

JONALU'S JOURNAL - REV JONALU JOHNSTONE

We are in liminal space. That means, we are in between. In between normal and what we do not yet know. By the time you read this, the world will have spun around a few times, and a bunch more things will be different. I'm not sure what or how or why, but I am sure that it will be different.

Besides the horrible disease we're dealing with--each to a greater or lesser extent--we are challenged by economic disrupttion. To put it mildly. Some of you have probably lost jobs, or hours. Others have lost investment money. So, it's not a good time for a congregation to be asking for money. Yet, it is nearing the time of year when we do ask for your commitment for next year (our fiscal year goes from June through May). And you may be having trouble figuring out anything at all about next year.

Yet we have to plan. And, already the congregation had its financial struggles. You'll see information elsewhere in this newsletter about the Annual Meeting and its agenda items--including a budget and a Search Committee. Since the budget is for the 2020/21 year, when I will still be serving as your minister, the decision about how much ministry the congregation can afford to seek does not affect the budget you are considering at the April meeting. It is clear from our current year's financials that we cannot continue in our current mode.

That is why I have suggested to the Board that my time be dropped from full-time to 3/4-time with the new fiscal year. I cannot expect that UUFM members and friends will be able, given the current economic circumstances, to dramatically increase their giving to continue to support full-time ministry. And it's not responsible stewardship to draw heavily on the endowment for on-going expenses, especially in the current climate.

We might consider this a rehearsal. A way for UUFM to find out how 3/4-time ministry would work for you, since the Board is recommending searching for a 3/4-time minister. And a way for me to ease towards retirement, which is my next planned step.

I would set clear boundaries around my time (while still being available in an emergency), and you would know when I am available and when I'm not. I have worked 3/4-time before, so I know some of what that entails. It would mean I would be less available. There would be more pressure on the Sunday Services Committee, and I would have to cut back on some of my activities.

Know, though, that I made this offer freely. The Board, acting responsibly, did not reject it, but felt it needed to be acted on by the congregation through the budget approval process.

I am sad about this, as you may be too. Our Developmental Ministry experiment was intended to position UUFM to support full-time ministry. And we didn't make that sustainable. However, that does not diminish the wonderful ministry we are doing together, and that you will continue to do. This could be an opportunity for other lay leadership to emerge, and perhaps for new models of cooperation with surrounding congregations, who are also struggling to maintain ministry.

Things will be different, but that is the way that life goes. We adjust and readjust.

In these challenging times, may you be well. May your family be well. May UUFM be well. And may all of us find ways to contribute to building a better world every day.

In faith and freedom, Jonalu

Contact Jonalu at 405 627-3859 or revjonalu@uufm.net. Read Jonalu's blog at <u>uufm.net/topic/minister-blog/</u>. Find Jonalu's new schedule of virtual office hours on page 3 of this newsletter.

APRIL 2020 SUNDAY SERVICES

While we are unable to gather together at the Fellowship, we will continue to develop ways to gather virtually, including our Sunday morning services.

Learn how to join us at uufm.net/zoom/.

APRIL 5 "FOOLISH HOPE: NONE OF US IS FREE UNTIL WE ALL ARE FREE"

Rev Jonalu Johnstone reflects, "April Fools' Day reminds me that we all believe some foolish things. One of the great deceptions of our time is that we can separate our own circumstances from that of others. This pandemic reminds us forcefully that we are all intimately related. If I am to be free (of disease, or anything else!), you must be free, and they must be free, and all must be free. Liberation is no personal pursuit. How do we do it together?" Our convener is Elke Lorenz at 785 218-4014 or elkelorenz9@gmail.com.

APRIL 12 "JESUS AS LIBERATOR"

Rev Jonalu Johnstone presents this service. This Easter morning, we retell some of the stories of and about Jesus, casting him not as savior, but as liberator. Jesus endorsed new family structures, praised outcasts and foreigners, and invited little children to come to him. Killed because he challenged structures of power, his life and work refused to die. If you have favorite stories or quotations of Jesus, please share them now with Jonalu, at 405 627-3859 or revjonalu@uufm.net, or share during the virtual service. Rob Morrison, at 480 861-1732 or william.robert.morrison@gmail.com, convenes.

