



The Community News

March 2016

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.

Spotlight on Leadership

This month, the leadership spotlight is on **Lexie McGrane**, our Board of Trustees President.

Lexie was born in White Plains, New York. She mostly lived in Westchester County and Upstate New York until moving to Texas in 1979. Mostly? You surely ask... Well, while living in Puerto Rico for two years as a teenager, Lexie was a part of a synchronized swimming group that performed weekly at the San Juan Intercontinental Hotel. Having laid the groundwork for doing offbeat things, she attended the State University of New York where she was the radio station's "weather girl." Today, you'll often find her ballroom or country dancing.

Lexie has a daughter, three sons, and ten grandchildren. With the exception of her oldest son and his wife who live near Portland, Oregon, her progeny live in the DFW area. Her oldest son intends to lure Lexie and the rest of the family to the Northwest, and she admits the idea is tempting.

In 2010, Lexie joined our church where she discovered a great sense of fellowship. Lexie's love for singing has led to her performing with the CUUC Jam Band and the First Friday Folksingers. Her path to leadership within our church includes serving stints in various roles on the Adult RE Committee, the Program Board, and the Board of Trustees. She also served as Interior Arts Chair. Lexie acknowledges the challenging nature of being president and says, "The friends I have found at Community Church enrich my life, and it is an honor, and with much humility, that I serve as president."

Be sure to greet Lexie when you cross paths at church and then thank her for her service!

~Your LDC Correspondent

Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 13. Turn clocks AHEAD ONE HOUR Saturday, March 12.

March, 2016

Sunday Services

Theme - Brokenness

March 6- "You Break It, You Buy It" - Rev. Patrick Price.

March 13 - "Healing the Broken" Guest Speaker

March 20 - "The Roots of Brokenness: Self-Grasping and Self-Cherishing" - Guest Speaker Ven. Tashi Nyima

March 27 - Easter Sunday - Rev. Patrick Price

*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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I think I can safely say that all of us have problems, difficulties and even traumas in our lives, especially over the last several years with high unemployment and underemployment, terrorism here and abroad; seemingly unending wars, and a permanent political "silly season." In our personal lives these and other factors cause us stress upon stress, usually on top of life, death, raising kids, work, our relationships, trying to stay healthy, and all the other stuff that comes our way, often to the degree that we might not be sure how we are going to cope, deal with, or keep it together, let alone recover from all of it. Across research, findings point to some **six (6) basic characteristics** or factors that are probably central to helping us in being more resilient.

First of all, there is no timeline, **no set period for finding strength, resilient behavior and coping skills.** While people do better if they develop resilience characteristics as a child, it is never too late. I feel it is crucial for us to understand and to internalize that we are not prisoners to our past. We have the potentials to acknowledge it, let it go, and move forward at any time.

Second and of particular interest to us as a religious community, is that **faith** is a key component in personal resilience. However, this does not have to be faith in a personal god or higher power, and may include faith in the future, community, or the world. Resiliency is aided by a belief in ultimate goodness of life and that the trauma we are experiencing is passing and temporary. As religious liberals we recognize and affirm that pain and death are real for all of us, but we also affirm that possibilities are abundant and that life is ultimately dependable.

The ability to see difficulties and/or stress as temporary is connected with a **third** trait of resilience. Namely this third trait is being able to **reframe** our experiences. By reframing we may be able to make sense out of what may otherwise be senseless. We can give positive values to other wise negative experiences. This is more than simply putting a positive spin on a negative situation. It is a willingness and ability to look at things in more than one way.

A **fourth** characteristic of resilience available to us in dealing with adversity is a **tendency to set goals and plan for the future.** These tendencies may in fact reduce the impact of adversity or trauma when it happens by creating ready responses and contingencies to cope with them.

This leads us to a **fifth** characteristic of resilience, the ability to believe in one's self and one's strengths. Recognizing, and even taking pride that we are doing the best that we can allows us to value our selves more, even if this is simply pride in the fact that we are surviving or have survived, whether this is job loss or life threatening illness. This includes nurturing yourself and recognizing and owning our strengths.

The **sixth** quality of our resilience is the one researchers find is the **most significant factor in helping us to cope and even survive** Most resilient people don't do it alone; in fact they usually don't even try to do it alone unless they have to. While there are remarkable people who seem to do this resisting and recovering all on their own, the overwhelming majority of us frankly need help and support to do it. **Resilient people** not only use help, but **actively recruit other people to support and help them.** This recruitment is not necessarily a conscious act but often it is.

