UUPCC Annual Meeting Packet

www.uupcc.org

UUPCC Annual Meeting

Virtual Zoom on Friday, June 18, 2021

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**Vision:** We envision a worldwide Unitarian and Unitarian Universalist community that promotes peace, justice, and liberty for all, supported by partnerships that are integral to congregational life.

**Mission:** The mission of the Unitarian Universalist Partner Council is to foster and support partner relationships between UU congregations and individuals in the United States and Canada with Unitarian and Unitarian Universalist congregations, orphanages, schools and students in all other countries where partnering is sought and welcomed. These will be mutually beneficial, responsibly sustained, and linked by joint and mutual covenants.

**We will:**

*BE* a bridge that connects congregations around the world;

*REACH* across boundaries to collaborate with old and new partners;

*CREATE* transformational opportunities for pilgrimage and hospitality, for learning and for service;

*CHALLENGE* ourselves theologically and open ourselves to changed values and behaviors;

*ESTABLISH* global community as a common commitment of liberal religion;

*INITIATE* partnerships that promote global friendships, international awareness, human rights, and a better world; and

*SUSTAIN* this global vision, enlarging and renewing it as new occasions teach new duties.
TO UU PARTNER CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Pursuant to Article III, Section 3.5 of the bylaws and the vote of the Board of Directors, notice is hereby given that the 2021 UUPCC Annual Meeting will be held on-line via Zoom five days before General Assembly on Friday, June 18, 2021, at 5 pm ET | 4 pm CT | 3 pm MT | 2 pm PT for the transaction of the following business:

1. To hear reports of the officers and of such committees as may report to the meeting and to take such action thereon as may seem appropriate.
2. To elect members to the Board of Directors and the Nominating Committee.
3. To transact any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

NOTE: Any new business to come before the Annual Meeting must be submitted in writing to the Board Chair via the UUPCC office no less than 10 days before the annual meeting.

Article IV: Meeting of the Membership, Section 4.4 of the bylaws reads: “Each individual member is entitled to one (1) vote. Each set of persons who have joined as a family membership is entitled to a total of one vote. Institutional members are entitled to designate three (3) voting members who shall have one (1) vote each.” Notice of this meeting is being sent to all individual and institutional members in good standing as of March 31, 2021

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: The Board of Directors of the Partner Church Council will be composed of 12 members serving for three-year terms. A person may serve a maximum of three consecutive three-year terms, but a person elected or appointed to fill a vacancy may serve no more than ten consecutive years.

During the Annual Meeting, we will honor Ann Gary as our 2021 Cornish Award recipient. We will also recognize our annual Stewards of Partnership award recipients.

Rev. Eric Meter
Secretary, UUPCC

2021 NOMINEES TO THE UUPCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

There are no new nominees. Barbara Weber has confirmed that Howard Dana, Eric Meter and Gwyn Reid will, per Board request, extend their 2021 Board terms until the pending dissolution occurs.
DRAFT MINUTES – UUPCC ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 19, 2020

(Virtual) UUPCC Annual Meeting
June 19, 2020

UUPCC Board Chair Rev. Morgan McLean called the meeting to order 12:01 EDT.
(Streaming to 87 devices with participants in Transylvania, India, USA, Canada & Mexico.)

Present from Board
Rev. Morgan McLean, Rev. Howard Dana, Rev. Debra Faulk, Anne Greenwood, Gwyn Reid, Carol Cook, Michelle Lebens-Mack

Present from Staff
Rev. Roger Bertschausen, Katrina Priese and Rev. Andrew Weber

Presentations of Awards
Roger Bertschausen announced that Richard Van Duizend (UU Congregation of Fairfax VA) is the recipient of the 2020 Louis C. Cornish “Living the Mission” Award. Dick twice led the UUPCC Board of Trustees and will speak at our meeting at General Assembly 2021 in Milwaukee WI.

Steward of Partnership Awards:
Lillian Anderson, Concord MA
Tom Getz, Providence RI
Bob Goodman, Devon PA
Emily Hodges, Cincinnati OH
Bruce and Jane King, Athens GA
Karen McManus, Bellevue WA
Elaine Mittell and Doug Poutasse, Wellesley MA
Claire Robertson, Kirkwood MO
Phyllis Valentine, Ann Arbor MI

BUSINESS AGENDA

Board Chair Report – Rev. Morgan McLean
Board work, welcome new Travel Director, farewell to John Dale and Kolcsar, collaboration with ICUU and UUA, impact of global pandemic limiting travel on our international relationships, welcome to Rev. Debra Faulk, thank departing board members Michelle Lebens-Mack and Melody Moberg.

Executive Director Report – Rev. Roger Bertschausen
Today is Juneteenth. Our partnerships are part and parcel of our efforts to dismantle U.S. colonialization and white supremacy culture.

2019 Minutes
Approved by hand vote (five Abstentions, zero Nay, remainder Yeas).

Treasurer’s Report – Rick Irwin
Summary of 2019 income, expenses and proposed budget.
Q: Emily Hodges – In each year there has been a negative balance, where do these funds come from?
A: Rick – These funds come out of surplus from previous years.
Q: Julie Steinbach – India trip lost money, please explain.
A: Roger – In 2020 we lost money on the trip due to inter-communal conflict in NE India and the pandemic forcing an alternate Itinerary and then ending the trip early.
Approved by hand vote (four Abstentions, zero Against, remainder Yeas).

Continued next pg.
Election of Board Members and Nominating Team
Richard Van Duizend introduced nominees to the UUPCC Board of Trustees:
Carol Cook, San Mateo CA (third 3 year term)
Joel Schrag, Washington DC (first 3 year term)
Hand vote – Unanimous in favor

Richard Van Duizend introduced nominees to the UUPCC Nominating Team:
Gwyn Reid, Boise ID (3 year term)
Hand vote – Unanimous in favor

Executive Director Transition
Morgan – farewell slide show of Roger around the world.
Comments of appreciation and gratitude from Roger.
Morgan then introduced our new Interim Exec Director, the Rev. Fred Muir, who will start August 1, 2020 (one year term).
Fred offered a heartfelt Hello and his gratitude for the opportunity to serve in this capacity. UUPCC does more than just introduce people to one another. We encourage and support strong partnerships between global citizens. We have great opportunities before us.

