

ANNUAL REPORT

May 17, 2015

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH



801 East Washington Street
South Bend, Indiana 46617

May 17, 2015
Annual Congregational Meeting
Agenda

- I.
Call to Order
- II. Determination of a Quorum
- III. Opening
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 - A. Officers and Trustees for 2015-2016
 - B. Endowment Committee Member
 - C. 2016 Nominating Committee

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XIV.	Other Business	
XV.	Adjournment	

Annual Congregational Meeting May 18, 2014

David Mayfield, president, called the meeting to order at 12.05pm.

Fern Hamlin, secretary, determined that a quorum was present. 52 members were present plus proxies for 11 members.

Chip Roush, minister, delivered the opening.

Volunteers of the Year. For dedicated service to the process of acquiring a new building, the chair people of the three task forces – Joseph Gress, Construction Task Force; Bill Skidmore, Capital Campaign Task Force; Barb Carmichael, Design Task Force – were honored as this year's volunteers of the year.

Approval of congregational meeting minutes of 19 May 2013, 8 December 2013, and 6 April 2014. Tom Platt moved, Chuck Leone seconded, that the minutes be approved. Carried by voice vote.

Approval of 2014-15 budget. Tom Platt moved, and Florence Klecka seconded, that the budget be approved. Elizabeth Scarborough noted that she will vote to approve the budget but is nonetheless troubled by the projected \$21,000 deficit. She asked how firm the pledge line item of \$131,000 is. Gail deSomer, vice-president, confirmed that it was a firm figure, noting that the deficit is a real concern and that there may be the need to ask for additional pledge money. Carried by voice vote.

Calling Chip Roush as our settled minister. Kay Azar moved, and Tom Platt seconded, the motion that we call Chip Roush as our settled minister. Discussion ensued. Heather Eschbach voiced her support based on having worked with three ministers as DRE. Tama Crisovan asked what will happen if the vote is not successful; David Mayfield said that Chip would still have one more year with us. Jan Wilen asked if the search committee was supposed to make a recommendation; David answered that the timeframe for calling Chip as settled minister is in the contract. Roger Birdsell asked if negotiations were possible if Chip is called; David answered that the current contract would continue if Chip accepts the call. Kevin Barry, speaking as chair of the new committee on ministry, affirmed Chip's commitment to our congregation and his desire to have his family here. Endorsements were also given by Anne Mannix, Elizabeth Scarborough, Lynn McDonald, Marilyn Shaul, and others. Paper ballots were distributed. The motion carried with one abstention.

Approval of by-law amendment. Kevin Barry moved, and Karen Dickson seconded, the proposed by-law amendment for Article VII, Section 1. Gail deSomer moved a friendly amendment which Karen Dickson seconded. David Mayfield explained that a board clerical mistake had necessitated the friendly amendment. Bill Stevens asked if the alternate would be a full member of the nominating committee. The answer was no, the alternate is chosen so that s/he can complete the committee if a member can't serve. Jim Curlee asked if it was clear that the past president would only serve on the committee for one year; the answer was yes. Carried by voice vote.

Elections. For the nominating committee, Chuck Leone moved and Bill Stevens seconded that Mark Kricheff would serve one year and Janet Bogar would serve two years. The motion to accept the entire slate with the amendment to the nominating committee was made by Chuck, seconded by Bill. Carried by voice vote.

Recognition of 2013-14 board. David offered his thanks to his board and encouraged all who want to learn more about how our church works to serve on the board.

Other Business. Chuck offered thanks on behalf of us all to David for his service as president during an exceptional year.

Kevin Barry moved and Rich Wallace seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 12.50pm.

Fern Hamlin
Board secretary

**First Unitarian Church, South Bend
Special Congregational Meeting
September 21, 2014**

The meeting was called to order by Gail deSomer at 12.05pm.

Quorum was determined.

Gail explained the background to the operating budget needs (ministerial moving expenses and installation costs) and the \$11,000 tax bill.

The board moved that First Unitarian Church pay the \$11,000 tax bill from the Capital Campaign fund.

Bill Stevens: Have we exhausted all avenues of appeal?

Chuck Leone: Tax bill is prorated for the five months we owned the building in 2013. State law doesn't allow for a change of building status in the course of a year. It might be possible to request a refund after paying the bill, though he doubts ultimate success.

Dale Gibson: How much of the endowment has been taken out for the building renovation?

Karen Dickson, treasurer: \$130,000. \$101,000 remains.

Bill Stevens: Motion to amend: add the words "and the Board will explore the possibility of seeking a refund after the taxes are paid." **Kay Azar** seconded.

The motion to amend was carried (36 yes, 3 no, 3 abstentions)

The main motion was carried (40 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions)

The board moved that First Unitarian Church pay the moving expenses of Rev Chip Roush and his installation expenses (maximum \$6000) from the Endowment Fund.

Joseph Gress, vice-president: Cottage conversations will be held in October to provide more information on the operating budget deficit, how to meet it. We are facing challenges, but not a crisis.

Roger Birdsell: Is this a cash flow problem?

Karen Dickson, treasurer: Discussed our year to date finances, noting that the month of August was about \$3000 in the red, and the year to date is only \$94 in the black.

Gail deSomer: The entire \$9000 of prepaid 2014-15 pledges was used for operating expenses in July.

Fern Hamlin: Discussed on the approved deficit budget, the \$5000 of unrestricted savings that was used for operating expenses in June, the need for 20% more pledge money to cover the ministerial expenses sought and the entire year's deficit.

Marilyn Shaul: Difficult to follow which money is being used for what.

Elizabeth Scarborough: Read Barbara Williams' written statement discussing the purpose of an endowment fund, its value, how to maintain it. Made her own comments regarding the 2007 by-law revisions regarding the endowment fund and the resolution which accompanied it, which prohibited the use of the fund for operating expenses. If this motion is defeated, she will make a motion to authorize the board to seek additional income. Also noted the need to revise this year's budget, find expenses that can be cut.

Gail deSomer: Noted that the board has already requested additional funds, and that \$1000 has been received.

Barbara Boyd: Do we consider these expenses as operating costs or one-time expenses. As one-time expenses, they would fit into the approved uses of the endowment fund.

Gary Metzler: Are there any plans to repay the endowment fund?

Gail deSomer: Board's motion doesn't include any plan to repay the \$6000 to the endowment fund.

Gary Metzler: Should be planned as a loan. Moved to amend the motion by adding the words “, with repayment to the endowment fund to be determined by the congregation at a future date.” **Dan French** seconded the motion.

Kathy Vetter: The first \$100,000 from the endowment fund used for the renovation was a loan. Was the money used to fill the \$67,000 gap also a loan? **Fern Hamlin** noted that the gap money was also a loan.

Roger Birdsell: The larger question of the need for increased income still needs to be addressed.

Joseph Gress: Discussed the background of the original loan from the endowment fund, and the original thought that it would be repaid from the capital campaign, but the additional principal payments scheduled make that impossible. Would hope that we would not have to borrow this additional \$6,000 from the endowment fund.

The amendment to the motion did not carry (18 yes, 20 no, 4 abstentions).

Dale Gibson: The need to consider not just this motion (for additional money), but the entire deficit. The motion was carried (33 yes, 9 no, 3 abstentions).

Elizabeth Scarborough moved that the congregation direct the board to undertake a major, focused campaign to increase giving to the operating fund during the 2014-15 fiscal year. **Dale Gibson** seconded the motion.

Joseph Gress: Not opposed to the intent of the motion but would prefer to postpone addressing the problem until after the cottage conversations, which will enable the congregation to understand more fully the deficit and possible options.