As **Unitarian Universalists**, we offer in **our principles** and other statements of faith, many of these same ideas and qualities which researchers are finding in resilient people. We affirm and support the acceptance of one another and of self knowledge and spiritual growth. We embrace the fundamentally optimistic quality of the universe, and are open to the forces which create and uphold life. We affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person. We recognize and respect that we are all connected; that we are ultimately not alone in the interconnected web of all existence of which we are a part. As a prophetic religious community we stand for justice, equity and compassion in human relations.

I believe that these principles and the hope for renewal they embody are much of what attracted me to UUism in the first place, and which helps refresh my commitment to this faith all the time. But as with the researchers of resilience, I also find that it is in the commitments I have made to my family, and to you and others, and yours to each other, within the bonds of this religious community, this beloved.

President's Column

As we move forward into a new season, and into our annual stewardship drive, I'd like to continue the conversation about new ways to look at stewardship, and how it impacts our future. On February 6, 2016, an enthusiastic group of folks from Community Church, from other UU churches in our cluster, and from churches as far away as Austin and San Antonio, attended a one-day workshop, "Stewardship for Unitarian Universalists." The subtitle of this workshop was "Using Our Head and Our Heart to Create Powerful Stewardship." It is this subtitle that inspires me and I'd like to convey some thoughts that were shared that day.

A portion of the program provided information about the ten principles of healthy stewardship. I hope that as we begin our 2016 stewardship drive these principles will help you to think about stewardship in new ways. They are:

Every church member is both a "customer" and an "owner" – and a steward. As customers we receive services, such as worship, religious education, and the newsletter. As owners we support our mission and vision and share a commitment to build and sustain a healthy religious community.

For each household there is an amount both affordable and a serious commitment.

Commitment follows involvement, and the more a member becomes involved with the church, the stronger their commitment will grow.

All contributions are important.

Since our stewardship demonstrates our commitment, a stewardship ministry nurtures a sense of pride and satisfaction. The importance of stewardship is demonstrated in each program and church activity as a reminder that we are proud of what we are doing.

Human and financial resources are precious and we should use them wisely, and new ideas are important. Stewardship needs the consistency and support that can only come from professional leadership.

Different people are motivated to give for different reasons, and prefer to make their gifts in different ways.

Children are our future and should be included in stewardship programs.

Everyone needs to be part of the conversation. It's not OK to opt out.

Some of these principles may seem obvious to you. Others may have you thinking about stewardship in a new way. I'd like you to also think about the following "helpful frameworks" that were shared on February 6th – "stewardship empowers everything else that we do as a congregation, it is an opportunity to engage in community and grow leaders, it is a ministry, and not just another charity. Community church is our spiritual home and where we live out our values, both individually and as a community." Now let's take the opportunity to "engage in community" and move forward into our future.

I'd like to acknowledge our facilitator for the February 6th workshop, Bill Clontz, Stewardship Consultant and Leadership Mentor.

Patrick's Ponderings "Brokenness and Resilience"

(Continued from page 2)

researchers of resilience, I also find that it is in the commitments I have made to my family, and to you and others, and yours to each other, within the bonds of this religious community, this beloved community, here and across the world, that makes it possible to go on when the pain is deep, when the fear is daunting, and the task overwhelming. It is our ability as Unitarian Universalists, as human beings, to reach out, hand-to-hand, and heart-to-heart, and together, to turn our struggles into journeys of discovery, our tragedies into understanding, our fears into courage, and our despair into hope, embracing ourselves, our lives and our world, together. See you in church! Blessings, Patrick

March , 2016

Simple Living Chalice Circle
Meeting time and place – The next meeting will be Saturday morning March 12, at 11am.
Theme/topic – Learning together to live deliberately.
Facilitator – Contact Ona Tannehill at Email simpleliving@communityuuchurch.org for location.

With Gratitude... The LDC would like to give a warm thanks to Ric Blanco for volunteering for the AV Assist position!

Share the Plate . Our Monthly "Share the Plate" offering for March is designated for Barron Elementary. Barron is the neighborhood school nearest our church and we began partnering with them three years ago. In addition to providing numerous volunteers and mentors, we have provided health supplies, coats and other clothing for students in need, incentive awards for classrooms, and special lunches for teachers. Half of the collection on Sunday, March 27, 2016 will go to Barron Elementary.
You can also donate to this cause all month long via the CUUC web page by selecting the Share the Plate option.

