

FIRST UNITARIAN
CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY
BROOKLYN
A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

WELCOME!
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

November 20, 2022

TODAY'S AGENDA

Declaration of Quorum

Review of Agenda, Rules, & Right Relations Covenant

Opening Words

Appointment of Parliamentarian

Co-Presidents' Reports

Treasurer's Report

Facilities Committee Report

General Assembly Delegates' Reports

Adjournment

Rev. Ana Levy-Lyons

OPENING WORDS

Robin Bossert
Mary Huhn

CO-PRESIDENTS' REPORTS

Lee Pardee

TREASURER'S REPORT

FY21-22 OPERATING BUDGET VS ACTUALS

	Budget	Actual
REVENUE		
Pledges and Other Donations	386,200	366,086
Rents	403,744	489,785
Fundraising	71,200	69,984
TOTAL REVENUE	\$861,144	\$925,855

FY21-22 OPERATING BUDGET VS ACTUALS

EXPENSES	Budget	Actuals
Worship & Music	246,704	250,875
Religious Ed/Faith Development	154,351	139,487
Congregational Life	100,463	98,491
Facilities	395,376	343,775
Administration	138,405	168,543
Share the Plate/Denominational	15,500	14,158
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,050,799	\$1,015,329
DEFICIT/ENDOWMENT DRAW	\$189,655	\$89,474

Prudent Draw for FY21-22 was \$166,000

FY21-22 CAPITAL BUDGET VS ACTUAL

	Budget	Actual
REVENUE		
Individual Donations	17,800	208,174
Transfer from Rent	32,250	28,321
Other	2,750	11,592
TOTAL REVENUE	\$52,800	\$248,087
EXPENSES		
Fire Safety	160,000	
Organ	35,000	1,580
HVAC/Solar Panels	70,000	39,982
48 Monroe Roof		1,600
Façade Project		109,588
Miscellaneous	38,000	26,088
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$303,000	\$178,838

INVESTMENT ACCOUNT AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2022

Sub-Account	Balance
General Endowment	\$ 3,914,377
Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 329,207
• WLA Endowment	\$ 455,275
TOTAL	\$ 4,698,859

BANK ACCOUNTS AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2022

Money Market Account

Sub-Account	Balance
Operating	\$ 100,454
Capital	\$ 134,985
McKinney Music	\$ 40,642
Lafever	\$ 5,513
Unemployment Reserve	\$ 6,000
TOTAL	\$ 287,594

Checking Account

\$25,713

John Carroll, Chair,
Facilities Committee

FACILITIES

SINCE MAY . . .

Facade

- Fundraising concert
- Installed supported scaffolding
- Completed structural assessment of Sanctuary roof
- Facilities Committee members inspected façade
- Reinforcement of Sanctuary roof beams
- Congregation budgeted \$109,200 for facade work for May through November
- \$87,566 spent since May (\$109,200 expected by November 30)



