorum is the lesser of 8% of members or 75 members. Sarah Masters announced a quorum was established for the meeting with 183 members in attendance. The Teller Committee was Sarah Masters, Chair, Mary Avery, Betsy Bailey, Mary Pike, and Alex Roth.

Certification of Membership Listing and Notice (Joan Perry, Secretary)

Joan Perry certified that UUCA members eligible to vote at the meeting were provided written materials covering the agenda, budget, and reports in a timely manner consistent with the bylaws. She also certified the membership list.

Appointment of Parliamentarian (James Tsai)

Steve Brannon appointed James Tsai as the Annual Meeting Parliamentarian.

Purpose of the Meeting and Rules of the Meeting and Election (ATTACHMENT #1)

The Congregation voted to adopt the rules.

UUCA Covenant Reading

The Congregation read the UUCA Covenant aloud. (ATTACHMENT #2)

Treasurer's Report (Chad Ohlandt)

Chad summarized the report (ATTACHMENT #3)

Board Recommended Budget for 2015-16 (ATTACHMENT #4)

Tom O'Reily made a motion that we accept the budget. (Seconded by Kate Beysselance)

DISCUSSION FOLLOWED. Most of the speakers speaking against the budget felt the cuts were particularly harsh to the staff and that was unfair. They felt we were not being true to our UU values and gave suggestions on other ways to save money. Some speakers opposed the budget because they felt more time was needed to raise more funds to avoid staff cuts. Speakers speaking for the budget were saddened by the cuts but said a balanced budget was an important step to fiscal responsibility. Several members pointed out that budget cuts had already been made this spring like closing the church on Mondays and that everyone knew more cuts would have to be made. Some also discussed the thorough processes that had already taken place to raise as much money as possible, as well as the understanding of our circumstances they gained from participating in either the lay budget advisory group or the series of open budget discussions.

After 20 minutes of discussion, Diane Ullius moved that we call the question to do a voice vote on the budget (Wendy Jessup seconded) (This would require a 2/3 majority vote) **APPROVED**

A voice vote was taken on the motion to approve the 2015-16 budget but the voice vote did not make Steve Brannon positive as to the result. He asked the members to submit paper ballots. While the ballots were counted the meeting continued. After elections for officers and Approval of Minutes of 2014 Annual Meeting, the Teller committee completed the paper ballot count. The proposed Budget for 2015-16 passed with 106 members voting "yes" and 51 members voting "no".

Nominating Committee Report: Nominating Committee Slate (ATTACHMENT #5) (Rob Drucker, Chair. Other members: Regina Koffman, Melissa Rea, David Shilton, and Chris Sutton)

Rob Drucker explained the work of the committee and put forth the current slate of candidates.

Other Nominations: There were no nominations by petition or from the floor.

Elections

Steve Brannon asked for a motion to approve the slate of candidates for the Board of Trustees, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and Nominating Committee. Tom O'Reilly made a motion to accept the slate of candidates as proposed by the Nominating Committee. (Wendy Jessup seconded the motion) A voice vote was taken and the motion passed.

Approval of Minutes of 2014 Annual Meeting

John Gunning made a motion to accept the meeting minutes as is. (Seconded by Bill Piez) Discussion followed. It was pointed out that on page 4 the words "Recommended Budget for 2013-2014" should be changed to: "Recommended Budget for 2014-2015". John Gunning agreed to change his motion to accepting the minutes with that change. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed.

Hymn: "One More Step" #168 in Singing the Living Tradition

Tom O'Reilly made a motion to adjourn the meeting. (Wendy Jessup seconded) **APPROVED.** 1:45pm

ATTACHMENT 1

Rules

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation is held at the call of the Board of Trustees to elect Officers and Trustees and vote on whether to approve the budget for the upcoming Church year.

General Rules for the UUCA Annual Congregational Meeting

1. To speak, you must first be recognized by the Chair. Only members eligible to vote may speak.
2. Except for scheduled agenda presentations, speakers will be limited to one and a half minutes and to the issues raised by the motion. If there are pros and cons, they will be kept in balance. No one may speak twice on an issue. Overall time limit for statements about the budget is 20 minutes.
3. Speakers are to respect our UUCA covenant. They must address ideas and points, not personalities or people. Opinions should not be presented as facts. Facts and circumstances should be described accurately.
4. This meeting will last no more than 90 minutes, preferably less. To stay within that timeframe, additional agenda items will not be added.

