Annual Report 2008-09
First Unitarian Church, Portland
Established 1866

Living Our Liberal Faith
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Executive Team Annual Report

First Unitarian Church is at a crossroads in its history as Dr. Marilyn Sewell prepares to retire after 17 years as senior minister. This has also been a year of economic downturn in the national and world economies and this has had a significant impact in the life of the congregation. In the midst of these changes and global uncertainties, the church is strong and continues to live out its mission.

In February, Marilyn Sewell announced her plans to retire at the end of May 2009. The Board of Trustees held a series of conversations with the congregation to review and receive feedback on its plans for the transition period and search for a new senior minister. The board named a Ministerial Search Committee on April 23 and will charge the committee in May. The church has consulted with Dr. Gil Rendle, formerly of the Alban Institute, on its transition plans. Next year, during the transition, Rev. Thomas Disrud will serve as acting senior minister and a number of ministers in residence will be here to preach and to offer classes and retreats. The congregation will vote on a recommendation to name Marilyn Sewell Minister Emerita for her service to the congregation. She will be honored in a number of ways for her service to the congregation.

The other significant issue to mark this year has been the downturn in the national and international economies that affected church finances in a number of ways (see supplemental report on church finances). While church finances have been challenging, the congregation has responded generously, especially to a special challenge grant made in February. The money that was pledged through that campaign will allow the church to have programming throughout the summer and will mean that ministers and staff will not have to take unpaid time off in the coming church year.

The economic climate has affected congregants in a variety of ways, from more people losing jobs to seeing hours and pay cut to loss in retirement savings. While this has been stressful in many ways, it has also presented an opportunity to evaluate how our programs are serving the congregation in these times. How will the ministries of the church be affected and how do we best serve the changing needs of the congregation in these times?

One concrete result is that congregants want to offer more time as volunteers. To better accommodate volunteers, Marti Yoder has agreed to create a structure to better call them into service and utilize their gifts. This process will continue to unfold in the next church year.

As we look at these initiatives, it is important to note that the church has now lived in the new Buchan Building for two years. The new and remodeled spaces have had a tremendous impact on the programs that are possible there. In addition to the classrooms for children and youth, there is more space for social justice programs including a peace collective—space for small groups working for peace, 12-step programs and other initiatives.

Multnomah County and First Unitarian Church are actively exploring the possibility of using our facilities as a day shelter for homeless families beginning fall of 2009. Although still in the preliminary stages of negotiations, both parties are feeling hopeful. The Country would
rent space from the church to provide a day shelter and case management to pre-screened families.

Rob Keithan served as our very capable intern minister. Rob is the head of the Washington Office of the Unitarian Universalist Association that calls Unitarian Universalists into action around legislation. Rob was also active in supporting young adults in the church to build community together.

Our programs continue to serve many people, allowing all ages to grow spiritually and serve the larger community. As we move into a time of significant transition and change, the church community is strong and moving into the future with hope.

In faith,

Dr. Marilyn Sewell and Rev. Thomas Disrud


As the national and world economies have experienced a major downturn, the finances of the church have also been stressed. Beginning in spring of 2008, the church saw its revenue sources decline, with an increase in the default rate on pledge payments, drop in plate contributions and one-time gifts, and the annual pledge drive coming in under budget. Anticipating a significant budget deficit at the end of the current fiscal year and next budget year, the executive team announced a plan to balance the budget. At the beginning of this fiscal year, two positions were eliminated on the administrative staff.

Given the economic times, the church canvass was actually quite successful under the very capable leadership of Lynne and Warren Bacon. The church basically was able to stay steady with the year before. With other revenue streams declining, however, in January, it was decided that staff and ministers would need to take two weeks of unpaid leave in the last half of the current fiscal year and a month in the next year. That month of unpaid leave would mean that the church would not have worship or other programming in July and would close except for rentals. This decision drew a great deal of media attention starting with an article in the *Oregonian* and followed by television and radio coverage.

On Feb. 15 an anonymous donor stepped forward to make a $50,000 challenge grant to operating funds. The donor would match new pledges, additional pledges and one-time gifts made before March 15. The congregation responded generously to this challenge, pledging $94,000 in response to the grant. Thanks, especially, to our anonymous donor.

While this generosity means that the church will be open in July, the church still faces financial challenges. Our default rate—the difference between what is pledged and what actually is paid has been significantly higher than usual. In addition, our contributions—one time gifts and the plate collection—have been down significantly since the recession began.
In the budget to be voted on by the congregation for the next year, there will be no salary increases for staff and ministers (but they will not be asked to take unpaid leave as was previously proposed). In addition, staff and ministers will now pay a portion of health and dental coverage, there will be an across-the-board five percent cut in non-personnel expenses and professional expenses will be cut by a third. Church facilities may be closed for at least one evening each week next year and only 20 percent of our dues to the Unitarian Universalist Association and the Pacific Northwest District are restored.
Membership Annual Report
Craig Towers, Membership Coordinator

Membership Committee
Evie Zaic, Chair
Jan Holibaugh, Vice-chair
Kenard Burchette
Stephen Cross
Sharon Dawson
Holly Faber
Joel Finkelstein
Pete Kramer
Kevin Lawson
Rick Reynolds
Diane Schauer
Marti Yoder

Mission:
To welcome newcomers to First Unitarian Church; to shepherd them through the membership process; to teach them about the church; to help them make their initial connections within the congregation; and to assist them in sustaining their relationship to the church.

Goals:
As a team, the Membership Committee, Membership Volunteer Hosts, and Membership Staff work to:
• Identify and welcome first-time visitors, newcomers and seekers;
• Help newcomers better understand Unitarian/Universalism and First Church, Portland;
• Teach the spiritual imperative of generosity to newcomers and prospective members;
• Answer newcomer questions, and/or provide relevant information about the church;
• Encourage all congregants to deepen their connections here via the wide variety of adult program opportunities and small group ministries offered at First Church;
• Welcome those who are prepared for membership via the Enrollment Ceremony;
• Recognize and celebrate these new members.