Peggy Stevens: If we had such a campaign would it pay back the endowment fund?

Fern Hamlin: No.

Elizabeth Scarborough: If we delay this decision, will we need a congregational meeting to approve such a campaign? [Answer appeared to be no.] Withdrew motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 1.15pm.

Fern Hamlin
Board secretary

[additional pre-meeting notes follow]

Notes for Congregational Meeting, September 21, 2014

Last spring when the annual budget was drawn up, expenses involved in Rev. Chip Roush's installation service on Sunday, Oct. 12 were overlooked. The Installation committee is estimating costs around \$1000. Also, a \$5000 item included in the 2013-2014 budget was for moving expenses for Chip. Because Chip did not find a house in time, his move is occurring this 2014-2015 fiscal year and this amount was not included in the operating budget for 2014-2015. Therefore:

The Board of Trustees proposes that First Unitarian Church pay the moving expenses of Rev. Chip Roush and installation expenses (maximum of \$6000) from the endowment fund.

From our bylaws: Article XII- 2. "The purposes of the First Unitarian Church Endowment Fund are to assure the long range financial future of the Church, to help the Church manage and survive financial emergencies and to fund capital needs and special projects that further the mission of the Church.

4. All expenditures from the Fund shall be subject to the provisions of the By-Laws relating to expenditures in general. All expenditures from the principal of the Fund shall be subject to congregational approval."

From - Resolution to Implement the Endowment Fund: "THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the purpose of this FUND is to enhance the mission of First Unitarian Church of South Bend, Indiana, apart from the general operation of the congregation.

No portion of distributions from the FUND shall be used for the annual operating budget of the congregation; only in particular, temporary, difficult circumstances, and where integrity of gift restrictions permit, may this congregation, by action in meeting assembled, use FUND distributions for its own operating or support services; and except where specifically authorized otherwise in the terms of a gift, authorizations for distributions from the FUND may be made annually, in amounts not to exceed 5% of the average fair market value of the FUND over the previous four complete quarters.

...Authorization for annual expenditures shall be made upon a 2/3 majority vote of approval of the members present from the Congregation at the annual meeting. In the event of an emergency, distribution may be made by a 2/3 majority vote of approval of the members present from the Congregation at a specially called meeting."

In addition to these two expenses, First Unitarian Church is responsible for a property tax bill that we assumed as part of the purchase of the building. Because we purchased the building after the deadline for requesting not-for-profit status, we are responsible for paying it. So the question is how to fund this expense. Therefore:

The Board of Trustees proposes that First Unitarian Church pay the \$11,000 tax bill from the Capital Campaign fund.

First Unitarian Church of South Bend
Annual Report of the Minister
May 17, 2015
Rev. Chip Roush

“Once the soul awakens, the search begins and you can never go back. From then on, you are inflamed with a special longing that will never again let you linger in the lowlands of complacency and partial fulfillment.”
— John O’Donohue

On July 1, 2014, we owned a dusty doctor’s office and kept our belongings in a closet at the Montessori School. We had dreams and memories, but no place of our own to launch our activities. A month earlier, the congregation had approved a deficit budget and called a minister. It was a time of great transition, with all the hopes and anxieties that such times often bring.

Almost a year later, we own a gorgeous church building, with our chalice and covenant proudly displayed. Our building has people using it much of the time, from our own committees and task forces to like-minded spiritual seekers and local justice-makers. Thanks to the hard work and generosity of *many* people, our budget deficit has been filled (and exceeded!) and the people of Michiana are again looking to our congregation for leadership and vision.

You can find the details of all these wondrous accomplishments in other reports. I encourage you to do so—it is good to be reminded of all the work we’ve done, and no one report can capture the full scope of this past year.

I also encourage us to continue dreaming big. There are still many challenges that face us, from eventual roof repairs and phased-in mortgage payments to significant changes in our U.S. culture. Moreover, we humans face some of the largest issues of our time: global climate change, racism, gun violence, women’s rights, and many others. None of these concerns will be handled by dreaming small, nor by maintaining the status quo, to hand on to the next generation.

Just as we did a year ago, we will continue to face the future with hope and with anxiety. Not every year will be as successful as this last—and we will yet accomplish great things together. Let us continue to display with our words and our deeds what we finally have displayed on our very own sanctuary wall: our covenant.

So may we be.

**First Unitarian Church
President's Annual Report
Gail deSommer
May 17, 2015**

It would be difficult to select one word to summarize the accomplishments of this past year, but historic does come to mind. This year saw an increase in activities and programs, membership and giving. Due to the diligent work the previous year, we were able to move into our newly renovated building at 801 E. Washington in late July/early August. Many thanks go to Kathy Vetter for overseeing the moving process.

We started our fiscal year with an over \$20,000 deficit budget. Through a combination of help from the endowment, savings, fundraising (best Service Auction ever! – thank you Ally Kricheff and crew), a successful rummage sale, increased giving and increased pledging, we were able to overcome this deficit. Thank you to our Vice President Joseph Gress for organizing the cottage conversations in the fall that helped us to brainstorm ideas, for his very successful “Shared Generosity Campaign” and for leading the most successful pledge campaign we have ever had. Thank you to Mary Alice Lundergan and Chuck Leone (along with occasional helpers) who faithfully cleaned our church every week, saving us \$7000 in cleaning expenses. We now have the cleanest bathroom sinks ever. Chuck Leone also helped find a way to reduce our water bill, and thank you to Kathy Vetter for following through with plumbers and also electrical work to reduce usage. We are also reducing costs by filing with the state so that we do not pay future sales tax on utilities.

There were many who assisted in finishing touches in our new space. Thank you to those who donated to the Sanctuary Screen that allowed us to complete our sanctuary and to those who donated for the sanctuary chairs. Thank you to David Mayfield for installing the coat rack, to Elizabeth Scarborough for her gift of a beautiful vase and bookshelf for our conference room, to Barbara Williams for her gift of framed posters that can be displayed in between art exhibits and to the Aesthetics committee who oversaw this. In addition, interior signage will soon be installed. Kudos goes to Heather Eschbach for her work in preparing our religious education rooms. Many thanks also go to Kathy Vetter who has coordinated numerous issues regarding the building such as elevator service, security system, snow removal, yard work, installation of magnetic door on the east side, outdoor shed, and many more items.

Due to this comfortable, beautiful space we saw a blossoming of activities and programs that serve our members and those outside of the church including First Friday events, use of our space by a Buddhist study group, homeschool group, Non-Violent Communication Group, Group of Open Source Happiness, Becky Lindstrom's Workshops, Great Decisions, Community for Peace and Non-Violence, Our Whole Lives, Susan Werner concert, a beautiful Installation Service for Chip, many social activities and a growing Religious Education program. Thank you to Kathy Platt for her work overseeing the Y1@ 801 events.

With all these wonderful activities it is no wonder we had 17 new members sign our membership book this church year. We welcome our newcomers and are pleased with how you have jumped in to help with the work of running a church. And our wish is that you balance this with you own spiritual quest. Our membership committee has done an outstanding job of providing opportunities for newcomers to

be welcomed and to find out more about us. A very special thank you goes to our Care Committee who does such a good job of looking out for our church members. A heartfelt thank you goes to Bethy Williams who has spent many hours writing an extensive grant in the hopes that we will be able to install solar panels on our roof. I would also like to recognize our Peace and Justice Committee in the important work they do in helping us get involved outside of our walls in activities such as Moral Mondays and raising over \$3000 in Share the Plate funds.

