ANNUAL REPORT May 16, 2010



FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH 101 East North Shore Drive South Bend, Indiana 46617

May 16, 2010 Annual congregational Meeting Agenda

I.	Call to Order
II.	Determination of a Quorum
III.	Invocation
IV.	Approval of Minutes of the Annual Meeting May 17, 2009
V.	Minister's Report
VI.	President's Report
VII.	Treasurer's Report
VIII.	Approval of 2010-2011 church budget
IX.	Election of Officers and Trustees for 2010-2011
X.	Approval of 2010 Nominating Committee
XI.	Endowment Committee Report
XII.	Building Feasibility Report
XIII.	Recognition of Board
XIV.	Volunteer of the Year Award
XV.	Other Business

XVI. Adjournment

First Unitarian Church Annual Meeting Minutes May 17, 2009

I. Meeting is called to order at 12:20 p.m. by president, Kay Azar. It is determined that there is a quorum (see list of members present attached).

II. Invocation is provided by Rev. Barrington to begin the meeting.

III. Minutes of the June 1, 2008, January 11, 2009 and May 3, 2009 are presented. A motion to approve is made by Bob Shuman and seconded by Marilyn Shaul. The motion is passed unanimously.

IV. The Minister's Report is presented by Rev. Jennie Barrington. Written report is presented in the Annual Report.

V. The President's Report is presented by Kay Azar, President of the Board of Trustees. Thanks to all the board members and to Rev. Barrington for all their work this past year. A written report is presented in the Annual Report.

VI. The Treasurer's Report is presented by Gary Metzler, Treasurer. The status of the current budget is reviewed and it is determined that year to date we currently have \$1992 net balance, with one month to go in the budget. The correct amount of the Endowment Fund should be \$117,026.

The 2009-2010 budget is presented. Line item 990 which was for the Search Committee for this year will become the Ministerial Start-up line item. Line item 980 has been increased significantly to provide more funds for music. A motion is made by Peggy Stevens to accept the budget and seconded by Zae Munn. A motion to amend the motion was made by Don Wheeler to increase line item 809 – DRE to \$2400 and reduce 980 by \$500 to \$1400. This was seconded by Pat Tollens. The motion to amend is defeated.

A new motion to amendment is made by Maureen Wijnen to take \$500 from line item 976 – Marketing, and add to 809 – DRE, and seconded by Don Wheeler. Marilyn Shaul pledged a \$500 donation in memory of John Shaul to go the line item 809 – DRE, and the amendment was withdrawn.

The question is called on original motion to accept the budget with changes as noted. The motion passed with one abstention.

Ellen Triebold, Trustee, noted the current budget is slated to be a deficit budget up to a maximum of \$8200, though it looks more like it will be \$4000 at this time. The Board has recommended that the congregation borrow up to \$8,000 from the Tudor account without interest and agree to pay 10% of the total back each year. Ellen makes a motion which is seconded by Darlene Catello. The motion passes with 6 opposed.

VII. The slate of officers is presented. A motion to accept the slate is made by Chuck Leone and seconded by Dave Wistreich. The ballot passed unanimously.

The slate for the Nominating Committee was introduced:Dale GibsonMary HagenKay AzarJim Curlee – alternate

Don Wheeler moved to accept the nominations, seconded by Dave Wistreich. The motion carries.

VIII. The Strategic Plan was presented by Anne Mannix. She called attention to figures noted in the Annual Report on attendance (page 7), uneven financial growth (page 8) and positive aspects noted in the survey (page 12). The committees will be asked to review the Plan and add input. A final document will be completed and brought to the congregation for a vote in October. She further discussed survey results.

IX. A report by the Building Feasibility Committee was presented by Chuck Leone. There is again a consensus to grow and concurrently that our current facilities are not adequate, as there was the last time the congregation was surveyed 5 years ago.

Information was presented on sharing the current First Christian Church now owned by Good Shepherd Montessori School. The negotiations are now able to begin and information is being brought to the congregation. Previous discussions were not able to be discussed due to the nature of the negotiations between First Christian and Good Shepherd. The idea of a condominium arrangement was presented. Positives noted were 1) efficient use of space with some overlap of space usage, 2) overlap of interest between Good Shepherd and First Unitarian, 3) attractive, useful space, 4) possibility of a grant to develop building as LEED certified. Some downsides include 1) we would not have complete control over the whole building, 2) both parties need to be open to a necessary on-going relationship with a management group to be determined. This is still in the exploration stage.

Cost would be based on the percentage of square footage with First Unitarian having approximately 40% of the building. Final cost of the whole building will probably be in the \$1M range. See attached report in Annual Report.

X. The Board of Trustees and Search Committee were recognized for all the work they did over the past year(s).

XI. Volunteer of the Year – posthumously awarded to Kathy Curtis.

XII. A motion to adjourn was made by Alice Bentley. Motion carries unanimously.

Minutes were recorded by Melanie Smith-Guillaume and Alice Bentley. They were transcribed by Kay Azar.

Minister's Annual Report Rev. Harold W. Beu First Unitarian Church of South Bend, Indiana May 16, 2010

I. INTRODUCTION

Thus, we end our first year together. This reminds me of the story of Adam and Eve as they were leaving the Garden of Eden. Adam turns to Eve and says, "My dear, I believe we are entering a period of transition." Of the truth of that myth is that we are always in transition, that nothing stands still, that life is every changing. And sometimes that can be uncomfortable.

In my view, our church is healthy. One piece of evidence of that is our finances are in order. That is no mean feat for a church or for a business or a nation [as we can note in recent news]. However, one reason for the balanced ledger has been our fortune in having two people contribute mightily important work for our church for little or no pay: Mary Beth Dickey, our Director of Religious Education, and Virginia Morrow, our pianist for Sunday morning. Also, we have been blessed to have a skilled Administrator in Carlton Higginbotham who has worked for what I consider to be modest pay.

In looking forward, we, as a church, are serious considering moving to another building. It seems at the time of this writing that we may move to a place that we will rent with the idea of eventually owning our own place. There are good reasons for doing this. But it is important to be mindful of the adjustment that comes with such a transition. And I believe that not having a good pay structure for the staff will be a problem. For any move will make financial demands on our members and friends. And if in time we do make the move to our own building, we will need to make a capital fund drive that will make an even more significant financial demand. It is important for us to know if the congregation is ready for such a move.