To accomplish these goals, Membership offers the following programs:
• Host Hospitality Training – Membership Committee offered an evening of “hospitality training” to all Newcomer Table host volunteers, ushers and greeters. This informative evening emphasized the important role all “front line” volunteers play on Sunday Morning, particularly establishing “first impressions” for visitors and newcomers. We plan to expand and offer this training each year before Homecoming Sunday.
• Newcomer’s Table – staffed with friendly and informed volunteer hosts. Visitors may complete our Guest Register, subscribe to Front Steps, receive a nametag, as well as informative literature, etc. Table operates throughout the year following each social hour. Photos of recent new members are displayed on the nearby bulletin board.
• **Narthex Welcome Desk** – before and after each Sunday service. Desk volunteers help visitors by answering immediate questions, distributing literature, inviting them to coffee hour, encouraging them to sign our Guest Register, making a Visitor nametag, etc.

• **Coffee Hosts**—after each service. These friendly individuals are ready to greet first-time visitors in the Narthex, and ease their transition into the coffee hour scene in Fuller Hall.

**Revised and re-introduced this year:** The following two classes were re-constituted from last year’s Orientation A and B. The name change helps newcomers understand the difference between the emphasis of these two important classes. The Path to Membership class was re-designed to be of utmost help to those seeking membership here. Our communications about these classes emphasized the importance of the entire three evenings, and, particularly, of the value of the Path to Membership class for new members. We “highly encouraged” all potential new members to take this class, rather than simply “signing the Membership Book” on Enrollment Sunday. The class was very well attended and received, and the majority of participants elected to join the church at the end of the class. Membership Committee feels that a well informed member will ultimately become an excellent member.

• **Introduction to Unitarian Universalism for Newcomers** – Facilitated by one of our ministerial staff, Intro to UU offers newcomers an opportunity to learn something about our faith and history, ask questions, and take a tour of our campus. Offered approximately every other month throughout the program year.

• **Path to Membership** – A two-part class designed for potential new members. The first week, (The Spirituality of Community) features discussions with one of our ministers on issues of spirituality and church membership. The second week (A Community of Commitment) features lay leaders from the Board, the Committee on Generosity, and others, discussing the nuts and bolts of commitment, and how a committed member is the foundation of this church. An Enrollment Ceremony was also offered at the conclusion of the second evening of the Path to Membership class, and was held in the Eliot Chapel.

• **UU Core Curriculum** – expands and deepens the Orientation experience, particularly for newcomers to our faith, and is offered throughout the year. Classes are coordinated through the Adult education program.

• **Enrollment Ceremony** – the first Sunday, monthly. Active participants may become full voting members by signing the Membership Book, as established in the church by-laws. New member financial pledges are solicited at a later date by a representative of the Committee on Generosity. An Enrollment Ceremony was also offered at the conclusion of the second evening of the Path to Membership class, and was held in the Eliot Chapel.

• **New Member Recognition Sundays/Reception** – A ceremony of welcome held during worship service in October and April, followed by a reception.

• **New Member Holiday Party/Potluck** – This was the second year for this successful event, designed primarily for newer members to meet other newer members and to socialize. Our guest speaker was intern minister Rob Keithan, who spoke about his work as a UUA advocate in Washington, D.C.

• **Church Campus Tours** – Walking orientations for newcomers hosted by volunteer docents, offered Sundays from late spring through early fall, and at each Orientation class.

• **New Member Follow Up**—Four months after enrollment, each new member is contacted to determine her or his success in deepening connections through church programs. Guidance is offered to those who need or seek it.
• **One Year Anniversary Cards**—On the first anniversary of signing the book, new members receive an “anniversary” card with a friendly message penned by the Membership Committee.

• **Membership Committee**—This hard working and vibrant group of congregant volunteers meets during the year to develop and oversee programs and activities which impact hundreds of visitors and newcomers annually. Each committee member belongs to one of the following teams: Outreach, Education, Enrollment and Hospitality. Adjunct Committee members include Newcomer Table hosts, Welcome Desk Hosts and Tour Guides. Membership programs involve the volunteer efforts of over 50 congregants, and offer critically important connections with seekers, month after month, throughout the church year.

Membership has welcomed 115 new members since May 2008.

First Unitarian Church, Portland
Membership Enrollment,
May, 2008 through April, 2009

Gail Amara
Thomas Amara
Henry Amick
Marilyn Anthony
John Armstrong
Alexa Baker
Mike Bennett
Steven Bennett
Cynthia Boelling
John Boelling
Ken Cameron-Bell
Scot Cameron-Bell
Claire Carder
Connie Cleaton
Linda Craig
Sanderson d’Salix
Judith Dale
Will Doering
Martin Dolan
Kurt Doslu
Lisa Doslu
Holly Faber
Ed Ferguson
Wendy Fish
Rachel Fleischer
Margaret Foster
Bernice Freed
Amy Fuller
Randa Gahin
Paul Gerald
Katie Gibbs
Ingrid Gjestvang
Jon Gjestvang
Charlotte Goodluck
JP Gordon-Gray
Nola Gordon-Gray
Dawn Graf
Derek Grant
Lisa Hansen
Sabrina Louise Harle
Melanie Harrison
Jennifer Helvie
Jeff Hemphill
Nancy Hinshaw
Rachel Kennedy
Scott Kennedy
Stella Kerl-McClain
David Kovich
Karen Kovich
Alison Krieger
Chris Lam
Donna Lane
Lori Lane
Laura Lane-Ruckman
Amy LaRosa-Peters
Jennifer Letourneau
Jean Longwill
Nadine Mallery
Kaitlin Masarie
Andrea Matthews
Roger Meyer
Marty McCall
James Scott McClain
Elaine McKenzie
Shawn Moddes
Colleen Monahan
Catherine Moore
Ruben Moreno
Steve Mumma
Lauren Nathe
Linda Nelson
Emory Oeding
Bryan Olson
Pam Olson
Ted Olson
Bretton Palm
Michael Pelts
Mark Perin
Rebecca Perin
Ann Pomazal
Bruce Pomazal
Laura Pope
Betsy Ptak
David Ptak
Francine Raften
Jamie Riley
Steven Riley
Megan Sailsbury
Elise Sandell
James Savage
Suzanne Savaria
Natalie Serber
Isabel Sheridan
Lynn Sherman
Karen Shorr
Scott Shorr
Munro Sickafoose
Martin Sommer
Katie Stone
Pat Storey
Daniel Sullivan
Brad Taylor
Ellen Urbani
Jenny Villarreal
Michael John Wahl
Marc Walters
Emily Watson
Susan Watson
Sonya Wedin
Verna Wells
Beth Wilmart
Frank Wilson
Sally Young
Jerre Zahm
Laura Zahm
Music & Arts Annual Report

Mission Statement: In fellowship, the Music and Arts Committee of the First Unitarian Church nurtures artistic excellence and spiritual growth, rooted within UU values, for all who wish to blossom through artistic expression. May all hands, all voices, all ages flourish.