It has been an honor and pleasure to witness all of the volunteer work that goes on behind the scenes. I also want to thank the Board of Trustees for their willingness to attend extra board meetings, and lengthy ones at that. Thank you to Fern Hamlin for always assisting me with details, Karen Dickson for your thorough and diligent financial work, Joseph for his outstanding work as stewardship chair, Bill Skidmore for work on the Susan Werner concert, Mary Alice Lundergan for work on the rummage sale (with Susan Van Fleit and Anne Mannix) and cost saving cleaning, Tama Crisovan for reminding us of the importance of community and Dan Holm for his work helping with the art rails, hanging art work and whenever I was at a loss for words, Dan would provide a clarifying statement to help move things along. A special thank you goes to Rev. Chip Roush for providing encouragement and insight to me. Last of all, my deep gratitude goes to Carlton Higginbotham, our church administrator, who will be retiring at the end of this fiscal year. Carlton's experience, expertise and long hours this year have been essential to our success. I thank all of you for the opportunity to serve you during this special, historic first year at 801 E. Washington.

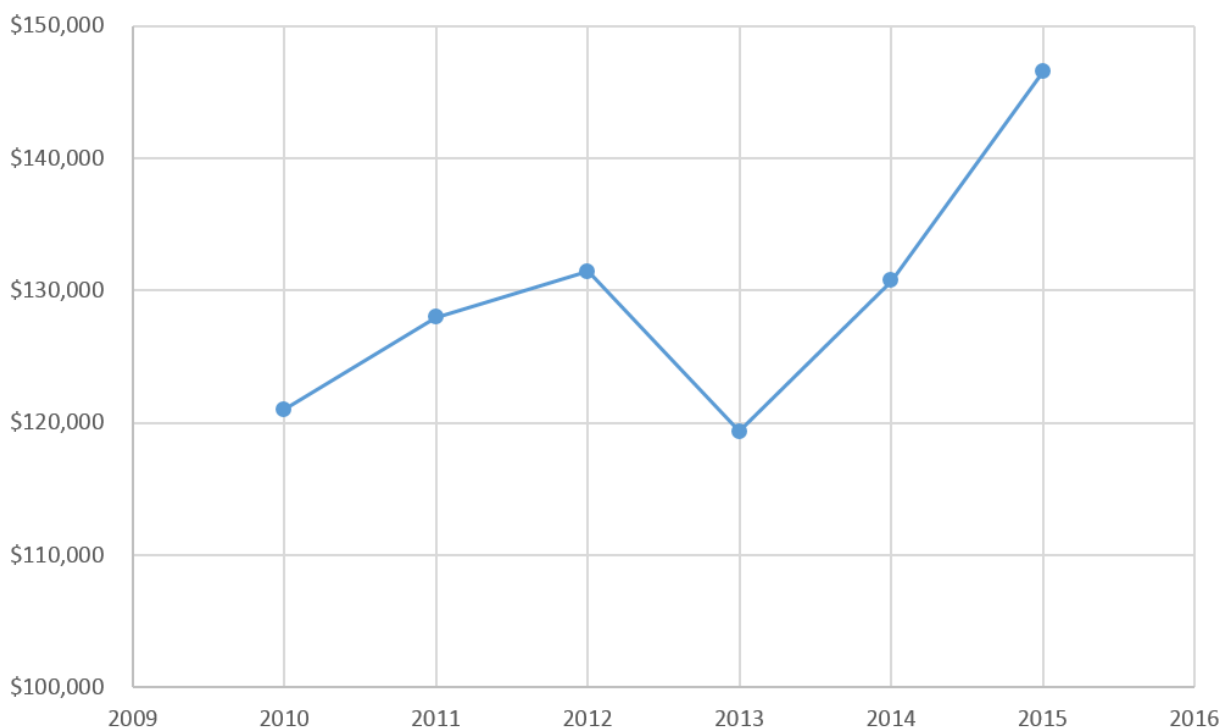
**First Unitarian Church
Vice President's Report
May 17, 2015
Joseph Gress**

There are many ways to measure the health of a congregation. Today, I would like to begin by focusing on generosity. In many ways, this has been a major theme of my work as your vice president over the last year. We began the year with cottage conversations which we called “Growth and Generosity.” In these cottage conversations, we discussed our options for responding to a major deficit in our operating budget for the current fiscal year.

I had faith that our congregation would respond generously if provided information about our financial options. I am grateful for the generosity of all of you that have enabled us to operate in the black this year and to have a balanced budget for next year. I am also grateful for the many people who have contributed their sweat and hard work to reduce our expenses and to have several successful fundraisers.

I like to use numbers and charts to provide concrete evidence of how we are doing. The following chart shows our total stewardship pledges for the past six years. As you can see, there has been a steady increase in pledges during that time. This is a very positive sign for our congregation. Thank you everyone for your generosity!

Total Stewardship Pledges



PLANS FOR THE COMING YEAR

Over the coming year, I plan to support and work with Rev. Chip, our Director of Religious Education, Heather Eschbach and several committees to make our congregation stronger. I am particularly interested in helping to strengthen the religious education program and to improve the integration of new members into our congregation. Many people are already doing good work in these areas and I want to support and encourage them.

I am aware that we (the Board of Trustees) have come to you with many appeals for funds for special projects related to our new building over the past year. I have been most gratified by your deep and consistent generosity in responding to these appeals. It is my goal to provide you with a bit of a break from these special appeals in the coming year.

LOOMING CHALLENGES

I want the congregation to be aware of three looming challenges in the next few years. While these are major challenges, I am confident that we will successfully overcome these challenges.

Heating and Ventilation System

The heating and ventilation system for our building is expensive to maintain and to operate. Because of its design, it wastes electricity and natural gas. We have a task force that is developing contingency plans for replacing part or all of this system with a system that is much simpler to maintain and much less costly to operate. My hope is that we can continue to get along with our current system for a couple years before we take on this project. However, we could be forced to accelerate this system replacement if there is a failure of a major component of the heating and ventilation system.

A New Roof

We expect that we will need to replace the roof of our building in a few years. This will be expensive.

Our Mortgage

In August 2014, we signed a 15 year \$400,000 mortgage on our building with First Source Bank. Our monthly mortgage payments are \$2,700 (or \$32,400 per year.) The mortgage payments for the first three years are being paid from the capital campaign. They are not part of the annual operating budget. Starting in 2017, we will include these mortgage payments in our operating budget.

We, the Board of Trustees, desire to start setting aside money in what is called a sinking fund for replacing all or part of the heating and ventilation system and for a new roof. However, we are unable to realistically budget for that in our proposed budget for 2015-2016.

**FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH, SOUTH BEND INDIANA
FINANCIAL REPORT
as of April 31, 2015**

Banking and Investment Account Balances

Cash Accounts	\$197,352
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Money Market	147,538
Checking (Op 17,720; Bldg 32,094)	49,814
Investment & Long-Term Savings Accounts	\$104,091
Endowment UUCEF (pending addition \$11,181)	103,409
CD Sabbatical Fund ***312	682
Total Cash and Investments	\$301,443



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

Operating Budget

Item	4/1/15 - 4/30/15			Year to Date			Annual
	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference	Budget
Inflows							
110 - Pledges	7,339	10,917	-3,578	113,340	109,167	4,173	131,000
115 - Pledges - Additional	589	333	256	15,489	3,333	12,156	4,000
120 - Loose Offering	392	333	59	5,235	3,333	1,902	4,000
130 - Building Use Fees	135	0	135	425	0	425	0
143 - Service Auction	0	0	0	15,651	10,375	5,276	10,375
145 - Other Fund Raisers	1,408	125	1,283	5,040	1,250	3,790	1,500
160 - Retreat Inflow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
170 - Newsletter	0	0	0	10	0	10	0
196 - Special Collections	242	0	242	4,528	0	4,528	0
199 - Miscellaneous	87	0	87	439	0	439	0
Total Inflows	10,192	11,708	-1,516	160,158	127,458	32,699	150,875
Outflows							
201 - Special Collections	0	0	0	4,256	0	4,256	0
210 - Insurance	0	833	-833	7,334	8,333	-999	10,000
220 - Cleaning Services	0	583	-583	0	5,833	-5,833	7,000
230 - Bldg Supplies	43	42	2	252	417	-164	500
240 - Bldg & Grounds	0	417	-417	1,058	4,167	-3,108	5,000
241 - Pest Control	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
310 - Gas	618	250	368	4,092	2,500	1,592	3,000
320 - Electric	537	833	-296	6,813	8,333	-1,520	10,000
330 - Telephone	84	75	9	770	750	20	900
340 - Water & Trash	314	250	64	2,523	2,500	23	3,000
350 - Rent	0	0	0	1,294	2,500	-1,206	2,500
360 - Security	96	33	63	384	333	51	400
365 - False Alarms	0	0	0	300	0	300	0
410 - Admin & Office	209	250	-41	1,729	2,500	-771	3,000

Item	4/1/15 - 4/30/15			Year to Date			Annual
	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference	Budget
415 - Copier Lease	351	333	18	3,278	3,333	-56	4,000
420 - Postage	0	33	-33	294	333	-39	400
430 - Payroll Taxes	137	158	-21	1,640	1,583	57	1,900
510 - Sunday Service	0	42	-42	500	417	83	500
511 - Sunday Service Supplies	0	17	-17	94	167	-73	200
710 - Membership Committee	0	17	-17	303	167	136	200
715 - Retreat Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
				720 -	0	8	-8
725 - Coffee & Tea	0	17	-17	387	167	221	200
740 - Care Committee	0	8	-8	84	83	1	100
745 - Peace & Justice	0	17	-17	0	167	-167	200
750 - Denom. Dues & URC	0	0	0	6,848	6,848	0	9,130
760 - Finance Committee	8	42	-34	68	417	-349	500
761 - Stewardship Campaign	0	0	0	399	400	-1	400
766 - Fundraiser - Svc Auction	0	0	0	495	675	-180	675
769 - Fundraiser - Other	48	21	27	792	208	584	250
808 - DRE Professional Exp.	0	42	-42	175	417	-242	500
809 - DRE Salary	601	601	0	6,008	6,008	0	7,210
810 - RE	45	167	-122	1,587	1,667	-80	2,000
811 - Adult RE	0	8	-8	0	83	-83	100
812 - Background Checks	0	0	0	119	100	19	100
815 - Child Care	0	83	-83	511	833	-323	1,000
910 - Minister's Salary/Housing	4,417	4,417	0	44,167	44,167	0	53,000
915 - Minister's in lieu of	338	338	0	3,379	3,379	0	4,055
930 - Minister's Expense	404	442	-38	3,057	4,417	-1,360	5,300
940 - Minister's Pension	442	442	0	4,417	4,417	0	5,300
945 - Minister's Insurance	913	652	261	7,563	6,520	1,043	7,824
960 - Administrator	1,107	1,262	-155	14,451	12,618	1,833	15,141
965 - Administrator's Pension	110	126	-16	1,445	1,262	183	1,514

Item	4/1/15 - 4/30/15			Year to Date			Annual
	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference	Budget
976 - Marketing	0	42	-42	557	417	140	500
980 - Music	300	350	-50	4,243	3,500	743	4,200
999 - Miscellaneous	0	0	0	701	0	701	0
Total Outflows	11,121	13,250	-2,129	138,418	143,018	-4,599	171,799
Balance	-928			21,740			-20,924

Notes

Line 196/201 – Earth Day - Kids Earth Scouts (paid early May)

Line 145 – Rummage Sale

Line 199 – Church Mutual dividend

Non-Operating Funds

Account	Month			Fiscal Year			End Bal 4/30/15
	Prev Bal 4/1/15	Inflow Month	Outflow Month	Bal Fwd 07/1/14	Inflow YTD	Outflow YTD	
Building Fund	32,522	100	529	40,449	376,088	384,444	32,093
Capital Campaign	102,392	17,795	2,700	110,956	88,955	82,424	117,487
Pre-paid Pledges	0	5,350	0	9,010	5,350	9,010	5,350
Concert	0	0	0	0	5,012	5,012	0
Endowment Set-aside	11,180	0	11,180	0	11,180	11,180	0
Endowment Disbursements	3,000	0	0	3,000	15,000	15,000	3,000
Memorials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Minister's Discretionary Fund	940	0	0	940	0	0	940
Children's RE Cap. Exp. Fund	483	0	0	1,508	0	1,025	483
Teen Service Project	2,695	0	0	2,695	0	0	2,695
Women's Group Fund	262	0	0	262	0	0	262
Total Special Funds	153,474	23,245	14,409	168,820	501,585	507,566	162,310
Unrestricted Savings	3,512	7	0	8,443	76	5,000	3,519
Invisible Church	13,268	0	0	16,383	0	3,115	13,268
Yr 1 @ 801 E Washington	542	0	0	0	1,085	543	542
Total Non-Operating Funds	170,796	23,252	14,409	193,646	502,746	516,224	179,639

Endowment

Net Value 2/1/15	Addition	Net Change	Disburse	Net Value 2/28/15
100,660	0	2,749	0	103,409

Building Fund Breakout

	Opening Balance	Inflow	Disbursements	Closing Balance
Renovation (non-constr.)	4,576	0	422	4,154
Pre-mortgage loan interest (total, including last fy)	0	2,673	2,673	0
Chairs (full project)	0	6,774	6,774	0
Insulation (full project)	0	2,525	1,220	1,305
Screen (full project)	0	11,674	11,674	0

Mortgage

Opening Balance	Interest Pd.	Principal Pd.	Closing Balance
375,775.79	1,833.33	866.67	374,909.12

Notes:

Invisible Church – WVPE ads 143; Signage down payment 974
 Endowment – \$11,180 addition pending (officially added April 1; awaiting report)

**First Unitarian Church of South Bend
 Proposed Budget 2015-16**

Item	2013-14 Budget	2013-14 Actual	2014-15 Budget	2014-15 YTD 2/28	2015-16 Proposed	Comments
INFLOWS						
110 - Pledges	124,000	110,681	131,000	95,097	148,000	
115 - Pledges - Additional	0	8,475	4,000	13,370	4,000	
120 - Loose Offering	4,000	4,477	4,000	4,070	4,000	
130 - Building Use Fees	0	0	0	125	500	
143 - Service Auction	10,000	10,163	10,375	15,651	11,000	
145 - Other Fund Raisers	1,500	1,535	1,500	3,579	2,500	
160 - Retreat Inflow	0	765	0	0	0	
170 - Newsletter	0	0	0	10	0	
196 - Special Collections	0	3,810	0	3,968	0	
199 - Miscellaneous	0	191	0	330	0	
TOTAL INFLOWS	139,500	140,096	150,875	136,201	170,000	
OUTFLOWS						
201 - Special Collections	0	3,810	0	3,968	0	
210 - Insurance	1,500	7,710	10,000	7,334	10,000	
220 - Cleaning Services	0	0	7,000	0	5,000	
230 - Bldg Supplies	0	119	500	0	700	
240 - Bldg & Grounds	0	202	5,000	656	3,000	
242 - HVAC Preventive		0		--	5,400	
243 - HVAC Repairs		0		--	2,000	
310 - Gas	0	3,400	3,000	2,645	4,000	
320 - Electric	0	7,662	10,000	5,752	8,000	
330 - Telephone	900	786	900	601	1,000	
340 - Water & Trash	0	2,270	3,000	1,961	1,000	
351 - Endowment Repay	--	--	--	--	1,000	
355 - Snow Removal	0	0	0	--	500	
360 - Security	0	216	400	288	400	
365 - False Alarms	0	0	0	300	200	