APRIL 19 "PERSONAL SPIRITUAL JOURNEYS"

Join us for a new version of our always popular spiritual journeys programs. A selection of members share their own stories of spiritual search and growth. Our convener is Jessica Sievers at 785 532-8471 or sieversj@gmail.com.

APRIL 26 "SURRENDER AS A TOOL FOR LIBERATION IN THE ERA OF CORONAVIRUS" Rev Jonalu Johnstone reflects, "UU's chafe at the idea of surrender. We're such activists and can-do folks. Which is good. Except when it isn't. There are times when we are freed by letting go and giving into the circumstances in which we find ourselves. "Freedom's just another word for nothing left to

are times when we are freed by letting go and giving into the circumstances in which we find ourselves. 'Freedom's just another word for nothing left to lose,' wrote Kris Kristofferson. How might the idea of surrender help us find freedom?" Our convener is Chris Bailey at 785 341-8997 or meadbailey@gmail.com.

We urge voting members to log into our **Annual Meeting**, following the virtual service on April 26, at 12 noon. We'll review the business of the Fellowship in the past year, address the business of the coming year, and vote on questions brought before the congregation. Interested friends are invited to observe. Learn more, and review matters for discussion at the meeting on pages 6 thru 8 of this newsletter.



UUFM is a WELCOMING CONGREGATION

Learn more about the Welcoming Congregation initiative at www.uua.org/lgbtq/welcoming/program

UU FELLOWSHIP OF MANHATTAN

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SUNDAY SERVICES begin at 10:45 AM at 481 ZEANDALE ROAD

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COMING UP ...

The UUFM **ANNUAL MEETING** gathers virtually, following the service on Sunday, **APRIL 26**. Details on pages 6 thru 8 of this newsletter.

In this time of social distancing, UUFM staff and volunteers are working to provide connections for everyone.

Participate in **VIRTUAL RE**, **SUNDAY SERVICES**, and **MEETINGS**. Learn more at http://uufm.net/zoom.

REV JONALU JOHNSTONE'S VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS

Join us from home, to participate in our virtual Sunday services. We begin running announcements at 10:30 am. The service begins at 10:45 am. If you haven't already done so, download Zoom at https://zoom.us, then go to https://zoom.us, then go to https://zoom.us/j/9797400824 to view the service. Or listen on your phone. Call 669 900 6833. When you hear the recorded voice say, "Welcome to Zoom. Please enter your meeting ID followed by pound," dial 979 740 0824#. (URL AND MEETING ID MAY CHANGE, AS ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE FOR UUFM'S OWN ZOOM ACCOUNT. WATCH WEEKLY EMAIL ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR ANY UPDATES ON CONNECTION DETAILS.) Find helpful hints and links to video tutorials at http://uufm.net/zoom/.

Rev Jonalu Johnstone will be available during virtual office hours from 3 to 5 pm, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, throughout April. You can log in anytime from 3 to 5, at https://uuma.zoom.us/j/9797400824 after downloading



Zoom at https://zoom.us. Or you can phone in by calling 669 900 6833. When you hear the recorded voice say, "Welcome to Zoom. Please enter your meeting ID followed by pound" dial 979 740 0824#. Contact Jonalu at 405 627-3859 or revjonalu@uufm.net.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE **A PEOPLE OF LIBERATION?** (from Soul Matters)

True wisdom comes in understanding that sometimes, you are both the prison and the key.

-- Johnathan Jena

Jena is right. Liberation is much more complicated than we usually tell ourselves. It would be so much easier if life really was divided up neatly between the good and bad guys, between those trapped and those holding the key. There are certainly times when the fight for freedom is about calling out and challenging "those people." But true liberation seems to rest with those who have the courage to start with themselves and notice how "me" and "them" are more entangled than it appears at first blush.

And seeing ourselves as both prison and key is only the beginning. Sometimes we are also the guard, carrying out orders we don't like but are too afraid to challenge. And what about the many ways we are funders of the entire jail? The wise ones are right: dismantling oppressive systems begins with noticing the many ways we ourselves prop it up.