As for my part, I will do my best to create meaningful worship services, provide adult religious education, work with all the committees and leaders of our church, provide pastoral care, and attempt to make our church a presence for our liberal faith in the South Bend area. I have been distracted somewhat by my wife's health challenges, but she seems to be doing fine and I believe that I will be freer this coming church year to have more of a presence in South Bend. I plan to create a group that promotes the idea of being anti-militarism and pro-military [I am calling it *AM/PM*]. I have had conversations with Mennonite Pastor André Stoner about this. I also want to have conversations with others, in particular with military personnel. If any of you are interested in joining me in this venture, please let me know.

All in all, it has been a good year. I feel blessed to be among you and to be in a denomination that values both the mind and the heart. I hope that you too feel blessed to be a part of our church and liberal faith. I look forward to another good year.

II. SERMONS – 2009-2010

September 13th – Water Communion Sunday ["Jesus Gonna Trouble the Water"] An intergenerational service that celebrate our new church year and introduced the teachers of the Religious Education program.

September 20th – **On health care and a civil discourse** – An attempt to come to some kind of solution to the problems with our health care system with our first principle in mind of affirming the worth and dignity of every person.

September 27th – We are all skeptics – We are all skeptics, not of our own religions, but of others. And that fact should give us pause and realize our own limitations in understanding of the truth of our existence.

October 4th – **Listen, Listen, Listen** – The way we show respect is by listening, truly listening with all our heart, all our mind and all our spirit.

October 11th – Welcoming Our Gay and Lesbian Friends – What seems so obvious – that all people have worth and dignity – nevertheless needs reiteration.

October 18th – **When Jesus became God** – With the focus on the history of the Council of Nicæa, we noted that the notion of Jesus being God was an uncertain doctrine debated for decades. And unfortunately, because of it, what was good about Jesus' ministry, that is his teachings, had often been neglected.

November 1st - **Celebrating the Day of the Dead** - *Día de los Muertos* celebrates the holiday that focuses on gatherings of family and friends to pray for and remember friends and relatives who have died. Teri Stahl, Community Liaison for the Center for Hospice and Palliative Care of South Bend, also spoke about end of life care.

November 8th – **Taking a Risk for Peace** – More often than not, our military interventions have created a more dangerous world. Here, I argued that there is a better way of promoting peace and security.

November 15th – **Surviving the Worst** – If we are to live a good life, we need to look inward to find the strength that allows us to continue to live a good life. Nancy Sawyer also spoke on this Sunday.

November 22nd – **Guest at Your Table** – Here we honored our Unitarian Universalist Service Committee and its history of supporting human rights since the 1930's. Families and children were involved in a special ceremony to honor the work of those who attempt to create social justice.

December 6 - "**The Spirit of Advent**" – We celebrated the time when Christians prepare for the birth of a child who was born of poor refugee parents in time of death and taxes. It is a story that reminds us that all children are special.

December 13 –"**Finding Holiness in Our Lives**" – Here I attempted to bring us back to that which is whole, healthy and holy by focusing on our Universalist heritage that says "God is Love."

December 20 – "What is your star?" – During the winter solstice, we celebrated, as have our ancestors, the indomitable human spirit in the face of darkness and cold.

December 24th – **Christmas Eve Service** – **"The Story of a Birth of a Child"** – A traditional Christmas Eve Service in which we will sing carols, light candles and reflect on the meaning of a child being born some 2,000 years ago.

Jan. 3rd - New Year's Reflections [Past, Future, Present] – A service of reflection, rather than wild celebrations and fruitless resolutions.

an. 10th - **Understanding Fear** – Here I explored fear and its effects from the international level done to the personal.

Jan. 17th – **"What Would King Say about War?"** – Focusing on Martin Luther King, Jr. speech against the Vietnam War, I explored his insightful analysis about that war and all war, that are as timely now as they were then.

Jan. 24th – **Women's Power: the hope of the world** – I posited the idea that if there is to be true peace in the world, then women will need to have equal power with men.

Feb. 7th – **Believing in the Same God** – I didn't have the answer here about whether Go exists, but I did share some ideas and questions about the usefulness and relevancy of God.

Feb. 14th – **Standing on the Side of Love** – Here we honored the UUA Program, "Standing on the Side of Love", which is a public advocacy campaign that seeks to harness love's power to stop oppression.

Feb. 21st – **Responding to the Better Angels of Our Nature** – Using the words from Abraham Lincoln's First Inaugural Address, I explored suffering of people in the world, at the time, in Haiti, but also in our own nation and asked: How do we respond to them?

March 7th – **Growing Old Ungracefully** – I asked the question: what does it mean to be old and to grow old? And suggesting that age is not what is important, but people's spirit.

March 14th – **On Respond-ability: A Stewardship Sunday Sermon** – I explored the meaning of responsibility, of why it is important and how it benefits us to be responsible.

March 21st – **The Public Church** – Based on Michael Durall's article called "Reach out and become a public church", I posited the idea that Unitarian Universalist churches would do well to take a public stance in supporting projects that promote peace and social justice.

April 4th – **An Easter Sermon: The Legend of a Courageous Man** – Jesus lived his last days with courage and grace. I suggest here that we can learn from him in how to live as he did.

April 11th – **War and Peace** – Working with Dr. Robert Shuman, we shared some disturbing videos of war situations and I shared some thoughts about the meaning of war and peace. [The following Sunday, we had a discussion about this sermon that I believed went well with more than a dozen members.]

April 18th – **Boiling a Willing Frog** – This is an attempt in figuring out what to do about the problems of ecological degradation. It was also a time to celebrate life.

May 9th – A Good Man but a Bad Wizard – I looked to the story of *The Wizard of Oz* as an important text for reflection and revelation, much like how some people look at other religious texts.

May 16th – **The Checklist Manifesto** – This sermon was based the book, *The Checklist Manifesto: How to Get Things Right* by Atul Gawande. I used its ideas to discuss the importance of organization and pre-planning for our church.

May 23rd – **In Search of the Goddess** – I do not believe in a personal god, but rather in the Great Mystery or Divine Purpose, but I also believe that there is a feminine energy inside us all that can help us to find comfort and strength in our lives.

