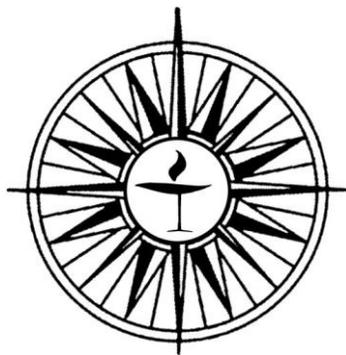


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## AGENDA

- Call to Order
- Certification of quorum
- Opening words
- Chalice Lighting
- Review of Relational Covenant
- Approval of previous minutes
- President's Report to the Congregation
- Minister's Report to the Congregation
- Finance Report
- Church Council Report
- Congregational Approval of 2020-2021 Budget
- Ratification of Appointees for the Leadership Development Committee
- Closing words
- Extinguish the chalice
- Adjournment



## MISSION

We are a liberal religious community of diverse individuals. We nurture spiritual growth, encourage lifelong education, work for social justice, serve the larger community, and celebrate life's gifts together through meaningful worship. We welcome and support others in their expression of religious freedom.

## VISION

At First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church, we offer hope through service and the connections we share, we embrace the transforming power of awe, and we seek joy by living our values.

## RELATIONAL COVENANT

We promise:

- to promote kindness, love, and healthy relationships
- to give each other support, empathy and understanding
- to be mindful and considerate in all our interactions
- to clarify and respect personal boundaries and feelings
- to listen to one another and seek understanding
- to respect one another and appreciate the range of opinions among us
- to strengthen one another in our free and responsible search for truth and meaning
- to act in the knowledge that we are part of a large and diverse world community
- to work toward equity, justice, and compassion in all relations
- to practice forgiveness for ourselves and others so that when we fail to keep this covenant we can begin again in love

This covenant is a touchstone for nurturing ourselves, our church community, and supporting our work in the world. Through the covenant, we enrich our relationships with one another and serve others in accordance with our principles. We pledge to revisit and renew this covenant to sustain the vitality of our congregation in our ongoing quest for spiritual growth.

## MEETING MINUTES

### November 2019 Congregational Meeting

The Fall Congregational Meeting was called to order at 1:02 pm.

A quorum was met with 38 voting members in attendance.

The chalice was lit, and Reverend Annie Foerster gave opening words.

Jo Burnham, acting Vice President, reviewed the relational covenant.

The minutes from the May 2019 Congregational Meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

David Winkowski delivered his President's Report.

Reverend Annie Foerster delivered her Minister's Report.

Turner Bridgforth, ministerial intern, gave a few words.

Dan Sexton, Treasurer, delivered the Financial Report.

Jo Burnham gave an oral report of the last Church Council meeting.

Tina Harmuth, Leadership Development Committee (LDC), presented the slate of new Board of Trustees.

- David Winkowski – President (returning)
- Paul Schattman – Vice-President (new)
- Dan Sexton – Treasurer (returning)
- Mary Anne Clark – Secretary (new)
- Jo Burnham – Member at Large (returning)
- Brian Skinner – Member at Large (new)
- Guy Thornton – Member at Large (new)

The LDC moved that this slate be approved as presented. This motion was seconded. The motion carried.

Joel Bailey, Grounds Committee, announced a church beautification work day coming up on November 23, 2019.

Reverend Annie Foerster spoke while the chalice was extinguished.

The meeting adjourned at 1:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary West  
FJUUC Board Secretary

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### Transcendent Values of First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church

- Hope
- Joy
- Awe
- Connection

### Areas of Focus in 2019-2020

- Securing Reverend Annie Foerster
- Worship
- Stewardship – what does it mean to us as a congregation
- Being a welcoming and inviting church

### Updates

The last six months have been remarkable. It is incredible the changes that have occurred and the events that have brought out the good in people. I am thankful to our Board of Trustees and the congregation for the support that they have given me and our church during this uncertain time. Below is a summary of some of these events. I know that I will inevitably leave some deserving names and events off this list, please forgive me for that. I admit that my memory and my note-taking skills are sometimes lacking. Let me know if you have any questions or concerns about what is on or not on this list. I can be reached at [president@firstjefferson.org](mailto:president@firstjefferson.org).