Closing remarks by Morgan. Thanks to Debra and Howard and Trina! Andrew Weber is also here. And we are also grateful for Libby Hanna our bookkeeper!
Invitation for Zoom links for July 14 & 15 on the ongoing work of the International Working Group!
Adjourned at 12:54pm EDT.

Board members continued meeting to vote on its leadership for the next year:
Chair – Morgan McLean
Vice-Chair – Anne Greenwood
Secretary – Eric Meter
Treasurer – Rick Irwin
Debra Faulk moved. Approved unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted by Eric Meter
2021 LOUIS C. CORNISH “LIVING THE MISSION” AWARD

The UUPCC’s Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Ann Gary has been chosen to receive the 2021 Louis C. Cornish “Living the Mission” Award.

The Cornish award is given annually to honor a person who has worked tirelessly to foster the mission of developing and sustaining mutually beneficial congregational partnerships between Unitarians and Unitarian Universalists around the world. The award will be joyously presented to Ann at the UUPCC’s (virtual) Annual Meeting in June.

Ann has been involved with the UUPCC for close to 20 years, first in a networker role and twice serving as a board member. Stemming from a strong personal connection made with Hopedale Unitarian Parish’s partner church in Csekefalva, Transylvania, Ann has worked to help others strengthen connections with their partnerships and resolve issues along the way. Ann has traveled many times to Transylvania, most recently organizing a trip in 2019 to Kolozsvár with a group from First Church Boston, where her husband served as Assistant Minister. She also visited the Khasi Hills to help train leaders and then bear witness to Community Capacity Building in action. Ann ran the Travel Committee as one of her UUPCC board responsibilities and in 2015 headed up the Transition Team to orchestrate the hiring of the UUPCC’s second Executive Director, Rev. Roger Bertschausen. Ann works as a Management Consultant, serving United States-based clients here and at locations overseas. She is a dedicated humanist and has been a UU for more than 25 years. Ann lives in an old farmhouse in central Massachusetts with her husband, Rev. Tim House (recently retired from First Church Boston.)

Howard Dana, current UUPCC Board Member writes:
The UUPCC has been greatly enriched by the long, dedicated, and consequential service of Ann Gary. She led the UUPCC’s Travel Committee, working closely with the Travel Coordinators, the Hungarian Unitarian Council (HUC), the Unitarian Union of Northeast India, and the UU Church of the Philippines to ensure travel was mutually beneficial and reflecting of the partnership between both travelers and the hosts. In her work to help select a new Executive Director for the UUPCC, Ann’s clear-eyed, calm leadership and careful, comprehensive process resulted in a qualified candidate with a minimal amount of controversy. Ann embodies the ideal of mutual partnership at the heart of the UUPCC’s mission.

Carol Cook, current UUPCC Board Member writes:
Ann was the heart, soul, and backbone of the Travel Committee for many years. She and Roger spent a huge amount of time with Csilla and John (and the UUPCC Travel Committee and Board) negotiating the transition to Andrew’s position with great love and care.

Roger Bertschausen, former UUPCC Executive Director writes: Ann Gary has done much for partnership throughout her many years of involvement. Serving long term as the Chair of the Travel Committee as well as a very active board member, she’s lent wisdom and experience that helped shape the organization’s purpose and accomplishments. As Chair of the 2015 Search Committee, she put in a lot of time and love that ultimately led to my role as Executive Director. Ann went on to provide insight and stability during this time of transition. In my last year as Executive Director, she
worked tirelessly with Andrew and me in shaping a new travel relationship with the HUC. Throughout her tenure with the UUPCC, she has been extraordinarily generous financially.

Of the many things that I appreciate about Ann’s long service, I most value her unwavering commitment to mutual partnership and embodying that in the travel program. She fostered that dream and did much to nudge our travel program toward that goal. When I picture unwavering dedication to partnership and the UUPCC, I picture Ann!

**Dick Van Duizend, former UUPCC Board Chair and 2020 Cornish Award recipient writes:**

Ann’s long, dedicated, consequential service to the UUPCC and her congregational partnership more than qualify her for this award. Ann’s contributions to the UUPCC in three areas come to mind:

1. **Strategic Planning** – Ann played key technological and leadership roles for several years when the UUPCC used Dick Ford’s participatory planning process. In particular, she constructed, completed, and computed the results of the paired rankings exercise in which each pair of identified needs are compared and prioritized through consensus. Without her facilitation and technologic skill, the board would not have been able to formulate a clear, detailed, and agreed upon annual strategic plan during its annual in-person meeting in the brief time available.

2. **Travel** – Ann has led the UUPCC’s Travel Committee for many years, working closely with the Travel Coordinators and our overseas partner organizations. In so doing, she assured that travel was rewarding for hosts and participants and that the Travel Program was financially stable.

3. **Leadership Succession** – Ann led the effort to recruit and select a new Executive Director following Cathy Cordes’ decision to retire. She was central in the process for replacing John Dale and Csilla Kolcsar upon their retirement as Co-Travel Coordinators. During an emotional and tumultuous period in the organization’s life, Ann’s leadership, and the careful, comprehensive process she designed and helped her fellow committee members execute (me included) resulted in the selection of an unquestionably qualified candidate.