Goals:
- Continued excellence and diversity in music
- Continued growth in Children and Youth choirs
- Maintain membership of young adults adult choirs
- Continue to improve adult choirs in community-building and skill
- Partner with African American congregation
- Organize Music & Arts storage spaces
- Support continued excellent Art Wall shows.
- Continue conversation about art for new Buchan building
- Continue providing excellent music for Children’s Chapels

Accomplishments 2009

- Participated in Celebration Tabernacle’s P.R.O.P.E.R. Festival
- On-going Celebration/UU Sub-Committee in M & A Committee
- A year of excellent soups thanks to soup chef Margo Clark
- Adult Music Program Potluck, Buchan reception room
- Art Wall Raised $2202 for church with total sales of $9020
- Art Wall committee membership experiences high turnover but is going strong with 4 new members (a total of 8)
- Art Wall improved their jurying processing moving from monthly to quarterly jurying meetings
- Art Wall exhibited a combined show of poetry and prints designed specifically for our church show
- Art Wall sponsored a very-well attended poetry reading in early January 2009
- Art Wall developed a mission statement and now has an annual retreat to streamline procedures.
- Art Wall moved to an alternating year member show with the next show scheduled for May 2009
- Handbells complete their 25th anniversary year with 5 ensembles serving youth and adults
- Handbell participation/enrollment has increased approximately 24% during 2008-2009
- Handbell director Ellie Hodder was selected to participate with advanced ringers in the inaugural Distinctly Bronze West conference under the direction of David Davidson
- First Church hosted the Pacific NW Handbell Directors’ Forum which fosters connections with directors throughout the region. Directors from Anchorage, Seattle, LaGrande and the Portland metro area were in attendance.
- The Music & Arts Committee held a successful Potluck in the Buchan Reception hall for Adult Music Program participants. We hope to make this an annual event.
• Chalice & Unitarian Choir “full” (82 & 79 singers respectively)
• Music Program participated in each Program Fair
• The Handbell program and Music & Arts Committee sold ecologically friendly green grocery bags as a fund-raiser and publicity for the First Unitarian music program
• Chalice choir volunteers provided support for Tom Paxton concert
• Family Holiday concert attendance and participation improved over 2007-2008 season
• Holiday Music & Worship service featured music of Merry old England but was adversely affected by the weather / driving conditions.
• Music Program volunteer organized music storage
• Music Program arranged for Cathy Cartwright to provide sign language training to the Chalice choir. Spirit of Life was signed by the choir members during services
• Summer Quartet provided enjoyable music during the summer months and is slated to perform April 4, 2009
• Music Program continues planning for UU Musicians Network national conference which will be hosted by First Unitarian at the end of July (7/29-8/2)
• Unitarian Choir participated in the Welcoming Congregation fundraising concert
• Staff Pianist, Signe Lusk accompanies all Children’s Chapels
• Organist, Joe O’Donnell scores all music scores with Sibelius software
• Joe also arranges multiple pieces for organ and piano
• Mona Warner, Director Of children’s Choirs, works to re-establish MusicTree and grow choirs steadily
• Nova Director (Youth), Signe Lusk reports steady growth
• Chamber Choir performs with 1st Methodist choir and Columbia Symphony
• Choirs enjoy singing their “greatest hits,” favorite pieces from previous years to save funds

Art Wall Committee: Harriet Levi, co-chair
Members: Lynda Byers, co-chair, Joanne Park, Nancy Hugg, Carolyn Rondthaler, Helen Lee, Margie Foster and Sarah Bouwkamp(new members).

Music & Arts Committee: Denise Smith, chair
Jay Farrell, Susan Morell, Carol Rondthaler, Susan LeMaster, Wendy Cline, Maggie Quintana, and Linda Aso
Adult Programs Annual Report
To promote an informed and engaged community, enhance spiritual development and encourage life-long learning through classes, small group gatherings, special events/lectures, workshops, and retreats.

Goals:
Committee members, volunteers and Adult Programs staff work together to:
• Inform and register participants in Adult Programs classes, workshops, events and retreats
• Assist class facilitators with a stewards program
• Sponsor events, with community organizations whose programs complement UU principles.
• Provide a variety of spiritual practices for personal worship experience.
• Be a welcoming and informed presence to newcomers, visitors, families and all other congregants.


Program Highlights:
Adult Programs published and mailed out two all-church Program Guides in conjunction with Craig Towers in Publications. These were received by 1800 people – a couple hundred fewer than last year as some people chose to view the publications on line.

In addition to the above, for Winter Spring Term we coordinated with Rev. Kate Lore to provide a new Leadership Series of classes, to enhance and offer skill building for First Church community building and infrastructure. This spoke to a timely need as we faced the period of readjustment between Rev. Sewell’s retirement and the selection of a new Senior Minister: Leadership Development Series.

We continued to develop our offerings this year emphasizing Spiritual Practice; and classes connecting creativity and the arts for spiritual and community development. The classes on loss and end of life issues as well as a class on dealing with clutter and downsizing were well attended this Spring.

We continued our focus from last year, to offer Saturday workshops preceded by readings and free introductory presentations on the Friday evening prior.

Fall 2008- Spring 2009 Adult Classes and Retreats
For the first time we offered classes on a two tiered price system for pledgers and non-pledgers. We won’t have an analysis of the difference this has made in class attendance or income until the end of the year. One thing we noted through the year, most congregants who
wanted to take a class and were not currently pledging, usually decided to become a pledging member and then register for class.

Total number of classes: 69 (the same as last year).
Retreats: 11
Facilitators: 57 with several teaching for the church for the first time.
Scholarships: full and partial have doubled this year
Scholarship funds used: around $4,000
New Member Certificates worth $10 used for classes: about 15 used this year.

