

OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED !

FUUSA Committees and Social Programs, 2011–12

Councils

- Program Coordinating Council (PCC)** Established by the FUUSA bylaws to “promote communication and cooperation among the councils, committees, and affiliated groups of the Society”
Peggy Sherman 439--0064
- Religious Education Council (REC)** Made up of an elected chair, 12 elected members, the RE Director and a Senior High representative. It is to the Church School what the Board of Education is to the public school system. Meetings are held monthly.
Paula Brewer 237-9091
- Social Responsibilities Council (SRC)** Chartered to guide and coordinate education and action in the realm of matters of moral and social significance. Meets 11:45 AM, 1st Sundays of the month.
Lois Griffin 765-4733

Committees

- Accessibility** Studies current accessibility, both of our premises and our programs to all persons, and proposes needed changes.
Larry Gambino 432-3212
- Annual Dinner** Coordinates the dinner which kicks off the annual canvass drive
Linda Way 456-8199
Meredith Mercer 489-1086
- Art and Aesthetics** Promotes an interest in the visual arts within the congregation, including coordinating the art displays.
Carolyn Stetson 336-4307
- Art Shows** Art shows in Channing Hall are curated by Carolyn Stetson; contact her if you would like to help with shows or suggest artists.
Carolyn Stetson 336-4307
- Auction/Entertainment Book** Coordinates the annual auction of goods and services and the sale of entertainment books. Responsible for raising \$17,000 toward annual budget.
John Walko 765-3756
- Building and Grounds** Assists in maintaining and improving the FUUSA real estate, which is owned by the active membership. This includes coordinating the semi-annual cleanup days.
Dave Metz 477-7491
- Building Use** Coordinates the use of the building by all persons and groups, including those who pay rental fees.
Dave Metz 477-7491
- Canvass Committee** Coordinates and assists with yearly canvass of members for financial pledges.
Peter Brown 732-7178
- Caring Network** Provides care, support, and services to fellow members experiencing crisis.
Sharon Babala 477-2376
- Childcare Coordinator** Organizes childcare for Board sponsored events and ensures that childcare policies and guidelines are understood and adhered to by sponsors of all events offering childcare.
Paula Brewer 237-9091

Cmte. on Professional Ministry Al DeSalvo 438-0519	Assists in the communication between the members of FUUSA and the Minister.
Community Connections Committee Mark Yolles 434-4963	This new committee plans to be of service to the families who live near our congregation. The tentative agenda this year will include distribution of notices, getting to know residents, identifying needs, and putting on a Health and Services Fair in the spring.
Criminal Justice and Prison Reform Committee Judith Brink 482-2029	The Criminal Justice Committee informs the congregation, the public, and our government about the need to reform our criminal justice and prison systems, and offers ways to provide support for people who are subjected to harmful policies.
Denominational Affairs Don Odell 482-4574	Develops awareness of and interest in denominational matters, and encourages participation by members of FUUSA in denominational affairs.
Earth Spirits	Meet occasionally to celebrate our relationship with the Earth through creative use of ritual. (Local chapter of Covenant of UU Pagans)
Endowment Trust Lee Newberg 489-5580	Manages gifts and bequests to the Society and distributes grants from income generated by the trust's principal in furtherance of FUUSA's purposes.
Finance Committee Steve Moskowitz 439-6347	Develops and implements financial policies and procedures for FUUSA in conjunction with other committees, councils, and staff.
Flower Committee Sandy Stone 489-8293	Coordinates donations and arrangement of flowers for the sanctuary for Sunday services and, upon request, for special occasions.
Focus Food Pantry Liaisons Renee Panetta 869-3074 Patty Burch 512-3273	Provides funds for food and other needed items, as well as volunteers to serve those in need within the Focus Churches area of Albany.
Forum Ann Brandon 439-4332	Provides a Sunday morning presentation, often on social action topics, followed by a short discussion. A project of the Social Responsibilities Council.
Fun(d)raising Chuck Manning 439-4226	Acts as an agent to encourage fun events at FUUSA that will raise funds from both members and non-members. We typically do not sponsor events ourselves, but work with ad hoc groups formed for specific events.
Green Sanctuary Chris Bystroff 272-1248 Sandy Steubing 729-2807	Our mission is to facilitate and support the work of the congregation toward affirming and promoting "respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part" (FUUSA is an accredited Green Sanctuary.)
History and Archives Pat Bailey 766-0215	Maintains FUUSA archives, assists with historic research on the congregation, disseminates historic information, articles, etc.
Holiday Bazaar Jan Satin 767-3509	Puts on a fall Craft Bazaar and Café, selling crafts and homemade baked and canned goods, and serving lunch.
Interfaith Impact Liaison Don Odell 482-4574	FUUSA's liaison to Interfaith Impact of NYS
Joy Library Sally Knapp 456-6072	Maintains Joy Library including creating awareness of library, ordering new materials, cataloging existing material, and assisting library users.
Lifespan Learning Jane Lax 462-1791	Facilitates and coordinates lifespan learning opportunities to promote ongoing growth and development within our congregation.