Rules for Election:

1. Nominating Committee begins by nominating its entire slate.
2. Nominations may then be made from the floor. Nominees from the floor must declare they are willing to serve if elected, and must be a member in good standing.
3. If there is a contested race, the election will be by written ballot. Cumulative voting is not permitted, and ballots with more than one vote for any candidate will be disallowed.
4. Candidates (or their representative if absent) for contested seats may speak on their own behalf for 1.5 minutes. There will be no other speeches.
5. Only members in good standing may vote.
6. Business will move forward while Teller Committee counts ballots.

ATTACHMENT 2

UUCA Covenant Reading

We covenant with each other, promising our goodwill and honest effort, pledging our care and support to one another and to our church community, challenging one another to live in accord with our Unitarian Universalist principles.

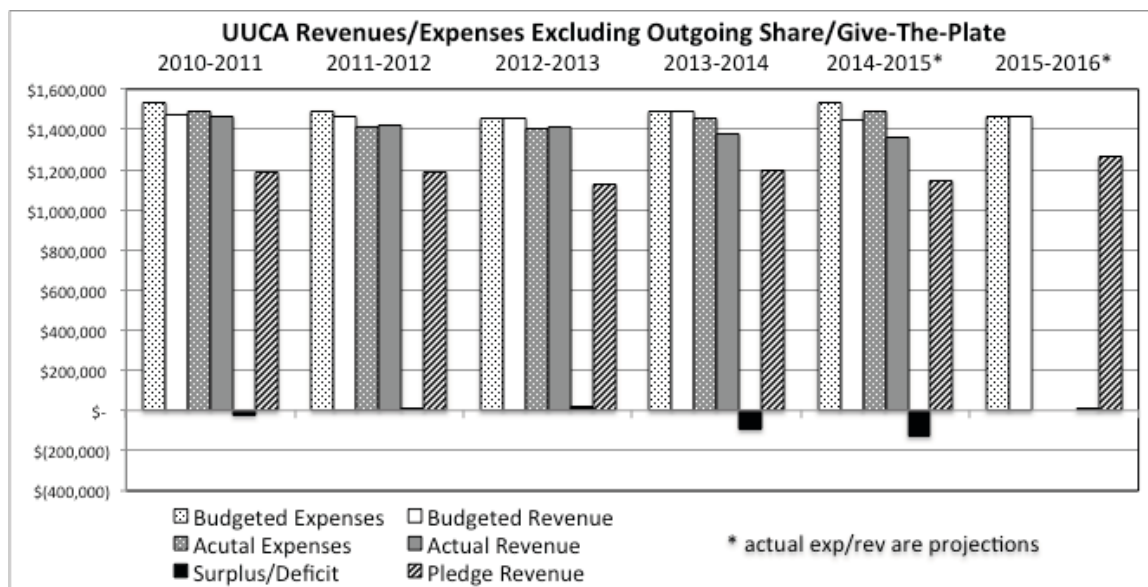
With this common purpose as our source, we covenant:

- to welcome all who come to us with acceptance and respect for the differences among us;
- to practice patience and speak the truth directly and with compassion;
- to reflect carefully about the potential results of our words and actions before we speak or act;
- to keep our discussions to topics and issues rather than personalities;
- to acknowledge that we may not always agree with the group decisions, but we will support and participate in decision-making processes that are collaborative and democratic;
- to seek to resolve disagreements to our mutual satisfaction and ask for help when needed;
- to speak directly to those with whom we have disagreements;
- to facilitate direct communication between parties in conflict, when appropriate;
- to act with loving kindness, seeking to promote justice, equity, and compassion;
- to speak out with loving kindness when we witness disrespectful interactions;
- to understand that building our beloved community requires learning and practice.