III. WORLD RELIGIONS' WORKSHOP

This was a workshop on World Religions based on the work of the theologian Huston Smith. We watched videos of Smith being interviewed by Bill Moyers. We examined Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism, Christianity, and Confucianism that came from the video. And we also had discussions of what Smith called "primal religions" that is religions that existed in the ancient oral tradition and Smith's own philosophy as one who not knows other religions but appreciates them.

IV. MOVIE NIGHT

This was a monthly series of movies that I thought were interesting and lent themselves to interesting discussion. The movies we viewed were: *My Son the Fanatic* about a kind Pakistani immigrant taxi driver in London who became friends with a prostitute and whose son became a religious fundamentalist; *Seven Years in Tibet*, based on his real life experiences of Austrian mountaineer Heinrich Harrer who became a friend of the Dalai Lama; a debate between Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson, that was actually a reenactment by historians, Hal Bidlack playing Hamilton and Clay Jenkison playing Jefferson; and *Memorial Day* starring Mike Farrell as a lawyer and a Vietnam War Vet with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

V. BUILD YOUR OWN THEOLOGY

This was a course developed by Richard S. Gilbert is structured but flexible program that helps individuals reflect on their religious experiences and knowledge and create their own credos. Some of the goals for participants will be: to determine their values and beliefs about God or ultimate reality, human nature, ethics, and the meaning and purpose of life; to discover what other UUS believe about the great religious questions; to articulate their beliefs in credo statements; and to meet the challenge of building their own theology.

Faithfully Submitted,

Rev. Harold W. Beu

President's Report Annual Meeting May 16, 2010

The past year was an exciting one for our congregation. It was a year of getting use to some recent changes and working to stabilize the church at the same time.

First and foremost we welcomed our newly called minister Rev. Harold Beu. This started in August with a retreat that included Rev. Beu, the Board of Trustees, members of the Committee on Ministry (which was the search committee), and facilitated by Rev. Ian Evison from the Central Midwest District of the UUA. The purpose of this retreat was to provide Harold with a clearer idea of what to expect in our congregation. It also served to set objectives for the upcoming year.

One of the new changes for this year was the first ever service auction in the fall. We as a congregation seemed to like the time and the incredible job that Allyson Kricheff and the Service Auction Committee did with the Oktoberfest theme very much. This year's auction broke our record for the money it raised while it lifted everyone's spirits! It should be mentioned that this change in the date of the calendar was something that was recommended after a group of our members attended a stewardship seminar a few years earlier.

One of the problems the board identified, as others had, was the problem of institutional memory. What was the use of passing motions if no one remembered them later? To help go through and clean up our board actions, to clarify the roles of the different parts of the congregation (the committees, the board, the minister) Don Wheeler made a brilliant proposal to form an Administrative Committee. The board thought it was such a good idea we approved it in short order. With Roger Birdsell chairing it and Elizabeth Scarborough and Bob Asplund sitting on it with him, you can bet they've already done a tremendous job going through and bringing to the board's attention inconsistencies and redundancies. They've also worked on getting updated committee that will benefit the church greatly.

In a continuing effort from the previous year to help with transparency and to help facilitate communication within the church, we had an All Committees meeting to help the different committees know what the other committees were doing. Out of that meeting came the Committee report that each committee contributes to monthly and is then distributed to all of the other committee chairs.

Although promising discussions with Good Shepherd Montessori School bogged down in the course of the year, the amazingly dedicated group on the Building Feasibility Committee kept working. They not only patiently waited until GSM took care of internal business and became open to talking again, they continued to look at different options for our congregation and they deserve recognition for their dedication and commitment to fulfill the charge they were given.

With well attended services, new members coming in under David Wistreich's kind tutelage our church is growing and changing. Add to this another successful Stewardship drive headed adeptly by Don Wheeler and a balanced budget proposed by the board with the help of the Finance Committee and we have a congregation with a promising future.

However, along with all of the optimism there should be some caution. After her long and committed service to our church our DRE, Mary Beth Dickey has decided that this year will be her last in that capacity. As Harold has said on numerous occasions, the DRE of a church may be more important to the long term vitality of the church than anyone else, including the minister. It will be important for us to find a new Director of Religious Education that makes the kids and families of First Unitarian as happy that they belong as Mary Beth did. It will be important for

the congregation as a whole to support the RE committee and program in the upcoming year so that it remains an important, integral aspect of our congregation.

We must also look for opportunities to help the church with our talents when we can. Although the volunteers that we had this year did amazing things, we did not have enough of them. The buildings and grounds committee was non-existent this year as was the marketing committee.

To this point, and possibly most importantly of all, as Dale Gibson and Rev. Beu pointed out in the winter's All Committees Meeting we need to find joy in what we do for the church. Although joy is not something one can pour into another person, we can contribute our time and talents with cheer in the knowledge that we are doing something worth while. In doing so we can help create an atmosphere of joyful and mindful engagement in which we work together to live the covenant we recite every Sunday as well as the seven principals outlined by the UUA.

In closing, I would like to express my deep gratitude to those that nominated me and to the congregation as a whole for electing me as President of the Board of Trustees. It has been an honor and a privilege. I have been awed by the amazing board of trustees I have worked with this year and count myself, and the church, fortunate for their willingness to serve in their roles as trustees. I think that Rev. Harold Beu has had a promising start and I hope that he continues to be the minister for our church and that we continue to grow in our trust of him as well as his trust in us. As I have pointed out there are some concerns to be aware of as we move into the future, but, I have also pointed out that we have many positives too that will help overcome them. We have a committed lay leadership, a new spirited settled minister, a growing membership, a successful stewardship campaign and another balanced budget proposed for two straight years! Most of all we have a determined yet joyous commitment to let our liberal faith shine in our community!

Rich Wallace President

Stewardship Committee Annual Report May, 2010

2010 is and has been a challenging year for many of us. Your Stewardship Committee recognized this as we were planning and implementing this year's pledge campaign: "Dream, Stretch, Realize...Repeat".

A few of you are still pondering what you will be able to promise the community for next year. That's understandable.

This does mean that we can't offer a final total at this point. However, from the commitments we already have, we can assure the community that a record level of support will be received from supporters in the coming fiscal year. It's a clear marker of this community's increasing vitality and we should feel very proud and confident as we face our future together.

Still, we offered a fairly conservative number to the Board of Trustees as they considered the budget proposed by our Finance Committee. Happily, they were able to make it work while at the same time making some important new commitments. They offer this proposal for your approval today.