NOTE: On March 27, 2016 we will also have an opportunity following the service to sign up as a Barron Elementary volunteer! Volunteers assist with preparing teacher materials, help with school festivals, and chaperone class field trips.

Rides to Sunday services
The Caring Committee is working to meet the needs of members and friends who need rides to Sunday church services.

If you are a member or friend of the church and need a ride or can provide rides, please contact Caring Committee member Betsy Friauf.

Rummage Sale Fundraiser. Save your stuff! The OWL and YRUU classes will be hosting a rummage sale on March 11-12! We'll take anything that is still usable but just doesn't fit in your life anymore - clothing, books, furniture, toys, baby items, knickknacks, you name it! As you clean closets and sort through the garage, be sure to set those treasures aside for the Rummage Sale!

SHARE THE PLATE. Our "Share the Plate" offering for February is designated for the Minister's Discretionary Fund. This fund helps many members of our congregation and the community at large. Half of the collection on Sunday, February 28 will go to Minister's Discretionary Fund. You can also donate to this cause all month long via the CUUC web page by selecting the Share the Plate option.

Deadline for the April newsletter is Friday, March 18. Email your articles to newsletter@communityuuchurch.org.

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: Tuesday, March 15

Location: Nancy Barlow's home. Contact Nancy by March 11 if you plan to attend.

Selection: *The Cat's Table* by Michael Ondaatje *In the early 1950s, an eleven-year-old boy in Colombo boards a ship bound for England. At mealtimes he is seated at the "cat's table"—as far from the Captain's Table as can be—with a ragtag group of "insignificant" adults and two other boys, Cassius and Ramadbin. As the ship crosses the Indian Ocean, the boys tumble from one adventure to another, bursting all over the place like freed mercury. But there are other diversions as well: they are first exposed to the magical worlds of jazz, women, and literature by their eccentric fellow travelers, and together they spy on a shackled prisoner, his crime and fate a galvanizing mystery that will haunt them forever. By turns poignant and electrifying, *The Cat's Table* is a spellbinding story about the magical, often forbidden, discoveries of childhood, and a lifelong journey that begins unexpectedly with a spectacular sea voyage.*
Amazon

DRE Welcome Back/Farewell Party and Game Night

On Friday, March 18, we will have a party celebrating Kathy Smith's return and thanking Sandy Kochenower for her work. There will be a beautiful gluten free cake and a special game for us to learn about Kathy's sabbatical. Potluck dinner at 6:30pm; games and party 7:30-10pm. All ages welcome; childcare available for those too young to play games. See Danni Williams and Seana Saxon for questions.

Religious Education

Words to Live By

*“...the most important tool we bring to the religion business is our own life.” Barbara Wells ten Hove,
Unitarian Universalist minister*

Weaving the Threads Together

By Kathy E. Smith, Director of Religious Education

As I write this, I am sitting in my son's kitchen, watching the thin winter sun through the leafless trees in Atlanta, Georgia. I am listening to my daughter wash our lunch dishes. I am thinking about the half dozen books I've read this week on family ministry, congregational conflict, and the history of our denomination (not necessarily in that order). These are the threads of my life this week. When you read this, I will have just returned from my sabbatical, and I will be re-weaving the threads of my life to include day-to-day congregational life again.

Many of the things I am bringing back with me from this time of renewal are things we expected, such as the things I wrote about in my September newsletter article. I have visited churches with vibrant RE programs and exciting multi-generational programs. I am coming back with lots of pictures and printed materials to share with the RE Board. I have completed the written requirements for credentialing. In the process I have developed some new materials for use in our programs here, and read (or re-read) about forty books on topics ranging from congregational health to faith development. I have renewed enthusiasm for some of our ongoing programs and processes, and some ideas for new or different ways to approach others. I've spent time with friends and family, and time in personal pursuits, and time to work on spiritual practices that are meaningful and refreshing for me. I am coming back full of energy and anticipation.

I know that you, too, will have had many experiences that you will want to share with me. I'm looking forward to hearing about all the things that have happened in your lives, personally or as a community, since last October! We'll have several formal opportunities, at meetings like the RE Board meeting on March 3 or the Board of Trustees meeting on March 15, as well as informal meetings in the hallway or around the copy machine. We will also have a big party on March 18 – a farewell and congratulations to Sandy K., a welcome back for me, and an everybody game night for, well, everybody. I'm looking forward to weaving the story of my time away together with the stories of your time at church, and looking forward to the tapestry we will create together.