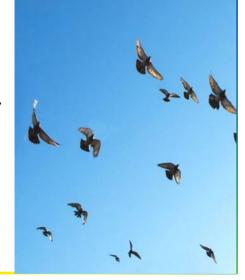
So does this mean that confession plays a bigger role in liberation than we'd like to admit? Well, yes, a bit of healthy self-confrontation seems a must. We need to push ourselves when we play the helpless victim, put on the

holier-than-thou cloak of self-righteousness and hide behind those stories about having "good intentions" or "clean hands."

Yet, as every religion worth its salt says, confession by itself leads down a dark road. It must always be paired with compassion. We've got to remember that as well. We've got to remember that we are all liberators and oppressors, victims and victimizers. It's not just you that is prisoner, key, guard, warden and jail funder wrapped into one. It's all of us. You, me, them. We all play all the parts. We're all caught up in the mess, pain and tragedy of it together.

Which seems to mean we all need to be a bit more humble and a bit more kind.

Indeed, in the end, maybe those are the most important keys. Maybe that's the way we all can make it out together.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

ZOOM IN!

Church in your pajamas from your bedroom. What could be better? Director of Religious Education Sandy Nelson invites kids (and parents) to join her online so she can hear what you've been up to. Drop in via Zoom any time between 10 and 10:30 am, Sundays, before the morning service (until we're back in the Fellowship building). First, if you haven't already done so, download Zoom at https://us04web.zoom.us/j/4849854310 (meeting ID: 484 985 4310). Learn more from Sandy at 785 341-0135 or DRE@uufm.net.

BRING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION HOME

Download a list of "supper table questions" so you can continue to engage kids and keep them thinking about our seven principles. Visit http://uufm.net/topic/re-activities/.

FAMILY FUN FOR EVERYONE -- EASTER SCAVENGER HUNT

DRE Sandy Nelson writes, "It's been a crazy few weeks and I'm worn out. How about you? Wouldn't you love to have a day--or a few days--to just do something fun? I'm in the process of designing a scavenger hunt so we can all have fun together. There will be multiple ways to play. Around your house, around town, or something in between. Your choice. Posting selfies online will be part of the project. Instructions will be coming in the next week so ... get ready!"

REGISTER YOUR CHILD(REN)

Remember, all children must be registered for the 2020/2021 school year. Registration forms are available online at http://form.jotform.us/form/51486475507160. Contact Sandy Nelson at 785 341-0135 or DRE@uufm.net.



ABOVE: SPRING IN BLOOM AT THE FELLOWSHIP THIS YEAR, ON MARCH 28, SHARED BY SANDY NELSON.

UU WORLD TRAVELERS-- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

THE SUMMER PROGRAM IS COMING! Once again, our Religious Education students will travel around the world learning new skills without ever leaving Kansas (or their homes if social distancing continues into Summer). Every week a new host from the Fellowship will take them on a "tour" of a ... far-away place, new skill, imaginary or real-life destination. UUFM World Travelers are looking for you. Our students would love to visit with you on a Sunday morning and learn all about one of your passions. Do you enjoy bird watching? Do you love to cook? Have you been on a cruise? A sampling of past "journeys" include: a trip through the Milky Way Galaxy, a search through the Amazon, a journey to Laos complete with Laos "bingo" as a learning tool, exploration of cave art, the world of bees, a tour of PIZZA! Got a seed of an idea? Talk to Sandy. She'll work with you to turn it into a whole program. It's easy--just ask a few of the folks who have done it in the past: Tom and Monta Manney, Dick Beeman, Larry Weaver, Ken Embers, Sylvia Beeman, Mark Clarke, Brice Hobrock, Scott Tanona, Lily Colburn, Matt Campbell, Susan Adamchak ... Let's add your name to the list! If you'd like to host a "tour" or just help out as an extra adult, please let Sandy know, at 785 341-1035 or dre@uufm.net. We have lots of slots to fill and always welcome volunteers.

SUGGESTIONS REQUESTED FOR HELPING HANDS RECIPIENTS

If there is a local helping organization that you wish we would include in the Helping Hands offerings, please let us know. Talk to Dixie Moreau in person or contact her at 785 477-8188 or dixie.moreau53@att.net. Thank you!