“The wonderful thing about being involved in partnership is the different levels of engagement possible: around history, politics, language, customs, village life, congregational life, and our shared religious roots and spiritual connections... and most importantly, sharing experiences with individuals that can strengthen and transform each other’s lives.”  Ann Gary, 2016

**The UUPCC celebrates Ann’s extraordinary dedication to Partnership!**
2021 STEWARD AWARD RECIPIENTS

Viki Shilaos, UU Fellowship of Corvallis, OR
Doug Strombom, East Shore Unitarian, Bellevue, WA
Dana & Kathy Booth, First Parish Concord, MA
Maribel Dana, Monte Vista UU Cong. Montclair CA
Carol Bertaut, Cedar Lane UU Church, Bethesda, MD
Bill & Becky Coalson, Eliot Chapel, St. Louis MO

2021 ‘STEWARD OF PARTNERSHIP’ Award Recipients

Each year, the UUPCC is pleased to present its Steward of Partnership Award to people who provide exceptional care for their own congregation’s partnerships. Long-term partnerships do not automatically sustain themselves. They take time, attention, and loving care to maintain long-distance connections and nurture friendships. Often these efforts are not publicly recognized even though this is the crucial grassroots work that keeps the partnership thriving and the congregations involved.

These Stewards are recognized stalwarts in their congregations for fostering good communication, organizing worship services, keeping congregations engaged, making friends, and sharing stories—and their lives—with their partners in other countries. They have cooked, served, and cleaned up at countless fundraising events. They have visited their partners and helped their partners come here. Each of them is a hero of partnership.

Carol Bertaut, Cedar Lane UU Church, Bethesda, MD

Between 2003 and 2018, Carol Bertaut (second from right) was the heart of the Cedar Lane Partner Church Committee and later of the Partner Church Ministry Team. Thanks to Carol’s tireless dedication and leadership for more than 15 years, Cedar Lane was able to generously support their partner church, the Unitarian Church from Dicsőszentmórton in Transylvania, Romania.

During her tenure as chair and cochair, approximately 70 high school students received scholarships to help their university education, both at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Also, numerous construction and building maintenance projects were funded (with additional help from the local congregation), as were an English language program and an elderly assistance program.
Over the years, Carol coordinated the physical and financial efforts of many visits of CLUUC representatives to Transylvania and Transylvania partners to the US. She participated in planning numerous fundraising events, including programs featuring different musical ensembles and a “Transylvanian Dinner.” Carol’s emphasis has always been on the spiritual aspect of partnership and maintaining meaningful relationships.

Dana and Kathy Booth, First Parish in Concord, MA

Dana and Kathy have been involved with the First Parish in Concord’s partnership program since their first trip to Székelykeresztúr in August 2002. This was Concord’s first large group pilgrimage, and Dana and Kathy were truly transformed by their visit. What resulted was the beginning of a long-lasting friendship with their host family that continues today. In August 2007, the Booths returned to Keresztúr, this time with many refurbished laptops, to help establish the Berde Moszés Unitarian High School’s language lab, a project that Dana faithfully continued for many years. They also collected and distributed reading glasses and hearing aids.

Over the years, the Booths have sponsored scholarships for a number of students at the Unitarian High School in Székelykeresztúr. In 2012 and then in 2019, they returned to Székelykeresztúr to attend graduation ceremonies of 2 of their sponsored students. For many years, Dana served as class liaison for members of Concord who sponsored scholarships for students, and currently Dana serves as cochair of the subcommittee that seeks sponsors and organizes the scholarships. Dana has also been a faithful member of our Partner Congregation Committee, and he continues to inspire us with his dedication.

In addition to traveling to our partner congregation six times, the Booths have acted as welcoming hosts for many of our Keresztúri visitors since 2006, including organizing square dances in their barn. Whether providing amazingly generous and delicious contributions to our many potluck suppers or hosting the Partner Congregation Committee in their home, the Booths have genuinely embodied the same radical hospitality that we have experienced from our partners in Transylvania.
Bill and Becky Coalson, Eliot Unitarian Chapel, Kirkwood, MO

Relative newcomers to partnership at Eliot Chapel, Bill and Becky Coalson have made 3 trips to our partner church in Nyárádszentmárton. The first time was with an Eliot group in 2016, which included touring the area with local residents and singing at our partner church’s Sunday services. Their interest piqued, they made second and third trips on their own in order to broaden their acquaintance with the minister and members in the village, learn the needs of our partner church, and to express appreciation for the culture of the area’s people. During these trips, Becky’s special interest in crafts helped develop lasting friendships with our partner church crafters (see left) as she shared her skills and learned about theirs. Becky has also evaluated and facilitated sales of our partner crafters’ work at Eliot with proceeds going back to our partner church’s women’s group. Bill took much pleasure learning about the partner village and its businesses, including building materials and the town’s bakery.

Bill has served for the past 4 years as Chair of Eliot’s Partner Church Committee. He has promoted annual financial contributions by the congregation during our Thanksgiving service that goes toward the bread program that helps to feed the elderly of Nyárádszentmárton. Together, the Coalsons have made sizable financial contributions to enable the bread program to be available year-round.

Bill’s photography has been featured at the Partner Church Committee’s fund- and friend-raising Hungarian dinners at Eliot Chapel. He and Becky have shared their love of folk dancing with the Eliot members and Transylvania partner villagers. Throughout their involvement, Bill has maintained email communication and expressions of mutual support with our partner church minister, especially during the coronavirus pandemic. They are both heavily involved in discussions for bringing our partner church’s minister, wife, and others to visit when it is safe to travel.

Doug Strombom, East Shore Unitarian Church, Bellevue, WA

Doug’s diverse talents and sustained dedication over the years have generated amazing growth in our partnership with Khasi Unitarians. Since he began cochairing our partnership team with Barb Clagett in 2017, Doug (right, with Khasi school children) has promoted and funded the construction of a much needed 3-classroom addition to the English-medium primary and preschool that we helped Kharang Unitarians launch in 2007, developing a sponsorship program that enabled 20 children from the most disadvantaged families in Kharang to attend classes. Recently, he submitted a proposal for a commercial center in Kharang that could support the Khasi church’s eventual goal of making the Friendship School self-sustaining.

