



# The Community News

July 2015

## OUR VISION

*We will become a dynamic and nurturing religious community that celebrates our human diversity, supports lifelong spiritual growth, and acts for compassion and justice in the larger community.*

### Building a New Path

Why build a new path? Why look for some new way to get 'there' when what we're doing works just fine? Sometimes in working towards our goals, we realize that we are maxed out. What we do is as good as we can do unless a change is made. In changing paths, better ways are sometimes seen that can achieve the same goal more efficiently, or possibly do even more. Changing to Share The Plate from our quarterly 5th Sunday Collection is one way that we are refining what we do to better effect.

May saw the ending of our quarterly 5th Sunday Collection, which is being replaced by a now-monthly Share The Plate program.

With this program, 1/2 of the undesignated plate collections on the last Sunday of **each month** will be donated to charity. Additionally, donations during the month may be done online through the church website. The schedule planned for the year is below. Rob Saxon

Date	Recipient
Jun 28, 2015	New Orleans Lower 9 <sup>th</sup> Ward
Jul 26, 2015	God's Food Pantry
Aug 30, 2015	Barron Elementary
Sep 27, 2015	Minister's Discretionary Fund
Oct 25, 2015	UU Service Committee
Nov 29, 2015	Minister's Discretionary Fund
Dec 27, 2015	Plano Community Home
Jan 31, 2016	Barron Elementary
Feb 28, 2016	Minister's Discretionary Fund
Mar 27, 2016	Community Harvest Garden

July, 2015

Sunday Services

**Theme - Building a New Way**

**July 5 - "Racists in Lab Coats: The Terrible Alliance of Science and White Supremacy" - Guest Speaker, Michael Phillips**

**July 12 - "The Right Direction" - Guest Speaker, Bernard Hamilton**

**July 19 - Book Sunday**

**July 26 - Guest Speaker, Anita Mills**

*\*12:15 p.m.: Inquirer's Class held the fourth Sunday of each month*

Typical Sunday

**10:30 - 11:45 a.m.:** Worship, Religious Education for Children and Youth, and Nursery Childcare

**11:45 a.m.:** Coffee and Conversation

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## *Patrick's Ponderings "Being and Becoming Our Selves"*

For me, growth is one of, if not THE purpose of our lives. I know this with every fiber of my being and I have known it in some form most of my life. I chose and accepted the call to ministry in great part, because for me, I can think of no other path or calling which offers me and forces me to engage so constantly and profoundly in the act of being, not more than I am, but in being the fullest me possible.

It is our perspective, or point of view, or mental frame on what is happening that makes us feel what we feel and behave the way we do. The greatest influence on our lives is our selves, and the greatest influence over us is our mental and emotional perspective of ourselves, our world and our place in it. This does not give us total control over our lives, but it gives us the opportunities and tools to direct our lives in ways more compatible with who we are at our deepest level, and at our most authentic core selves.

An acorn does not become something else besides an oak tree, but it moves towards being more fully an oak tree all the time. With a point of view that enlivens, inspires, empowers and emboldens us, we are able to be the changes we wish to see and to be more the people we desire to be. So, if our thoughts, feelings and behaviors are already focused on what is important to us, then real change and breakthroughs are more likely.

Even as we engage with the growth and fulfillment of our own Holy potentials, we reach out to others, to help them to recognize and to fulfill their potentials; spiritually, physically and relationally. If what *we* find here is of value and importance for *our* lives, then it is not any less for others who are still parched and waiting for the hopeful waters and the nurture of a good news which may liberate them from their fear and dormancy. We reach out to them so that they too may stretch into the light of our great and common life. As they grow, we all gain. And, together we may show the world ways of being that transcend the husks of consumption, and competition and fear.

When we understand ourselves to be rooted in the midst of a Holy reality and that all others are as well, then our perception of the world and those who comprise it is fundamentally altered. When we carry this in our hearts and minds, as an on-going meditation of being, we cannot but be changed and the world with us.

I also choose this path, to nurture this Holy potential, because I am grateful for all that I am and have the good, the bad and the ugly. There is an old saying that "what we are is a gift of God and what we become is our gift of thanks." I seek fulfillment for myself and for others as an act of gratitude to all that has given me life and to all of those who believed in me and nurtured me in this amazingly complex and interconnected garden of our existence. Even as I have chosen service to help me grow, my growth leads me into a deeper and deeper desire to serve.