- COVID-19 response
  - At its May 17 meeting, the Board of Trustees voted to extend the suspension of in-person services indefinitely. We will continue to monitor the situation and recommend further action at our regular monthly board meetings.
  - The Board has been monitoring the situation and have held multiple special meetings to decide next steps and to extend the suspension of in-person meetings.
  - A temporary change to the by-laws was ratified by the board to allow for the congregational meetings to be held online. That measure will expire on November 15 when a permanent change will be submitted to the congregation at the November congregational meeting.
  - We have no timeframe yet, but are working on a plan that will allow us to start opening in a safe manner. Thank you to Julie Hevelone for her work with the board to outline and identify the measures that will need to be taken to ensure a safe restart of our in-person programs.
  - Thank you to Karl Thibodeaux for keeping the office open during this time.
  - Thank you to the Finance committee for working to make sure we keep the bills paid and the lights on during this time of uncertainty.

- Thank you to Reverend Annie, Julie Hevelone, Mikhail Berstnev, Turner Bridgforth, Guy Thornton, and many others for helping to make sure the Sunday services are available to all of those online.
- We applied for and received an Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) loan from the government to assist us in paying out salaried personnel through the crisis. Thank you to Brian Skinner for directing us to this opportunity, and Dan Sexton for applying for and diligently following up on the process.
- Thank you to Betty Churchman for identifying the opportunity, and Colleen Brewer for gathering the information needed to secure a \$5,000 grant from the UUA Disaster Relief Fund to help Eastside Community Assistance provide much needed support for our local community.
- Thank you to Betty Churchman and her Caring and Sharing committee for stepping up their game to reach out to our members during this time.
- Worship
  - A special thanks for all of those who work to make the services special:
    - Roy Redman, Mikhail Berstnev and the choir for providing wonderful music. We look forward to when we can hear them again once we are back in our beautiful sanctuary.
    - Reverend Annie Foerster for her beautiful and insightful sermons. And thank you for stepping up and allowing us to record your sermons for our virtual services.
    - Turner Bridgforth for filling in for Reverend Annie on weeks she could not be there by providing insightful and meaningful sermons.
    - The members of the Worship Arts committee for their work on planning and coordinating the service each week.
    - All of the lay-leaders who help keep the services moving along.
    - Those who participated in the "Light On" series.
- Pledge Drive
  - A huge thanks to Patrick Guterrez for running the annual pledge drive. His work during COVID-19 crisis has been incredible. He has reached out to the congregation and has been able to gather what we need to plan for the upcoming year.
- Administration
  - Thanks to Karl Thibodeaux, our church administrator for going beyond the call of duty. Even during these times, he has always been available to track down information, and help us keep things running smoothly.
  - Thanks to Thomas Earthman for his ongoing support as the Religious Education Coordinator. He has been working hard to make sure that we do what we can to keep in touch with our children and youth
- Building Committee
  - Please join me in thanking Roy Brake and his committee. He has been making repairs and improvements on the building and its facilities for the past six months – even during this crisis.
- Grounds Committee

- A special thanks to Joel Bailey for the work that he has done as the chair of the Grounds committee. I have seen him, Bill Maginnis, David Binde and many others working these past weeks to maintain and improve our property.
- Internship
  - Turner Bridgforth's tenure as First Jefferson Intern is coming to a close. The work he has done for the church has been remarkable.
  - He has been working with the grounds committee doing excellent work leading the effort to recover and maintain our Labyrinth.
  - Turner also spearheaded the start of the Chalice Clusters program to give us another opportunity to form deep connections with our fellow members
- Religious Exploration
  - Thank you to Mary West for her continued hard work on the Children and Youth Religious Exploration Council.
  - Thank you to Julia Sexton for her work getting the Adult Religious Exploration program up and running.
- Community Service
  - Eastside Community Assistance
    - Thank you to Colleen Brewer for her continued support as our representative on the Eastside Community Assistance board.
  - Pet Food Collection
    - Jo Burnham and Karl Thibodeaux identified the need and proactively reached out to Eastside Community Services and Don't Forget to Feed Me to partner with them on providing food for people to feed their pets during this time of need.
- Pastoral Care
  - Betty Churchman has created an impressive network of volunteers with her Caring and Sharing committee. They have been reaching out to members to help maintain their connection to our community. Please do not hesitate to reach out to them if you need assistance.
- Name Change
  - Jo Burnham continues to lead this effort. We had originally intended to include some actions concerning this at the May Congregational meeting, but have decided to move it to the November meeting to give us time to concentrate on the more pressing items for today.