ATTACHMENT 3

UUCA Revenue and Expenses

UUCA started with an \$87k budgeted deficit and experienced additional pledge shortfalls. Due to the implementation of budget cuts this spring, this year's projected deficit has been reduced to a projected \$126k. The general operating fund reserves started at roughly \$84k. Board policy requires a balanced budget if reserves are below 2 months of the annual operating budget, ~\$250k. Those reserves were bolstered by the administrative transfer of the Memorial Garden Fund surplus, ~\$80k, and a gift from the Chisolm McAvoy estate of \$117k. The projected operating reserves at the end of the year are \$155k, still requiring a balanced budget.



To put the deficit in context, the figure above shows previous year budgets, actuals, deficits, and pledges. It should be noted that this year budget includes only 50% fair share with the UUA or JPD at \$36k, only \$2k for the Replacement Reserve, and nothing to prepare for an increase in the mortgage which must be refinanced by 2017. Properly funding those in the future will require at least an additional \$100k annually.

UUCA Investment Funds

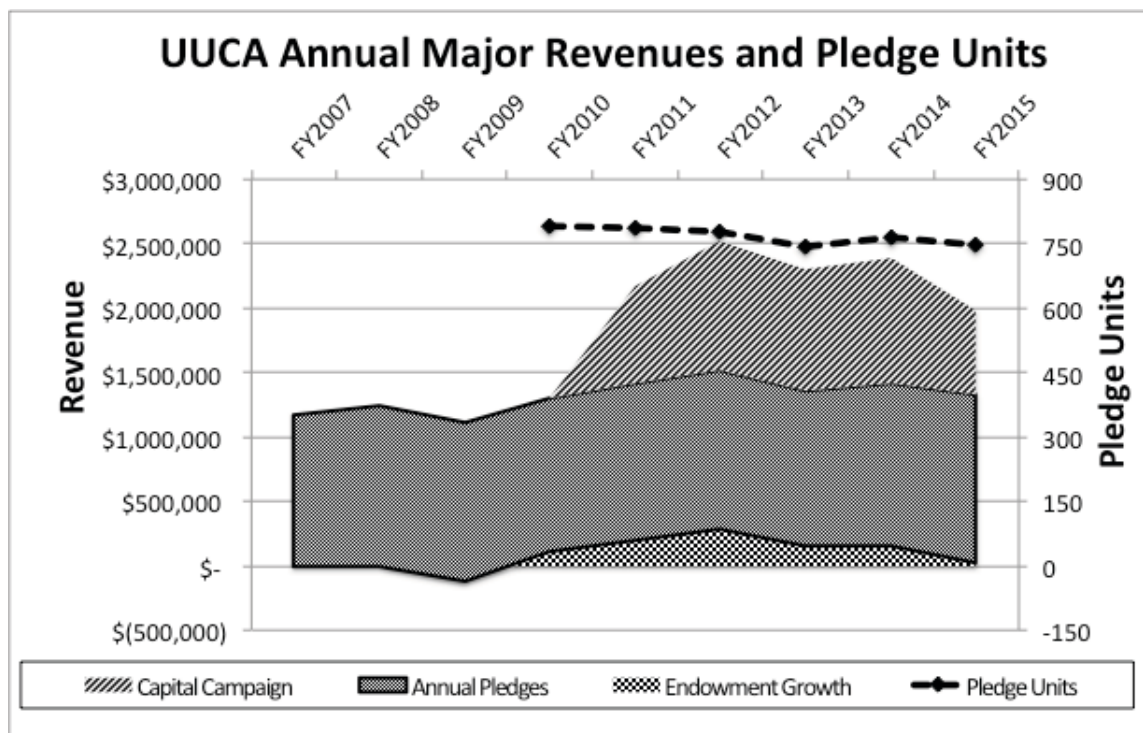
UUCA invested reserves have decreased due to past year's deficits and the absorption of the Memorial Garden fund, while the endowment has continued to grow, primarily due to stock market returns and essentially no withdrawals. The Board has already approved an endowment release of \$57k, but those expenses will be over the next two fiscal years. UUCA has also received a gift from the Ruth Van Cleve estate of \$164k covering part the endowment's illiquid notes to the capital campaign that is not in the numbers below. The liquid portion will increase by that amount this month, but the illiquid \$777k note to the capital campaign has only \$205k of remaining legacy pledges against it.