We are here to change ourselves and the world. We have done it before. We are doing it now. We will do it again and again and again, by growing our souls. We will do it by coming alive. We will do it by sharing our good news that everyone has choices, and is enough, and is powerful and precious and holy. We will do it by committing to share our resources, our talents and our lives with each other for the common good, cultivating the divine seed within each and every one of us, creating not just a garden, or a field, or a fruited plain, but a world made fairer for all.

**Sunday Mornings - (Will be on hiatus through July and reconvene 9am Sunday, August 9, 2015).** This Study and Discussion Group occurs on Sunday mornings 9 to 10am in the Library. Join us for Group for UU Discussion and Study (GUUDS), principally led by the Rev. Patrick Price. Child care is provided. This open ended, ongoing study and discussion group is for first time visitors as well as long time practitioners of Unitarian Universalism. Using books by UU authors, we will examine the wide and deep intersection of human longing and experience. We will begin this year reading and discussing the book: *Not for Ourselves Alone: Theological Essays on Relationship* by Laurel Hallman, and Burton D. Carley, Skinner House Books, 2014.

## *President's Column*

In June, I spoke about reaching out, and how, as a Church family, we reach out to the wider community to nourish spirits, work for justice, and transform lives. It is now summer, almost high summer, a time when we welcome many visitors to our church, and I have been thinking about how we meet, greet, and welcome visitors when they step through our front doors. When I say “we”, I mean all of us, not just our greeters who are already doing a wonderful job.

During a recent conversation with our new Membership Coordinator, Cindy Pilcher, she referred me to a sermon given by Rev. Aaron White, entitled “How We Meet One Another.” This sermon was given shortly after the birth of Rev. White’s first child in 2012. He begins by describing what he calls the “radical dependency” of this new human being, who is fragile and in need of being held close. He then suggests that as adults, even though we may deny it, we also need to be held close. He goes on to say that how we greet people, the hospitality that we offer is a spiritual discipline that communicates whether or not we are willing to share our world with them. Being “genuinely hospitable” and “radically welcoming” are terms he uses, and he asks whether we have fulfilled our mission by simply saying that our doors are open to everyone, and then allowing people to “figure it out on their own.” I agree with him, that in this day when you can get a Sunday sermon on your smart phone, “people who come to church on Sunday morning do so because they want to be human together”, and that “we will be known not by what we believe or don’t believe, but by what we do.”

To be truly welcoming, caring, and inclusive requires more than passively expressing what we believe; we must actively reach out, greet, and engage new visitors. “Just welcome them, greet their eyes, say hello, and offer them a place to sit, preferably next to you” suggests that this is how we truly live our values.

For me, the most powerful statement made by Rev. White during his sermon states that living our values enables us to be known “not as the people who can believe whatever we want, but the people who love beyond belief.”

As we greet the visitors who come through our doors this summer and every Sunday, my hope is that we will each offer “genuine hospitality” that is “radically welcoming.”

With affection,

Lexie

### **TEXAS UU JUSTICE MINISTRY - TXUUJM**

The Texas legislature is closed now and we as members of the TXUUJM need to take this time to redefine our goals and tactics. In July all of the member churches will decide what is important to them as a church and in August the Steering Committee will begin discussing strategies.

Please start considering your priorities for the coming year. We will start gathering inputs this month.

Thank you.

Community Advisory Committee

Linda Frank

Nelah McComsey

# July, 2015

**Simple Living Chalice Circle Meeting time and place** – The next meeting will be **Saturday morning July 11, at 11am.**  
**Theme/topic** – Learning together to live deliberately.

**Facilitator** – Contact Ona Tannehill at Email [simpleliving@communityuuchurch.org](mailto:simpleliving@communityuuchurch.org) for location.

## **Astronomy Weekend at UBarU: August 14 – 16, 2015**

The August 14th - 16th weekend offers a particularly good time for star gazers of all ages under the beautiful dark skies at UBarU. There will be a new moon to set the stage for brilliant views of Saturn, deep-sky objects and the late-night display of the Perseid Meteor Shower which is one of the best meteor showers each year. UBarU will provide and operate telescopes and binoculars for the star parties. However, attendees are welcome to bring their own scopes to use (and share) if they wish.