We are grateful to Doug for many more innovative leadership initiatives, and his very generous financial contributions that have made projects like these possible. The student sponsorship program has not only stimulated new support from East Shore members during the current pandemic, but
has taken partnership to a new level, with more members of the congregation becoming intimately involved with families in Kharang.

During frequent visits to our partners, and now through his virtual presence on WhatsApp and other global communications tools, Doug encourages our rural Khasi friends to share their dreams and concerns, while taking care to respect their traditions, and not impose our own assumptions and cultural norms on them. He brings stories of their joys and celebrations to East Shore youth and adults at worship services and partnership events and prepares beautiful audiovisual presentations to illustrate the strengths of their family lifestyles and interpersonal connections.

Doug Strombom’s advocacy and leadership skills have helped develop our Khasi Hills partnership into one that is constantly improving the lives of Unitarians here and in Northeast India.

Viki Shilaos, UU Fellowship of Corvallis, OR

(Viki was nominated for this award just prior to losing her battle with cancer on March 26, 2021. The UUPCC extends our condolences to Viki’s family and friends at UUFC.)

Viki has been a major guiding force for the UUFC partner church program since 1998 when she joined the committee until she had to gradually step back a few years ago. Her role as high school youth advisor quickly proved to compliment her partner church role when organizing a youth conference in 2000 with UUFC’s partner in Körispatak, Transylvania, Romania. Viki had a calm approach in dealing with both youth and adults, and managed situations that arose with ease. Often working from the sidelines, Viki always remained fully engaged. It was evident she truly loved being among their Translyvanian partners!

In 2002, Viki worked tirelessly coordinating bake sales and writing donor letters to raise funds to finance Transylvanian youth traveling to the United States. As Chair of the UUFC Partner Church Committee beginning in 2003, she spearheaded many fundraisers, including supervising and playing head chef at annual dinners (see right).

Traveling a total of 4 times to Transylvania, Viki became known for her unwavering commitment to the youth and Unitarian Universalism. On a trip in 2011, Rev. Katalin Szasz-Cserey fondly recalls when Viki carried an overpacked suitcase full of supplies to Körispatak to distribute at their first children’s summer camp. Rev. Kati writes, “Right away she came across as kind and empathetic, and made close connections with both our adult and child church members.” During that week, Viki met with congregants helping to establish foundational rules for running scholarship programs that are still in place today.
Viki was also instrumental in establishing the connection between UUFC and First Unitarian Church of Omaha, which resulted in joint sponsorship of Rev. Kati’s trips to the United States in 2013.

Other committee members have visited our partner village and enjoyed the friendship for which Viki has contributed so much. We are all endlessly grateful for many contributions and commitment to the partnership.

Maribel Dana, of Monte Vista UUC, Montclair CA
Narrative of Maribel Dana’s Faithful Stewardship presented by Julie Steinbach.

My friendship with Maribel dates back to 2004 when we roomed together at GA in Long Beach. Back in February 2015 as we celebrated Maribel's birthday, I shared my plan to travel to the Philippines for the first college graduation in our partner church, saying, "it'll probably be the last time I go to the Philippines." Whereupon Maribel said, "In that case, I want to go with you!"

Six weeks later, we boarded a Manila-bound plane together. Our subsequent adventure included the Easter oil blessing of the Bicutan congregation in Metro Manila, the royal Dumaguete welcome - and the joy of meeting our Calapayan partners. Especially memorable was hiking up to the chapel where Maribel relished spontaneously teaching them the Sign Language version of "Spirit of Life." Ever the educator motivated to learn herself, she clearly savored interacting with as many of the children and adults as possible.

Upon her return to Monte Vista two weeks later, Maribel gave the annual pitch for Calapayan scholarship funds. She expressed how moved she was by the warmth, welcome and charm of our Calapayan partners. An experienced international traveler, her testimony was especially noteworthy when she proclaimed it "the best trip I've ever taken."
Since then, Maribel's engagement with our partnership has deepened and broadened. She has become a key member of the small Partnership Committee, strategizing plans, engaging others, and personally committing to an individual student sponsorship. As chair of the MVUUC Finance Committee, she has monitored closely the Calapayan line item in the budget. She was particularly proactive and steady when recently navigating a tricky partnership challenge (exacerbated by the timing during a period of other extreme issues at MVUUC) - working well with the assistance of the UUPCC leadership, as well as that of the UUA Region.

Maribel’s initial high dive into Partnership from our first Philippine trip together arose as a natural extension of a good friendship. So, what is Partnership if not Friendship? Maribel embodies stewardship in both realms.

The MVUUC-Calapayan Partnership is stronger and richer because of the contributions and commitment of Maribel Dana. Mabuhay!
Katrina Priese, UUPCC Office Manager, is the proverbial “glue” that holds us together. For the past four years she has been a committed, professional, and talented member of the PCC staff. Interfacing with every aspect of partnering from database management to newsletter production, Trina is often the first point of contact with domestic members, international partners, vendors, and random inquiries. In all these activities, she emulates the spirit of “radical hospitality” that she experienced when she traveled to Transylvania with Eliot Chapel (her home congregation).

Trina shared that “the partnership people I’ve had the privilege to meet during my tenure have all been interesting, gracious, intelligent, fun, inspiring, moving, and way more dedicated than I ever thought possible, especially our Board members!”

Trina’s caring, compassionate, and honest interactions contribute to the UUPCC’s stellar reputation and are a blessing to us all.

The UUPCC’s bookkeeping is performed by Simple Office Services LLC — that is, by UUPCC member Libby Hanna and her daughter Caroline Meadow. Already a UU, Libby joined our staff ten years ago in the Boston office under Director Cathy Cordes.

Caroline joined her mother’s business a year ago, just after getting married and moving to Norway with her new husband (and puppy). She shares the same keen eye for details and numbers as Libby and says, “Truly it has been our pleasure working with all you lovely people to help further the mission of the UUPCC.”