## MINISTER'S REPORT

Gathered Here in the Mystery of the Hour (#384)

As I gather my thoughts to write this report, I am looking at three different scenarios—past, present and future. Usually these flow together and create a whole, or suggest a trend, or lead to a strategy. Not this time. There are fractures and potholes both behind and before us. There is a mystery as to what will happen next. But, as in entering the forest, the only way out is through.

Thanks Be for These (#322)

In December and January, things seemed to have leveled off. Attendance was static, though not dropping; visitors came, but no one seemed interested in signing the membership book, though no one was quitting; new programs were discussed, but the new Chalice Clusters hadn't started yet, though there was interest. Then February presented a shift, a shiver, a hint that something new was in the air. There was an energy building, an excitement emerging. Adult RE was making plans for new programs, in Children's RE there was talk of a Children's Worship, the clusters met and got acquainted, new members seemed to emerge from behind a curtain, committees met with renewed plans, the new board was getting acquainted and feeling not only hopeful, but enthusiastic about the future. I was creating strategies in my head and putting them down on paper. It looked to be a very promising year. 2020 was not one we would forget.

The Wind of Change Forever Blown (#183)

And then. And then the virus that was touring across Asia and Europe, booked passage on a ship (several ships and planes, in fact) to the U. S. In late February and early March there was a week of wait-and-see, a week of hope-against-hope and finally a slamming of doors. At their March meeting, the Board voted to follow the safe path of having no in-person services for a few weeks. Worship Arts had two guest speakers scheduled for the last two weeks of the month. I changed my schedule and we prepared for live-streaming the services for the rest of March, without really knowing what that meant. Well, I didn't know. Fortunately a few people in the congregation did.

Guy Thornton, a member of the Board, who does this kind of thing in his job, had both the knowledge and the equipment. Web cams, microphones, computer screens, a mile of cords taped to the sanctuary floor. President David Winkowski offered himself as support and watch party host. Pianist Misha Berestnev was willing to play for the services. We had a crew; and what a crew it is.

That first Sunday, March 22, was to have been live streamed on Facebook. I felt nervous. I looked out from the chancel into the sanctuary and saw no one looking back. Eleven o'clock approached, I got the signal and began, "Welcome to First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church. My name is Annie Foerster and I'm . . ." CUT! Every church in town was apparently trying to live-stream its service at the same time. Facebook crashed—well, not all of Facebook, but the portion where we were trying to get on. Guy made the wise decision that we would

record first and post later. That first service was only thirty-nine minutes long, yet I felt as if I had run a race, holding my breath the entire time. But we got online and a new normal was established.

The second week was easier, but still strange. Someone on the news had suggested this might last for up to eight weeks, but no one believed it could be that long. We have passed that eight-week mark and still have no clear vision of the future.

But here is the good part—we have learned a lot. We have learned how to stream our services. I suggested and the Board and Worship Arts agrees with me that we should purchase video equipment and continue streaming even after we begin meeting in the sanctuary again. More people log on to the service in a given week than attend in person on any one Sunday. We can only grow from this. We have learned to have meetings and social events on Zoom, a computer app that allows participants to both see and hear one another. The Unitarian Universalist Association made a deal with Zoom to get a group rate, reduced price and we purchased two licenses for the church. We will probably continue to use them—or at least one of them—even after we get back together.

Leadership in the church community has stepped forward to do what they can. We applied for and received a Payroll Protection Plan loan to pay staff salaries for two-and-a-half months (thank you, Dan Sexton). Those loans will be forgiven if the money is indeed used to pay staff. Work around the church, repairs and improvements, continue to be done (thank you, Roy Brake), bills continue to be paid (thank you Mary Kirwin and Connie Nolen) and pledges collected (thank you, Patrick Gutierrez), yard work is being done (thank you Joel Bailey, Intern Minister Turner Bridgforth and Karl Thibodeaux), people are being looked after (thank you Betty Churchman and Caring and Sharing Committee) staff continues working (thank you Karl, Thomas Earthman and Misha), committees continue to meet and the Board has been meeting every other week to monitor the situation and to plan for the future (thank you, ALL!)