UUCA Investment Funds	Value as of May 2, 2013	Value as of April 30, 2014	Value as of April 30, 2015
General Fund/Designated Accounts	\$ 290,399	\$ 301,518	\$ 228,276
Replacement Reserves	\$ 38,808	\$ 47,386	\$ 38,384
Memorial Garden Account	\$ 64,862	\$ 78,166	\$ 0
Dorothy Cattell Fund	\$ 27,139	\$ 32,639	\$ 11,820
Endowment Fund (without illiquid notes)	\$ 594,416	\$ 751,485	\$ 829,694
Subtotal liquid invested funds	\$ 1,015,624	\$ 1,211,194	\$ 1,108,174
Illiquid Endowment Notes	\$ 818,500	\$ 818,500	\$ 818,500
Total	\$1,834,124	\$2,029,694	\$1,926,674

Investment fund increases are due to both investment returns and additional gifts.

Capital Campaign and the Bigger Picture

Concerns about flat annual pledging levels need to be taken in context of overall giving to UUCA. The chart highlights how incredibly generous UUCA's membership has been during a time of transition with giving exceeding \$2,000k annually for the past few years. Given the financial turmoil of government furloughs and a shutdown, this is quite impressive. Membership numbers as of May 31 show that households have increased by 3.7% and members/friends/inquiring friends are up 2.9% from one year ago. If this trend continues, annual pledging will likely grow proportionally.



ATTACHMENT 4

Expenses							
		2013/2014 Approved	2013/2014 Actual	2014/2015 Approved	2014/2015 Projected	2015/2016 Proposed	FY15 / FY16 Difference
Staff							
	Salary	720,247	704,273	757,464	757,464	716,955	-40,509
	Benefits	262,536	269,071	309,059	307,790	276,529	-32,530
Ministry and Worship							
	Expenses	42,800	49,542	20,800	23,800	13,500	-7,300
Church Office							
	Expenses	41,900	54,039	64,250	64,250	51,850	-12,400
Mortgage							
	Expenses	130,000	125,820	130,000	130,000	130,000	0
Youth and Ministry							
	Expenses	10,250	4,842	17,360	10,860	26,100	8,740
Member Support							
	Expenses	21,150	15,206	21,600	13,100	23,150	1,550
Building and Grounds							
	Expenses	156,100	157,855	153,300	148,300	168,735	15,435
Communications							
	Expenses	18,712	3,499	13,120	6,350	7,450	-5,670
Our Wider Movement							
	Expenses	69,123	68,550	37,768	18,768	36,000	-1,768
Faith in Action and Outreach							
	Expenses	14,000	5,332	12,500	10,500	16,400	3,900
General Fund Surplus Replenishment							
	Expenses	0	0	-		-	0
Expenses		1,486,818	1,458,029	1,537,221	1,491,182	1,466,669	-70,552
Revenue		1,487,591	1,387,807	1,449,700	1,364,638	1,468,000	18,300
				-\$87,521	-\$126,544	\$1,331	88,852
Give The Plate							
	Expenses	70,000	126,703	0	140,000		
	Revenue	70,000	112,467	0	140,000		

Staff Compensation

		2014/2015	2015/2016
		Approved	Proposed
Staff Compensation	Total:	757,464.00	716,955.28
Moving Expenses		14,000.00	0.00
FICA	Total:	56,412.32	54,019.73
Long Term Disability	Total:	3,792.05	3,647.62
Retirement	Total:	102,093.74	77,161.18
Health Benefits	Total:	90,789.40	105,228.40
Prof. Expenses	Total:	41,971.90	36,472.00
TOTAL:		\$1,066,523	\$993,484
Senior Minister	Salary:	128,333	142,380
	Benefits:	71,451	71,294
Minister of Faith In Action	Salary:	92,219	93,787
	Benefits:	36,739	34,897
Religious Education	Salary:	91,980	81,960
	Benefits:	37,768	31,756
Administrative/Support	Salary:	427,432	398,829
	Benefits:	156,292	138,582
Interim Senior Minister makes up delta	S&B:	24,310	