The price of the weekend includes: all programming, sleeping accommodations for Friday and Saturday nights, full meals for dinner and breakfast starting Friday evening through breakfast Sunday morning, with a light lunch on Saturday.

**Fees for the Event are: Adults (18 and over) \$125**

**With spouse, significant other \$225**

**Child, 5 to 12 with Parent \$75**

**Child, 13 to 18 with Parent \$90**

To register go to [UBarU.org](http://UBarU.org)

**Friday Night Flicks - Founders Hall 7pm.**

## **July 10 - Into The Woods - 2014-PG**

Woven from a collection of revered fairy tales and characters, this enchanting musical mesh-up focuses on a childless couple who venture into the woods hoping to end a curse put on them by a vindictive witch played by Meryl Streep.

## **July 24 - Big Eyes - 2014 - PG13**

This biopic tells the complex story of Margaret Keane (Amy Adams), the American painter who came to prominence in the 1950's and was known for her pop art paintings that often featured children with large doe eyes. Her husband Walter Keane (Christoph Waltz) claimed credit for her works and this led to legal difficulties.

## **Memory Garden Bricks Available**

The Memory Garden will be selling bricks for the garden path on the west side to be inscribed with name/s or dates to honor the memories of loved ones. Each brick is \$65.00. This price includes the engraving and installation. There are several options available. See Linda Frank for more information.

## **Grocery Program**

**We recently received a check from the Kroger Grocery program for \$117. 71.**

Thank you to all of you who shop at Kroger.

## **Literary Ladies Book Club**

### **Upcoming Meetings**

Women members and friends of Community UU Church are welcome to join us on the **third Tuesday of the month from 7 – 9pm.**

**Date: July 21**

**Location: Deb Bliss' home.** Contact Deb by **July 17 if you plan to attend.**

**Selection:** [The Invisible History of the Human Race: How DNA and History Shape our Identities and Futures](#) by Christine Kenneally

*We are doomed to repeat history if we fail to learn from it, but how are we affected by the forces that are invisible to us? Kenneally draws on cutting-edge research to reveal how both historical artifacts and DNA tell us where we come from and where we may be going. While some books explore our genetic inheritance and popular television shows celebrate ancestry, this is the first book to explore how everything from DNA to emotions to names and the stories that form our lives are all part of our human legacy. The Invisible History of the Human Race is a deeply researched, carefully crafted and provocative perspective on how our stories, psychology, and genetics affect our past and our future. Amazon*

## **Hogwarts Needs Your Broken or Outdated Small Appliances and Electronics!**

On **July 26**, we will be exploring some Muggle Magic – that is, we are going to take apart some everyday objects to see how they work. If you have any small appliances, toys with moving parts, old CD players or radios, etc., that you would like to donate to the cause, please drop them off in the front office or contact Kathy Smith at [dre@communityUUchurch.org](mailto:dre@communityUUchurch.org). **NO** televisions or computer monitors, please (no CRTs), and nothing that you'd like to have back!

# Religious Education

## Feeding Your Child's Curiosity – and Yours!

By Kathy E. Smith, Director of Religious Education

We Unitarian Universalists are a curious, questioning people. It's embedded in our principles: the free and responsible search for truth and meaning, encouragement to spiritual growth, and the interconnected web of existence (which implicitly commits us to understand **how** we are interconnected). It's embodied in our sources: the awe and wonder of personal experiences with mystery, and the wisdom of science and reason. It's intrinsic to our history: from the time Unitarianism began differentiating itself from other branches of Christianity, we have proudly claimed the name "heretic" – one who challenges the established beliefs of the status quo.

While we are learning and doing, we are putting some of our deepest beliefs into action! And when we explicitly bring our principles and history into conversations with our children about what we are learning and doing, we help solidify our identity as Unitarian Universalists.

Children are naturally drawn to water, dirt, and bugs – look for evidence of animals and insects. As you help your child identify that mysterious bug, take the time to wonder what its role is in the ecosystem. AND remind them that we Unitarian Universalists believe that human beings take care of the earth, even bugs, because we believe that every living creature is part of the web of life. Share your child's amazement at chrysalises and tadpoles. AND connect their metamorphosis to the mystery of how everything grows and transforms, visibly or invisibly.