Both Libby and Caroline bring to this work their extraordinary gifts of inspiration, insight, compassion, the all-important ability to sniff out budget crunching opportunities, and their great sense of humor! Together they diligently walk with the PCC as caring, professional, and responsible partners and advisors, exceeding all expectations. We give thanks for their dedicated service.

*A special shoutout to our very talented Sharon McCarron, former part-time St. Louis PCC office staffer and current keen-eyed volunteer publications editor, and to Pat Rodgers, long term monitor of the PCC-Chat.*
Reports and Financial Statements

2021 BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S CHAIR ANNUAL REPORT

We are thankful to have completed another year of operation, conversation and envisioning during the Covid19 pandemic.

On behalf of the board, I say THANK YOU to all the volunteers who are working in your congregations to keep your Partnerships meaningful. This year presented unique challenges to all of us, and so many of you found creative ways to connect and build on opportunities for virtual connection.

The UUPCC Board had a virtual summit last October which allowed time for exploration and deeper learning. We agreed to focus on:

- Implications on our work of Widening the Circle, the Commission on Institutional Change report
- Understanding and monitoring the Paycheck Protection Program and Economic Injury Disaster Loans

This year much of my time as Chair of the Board has been spent with the International Collaboration Group. We have met twice a month, with several special meetings including with our membership throughout the year. This work has been exciting and challenging. It has required us to reflect both personally and institutionally, about the systems we are a part of and the patterns that have been established in the way we do things. I invite you to read our September 2020 "New Vision" report and the April 2021 update to learn more about our work, questions, and discoveries.

We have been grateful for the work of Fred Muir as our Interim Executive Director. He stepped in to supporting partnerships, collaborative conversations, and administration seamlessly. His decades of experience with partnership and his extensive historical knowledge have been valuable in this time of exploration. Fred will stay on in this role to guide the transition over the next several months.

My hope for the UUPCC is that we can grow in this moment of change. We need your ongoing commitment to partnership and your hope for the future. Together we have built incredible partnerships since our founding in 1993, and this will serve as a strong foundation for whatever is ahead. I hope you will join me in reaching out your hands to welcome new voices and ideas as we prepare for the next three decades of partnership!

Rev. Morgan R. McLean
Chair, UUPCC Board of Directors
2021 INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S ANNUAL REPORT

In last year’s Executive Director’s Report—after naming a few of the challenges that the UUPCC had faced in the first four months of the pandemic—Rev. Roger Bertschausen wrote: “It doesn’t take much of a crystal ball to see that 2020-21 will likely also be eventful.” Roger was right, yet few would have predicted the trauma and devastation the world has experienced in the past year. Now as our UU communities slowly begin to consider re-emerging from their pandemic restricted gatherings, we hope to move forward with the promises from lessons learned after 15 months (and counting) of challenging, altering, and reshaping events.

As this report will indicate, the pandemic brought to a standstill most of what had been considered the core partnership planning and sustaining activities of the UUPCC. When we assembled on Zoom last June for our Annual Meeting, this was not the year any of us anticipated. We have had new issues to address for sure. In for the bumpy ride has been a terrific Board of Directors whose dedicated commitment to the Council’s mission has never faltered—they have showed up at every twist and turn. Special thanks to Board chair the Rev. Morgan McLean for her loving support, fierce determination, and sense of humor—her leadership has made the difference.

I/we have been so fortunate to have a support staff to guide us during the trials of the last year. Katrina Priese, the UUPCC Office Manager, has been a gift to us all: resourceful, easy to engage and committed, Trina’s dedication is enthusiastic, informed, and professional. Our bookkeepers, Libby Hanna and Caroline Meadows (the mother-daughter team who are Simple Office Solutions LLC) have done so much more than balance the books (which they do very well); they have advised, strategized and imagined with us as we’ve navigated these trying times. Finally, the Rev. Andrew Weber, PCC’s Travel Coordinator, was just getting started with big and bright plans when all air travel came to an abrupt halt and international limitations became the rule instead of an exception. Andrew has been sensitive, imaginative, and realistic in what might be done and it’s too bad that he never had the opportunity to immerse himself in this vital part of the UUPCC.

With all the changes we’ve experienced, what has not changed is your commitment and energy for partnerships! I have been impressed, sustained, and inspired by all of the ways you have found to stay dedicated and engaged with your partners. Bravo to you for your persistent partnering.

I came to the PCC knowing that there was going to be three major tasks: daily operations, Board work and “A New Vision.” This report will address details of these tasks.

Daily Operations
Like last year, there have been few new partnerships. Unfortunately, there were several requests that, for different reasons, had to be turned down—not every congregation is ready to make the partnering commitment (especially during a stress filled time). There have been positive signs of interest from two UU congregations, but neither has followed through. One exciting story was referenced as a possibility last year and I’ve had the good luck of helping to give life to our first ever tri-partnership between Jowai (UUNEI), Barót (HUC) and Summit, NJ (UUA). Meeting by Zoom over six months, the planning team wrote a covenant that was eventually received by the leadership of all three congregations and then their members. The partners will hold their recognition/celebration in late September. It has also been exciting to work with representatives from King’s Chapel (Boston) as they plan the centenary observance of their partnership with the First Unitarian Church of Kolozsvár.

In my conversations with individuals, teams and large groups of PCC stakeholders, I have been continually impressed with the independence, sophistication, imagination and generosity of congregations. In fact, there are some partnering congregations from whom we rarely hear—they seem to have large planning and action teams who have a record of outstanding work. It’s my hope that soon, some of these congregations will step forward to “buddy” with new and/or struggling teams and share their expertise.

Everyone who has been on a pilgrimage to their partner church knows that travel strengthens relationships, renews commitment, and generates enthusiasm for partnering. It’s also a significant source of revenue for
our organization (around $40K). Starting a year ago, planned pilgrimages were rescheduled; all of these were eventually cancelled. I especially want to hold up the good faith effort made by the PCC leaders of the youth pilgrimage: Andrew Weber, Ashley Lacy and Justin Almeida held onto the promise of this trip until it was simply no longer feasible. They considered the options, Zoom ed with me for discussion and then made a decision. They kept all participants and families in the loop and when appropriate our staff refunded deposits and contributions (as requested).