Item	2013-14 Budget	2013-14 Actual	2014-15 Budget	2014-15 YTD 2/28	2015-16 Proposed	Comments
370 - Elevator & Sprinkler	0	0	0	--	1,300	
410 - Admin & Office	2,000	2,321	3,000	1,265	3,767	

415 - Copier	3,200	3,298	4,000	2,621	2,000	
420 - Postage	400	335	400	245	400	
430 - Payroll Taxes	1,900	1,784	1,900	1,368	2,000	
510 - Sunday Svc Committee	500	75	500	500	600	
511 - Sunday Svc Supplies	150	204	200	94	150	
710 - Membership Committee	200	0	200	120	500	
715 - Retreat	0	701	0	0	0	
720 - Social Committee	100	13	100	51	100	
725 - Coffee & Tea	200	142	200	387	500	
740 - Care Committee	100	0	100	70	100	
745 - Peace & Justice	200	0	200	0	200	
750 - Denom. Dues	9,348	9,462	9,130	4,565	9,690	
760 - Finance Committee	500	495	500	55	100	
761 - Stewardship Campaign	400	88	400	0	400	
766 - Fundraiser - Svc Auction	300	631	675	495	500	
769 - Fundraiser - Other	250	0	250	744	250	
808 - DRE Prof. Expense	500	75	500	175	500	rollover
809 - DRE Salary	7,210	7,210	7,210	4,807	7,355	
810 - RE	2,000	1,892	2,000	1,534	2,000	
811 - Adult RE	100	0	100	0	0	
812 - Background Checks	100	130	100	119	100	
815 - Child Care	1,000	205	1,000	324	800	
910 - Minister's S & H	44,170	44,167	53,000	35,333	54,060	
915 - in lieu of FICA	3,379	3,379	4,055	2,703	4,136	
930 - Minister's Expense	4,417	3,786	5,300	1,994	5,406	
940 - Minister's Pension	4,417	4,417	5,300	3,533	5,406	
945 - Minister's Insurance	7,590	6,248	7,824	5,737	8,000	
960 - Office Manager	15,141	15,181	15,141	12,260	12,480	
976 - Marketing	500	455	500	557	500	
980 - Music	3,750	1,843	4,200	3,493	4,500	
999 - Miscellaneous	0	232	0	701	0	
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	145,436	153,696	171,799	111,874	170,000	

415 - Copier	3,200	3,298	4,000	2,621	2,000
BALANCE	-5,936	-13,600	-20,924	24,326	0

**First Unitarian Church
Proposed Slate of Officers for 2015-16**

.....	Vice President	Gary Metzler
.....	Treasurer (2-year term)	Chuck Leone
.....	Trustee (1-year term)	Gail deSomer
.....	Trustee (2-year term)	Sharon Kniss
.....	Trustee (2-year term)	Don Marti
.....	Endowment Committee (3-year term)	Jim Ward

Nominating Committee:
 Dan Holm
 Barb Carmichael, alternate

Continuing

President Joseph Gress (outgoing Vice President becomes President)
 Secretary Fern Hamlin

 Trustee Tama Crisovan
 Endowment Barbara Williams (year 2 of 3)
 Endowment John Wegener (year 3 of 3)
 Nominating Janet Bogar (year 2 of 2)
 Nominating Gail deSomer (outgoing President becomes member of Committee)

Thanks to the 2015-16 Nominating Committee:

David Mayfield
 Mark Kricheff
 Janet Bogar

Committee Reports

Aesthetics Committee

The Aesthetics Committee was formed by the Board in the summer of 2014 as we moved in to our new building. Our charge was to be a clearinghouse for needs of committees and to reduce overlap in requests for money and resources by encouraging cooperation, to work with donors about possible donations of art and furniture for the church, and to work to assure that visible changes and additions to the building maintain and enhance the aesthetic motif of the church.

- We negotiated several donations from members and sent thank you notes.
- We worked with Art Committee and Dan and Lois Holm to have art rails installed.
- We worked with David Mayfield to install a coat rack in the foyer .
- We had tables for Board Room made from doors recycled after the construction.
- We worked with Elizabeth Scarborough who has donated a bookcase for a UU library in the BoardRoom.
- We hosted a meeting for all stakeholders in Board Room use to clarify needs and desired uses for the Board Room and we forwarded the input to the Board.
- With Buildings and Grounds, we mapped out where storage will be in the basement for various committees and activities.
 - Cleaned the basement storage area in the south west corner and set up labeled shelves for Care Committee, Social Committee, holiday decorations. Also labeled areas for chair and table storage and storage for items which are on rolling carts and are used only on Sunday.
 - With Buildings and Grounds, cleaned the RE area in the southeast corner and set up shelving
- We worked on bulletin board and interior signage placement in church. We helped to install RE bulletin boards.

Other activities that are currently being worked on are

- We are updating the “Building Aesthetics Policy” which existed at our old building. It will soon be sent to the Board.
- We are continuing to work with RE to help with sorting items in their area. We also hope to sort out items that belong to Adult RE, archival materials, and items that are not needed, so that the RE members can deal more efficiently with the large amount of things in storage.

Submitted by Melanie Smith-Guillaume, Chair of Aesthetics Committee

Members who are currently serving on the Committee are Gail DeSomer, Marie-Noelle DeSomer, Barb Carmichael, and Susan VanFleit. Others who have worked on the Committee are Ann Cope and Ron Robinson.

Art Committee

This has been the first year for the Art Committee, conceived in conjunction with the move to our beautiful new building at 801. We had a great start with Glenda Cobb Bixby's inaugural exhibition. We had a great group of committee members and supporters to help complete this project. Special thanks to Dan and Lois Holm for providing materials and helping getting this project done, John Bentley and Deeb Azar for helping prep the material and getting the rail installed, Ann Cope for helping hang the art. The committee getting this started included Ron Robinson, Melanie Smith-Guillaume, Barb Carmichael, Heather Eschbach and Allie Kricheff.

Our second exhibitor was Eric Lease Morgan. I wish I could have been there to see it. I heard the exhibit was fabulous and the opening was a big success. We are looking forward to the next exhibition by Nalani Stolz. We are so fortunate to have such talent in this congregation.

Many, many thanks to everyone who helped make this effort a big success. We still need artists for future exhibits and new members for the committee. How much more fun can you have than arranging art exhibits. Think about it.

— Kay Azar

Building and Grounds

At the start of this fiscal year we were not even officially in our new home. But, the Building and Grounds Committee was busy preparing for our big move and trying to make our green spaces look decent. Although most of the renovation work was done before we received our occupancy permit and officially moved out of GSMS and moved into 801, we still had much to do ourselves to make our house a home.

Many people helped prepare 801 for occupancy – inside and out. I did not take time to track all those who volunteered, but I know it was a large percentage of our congregation and my thanks go to all.

During the fall we had some additional electrical work done to be more energy efficient and had installed a keyless entry system. Before winter officially showed up, we had a new home for our snow blowers and the lawn mower – a shed with its own clerestory. Thanks to Fern Hamlin and David Mayfield for their assistance in staining the shed. At the start of the winter Chuck Leone and Mary Alice Lundergan investigated our water bill, and the possibility of changing the size of our water meter to reduce the costs. As a result we did decrease our water meter size so that our costs will be reduced by more than \$100 per month. Thanks to Chuck and Mary Alice. With targeted contributions, David Mayfield also began putting more insulation into accessible areas of our attic. My thanks to David for many hours spent in a rather dark, tight space doing tedious work.