Special thanks to our Visiting Stewards: Dale Gibson, Gail deSomer, Alice Bentley, Anne Mannix, Joseph Gress, Mary Hagen, Cathy Duncan, Gary Metzler and David Wistreich.

And thanks to all of you.

On behalf of Rich Wallace, Kay Azar, Jim Curlee and Mark Kricheff:

Don Wheeler Chair Stewardship Committee

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH, SOUTH BEND INDIANA FINANCIAL REPORT as of April 30, 2010

Banking and Investment Account Balances Cash Accounts \$ 109,445 Money Market 93,854 Checking 15,591 Investment & Savings Accounts \$ 174,939 Endowment (UUA GIF) 162,913 CD Building Fund ***359 (renewal 5/15/10) 11,352 CD Sabbatical Fund ***312 (renewal 8/12/11) 674 Appraised Value of Building and Land (April 2008) 220,000 Total Cash, Investments and Real Estate \$ 504,384

Operating Budget Totals							
	April	Y.T.D.					
Income	??	??					
Expenses	??	??					
Net	??	??					

There may appear to be minor arithmetic discrepancies in the above box due to rounding.

	4/1/10 - 4/30/10		Year to Date			Annual	
Item	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference	Budget
Inflows							
110 - Pledges	7,578	9,583	-2,005	91,935	95,833	-3,898	115,000
120 - Loose Offering	405	333	72	3,542	3,333	208	4,000
130 - Building Use Fees	38	8	29	88	83	4	100
143 - Service Auction	35	0	35	12,640	9,000	3,640	9,000
145 - Other Fund Raisers	32	208	-177	2,819	2,083	736	2,500
170 - Newsletter	0	17	-17	120	167	-47	200
196 - Special Collections	0	0	0	529	0	529	0
199 - Miscellaneous	0	0	0	105	0	105	0
Total Inflows	8,087	10,150	-2,063	111,777	110,500	1,277	130,800
Outflows							
201 - Special Collections	0	0	0	342	0	342	0
210 - Insurance	0	0	0	2,219	2,200	19	2,200
220 - Cleaning Services	262	260	2	2,731	2,600	131	3,120
230 - Bldg Supplies	52	36	16	268	358	-91	430
240 - Bldg Maint. Committee	0	83	-83	1,360	833	527	1,000
241 - Pest Control	57	60	-3	566	600	-34	720
245 - Grounds Committee	0	25	-25	0	250	-250	300
310 - Gas	393	333	60	3,556	3,333	223	4,000
320 - Electric	98	125	-27	1,037	1,250	-213	1,500
330 - Telephone	69	69	0	703	688	16	825
340 - Water & Trash	90	79	11	890	792	98	950
410 - Admin & Office	294	200	94	1,750	2,000	-250	2,400
415 - Copier Lease	572	778	-206	3,449	4,378	-929	4,800
420 - Postage	44	83	-39	433	833	-400	1,000
430 - Payroll Taxes	117	128	-11	1,322	1,283	39	1,539
510 - Sunday Service	0	42	-42	200	417	-217	500
511 - Sunday Service Supplies	0	17	-17	0	167	-167	200
710 - Membership Committee	63	33	29	433	333	99	400
720 - Social Committee	0	8	-8	86	83	3	100
725 - Coffee & Tea	13	7	6	127	71	56	85
740 - Care Committee	0	17	-17	55	167	-112	200
745 - Peace & Justice	0	42	-42	350	417	-67	500
750 - Denom. Dues & URC	0	797	-797	9,317	7,966	1,351	9,559
760 - Finance Committee	2	25	-24	15	250	-235	300
761 - Stewardship Campaign	141	17	124	141	167	-26	200

	4/1/10 - 4/30/10		Year to Date			Annual	
Item	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference	Budget
766 - Fundraiser - Svc Auction	0	0	0	430	500	-70	500
769 - Fundraiser - Other	0	125	-125	1,174	1,250	-76	1,500
809 - DRE stipend	0	0	0	1,425	1,425	0	1,900
810 - RE	0	200	-200	1,201	2,000	-799	2,400
811 - Adult RE	0	8	-8	0	83	-83	100
812 - Background Checks	0	17	-17	89	167	-78	200
815 - Child Care	147	100	47	879	1,000	-121	1,200
910 - Minister's S & H	4,083	4,083	0	40,833	40,833	0	49,000
915 - in lieu of FICA	312	312	0	3,124	3,123	1	3,748
930 - Minister's Expense	977	408	569	2,512	4,083	-1,571	4,900
940 - Minister's Pension	408	408	0	4,055	4,083	-29	4,900
945 - Minister's Insurance	2,724	227	2,497	2,765	2,270	495	2,724
950 - Discretionary Fund	0	17	-17	0	167	-167	200
960 - Administrator	1,063	1,167	-104	12,234	11,667	568	14,000
965 - Administrator's Pension	106	117	-10	1,223	1,167	57	1,400
976 - Marketing	0	150	-150	50	1,500	-1,450	1,800
980 - Music	0	158	-158	0	1,583	-1,583	1,900
990 - Minister Start-up	804	83	721	804	833	-29	1,000
991 - Deficit Reduction	0	50	-50	600	500	100	600
999 - Miscellaneous	0	0	0	704	0	704	0
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	12,890	10,895	1,996	105,453	109,669	-4,217	130,800
Balance	-4,803			6,324			0

Notes

Line 145 – Amazon.com associate earnings

Line 750 – URC not yet paid. (Will be paid in May) Line 914 – Minister's insurance for 11 months.