While domestic air travel has resumed, as of now we don’t know when international travel (to HUC, UUNEI and UUCP) will resume, whether Americans are welcomed or what future conditions will be like—and, of course, whether you feel safe to travel to these regions. In the meantime, the UUA (and UUPCC) have encouraged UUs to consider the climate impact of air travel (I’ve read that one Atlantic crossing by jet emits as much carbon dioxide as does home heating for a year). The future of partner travel needs to be put in an environmentally sound context. I know that climate change is a concern for us all; how to balance this concern with our partnering will be a challenge for all.

PCC communications are handled by Office Manager Trina Priese (assisted by Sharon McCarron). Constant Contact announcements and the Newsletter are the principal means of keeping stakeholders informed. This year, there has been a lot of information to share! Transparency is important in any organization and PCC communications help us keep the flow of information moving.

Not all congregations use our bank transfers process as their preferred way of sending funds to their partners. But, for those who did, in the last ten months we have sent to our international partnering congregations $215,810. Again, this only accounts for money that passes through the UUPCC. Some congregations and individuals make transfers on their own, some partners receive UU grants and gifts of other kinds; the UUPCC does not track these contributions. All of this is to say that your generosity is remarkable!

The world of international finance was always pretty remote for me. Adding to the challenge of learning the process of bank transfers has been significant mid-year changes to banking rules (in India), pandemic-related lockdowns that resulted in banks remaining closed for weeks (denying access to the funds of our partners), in addition to significant changes in U/U leadership in all three partnering regions. All of these became and remain daunting challenges.

Early in the year we characterized our transition from dissolution to an ongoing commitment to international partnership as similar to building a bridge that needs great width and strength, a bridge that will allow us to move toward a new future. Your financial commitment and volunteering has made this possible. We feel blessed and thankful for your thoughtful gifts and the sharing of your time, talent, and treasure. Without you we could not make this work.

Board of Directors
Your Board members are outstanding! They are inspired by, dedicated to and passionate about growing our commitment to sustaining international faith relationships. The Board embodies the ideas behind the insight that “The most radical thing we can do is to introduce people to one another.” One way of exploring the full dimension of these aspiring words was committing time at every Board meeting to a conversation about white privilege and neocolonialism and how these have shaped the UU partnering experience. We have addressed some of the issues named in the UUA’s “Widening the Circle of Concern: Report of the UUA Commission on Institutional Change” (June 2020) but using an international/partnering lens. This is vital work as we seek to understand and address the dynamics of our faith’s and the nation’s twisted legacies of oppression and misuses of power.

The Board’s work from now through dissolution is composed of two related yet different agendas: First, completing the dissolution process and second, shaping a post-PCC grid or structure to aid PCC stakeholders as partnerships are sustained. First, the dissolution process. This is the legal steps that must be taken in order to un-incorporate in Washington State. We are taking guidance from the WA law firm that has handled our incorporation process and annual renewals. PCC bookkeeper Libby Hanna has been in regular contact with them and has a growing fluency regarding this process. There are specific actions that
the Board must take that includes calling a membership meeting for a vote on dissolution. Second, post-PCC support to congregation teams. One of the concerns expressed in every Zoom call with members has been: Who will facilitate and sustain the assistance and programming at the core of the PCC? The Board and staff owe it to our members to help shape a grid or structure that will assist in navigating the future. This could include:

- Regular Zoom opportunities to share with other partnering congregations
- Bank transfers
- Travel support
- New partnership planning

In order to accomplish these goals, a partnering support system could draw on the help of:

- UUA regional staff and UU country “ambassadors”
- PCC congregation teams who are successfully navigating these operations
- Regional partnering leadership
- The new UU International organization
- Volunteer staff

Collaborations

Those doing the work of UU internationalism are a small group. We seek each other out for and draw from each other’s sharings. These collaborative efforts in such a narrow field are valuable. I have had the opportunity to be part of several such groups:

When I served our congregation in Annapolis, MD, I met with a small group of area colleagues monthly for support and discussion. These meetings were quite affirming and deepening. I have found a similar bond with the International Joint Working Group composed of Revs. Alicia Forde and Sara Ascher (and me). We bring similar portfolios of work, and our meetings are an opportunity to share insights and challenges. I will miss Sara Ascher who has recently announced her departure from the International Council; she has been a knowledgeable and passionate colleague—which is to say, she’s very good at what she does!

The International Collaboration Group has met fortnightly since February 2020. The Group is composed of three representatives of the International Council of Unitarians/Universalists (Shelley Adams of Capetown, SA, Derek McAuley of London, Eng., and ICUU Executive Director Sara Ascher); three representatives from the PCC (PCC Board Chair Morgan McLean, former PCC Board Chair John Gibbons and myself - Roger Bertschausen met with the group before me); and Alicia Forde representing the UUA (she is the UUA’s International Programs Director). The Group has been examining the role that a new U/U organization will/could have after the PCC and ICUU dissolve. If you have not yet looked at our work, I strongly urge you to read our most recent report, A NEW VISION and then complete this short SURVEY . In addition to PCC members, the Group has recently been meeting with others to share and discuss the report, the future of our common interests and what moving forward looks like. For example, I have been present to Zoom conversations with members of the Canadian Unitarian Council, leaders from UUNEI and a video meeting of UU ministers. Members of the Collaboration Group are facilitating similar discussions with other stakeholders (seminaries, partnering teams, regional leadership, etc.). Please note that this is not a merger of the ICUU and UUPCC; both groups will dissolve and while it is our hope that the best practices of each organization will be adapted by this new entity, it will have a new mission.

