

UUC Board Meeting Agenda
June 12, 2025
Location: UUC, Blacksburg, VA

We, the UUC Board, seek informed collaboration and clarity in our work of supporting UUC ministries. We interact with respect, trust, deep listening, and curiosity. We affirm one another, and maintain fierce dedication to diversity and inclusion in our commitment to the community we serve, recognizing experiences and perspectives from all.

We communicate directly and with courageous love. When it arises, we engage in productive conflict. We are focused, accountable, and authentic. We laugh together. We maintain the trust and confidentiality of board members' contributions and speak with one voice regarding board actions.

7:00 PM - 7:20 PM

- Chalice Lighting, Reading (Laura Robinson), Check-in
- Review and Accept Agenda

7:20 PM - 7:30 PM

- Member Forum

7:30 PM - 7:35 PM

- Approve Consent Agenda
 - **Minister's Report**
 - **Administrator's Report**
 - **Director of Lifespan Faith Development's (DLFD) Report**
 - **Previous Meeting Minutes**
 - **Treasurer's Report**

7:35 PM - 8:10 PM

- Old Business
 - Welcome 2025-2026 Board and thank you to rotating-off Board members (Laura and Chris)
 - Review of the 2025 Annual Congregational Meeting (Laura)
 - Topics from open forum
 - Notification calling for nominations for the 2026-2027 Board
 - Create new long term strategic plan
 - Grounds
 - Building
 - Emails received after meeting
 - Any other feedback?
 - Job description for part-time DLFD Assistant (Rachel)

8:10 PM - 8:40 PM

- New Business
 - Request for building repairs
 - Karen Holstein's request
 - Proposal and quotes for Parking Lot Sealing
 - Quote 1
 - Quote 2
 - Quote 3
 - Finance Committee's new member

June 2025 Minister's Report to the Board
Submitted by Rev. Pam Philips

Leads Worship and Officiates Rites of Passage

The May theme was Living Love through the Practice of Imagination, but really we celebrated our wonderful youth and musicians. The youth led the YRUU Bridging service on the first Sunday and the Coming of Age service on the third Sunday. On the fourth Sunday, Jared Gibbs put together a music service complete with the UUC Breakfast Club, instrumentalists Mary Louise Hallauer and Caroline Gibbs, and special guest vocalist Gena Chandler – his last Sunday until August as he enjoys a summer vacation. Thanks go especially to the youth, but also to Rachel Craine and the youth advisors who supported them. We also had a service focused on the power of imagination to help change our own lives and the world.

In June, we're exploring Living Love through the Practice of Freedom, starting the month with the UU ritual of the flower ceremony. We will have another beloved ritual on Father's Day – a child dedication. We also celebrated Pride this past Sunday, welcoming some folks who heard about us through the Blacksburg Community Pride.

I met with the worship associates for a workshop focused on all the parts of worship. I've also gotten guest speakers to cover several of the times when I am out of the pulpit this summer.

I will officiate at a Celebration of Life for John Imbur on Saturday, June 14th, and a wedding for Christina, one of our Nursery caretakers, on June 28th.

Provides Pastoral Care and Presence

It has been a busy month meeting with individual congregants as well as the Lay Pastoral Care Ministry associates and the Surviving Spouses group. Meeting with family and friends of John Imbur as we plan his celebration of life has been a great gift.

Encourages Spiritual Development for Self and Others

We enjoyed attending worship at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Savannah, Georgia.

The Conversations group has been enjoying discussing *How We Learn to Be Brave* by Mariann Edgar Budde and the Interfaith book discussion group is continuing with *The Battle for God* by Karen Armstrong.

Witnesses to Social Justice in the Public Square

I attended a second UUA zoom meeting "Now What: The Gathering for Congregational Leaders – Build, Connect, Lead" to share experiences and ideas on responding to the administration's actions. I also attended a Zoom for faith community leaders with Senator Mark Warner.

I attended a fascinating conversation about Bridging the Generational Gap in the Black Church at the Greater Mt Zion United Holy Church in Christiansburg as part of the Religious Affairs Committee of the local branch of the NAACP.

Jamie and I attended The Voices of History: A 23/54 Celebration sponsored by the Calfee Community and Cultural Center at New River Community College. We sat with family members of one of the families who participated in the landmark case Corbin et al vs. County School Board of Pulaski County (1947).

Leads Administration

I completed staff evaluations for the administrator and director of lifespan faith development.

The Committee on Ministries is planning to hold listening circles next congregational year on Adult Faith / Leadership Development and in the spring on Children and Youth Religious Education. We are still short two members, so I ask the board to appoint Linda Pfieffer to the COM.

Administrator's Report to the Board

June 2025

Summer Newsletter

I gathered articles for the Summer Newsletter and enjoyed the editing and design/layout task. Once again we had a nice variety content from across the UUC community. It was published on June 2.

New Road Sign

I worked with Signspot to design and print a new outdoor sign. Thanks to UUC helpers for picking it up and installing it!

Annual Reports

I gathered annual reports from many of our committees and teams. These were compiled into one PDF and sent to members in advance of the annual meeting. An archive of these reports can be found on the member section of our website.

Annual Meeting

I provided administrative support to board and to staff for the Annual Meeting, including soliciting and tracking proxy votes. I created a new check-in spreadsheet to streamline the meeting check-in process. I attended the annual meeting and was glad to have yet another UUC milestone under my belt.

