

UUC BOARD MEETING AGENDA  
Thursday, May 12, 2016

7-7:05 Chalice Lighting & Reading – Rev Dara Members Forum		5 Minutes
7:05- 7:20 Check-in Process Observer- Linda		15 Minutes
7 :20-7 :25 Review and Accept Agenda for current mtg.		5 Minutes
7:25-7:40 Board Development— reading from book		15 Minutes
7:40-7:50 Minister and Staff Reports Administrator’s Reports DLFD’s Reports		10 Minutes
7:50-7:55 Consent Agenda and Old Business Modify Alternate Delegate for GA Previous Board minutes for April—approve		5 Minutes
7:55-8:00 Treasurer's Report		5 Minutes
8:00-8:10 Council Reports Facilities Council Governance Council Finance & Administration Council Lifespan Faith Development Council Membership Council Pastoral Service Council Social Action Council Worship Opportunities Council		10 Minutes
8:10-8:20 Break and Refreshments	Provided by Bill	10 Minutes
8:20-8:25 Action Items		5 Minutes
8:25-8:55 New Business Discussing budget Transition discussion Committee on Ministries—proposed policy for starting new efforts		30 Minutes

8:55-9:00

5 Minutes

Information Items

Timeline, special events

9:00-9:05

5 Minutes

Select refreshments, process observer, and closing words volunteers for June

Process Observer Report- Linda

Extinguish Chalice- Tim

Next meeting: June 9

## **May Report to the Board - Rev. Dara Olandt**

*Yearlong congregational theme: "Our Year of Living Bravely"*

Dear Ones, below is a wrap up of key information for this month, and a bit of information for June. Action Item: Please review the tentative calendar of June events at the end of this report and let me know if you have any questions. I hope to issue a brochure of Farewell and Celebration of Shared Ministry events which will occur in June. Any thoughts, questions or suggestions you may have are welcome as details are firmed up. Thank you much for your attention to that portion in particular.

Warmly,  
Rev. Dara

### **Worship**

May's worship theme is "**Transformation**"

Rev. Dara's Sunday out of the pulpit will be May 15th.  
The service will be led by Ellen Plummer, Worship Associate, featuring voices from the Building Bridges classes this year.

**Sunday, May 15th — "Love Is Unstoppable" Interfaith Action Table set up at UUC.** The action table is in the back foyer near the accessible entrance. Consider writing a love letter to an elected official and/or taking a photo with an "Unstoppable Love" sign in our photo booth and uploading it to your social media account! All are welcome to participate. You can use the hashtag: #LoveIsUnstoppable to follow and connect to this national movement. "Love is Unstoppable" is an effort to organize faith communities to publicly support racial justice and to counter hatred during the weekend of May 14-15th.

Key dates in worship for the month of May:

May 8th — Mother's Day Service/Unstoppable Love?

Featuring Child Dedication in the service: 5 children dedicated!

May 15th — Building Bridges Service — Culmination of Lifespan RE focus this year

May 22nd — **Bridging Service** — YRUU with Advisors and Rev. Dara

***Board: please come out to support our youth!***

**Informational Meeting following the service**

**6:30pm - All Posse 16 GA Gathering**

**(including meet up with Rev. Dara and delegates)**

May 29th — Love Letters: War & Memory (Memorial Day Service)

### **Social Justice & Social Action**

- I will be working with the SJSC to support transition for next year and continuation of efforts in the Mental Health Justice Ministry.

- Attended the Blue Ridge Cluster of UUs Gathering, focused on spiritual leadership for racial justice. A total of 6 UUCers attended, including myself. I have connected those UUCers with common interest on racial justice together. Interested folks can begin to think about furthering racial justice and anti-racism at the congregation.

- Please see easy ways to participate in the “Love is Unstoppable” action on May 15th after worship.

- I continue to supporting the evolving efforts of the Refugee Response team.

### **Congregational Life**

This May and June my focus is to support Committees and Programs for the transition next year and attend to administrative details that will ease the transition for the incoming minister in particular. Support to committees/groups include, but are not limited to, the following:

Worship Services Committee  
& Worship Associates  
Lay Pastoral Care Ministry  
Small Group Ministry Program  
Strategic Planning & Refining Team  
Stewardship  
Committee on Ministry  
Child Abuse Prevention Taskforce (CAP)  
Safety Committee

International Partnership Church Committee  
Social Justice Steering Committee  
Refugee Response  
Connections  
Communications  
Governance Ad Hoc Group  
Board (including handoff of materials for Board Retreat)

### **GA - Posse 16**

I will meet with all folks going to GA on **May 22nd at 6:30pm** for pot-luck and coordinating. **Delegates are encouraged to come for conversation and prepping for the trip!**

### **Mission/Covenant Process**

Final draft will be what is presented to the congregation at the annual meeting for an up/down vote!

### **Membership & Connections**

New Member Orientation occurred on May 7th. Next newcomer recognition will be on June 5th in worship, when we will be welcoming at least 3 new members.

### **Update on Committee on Ministries**

Currently the CoM is looking at sample policies for “new ministries/new projects” which the Board can consider if the Board wishes to make a policy clarifying the pathway of

how new ministries and projects can be started at UUC. Board will see update from CoM on this prior to June's meeting.

### **Rev. Dara Spring Travel**

Between Monday, May 2nd - Wednesday, May 4th I was in Richmond for the final session of the Congregational Based Spiritual Direction Program.

Personal days/vacation: I will also be taking four personal days, May 12-15, to travel to CA. This will be taken as vacation/personal time. I will be available by email and cell phone for urgent need.