DONATE TO HELPING HANDS ON-LINE

You can donate to our Helping Hands recipient on-line at http://uufm.net/donate. Select "Helping Hands" in the drop-down menu. UUFM itself exists only because of the time, efforts, and financial support of our members and friends. If you want to give to the operations of UUFM to support our social action work, minister, staff, and facilities, please select "General Operations" in the drop-down menu. Learn more from UUFM Treasurer Eli Martinson at 785 564-7603 or elias.martinson@gmail.com.

UUFM VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

With the move to on-line services and meetings, we will need more help with **TECHNICAL ASPECTS** of the services. If this is an area of interest for you, please contact Doug Walter, at 785 537-2425 or kbsi@cox.net.

Providing support to one another is one of the most important things we do as religious community. We have a Caring Team ready to support you, or help you in supporting others. If you're sick and could use someone to do errands, or check in with regular phone calls, let us know. If you're available to help our **Caring Team** with supporting those who need help, also let us know. Contact Rev Jonalu at 405 627-3859 or revjonalu@uufm.net.

Volunteers are needed in April to help sort and box our **MESI and Crisis Center** donations. Learn more from Judy Nickelson at 785 304-0086 or judynickelson@gmail.com.

HELPING HANDS

In APRIL, Helping Hands contributions will be collected for **THE FAIRY GODMOTHERS' FUND**, which makes grants to meet the immediate and critical needs of local women that are not being met by traditional funding sources. Learn more at www.fgfund.org/

In March, Fellowship members and friends contributed our morning collections to Wonder Workshop. THANK YOU all for your generous donations! Learn more from Helping Hands coordinator Dixie Moreau at 785 477-8188 or dixie.moreau53@att.net.

BAG LADY AUCTION CANCELLED

This year's Bag Lady Auction, which normally raises \$30,000 for the Manhattan Emergency Shelter (MESI) operating budget, has been cancelled due to current stay-at-home conditions. Fellowship member Kathleen Oldfather, who has organized Fellowship attendance for several years, reminds us that the shelter will have to make up for this loss of income. You can still support the shelter by mailing your contribution to 416 S 4th Street, Manhattan, KS 66502, or donate online at http://www.mesikansas.org/donate.html. Your continued support allows MESI to serve our homeless population in Manhattan and the surrounding areas.

The Crisis Center and the Manhattan Emergency Shelter still need our support!

The needs at Manhattan's shelters are greater than ever. So, even though we are not meeting in person, we will continue with our normal April collection of in-kind donations.

Items will be collected on the front porch of Clovia House, 1200 Pioneer Lane. You can place your donations in the box or tub behind the mailbox beginning April 1.

MESI is taking only food, cleaning supplies and personal care items at this time. They are especially in need of cereal, granola bars, canned soup, tv dinners, boxed meals, Clorox wipes, disinfectant spray, hand soap, hand sanitizer, dish soap, multi-purpose cleaners. Things in high demand at The Crisis Center can be found www.thecrisiscenterinc.org/donate.html.

Do NOT MAKE A SPECIAL TRIP TO THE STORE TO PURCHASE ITEMS FOR THIS COLLECTION, especially if you are over 60 or immunocompromised! If you have things at home or are getting things from the store anyway, we will happily accept your donation.

Alternatively, CASH DONATIONS ARE MUCH APPRECIATED and can be made to MESI at http://www.mesikansas.org/donate.html, and to The Crisis Center at http://www.thecrisiscenterinc.org/, then click "Donate \$ Now" on the left side of the page. Thank you so much for thinking of those experiencing multiple crises in this uncertain time. Learn more from Judy Nickelson at 785 304-0086 or judynickelson@gmail.com.

No time is good for an event like the Covid-19 pandemic, but for us, it couldn't have been more poorly timed--as if we had a choice! This meeting comes at the end of an eventful year that has forced us to realize our capacity to fund ministry, but one filled with examples of our close connections. Rev Jonalu continues to amaze me with her zeal and ability to keep us on track with her thoughtful messages, her visible involvement in the community, and good humor in spite of our hiccups with being unable to fully fund a full-time minister from our annual giving. But, after all, that's what "developmental" ministry is all about! It's sad to think that we'll be winding down the Jonalu era, but I enter this next year with a sense that we know more about ourselves than we ever have, and I feel that together, as a community, we can be confident in moving forward. As we approach our Annual Meeting this year, I charge you to inform yourselves about the issues to be discussed. We'll be providing some pre-meeting informational videos and perhaps some Zoom sessions to aid in that effort. So, keep checking your UUFM emails and look for updates on the website.