Finally, I’ve been part of a team who is writing an addendum to the report of the UUA’s Commission on Institutional Change, “WIDENING THE CIRCLE OF CONCERN.” As you may know, the Commission was given a charge “to conduct an audit of the power structures and analyze systemic racism and white supremacy culture within the Unitarian Universalist Association.” (p. xvii) The addendum will address issues and challenges named in the Report using an international lens. In should come as no surprise to learn that the legacies of oppression that shaped domestic UU institutions also shaped our relationships with international partners.

Moving Forward

UUPCC Annual Meeting Packet
There will be at least two more UUPCC member gatherings. One will be a “PCC Celebration” that recognizes our history and good works. Another will be a vote on dissolution (as required by the State of Washington). After this, what of our future, our passion and commitment to partnering with U/Us around the world?

As we move forward, consider this historical perspective. In 1936, in the AUA’s Commission on Appraisal Report, “Unitarians Face a New Age,” it stated: “The plain fact is that most Unitarians are lamentably indifferent to the international aspect of our denominational program [which] is most inadequately financed. Even the moral support which it receives is scattered and half-hearted. It is as though the ordinary Unitarian church were so completely absorbed in the conduct of its own affairs that it had no time and energy to devote to larger considerations. This is a most unfortunate condition, which requires vigorous effort to correct it. The Commission urgently recommends that every effort be made to bring the international aspect of our program into a significant place in the mind of the denomination.” (p.19)

It’s my hope that the creation of a new U/U international organization might help to center our passion and commitments in ways that find greater appeal domestically and internationally, creating partnerships in more mutually supportive and deepening ways. I know that many of us have found meaningful and lasting relationships with our current partners; there’s no reason why these must end. And I know that many of us have been focused on how to make our international partnering more appealing to and inclusive of a new and more diverse group of religious liberals world-wide. The mission of a new organization might better address this hope (as old as 1936!).

It has been a gift to me, and an honor, to be your Interim Executive Director. Prior to this, I had committed many hours of my ministry to engaging UUs in the international community. When I was asked to consider the PCC Interim position, it felt like the right place to be. It has been good to be among others who know first-hand the value of UU in an international context. While the year we have shared has been a most unusual one, this has not in any way taken away from the mission that we’ve shared. I have been constantly moved and encouraged by your desire to stand in the gap and become the bridge to a bolder future. Thank you for walking with me, with us, with Unitarian Universalism.

Rev. Fred Muir,
Interim Executive Director
Greetings UUPCC Members! The main Travel Program update for the past year is that there is very little to update. All partnership trips after March 2020 were canceled, including the few which had initially been postponed to summer 2021. We are seeing increases in global vaccination rate, but international travel for nonessential purposes is still not recommended (see the CDC for their full travel recommendations). To keep our members and partners safe, our travel has remained “grounded”.

Even though our travel may not be essential, our connections are. The time we are experiencing less physical connection doesn’t mean we have less personal connection. Remember that the same pandemic which has put our next-door neighbors so distant has also brought our international neighbors closer - they are only a video call or e-mail away. Many congregations are finding connections via social media and web conferencing services to be extremely accessible and simple way to stay in relationship.

As the UUPCC looks to a future of institutional change, we are blessed with new visions of how to do partnership and how to connect with each other. We don’t know when travel will return, but we can be sure to stay connected through other means. Remember that internationally or locally, being physically distant doesn’t mean you need to be emotionally distant!

Rev. Andrew L. Weber
UUPCC Travel Program Director
# 2020 UUPCC Treasurer’s Report

## Unitarian Universalist Partner Church Council

**Financial Summary for January to May 2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Budget for January to June 2021</th>
<th>Financials for January to May 2021</th>
<th>% of Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unrestricted Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Member Donations</td>
<td>28,574</td>
<td>14,895</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UUA Grants</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPP Income ##</td>
<td>28,823</td>
<td>28,823</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>857</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>91,897</td>
<td>59,575</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unrestricted Expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizational Expenses</td>
<td>14,200</td>
<td>8,242</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll Expenses</td>
<td>72,400</td>
<td>59,311</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expense</strong></td>
<td>86,600</td>
<td>67,553</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Income</strong></td>
<td>5,297</td>
<td>-7,978</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes:

## PPP Income shown above is expected to be received in June.

We expect to receive another $15,000 from the UUA in June.

- Travel Refunds not included above: -4,000
- Mission Initiative Expenses not included above: 2,000

The total balance for Unrestricted Accounts on May 31, 2021 was $29,203

## Summary of income and expenses for Restricted Accounts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>YTD Income</th>
<th>YTD Expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>57,078</td>
<td>126,491</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Submitted on 6/15/2021 by,
Richard J. Irwin, UUPCC Treasurer
Dávid Ferenc  
Friends ($1000+)  
Pete & Kim Scudera  
Roger & Amy  
Bertschausen  
Michael & Kay  
MacLaury  
Scott & Heather Kleiner  
Susan Lavan  
Carol Cook & Susan  
Greger  
Thomas Newman  
Howard Dana  
Molly McGaughy  
Gwyn & Bill Reid  
Sabrina Forni  
Tim & Lisa Gibson  
Morgan McLean &  
Daniel Kirsch  
Aaron & Diane Mitschke  
John Gibbons  
Elisabeth Campbell  
George Krumme  
Mary Speare  
Vicki & R. Scott  
Roberts-Gassler  

Hajom Kissor Singh  
Friends ($750-$999)  
Richard & Sharon Van  
Duizend  
Frank & Barbara Weber  
Rick & Paula Watson-Irwin  
Marjorie & Peter  
Titcomb  

Norbert Čapek  
Friend ($500-$749)  
Roger & Fran Corn  
Karen McManus  
Fran Eichorst  
Jonipher Kwong  
Julie Steinbach  
Linda & Gary Simmons  
/Langeley  
Catherine Scudera  

Ann Gary & Tim House  
Kimberly Perry  
Linda Lu & John  
Burciaga  
Henry deForest Ralph  
Lee & John Boeke-Burke  
Margaret & Walter  
Swain  
Terry Carpenter  
William Boissenin  