We also owe our thanks to Chuck Leone and Mary Alice Lundergan for keeping our building clean on a weekly basis, and to the Aesthetics Committee for making much progress in cleaning and organizing our basement storage area. And, Susan VanFleit's husband Jim made us a great shelf and hanging system for our mop closet. Many thanks to Jim, and Susan for "volunteering" him. Outside, our snow removal team did a great job keeping our walkways cleared during the winter months.

Along the way over the year, we dealt with many warranty work requests and other miscellaneous maintenance issues. We also have started the work of assessing our energy consumption and considering ways to reduce our carbon footprint. That is still a work in progress, and I hope to have more time to devote to it during the next fiscal year.

While writing this report, I reviewed my monthly Board Reports, which reminded me how much we have done, but also how much there still is to do. If you have an interest in Building and Grounds and a skill and/or time to share, please do let me know. It really does take a village to keep a building like this going, and the core of that is a solid Building and Grounds Committee.

In closing I offer my thanks to Gail deSomer, Susan Van Fleit and Kathy Platt for their ongoing support, including recognizing that every "good idea" takes energy, time, and skills; to David Mayfield for the time and many skills he shared; to Chuck Leone for agreeing to be a part of this committee; and to Carlton for putting up with all of my requests for his knowledge and time. Finally, my gratitude goes to Fern Hamlin for all of her advice and support as the Building and Grounds Board Liaison.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Vetter, Chair

Care Committee

The Care Committee endeavors to support the members and friends of the church by providing a link between those who are going through transitions and those who can help. Some of the ways we support one another are by offering meals and visits, sending cards, phone calls, coordinating people wanting to share a Thanksgiving meal, providing transportation, and loan of durable medical equipment.

Some of the new initiatives this year:

1. Collecting frozen soup from Purple Porch, thanks to Maureen Wijnen, and offering it to those who would benefit from a break from cooking.
2. Bringing in a representative from "Seniors Helping Seniors" who discussed how their services were offered.
3. Connecting with and honoring individuals in various ways: birthday cakes, euchre party, lunch dates, etc. All those involved find this to be enriching and time well spent.
4. An Emergency Contact Information form was developed and offered to members and friends during October. Ten people returned the form which is placed in a confidential file. These will be available at any time
5. Undie Sunday was promoted in February. Over one hundred pieces of underwear for men and women were collected and given to Broadway Christian Parish for their program for the homeless and semi-homeless.

We appreciate all those members and friends who reach out to others. Notifying a member of the Care Committee of a need for yourself or others is always appropriate.

Members of the Care Committee.

Mary Hagen and Lois Holm (co-chairs)

Barbara Boyd

Jim Curlee

Gail deSomer (liason to the Board)

Dale Gibson

Wendy Lohman

Jim Ward

Rev. Chip Roush

Children's Religious Education Committee

Committee Members: Heather Eschbach (Director of Religious Education), Alma Sutphen (Committee Chair), Allyson Kricheff, Antonette Needham, Rich Wallace, and Tama Crisovan (Board Liaison)

Classes: September 2014-May 2015

Class	Curriculum	Teachers
Nursery (0-3 years)	n/a	Bethy Williams Nalani Stolz
Preschool-Kindergarten (3 years - K)	<i>Chalice Children</i>	Deb Carew Rich Wallace
1st-4th grades	<i>Spirit of Adventure</i>	Antonette Needham Samantha Miller Bob Cope
5th-8th grades	<i>The Questing Year</i>	Jim Curlee Chuck Leone Susan VanFleit
9th-12th grades	various	Allyson Kricheff Bethy Williams

Average Attendance for Sunday mornings: 12 children (range of 2-27)

How our kids experienced fellowship:

- Intergenerational services: Water Ceremony, Guest at Your Table/Bread Ceremony, Children's Holiday Pageant, Christmas Eve, Groundhog Day Service, Seussical Service, UU Principles Service and Flower Ceremony
- Holiday Potluck
- Monthly potluck lunches after service
- First Friday Events

How our kids experienced social justice:

- Pumpkin Decorating Contest to raise money for UNICEF.
- Guest at Your Table and Bread Ceremony intergenerational service & collection
- CASIE Center Stocking Project: collected donations, stuffed 91 stockings, & learned about helping children in need from Carolyn Hahn (hosted by Mary Beth Dickey & Julie Wells)
- Made nine fleece blankets for the Ronald McDonald House Charities Family Room at Memorial Hospital and took a tour of the facility

Committee challenges and concerns:

- Moved into and organized new RE Classrooms
- Began organization of old boxes of RE and other church materials

- Continued organization of basement items with help of Aesthetics Committee

Committee activities and accomplishments:

- Successfully moved into new building and started RE Classes on-time
- Streamlined the RE check-in & attendance procedures
- Provided teacher training and orientation
- Integrated an RE Moment in almost every service
- Held OWL classes for the first time in many years for youth in grades 8-12
- Helped to get youth in grades 5-8th to attend OWL classes in Elkhart
- Held Easter Egg Hunt
- Began RE ArtWorks! program. Involved artists in four special class days where they shared their unique talents with our children (Allen Hamlet, Pat Taplick, Eric Lease Morgan)
- Helped plan several Intergenerational Worship service (GAYT, Holiday Pageant, Christmas Eve, Seussical Service, Groundhog Day Service, UU Principles Service)

Goals for the next year:

- Continue to support the growth of the RE Program by adding a class
- Increase online presence via webpage and Facebook
- Increase volunteerism; teachers and various other opportunities with the congregation-at-large
- Start an RE program for summer and evaluate the it's effectiveness

Special thanks to:

- Our committed RE teachers: Deb Carew, Bob Cope, Jim Curlee, Allyson Kricheff, Chuck Leone, Samantha Miller, Antonette Needham, Nalani Stolz, Susan Van Fleit, Rich Wallace, and Beth Williams
- Rev. Chip Roush for supporting the RE Committee
- All of our volunteers who made RE successful!

Submitted by

Heather Eschbach, Director of Children's Religious Education

Committee on Ministry

Late in the 2013-14 church year the CoM was reconstituted after a number of years where a ministerial search committee or transition team served many of this committee's functions. Our first meeting was on April 1, 2014 and was attended by Chip, Susan, Lynn, and Kevin. During that meeting we discussed our roles in supporting a healthy congregational and professional ministry and in contributing to the formal evaluation of the minister. We discussed the logistics of the committee and decided on a rotating leadership model where the incoming member would be chair elect, the member in the second year would be chair, and the member in the third year would be past chair. We felt that this would provide continuity in the work of the committee and an opportunity to develop or hone the leadership skills of all committee members. Since all three members were selected in the same year for this reconstituted committee we drew straws to determine which "year" each of us would be in for the 2014-15 church year. This resulted in Susan being in her first year, Kevin in his second year and chair, and Lynn in her third year.

Since the initial meeting, the CoM met 14 times including two meetings where Lynn, Susan, and Kevin worked on Chip's evaluation and one with all four present to discuss the evaluation.

Our primary tasks for the year were role clarification and development of a survey to assess the health of our ministry. We refined the committee description and submitted that to the board. The revised description was approved and is available at <http://firstunitarian.us/members/committees.pdf>.