Do some science with your child. There are some wonderful resources online. Check out *Five Minute Film Festival: Fun Summer DIY Projects* on edutopia.org. And while you're talking about why and how the experiment worked, tell them that lots of Unitarian Universalists have been scientists and inventors. (Google Maria Mitchell or Joseph Priestley.) Not only does our faith fail to see a conflict between science and religion, we include science as one of the sources of our inspiration!

What about news stories? There is so much happening in the world today. True, a child doesn't need to be saturated with sensationalism. But neither can we assume they are totally unaware. Talk about current events. Listen to your child's questions and worries. Reassure them that there are always helpers (go look at *Explaining the News to Our Kids* on commonsensemedia.org or *Talking with Children about Horrific News* at uuworld.org for some age-appropriate suggestions). But also help them see the larger picture. What happened historically to make things this way? How are those events related to today's events? There are good resources out there to help you – an example is this one, on how to talk to your child about race: *Mother's Day Action Toolkit* at raceconscious.org. AND talk about our Unitarian Universalist belief in the inherent worth of every human being, the value of diversity, the necessity of deeply listening to each other's stories, and the interconnectedness of all of us, not just to the earth but to each other.

Those are just three possibilities. Because we are a **learning** and **doing** people, there will be lots of other possibilities to open up these conversations with your child. May the conversations be deep, meaningful, challenging, and in the spirit of summer, fun!

See you in church! In faith, Kathy

*July, 2015*

## Social Action

### BACKPACKS FOR PLANO STUDENTS

We will be collecting backpacks for Plano ISD students 6th to 12th graders during the month of July. In 2014, The Assistance Center of Collin County provided backpacks to Plano ISD families who were experiencing financial hardship. Due to their limitations, they were only able to supply pre-K and elementary age students. This year, their goal is to give middle/high school students the opportunity to come in and choose a backpack from a selection they will have available. They have asked for our help with this project. We all know the social pressures young people face in school and it would be a help to set up all of the students for success as they go into the next school year.

**If you would like to help, please bring a new backpack for a 6th to 12th grade student to church during the month of July. We will have a box in Founders Hall to collect these backpacks. The deadline date for collecting backpacks is 8/2/15.** Let's help these students out as they start a new year!

**Deadline for the August newsletter is Friday, July 17. Email your articles to [newsletter@communityuuchurch.org](mailto:newsletter@communityuuchurch.org).**

#### What's New in the Community Garden?

This is always a beautiful, busy time in the Community Harvest Garden. The unusual weather conditions (so much rain! so much heat!) have dried out some plots and produced luxurious growth in others. We've pulled up the last of the kale, broccoli, and other cole crops – too many cabbage caterpillars, and the plants were beginning to bolt and go to seed. Right now we are harvesting many pounds of green beans, chard and potatoes, and we're beginning to see cucumbers, eggplants, peppers and reddening tomatoes. Heather Joy again has an eight-foot sunflower in her plot! Our new seedless blackberry canes have lots of red berries and some are even beginning to ripen into dark, luscious berries.

If you see some small bees around, Jim Binnings has installed several bee houses (hollowed-out logs drilled with tiny holes for the bees to enter and exit). Not to worry! They don't sting. But like most bees, they are excellent pollinators.

Want to learn more? Check out our website at <http://www.communityuuchurch.org/pages/>. Or come to one of our monthly socials – check with Deb Bliss for location and time. And you are always welcome to come to one of our Saturday harvests. We begin at the garden every Saturday morning around 7:30-8.

Until next month – Your Community Garden Correspondent

# Community News

## Community UU Church Returns to New Orleans

Community UU Church members are again traveling to New Orleans 9th Ward this summer to help with rebuilding. We will be leaving on August 2 and returning on August 8 staying at 1st United Church. This opportunity is open to volunteers of all ages. We are especially looking for young adults to help with small construction projects...no experience required. If you would like to participate in this fun volunteer opportunity, contact Bill Daffinee.

## What is the Committee on Ministry?

The committee is three caring, open-minded people, appointed for three-year terms, who will give honest and pertinent feedback and advice relative to the effectiveness of the ministry of the minister within the context of the congregation's total ministry, which is considered to be everything the congregation does to fulfill its mission.

