

Board President's Report
July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

The 2022-2023 church year has been a busy one for the Board of Trustees. In July, the newly elected Board began in person meetings again after more than a year of Zoom meetings due to the Covid Pandemic. The Board continued the practice of holding two Board meetings a month. The first, a Planning Meeting, scheduled for the 2nd Tuesday of the month (a hybrid meeting). The second, a Business Meeting, scheduled for the 4th Wednesday of the month (Via Zoom).

Our congregation continues to grow, in December UUSD certified our membership at 203 members and 68 friends. Our Children's Faith Exploration Program continues to grow under the direction of Dar Sellers. In August of 2022, the Board began meetings with Rev. Heather to start the process of UUSD's first ministerial evaluation. The evaluation process was completed in November.

Over the weekend of November 18-20, 2022, the Board of Trustees engaged Mark Ewert, Unitarian Universalist stewardship consultant, for a "Next Steps Weekend". The objective was to assess current stewardship in these latter stages of the Covid-19 Pandemic, make recommendations towards a possible expansion, and to recommend next steps. During the weekend, Mark Ewert presented his initial finding and recommendations to the BOT, Executive Team and minister following the worship services on November 20, 2022.

In April of 2023, the Board invited Mark Ewert back to UUSD to explore the "Searching for the Future" (SFTS) process over the weekend of July 28-30, 2023. The process engages a large number of UUSD congregants to "crowdsource" a new vision for the congregation (and other elements towards a strategic plan). This is a vision for the congregation and not just the building, since a congregational vision will determine the spaces and uses needed of the building and grounds. Then using the results of the SFTF, consulting is to be provided to support the development of a rapid strategic plan that includes goals, strategies, and markers to track progress.

In February, the Safer Congregation Committee came to the Board with a request to seek proposals for security cameras and the request was approved. In March, the Board of Trustees approved the contract for Alarm Engineering for the installation of 10 security cameras on the exterior of our building. These cameras are a first step in making our building and grounds a much safer place.

In January, the Finance Committee began the work of putting together Phase I of the FY24 budget. Two of the larger line items for the budget were the hiring of two, new paid staff positions. The first was a half time position for Director of Faith Exploration for Children and Youth. The second position was for a part time person to assist the existing Audio/Visual Team.

The theme of the FY24 Pledge Campaign was Dream it! Do it! With help from the Finance Committee, the pledge committee set an aggressive goal of \$345,860. The campaign actually raised a total of \$353,924 which was (102% of our target).

As in years past, the Board President creates summaries of the Board's work for the monthly President's Column in the Beacon at the Beach. Board of Trustees documents, such as monthly meeting agendas and related documents can be found on the UUSD website under [Member Resources/ Board of Trustees Meeting Documents](#).

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul Barnette, Board President
UUSD Board of Trustees