There had to be bylaws exceptions published to allow a virtual May meeting to be held online. David and the board worked very hard to get that done. I am amazed (but not surprised) by what we have been able to do in a short time in an extreme situation. I am encouraged by this to feel hopeful in the coming months.

May Nothing Evil Cross This Door (#1)

We will be saying goodbye to Intern Turner Bridgforth next month. I think it was a positive experience for the church to have him here and we will look forward to hearing of his success as a minister as he finishes up his education in Boston and enters the field as a Fellowshiped UU Minister. We will proceed slowly and carefully as we prepare to open the doors of the church again. Your safety is of utmost concern. But I do believe we will be together again soon, stronger for the experience.

I Know This Rose Will Open (#396)

## RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION COUNCIL

First Jefferson's RE Council has some recent changes.

1. One council – more than one focus. We have added Adult RE to the Council. Julia Sexton's report is enclosed.
2. Change of name – same acronym. With a unanimous vote of the Council, the name is now Religious Exploration, rather than Religious Education.

### CHILDREN AND YOUTH RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

We continue to have steady attendance on Sunday mornings, with three classes spanning Pre-School through Middle School. Our classes are centered around the Soul Matters themes for the month, extending the conversation from RE Class to sanctuary to the ride home from church.

This spring, we had four lively youngsters attending Kindergarten-First Grade Our Whole Lives (OWL) class. This is an eight-week course of age-appropriate information educating children about birth, babies, bodies, and families. We had four sessions prior to the disruption of Covid-19. We will plan our last four sessions as soon as we all get back to church. The very last session involves a celebration, and we all want to be a part of that.

We usually have a celebration breakfast with all our Religious Exploration volunteers in May. We are still planning it with a date to be determined.

We are always looking for new faces to teach our children and youth. Our classes have great conversations and we would love to share the experience with you. If you are unable to commit to teaching on a regular basis, we can always use more substitutes. Contact Thomas Earthman, RE Coordinator, for more information.

~ Respectfully submitted by Mary West

## ADULT RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

On March 1, the new Adult Religious Exploration Committee convened with members Brian Skinner, Bonnie Mote, Tina Harmuth, and Julia Sexton (Chair). The committee, along with RE Coordinator, Thomas Earthman, met and discussed the types of things we would like to offer, and at what times. We agreed that, for the time being, at least, we would make our offerings available in the RE Hour, before Sunday Worship. We may add evening or after-church events, as interest dictates.

The Adult Forum and Adventures in Religion will continue as before, and we will add a rotating schedule of groups/classes that will include: Wicca 101 - An introduction to the beliefs and practices of this pre-Christian tradition of northern and western Europe; Faith Forward - a comprehensive program for member integration, faith development, and leadership development ; Soulful Home - Discussion on monthly topics offered through the UU Soul Matters program, integrating Adult Worship, Chalice Cluster, and Children's RE topics in an effort to deepen our connections to one another and to a shared ministry; UU Social Justice Ministries - A discussion on varying social justice topics and how can we incorporate our passion for equality and justice into our everyday lives. How can we have more impact as a religious community?

The committee is scheduled to meet soon, via Zoom, to discuss our preparedness to begin the groups, once the church re-opens on a full schedule. We will also discuss the possibility of offering some kind of content through electronic media until church resumes in full.

We are pleased that, with a grant from North Texas UU Congregations (NTUUC), we will be adding some hours to our RE Coordinator's schedule, in support of these programs, and in the development of others. Thomas has a lot of enthusiasm and knowledge in this area, and we are grateful.

Input from the Congregation will be vital in the development of these programs and others, so please plan to become involved –making First Jefferson a vibrant, active place once more.

~Respectfully submitted by

Julia Sexton

## WORSHIP ARTS

The purpose of the Worship Arts committee is to ensure the weekly production of our Sunday morning worship service. Working closely with the Minister and Choir Director, we plan and schedule professional ministry, lay leaders, guest speakers, member-led and intergenerational services, and special music Sundays with our Choir.