Books
- The Book Sale in March brought in $4200 plus $250 from the UU Men’s Bake Sale. This totals twice what was made last year. The sale was held on a Saturday and Sunday in the Buchan Reception Room for the first time. This made it convenient for families. Due to fabulous donations, the fun atmosphere with refreshments, more than 25 volunteers, and the spacious room, this was a huge success. All these funds go to the Adult Programs scholarship/ fund. Beacon Bookstore has raised money through used book sales which also benefits the scholarship fund and the Channing Library.
- The Channing Library has doubled its book selection and hosted a congregant/author reading. We plan to organize a couple more next year.
- The Bookstore continues to be well supported by our congregation, and sales are similar to last year, despite the economy. The second year of CD sermon sales are doing well, and congregants appreciate having this option. Congregants also appreciate having availability of used books throughout the year; the sales benefit the Channing Library and Adult Programs scholarship fund. The bookstore has a large group of volunteers, with new volunteers joining regularly. The bad weather at Christmas caused a drop in revenue, missing those Christmas sales.

Retreats: This year we offered 11 retreats, including two theater trips to Ashland, a Soul Retreat with Marilyn, a Nature and Arts Retreat, two Days of Mindfulness; retreats on Letting Go, Transitions, and Leadership; one for Men, and one for Families. A large amount of the scholarship money this year helped supplement costs for Retreatants.

The Labyrinth has been made available every first Sunday of the month, on Christmas Eve, and on Easter Sunday. Fifteen to thirty people of all ages walk the labyrinth on a Sunday.

Special Events: Adult Programs sponsored events doubled this year to approximately four events per month that serve the congregation and the larger community. Between October and July, we hosted 29 events. We try to bring a balance between events that bring in funds and events that First Church hosts as part of our mission and sense of service to our congregants and community. This year’s guests brought spiritual practice; talks on social, environmental, and economic issues; literary arts, and witness for peace.
Events included:
- Major speakers Matthew Fox and Susan Griffin gave lectures and workshops. Michael Mead will speak in May, and the annual William Stafford Symposium will be held at the church in
May which will be the first time it will be held off campus. These talks all concern a crossing of social justice with spirituality.

- Winter Solstice Celebration and Earth Day Taize service.
- A Psychology lecture and workshop presented by the Oregon Friends of C.G. Jung, a Tai Chi workshop, a national week-long yoga symposium, a film on Ram Dass, a performance on Silence,
- Several literary readings and lectures including UU poets and writers, Marilyn on Forgiveness, Tapestry of Tales presented by the Multnomah County Library, Rebecca Parker on Saving Paradise, Sobanfu on ritual.
- Monthly Events cosponsored with the Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission, celebrating “Oregon Originals.” Ranging from honoring the lives and work of Oregon artists, historians, and cultural progressives. The Buchan Building has provided excellent venues for these programs which draw largely from the Portland community.

Small Group Ministry:
- 10 affinity groups meet regularly including meditation, book and movie discussion, writing groups, women’s and men’s circles. A new covenant group of UU Buddhist practitioners began meeting regularly two Friday nights a week. This year the UU Men’s Community became involved in fundraising events – serving food for the auction and baking treats for the Booksale.
- A supper was held in the Fall to start Sustaining Circles, or Covenant Groups. One still continues from the Fall, several others are ongoing.

Adult Program Committee members:
Jim Andrews (Chair), Michael Cunningham, Susan Cunningham, Lee Davis, Diane Gutman Mary Sacksteder, Sara Hamill, Victoria Wheeler, Barbara Mason, and Eric Terrell, along with Katie Radditz met monthly through the year. Lynn Thomas rejoined and new member Karen Kovich joined the committee in the Spring. Diane Gutman has been elected to chair the committee beginning this summer. Thanks to our volunteers: Betsy Riddell for the Adult Programs Website, Anne Upshaw in publications and office assistance, and Karen Goldman in registration. Ann Hinds is our Adult Programs assistant.

Committee Accomplishments:
- Monthly meetings were held to arrange task sign ups and support progress in goals. An annual retreat will round out the year to reflect on the year’s successes, reassess goals, plan for next year, write “thank you’s for stewards and facilitators.
- Staffed the Adult Programs table on Sundays helping congregants register for classes and retreats.
- Arranged stewards for all classes, with a steward orientation combined with luncheon for stewards and facilitators.
- Provided UU presence and assisted at Special Events and Workshops.
- Kept up communications via bulletin board information in Main Street buildings and Buchan.
- Developed Friends of the Labyrinth. Group members set up and assisted the labyrinth walkers first Sunday of every month.
- Helped prepare two bulk mailings of Program Guide.
• Several members taught classes and all served as class stewards.
• Directed acquisitions for the Channing Room Library and hosted quiet time on Sunday mornings.

**The Good Times Committee:**
Organized and promoted fun, small group, social activities that create a sense of community and belonging. Of the 100 events coordinated this year, several were held on a regular monthly or weekly basis. Activities included potluck dinners, cultural performances, holiday gatherings, book discussions, and service projects. The popular Christmas dinner open to all congregants was planned but canceled due to the snow storm.

Highlights included Thanksgiving guest dinners, First Thursday Art outings, a train trip to Mt. Hood, Music in the Park, 4th of July Picnic, and monthly bridge games. Good Times has organized a service project for May where First Unitarians will serve at the Faith Café in Beaverton.

Some year accomplishments: The committee created a gmail group for notice of events and for participation. It also created a covenant for the Good Times Committee based on UU values and principles. The committee met one Sunday a month with staff to plan new activities and define procedures. This year the committee members had two all day working retreats.

Committee members, who staff Sunday table, include: Chair Linda Luther, Jay Farrell, Joe Hopkins, Stan Jewett, Cary Page, Paula Raines, Sandy Choi, Mary Post, and Carolyn Rondthaler.
The 2008-09 year was characterized by a renewed sense of hope and trust in our government. The election of President Barrack Obama evidenced the fact that democracy was still viable in our country and this brought a great sense of relief to the majority of the Social Justice Program participants. It also allowed them to shift gears, so to speak. They had been fighting mightily against the direction former President Bush had taken our nation and were exhausted. For the first time in over eight years, these church members were able to rest, reflect and reimagine their visions for the future of our country.

The one exception to this trend was the group who had been working the hardest, the Peace Action Group. This group fell into a major conflict in January over the Israel/Palestine conflict. In response to their invitation, I stepped into temporary leadership over this group to help them reconcile. After 3 months, they are back on even keel.

Overall, this past year has generated many rich ideas and the reorganization of individual groups. I dedicated a fair amount of time buttressing the older groups by providing special retreats and selecting new leaders. This was especially relevant to the Homeless Action Group—a group which must be strong enough to help me initiate a major effort next fall: the opening of a day shelter for homeless families.

