

*Unitarian Universalist
Church in Meriden*



Annual Report
Fiscal Year
2022 – 2023

328 Paddock Avenue
Meriden, CT 06450-6985
203-237-9297
www.uumeriden.org

	<u>Index</u>	<u>Page</u>
Call to Annual Meeting, 2023	Janet Hiller	3
2022 Annual Meeting Minutes	Janet Hiller	4
Minister	Rev. Tony Lorenzen	5-6
Governance Reports		
Leadership Team	Nancy Burton	6-7
Finance Report	Trish Schneider	8
Property Report	Donna Stimpson	9
Faith Formation Reports		
Worship Associates Report	Peg Kirkpatrick	10-11
Membership Annual Report	Liz Hall	11-12
Pastoral Care Team Annual Report	Kathleen Lindberg	13
Social Justice	Steve Volpini	13
Fundraising	Diane Szymaszek	14
Stewardship Report	Liz Hall	14-15
Appendix:		
FY '22 Treasurer's Report	Trish Schneider	15



Unitarian Universalist Church in Meriden

Sunday Serves at 10:30am
 Rev. Tony Lorenzen, Minister
 Nancy Burton, Co-President
 Janet Hiller, Co-President

May 9, 2023

Dear Member of UUCM,

The Annual Meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Meriden is hereby called for Sunday May 21, 2023 directly after the worship service. The meeting will be held both in person and via Zoom.

Meeting agenda:

Minutes of the May 22, 2022 Annual Meeting

Treasurer's Report: Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Election of Offices: President: Nancy Burton for one Year

Vice President: _____ for two years

Secretary: Tracy Goodrich for one year

Treasurer: Elaine Donovan for two years

Budget for Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

Bylaws revision

Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Any other business that shall come before the meeting.

Before the meeting, please go to the emailed announcements/newsletter and open the links for the meeting Zoom link, the Bylaws revision, the Annual Report, and the Budget for '23-'24.

Please plan to attend this important meeting.

Yours truly,
 Janet Hiller, Co-President and Clerk

328 Paddock Avenue • Meriden, CT 06450-6985
 (203) 237-9297



**Unitarian Universalist Church in Meriden
Annual Meeting Minutes
May 22, 2022**

The meeting was held both in person and via Zoom with a quorum present.

Nancy Burton, Co-President, called the meeting to order at 12:30pm, after those attending in person had partaken of a light lunch provided by the Leadership Team / Board of Trustees.

- The minutes of the June 19, 2021 Annual Meeting were approved unanimously via a motion by Janet Hiller, seconded by Peg Kirkpatrick.
- The minutes of the Special Congregational Meeting held on Feb. 27, 2022 were approved unanimously via a motion by Peg Kirkpatrick, seconded by Donna Stimpson. (That meeting was called to approve withdrawal of funds, if absolutely necessary, from the Legacy Fund to balance the budgets of fiscal years '21-'22 and '22-'23.)
- The Treasurer's report for fiscal year '20-'21 was presented via screen sharing. After forgiveness on the Paycheck Protection Program loan was received, the deficit was reduced to less than \$900. The report was accepted unanimously via a motion by Steve Volpini, seconded by Karl Eckert.
- The Annual Report for FY '21-'22 was approved via a motion by Ann Dougherty, seconded by Angie Swanger.
- The proposed budget for FY '22-'23 was presented via screen sharing. It posts a potential surplus of \$339. It was approved unanimously via a motion by Sandy Duffy, seconded by Anita Sanders.
- Trish Schneider was unanimously elected to a one-year term as Treasurer via a motion by Janet Hiller, seconded by Steve Volpini.
- Two Bylaws changes were approved:
 - The name of the governing body of UUCM will revert to Board of Trustees to be consistent with standard terminology. This was approved unanimously via a motion by Jeff May, seconded by Sandy Duffy.
 - Unanimous approval was given via a motion by Richard Gault, seconded by Janet Hiller, to delete the Standard Operating Procedures from the Bylaws. They are no longer used.

In response to a question from Anita Sanders, Nancy noted that the Board will undertake further review of the Bylaws during the coming fiscal year.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:57pm via a motion by Donna Stimpson, seconded by Sandy Duffy.

