

## Church Council First Unitarian Church

### January 26, 2026 Notes Respectfully Submitted: Grace Munie

Present: Cathy Rauch, Erin Milligan, Kathy Wilke, Kathy Wire, Fran Hoffmann, Rev. Sabrina Trupia, Tom Finan, Grace Munie

Absent: None

Check-In: All

Opening Words: Cathy Rauch

#### **Report From the Board: Kathy Wilke**

Review of **Midwinter Meeting** Highlights:

People Recognition

Freedom School

**3 year strategic Planning:** Focus groups as first step to Formulate Goals with input from congregation. Additional input will be obtained from the congregation of different groups in our community. Make sure all people are **welcome** in our facility and with our groups.

#### **Report From the Staff: Rev. Sabrin Trupia**

**New Member class** and Signing of Membership Book (December)

Multigenerational Youth Service for **MLK day**

**OWL class** has 13 kids including children of 5 members

A Thursday **Membership class** is scheduled.

UUA Ministry Sabrina is in virtual track training (Rev Kim is attending inperson sessions)

Notecards are being distributed with Sunday Bulletins to collect information from visitors and regulars-there will be followup including addressing the database of addresses which currently needs work.

#### **Reports from the Cluster Chairs**

##### **Facilities Cluster Tom Finan**

4 **Furnaces** in RE Building are aging but have been checked by Corrigan and show no carbon monoxide danger at this time. A potentially more reasonable approach to replacement of the four individually would to use a single industrial furnace with zoned heating sooner than later.

Replacement **copper trim** (tornado damage) was stolen from the Dodson/Hosmer area shortly after installation with estimated loss of \$10000. Will be replaced with an aluminum alternative. The robbery has been reported to police and discussion has been held about the need for additional cameras to help protect the neighborhood.

Bill Chilton, Jane Hockelman and Clint Cruze (sorry if left anyone off) have been restoring

**plaster/painting** back entry and Library.

7 Spaces needs additional **water lines** run to maintain the garden plantings during the growing season.

There are sixty items on the routine required maintenance list for building. Committee recommends that we need a **part-time paid position** to get the work done on a regular basis. eg. Change filters, make sure all boiler, elevator, fire extinguisher inspections are done on the required schedule.

Address Americans Disability (**ADA**) modifications of our facility.

### **Growth and Engagement Cluster Erin Milligan**

**Membership** has started publishing new member interviews and Bios.

Young Adults Luke, Rev Kim and Rev Sabrina are hosting Mocktails and cocktails

**Care and concerns** baked and distributed holiday breads to persons losing family recently and persons homebound.

**Happy Birthday** celebration planned for the "90s" congregants. Hope to make an annual celebration for members reaching the milestone age. First honorees Joan Oliver, Jeanette Meyers and Helen Cadoret

**Women's Alliance** moved latest presentation Emily Jaycox St. Louis Neighborhoods online due to snowy icy sidewalks and neighborhood street conditions.

### **Outreach and Social Action Cluster Fran Hoffmann**

Strong donations to **Designated Collections** this church year.

**First Church Community Fund** Bake Sale April 19

Auction at **Field of Dreams Fundraiser** for Building Reserve Fund open for donations. Consider donating a pie or alternate item and RSVP to attend the event.

17 persons attended **Social Justice retreat**. Goal was to pare down list of Projects (Not happen).

Dilemma to sustain ongoing commitment in **balance** with here and now issues.

What is the purpose of **Vigils** was discussed? Walk out vigil last week. About 20 people attended

**Ice observer training** Encourage community members to sign up and attend training.

**Mill Creek:** Black Metropolis exhibit (Missouri Historical Society) and dinner coming soon.

### **Programing Cluster Grace Munie**

**Religious Education** Rev. Sabrina covered most (above). Upcoming events **Diaper Drive** for SouthSide Early Childhood Center (month of February) and **Unfish Fry** February 27. Please contribute, donate time or attend events to make successful. Please help our families.

**Worship Committee** will have committee **retreat** on February 7. There will be a 2 day **training** in April for any persons potentially wanting to lead a summer Sunday service.

### **Stewardship Cluster Kathy Wire**

February 7 **Field of Dreams** Fundraiser Educate the congregation on why we want keep building use strong. Entertainment. Auction for vacations and pies. Encourage sign up for 1 to 3 year pledges.

Pledges can be made even if you would not be there that evening.

**Investments** doing well. Rate of return good.

Closing Words Cathy Rauch "Democracy to the USA"