In closing, I want to bring special note to the generosity of the Social Justice Program participants. Not only did they choose to increase their pledges during our time of economic hardship, they also voluntarily cut their budget spending in half. In addition, twenty-six people agreed to be trained in non-violent conflict resolution. They understand that change often brings conflict. Given the number of changes our church is currently undergoing, they want to be trained and ready to serve the church should conflict arise.
Annual Report from Cathy Cartwright, Director of Religious Education for Children

570 infants, children and youth registered to date (in par with last year). Since September we had 275 visitors, (70 of whom eventually registered)
10 paid staff (Nursery and Junior Pre), 65 volunteers (children’s programming), 17 volunteers (youth programming)

Our largest growth area over the past couple of years has been in the younger grades. We’ve grown from two (2) Kindergarten classes (06-07) to four (4) this year; three (3) Senior Pre classes to five (5); five (5) 1st/2nd classes to seven (7). The older classes in Children’s Programs, 5th and 6th grade have remained constant over the years with one (1) class per service. This highlights that fact that children, as they grow older, resist a Sunday program.

To retain children as they grow older I instituted a new program this year for 6th graders. Called “Our Sustainable Earth” it was developed by Nicole Bowmer (RE Assistant) and I. It focuses primarily on our 7th Principle of “the interdependent web of life”. One of the goals was to include programming outside of the Sunday experience and to that end we included a Saturday field trip to the Bullrun Watershed and another to Hotlips Pizza (a company that uses locally grown, season ingredients). It remains to be seen as to whether it will be offered again or not.

We have other offerings as well, outside of the Sunday morning experience. We offer numerous events and socials that give families a chance to know each other better, and for staff to more intimately know the needs of congregants. This year at least two socials were offered for each age group in Children’s Programming (12 in all) ranging from a simple get together to a roller skating party offsite. We often have more then 100 people attending potlucks.

Other opportunities for families offered during the year include the Mitten Tree project, with items going to a half-dozen organizations and Guest at Your Table, raising over $2400. Our families were also directly involved with our fundraising Auction.

For the sake of history, it should be noted that our Christmas pageant was complicated due to a very unusual series of snow storms. We had the first rehearsal with older kids; the second rehearsal was cancelled; for the third and final rehearsal we spread the word that this would also be the performance (in anticipation of a very serious storm that arrived that evening). All of these were excellent choices and families were very appreciative of the care and thought that went into these difficult decisions.

On a profession level, I was approached by the Unitarian Universalist Association to be the co-author for a curriculum for 2nd and 3rd graders. I accepted and the field test will be available in the fall. Eventually this curriculum entitled “Love Will Guide Us” will be available to all UU congregations.

The Religious Education Committee meets monthly: Their mission statement is as follows:
The First Unitarian Church Religious Education Committee assists DREs, provides teacher support, develops procedures, plans events, and acts as Sunday ambassadors. We serve our Learning Community and value education, character development, spiritual growth, community and social justice.

This year they also developed a Vision Statement:

_We are a community which supports the development between values and beliefs and transformative practices. We aspire to increase our visibility and influence by providing a foundation for our children and youth to act and communicate our principles to promote the betterment of the larger society._

Catherine Carroll, chair
Bill Cunningham
Linda Dolejs
Drinda Holroyd
Maggie Quintana
Cathy Skach
Lee Spiker
Chris Tanner
Annual Report from Director of Religious Education for Youth, Dana Regan

The goal of First Unitarian Church’s youth program is to involve all youth in the total life of the church. The balanced program includes the major components of a strong youth program: discovery, worship, and social action, ministry within the congregation, leadership and fellowship. All youth classes at the second service were full with another waiting list for the 8th/9th grade class. Attendance was high in all classes with over 70% of the students coming each week in that classroom.

Major Accomplishments for the past year include:

- 7th Grade -- Registration reached 24 this year. They studied world religions with an emphasis on Sacred Earth, Native American, Judaism, and Chinese Spirituality. Each class designed and presented a children’s chapel service for younger grades. Guest speakers came to class for Native American Spirituality and Chinese Spirituality. There were several opportunities for socializing here at First Church and outside this year. There was a late summer BBQ, a holiday White Elephant party, and a trip to the beach. For social action 7th graders volunteered at the Humane Society. Two separate groups of Unitarian Universalist Coming of Age students came to visit this class giving our youth an opportunity to hear about the possibilities for their own initiation rite next year.

- 8th/9th Grade - Registration reached 63 this year, an increase of 26%. They participated in the sexuality education program, Our Whole Lives. This curriculum tends to bond the youth to each other and make them fast friends. There were many special events for 8th/9th graders including a late summer BBQ, a ropes course, a White Elephant holiday party, and laser tagging. For social action this age group served at the Oregon Food Bank preparing bags of food for distribution state-wide. They also heard from Rev. Katherine Jesch who spoke to them about their ministry toward the earth.

- Young Religious Unitarian Universalists (YRUU) -- Registration reached 45 this year. For the twelfth successful year in a row they created and offered the annual youth service to the church community in March: a look at our second and sixth principles. They made complete Thanksgiving food baskets for 7 new families in the Portland community working with Catholic Charities, as well as collected kitchen ware for the Oregon Community Warehouse; and studied about many social justice issues; Global AIDS, Oregon Community Warehouse and the UU community for Earth were among the topics. They had three speakers about different faith traditions: Nancy Cartwright/Scientology, Bill Cunningham/Mormonism, and an Islamic speaker coming later this month. They had two overnights; a great Winter Holiday Party; raised money to visit our partner church in Budapest, conducted their own Youth Council meetings; and continue to be actively involved in the church community.

- Campus Ministry –The campus ministry program is currently on hiatus. Hopefully it will begin again in the fall at Reed and Lewis & Clark Colleges.

In other areas:
• **Volunteers in the Religious Education Office** -- Our program could not serve the families in this church as well as we do without the service and devotion of several volunteers who come in weekly to prepare supplies for classroom teachers, do mailings, copying and other office work as well as put those supplies away each week. Those hours add up to over 200 hours so far this year.

• **Annual General Meeting of the Pacific Northwest District** – I helped plan a very successful one day workshop for religious educators for the professional days before the Annual General Meeting in Salem, Oregon. The topic was Family Ministry and was led by Rev. Patricia Hoertdoerfer. I developed a panel workshop for religious educators about the new book by Rev. Rebecca Parker.