Respectfully submitted, Janet Hiller, Co-President/Clerk

Minister's Report

Rev. Tony Lorenzen to the Congregation

Dear Holy Ones,

I write to you as we approach the Annual Meeting at the end of the program year with absolute joy in my heart. I am enjoying my work as much, if not more, than I ever have in my 16 years of ordained ministry. At this time just two years ago I was speaking with you about the very real possibility of shutting your doors, so part of the reason for my joy is feeling a sense of resurrection, coming back to life, re-animation! Part of the reason for this is that the Covid quarantine is over, and I'm reenergized again after a couple years that were physically and emotionally draining for me and the congregation. Part of the reason is that you have a wonderful Board of Trustees and a fantastic team of Worship Associates who approach their roles as congregational leaders as true custodians, always with your spiritual and organizational health and well-being as their first priority. Part of the reason is you have made some decisions about ministry, and I feel wanted, respected, and valued, and for that I'm grateful beyond words. I look forward to helping you shape a vibrant future as the years go on.

Last spring at this time we reviewed some congregational goals for this year, and I have based my ministry, my time and effort, working with the board and others to reach these goals. The goals we discussed last spring were:

- Develop a 3-year plan
- Make Decisions on the Future of Ministry
- Increase Spiritual Growth Opportunities
- Fine-Tune Mission and Membership
- Develop Outreach & Marketing Strategy

Develop a 3-year plan - We haven't developed a three-year plan, but we have done some other things that are steering us toward creating one. We've made a lot of progress toward the other goals on our to-do list for this year, and I think that making a three-year plan should be one of our fall conversations and projects.

Decisions on the Future of Ministry - This year I asked the board to have conversations with the congregation about making my ministry with you more permanent or at least moving toward a longer-term contract, as after four years with you going year to year, I'd like more stability than serving year to year provides. A lot is still dependent on our financial situation, but I know I am more motivated (and I hope you are as well) when a long-term commitment is present. The congregation decided not to be officially yoked with Mattatuck UU Society in terms of my ministry, and I will have separate contracts with each congregation next year.

Increase Spiritual Growth Opportunities - Neither you nor I achieved this goal this year, although we did take the step of having some Religious Education programming for young people on Sunday mornings. We had some more guest ministers, and we are getting small group ministry going again. In March we hosted an extraordinarily successful Unconference that was an initial step in reconnecting us with Connecticut congregations. All of these things move us toward this goal. I will bring this goal forward with me next year. I plan on offering a course/group on recovering from your religious past for people who carry baggage and harm from other religions. Pastoral Care is not always considered spiritual growth, but it truly is part of the way people grow spiritually. Knowing there is support, friendship, a listening ear when you need one helps us do our own spiritual as well as emotional work. Revitalizing a lay spiritual care team will help with this next year and on into the future.

Fine-Tune Mission and Membership - Our work on revising the congregational bylaws helped us have conversations about why we are here and what it means to be a member of this congregation. I consider this a success. We have a great mission, and we need to communicate it in different ways. We learned that having a mission of being a Third Place for people with a liberal world view fulfills the mission we already own.

Develop Outreach and Marketing Strategy - We've made a lot of progress together on outreach and marketing. We are well on the way to meeting this goal, and we'll carry it into next year. Initial conversations about choosing a new name and developing a clear logo for our congregation were positive. As some options were circulated, comments told us that many of you don't want to lose the words Unitarian Universalist from our name, and some think it necessary to really boost our reach. We also learned that a name that doesn't center on one particular town will help us in terms of advertising to other towns contiguous to Meriden. The marketing team has been meeting regularly and will do some things to make a fall marketing push. We will also continue the name and logo conversation into next year until we've reached a name and logo design everyone can get behind. In order to be ready for a marketing and outreach push, we need to tighten up our Sunday greeting and hospitality ministry as well as our visitor follow-up process.

Other Things Worth Noting

Worship – We have an amazing team of Worship Associates, and this year made a lot of progress. Please read their annual report. Next year I hope to recruit more people interested in helping us plan and lead Sunday services, as well as do training for both new and seasoned worship leaders. I will also offer a lay preaching seminar.