It goes without saying that this year's UUFM Annual Congregational Meeting will be somewhat different than in the past. We will gather in a virtual forum (a Zoom meeting) and conduct our business. The bylaws were written in a time when we could not have foreseen current events, so we have to accept the fact that our quorum and our voting in the virtual meeting space will count as official business. The only other option is to postpone the votes until we can meet in-person, not really knowing how long in the future we'd be postponing the important business of our community. We could consider an opening motion at the start of the meeting to "suspend" the bylaws. I suppose this would be easy to do but consider that the motion and vote itself would be virtual! These are Interesting times, to say the least.

This year's meeting will be a busy one, so we'll include three items in the consent agenda. Specifically, the consent agenda will include:

- 1) approval of the minutes of the 2019 Annual Congregational Meeting
- 2) approval of the minutes of the October 2019 Annual Congregation Meeting
- 3) approval of the slate of nominees for the Board (published herein)

The draft minutes of the annual congregation meeting and the minutes of the October congregational meeting are on the UUFM website (uufm.net/documents). Board nominees are also published herein.

ADOPTION OF THE MISSION AND VISION. We need to officially adopt the mission and vision statements that were developed at our Searching for the Future weekend back in December 2019 and refined by the leaders of that event. The approval of the mission requires a 2/3 majority. The mission and vision were published in the January 2020 Newsletter and are as follows:

Mission: "We are dedicated to challenging ourselves and society into wholeness"

Vision: "A vibrant, inclusive congregation, UUFM is widely known as a safe haven and a force for social justice"

APPROVAL OF THE SEARCH FOR A NEW MINISTER. We approved moving forward with a ministerial search in October 2019, but we didn't approve the nature of that position (full-time vs part-time, or whether we would elect to have another developmental minister). The Board recommends the hire of a three-quarter time settled minister, which would qualify us for help from the UUA. We will have a coach that will provide guidance throughout the process. Settled ministry is different from anything we've had before. Jonalu is a developmental minister and previous ministers have been contract ministers. Settled ministry is a long-term commitment between congregation and minister and therefore is a more involved process. We will explain these differences in our presentation at the meeting. Most importantly, there is the upfront cost of the search, which the Board decided would be most appropriately paid for from the expendable endowment with Board approval for spending those funds. UUA advised us to expect between \$10,000 and \$15,000 in the spring of 2021, but that cost would depend on how far away candidates are travelling. In the following fiscal year (2021/2022), there would be an additional cost of moving the new minister to Manhattan, which would again be quite variable depending on the specifics of the move. An upper end of that expense was estimated as \$15,000. We can discuss more specifics at the meeting but the Board felt that the potential \$30,000 investment up front was worth having a settled minister.

MINISTERIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE. We'll move ahead with the approval of the search committee regardless of the result of the kind of minister we approve. The slate of nominees is provided herein [see page 7].

[Words from the Chair continues on page 7]

APPROVAL OF THE 2020/2021 BUDGET. The budget narrative is provided by Eli Martinson, Treasurer [see page 8 of this newsletter]. A few things to note here are the changes to the salary line due to cost of living adjustments and the reduction of Jonalu's salary to reflect a three-quarter time role. This change was offered voluntarily by Jonalu and we're satisfied that she is comfortable with the change. That said, it is a change with which we as a congregation need to be comfortable. In a way, it will be a trial period for the new model of ministry that we should expect with a settled 3/4-time minister, *if* that is what we decide to do. It will give the congregation time to recalibrate our expectations of workload from the minister, and consequently, for our volunteers who will be picking up the slack. Jonalu has also said that this would be like a phased retirement plan for her and not a problem.