Ministry and Worship			
		2014/2015	2015/2016
		Approved	Proposed
5123	Worship Guests	4,500	2,500
5124	Worship Svcs/Other Expenses	4,800	2,000
5134	Special Events	3,000	1,500
5528	Young Adults	-	-
5538	Ministerial Search	2,000	-
5539	Transition Team	500	-
5616	Guests and contractors	2,000	3,500
5630	Purchases/Other expenses	4,000	4,000
	Total, Ministry and Worship	20,800	13,500
Church Office			
		2014/2015	2015/2016
		Approved	Proposed
5219	Bank Fees	3,000	3,000
5221	Credit Card Processing	4,000	4,250
5222	Audit	15,000	-
5223	Payroll Expenses	-	4,100
5224	Unallocated Staff Expenses	4,700	1,500
5228	Worker's Comp	4,000	4,500
5230	Misc.	950	900
5232	Health Benefit Plan	1,000	1,200
5235	Staff Training	950	-
5240	Office Supplies	6,000	6,250
5245	Postage	3,500	4,000
5250	Telephone	6,000	6,150
5255	Office Machine Maintenance	14,400	15,000
6101	Office Equipment	750	1,000
	Total, Church Office	64,250	51,850
Mortgage			
5801	Mortgage	130,000	130,000
General Fund Surplus Replenishment			
	General Fund Surplus Replenishr	-	-

Children and Youth Ministry

		2014/2015	2015/2016
		Approved	Proposed
5310	Volunteer Training	4,285	5,000
5315	Adult Education Expenses	500	2,500
5320	RE Supplies	2,500	2,900
5322	Libraries	-	-
5325	Instructional Resources	1,000	1,400
5330	Youth Activities Support	750	5,750
5335	Summer Program	500	700
5340	Child Care-Other Activities	5,760	6,000
5345	RE Postage	-	-
5355	RE Equipment Maintenance	-	800
5528	Young Adults	750	-
5331	Multigenerational Activities	800	800
5344	Criminal Background Checks	515	250
	Total, Youth and Ministry	17,360	26,100

Member Support

		2014/2015	2015/2016
		Approved	Proposed
5512	Pamphlets/Stickers	1,150	1,150
5515	Membership	3,250	2,500
5517	Pastoral Care	-	-
5525	Leadership Devel. and Training	1,000	-
5530	Board Expenses	6,000	2,000
5535	Planned Giving Expenses	200	-
5540	Canvass Expenses	10,000	9,000
	Services Auction	-	8,500
	Total, Member Support	21,600	23,150

Our Wider Movement

		2014/2015	2015/2016
		Approved	Proposed
5705	Delegate	1,500	-
5710	Other Expenses	250	-
5720	UUA Contribution	24,840	25,000
5725	JPD Contribution	11,178	11,000
	Total, Our Wider Movement	37,768	36,000

Building and Grounds

		2014/2015	2015/2016
		Approved	Proposed
5406	Trash Pick-up	6,600	9,755
5407	Utilities	60,000	65,000
5410	Fire and Liability Insurance	14,000	14,280
5415	Bldg. Maintenance-Routine	22,000	22,000
5416	Building Maintenance-Projects	4,000	4,000
5420	Grounds Maintenance	1,000	2,000
5422	HVAC Work	23,500	24,500
5425	Parsonage Maintenance	3,000	1,500
5430	Parsonage Taxes	6,200	6,200
5502	Website Hosting and Maint	-	-
5545	Computer Support	7,000	7,500
6103	Computer Equipment	2,000	2,000
6110	Equipment	1,500	2,000
6170	Replacement Reserves	2,000	2,000
6190	Unforeseen Expenses	500	500
	Memorial Garden upkeep	-	5,500
	Total, Building and Grounds	153,300	168,735

Communications

		2014/2015	2015/2016
		Approved	Proposed
5501	Connections	7,500	2,600
5502	Website Hosting and Maint	1,200	1,900
5505	Print Media Advertising	1,800	500
5508	Video and Audio Expenses	1,670	1,500
5509	Photography/Archives	400	400
5510	Communications-Other	550	550
	Total, Communications	13,120	7,450