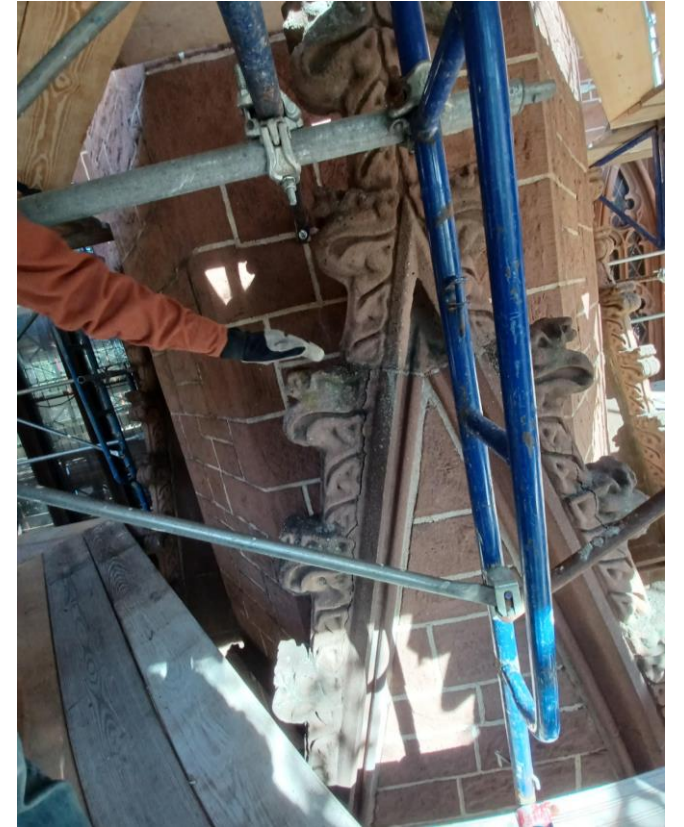
ROOF ASSESSMENT



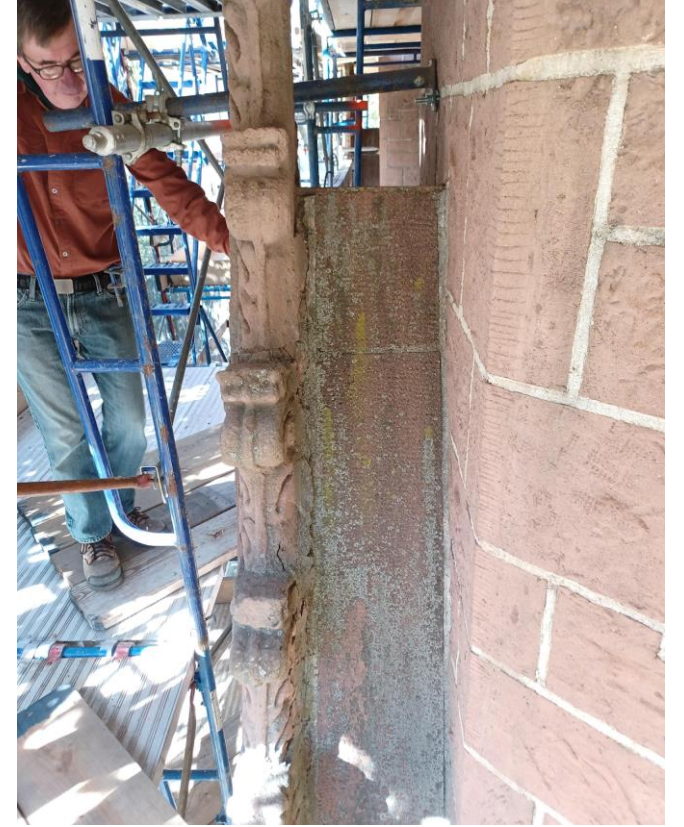
FACILITIES COMMITTEE INSPECTS THE FAÇADE



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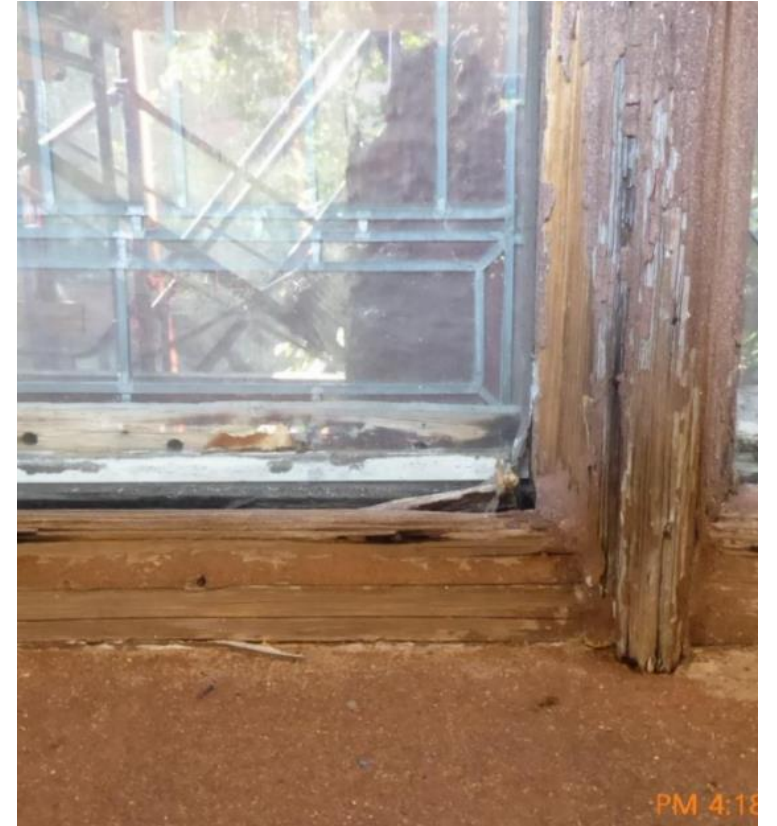
SINCE MAY...