Non-Operating Funds – KeyBank Money Market Account

Account	Prev Bal 04/01/1 0	Inflow Month	Outflow Month	Bal Fwd 07/01/0 9	Inflow YTD	Outflow YTD	End Bal 04/30/1 0
Building Fund	26,410	0	0	6,360	20,050	0	26,410
Capital Campaign	3,237	0	0	3,726	0	489	3,237
Endowment Set-aside	6,114	0	6,114	0	6,114	6,114	0
Major Expenditure Fundraisers	-18	0	0	-58	40	0	-18
Memorials	310	0	0	310	0	0	310
Kathy Curtis	2,295	0	0	5,275	20	3,000	2,295
Minister's Discretionary Fund	0	0	0	-150	995	845	0
Minister's Expense (rollover)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Children's RE Cap. Exp. Fund	2,658	0	0	3,051	0	393	2,658
Teen Service Project	2,804	196	359	2,182	1,509	1,050	2,641
Women's Group Fund	263	0	1	778	10	524	262
Total Special Funds	44,073	196	6,474	21,474	28,738	12,415	37,795
Unrestricted Savings	1,592	4	0	-198	1,794	0	1,596
"Tudor" Account	54,868	0	405	52,830	8,152	6,519	54,463
Total Money Market Funds	100,533	200	6,879	74,106	38,684	18,934	93,854
Endowment Fiscal YTD Net Value 1/1/10 Addition Net Change Disburse Net Value 3/31/10							

iscai I I D		Addition	Net Change	Disouise	Net Value 3/31/10
	156,799	6,114	unknown	0	162,913

Building Fund Total				
Money Market	26,410			
CD	11,352			
Total	37,762			

Notes:

Endowment: As of May 3, 2010, still no information on first quarter gain.

Proposed Budget for 2010-11

Proposed Budget for 2010-11					
Item	2009-10 Budget	2010-11 Proposed			
INFLOWS					
110 - Pledges	115,000	121,000			
120 - Loose Offering	4,000	4,000			
130 - Building Use Fees	100	100			
143 - Service Auction	9,000	9,000			
145 - Other Fund Raisers	2,500	2,500			
170 - Newsletter	200	120			
196 - Special Collections	0	0			
199 - Miscellaneous	0	0			
TOTAL INFLOWS	130,800	136,720			
OUTFLOWS					
201 - Special Collections	0	0			
210 - Insurance (Liab & WC)	2,200	2,300			
220 - Cleaning Services	3,120	3,380			
230 - Bldg Supplies	430	430			
240 - Bldg Maint. Committee	1,000	1,000			
241 - Pest Control	720	720			
245 - Grounds Committee	300	300			
310 - Gas	4,000	4,000			
320 - Electric	1,500	1,500			
330 - Telephone	825	850			
340 - Water & Trash	950	1,100			
410 - Admin & Office	2,400	2,400			
415 - Copier Lease	4,800	4,000			
420 - Postage	1,000	800			
430 - Payroll Expense	1,539	1,895			
510 - Sunday Service	500	500			
511 - Sunday Service Supplies	200	200			
710 - Membership Committee	400	500			

Item	2009-10 Budget	2010-11 Proposed
OUTFLOWS - continued		
715 - Retreat		0
720 - Social Committee	100	200
725 - Coffee & Tea	85	150
740 - Care Committee	200	200
745 - Peace & Justice	500	200
750 - Denom. Dues & URC	9,559	9,243
760 - Finance Committee	300	100
761 - Stewardship Campaign	200	200
766 - Fundraiser - Svc Auction	500	500
769 - Fundraiser - Other	1,500	1,500
809 - DRE honorarium	1,900	6,850
810 - RE	2,400	2,500
811 - Adult RE	100	100
812 - Background Checks	200	200
815 - Child Care	1,200	1,200
910 - Minister's S & H	49,000	49,000
915 - in lieu of FICA	3,748	3,748
930 - Minister's Expense	4,900	4,900
940 - Minister's Pension	4,900	4,900
945 - Minister's Insurance	2,724	5,740
950 - Discretionary Fund	200	200
960 - Administrator	14,000	14,420
965 - Administrator's Pension	1,400	1,442
976 - Marketing	1,800	800
980 - Music	1 900	1,900
999 - Miscellaneous	0	0
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	404 000	138,078
BALANCE	0	652

Proposed Slate of Officers for 2010-11

Vice President	. Dave Wistreich
Treasurer	Alice Bentley
Secretary (2-year term)	Allyson Kricheff
Trustee (2-year term)	. David Mayfield
Trustee (2-year term)	Lynn McDonald
Endowment Committee	Chuck Leone

Nominating Committee: Rich Wallace Mary Alice Hardy Dale Gibson Roger Birdsell, alternate

Continuing

President..... Don Wheeler (Vice President becomes President in second year of term)Trustee..... Elizabeth ScarboroughTrustee..... Elena WakeEndowment..... Dale GibsonEndowment..... Melanie Smith-Guillaume

Thanks to the 2009-10 Nominating Committee: Kay Azar Dale Gibson Mary Hagen

Report of the Endowment Committee

To: The Congregation, First Unitarian Church

From: The Endowment Committee: Dale Gibson, Melanie Smith-Guillaume, Chuck Leone

Re: Recommendations for expenditures from the Endowment Fund: 2010

Date: May 16, 2010

Pursuant to the procedures established by the congregation for use of the church Endowment Fund, proposals were to be submitted to the Endowment Fund by March 1 of each year. Proposals are to be reviewed by the committee, with recommendations made to the Board of Trustees. The recommendations, as approved or modified by the Board, are to be submitted to the congregation at its annual meeting in May.

At its meeting of January 20, 2008 the Endowment Committee adopted interim criteria for review of proposals. Those interim criteria have not been changed and remain as follows:

- 1. Consistency with the mission of the church.
- 2. Consistency with the terms of the resolution implementing the fund.
- 3. Overall availability of resources for the project.

Two proposals summarized as follows, are recommended for funding by the committee:

- 1. A request to contribute \$500.00 to the Civil Rights Heritage Center of Indiana University South Bend with \$250.00 to be used for an inscribed prism for the wall of the center with another \$250.00 for unrestricted use.
- 2. A proposal to provide assistance of \$200.00 for living expenses for three Iraqi students living in South Bend.

The committee recommends that the Civil Rights Heritage Proposal be funded in the amount of \$500.00 in that it would link the history of the church and its role in the South Bend Civil Rights movement to the new IUSB Civil Rights Heritage Center. Having the church's name inscribed on a prism at the center publicly acknowledges the church's long term commitment to the struggle for civil rights and its role, particularly in the late 1960's when the church was burned, allegedly in retaliation for its social activism in the civil rights and anti-war movement at the time. The church can collaborate in this project by providing archival materials in relating to the church's involvement in the South Bend Civil Rights Movement to the Civil Rights Heritage Center to further historically document the church's role.

The committee recommends that the Iraqi student project be funded conditionally in the amount of \$200.00, subject to a \$200.00 match from other sources. Three Iraqi students visited the church last year and a small stipend to assist them with living expenses, leveraged with an equal amount of money from other sources, will help raise awareness of the church's role in promoting peaceful solutions to international problems through assistance to young people who are likely to have a role in formulating those solutions.