We are nearly done editing a survey to help us assess the health of our ministry. We looked at sample surveys from the UUA as well as the surveys most recently conducted in our congregation. We have shortened the survey by focusing on things that can lead to actions as the congregation formulates short- and long-term goals. We also carefully considered which questions from previous surveys should be carried forward to provide longitudinal data for comparison. This process is nearly completed. Please watch for the announcement, and complete the survey when it is made available.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Barry, Chair
Susan Van Fleit
Lynn McDonald

Endowment Committee

The Committee, charged with being custodians of our Endowment Fund, met each quarter to review and to discuss use of our First Unitarian South Bend account held in the Unitarian Universalist Common Endowment Fund. The market value of our account was \$221,081 on Dec. 31, 2013, and \$100,396 on Dec. 31, 2014, with the big drop being due to money taken out for additional costs incurred in the remodeling of 801 E. Washington. In March the Board approved restoring to the fund \$11,000 as a first payment on what had been borrowed.

In March the Committee considered a proposal for \$2000 to hire a consultant to provide data and recommendations regarding steps that need to be taken for continued use and improved efficiency in our HVAC systems. The Committee acknowledged the need for an evaluation but rejected the proposal, noting that our endowment account is so far below the \$150,000 that is required (by the Congregation's resolution regarding the Committee's operations) to be in the account before disbursements may be recommended. Instead, John Wegener and Jim Ward, both engineers with experience in such matters, offered to do the job. They volunteered their services to the Board and were asked to have a report ready by the end of May. At the April Board meeting they reported on their progress and expect to have their report ready by June 30.

2014-2015 Committee Members:

Elizabeth Scarborough, Chair

Barbara Williams, Recording Secretary

John Wegener, Financial Secretary

Marketing Committee

The Marketing Committee has undergone a number of changes over the past year. Alexandria Trusov, former chairperson, is no longer a part of the committee. Thank you to Alexandria for her past work on this committee. Two new members to the church were added, Jim Ward and Becky Lindstrom, with Becky agreeing to become the new committee chair. She owns her own business, and brings her skills in brand development and social media to the position. Florence Klecka, as the most senior member of the committee has provided great continuity during this transition.

The committee in this new composition met for the first time on March 25. Gail deSomer and Rev. Chip Roush were also in attendance. Gail briefed the committee on the forms of advertising currently being used, including ads in the local university newspapers and radio spots on WVPE. Details about these efforts were more fully explained to Becky during a follow-up phone call with Alexandria. Although the ads do reach our target audience, they are not without cost. The Marketing Committee currently has a nominal budget and receives most funding for special outreach from the Invisible Church Fund. A decision needs to be made regarding the cost/benefit of paying for more traditional types of advertising.

Facebook is a very popular form of free advertising and networking in the South Bend area, especially with college students and young professionals. While First Unitarian has a Facebook page and posts regularly, it is still underutilized as a marketing tool. Becky and Jim have been given administrator access and are more actively posting about various events. The committee will continue to educate the congregation on the benefits of sharing and liking posts to help spread the word through members' Facebook networks.

The Press Release form created last year is now available for use on the website, and is very easy to use. However, details about the different types of advertising available are not clear. The committee plans to create a table showing all the free advertising options, responsibilities, processes and deadlines so event committees can plan accordingly. With greater understanding of these options and processes, the committee hopes that more events will be posted on Facebook and submitted to the South Bend Tribune for their "In the Bend", "At the Podium" and "Faith Briefs" sections.

The two biggest challenges potentially facing the committee now and in the coming year are the church website and exterior sign. A new sign needs to be purchased, however past efforts have stalled due to lack of excitement for the two proposals that were submitted. It's unclear if the Marketing Committee should even be involved in this process, or if the responsibility should fall to a different committee.

Regarding the website, \$3,000 has been allocated for rebuilding the site using a more streamlined, updated platform. If this money is not used, then it will need to be returned. Options for easier interfaces such as WordPress and Squarespace were discussed by the committee, as well as the possibility for the future Church Administrator to play a role in developing the new website to save money. Password protection for some areas of the site is a definite need, which may require a more skilled designer.

Membership Committee

David Wistreich, Chair

The Membership Committee provides member services and a pathway to membership in the congregation. This year, we've tried to focus on welcoming newcomers and activities to socialize them to the congregation's rhythms as a part of the move to our new home. Integration of new members into the congregation has been attempted, but is an area where we should figure out how to do a better job.

17 people have joined the church in the Fall2014/Spring 2015.

The following broad categories require management and coordination from the Membership Chair of the First Unitarian Church of South Bend:

- The Greeters
- The Visitor Log Follow Up
- The Member Services table in the Great Hall (Includes Brochures/Lending Library)
- New Member Orientations
- New Member Coffees/Cookies with the Minister
- Members Educational Seminars
- Ingatherings
- Liaison to Social Committee

These activities are spearheaded by folks that are very involved with the church in general and seem to be functioning reasonably well. Here are the details.

- Greeters are being directed by John and Alice Bentley. They recruited, trained and posted instructions on what to do. The greeters schedule was set for the year and Joe and Ron are the 5th Sunday greeters and are backups if the regulars need coverage. Greeters by week are:

Tom and Kathy Platt
Kyle and Heather Hulse
Dan and Lois Holm
John and Alice Bentley
Joe Gress and Ron Robinson

- The Visitor Log signers are told they'll get a call or e-mail from the "visitor outreach coordinator". Carlton, the Church Administrator sends the info to the Minister and to Mark Kricheff weekly and Mark sends the e-mails regularly to the visitors. This has gone through some transitions and we're monitoring it to determine if it's healthy. Folks that sign the visitor log are told they can get couple of copies of the Newsletter and some All Church e-mails by signing up on the website (opting-in) and are invited to return for future services and develop a level of comfort with what the messages and sequences in the sanctuary are.
- The Member Services/Visitors table in the Great Hall has also gone through some evolution this year, owing to the move to the new building. We use the table every day (especially Sundays) to:
 - Share literature in a "Lending Library" for both visitors and members,
 - Give away information to visitors,
 - Be a resource center for info on events and activities of the church

This is staffed by a schedule posted inside cabinet #3 of the Workroom, but needs improved coordination and volunteers to ensure it is consistently staffed and responsibilities are understood.

Please note Dave Wistreich has purchased more than \$400 worth of literature and brochures for use in welcoming newcomers and visitors and for the lending library. This has not been charged to the budget and no reimbursement has been requested.

- New Member Orientations – The New U. class was taught successfully twice this year. The class is a starter deal, has a curriculum, is delivered by Dave Wistreich with participation from the Minister and is fun. It is held in two sessions and covers many key topics. It has experiential exercises that are designed to allow new folks to connect with one another and voice their religious interests and ideas as well as their learning passions. This class continues to be refined and many thanks are owed to Dale Gibson, the Minister and key Board Members for their continued support of the class. The wine and cheese helps too! A follow up offering for this class includes the UU History video series of 6 classes for a deeper dive into church history and philosophy. Additional offshoot classes are evolving and are leaning towards support of Adult RE interests.
- New Member Coffees – Kathy Platt continues to be the church’s best friend for this!! Many thanks for those who have hosted these and I look forward to mixing these with the ‘Coffee with the Minister’ event in the future.
- Ingatherings are formulaic. The Membership Chair should invite people into membership after the New U workshop.

In terms of process, the Membership Chair:

- Develops a list of folks that are interested;
- Asks them if they’d like to join; Directs them to meet with the minister; and
- Gets them a gift, certificate, pin, and set of By-laws and Stewardship packet.

The Membership Chairman schedules and participates in the Ingathering ceremony.

Carlton buys stuff, pulls everything together and is generally a behind the scenes hero for this activity. Thank you Carlton!!