Membership: Continuing Connections Team Barb Metz 477-7491	Reaches out to both newer and long-term members to keep them connected to congregational life.
Membership: New Member Integration Team Barb Manning 439-4226	Meets with new members to help them make connections with activities and committees and get involved; keeps in touch during the first year of their membership.
Membership: Newcomer Welcoming Team Kathy Hodges 355-5018	Shepherds newcomers through joining; hosts Getting to Know UU orientations and New Member joining and recognition in Sunday Service.
Music Committee Kathy Harris 512-5655	Serves as a support and a resource to the Music Director in developing a high quality music program in the church.
Nominating Committee Dawn Dana 446-0382	Selects nominees for FUUSA's elected offices and oversees the annual meeting elections. Responds to any special requests from the Board for other nominees.
Oriel Irene Saulsbery 588-6544	Compiles and publishes <i>Oriel</i> , the literary and arts magazine of FUUSA.
Partner Church Dave Metz 477-7491	Maintains the connection of our congregation with the Unitarian congregation of Szokefalva, Romania, with projects to aid them in areas of education and economic development, and to increase our knowledge of Transylvanian people and customs.
Pastoral Care Associates Rev. Trumbore 463-7135	Pastoral Care Associates are trained in compassionate listening skills and are available to all members and friends of our community in times of need.
Peace Team (SRC) Sybil Stock 489-3245	Peace advocacy.
Personnel Mark Butt 439-6629	Oversees all FUUSA employees, setting and evaluating goals in collaboration with other relevant committees.
Public Relations Paula Moskowitz 439-6347 Al DeSalvo 438-0519	Responsible for outreach to the community: letting them know we are here, providing information about who we are and what we stand for.
Reception Coordinator Jan Satin 767-3509	Coordinates receptions for special events including the Christmas Eve reception and memorial services.
Religious Services Irene Saulsbery 588-6544	Works with the minister to develop and provide religious services that meet the needs of FUUSA and assumes responsibility for those Sundays when the minister is not in the pulpit. Recruits service leaders and ushers for services.
Rummage Sale Committee Patty Burch 512-3273	Two annual rummage sales are held, one in the Fall and one in the Spring, for the purpose of raising money plus providing goods and clothing to the Albany inner-city community and our church family at "bargain" prices.
Safe Congregation Response Team Kathy Harris 512-5655	The Safe Congregation Response Team (SCRT) supports the implementation of Toward a Safe Congregation, FUUSA's approach to both preventing and responding to inappropriate, disruptive, or harmful behaviors, especially as they are directed toward children, youth and vulnerable adults.
Threshold Congregation Team Jacqui Williams 210-6028	The Threshold Team works with our professional consultant to prepare a three year growth plan for FUUSA, acts as a catalyst to implement the plan, and then monitors the progress toward achieving the plan.

UUSC Liaison
Don Odell 482-4574

FUUSA's liaison to Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.

Activities, Clubs, Support Groups

Bridge

Tuesday group for social bridge players; meets at 1 PM in Stott Lounge.

Cancer Support Group
Sandy Stone 489-8293

Informal meetings at which attendees share mutual support, information, and a meal.

Channing Circle
Mark Yolles 434-4963

Monthly gathering of retired FUUSAns, but all are welcome to come hear the program. Brown bag lunch at 12:00, third Mondays. Program at 1:00.

Choir
Matt Edwards 692-8306

Performs approximately 3 out of 4 Sundays and rehearses every Wednesday evening 7:30 to 9:00.

Circle Dinners
Martha Musser 434-2246

Community potluck dinners organized several times a year, held at members' homes.

Men's Groups

Two men's groups are currently meeting. Call the office about availability.

Philosophy Discussion Group
Larry Gambino 432-3212

From 10 am till noon every Tuesday morning, the group meets in an informal and leisurely manner to discuss everyday ideas in everyday language.

Ps & Qs
Jan Satin 767-3509

Informal Wednesday morning get together to crochet, knit, embroider, and discuss projects and quilts either for personal or for raffle purposes.

Small Group Ministry
John Sherman 439-0064

Our way of connecting members, friends and newcomers in intimate circles for sharing, learning, and spiritual growth. One does not have to be a church member to join a group.

Spirituality Book Club
Philomena Moriarty 861-5324

A discussion group around books devoted to spiritual issues. We share reflections on spiritual ideas and experiences as they are related to the book being discussed.

UU Weekend at Silver Bay
Andrea Ricard 439-6393

Intergenerational/intercongregational weekend retreat for over 300 people with over 60 programs run by volunteers attending the event.

Walker Book Club
Linda Hunt 432-3212

Monthly meetings (except during summer) to enjoy a potluck dinner followed by a book discussion.

War Healing Circle
Ryu Yoshida 486-1902

Come listen to the stories of our Warriors and their families. Everyone is welcome: Veterans, those still in Active Duty, their spouses and families, concerned citizens having no direct family ties to our Warriors.

Women for a Better World
Nichola Dutre 399-2147
Patty Burch 512-3273

Formed in Spring of 2011 this women's group gathers over a meal to find ways to make it a 'better world'.

UU Christians
John Sherman 439-0064

UU Christians group meet monthly. Anyone who is interested in considering New Testament stories with an inquiring mind is welcome to participate.

CommUnity Potlucks

Meet semi-monthly for a potluck dinner in various homes. Newcomers are always welcome. Watch newsletter for dates/locations scheduled and call current host to RSVP. Call the church office if you would like to host a potluck.

Updated Jan. 2012