Other Work

- Installed heating and cooling system (Chapel and Frances White Room)
 - Palone Bros. - \$57,100
 - Triple T Electric Inc. - 9,537.50
- Replaced 48 Monroe roof to prepare for solar project
 - R&R Restorations, Inc. - \$47,000
- Fire Safety Team moving forward with fire detection system upgrade
- Assessment of windows

WINDOWS





WINDOWS

GOING FORWARD

- Additional spending between now and January
 - Estimated \$10,000 to determine scope of repair work, help obtain bids
 - Windows (\$18,000) for paint removal, planning structural reinforcement
- By January: more concrete estimates for facade stonework and window repair

GENERAL ASSEMBLY DELEGATES' REPORTS

Beth Evans
Abby Grosslein
Dwight Mathis
Lee Pardee
Justin Parkinson
Josette Trombetta



FIRST UNITARIAN ATTENDEES

Delegates

- Beth Evans
- Abby Grosslein
- Dwight Mathis (on-line)
- Lee Pardee
- Justin Parkinson
- Josette Trombetta (on-line)

Clergy, Staff, and Members

- Robin Bossert
- Rev. Daniel Lawlor
- Garnett Losak
- Adam Podd

BETH EVANS: ACTIONS OF IMMEDIATE WITNESS

- Every year at GA delegates vote to select three Actions of Immediate Witness or AIMs.
- An AIW is “a statement about a significant action, event, or development in the world that necessitates immediate engagement and action among UU member congregations and groups.”

ACTIONS OF IMMEDIATE WITNESS

- Dozens of AIMS are submitted each year, but only eight were presented for the vote this year.
- These three received the most votes for 2022:
 - We Do Not Consent: Rejecting Legal Challenges to Abortion (99 percent of delegates voted in favor)
 - Anti-Racism and Reparations via Restorative Justice (95 percent of delegates voted in favor)
 - Opposition to the Privatization of Medicare (77 percent of delegates voted in favor)
- The others touched on education, climate justice, international human rights, and labor.

ACTIONS OF IMMEDIATE WITNESS

- If you want to learn more about the three current AIMs, google: actions of immediate witness 2022.
- The one related to Medicare is the most urgent because there is legislation coming up in Congress for a vote at the beginning of the new year.
- Google specific AIM to find out what actions YOU and the CONGREGATION can take (letter writing, educating, fundraising, being on the ground to show support and other ways to help).
- Interested in submitting an AIM for 2023? Deadline is most likely May 1.
- More information at socialwitness@uua.org

WORKSHOP: BREAKING THROUGH CLASS BARRIERS TO BUILD COMMUNITY

From the promo for the CA workshop:

Participants "explore the relationship between classism and inequality -- and understand that acknowledging and celebrating class differences is critical to growing connection within and across communities"

- The workshop was offered by a group that has coalesced under the banner, UU Class Conversation, and was modeled on the work done by the non-profit Class Action. UUCC began in 2013.
- Rev. Kimberly Quinn Johnson led the workshop at GA. She serves as minister of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Fork in Bridgehampton, Long Island and used to work as a union organizer with the United Auto Workers. In her own life she has moved among the different classes and has lived experience of how class affects perception and reception.

QUOTING FROM REV. MARK W. HARRIS ON THE HISTORY OF CLASS IN UU CONGREGATIONS:

"compared to other religious groups, [UUs] ranked very highly in the 1990 National Survey of Religious Identification in terms of education levels, median income, home ownership, and suburban lifestyles. Our profile was an exact match for an L.L. Bean mailing list."