The committee meets on a monthly basis with the minister and will discuss topics brought up by either the minister or a committee member. The committee's role is to keep a pulse on what is going well at church as well as what needs attention in the ministry of the church. The committee consults with the minister about effective leadership and relationships. We act as a conflict management group and have a covenant of confidentiality and mutual honesty in respect to all deliberations.

We are the current committee members: **Chair Nancy Barlow, Anne Smith and John Hart.** Please feel comfortable coming to any of us with your concerns, thoughts and joys.

## Rounding out our Hogwarts Visiting Professor Team!

Help children take apart appliances (Muggle Studies), bake cookies (Transfigurations), play a silly game involving blowing pingpong balls across a table (Indoor Quidditch), play with ooblek and goop (Potions), or make pesto fresh from our community garden (Herbology). Or if you'd rather, we'll be planning a party in August – volunteer to help make that an amazing fun experience! Choose your age range (preschool or elementary children) and the days you teach. If you'd rather work with youth (middle school and up), we are discussing TED talks and could use some additional volunteers there, too. If you're interested, contact Kathy Smith at [dre@communityUUchurch.org](mailto:dre@communityUUchurch.org).

# *Adult Religious Education*

The Mission of the Adult Religious Education Program is to nurture and stimulate the religious and personal growth of the adult church community. We offer a varied and cohesive program within the context of the living Unitarian Universalist tradition and principles.

We offer a range of classes of interest to adults and youth on weekday evenings throughout the year. Each evening class begins at either 6:30 or 7 pm and ends no later than 9 pm. Sunday class begins at 12:05 pm and ends at 1:30 pm. Our programs include our continuing meditation group and a variety of topical classes.

CHILDCARE is available for all classes, upon request. **To reserve childcare call the Church office (972-424-8989) at least 48 hours in advance.**

**Sunday Mornings Study and Discussion Group - This class will be on hiatus from June 28 thru August 2.**

## **Monday Evenings - Vipassana Meditation - Clifton Rule**

Clifton says, "Vipassana means insight into the nature of reality. It is a way of self-transformation through self-observation and introspection. Vipassana meditation is often referred to simply as "insight meditation." This is the backbone of our studies in Meditation on Monday nights. We invite you, as a beginner or as a practiced meditator, to join us on our exploration. We view Buddhism not as a religion but rather as learning the process of meditation to reduce the suffering in our lives and in the world around us. We explore through readings, dharma talks, questions and answers, group discussions and meditation. Join us and explore this process as we all grow together."

## **Tuesday Evenings - Tibetan Buddhism, Ven. Tashi Nyima - Sanctuary - 7pm.**

**The Eightfold Noble Path - Approaching Enlightenment with Confidence.** Please join us for an exploration of the eight components of the Buddhist path: Right View, Right Thought, Right Speech, Right Conduct, Right Livelihood, Right Effort, Right Mindfulness, and Right Concentration

## **Thursday Evenings - The Origin of Civilization - Rev. Don Fielding - 7:00pm**

**July 2 - Cities Along the Indus**

**July 16 - \*\*\*BREAK\*\*\***

**July 9 - Seeing What We Expect - Power and Display**

**July 23 - Sedentism & Agriculture in Early China**

**July 30 - State Formation in Ancient China**

**Humanists Group - The humanist group meets at 6:30pm at the Church annex. For more information contact Bill Mueller, [wmueller@juno.com](mailto:wmueller@juno.com).**

## **Friday Evenings - Easy Yoga on Fridays 6-7pm, 30 - 45 minutes - George Norwood**

This class **will start July 10 for 8 weeks.** George Norwood, has studied Integral Yoga Meditation with Swami Satchidananda and affirms he has had many yoga classes. **Equipment Needed:** Some may want to bring their yoga mat. **Clothing:** Comfortable and loose fitting. **Summary:** 1) Introduction and safety 2) Meditation 3) Yoga Exercises 4) A few advanced postures.

**Content:** The course begins with a short story about the history of yoga, and its benefits. Diet and other forms of exercise will be reviewed. Typical Items Covered: Meditation: Position of arms, Concentration, Watching Your Breath, Posture. In the beginning, the course will be based on safe, simple postures which produce minimum stress on the body. Most exercises in the beginning can be done sitting in a chair. As the course continues more advanced postures will be offered that would be easiest with a mat. All students will be required to sign a release statement. If a person has medical problems the individual is encouraged to consult first with her/his doctor.