• I continue to serve as President of the local PNWD (Pacific Northwest District) chapter of LREDA (Liberal Religious Educators Association) and will serve one more year.
For the fourth consecutive year expenses for finance, administration and stewardship are running below budget. Every line item is closely reviewed to identify cost efficiencies. During the current fiscal year, two staff layoffs also occurred.

A department reorganization shifted focus toward stewardship efforts, with the result that the Advocate program was re-implemented. This one-on-one approach is more friendly and effective than simply relying on mail and pulpit messages.

Policies for donor data entry and accounting procedures are in the process of being updated.
**First Unitarian Church**  
**Funds Budget**  
**July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated Beginning Balance</th>
<th>Total Budget</th>
<th>Buchan Bldg.</th>
<th>Salmon St.</th>
<th>Chesney</th>
<th>Intern</th>
<th>Commemoration</th>
<th>Hessler</th>
<th>Deale</th>
<th>Steiner Fund</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 1, 2009</td>
<td>$717,732</td>
<td>$700,662</td>
<td>$41,227</td>
<td>$32,462</td>
<td>$9,914</td>
<td>$46,301</td>
<td>$32,462</td>
<td>$9,914</td>
<td>$46,301</td>
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**Receipts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Budget</th>
<th>Buchan Bldg.</th>
<th>Salmon St.</th>
<th>Chesney</th>
<th>Intern</th>
<th>Commemoration</th>
<th>Hessler</th>
<th>Deale</th>
<th>Steiner Fund</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interest/Appreciation</td>
<td>$1,579</td>
<td>$1,401</td>
<td>$65</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>$93</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>$495,412</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allocated Rental Income</td>
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<td>$24,000</td>
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</table>

**Total Receipts**

|                          | $520,991     | $520,813     | $65       | $20     | $93    |               |         |       |              |

**Disbursements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Budget</th>
<th>Buchan Bldg.</th>
<th>Salmon St.</th>
<th>Chesney</th>
<th>Intern</th>
<th>Commemoration</th>
<th>Hessler</th>
<th>Deale</th>
<th>Steiner Fund</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facilities Upgrade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loan Payments</td>
<td>$488,000</td>
<td>$488,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Intern Subsidy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ordinations</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants and Stipends</td>
<td>$16,200</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Disbursements**

|                          | $504,200     | $488,000     | $65       | $20     | $93    |               | $3,000  | $13,200 |

**Surplus (Deficit)**

|                          | $16,791      | $32,813      | $65       | $20     | $93    |               | $2,907  | $13,200 |

**Estimated Ending Balances**

|                          | $734,523     | $733,476     | $41,227   | $32,527 | $9,934 | $43,394       | $43,580 |       |              |
## First Unitarian Church
### Multi-Year Operating Fund Financial Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY10</th>
<th>FY11 Forecast</th>
<th>FY12 Forecast</th>
<th>FY13 Forecast</th>
<th>FY14 Forecast</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>OPERATING REVENUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Pledge Revenue</td>
<td>$1,239,755</td>
<td>$1,235,197</td>
<td>$1,267,605</td>
<td>$1,305,296</td>
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<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$117,885</td>
<td>$123,760</td>
<td>$129,969</td>
<td>$136,467</td>
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<td>Program Income less auction</td>
<td>$204,860</td>
<td>$212,971</td>
<td>$217,231</td>
<td>$221,575</td>
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<td>Other Income</td>
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<td>$21,387</td>
<td>$21,387</td>
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<td>Staff Fundraiser Concert &amp; Auction</td>
<td>$18,240</td>
<td>$22,800</td>
<td>$22,800</td>
<td>$22,800</td>
<td>$22,800</td>
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<td>Photo Directory Income</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation Contribution</td>
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<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$44,000</td>
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<td>$52,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Add Sunday Lunch Program in FY11</td>
<td>$18,240</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$22,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfer Operating Fund</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Income</strong></td>
<td>$1,741,128</td>
<td>$1,765,885</td>
<td>$1,813,717</td>
<td>$1,867,323</td>
<td>$1,925,578</td>
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<td>Rental Income</td>
<td>$156,277</td>
<td>$171,905</td>
<td>$189,095</td>
<td>$208,005</td>
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<td>Homeless Day Shelter Rent</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ALL REVENUES</strong></td>
<td>$1,907,405</td>
<td>$1,947,790</td>
<td>$2,012,812</td>
<td>$2,085,328</td>
<td>$2,164,383</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>OPERATING COSTS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll &amp; Benefits</td>
<td>$1,284,364</td>
<td>$1,308,584</td>
<td>$1,346,178</td>
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<tr>
<td>Occupancy Expense</td>
<td>$224,524</td>
<td>$224,524</td>
<td>$235,751</td>
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<td>$259,915</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Expense</td>
<td>$220,983</td>
<td>$228,983</td>
<td>$238,142</td>
<td>$247,668</td>
<td>$257,575</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration and Other Costs</td>
<td>$66,485</td>
<td>$67,815</td>
<td>$69,850</td>
<td>$71,945</td>
<td>$74,103</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Costs</strong></td>
<td>$1,796,356</td>
<td>$1,829,906</td>
<td>$1,889,921</td>
<td>$1,951,717</td>
<td>$2,015,301</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reserve Account Deposits</td>
<td>$94,626</td>
<td>$95,838</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>$1,890,982</td>
<td>$1,925,744</td>
<td>$1,987,709</td>
<td>$2,051,681</td>
<td>$2,117,637</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</strong></td>
<td>$16,423</td>
<td>$22,046</td>
<td>$25,103</td>
<td>$33,647</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pay UUA and PNWD dues</td>
<td>16,206</td>
<td>20,258</td>
<td>24,309</td>
<td>32,412</td>
<td>44,567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20% 25% 30% 40% 55%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</strong></td>
<td>217</td>
<td>1,788</td>
<td>794</td>
<td>1,235</td>
<td>2,179</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Facilities Annual Report
Gardner Grice, Facilities Manager

- The new Buchan building received Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold Certification from US Green Building Council (USGBC) for meeting environmentally sustainable construction standards.

- Work on the Five Year Maintenance Management continues, including a lighting upgrade in the office building that qualified for an Energy Trust incentive program which paid 40% of the project. Several other energy efficiency upgrades are on the maintenance punch-list for the coming year.

- The church provided a parking spot for the U Car Share program, an alternative to car ownership similar to the Zipcar program. As of this writing there are six (6) U Car Share parking spots in downtown Portland.