Our proposed budget total of \$168,890 is almost \$20,000 less than last year, and includes income from pledges at \$137,852, which is just above where our projected income from pledges stands at this time. With changes to the economy, no one can be sure how much pledge income will be realized, but we also hope to have in place a more robust stewardship program in line with recommendations from our Next Steps Weekend. With those changes to stewardship, we should see fundamental changes in our "conversations about money" and the ability to realize the needed income to fully fund our reduced budget.

ENDOWMENT DISTRIBUTION. Due primarily to a shortfall of about \$20,000 in pledge money, we need to approve the use of endowment funds to balance the current year's budget. Pledge income is always difficult to estimate, and this year was no exception. With all of our ministerial transition funds exhausted, we needed to bring in a higher amount of pledge income to compensate and we were unable to do that despite our best efforts. So, although we'll be asking for approval to use up to \$20,000 in endowment funds, it is likely the amount will be somewhere closer to \$15,000. We will need these funds in order to make our payroll.

Learn more from UUFM Executive Board Chair Mark Mayfield at 785 410-3073 or ferguson.mayfield@gmail.com.

MINISTERIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

These candidates for the now-forming Ministerial Search Committee were chosen from nominations provided by Fellowship members. Voting members attending the Annual Meeting on April 26 will be asked to confirm the nominees.

Jessica Sievers, chair Molly McGaughey Susan Rensing Scott Tanona Larry Weaver Marisa Larson

Lily Colburn (alternate)

Learn more from Jessica Sievers at 785 532-8471 or sieversj@gmail.com.

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Manhattan ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA April 26, 2020

Announcements

Message from the Chair--Year in Review

Reports from Church Staff

Consent Agenda

2019 Annual Mtg. minutes

October 2019 Congregational meeting minutes

Slate of new Board nominees

Adoption of the Vision and Mission

Ministerial search

Recommendation from the Board

Slate of nominees for ministerial search

Approval of the Proposed Annual Budget for FY 20/21

Distribution of endowment funds

New Business

Adjournment

Our **Annual Meeting** will be held virtually, following the Sunday service, on **April 26**. Log into the meeting at 12 noon, at https://uuma.zoom.us/j/9797400824. Voting members are urged to take this opportunity to participate in the future of our Fellowship, as we discuss our hopes for fiscal year 2020/2021 (June 1, 2020 thru May 31, 2021). Please review the information on the previous 2 pages, and this page, to familiarize yourself with items to be discussed and voted upon.

PROPOSED FY 2020/2021 UUFM BUDGET

UUFM BUDGET	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	CHANGE
INCOME			
Contributions-Cash	\$3,000.00	\$500.00	-83.33%
Contributions-Non-Pledge	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00	-50.00%
Contributions-Pledges	\$150,000.00	\$137,852.00	-8.10%
Endowment Distribution	\$25,258.00	\$24,038.00	-4.83%
Fund Raising	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00	-50.00%
Other Income	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00	25.00%
TOTAL INCOME	\$188,258.00	\$168,890.00	-10.29%
EXPENSES			
Administration	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	0.00%
Building Contingency Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Caring	\$100.00	\$100.00	0.00%
Communications/Publicity	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	0.00%
UUA Contribution	\$9,046.00	\$9,950.00	9.99%
Facilities	\$6,230.00	\$5,865.00	-5.86%
Green Sanctuary	\$100.00	\$100.00	0.00%
Insurance	\$4,000.00	\$3,250.00	-18.75%
Leadership Development	\$1,771.00	\$2,000.00	12.93%
Legal Fees	\$40.00	\$40.00	0.00%
Membership	\$600.00	\$400.00	-33.33%
Minister's Discretionary Fund	\$300.00	\$300.00	0.00%
Music	\$360.00	\$350.00	-2.78%
Payroll Jonalu 3/4 time	\$140,341.00	\$128,175.00	-8.67%
Religious Education	\$3,460.00	\$1,960.00	-43.35%
Sitter	\$400.00	\$200.00	-50.00%
Social	\$840.00	\$700.00	-16.67%
Social Action now includes Welcoming Cong	\$2,800.00	\$2,200.00	-21.43%
Stewardship	\$200.00	\$200.00	0.00%
Sunday Services	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	0.00%
Utilities	\$6,825.00	\$5,500.00	-19.41%
Welcoming Congregation rolled into Social Action line	\$100.00	\$0.00	-100.00%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$185,113.00	\$168,890.00	-8.76%

APPROVAL OF DRAFT 2019 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES AND OCTOBER 20 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

Voting members are asked to review these meeting minutes at uufm.net/annualmtg2019minutes/ and uufm.net/10-19-19congmtgdraft/, before the Annual Meeting.