# *Community News*

For our July 2015 calendar, go to our website at:  
**CommunityUUChurch.org**

Events listed on the calendar are subject to change. For more information and confirmation of these events, please visit the church calendar at <http://www.communityuuchurch.org/pages/calendar>.

# UU Church Contact Email Addresses

Rev. Patrick Price:

**revpprice@CommunityUUChurch.org**

President, Lexie McGrane:

**president@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Director of Religious Education, Kathy Smith:

**dre@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Director of Music, Christopher Wolff:

**wolff08@gmail.com**

Church Secretary, Connie Meints:

**cuuc-office@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Church Bookkeeper, John Elder:

**bookkeeper@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Facilities Coordinator, Duane Mortensen:

**facilities@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Membership Coordinator, Cindy Pilcher

**mc@communityUUchurch.org**

Board of Trustees: **board@CommunityUUChurch.org**

*Trustees meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm in Founders Hall. Members, friends and visitors are always welcome.*

Worship Programs (Sunday Services, Ushers Coordinator, Interior Arts)

**worshipteam@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Caring Committee Coordinator, Mina Daffinee

**Caring @CommunityUUChurch.org**

Communications Director, Rob Saxon.

**communications@communityuuchurch.org**

Personnel Coordinator, Mike Owens

**personnel-chair@communityuuchurch.org**

Committee on Ministry, Nancy Barlow, Chair

**Mincom@communityuuchurch.org**

Social Action Programs

**UUSInAction@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Bridge Group Coordinator, Clint Burleson:

**bridge@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Circle Suppers Coordinator, John Snyder:

**Circlesuppers@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Friday Flicks Coordinator, Alice Mayo:

**flicks@Community UUChurch.org**

First Friday Folksingers Coordinator, Dick Hildenbrand:

**folksingers@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Outdoor Adventure Coordinator, Dick Hildenbrand:

**outdooradventure@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Leadership Development Committee:

**ldc@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Capital Improvement Committee (Bill Daffinee, Chair):

**wrdaffinee@aol.com**

Strategic Planning Committee:

**planning@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Chalice Circle/Simple Living (Coordinator Ona Tannehill):

**simpleliving@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Program Board: (Chet Smith, Chair):

**programs@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Finance Committee: **finance@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Stewardship Committee (Gene Verinder, Chair):

**stewardship@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Investment Committee: (David Hollands, Chair, Carol Wise, Karen Bethel): **investment@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Young Religious Unitarian Universalists (Kathy Smith, Coordinator):

**yruu@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Adult Enrichment/Adult Education (Celeste Kennedy, Director): **adultre@CommunityUUChurch.org**

EarthSpirit (Janie McDermott, Coordinator):

**earthspirit@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Men's Fellowship (John Elder, Coordinator):

**men@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Religious Education Board (Amy Dessert, Chairperson):

**reboard@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Hospitality Committee (Coordinator):

**hospitality@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Women's Alliance: **women@CommunityUUChurch.org**

## UU Website Links

Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA): [www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org)

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC):

**[www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org)**

Southwest District (SWUUC): **[www.swuuc.org](http://www.swuuc.org)**

North Texas Unitarian Universalist Congregations (NTUUC):

**[www.ntuuc.org](http://www.ntuuc.org)**

CUUC Representatives, Celeste Kennedy and Grace Morrison:

**NTUUC@CommunityUUChurch.org**

# May (end of fiscal year) Financial Report

Finance Committee, by Dick Hildenbrand, Treasurer

The May 2015 financial summary for our operating accounts is listed below. As you can see, we ended the fiscal year with a slight deficit – about 0.8% (less than 1%) of our budget. But, before your alarm goes off, a little explanation is in order. Of the \$2,488 loss, \$1,526 was intentional. In the 2015-2016 budget, passed by the congregation in May, we had to cut Workers Compensation Insurance, but our current annual policy was already ¾ paid for, so rather than let it lapse, we made the 4<sup>th</sup> payment in May. Similarly, we had to cut repayment of our loan from the Investment Fund (which paid off our Line of Credit), and we consider it a bad precedent to renege on our first full year’s payments (\$1,200), so this, too, was paid in May. Hence, without these unusual payments, our net loss was under \$1,000 and there are sufficient funds in the checking account to cover this.