- Facilities promotions include a virtual tour on the church website, a targeted advertising campaign and networking with industry groups. Although bookings are increasing overall, leases continue to provide the majority of rental income.
Board of Trustees Annual Report
Randy Russell, Moderator

Your board framed four goals this year. We continued our support for three goals that we began last year; the work of creating a congregational covenant, confirming our commitment to diversity as a long-term board goal, and deepening the culture of generosity within our church. We added a fourth goal, to prepare for our minister Marilyn Sewell’s planned announcement of her retirement and the ministerial transition work that would follow.

- **To prepare for Marilyn’s announcement of her retirement and the consequent ministerial transition work.**
  This has been the major focus of our work this church year. We have worked diligently to understand and address our responsibilities during this time of change. We met with officials from the UUA, engaged large church consultants to review with us the impact to our church of our senior minister’s retirement, and made thorough plans for the transition period. How we will be ministered to during the interim period while we are in search for our new senior minister was a major focus for our work last fall. In addition, we reviewed the process for selecting a new senior minister, discussed qualifications for members of the search team that will seek our new leader and undertook a dialogue with the congregation to identify folks who would be good candidates to serve on that team. We have prepared a place on our church website to post information about this work. We posted timelines, answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) and more. We set as one of our major objectives to keep our congregation involved and informed. Our search committee has now been formed and we are excited by the strength of the team and by their dedication and commitment to the important work they will perform for us. We all move forward together into our bright new future.

- **To engage the Congregation in Developing a Congregational Covenant**
  Unitarian-Universalism is a liberal faith tradition based in covenant rather than creed. Recognizing that a covenant can provide a framework within which differences are embraced and healthy communications are encouraged, the board of Trustees appointed a Covenant Committee in spring 2007 to engage congregants in developing a church-wide covenant. That group, led by Teri Martin, drafted a covenant based on their work with the congregation in the 2007-2008 church year and their research into covenants and the covenanting process. This year they met with congregants to discuss and refine that draft. They created a communications plan that has put the proposed covenant before us in many venues and spaces. We have all had ample opportunity this year to familiarize ourselves with the proposed covenant, and to engage in meaningful conversation about it. That covenant is on our ballot this year for congregational approval. The board extends grateful thanks to the committee that brought this covenant to life: Teri Martin, Ameena Amdahl-Mason, Kathryn Estey, Linda Fitzgerald, Allison Frost, Kevin Lawson, and John Thompson.

- **To cultivate a Culture of Generosity**
  The Board sustained its work this year to encourage generosity in all forms within our church. The Committee on Generosity continued a program to formally recognize the work of volunteers during church services. We revised our pledge policy to be more in keeping with a generosity focus and implemented that change during this year’s annual fund drive. Your
board participated as pledge advocates, along with many other dedicated congregants and under the wise leadership of Warren and Lynne Bacon. We have had financial challenges this year, and the response of the congregation to these challenges has been uplifting and gratifying.

- **To confirm our Commitment to Diversity as a long-term board goal.**
The board has continued to make a commitment to diversity by including this perspective in all our decisions and plans for our church. This commitment was one of the criteria for members of our ministerial search committee. We look forward to continuing this work.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Board of Trustees**
Randy Russell (Moderator), Marilyn Scott (1st Vice-Moderator), Cindy Cumfer (2nd Vice-Moderator), Helena Lee (Secretary), Pat Malone (Treasurer), Allison Frost, Shirlee Geiger, Camille Wright, Dave Patterson, Jim Shorr, Dale Wright, Ron Yoder.
Foundation Board of Stewards Annual Report

We’ve been very pleased this year to be working with our new investment advisory firm. They specialize in sustainable and socially responsible investing, and are very much in concert with our values and our priorities. While this has been a difficult year for all investors, there is good news. Our accounts have not suffered nearly as much as many investment portfolios. Thus we were again able to contribute $40,000 to support the operating fund of the Church. Supporting the Church in perpetuity is the purpose of the Foundation. As the Foundation grows through the years we’ll be able to contribute more to support our beloved Church.

Jonathan Ater has competed his term as a Steward of the Foundation, and is not a candidate for re-election. Jonathan has served this church in many capacities over the years, and has always been a strong voice of reason and responsibility as we seek to live out our values. Now he’s heavily involved in the conceptual revamping of the health care system in Oregon – not a small task – so we must reluctantly let him move on to this important new challenge. Godspeed, Jonathan. You will be missed.

Martha Richards’ name has been placed in nomination for election to a five year term on the Board of Stewards. Many of us know Martha as the consultant who led us through a very successful capital fund drive for the Buchan Building. She is currently president of the Miller Foundation, and earlier served as president of the Collins Group. She was honored to receive the Barbara Stalcup Miller Award presented by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (and named in honor of our own Barbara Miller). She’s been a member of First Unitarian Church since 1994. We’ll all benefit from having her fund raising expertise on our Board of Stewards.

DON’T FORGET TO INCLUDE THE FOUNDATION IN YOUR ESTATE PLAN!

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Fogle
Chairman

Members of the Board of Stewards are Jonathan Ater, Cindy Cumfer, Beverly Fogle, Pat Malone, Barbara Miller, Ruth Robinson and Chris Tanner.
Nominating Committee Annual Report

Maryann Roulier, Chair

The Nominating Committee is charged with selecting and presenting to the congregation a slate of candidates for the Board of Trustees and Nominating Committee. We meet throughout the church year and because of considerable work done in the past to refine our procedures and to develop a growing list of qualified potential candidates, this year the Nominating Committee was able to spend our time identifying and interviewing church members who would be interested in working as Board of Trustee or Nominating Committee members.

We are pleased to present a slate of candidates for 2009-10 made up of members who are well qualified with skills, sensitivity, and experience developed from working with and leading many different groups at First Church and in their lives outside of church.

The Nominating Committee relies on the entire church - congregants, ministers, staff and participants - for recommendations and suggestions, to find people to provide leadership for the church. We welcome and encourage your assistance in helping us find future leaders for our church.