See you in church in March! In faith, Kathy

Community News

I got a call from a Visiting Steward who wants to visit. What happens when I say yes?

1. Your Visiting Steward will ask for a convenient time & place to meet. It might be at a Starbucks, coffee shop or perhaps the church "Cry Room".
2. When you meet, your Steward will chat briefly to get to know you a bit better. How long have you been coming to the church? Do you have children in RE, or other points of conversation.
3. The steward will indicate that the reason for the visit is to ask you to make a generous pledge of financial support for the church.
4. Next, the steward will share what about the church is important to them and why they are excited about being in the church.
5. They will ask you what about the church is important to you and how we could do better.
6. The steward will then ask if there is anything that they should pass on to others in the church.
7. Finally, they will ask you to make a generous pledge to help continue & to improve the things that excite you about the church.

Hopefully, you will make a pledge and join us in keeping the church financially strong, so that Community can continue making a difference in Collin County. No hard sell, no guilt, simply an opportunity to share your thoughts and excitement about the church, with another, and make a generous pledge.

Women's Alliance Annual Retreat "Joy takes Flight"

This year our retreat will be held on April 8, 9 and 10, 2016. We will again be returning to Glen Lake Retreat Center in Glen Rose, TX. The theme this year is "Joy Takes flight". The deadline for registration is March 31, 2016.

We have two price options, both of them include 4 meals (3 on Saturday and Sunday breakfast).

Option 1 is a deluxe cabin, which will accommodate 9 persons on the bottom bunks. The cabin has a large lighted vanity area and a bathroom with showers. The mattresses are wide and firm. You will need to provide your bedding and towels. This price is \$100 for the weekend.

Option 2 is an hotel style room available for \$150. These rooms are semi-private with 2 twin beds and a private bath in each and you do not need to bring bedding or towels. There is a limited number of these rooms so it is first come, first serve. You must submit payment for a room to be held in your name.

Our annual gathering is going to be a fun weekend as we explore the aspects of Joy. Come join us for discussions, sharing, games, walks, tai chi, river walking and with some "just plane silliness". This is your chance to get away from it all!! We hope to see you there!

If you plan on joining us, contact Barb Salvo for more details or questions.

Memorial Services are scheduled at Community UU Church

11:00 AM Saturday, March 5^h, 2016 for Robert "Bob" Bader

11:00 AM Saturday, March 19^h, 2016 for Christopher "Chris" Tennyson

Rev. Patrick Price is officiating both services. Receptions in Founder's Hall following each service

Adult Religious Education Classes

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 ends no later than 9pm. 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.

Sundays

Study and Discussion Group - Rev. Patrick Price. The Winter/Spring Series 9 am in the Annex. The book for this series is: Waking the Karma Fairy by the Rev. Meg Barnhouse. This book can be ordered from the UUA bookstore or Rev. Price will have copies for sale at discounted price.

Mondays

Vipassana Meditation with Clifton Rule. 7 - 9 pm in Room G of the annex. "We are not in the business of making Buddhists but we do study their suggestions for starting and continuing a meditation practice of your own. We meditate for 30 minutes, read and discuss books about meditation, and learn about this path of personal freedom from stress, anxiety, and wanting. Please come join us and partake of this opportunity to explore this exciting new tool for your own personal journey."

Tuesdays

Tibetan Buddhism – 7pm – Sanctuary. Meditation and Mind Training. Please join us for guided meditation and a skillful approach to developing mental peace and clarity. Facilitated by the Ven. Tashi Nyima.

Thursdays

NEW CLASS: Long Strange Trip: The Journey Through Two Thousand Years of Unitarian Universalist History - Facilitator: John Hart, 6 pm, Church Annex.

This video story of Unitarian Universalism is a first...and such a gift to our movement." "So many people have no idea about our long history and that our concepts go back to the first century..." says one of the reviewers. The author of the series, Ron Cordes, received grants from a UU entity and used most of the money to travel - enabling him to bring historical figures to life...in front of their statues, houses, and churches throughout Europe and the United States. Importantly, he's made the history accessible, not dry and abstract, but lively and present." ...he has connected the historical dots of Unitarian history from ancient history until the present. The series includes provocative questions.