Notes on the Proposed Budget

One of the first things you'll notice, and the biggest change this year, is the decrease to payroll. Please see this month's *Jonalu's Journal* [on page 1 of this newsletter] for more information.

While Jonalu will be moving to three-quarter time, we did increase her base salary to meet the mid-level of the UUA salary guidelines. We also increased Renea's salary to meet the mid-level of the UUA salary guidelines for music directors and included professional development money to help her attend the UUA Music Directors' annual meeting. The budget also includes a 2% increase for Sandy, Sue, and Troy.

At the Next Steps Weekend in September, Barry Finkelstein recommended that we include as part of the budget any endowment money we plan to spend on operating expenses. After several conversations, the Finance Committee and Board have agreed to include an "Endowment Distribution" line item. Our current plan is to budget 3-4% of the expendable endowment as part of the annual budget. The hope is, in better times than we're facing right now, we'll only be using a portion of the annual earnings. To be clear, the budgeted amount will be considered as approved by the congregation and not considered as part of the 5% the Board has access to. If we receive more pledges than we've budgeted for, we'll use less endowment money.

Contact Fellowship Treasurer Eli Martinson at 785 564-7603 or eliias.martinson@gmail.com, with questions about Fellowship finances and for help with your pledge.

BOARD OFFICER NOMINEES - Executive Board candidates standing for election appear in **BOLD ITALICS**. Officers continuing terms from the previous year appear in plain text:

Chair - Rob Morrison

Chair-Elect - Judy NICKELSON

Treasurer - DAN SWENSON

Secretary - Cathy Hedge

Member-at-Large - **DEIRDRE GREELEY** (2-year term)

Member-at-Large - GENE SIEVERS (1-year term)

Past Chair - Mark Mayfield

GROW GREEN MATCH DAY

We are participating in Grow Green Match Day through the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation on APRIL 22. The process is working in reverse this year. Traditionally, donations would be matched, with the donated money going into our permanent endowment, and the match money coming to us to use for donations. This year, all donated funds will come to us for operations, and the match--50% of up to \$20,000--will be deposited in our endowment fund. You can donate online at www.growgreenmanhattan.com, or you can download the giving form at the same site and mail in your contribution. Learn more from UUFM Treasurer Eli Martinson at 785 564-7603 or elias.martinson@gmail.com.

YOUR MUSIC FOR SUNDAY SERVICES

UUFM Music Director Renea Brown and her husband Jeff Brown are voluntarily quarantined, after exposure to the Coronavirus. Renea reports she and Jeff are doing well and feeling fine! While quarantined, Renea is working from home, and she invites Fellowship musicians to contribute videos of their music for use in services. If you would like to contribute a video of your music, contact Renea at 785 209-2886 or reneareasoner@gmail.com.

UUFM STAFF MEMBERS WILL BE WORKING FROM HOME

Staff members will not be available at the Fellowship building during the state-wide Stay-at-Home order. Our staff is always available to assist you with your questions, concerns, and suggestions. Contact Rev Jonalu Johnstone at 405 627-3859 or revjonalu@uufm.net, Director of Religious Education Sandy Nelson at 785 341-0135 or dre@uufm.net, office administrator Susan Turner at 785 539-3272 or office@uufm.net, or Music Director Renea Brown at 785 209-2886 or reneareasoner@gmail.com.

HELPFUL INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Contact Fellowship administrator Susan Turner at 785 539-3272 or office@uufm.net to **UPDATE YOUR MAILING ADDRESS**, **PHONE**, or **EMAIL**, or to **CANCEL YOUR SUBSCRIPTION** to this newsletter. You may also contact Susan to learn how to join our private **COFFEE AND CONVERSATIONS FACEBOOK** group.

