

February 2024 Minister's Board Report

Dear Board Members,

We find ourselves amidst another period of shifting roles and players in this complicated year. As you know, Bruce Johnson is stepping away from the board and treasurer role for personal reasons. I'm very grateful for the many things Bruce did during his time on the board; his contributions during the time we were getting established with Sunday services in our current building were immense.

As I share this report, Colleen Zenger (now in a volunteer capacity) and Amy Styffe are working on getting us up to date with UUCF's finances. We are optimistic that some illuminating reports will be shared with the board during this upcoming Tuesday meeting. Budget work and a stewardship drive need to begin asap, so this bookkeeping work is crucial to making that happen.

We have been enriched by the presence of Sam Hunt as our intern minister this year—and we are already past the halfway mark. He will be with us through the first week in June.

UUCF's programming (on-going small groups, drop-in groups, adult ed classes, etc.) continue to attract engagement. Like many congregations in this "post-pandemic" time, we are seeing a shift from in-person attendance at Sunday worship as the marker of congregational engagement. It will be important that we continue to explore the many other ways that people engage within contemporary faith communities--as we evolve into a community that meets the needs of people at this moment in time. I have been meeting with our Engagement Committee to discuss new approaches to membership recruitment. And our newly designed Caring Committee will soon be offering a very different approach to pastoral care within our community.

This has been a challenging year for this board, I know. I'm very appreciative of your efforts.

In gratitude,

Rev. Dr. Jason Cook