Emerson, Thoreau, and the Transcendentalist Movement class starts March 17 led by Don Fielding.

A syllabus for the first half of 2016 can be found on our website under Education/Adult.

Other Educational - Transformative Experiences

Mondays

Harvest the Power - The Nurturing and Training of Lay Leaders (by invitation only). Facilitator: Sarah Reiling, 7pm. This is a program about Connections. Part of being a leader is learning how to shake things up, the changing of the status quo. The class helps you to explore leadership as a spiritual practice. **The Leadership Development Committee (LDC)** is charged with identifying, nurturing and supporting Community UU Church lay leaders. Approximately every 18 months the LDC offers the UUA Harvest the Power workshop. It weaves Unitarian Universalist values, Principles and Sources with the four strands: spiritual development, ethical development, UU identity development and faith development. The LDC hopes to support attendees' spiritual journeys. Each session is 2-hours, the program runs for 12 weeks. Free childcare is provided.

Thursdays

Great Decisions 2016 - This group has starting meeting in Founders Hall at 1:30pm.

For members and friends who like to learn about and discuss American foreign policy. Meetings are held every 2 weeks to discuss the topics selected by the Foreign Policy Association in their "Great Decisions 2016" program. There are eight topics. Pre-ordered books have arrived. Read the chapters at home, view the DVD background at the meeting, and then discuss these topics. This group meets at the church in Founders Hall: To attend contact Donna Bening. (The group takes turns facilitating the topics.

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Fridays

Great Decisions, 2016. 2pm This group has starting meeting off-site in homes. To attend contact Grace Morrison. The group takes turns hosting and facilitating the topics.

Saturdays

New Interest Group Artist Colony @ CUUC – 10am, Founders Hall, this class meets the last Saturday of the month.

Calling all Artists and "Wanna Be" Artists! Come join us in expressing yourself through the Visual Arts The Artist Colony @ CUUC can provide you with the opportunity to be creative, get inspired, and further develop your artistic skills. The core of our activities will be to work on personal projects. You also can share your completed creations with other participants. We are all teachers and learners. Those who are not currently involved in producing art are also encouraged to come so you too can join us on the endless journey of creativity. Participants are responsible for bringing their own supplies and taking care of their own cleanup. In addition to the traditional visual art media and techniques, digital art is also encouraged so feel free to bring your laptops, tablets, etc. if you are so inclined. The leader/facilitators are Clyde Grauke and Miles Dillon. If you are interested in participating or have any questions, contact Clyde Grauke.

Building Racial Bridges

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Why We Can't Wait and Dr. Michael Phillips' contextual lectures attracted twenty-five people two February evenings for discussion. The theme of the book can be summed up in this excerpt from King's Letter from the Birmingham Jail:

I have reached the regrettable conclusion that the Negro's great stumbling block in his stride toward freedom is not the White Citizens' Counselor or the Ku Klux Klanner, but the white moderate, who is more devoted to "order" than to justice; who prefers a negative peace which is the absence of tension to a positive peace which is the presence of justice; who constantly says: "I agree with you in the goal you seek, but I cannot agree with your methods of direct action"; who paternalistically believes he can set the timetable for another man's freedom; who lives by a mythical concept of time and who constantly advises the Negro to wait for a "more convenient season." Shallow understanding from people of good will is more frustrating than absolute misunderstanding from people of ill will. Lukewarm acceptance is much more bewildering than outright rejection.

Links to the notes and audio of the first session can be found at http://www.communityuuchurch.org/pages/Common_Read_Discussion.

Join us Sunday, March 13 after the service in Room F from noon -1:00 p.m. to plan next steps on this social action journey.

SASSY (Seniors Aiding Seniors Stay Young) is a group of Caring Committee members who focus on concerns that can afflict any of us, but can be especially problematic for the elderly. You may wish to join us if you are a senior and you:

- Live alone and are dependent on others for your daily needs.
- Are the principal caregiver for a dependent loved one.
- Are in good health and live independently now, but alone.

You are welcome if you are not a senior but are interested in learning or participating. We exchange information, share experiences, network with one another, and occasionally bring in a guest speaker. Broader outreach is a goal. We meet at 1pm the first Thursday of every month at the church. All are welcome to attend. Contact Janice Hildenbrand for more information.