Faith in Action/Outreach

		2014/2015	2015/2016
		Approved	Proposed
5380	Peace Camp	500	2,500
5517	Pastoral Care	500	500
5640	Creative Arts	1,000	500
5713	VOICE	7,500	8,500
5526	Equality UUCA	500	500
	PAG	-	2,900
5715	Social Action	2,500	1,000
	Total, Social Action and Outreach	12,500	16,400

Revenue

Revenue Source	2014/2015	2015/2016
	Approved	Proposed
Donations		
4033 Pledge Fulfillment	\$1,148,700	\$1,166,500
4092 Additional pledges	85,000	73,000
4004 Special Contributions	25,000	25,000
Subtotal, Donations	1,258,700	1,264,500
Fundraising		
4111 Services Auction	37,000	44,000
4123 Mistletoe Mall	4,500	3,000
4124 Scrip	3,000	1,800
4121 Miscellaneous Fundraising	2,000	1,500
Subtotal, Fundraising	46,500	50,300
Rentals		
4131 Parsonage	11,000	10,000
4132 Pre-School	22,500	23,000
4133 Events	80,000	83,000
Subtotal, Rentals	113,500	116,000
Programs		
4142 Adult Education	2,000	0
4151 Music/Theater Contribution	5,000	5,000
Subtotal, Program	7,000	5,000
Other		
4161 Interest	8,500	8,500
4162 Refreshments	2,500	2,700
4172 Miscellaneous	2,500	2,500
Cattell Fund transfer	10,500	11,000
Memorial Garden		7,500
Subtotal, Other Income	24,000	32,200
Total Revenue	1,449,700	1,468,000

ATTACHMENT 5

BOARD OF TRUSTEES CANDIDATES

2015

New Candidates

Chad Ohlandt (2015-2017)



Chad Ohlandt has been a member of UUCA since 2009 and the UUCA Treasurer since 2012. He is a member of the finance and investment advisory teams, the stewardship team, an usher, a covenant group member, a hUUmanist, and a Coming of Age facilitator. He served on the Renewal Capital Campaign Committee. Chad, his wife, D., and sons, Callen and Zachariah, live in Alexandria. Chad is an aerospace engineer and policy analyst at the RAND Corporation.

Kristen Patterson (2015-2017)



Kristen P. Patterson became a member of UUCA in 2012. Since joining, Kristen has taught RE and has enjoyed getting to know the families in her sons' classes. As a member of the Board of Trustees, Kristen is eager to listen and engage with the congregation to learn more about what is going well, what we can improve, and how we can each make tangible contributions that will make a difference in our lives, our communities, and the greater world. Her career has focused on community development, health, and environmental conservation and currently works on international global health security with the Department of Health and Human Services in DC. Kristen and her husband Dan live in South Arlington with their two wonderful boys, Owen, and Ezra.

Andrea Ryon (2015-2017)



Andrea Ryon has been a member of UUCA since 1998. She has served on the Stewardship Committee and Social Action Council; has taught RE; has facilitated and participated in multiple Covenant Groups; and has been a member of Fellowship X and the Young Adult Group. She lives with her husband and their dog in the neighborhood behind UUCA. She is a water resources engineer and currently manages operations at an environmental and engineering consulting firm. She has served on a variety of community and professional committees and boards.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES CANDIDATES

2015

Renewing Candidates

Steve Brannon (2015-2017)



Steve Brannon has been a member of the board since 2013 and has served as chair since 2014. Steve is a native of Arlington who discovered UUCA and started attending in 2009. In his first four years at UUCA, he was actively involved in the young adult group and with the high school youth group as an adult advisor. In 2012 he became a member of the church, and during our recent interim ministry he served on the Transition Team working on the church's Appreciative Inquiry process and other projects. Most recently, Steve started playing music with UUCA's "Awesome Garage Band." When he's not at church, Steve enjoys living in Arlington with his wife Meg, and he works in the field of cyber security.