We also made our first annual payment back to the Investment Fund for the HVAC replacement loan in the amount of \$3,300.

Looking forward to the new fiscal year, money will

remain tight. Our balanced budget relied on using \$2,500 of our cash reserves and our hope is not to have to touch this – we should be building, not draining, this reserve. To that end, we extended an “Abundance Offering” invitation to counter this and I am happy to report that we thus far have received \$1,060 in such donations (and will happily accept more).

## FREE MONEY!

**Albertson’s:** Use Community Partners key chain tag or have them enter 49000109261.

**Kroger:** Update your Kroger Plus card to link to organization 83309 at [www.kroger.com/communityrewards](http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards).

**Tom Thumb:** Link your Rewards card to charity 8089 at Customer Service.

**Amazon.com:** Use this link for purchases: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/75-1787256>

*The church will get a portion of all purchase amounts!*

## INCOME & EXPENSE May 2015

INCOME	May 2015	Month Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget	% Annual Budget (FY 100% comp)
Total Offering Income	\$17,596	\$16,257	\$236,551	\$234,300	\$234,300	100.96%
Total Fund Raiser	\$287	\$2,590	\$33,316	\$33,170	\$33,170	100.44%
Total Building Usage	\$2,803	\$2,742	\$25,641	\$26,863	\$26,863	95.45%
Misc. Income	\$776	\$2,287	\$13,199	\$16,006	\$16,006	82.46%
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$21,463</b>	<b>\$23,876</b>	<b>\$308,706</b>	<b>\$310,339</b>	<b>\$310,339</b>	<b>99.47%</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>						
Administration	\$5,297	\$5,096	\$57,847	\$57,867	\$57,867	99.97%
Programs	\$1,759	\$2,423	\$22,215	\$22,775	\$22,775	97.54%
Religious Education	\$4,059	\$4,086	\$55,719	\$54,685	\$54,685	101.89%
Facilities/Grounds	\$6,245	\$6,730	\$62,725	\$62,874	\$62,874	99.76%
Ministry	\$8,389	\$7,932	\$95,013	\$94,498	\$94,498	100.54%
Denomination	\$1,607	\$1,607	\$17,674	\$17,674	\$17,674	100.00%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$27,356</b>	<b>\$27,874</b>	<b>\$311,194</b>	<b>\$310,374</b>	<b>\$310,374</b>	<b>100.26%</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>-\$5,893</b>	<b>-\$3,999</b>	<b>-\$2,488</b>	<b>-\$35</b>	<b>-\$35</b>	<b>-</b>

# Church Office Hours

**Monday:** church offices closed: **Tuesday:** 9 am to 3 pm  
**Wednesday:** 9 am to 2:30 pm: **Thursday:** 9 am to 2:30 pm  
**Friday:** 9 am to Noon : **Office Phone #:** 972-424-8989

## **Reverend Patrick Price**

**Monday:** Available for emergencies only.  
**Tuesday through Thursday:** Noon to 4 pm  
**Friday:** Available for emergencies only.  
Other times by appointment. Please contact Reverend Price for appointments and scheduling information.

## **Director of Religious Education Kathy Smith**

**Wednesday and Thursday:** 1pm to 5 pm, other times by appointment.

**Bookkeeper John Elder Tuesday and Wednesday:** 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, other times by appointment.

**Membership Coordinator Cindy Pilcher Thursday:** 9:00 to 11:30am.

## **Church Secretary Connie Meints**

**Tuesday** 9am to 3pm, **Wednesday & Thursday** 9am to 2:30pm, **Friday** 9am to noon.

**Music Director Christopher Wolff** available during church office hours.

## ***The Community News***

*The Community News* is distributed to Members and Friends of this church. Visitors who complete a visitor card receive issues for three months. To continue receiving issues, sign the "Welcome Back" book on each visit. Others may subscribe for an annual donation of \$25.00.

The editor encourages and appreciates submissions and on-time submissions are especially delightful. The Community News is published once a month.

**Email articles to  
[newsletter@CommunityUUChurch.org](mailto:newsletter@CommunityUUChurch.org)**

Please include your name on any news item submitted for The Community News.

Items may be edited for clarity and brevity



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Community Unitarian Universalist Church of Plano