The committee extends its thanks to all congregation members and committees who participated in this endowment fund allocation process. The fund is a great resource and will help the church meet its mission over the years.

Committee Reports

Care Committee Annual Report May 16, 2010

Purpose of the Care Committee

The Care Committee provides support for members and friends of the church who are going through transitions: illness, injury, death, birth or other personal or family crisis. The committee is a link between the needs of members and friends of the church and those who are able to provide for those needs.

New initiatives in 2009-2010:

Medical Equipment

Equipment including a walker, canes, raised toilet seat, tub seat, commode, and standard wheelchair are available to church members/friends to borrow.

Telephone Tree

The Committee is working on developing a means of communicating urgent information to church members/friends.

Farewell Ritual

The Committee and Rev. Harold Beu are developing a simple farewell ritual to perform during Sunday service when a member/friend is moving away.

Funeral Services

The Committee recruited volunteers to provide light refreshments and coordinate receptions following funerals of church members/friends.

Submitted by Lynn McDonald Co-Chair Care Committee

Committee on Ministry Annual Report May, 2010

To work effectively on any church committee, you must first have a clear understanding of your purpose and duties. So, at the outset of this year, Pam Bachman, Florence Klečka, Dave Wistreich and I spent time clarifying exactly what we should be doing and why as members of the COM Transition Team.

Fortunately, the UUA was a great resource for us. For example, the following passage introduced an article entitled *Committee on Ministry Not Just for the Minister*: "The Committee on Ministry may be the most misunderstood committee that a congregation has. Is it an advocate for the minister—a kind of ministerial cheerleading squad? Or does it represent the congregation's interests? Beyond that, does it just respond to crises or is it supposed to meet regularly? Is it responsible only for the ministry provided by the called ministers or for the whole ministry of the congregation?" Further in the article, Rev. Anne Heller, district executive of the Pacific Northwest District, writes: "Committees on Ministry are designed to track the heartbeat of ministry within a congregation; how the members…take care of themselves and each other, how the lay ministerial leadership serves a congregation; and how the called minister serves the congregation. It seeks to understand, assess, support, and advocate for robust ministry throughout the context of congregational life."

We tackled this comprehensive charge initially by locking in a regularly scheduled committee meeting for sharing feedback and addressing our new minister's questions about the congregation. Then, to illustrate the concept of shared ministry, we organized a meeting in January at which committee chairs discussed their activities and challenges with their Board liaisons and our minister, as well as how to improve communication and collaboration within and among committees, and between committees and the Board, minister and congregation. As of this writing, a second inter-committee meeting is planned for late spring and we expect a third to occur in conjunction with the annual summer leadership retreat. Another idea generated at the January meeting was monthly committee reports, which have been assembled by our church administrator and disseminated to all chairs and Board members, as well as shared contact lists and event calendars.

Feedback sessions were held on March 21 and 28 in the library following the Sunday Service to discuss this year's efforts and future ideas in the areas of community-building, worship and lifespan faith development. Each session ran for approximately one hour and incorporated other areas of congregational life, such as social action and outreach, which were of interest to those attending. Rev. Beu attended the session on March 21. (For minutes from these sessions please contact Florence Klecka.) Thirty congregants participated in these events.

On April 18 we celebrated our first installation in 14 years. Approximately 75 people found inspiration and deepened faith in our denomination from the prodigiously talented speakers assembled at our church for this occasion. Rev. André Stoner from Kern Road Mennonite Church shared the perspective of the larger community on the significance of Rev. Beu's

installation, while Dale Gibson shared the perspective of our church. Rev. Dr. Jay Abernathy from Fort Wayne delivered the inspiring sermon, "A Daring Adventure or Nothing At All" on the challenge of being Unitarian Universalist. Rev. Amy DeBeck from the Elkhart UU Fellowship offered some thoughtful and heartfelt words of advice to Rev. Beu in her Charge to the Minister, and Rev. Alan Taylor from Unity Temple UU Congregation in Oak Park, Ill. delivered a rousing Charge to the Congregation, exhorting us to actively assist Rev. Beu to build a successful ministry. Rev. Taylor served as our Ministerial Settlement Rep, or coach, throughout the search process. One of the day's highlights was a vocal rendition of "This Is Our Song" by Carlton Higginbotham, our church administrator. We hope to make all presentations delivered at the event available on our church website in the near future.

The COM looks forward to formally orienting new committee members Michelle Richards, Ron Robinson and Bill Stevens in the next few weeks. We hope to have laid some useful groundwork for them and have full confidence in their ability to create meaningful ways to support our settled minister, while developing an increased sense of shared ministry within our congregation.

Submitted by Barb Carmichael Chair Committee on Ministry

Committee for Peace and Justice Annual Report May, 2010

The committee has been fortunate this year to have three new members: Tom Morris, Jean Morris, and Rev. Harold Beu. They join long time members Joy Pletcher, Anita Morse, Phil Badger, Don Marti, Darlene Catello, and Dale Gibson.

One of our efforts this year has been to try to better inform ourselves and other church members about social justice and peace issues. Our monthly programs, always open to church members and friends, have included speakers and videos, followed by discussion. They have covered such topics as Afghanistan, the Middle East, the environment, the effects of slavery, and the UUA's Holdeen Project in India.

In September, the CROP Walk (to benefit those in need of food) was attended by more church members than ever before. Once again, members of our church were generous in providing soup for the peace marchers in late October. This peace march is sponsored by the Center for Peace and Non-Violence, of which our church is a member. Phil Badger and Dale Gibson continue to serve on its board. Then in April, in an effort to raise funds, several of our committee members assisted the RE Committee with the rummage sale.

We continue to collect food and deliver it to the food bank on a monthly basis, and plan to help out with the community garden being organized by John Horton. The committee has also applied to the Endowment Committee for a grant to benefit the Civil Rights Heritage Center and the Iraq Student Project, both here in South Bend.

As committee co-chairs, we wish to thank our committee members for their loyalty and their willingness to volunteer for various projects throughout the year.