"How we could reconcile the rhetoric of a universal free faith with the reality of our present class-bound composition.... We need to make personal connections with all those who might find meaning in our liberal faith regardless of class background and promote a vision for the common good...."

"Do we welcome everyone to our congregations? — not just those who own their homes, but those who rent, those who suffer from mental illness, those who live in group homes, those who are lonely and need our caring friendship, those who have lost their jobs, have huge credit card debt, but also retired bank presidents, restaurant workers, and college professors, carpenters, and cab drivers. I think we will be more diverse than we have ever been before, as soon as we stop asking who belongs here or who is one of us."

FIRST UNITARIAN TAKE AWAYS

- We can offer the workshop (90 minutes, half day, full day) here in our congregation if there is interest.
- It really got people talking; a great beginning of an important conversation drawing on people's own experiences.
- It was fun! Eye-opening.

JUSTIN PARKINSON: GENERAL ASSEMBLY TECH NOTES

First Multiplatform GA

- Participation was on-site and online for the first time, reimagining GA as a more equitable experience
 - Six on-site workshops live-streamed for online attendees
 - Three live on-line webinars also screened on-site
 - Sixty pre-recorded on-demand workshops, available to all attendees
 - On-site and online co-moderators/key speakers
- Additional Tech
 - Delegate portal for voting
 - social app for event info and meetups (Whova)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY TECH NOTES

Livestream Meetup

- On-site discussion regarding UU livestream production with tech reps from various congregations, including:
 - First Unitarians Church of Memphis, UU Fellowship of Newark DE, UU Church in Anaheim
 - Similar production goals and resource challenges
- Takeaways
 - Keep it simple: livestream workflows should be straightforward & volunteer friendly
 - Better knowledge sharing: system and specs info should be centralized for easy access across volunteer teams
 - Various: privacy considerations, on-screen graphics usage, etc.
- Next Steps and Ideas
 - Community building with new connections
 - GA 2022: tech meetup/workshop, Brooklyn watch party



A Message from GA delegate,
Abby Grosslein

DWIGHT MATHIS: ARTICLE 2 STUDY COMMISSION

What is Article 2?

Article 2 is the section of the UUA by-laws that includes our mission statement, principles, and sources.

What's happening?

The UUA by-laws require that Article 2 is reviewed every 15 years. The Board appointed Article 2 Study Commission has been working on significant changes to the purpose statement and the principles . A draft has been made public and is available on the UUA website