This year has presented two unique opportunities for our committee. For the first time at First Jefferson, we have had a Ministerial Intern, Turner Bridgforth, a student at Brite Divinity School. Turner prepared one service each month, worked with Rev. Foerster on a few other services, and developed a template, together with our RE Council, for a quarterly Children's Worship Service. We very much enjoyed working with Turner over the course of the year.

We look forward to working with RE to continue providing a quarterly Children's Worship Service. We appreciate Rev. Foerster's guidance in both bringing in a Ministerial Intern to the congregation as well as her supervisory support during Turner's tenure. And thanks to the Ministerial Intern committee, Julie Hevelone, Rosalyn Hunter, Jude Olson, Paul Schattman and Eric Wennersten, who met monthly with Turner to provide oversight, guidance, and counsel.

Our other opportunity came with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the discontinuation of in-person worship and the need to begin offering on-line worship services. Thanks to the talents of Guy Thornton and David Winkowski, First Jefferson was able to immediately shift to the provision of on-line worship services. There really are not enough words to thank Guy for bringing his own equipment from home to allow for the recording of the services, and the skills of both Guy and David to make on-line worship happen almost overnight. We are also very grateful to Annie Foerster, Turner Bridgforth and Misha Berestnev for their willingness to adapt to this new style of worship. We are also looking to increase the number of people trained in providing the on-line worship service. Please let us know if you are interested.

Prior to COVID-19, the ongoing duties of this committee include providing lay leaders, ushers, sound/projection technicians, musicians, and to maintain the aesthetic appearance and décor in the sanctuary.

We would like to thank the members of our congregation who were at church every week to assist in the many facets of the worship service:

Roy Redman and the choir

Patrick Gutierrez and Andrew Fields: Audio Visual

Cheri Husband, Dan Sexton and Eric Wennersten: Ushers

David Binde: Aesthetics

Mary West and Nan Terry: Committee members

This past year we held two lay leader trainings, adding seven new lay leaders to assist with worship services. We strive to uphold certain ideals that inform our planning efforts, i.e. what we describe as “worship for the whole congregation.” Recognizing that there is much diversity in our beliefs and that people value various sources to fulfill individual spiritual needs, we always plan with an eye on appealing to both the similarities and differences amongst us. Our monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday at 6 p.m. We welcome your participation and interest in helping our Worship Arts committee.

Julie Hevelone and Mary Kirwin Worship Arts Co Chairs



## BUILDING/KITCHEN REPORT

1959 Sandy Lane is much more than an address, for our members and the community as a whole. The RE Wing is approaching twenty years old, the roof, some fascia has deteriorated and heavy rains have caused damage. Thanks to David Winkowski on his repair efforts! Currently, the board is awaiting estimates for replacing the A/C for the kitchen, helping extend the life of other kitchen equipment. A replacement double convection oven is still needed to return the kitchen worthy of renters. Thanks in part to Karl, Joel, Guy, David W, and countless unrecognized contributors to our spiritual home. Thanks to Turner Bridgeforth for his amazing work on relocating the smoking section and revamping our meditation nook. A project list has been organized with many small tasks that can be accomplished by all, participate with pride for you and everyone!



## RAINBOW COMMITTEE

First Jefferson's partnership with PFLAG, LGBTQ Saves, & Transcendence continues to promote awareness and support for all, as well as a place to meet in our community. Due to Covid-19, Trinity Pride in June is pending. First Jefferson will be hosting LGBTQ Saves 6th annual 'Teen Pride' on October 10th! Please see Roy Brake, Jo Burnham, or Christina LuQuis for updates!

## LIBRARY REPORT

Well there's really not much to report. Basically me and Tina Harmuth are still working on inventory and was about to get back into full swing on completion but then everything got put on hold. That's basically the long/short of things at the moment.

## ADVENTURES IN RELIGION:

Report for May 31, 2020, Congregational Meeting

Adventures in Religion is a discussion group exploring world religions. While church is closed, we meet by cell phone at 9:30am each Sunday. Despite the Coronavirus pandemic, we have not missed a meeting.