Community News

UBarU Corner

HEART OF TEXAS MEN'S RETREAT - Friday-Sunday, May 6-8, 2016

Every Fall and Spring men from UU churches across Texas gather for a weekend retreat at UBarU Camp & Retreat Center near Kerrville (ubaru.org). Come and enjoy fellowship in the Texas Hill Country. Rest, relax, enjoy delicious meals and use the time as a break from your normal routines and schedules. The retreat will be facilitated by Rev. Mark Skrabacz. Mark will guide us in a thematic inquiry and processes of introspection to deepen our life's path and build community among our fellow UU men.

We will begin gathering Friday afternoon to share an evening meal and end mid-morning Sunday. There is plenty of sleeping room in the new Dwight & Marie Brown Center; or, if you prefer, bring a tent and enjoy a night under the stars. The only thing you will need to bring are your own towel, sheets & blanket (or sleeping bag), and pillow, as well as any snacks and libations you would enjoy. Activities may include poker playing, volunteer projects, music, hiking around UBarU's beautiful rugged 142 acres, and fellowship. As anyone who has attended one of these retreats during the past decade will tell you, the event offers a pleasant, relaxing time to unwind and just get away for a couple of days while enjoying fellowship with other UU men. If you can't make it for two nights you are welcome for one. or even for a day trip (contact the e-mail address below for rates). We encourage participation from all UU men across Texas. Please spread the word!

Sign up now and plan on it. The cost, which covers lodging and meals, is \$125 if received by Friday, April 22; after early registration ends that day, the cost goes up to \$140. Send a check, payable to Mark Kilpatrick, to:

Mark Kilpatrick
4017 Threadgill DR
Austin, TX 78723

For those in Austin, checks also can be brought to one of the next two Men's Fellowship Breakfast Group gatherings, scheduled for 7-9:30 a.m. Saturday, March 12 and April 9, at First Unitarian Universalist Church of Austin, 4700 Grover Ave.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: If you have special dietary needs (vegan, vegetarian, etc.) please send an e-mail so that we can accommodate your needs.

For more information, please contact Mark Kilpatrick at texanmkk17@aol.com or Bill Daffinee.

We look forward to seeing you!

What's New in the Community Garden?

Rabbits! In nine years we've never had any competition from rabbits. Perhaps there are fewer predators or they've just learned we grow tasty young greens. Practicing organic pest control, we are testing a mixture of blood meal, bone meal, black pepper, and dog hair which is sprinkled on and around new seedlings in hopes they will have a chance to mature for human harvest. Fire ant mounds are drenched with Anti-Fuego, a Gardenville product of molasses, orange oil and humate which conditions the soil while putting an end to that garden hazard.

If you would like to help harvest once in a while or have excess food from your garden to donate, you will find us in the garden on Saturday mornings at 8:00 a.m. For questions contact: harvest@Communityuuchurch.org

January Financial Report

By Dick Hildenbrand, Treasurer

The January 2016 financial summary for our operating accounts is listed below. For the fiscal year (starting 6/1/15) Net Income is \$5k “better than budget”. January’s Miscellaneous Income is significantly below budget due to late transfer of Endowment Earnings (not reflected in below numbers). All expense groups are very close to budget.

Major Repair financial status: Total obligations for repairs is approaching \$30,000 – most due to the mold remediation effort. We will continue to pull more funds from investments as needed to pay our contractors promptly.

2016-2017 budget planning: The initial budget for next fiscal year has been prepared and presented to the Board of Trustees. Our approach was to baseline next year’s budget to this year’s budget with adjustments for known obligatory changes: Medical Insurance premiums have gone up by about 10%; Fair Compensation levels have increased; Workers Compensation Insurance is reinstated. To stay even, aggregate pledges will need to increase by 4%. To see the preliminary 2016-2017 budget, go here: <http://www.communityuuchurch.org/pages/finance>

Upcoming *Share the Plate* Offerings

Date	Recipient
March 27, 2016	Barron Elementary School
April 24, 2016	Community Harvest Garden

Donate Now

If you forget your checkbook on a Share the Plate Sunday, remember you can always donate on line.

January’s Share the Plate netted \$429.60 for the Human Rights Initiative.

FREE MONEY!