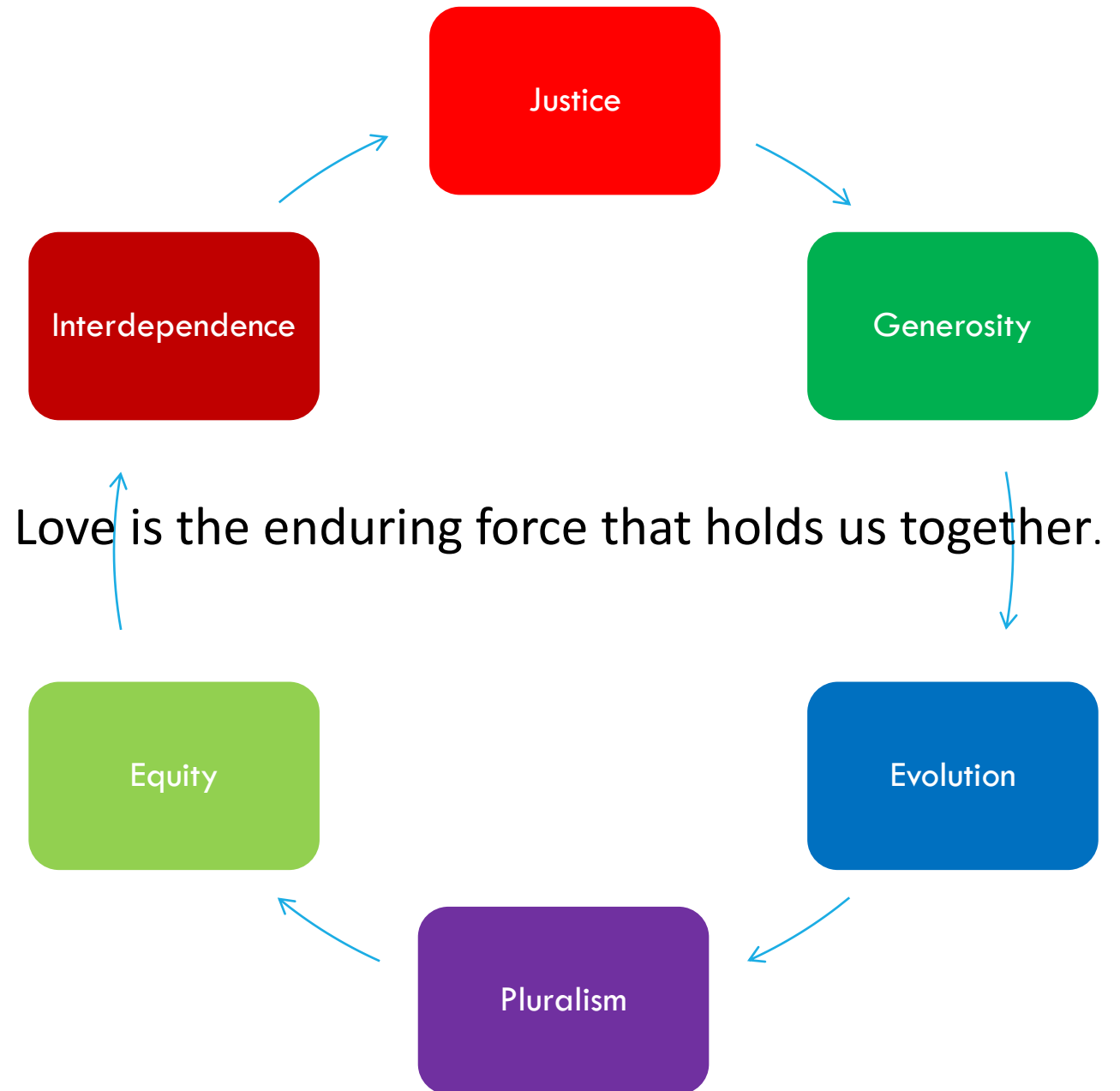
What kind of changes?

If adopted, Article 2 will be changed significantly. The principles will be replaced with the Article 2 Purposes and Covenant.

ARTICLE 2: SECTION C-2.1. PURPOSES.

The Unitarian Universalist Association shall devote its resources to and exercise its organizational powers for religious, educational, and humanitarian purposes. Its primary purposes are to equip congregations for vital ministry, to support and train leaders both lay and professional, to heal historic inequities, and to advance our Unitarian Universalist values in the world. We will transform the world by our liberating love.

ARTICLE 2: SECTION C-2.2. VALUES AND COVENANT



ARTICLE 2: ADDITIONAL SECTIONS

Section C-2.3. Inspirations

Section C-2.4. Inclusion

Section C-2.5. Freedom of belief

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- The Article 2 Commission will send a proposal to the UUA board in early 2023.
- The proposal will be considered in mini-assemblies before the vote at General Assembly 2023 (simple majority needed to move forward). ‘
- A final vote will be taken at GA 2024 (2/3 majority required to adopt changes)

LEARN MORE

- Read the draft of the Article 2 Purposes and Covenant on the UUA Website (www.uua.org) and provide feedback <https://bit.ly/A2FeedbackNov> (through November 29th).
- Attend First Unitarian's Article 2 workshop on Sunday, December 11th following worship. Hosted by your General Assembly Delegates.
- Vote! Consider representing First Unitarian at General Assembly 2023 in Pittsburgh, PA. The Leadership Development Committee will make an application available after the holidays.



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PITTSBURGH • JUNE 21 - 25, 2023

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2023



**AND NOW FOR
SOMETHING TRULY
SPECIAL**

THANK YOU!

JOIN US FOR THE WINTER HOLIDAYS

Winter Solstice Service, December 21st, 6:30PM

Christmas Eve Services,
December 24th, Family Service: 3:30PM, Candlelight Service: 5:00PM

Christmas Day Lessons & Carols, Sunday, December 25th, 9:00AM

New Year's Day Vespers Service, Sunday, January 1st, 4:00PM