Toribio Quimada  
Friends ($250 - $499)  
Michael McCormick  
Anne Greenwood  
Thomas & Betty Finn-Getz  
Linda Reeder  
Robin Slaw  
Barbara & George  
Kress Beach  
Jane & Bruce King  
Barbara Clagett  
Douglas Eads  
Eleanor Baker  
Lisa Gillispie  
Deborah Raible  
Fred Muir  
Lawrence & Gabriella  
Cobern  
Deborah Smith  
John Buenhrens  
Anna Mâthé Foss  
Barbara & Ronald Ellis-Quinn  
Monique McAuliffe  
Richard Gentilman  
Rosalie Chavez  
Teresa Wilmot  
William & Rebecca  
Coalson  
William & Andrea Heier  
Judith Hembree  
Marjie & Peter Marion  
Linda Hampton &  
Dorothea Wallace  

Elizabeth & Scott Jones  
Julie & Jerry Jose  
Ruth & James Gibson  
Susan Caravello  
Harold Freshley  
Phyllis Valentine  
Pat Rodgers  
Andrew Janos  
Ann Marie Schranz  
Cecelia Toth  
Harold & Sabrina  
Babcock  
Irene Mehnert  
Joan Mathews  
Lane & Athena Tracy  
Mary Bolton  
Nancy & Eric Almquist  
Samuel Warner  

Béla Bartók Friends  
($100 - $249)  
Diane Duisen  
Michael Phillips  
Eniko Molnar Basa  
Hannelore & John  
Daniel  
Leslie Palmer  
Marla & Lee Beikman  
Anne Mark  
Donald & Lois Porter  
Valerie Davis  
Agnes Kiss  
Eric Meter  
Gabor Kiss  
Janice Hazlehurst  
Michael Nolan  
Betsy Bicknell  
Jane and Gibbs  
LaMotte  
Beverly Moore  
Bill & Heli Tomford  
Elizabeth Leber  
Frances Tanaka  
Geri & George  
Hogeman  
Julie & Donald Saylor  
Kenneth Herman  

Richard & Joan Beal  
Zimri & Tehila Selzer-Putney  
Thomas & Mary Darner  
Erin Milligan  
Libby & Steve Hanna  
Mary Polly & Franklin  
Gould  
Karen Erikson  
Anne Van Cott  
Patricia Wand  
Elizabeth & Peter  
Norton  
Anita Thurmond  
Brigitte Dickinson  
Dianne Carreri  
Jonathan & Leslie Bass  
June Lester  
Lillian Anderson  
Paul Buehrens  
Virginia Brewer  
Rebecca Taylor  
Carlos & Barbara  
Robinson Fraticelli  
Eileen Kane  
Josef & Annette  
Machac  
Sarah Dorer  
Laura & Harry Nagel  
Katrina Priese  
Livia Racz & Bruce  
Kozuma  
Raymond McKnight  
Donald Pearson  
Elaine & Douglas  
Mittell-Poutasse  
Erica Strauss  
Joel Schrag  
(Continued)  
Joseph Ben-David  
Karen Pearson  
Maria Gounaris  
Richard & Paula Brewer  
Sara Adams  
Donna & Don Starr  
Kate Walker  
Margaret Beckman  

Thank you to these partners for their generous gifts!
We appreciate our member congregations!

We are grateful to all the North American UU congregational institutional members. Membership dues from our institutional members are a very important source of income for the UUPCC.

We are particularly grateful for congregations that pay at the Supporting membership level. Their generosity is a wonderful gift to help the UUPCC support and nurture mutual partnerships.

2020 Supporting Congregations

River Road UU Congregation – Bethesda, MD
First Parish Concord – Concord, MA
Main Line Unitarian Church – Devon, PA
First Unitarian Society Madison – Madison, WI
First UU San Antonio – San Antonio, TX
All Souls UC Tulsa – Tulsa, OK
First Parish Church Weston – Weston, MA
Fox Valley UU Fellowship – Appleton WI
UU Congregation Atlanta – Atlanta, GA
First Unitarian Church of St. Louis – St. Louis, MO
UU Congregation Castine – Castine, ME
UU Church of Davis – Davis, CA
First Parish of Norwell – Norwell, MA
UU Cong. of the Upper Valley – Norwich, VT
UU Church of Urbana-Champaign – Urbana, IL

A special thank you to these congregations for their membership support!
YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS SUPPORT THE UUPCC

Guided by our shared UU Principles, the UUPCC exists to support you as you connect with your partners, wherever they may be, and to build a community of Unitarians and Unitarian Universalists that reaches beyond political or geographic borders. Your gift will help the UUPCC do the important work of strengthening our connections with UUs everywhere. We welcome you to return the form below or visit our secure website http://www.uupcc.org/donate to make a donation online. Thank you!

I/We would like to support the work of the UUPCC with the following contribution(s): $_______

NAME:_____________________________________________________
ADDRESS:________________________________________________________________________
CITY/STATE/ZIP:_____________________________________________________________________
PHONE:________ - _________ - _________
EMAIL:_______________________________________________________________

Payment method:
☐ I am enclosing a check payable to “UUPCC” for $__________
☐ Please charge my Master Card / Visa / American Express in the amount of $_________
Account number_______________________________________________________________
Security Code (required): __________ Expiration: ______________________

(Donors may add an additional gift of $_______ to support one of the specific UUPCC programs below)

☐ UUPCC programs without restriction
☐ Cathy Cordes Travel Grant Fund: helping partners meet face-to-face
☐ Youth Initiatives: connecting teens and young adults around the world

MAIL TO:
UU Partner Church Council
483 E. Lockwood, Suite 109
St. Louis, MO 63119-3169

Unitarian Universalist Partner Church Council is a registered 501(c)(3) organization. Your contributions are tax deductible. Thank you for your generosity!