On May 10, 2020, we began our new program on Buddhism. Highlights include:

- The branches of Buddhism in India, China, and Japan – Theravada, Mahayana, Zen, and others;
- Buddhist paintings in John Bower's World Religions: The great faiths explored and explained;
- Buddhism compared to other faiths;
- An interesting DVD, Jesus & Buddha: practicing across traditions;
- Star Telegram articles about the Quang Chieu Zen Monastery, Fort Worth, Texas;
- The age old debate: Is Buddhism a religion or philosophy?
- The Faith of a Unitarian Universalist Buddhist.

For our complete program, see the church website.

As always, Joel Bailey's encyclopedic knowledge of religion, philosophy, and history tremendously enriches our discussions. We are lucky to have him with us.

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The membership committee last met in January. On February 23 we held a new member ceremony where six members were welcomed into our congregation with refreshments and a small gift. Since that time we have had two new members, Renee Meyers-Adibi and Alexi Gow sign the book.

Our membership total at this time is 120.

Mary Alice Williams

Jude Olson

Peggy Portman

## ADULT FORUM

Not much going on even before we closed up to prevent the spread of covid-19. Fewer ideas for speakers and a smallish attendance. (Again, thank you, Bill Maginnis for the videos you show us when there is no other program.) I had one scheduled for March, a church member; and she will be rescheduled when the church opens up since that program requires a live audience.

At this point, there are too few ideas to consider Zooming it.

Like everyone else, I haven't been able to go to meetings, which was my usual source of new ideas. Assistance will be needed, or maybe even a new leader!

Sincerely, Lorraine Levine



## DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS

### **UUA General Assembly**

(Update from Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray) And now to the update about General Assembly (GA). I am pleased to share with you this message from LaTonya Richardson, the UUA's General Assembly and Conference Services Director:

General Assembly, the annual conference that gathers thousands of Unitarian Universalists, is a tradition beloved by many. It is a time of celebratory reunion, participatory governance, and leadership development. The UUA Office of General Assembly and Conference Services (GACS), along with a group of dedicated volunteers who form the General Assembly Planning Committee, scout cities, make commitments, and execute contracts years in advance to plan each conference.

In February, GA 2020 planning was off to a remarkable start. Almost 2,000 people registered early and the number of program proposals and guest speakers broke recent records. Then COVID-19 became a national pandemic and a state of emergency was declared. Everyone—including Unitarian Universalists and those of us planning GA—had to quickly assess how to stay socially and spiritually connected despite being physically distant. I am proud of our creativity and flexibility during this time of hard choices and difficult transitions.

As Director of GACS for the UUA, the safety and well-being of all GA participants was my paramount concern as I monitored federal and state regulations, meeting and convention industry predictions, and the status of other faith-based assemblies. The decision of what to do about GA was complex, with a variety of scenarios to consider and much collaboration between the Planning Committee, UUA staff, and UU identity and affiliate groups. A thorough analysis of our contracts was also necessary to determine our legal and financial obligations, and what penalties we would incur should we breach the contracts.

Everyone involved in GA in some way, from presenters to exhibitors to speakers and staff, were feeling the anxiety that comes with uncertainty. Thankfully, the investment of time and effort on the front end paved the way for us to come to a mutually agreeable resolution with our partners in Providence. Then, the UUA Board passed a resolution authorizing a 100% virtual GA for 2020. The Board's decision alleviated much of the anxiety and gave the UUA's Internet

Technology Services team and program presenters time to plan a more robust and rewarding virtual experience.

*With so many UUs already online, this year's GA could well be our highest-attended Unitarian Universalist gathering in history.*

A 100% virtual GA comes at a time when many UU congregations have embraced virtual meetings and virtual Sunday services. Although this pandemic has been challenging for many, a silver lining is that UUs are adapting to and seeing the value of incorporating technology into their religious lives. With so many UUs already online, this year's GA could well be our highest-attended Unitarian Universalist gathering in history! It will be accessible to a more diverse and global audience. It will also help reduce our carbon footprint, which aligns with our commitment to care for the earth and environment.

Join us as we experiment in previously unimaginable ways! If you are already registered for GA, your registration has been converted to virtual and you will receive a survey regarding the options for applying your refund. If you have not registered for GA, [please click here to do so now](#).

May we be ROOTED in our revolutionary and living faith tradition, INSPIRED by this opportunity to live our mission in innovative ways, and READY to celebrate in June...virtually!