If you've considered **BECOMING A MEMBER** of UUFM, ask Welcoming chair Shirley Hobrock at 785 776-3175 or shirleyjhobrock@hotmail.com, or Rev Jonalu Johnstone at 785 537-2349 or revjonalu@uufm.net.

Fellowship members may receive **UU World** MAGAZINE, without cost. An audio version of *UU World* is available for those with vision or reading difficulties. To subscribe, contact Susan Turner at 785 539-3272 or office@uufm.net. Read *UU World* online at www.uuworld.org.

Join in discussions of interest; receive information on community events, and last-minute updates and announcements on our UUFM **EMAIL LIST**. Contact list moderator Ruth Welti at welti@ksu.edu to subscribe.

Consider the convenience of **ELECTRONIC GIVING**. UUFM relies on the financial support of our congregation and electronic contributions offer a simple and easy way to give on a regular basis. For details, contact Fellowship bookkeeper Sandy Nelson at sandralounelson@yahoo.com or 785 341-0135. *Thank you!*

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please contact fellowship administrator Susan Turner at 785 539-3272 or office@uufm.net, **NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY EVENING** with announcements and information for inclusion in Sunday morning order of service announcements.

CARING FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

We have a Caring Team ready to support you. If you're sick and could use someone to do errands, or check in with regular phone calls, let us know. If you're available to help our **Caring Team** with supporting those who need help, also let us know. If you could use a hand, or if you know members or friends who are experiencing life challenges and would appreciate assistance or support, contact us at 405 627-3859 or office@uufm.net.

BUILDING USE AND SCHEDULING

While the state-wide Stay-at-Home Order remains in place, there will be no multiple-person activities scheduled in the Fellowship Building. Contact Susan Turner at 785 539-3272 or office@uufm.net, with questions about building use and scheduling.

MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for submissions to the April edition of *The UUFM Voice* will be Wednesday, **APRIL 15**. Submissions received later may not be included in the newsletter. Please send your newsletter contributions to Susan Turner at 785 539-3272 or office@uufm.net.

APRIL 2020 at UUFM

APRIL 2020 at UUFM									
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday			
	W. T.		1	3 TO 5 PM JONALU JOHNSTONE virtual office hours uuma.zoom.us/j/9797400824	3	4			
5 10 AM ZOOM IN TO RE us04web.zoom.us/ij/4849854310 10:45 AM SUNDAY SERVICE Foolish Hope: None of Us Is Free Until We All Are Free uuma.zoom.us/ij/9797400824	6	3 TO 5 PM JONALU JOHNSTONE virtual office hours uuma.zoom.us/j/9797400824	8	3 TO 5 PM JONALU JOHNSTONE virtual office hours uuma.zoom.us/j/9797400824	10	11			
	APRIL 12 EASTER SCAVENGER HUNT Sandy Nelson, dre@uufm.net	3 TO 5 PM JONALU JOHNSTONE virtual office hours 7 PM BOARD MEETING Mark Mayfield, 410-3073 uuma.zoom.us/j/9797400824	Last Minute Newsletter Deadline	3 TO 5 PM JONALU JOHNSTONE virtual office hours uuma.zoom.us/j/9797400824	17	18			
19 10 AM ZOOM IN TO RE us04web.zoom.us/j/4849854310 10:45 AM SUNDAY SERVICE Personal Spiritual Journeys uuma.zoom.us/j/9797400824	20	3 TO 5 PM JONALU JOHNSTONE virtual office hours uuma.zoom.us/j/9797400824	22 EARTH DAY	3 TO 5 PM JONALU JOHNSTONE virtual office hours uuma.zoom.us/j/9797400824	24	25			
26 10 AM RE us04web.zoom.us/j/4849854310 10:45 AM SUNDAY SERVICE Surrender as a Tool for Liberation in the Time of Coronavirus uuma.zoom.us/j/9797400824 12 NOON ANNUAL MTG uuma.zoom.us/j/9797400824	27	3 TO 5 PM JONALU JOHNSTONE virtual office hours uuma.zoom.us/j/9797400824	29	30 3 TO 5 PM JONALU JOHNSTONE virtual office hours uuma.zoom.us/j/9797400824		Se la constant de la			