Round the Grounds by Susan Baker, co-chair

It was an exciting morning! A piece of heavy equipment arrived on the grounds to do "first aid" on the washed-out ditch along our driveway entrance. Within several hours, the small stones were removed from the ditch and hauled and spread to the back Lark Lane entrance. Large riprap was delivered and placed in the ditch on top of the new erosion control fabric.

The "frosting on the cake" was the backhoe moving to the problematic bio detention pond where Joe Powers supervised moving clay and dirt to improve the drainage function of the pond.

Looking back on the past ten months, we are delighted that UUC's grounds have been heavily used and enjoyed by congregants, friends, neighbors and wildlife: the winter Festival of Lights and Luminaries, church meetings, children's water play, men's breakfasts, memorial services, family gatherings, weddings, women's Friday lunches, yoga, birds nesting, dogs walking, treasure hunts for the children, a resting fawn, hanging out, youth group meetings, rock paintings, and bee activity.

How is this usage made possible? It's largely due to the time and labor contributions from a decrepit and aging volunteer crew (a not so subtle plea for new volunteers).

It's easy to be part of the joyful grounds team by volunteering for the annual **put-it-to-bed work day** on Saturday, **October 23 from 9:30-noon**.

The goal is to prepare the grounds for winter: storing hoses and equipment, painting, raking leaves, improving the function of the primary detention pond for storm water control, improving the back driveway entrance on Lark Lane, scraping off paint on the shelter located on the upper grounds, mulching, and general clean-up tasks. PLEASE sign up to help by contacting Susan Baker or Denise Martin.

WISH LIST: If you are down-sizing or cleaning out your garage, consider donating your used yard tools, wheelbarrows, and yard/garden art to the UUC grounds. Contact Susan Baker to arrange for donation of your giveaways.