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## **Update on Southern Region Open Office Hours**

Being Held in Love  
By Connie Goodbread

In many ways as this time of isolation and great unknowing continues it feels more and more monastic to me. Please know that I understand that I can only feel this way because I have enough - enough food, shelter, health, energy, medicine and so many more things that the list would go on forever.

In some way those who listen to science are lucky.

Please know that as we continue this necessary isolation, we do not want you to feel alone. We - your SR UUA staff - are just a phone call or email away. We are here to be a comfort and to companion. We are here in these challenging times to help you stay connected.

Remember what is at the heart of Unitarian Universalism. Remember those values that will sustain you as we move deeper into this time of unknowing and solitude. For me I come back over and over to the love that holds me and that I am accountable to.

Unitarian Universalists are held accountable to love not sin. Doug Zelinski

There is a love  
Holding me.  
There is a love  
Holding you.  
There is a love  
Holding all.  
I rest  
in this love.  
Rev. Rebecca Parker

I hope you too rest in this love.

We are pleased to share that we will continue with Southern Region Open Office Hours, on a revised schedule. Please join us on Mondays, anytime from 11:00 CT/12:00 ET to 12:30 CT/1:30 CT, through June 22nd. Updated Zoom information for SR Open Office Hours:

<https://uua.zoom.us/j/98421492403?pwd=VklXM0k0ZXQvRWFYR2oxVExXNjIEZz09>  
Meeting ID: 984 2149 2403  
Password: 001127

Or dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 984 2149 2403, Password: 001127

(Please note, we will not hold Open Office Hours on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25.)

Thank you all for all you do for your congregations. We are grateful for your partnership.

In faith,  
Your UUA Southern Region Staff Team

# PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2020-2021 FISCAL YEAR

## FIRST JEFFERSON FISCAL 2020-2021 BUDGET

	CURRENT YEAR FY 19-20	NEXT YEAR FY 20-21	% change from prior year	
<b>INCOME</b>				
PLEDGES	\$146,000	\$138,000	-5%	-\$8,000
PLATE & GEN DONATIONS	\$9,298	\$10,455	12%	\$1,158
SHARE THE PLATE	\$3,070	\$3,300	7%	\$230
SPECIAL EVENTS	\$9,604	\$10,564	10%	\$960
RENT	\$14,743	\$17,260	17%	\$1,438 a month average
OTHER	\$18,017	\$20,518	14%	Grants, Endowment, Mineral Royalties
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$200,732</b>	<b>\$200,097</b>	-0.3%	
		<b>-\$634</b>	decrease	
<b>EXPENSE</b>				
MORTGAGE	\$22,872	\$22,872	0%	\$0 interest only
ADMINISTRATOR	\$36,859	\$38,991	6%	\$2,133
MINISTER	\$40,000	\$40,000	0%	\$0
GUEST SPEAKERS	\$4,800	\$5,500	15%	\$700
CHILDCARE	\$8,805	\$9,069	3%	\$264
RE COORDINATOR	\$5,800	\$7,800	34%	10 hours a week, 3 Sundays a month
PIANIST	\$7,200	\$7,200	0%	\$0
UTILITIES	\$22,615	\$23,293	3%	\$678
SUPPLIES	\$4,839	\$6,491	34%	\$1,652
UUA DUES	\$2,000	\$7,000	250%	\$5,000
COMMITTEES	\$1,288	\$3,100	141%	\$1,812
OTHER	\$28,719	\$28,045	-2%	-\$674
Insurance, Janitor, Repairs, Lawncare				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$185,797</b>	<b>\$199,362</b>	7.3%	\$13,565
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$14,935</b>	<b>\$735</b>		

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE NOMINEES

Each year the congregation selects three members of the church to serve on the Leadership Development Committee. The Leadership Development Committee tasked with identifying and developing leaders in the congregation and with helping to fill positions of need at First Jefferson.

While I regret that I do not have individual biographies for the nominees, in combination these three bring with them years of experience from across the congregation. They have been valuable contributors to the success of the First Jefferson include work on the Board of Trustees, various committees, and as Lay Leaders in the worship service.

With great thanks to Annie for helping to secure these nominees, the Board of Trustees is pleased to recommend this year's nominees for the Leadership Development Committee.

Joan Carey

Della Purdin

Michael Zepeda