Nominating Committee:
Ameena Amdahl-Mason
Michael Cunningham
Kathryn Estey
Joyce Felton
Jacquie Jones
Hafidha Acuay-Osuna
Linda Roach
Maryann Roulier, Chair
Bob Townsend
Sermon List May 2008 to April 2009

May 4, 2008  When the Holy Breaks Through  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
May 11, 2008  Music: Mother of God  Music & Worship
May 18, 2008  Calls to Consciousness  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
May 25, 2008  Happy to Be Alive  Rev. Robert Schaibly
June 1, 2008  Did the Devil Make Me Do It?  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
June 8, 2008  Learning from Our Failures  Rev. Thomas Disrud
June 15, 2008  In Honor of Fathers  Members Dan Kaufman, Joel Godbey, and Cindy Cumfer
June 22, 2008  Transforming Our Suffering  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
June 29, 2008  Reflections on New Orleans  Young Adult Program
July 6, 2008  The Responsibilities of Freedom  Rev. Thomas Disrud
July 13, 2008  The Almost Unitarian Rabbi  Leah Hart-Landsberg
July 20, 2008  I Am the Stranger  Rev. Dana Worsnop,
July 27, 2008  Dancing with Doubt and Faith  Rev. Thomas Disrud
Aug 10, 2008  Time to Heal  Rev. Heather Starr
August 17, 2008  Reflections on Recovery: Three Stories  Rev. Kate Lore and guests
August 21, 2008  What's It All About, Alfie? XII  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
August 31, 2008  The Art of Happiness  Rev. Kate Lore
September 7, 2008  Arriving Home  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
September 14, 2008  A Prayer Breaking Through  Rev. Thomas Disrud
September 21, 2008  The God-War: the Atheist Attack On God  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
September 28, 2008  Who Are We Anyway?  Rob Keithan
October 5, 2008  The Rewards of Punishment  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
October 12, 2008  Better Together  Rev. William Sinkford
October 19, 2008  The Challenge of UU Theology  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
October 26, 2008  Spiritual Homelessness  Rev. Kate Lore
November 2, 2008  Remember, We're All In This Together  Rev. Thomas Disrud
November 9, 2008  At the Threshold of Hope  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
November 16, 2008  Peace, Sweet Peace  Music & Worship
November 23, 2008  The Full-Blown Beauty of the Heart  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
November 30, 2008  The Art of Hope  Rob Keithan and Cathy Cartwright, CRE
December 7, 2008  The Heart is a Beggar  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
December 14, 2008  An English Christmas  Music & Worship
December 21, 2008  Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up?  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
December 28, 2008  Time to Heal  Rob Keithan
January 4, 2009  Lean Toward Your Yearning  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
January 11, 2009  A Year in the Life  Rev. Thomas Disrud
January 18, 2009  Love as a Way of Life  Rev. Kate Lore
January 25, 2009  Be Not Afraid  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
February 1, 2009  Living in Mystery, Held by Faith  Rev. Thomas Disrud
February 8, 2009  When the Soul Receives an Invitation: The Call  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
February 15, 2009  Music: Gift and Glory  Music & Worship
March 1, 2009  Annual Youth Service  the Youth of First Church
March 8, 2009  If Not Us, Who?  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
March 15, 2009  What Is Required Of Us?  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
March 22, 2009  If You Believe  Rob Keithan
March 29, 2009  Leading an Authentic Life  Rev. Kate Lore
April 5, 2009  Living Involvement: Turning the Marginalized among Us into Friends  Dr. Charlie Clements
April 12, 2009  Easter Sunday: "Waking Up"  Rev. Bob Schaibly
April 19, 2009  What Sustains Us?  Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell
April 26, 2009  Telling Our Story  Rev. Thomas Disrud

Church Statistics:

Members: 1080
RE Enrollment: 592
Pledging Units: 944
Average Weekly Attendance: 1137

Passages 2007-2008

Michael Murphy
Bob Johnson
Angie Welch
Leslie Marsh
Margetta Denison
Jim Powell
Thomas Stoel
Trula Whelan
Joe Espinoza
Ron Walker
Child Dedications 2008-2009

Sam Adams
Frances Blake
Henry Blake
Jacob Dean Buckman
Catherine Elizabeth Cronk
Henry Alexander Cronk
Wilson Scott Daby
Grace Ellen Dearborn
Sadie Frances Dearborn
Sylvia McGarry Glazier
Ava Elizabeth Kirby
Ian Lawrence Kramer
Aria Elizabeth Lavenue
Bobbi Strayed Lindstrom
Carver Jay Lindstrom
Evan Malcolm
Liza-Jane Malcolm
Max Nathe
Oscar Nathe
Walter Nathe
Lucas Vail Oeding
Oscar Jeremiah Oeding
Samson Robert Oeding
Benjamin Pierce Oppenheimer
Paul William Oppenheimer
Arial LaRosa Peters
Stella Rose Peters
Caroline Elizabeth Saxton-Rowe
Cooper Lewis Shorr
Greer Philip Shorr
Liah Tian Swan
Naomi Feng Bin Swan
Asher Linden Tenud
2008–09 Board of Trustees, Ministers and Staff

Board of Trustees
Randy Russell, Moderator (2008-2011)
Marilyn Scott, 1st Vice-Moderator (2006-2009)
Cindy Cumfer, 2nd Vice-Moderator (2007-2010)
Helena Lee, Secretary (2008-2011)
Pat Malone, Treasurer (2007-2010)
Alison Frost (2007-2010)
Shirlee Geiger (2008-2011)
Dave Patterson (2006-2009)
Jim Shorr (2007-2009)
Camille Wright (2008-2011)
Dale Wright (2007-2010)
Ron Yoder (2006-2009)

Ministers
Marilyn Sewell, Ph.D., Senior Minister
Thomas Disrud, Associate Minister
Kate Lore, Minister of Social Justice
Rob Keithan, Intern Minister
Alan G. Deale, D.D., Minister Emeritus

Staff
Carol Bluhm, Accounting Assistant
Nicole Bowmer, Religious Education Assistant (Children & Youth)
Carolyn Burleigh, Director of Communications/Public Witness
Cathy Cartwright, Director of Religious Education for Children
Candace Clarke, Director of Finance & Administration
Zaida Cooper, Controller
Gardner Grice, Property Manager
Ann Hinds, Adult Programs Assistant
Ellie Hodder, Director of Handbell Choirs
Rob Keithan, Intern Minister
Signe Lusk, Staff Accompanist/Nova Choir Director
Mary McFarland, Development Officer
Holli Nicknair, Events Coordinator
Joseph O'Donnell, Staff Organist
Bob Petersen, Lead Sexton
Cassandra Poe, Administrative Assistant
Katie Radditz, Director of Adult Programs
Dana Regan, Director of Religious Education for Youth
Mark Slegers, Minister of Music
Craig Towers, Membership Coordinator/Publications Editor