Submitted by Darlene Catello and Dale Gibson Co-chairs Committee for Peace and Justice

Membership Committee Annual Report May, 2010

CURRENT STATUS

This has been a year of transition for the Membership Committee. Dave Wistreich joined the Committee and became the Chair during the course of the year. As is the case with Transitions, getting the Chair ramped up to be effective had its challenges. Areas of concern for this committee exist and need attention.

The purpose of the Membership Committee is to co-ordinate membership in the First Unitarian Church by overseeing membership-related services to potential, new and existing members. The key functions for the committee include:

- 1. Maintain a visitor follow-up system.
- 2. Prepare a brochure for newcomers that describes the First Unitarian Church and the U.U. Association.
- 3. Have responsibility for organizing Sunday morning greeters, the entry table, and name tags.
- 4. Work with the Minister in planning prospective member gatherings, and orientation sessions for new members.
- 5. Prepare and distribute New Member Packets containing information on the First Unitarian Church's by-laws, budget, committee structure and the U.U. Association structure.
- 6. Be responsible for such other services as are requested by the Board.

I am happy to report that the committee has followed up on all of the above this year, but we are in arrears on number 5. New members that have participated in the last 2 Ingatherings need to receive packets as described.

As elaboration on the accomplishments associated with the committee functions listed above, note the following:

- 1. We've set up a spreadsheet to track who has come for a visit, when a follow up letter was sent to them via e-mail, when they went to the New U orientation, what Ingathering date they have and any notes that are associated with conversations the Membership Committee has had with them. The system is a spreadsheet and a couple of e-mail templates and could be expanded and <u>needs a dedicated Membership Committee</u> volunteer to manage this on an ongoing basis.
- 2. We have prepared and published a brochure that is found in the literature rack in the front hall.
- 3. We have executed well the greeters' functions, having met with all greeters to discuss issues and coordinate perspectives for consistency in this key function. A Summer schedule for the greeters has been initiated and new greeters have been recruited. Name Tags continue to be available via the sign up sheet.
- 4. We have had 2 Ingatherings since Thanksgiving and will plan these to coincide with the completion of "New U" orientations going forward. The New U orientations have been held twice since the last annual report.

The Committee is happy to report that we have grown from 116 to 125 members.

FUTURE GOALS AND ACTIVITIES

The committee will go through transition again this Summer as Duncan Krostue takes over as the Chair. Under Duncan's leadership, the Committee will reform its personality, but will maintain its focus on fulfilling the core functions listed in the Membership Committee Description. Joe Gress and Ron Robinson have agreed to lead the greeters squad, tending needs for training, policy and ongoing operations. New U orientations will be scheduled and delivered, as will Ingatherings.

Visitor follow ups are a key area of concern. We need to have increased attention to follow up visits, mentors and invitations to activities. The committee needs to add a couple of key players to assist with this area and develop and implement tactics to get people involved. Mark Kricheff and Kathy Platt (as Social Committee liaison) have been queried about this. With the help of one more person, this activity should be well managed.

The above is so important that the committee will work with the Administration Committee to amend the Membership Committee description to include the following function:

• Have responsibility for passing names of new and prospective members to the Social and RE Committees for inclusion in church activities.

Additionally, the committee description should be updated to include the following function:

• Have responsibility for certifying the membership annually.

Community outreach is another area of concern. We need to coordinate a strategy with Marketing to improve our Outreach. John Fitrakis has indicated he'll assist with outreach to the GLBT community. We'd like to solicit from the academic community another individual to help with outreach to the community in general.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Initially, I wanted to call this section "Thank Yous", but the spell checker in the word processor complained (and still is). So, let me acknowledge those people who have served the committee this year, for without their contributions we would have been in circumstance of a much greater need of attention.

The Greeters: Tom and Cathy Platt, David and Elyse Wistreich, Ron Robinson and Joe Gress, Michael Coppedge and Lynn Mc Donald, Cindy Benedict and Gary Looney.

Brochure Collaborators: Lynn McDonald and Carlton Higginbotham

New U Workshop Leaders: Dale Gibson, Lynn Mc Donald and Fern Hamlin

New U Workshop Participants: Elizabeth Scarborough, Don Wheeler, Harold Beu, Mary Alice Hardy, Cathy Platt, Anne Mannix, Heather Eschbach, Mary Beth Dickey and Dale Gibson. If I forgot you, please know I appreciated you contribution!

Visitor Follow Up Volunteers: Liberty Mroczek, Duncan Krostue

Name Tag King: Kevin Barry

Board Liaison: Gary Metzler

I would like to express my gratitude especially to Cindy Benedict who has supplied energy, direction and guidance for this committee during this year.

I also would like to welcome Duncan Krostue to the committee and look forward to helping him out as he takes the helm.

Faithfully Submitted, Dave Wistreich

Religious Education Committee Annual Report May, 2010

The Religious Education Committee members are: Mary Beth Dickey (D.R.E.); Heather Eschbach (Chair); Paige Risser, and Michelle Richards.

Class Curriculum		Teachers	Average Attendance (Range)
Preschool & Kindergarten	A Discovering Year	Maureen Wijnen Erin & Justin Ledyard	6 (3-10)
Primary 1st - 3rd grade	Tales from Long Ago and Many Lands	Gail deSomer Kristie Noguera	8 (3-14)
Intermediate 4th - 6th grade	Knights of the Red Table –Defending Our U.U. Principles	Ellen Triebold Lisa McCorry	6 (3-11)
Teens 7th - 12th grade	Yerba Mate Circle How Can I Know What to Believe	Brook and John Hardy	7 (2-11)
Our Whole Lives (OWL)), 7th - 9th grade	Cindy Benedict Jim Curlee	7
Nursery		Jennifer Krostue Assisted by Duncan Krostue	4 (1-6)

Fall 2009 – Spring 2010 R.E. Program

Accomplishments and Events

- Chalice Camp (week- long summer camp organized and led by Heather Eschbach)
- Recruited new teachers and organized curriculum
- Conducted teacher orientation
- R.E. Clean-up Day (cleaned, organized, and restocked classrooms)
- Breakfast with R.E. families and Rev. Beu
- Planned R.E. Calendar and Intergenerational Services with Rev. Beu
- Updated R.E. brochure
- Purchased four new cupboards for classrooms (R.E. capital fund)
- Purchased five more pagers for the nursery (R.E. capital fund)
- Sent two adults to weekend training as O.W.L. facilitators
- Monthly newsletter articles
- Supervised nursery caregiver
- Continued support for "Parents Morning Out"
- Assisted Rev. Beu with the Children's Moment each Sunday (special thanks to Michelle Richards)
- O.W.L (Our Whole Lives) program continued offered the class for 7th , 8th, and 9th graders