Kroger: Update your Kroger Plus card to link to organization 83309 at www.kroger.com/communityrewards. NOTE: It’s time to renew you Kroger Community Rewards - just follow this link: <https://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 January 2015

	Jan. 2015	Month Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget	% Annual Budget (FY 66.7% comp)
INCOME						
Total Offering Income	\$21,567	\$20,235	\$182,095	\$176,509	\$246, 596	73.8%
Total Fund Raiser Income	\$634	\$2,190	\$26,517	\$24,675	\$24,900	106.5%
Total Building Usage	\$1,924	\$2,142	\$18,970	\$17,037	\$26,404	71.8%
Misc. Income	\$876	\$3,821	\$9,054	\$11,130	\$15,088	60.0%
TOTAL INCOME	\$25,001	\$28,388	\$236,635	\$229,352	\$312,987	75.6%
EXPENSE						
Administration	\$4,995	\$4,624	\$41,892	\$38,555	\$54,155	77.4%
Programs	\$2,135	\$2,046	\$15,722	\$15,332	\$22,789	69.0%
Religious Education	\$5,158	\$4,847	\$41,914	\$41,649	\$59,839	70.0%
Facilities/Grounds	\$4,621	\$4,623	\$38,593	\$38,438	\$59,550	64.8%
Ministry	\$8,053	\$8,014	\$63,301	\$65,343	\$98,900	64.0%
Denomination	\$1,614	\$1,614	\$11,298	\$11,298	\$17,754	63.6%
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$26,794	\$25,769	\$212,938	\$210,614	\$312,987	68.0%
NET INCOME	-\$1,792	+\$2,619	+\$23,698	+\$18,737	\$0	

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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
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, Anne Smith, 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):

yruc@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

Safe Congregations
Safecongregations@communityuuchurch.org

UU Website Links

Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA): www.uua.org

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC):
www.uusc.org

Southwest District (SWUUC): www.swuuc.org

North Texas Unitarian Universalist Congregations (NTUUC):
www.ntuuc.org

CUUC Representatives, Celeste Kennedy and Grace
Morrison:
NTUUC@CommunityUUChurch.org

UBarU Camp and Retreat Center, Trustee, Bill Daffinee
Wrdaffinee@aol.com

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 - On Sabbatical
Sabbatical Dir. Of Religious Education Sandy Kochenower (Sandy K.)
Sunday mornings.

Bookkeeper John Elder Tuesday & Thursday: 10:30am - 2:30pm
other times by appointment.

Membership Coordinator Cindy Pilcher Wednesday: 9 - 11:30am.

Church Secretary Connie Meints

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

Music Director Robert Brown

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

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

Items may be edited for clarity and brevity



2875 E. Parker Rd.
Plano, TX 75074

Community Unitarian Universalist Church of Plano

Rummage Sale Fundraiser:

Several of you have asked when you could bring your goodies. The answer is NOW! Would you like to contribute but don't know what we're looking for? Here are some ideas for places to look for things you're ready to pass along to someone else for a good cause!

Check your bookshelves for books, CDs and DVDs.

Your game closet for games or puzzles.

Your children's' rooms for outgrown toys or clothes.

Your closets for clothes that no longer fit your life.

The kitchen cabinet for duplicates or hard-to-fit, seldom-used appliances.

If it's still usable, we'd like to sell it! Donations of all sorts will be welcome - clothing, books, furniture, toys, baby items, knickknacks. You can bring in one item or a whole van full - we're grateful for everything you donate.

There is a collection box in the church parking lot. Just find one of the RE Board Members for the key.

Important Dates:

March 7-9 Bring large items directly into the sanctuary

March 10 Evening Sale hours strictly for CUUC members and friends

March 11 Sale open to general public

March 12 Sale open to general public

Starting at noon will be Bag It & Take It (for \$3 a bag take what you can fit in it)

The proceeds of the rummage sale will help send our Coming of Age class on their Heritage Trip to Boston.

Thank you for saving your goodies to support our youth! If you have questions or would like to help, contact Seana Saxon or Danni Williams.

Calendar of Upcoming Family-Friendly Events:

Sun. 3/6 – Worship and Games Day, 10:30am.

Sun. 3/13 – Coffee and Coaching (for RE Teachers), 9:15am.

Sun. 3/13 – Worship/Religious Education classes, 10:30am.

Fri. 3/18 – DRE Welcome Back/Farewell and Everybody Game Night, 6:30-9pm

Sun. 3/20 – Worship/Religious Education classes, 10:30am.

Sun. 3/27 – Worship/Religious Education classes, 10:30am. (Children's Chapel K-7th)

For our March 2016 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>.