### **ACTION ITEM:**

In tandem with the Committee on Ministries and the Board, I would like to issue a brochure highlighting significant dates in June which will be part of a celebration of our shared ministry together as minister and congregation. This will help the congregation anticipate what to expect and plan for how we can say goodbye.

The following calendar is tentative. Please do let me know of any questions, thoughts or suggestions you may have. (Note that not all of these will be listed in the brochure. I would simply like the Board to be able to see the flow of several key June events in one place. Items in the public brochure are marked with "\*".)

**Administrator's Report to the Board  
May 12, 2016**

**Committee Meetings:** I will be attending an auction committee meeting on May 15 and stewardship committee meeting on May 18.

**Blue Ridge UU Cluster Gathering:** I attended the excellent workshop on April 30 in Waynesboro on Racial Justice.

**General Assembly:** I was approved as a volunteer at GA in return for free registration and so will be attending. Note that Kim Feucht will now be a GA delegate, and Patrick will be the alternate. Both were previously approved by the Board but in reverse rolls.

**New color copier:** As the 5-year lease on our current copier is about to expire, I met with the copier sales rep, and for \$47 less/month than we are currently paying for the basic leasing fees, we will be getting a very similar model to our current one but with the ability to make **color copies**. While we will continue to have 6,000 B&W copies/month included in the basic fees (\$133.09 for lease plus \$66 maintenance contract), the color copies will cost an additional \$0.098 each. Note that we recently spent \$260.62 for 250 double-sided stewardship brochures which would have cost us \$50 on this new copier. The copier will be set so that anyone can make B&W copies as needed, but there will be a 4-digit code for making color copies. The new copier should arrive Monday and will include a short training session. The timing is perfect as the office color printer is not working properly, and I was unable to make more bulletin covers last week. This info will go out with Sunday's announcements so as not to surprise people coming to make copies.

**Time off:** I will be away June 3-5.

**Attendance/Members:** See online Google Doc.

## **DLFD Report to the Board – May 2016**

Submitted by Karen Hager, Director of Lifespan Faith Development

### **Registration**

- Current CYRE: 130 (unique children/youth)
- Children & Youth UUC “slots”: 180

### **LFD Council**

- No meeting this month.

### **This month:**

- The Adult RE Building Bridges class finished this month with a discussion on Unitarian Universalism. The middle school and adult classes culminate in a special service on May 15, *Building Bridges*, about the bridges we've built between UUism and other religions.
- OWL 8-9 teachers will meet to debrief later this month on the recently completed class.
- LFD Volunteer Appreciation events were held on April 30 and May 1 this year for our teachers and youth group advisors. 14 children of volunteers attended the childcare event, while 26 volunteers attended the lunch. Both events were greatly appreciated!
- Our YRUU bridging service will be held May 22 and preceded by a lock-in. 4 youth are bridging this year.
- Recruitment efforts are in progress for summer and fall. To date, we have recruited volunteers for all but 1 class for K-5, and have 4 PreK slots left to fill. For fall, 12 teachers have been recruited, with an additional 8 needed. We are also in need of an additional youth group advisor for both groups.
- LFD held its first annual Make a Difference Day to allow our kids who are involved in personal social action projects through school to showcase what they are working on. An email was sent to parents of kids in grades 4-8, with two children responding. Our congregation was very supportive of both kids who participated this year! I heard several positive comments about hosting this type of event, with our Community Service Team also voicing their support.
- Fall RE ends May 22. There is no RE on Memorial Day weekend May 29, and the Flower Service on June 5 will be multi-generational. Summer RE begins June 12.
- I will be taking a week's vacation in early June, dates TBD. I will also be attending General Assembly and the LREDA Professional Day prior to GA.

### **Coming of Age: 8<sup>th</sup> grade RE**

We have been exploring an idea this past year to revamp our 8<sup>th</sup> grade program offerings. In past years, 8<sup>th</sup> graders have joined those in 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade for a middle school RE class. 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders were also offered the Coming of Age program and OWL 8-9 on alternating years, both of which meet for 4 extended sessions.

We have noted that the large developmental difference between an 8<sup>th</sup> grader and a 6<sup>th</sup> graders has resulted in many 8<sup>th</sup> graders checking out of RE. It is common for 8<sup>th</sup> graders to become frustrated with the behavior of younger children and to request parents to exempt them from attending on Sunday mornings.

In addition, I feel that this current program offering doesn't fully serve our youth. There is currently no logical conclusion to RE, or a bridge to YRUU, and we haven't given our youth the opportunity to explore in depth what their own beliefs are. There has also been feedback given from prior years that the Coming of Age format does not allow youth and mentors enough time to fully immerse themselves in the topics.

We met with parents of rising 8<sup>th</sup> graders to discuss the option of replacing 8<sup>th</sup> grade RE with a Coming of Age program that runs September through May and found parents supportive of the idea. So, we will be proceeding with a test in 2016-17 to implement this change.

Although many of the logistics are yet to be finalized, we are planning on a class format that differs from our other RE classes. The class will meet monthly on the second Sunday of the month and begin with mentors and youth eating together at the potluck. The class will then meet until about 1:00; meetings of mentors and youth between classes will be at the discretion of the parent.

The class will allow youth and mentors time for more in-depth discussion on religion, theology, social action and personal UU identities, probing some of the “big” questions of life. Each youth will write their own credo articulating for themselves who they are and what they stand for. In May, youth will bridge into YRUU.

We are excited about the possibilities of an expanded program. We will be including this program into recruitment efforts, as it will necessitate 1-2 facilitators, plus a mentor for each youth. Currently, we expect 4-5 youth to be enrolled in the pilot program.

More information about this program change will be included in subsequent board reports.