New Members need some direction to social activities and Committee opportunities. Kathy Platt and the Social Committee have been the lynchpin for this and are so helpful in getting new folks going that it’s crazy. Thank you Kathy – your continued engagement and support for this committee is highly valued and so appreciated!

Peace & Justice Committee

Our first meeting at the new church was held August 10, 2014. We assigned recipients for our 2nd Sunday Share the Plate and took requests for P&J events.

We hosted a charity raffle for “Bridges Out of Poverty” and raised \$330 at our Grand Opening event.

We promoted the largest participation of First U Members in the local 2014 CROP walk and raised a record donation from our Church (\$1300).

We raised money for the new building “Green Space” fund last fall.

In January, P&J hosted the meeting of Community for Peace & Nonviolence at 801, and there was a record number (over 40) of attendees, including the SB police chief and various local organizations for peace, including Mamas Against Violence.

We also hosted a movie for the public on Feb 21, *Girl Rising*, and led a discussion on equal rights for young women.

We initiated “Our Common Read” this year and held a group discussion at the church for the book *The New Jim Crow*. The meeting was attended by several non-members, including a County Council Rep. (Our next Common Read discussion will be June 6 for *Don't Shoot* by David Kennedy.)

We promoted and participated in the St Marcellus Day event.

We contributed hundreds of books to the local inmates at St. Joseph County.

Our vision for the coming year is to expand the “outside community” participation in our P&J events, such as movies and Common Read discussions by way of social media.

— Greg Young, chair

Social Committee

For all activities with food, we're suggesting people list ingredients, due to allergies and dietary restrictions. Pads of paper and pens are in the drawer next to the refrigerator.

We've had an interesting year, equipping the kitchen and learning how to utilize our beautiful new space.

We coordinate most social events, like Holiday and Summer Round Robins (potluck parties for the whole family), Soup & Game Night in Feb., and the Women's Potlucks (third Fridays). We also provide food for other occasions, such as congregational meetings. However, a couple social gatherings run themselves- Feasters (4th Wednesdays) and the Men's Group.

Our big job is organizing Coffee Hour each Sunday and the 1st Sunday Potlucks. We are always looking for volunteers to help throughout the year to make Coffee one Sunday or to help set-up or clean-up for Potlucks. We want to celebrate birthdays at Potlucks, and add inter-generational activities like making holiday ornaments or Valentines or kites to fly in the spring. We also take care of the Christmas Eve Reception following the candlelight Service.

The annual Auction is planned and organized by the committee. This year's theme was "There's No Place Like Home" and was again expertly chaired by Ally Krischeff with Chuck Leone as auctioneer. We had a fabulous night of music, costumes, good food and fun in our new building. And raised another record amount!

With enough interest, we'll re-start the Brunch Bunch after Sunday Services. Dixie Café on our block at Colfax is open then and an ideal location.

The Social Committee does a lot of fun work, and is always looking for more people to help.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Platt, chair

Y1@801

The purpose of the Y1@801 Committee was to plan activities to bring people into our new space in our first year.

Committee members-: Kay Azar, Alice Bentley, Barb Carmichael, Cathy Duncan, Dale Gibson, Lois Holm, Wendy Lohman, Anne Mannix, Chip Roush, Marilyn Shaul, Bill Skidmore, Melanie Smith-Guillaume, Kathy Platt, chair

We first met April 3, 2014 to plan events for our first year at 801 E. Washington. After a lively discussion, we decided what to pursue and set up 6 sub-committees including

- Grand Opening - Chip, Dale, Kathy, Anne
- Susan Werner Concert - Bill, Wendy, Barb, Jim Ward
- Art Exhibits - Kay, Lois & Dan, Ann & Bob Cope
- First Fridays - Melanie, Susan VanFleit, Kyle Hulse, Kathy
- Marketing - Kay, Barb, Kathy
- Great Decisions - Marilyn Shaul

Great Decisions sessions were held in Jan. and Feb. with about 25 people participating. Response was so good, we plan to open to the public next winter and offer two sessions.

We recommended having a Parade from the old building to our new building the day of our First Service, which was Aug. 3.

Our Grand Opening was Sept. 7. Over 100 attended including dignitaries. There was a ribbon cutting, Glenda Bixby's Art, Natasha's music, delicious food.

Our church is a member of the Downtown South Bend (DTSB) First Fridays. We are included on all the printed material and the website. We are to be open from 5-9:00 on every First Friday, so the following activities were and are planned:

Oct. 3 - Kids Night First Friday- Toast Tasting. Many came and enjoyed 'Elvis' toast, Peach Melba, Black Forest and other fun toppings.

Nov. 7 - Susan Werner Concert- about 150 enjoyed her and we made over \$1,000

Jan. 2 - New UU- Health and Fitness- chair yoga by Kim Sellers, TaiChi by Mary Hagen, and Hula Hooping by Heather Hulse

Feb. 6 - Chocolate Fest and Eric Morgan's Art Opening- over 100 attended

March 6 - Ethical Eating- healthy snacks and information by Tama Crisovan

April 3 - Everything Green! All about the Environment- food, crafts, info by Diana Mendelsohn

May 1 - Folk Dance by Kate Shoupe, Salsa/Latin by Bridget Hardy, Bolero demo by Alfred & Melanie Smith Guillaume. Chaired by Mary Hagen

STILL TO COME.....

June 5 - Open Mic/Coffee House - chaired by Jim Ward. - Come entertain us, or cheer on others!

July 3 - BOOKS! - We'll put out our own Little Library. Bring books for it or prisons or to exchange. Read favorite passages. Kay Azar chairs.

Aug. 7 - Allen deSomer's Kirtan group will do a Concert. Free will offering.

We will continue having Art exhibited and Openings. We may have more Open Mic nights depending on the response June 5.

Chip got a grant for a Joe Jencks Concert Sept. 10. More details to follow.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Platt

~ End of Annual Report for 2015 ~

Addendum: Treasurer's Report

**First Unitarian Church
Treasurer's Report
Karen Dickson
May 17, 2015**

The budget that we adopted in May 2014 for this fiscal year that runs from July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015 had a deficit of about \$21,000. We had budgeted income at \$150,875 and expenses at \$171,799.

As of April 30, 2015 our total income is \$160,158 and our expenses are \$138,418, leaving us with a net of \$21,740. Our pledge income has been greater than we had budgeted. As of the end of April, we have received \$16,329 more than the budgeted amount that we had expected at that point in the year. The additional pledge income can be attributed primarily to the shared generosity campaign that began in about December 2014.

As for expenses, our actual operating expenses as of April 30, 2015 are slightly less than our budgeted expenses of \$143,018. As of the end of April, our actual expenses are \$138,418.

This fiscal year we completed the remodeling of our new church building at 801 East Washington Street and we moved into the building in August 2014. The cost to remodel/renovate the building was about \$627,000. Remodeling was paid for with some of the monies from the capital campaign funds, monies from the new money now campaign, a construction loan/mortgage from 1st Source Bank of \$400,000 and a loan from the endowment of \$115,000.

The capital campaign funds are being used to pay the first three years (2014, 2015 and 2016) of our fifteen year mortgage of \$400,000. The balance due on our mortgage as of April 30, 2015 is \$374,909.12. Next year a mortgage line item will need to be added to the budget or a new campaign will need to be conducted to cover the cost of the remaining 12 years of the mortgage.

At some point our new building will require a new, revised or repaired HVAC system, a new roof and other repairs and/or upgrades at a substantial cost. If monies are not set aside in a reserve fund, a new campaign may need to be initiated to cover these costs.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen S. Dickson, Treasurer May 16, 2015