John Bohman (2015-2017)



John Bohman has served on the UUCA Board since 2011, and he is standing for a third term. John was the Chair of the Board for the two fiscal years ending June 30, 2014. He has recently been part of the Worship Associates group, assisting Rev. Aaron in the development of Sunday services. John joined UUCA in 1989, and he had a prior term on the Board during the 1990's. During his years at UUCA, John has been a part of the music and theater arts programs at UUCA. He is a strong backer of small group ministry, policy based and future oriented governance, UUCA as a welcoming congregation, and interfaith outreach and community empowerment through UUCA's participation in VOICE (Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement). John, and his spouse Louise Van Horne, raised their three children with the help of the congregation at UUCA. Last summer they became grandparents. Professionally, John is a union side labor lawyer.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES CANDIDATES

2015

Officer Candidates - Elected Annually

Peter Vitaliano - Treasurer



Peter Vitaliano has been a member of UUCA since 1991. He served three years on the Board of Trustees in the mid-1990s and served a term on the RE Council prior to that. He previously served as the Church's Treasurer for two years in the late 1990s, and more recently was one of three founding members of the church Audit Committee. He has been the treasurer for Chalice Theatre for a number of years.

Bob Gayer - Assistant Treasurer



Bob Gayer has been a member of the Church since 1984 and involved with money matters from the start, including 10 years as Treasurer. He coordinates UUCA's Buddhist Fellowship and can be found Monday nights in the meditation class. His 34 years in the federal government included Army service, 20 years at Treasury, and 10 years with the Navy.

Gene Mulligan - Assistant Treasurer



Gene Mulligan joined the Church in 1959 and the Church Finance Committee in 1966. He served five years as Treasurer and several as Assistant Treasurer. Gene serves as Chair of the Investment Committee that oversees the Endowment and several other Church mutual fund investment accounts. He served as a US Navy officer until 1963 and Bank of America institutional bond investment manager until retiring in 1995. Gene and Dorothy have raised four children through UUCA's Religious Education Program.

Joan Perry - Secretary



Joan Perry is a UU lifer. She began attending UUCA in 1968 and became a member in 1976. She and her husband were married by Kim Beach and have been active since the 80's. Joan taught Sunday school for about 10 years, participated in two rebuilding trips to New Orleans and is now teaching ESOL in the church's program. Outside of church, she has been active in her union's leadership at work for the past 16 years. When her three boys were in school, she worked on many PTA committees and was a leader in Cub Scouts. Joan comes from a family of active UU's and shares a deep commitment to volunteerism with them. Joan works fulltime as an editor at Channel 5. She edited for the TV show America's Most Wanted for 17 years before its cancelation four years ago. It was there she developed an appreciation for the meaning of justice and the importance of forgiveness.

Nominating Committee Candidates

Gerda Keiswetter



Gerda Keiswetter and her husband, Allen came to UUCA in 1990 seeking religious education for their children, as well as community after a decade abroad. Gerda has taken part in Sacred Dance, Peace Camp, Mistletoe Mall for children, in RE as teacher and office manager. She is currently a Greeter, Covenant group co-facilitator, and member of Equality UUCA. Gerda is retired from teaching and the travel business and finds great pleasure in her volunteer work with children in the community. She is a co-leader of the PFLAG Community Group.

Pat Findikoglu



UUCA has been Pat Findikoglu’s spiritual home since 1995. Over the years, she has participated in the RE Council, Share-the-Plate Committee, Search Committee for Rev. Mary Ganz, Co-facilitator for the course ‘Building the World We Dream About,” and covenant groups. In retirement, Pat has been able to pursue three strong interests of hers:

- The Natural World: (D.I.G. at UUCA, Master Naturalist in the community)
- Social Justice (VOICE and particularly the Affordable Housing Campaign in Arlington)
- Culture Competency, (Mentor to two Dream Project Students)

Pat has lived in Arlington for most of her adult life, raised two children here, and worked as a South Arlington public school teacher for 20 years. She feels this is an exciting time to be at UUCA, and is particularly drawn to the idea of the ‘Church inside our walls ‘and the ‘Church outside our walls.’