Stewardship Pledge Drive

I assisted stewardship chair Mary Ann Hansen with a plan to thank pledgers with personally-written notecards. Look for your Pledgehog Card in your mailbox! Big thanks to our stewards for graciously agreeing to send personal thank you notes to pledgers.

Social Media

I have begun tracking the data from our social media accounts and adjusting our social marketing plan to increase visibility and tell the story of UUC to a wider population.

Facilities Rentals

I continue to work with community groups and individuals who want to rent our facilities. It's been a busy season of rentals. A reminder that the new rates go into effect on July 1. Soon I would like to develop a marketing plan to increase rental usage and thus rental income.

Building Maintenance

I solicited estimates for parking lot sealing/resurfacing and painting of the kitchen. the Board had quotes for the parking lot; the Buildings Committee has quotes for the painting project.

Questions for the Board

None at this time.

DLFD Report to the Board –June, 2025

Children and Youth Programs:

- **Programming:**

- Summer RE has begun. We will be running all ages together and using the CartUUns curriculum, which uses short pixar clips to discuss UU values.
- Jennifer Thomas ran an art workshop for the first day of summer RE, kids made art for a kids art show in the fall.
- Summer RE will end on August 17. We will have a backpack blessing that day and byo picnic/waterplay after the service.
- August 24 will be an all ages water service, followed by an RE Open House downstairs after the service.
- Fall RE will begin on September 7th.

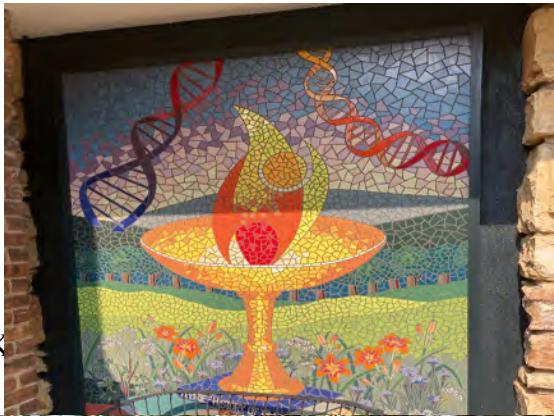
Adult and Multigen Programming:

- Over the summer many groups continue to meet (conversations, meditation, etc.)
- We will have two multigen “Picnic and Play” days–June 29 and August 17. People can bring their own picnic lunch and enjoy games and waterplay outside after the service.
- We had a game night on Sunday, June 8 and there will be another game night on Saturday, July 19th.

Other DLFD Activites:

- End of year [LFDC report](#)
- [Job description](#) for LFD Assistant
- Continued work on teacher recruitment. Fall needs 2 more volunteers.
- Attended a UU service in Nashville on June 1st and enjoyed meeting with my counterpart there.
- Worked with playground committee to continue improvements there, including assembly of a new shed.
- I will be going to General Assembly June 18-22. (Four YRUU youth and 2 advisors will also be attending.)
- I will be taking vacation July 2-July 8, to visit Chelsea in Colorado.

Cool Chalice Mosaic Outside Nashville UU



K

New Playground Shed



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Attendance/Members: See the [Attendance/Numbers](#) Google doc.

Respectfully submitted,
Jenny Fairchild
Congregational Administrator

I worked with Jenny to order a new sign to replace the one that is fading badly. The sign company has the final design. I hope the new sign will arrive soon.

I emailed members of the congregation who don't often attend to ask them to email Jenny to get a proxy so that we had a quorum for our annual meeting. That process made it clear that we need to check in with people to find out whether they want to be considered an active member, which I will do in July. I also recommend that the board consider researching the threshold for quorum in other UU congregations as the current level (50% with proxies) may not be the best. That being said, it was good to connect with people we haven't seen in a while and to see them at the annual meeting.

Congratulations to the board on the successful Annual Meeting, particularly for all the work on the budget. It has been a busy and productive year for the board, and I will miss working with Laura, Beth, and Margo.

Serves the Larger Unitarian Universalist Faith and Leads the Faith into the Future

I presided over the annual chapter meeting of the Southeast UU Ministers Association last month and attended parts of the UUMA annual meetings this past week. I look forward to connecting to colleagues at Ministry Days in Baltimore.

I met with Rev. Jennifer Raffensperger of UUC Roanoke and a candidate for UU ministry to discuss the possibility of serving as co-teaching congregations. The candidate will be completing Clinical Pastoral Education in the coming year, so we may consider starting the internship next spring.

Time Off/Away

Ministry Days / General Assembly (Baltimore, Maryland) – June 16 - 22

Study Leave – June 21 – 27

Vacation (Columbia River Gorge) – July 18-26

Study Leave – July 28 – August 11

- Committee on Ministries
- Planning for 2025-2026 Board meetings (Chris)
 - Will the Board meet in July?
- Technology security reminder for new fiscal year (Laura)
 - Managing spoofers/scammers
 - Updating email listservs and Google folder access for 2025-2026
 - (Suggestion only) Changing Zoom links and passwords

8:40 PM - 8:45 PM

- Upcoming meetings or special events

8:45 PM - 8:50 PM

- Check-out - Did we abide by our covenant?
- Elmo :)

8:50 PM

- Adjournment