- "Read and Feed" Halloween Party collected non-perishable food and children's books for the local Head Start program
- Trick or Treat for U.N.I.C.E.F. (collected \$35)
- Sponsored Free Clothing Exchange leftover women and children's clothes donated to St. Margaret's House; men's clothing donated to the Center for the Homeless.
- Performed "The Christmas Star" play with the children during December service
- Four Kid's Connection projects:
 - October "Ethical Eating" with Tama Crisovan
 - December Christmas charity: filled 40 stockings with toys for the local C.A.S.I.E. Center (Child Abuse Services, Investigation and Education)
 - February "Help for Haiti": children made and sold crafts to raise money for U.U.S.C. Haiti earthquake relief (collected \$200)
 - April Earth Day Celebration: "Amazing Animals of the Costa Rican Rainforest"
- U.U. Pen Pal program (during the month of February)
- R.E. Equinox Party
- Teacher Appreciation Dinner
- Teen group sponsored St. Joseph River Clean-up Day
- Intermediate class sponsored "Pennies for Peace" project (collected over \$150 for schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan)
- Annual Easter Egg Hunt
- (Second) Breakfast with R.E. families to discuss this year and plans for the future
- R.E. and Peace and Justice Committee Rummage Sale (raised approximately \$1000 to be equally split between the two committees. Leftover goods donated to Goodwill Industries.
- R.E. Baked Goods and Plant Sale collected \$450 for "Adopt a Rainforest" project
- R.E. Service acknowledging our children and honoring our teachers (R.E. teachers received \$20 Better World Books gift certificates)

Continuing Plans

- R.E. Olympics party (May 23rd)
- Teen led service (May 30th)
- Teen urban garden project (summer)
- Summer R.E. classes offered for the first time (organized by Michelle Richards)
- Chalice Camp (organized and led by Heather Eschbach)
- Recruit R.E. teachers and committee members for next fall
- Providing childcare for infants and toddlers during summer services
- Order new curricula and books for R.E.
- Continuing work on the Curriculum Map created by Michelle Richards and members of the R.E. Committee to select the curricula used in R.E. for the next several years

Our Religious Education program is not only busy on Sunday mornings, but also offers other activities throughout the year. The R.E. Committee and our dedicated R.E. teachers work very hard to offer our children a welcoming and fun place to celebrate, learn and understand our liberal faith. We also give them several opportunities each year to make contributions to our local community and to the larger world as well with a variety of social justice projects. We want the children to understand that even as children they can make a difference in the world. We want them to feel connected TO and valued BY the congregation as a whole. Most of all, we want them to feel accepted and loved.

This has been an exceptional year for our R.E. program! We have welcomed several new families this year; have used new curricula; have continued the O.W.L. program for a second year; and are now planning to offer summer R.E. for the first time!

There are so many people to thank for help and support that this list is sure to be incomplete, however, enormous gratitude goes to the following:

- Our wonderful R.E. teachers
- The dedicated R.E. committee members
- Parents of all the R.E. children
- Rich Wallace, Harold Beu, and members of the church board
- Jennie Krostue for her loving care of our babies and toddlers
- Duncan Krostue for being the "biggest kid of all who plays well with others" and helping care for the kids of ALL ages, both in the nursery, and outside on the playground.
- Carlton Higginbotham, our Church Administrator
- Rob Easley for his tech support and patience
- Tama Crisovan for helping with every Kids' Connection program
- Cindy Benedict and Jim Curlee for the huge time and energy commitment to the O.W.L. program
- Lynn McDonald and the Care Committee for the support given to the Mullen family
- Members of the Peace and Justice Committee and all other volunteers for helping with the rummage sale
- Fran Beidinger for the many plants she contributed and all the work she did for the R.E. rainforest adoption project
- Little Lucy, the four-legged mascot of the teen group, for her unconditional love and tenderness to us all
- To the congregation for the tribute and lovely gifts given to me during the R.E. service. Special thanks for Nalani Stolz for the beautiful painting.
- ALL of the children who came to R.E. since 2001 (It has been a joy watching so many of you grow up.)

I have served as your D.R.E. for more than nine years, and will be retiring at the end of May. This position has offered a variety of challenges over the years and has often surprised me with unexpected complications. But it has also given me many ways to grow personally and professionally; to learn more about being a Unitarian; to be creative; to use all my abilities; and most importantly, it has blessed me with dozens of friends of all ages. Having a child run into my arms for a hug, or teen shout "Hi M.B.!" is the most rewarding part of the job. The kids have always helped me be my very best self. Wonderful friendships have developed with the teachers, parents, and committee members as well, and I am so grateful for knowing and working with each of you.

This program takes many people volunteering in myriad ways to make it successful. Please support the new D.R.E. and consider teaching or joining the R.E. Committee. And thank you ALL for your trust, love, encouragement, support, AND for laughing at my jokes. May love surround you.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Beth Dickey, Director of Religious Education, May 2010

Social Committee Annual Report May, 2010

Purpose:

- To line up people to make coffee, host potlucks, provide lunch for church meetings
- Co-ordinate Round Robin, First Friday Women's Potlucks, Brunch Bunch
- Often helps with church events like the Annual Auction and All Church Retreat

Current members: Alice Bentley, Birgit Sommer, Kathy Vetter, Kathy Platt, chair

Submitted by Kathy Platt Chair Social Committee

Worship Arts Committee Annual Report May 16, 2010

This was the first year the committee was known as the Worship Arts Committee (formerly the Sunday Service Committee). This was an important change as a whole new group of members gathered with our new minister to make sure that Sunday services were the best they could be. In addition, the group worked with members of the congregation and others to provide quality services when the minister wasn't in the pulpit. At this time, the committee is working to fill all the Sundays in the summer with special services. We had close cooperation with the RE committee to make sure the children were included in services and how to best support them. Current members of the Worship Arts Committee include Peggy Stevens, Garry Roberson, Kristie Noguera, Michelle Richards, Bob Shuman and Rev. Harold Beu. Mary Beth Dickey was an ex officio member of the group.

Kay Azar Chair Worship Arts Committee