Pastoral Care – This year I learned that my part-time status led me to overcommit in terms of pastoral care. Next year we will have pastoral care team training and improve the ways we all take care of each other.

GOALS for NEXT YEAR – I recommend the following goals for us going into next year: Formulate a 3-Year Plan, Work with Parents to organize and rebirth a Religious Education program for families, Provide more Spiritual Growth opportunities for members and friends, and Decide on a New Name and Logo. I look forward to next year and to a vibrant future for both me and the congregation.

Love and Blessings,

Rev. Tony

Governance Reports

President's Annual Report

It has been a busy year for the church community and for the Board of Trustees. Overall it has been a very productive and uplifting year.

A high point of the year was welcoming eight new members to our congregational family. We are so happy that they have joined us on our congregational journey. To reach this point, there was a successful "New to UU" orientation that took place with online content and a meeting with the minister, which included the prospective members, some current members, and myself.

We held monthly Congregational Conversations this year that were led by either the minister or the Board of Trustees. These conversations have been pretty well attended and seemed to increase the investment and

involvement of the UUCM community members. People were able to share ideas and opinions and help determine future directions for the church.

A successful “Unconference” was held this year with representatives of several UU congregations in Connecticut participating. The BOT assisted the minister in making this a success. We are hopeful this will be the beginning of a strengthened connection between Connecticut UU congregations.

The BOT worked with the Board of our yoked congregation, the Mattatuck Unitarian Universalist Society (MUUS), to continue our joint contract with our minister for this current fiscal year. A decision has been made that each congregation will have a separate contract with the minister in the next fiscal year. We will continue to share Rev. Tony’s insurance coverage with MUUS.

At a Congregational Conversation, there was a discussion on how we wanted to proceed with our church’s relationship with our minister. The consensus was that we would do a two-year “Contract to Call” with the minister. During these two years, the congregation will be evaluating the health of the congregation and the performance of the minister, with the idea that we’ll consider calling the minister at the end of this two-year contract.

This President participated in a Unity Rally in Meriden that was put together by the UUCM Social Justice Council along with the NAACP and other community leaders. People of various ethnic, racial, and religious backgrounds participated.

The Board of Trustees did a major revision of the church’s Bylaws. The draft was reviewed with the membership at two Congregational Conversations, and written and oral input was received. The final draft of the Bylaws reflects the input we received and will be voted on at this year’s Annual Meeting.

Throughout the year the BOT kept up with the status of the COVID pandemic and recommendations from experts in the field. Our policies regarding this pandemic were altered as indicated.

We organized a “Clean Up Our Church Day,” which was very successful. Many people participated.

We have continued to recognize the work of members of our congregation with the “Member of the Month” recognition. So many people do so much for our church community and should be recognized for their efforts. Thank you all.

There are things we need to think about to ensure the future of our church:

1. Taking care of our building and grounds—Property Committee could use help.
2. Caring and Concern/Pastoral Care—how to we take care of each other. Perhaps we can grow the Caring and Concern Committee.
3. Religious education for kids—we will need to expand what we do if we hope to have more young families join us.
4. Administrative help—we cannot afford an office administrator at this time. We have volunteers doing some of this work, but we need more volunteer involvement.
5. Evaluation—we will need to develop a process for evaluation of our congregation and our minister.

Again, I want to thank this congregation for their enthusiasm and participation in our church community. Onward and upward.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Burton, President

Finance Annual Report

Trish Schneider

This year the Finance Committee continued its regular work, using remote tools like Zoom. The primary focus was maintaining the congregation's financial health and training the Assistant Treasurer. Elaine Donovan will take over as Treasurer from Trish Schneider as of July 1, 2023.

Operating income for FY '23 is projected to be higher than the budgeted amount, mainly due to pledge and collection plate income that has been higher than budgeted. We are projecting a small surplus for the fiscal year 2023. Details of the operating income and expenses are below.

- Operating Income: We had three major sources of income: Pledges, Collections (Sunday and Special), and Fundraising/Rental. Pledge income is higher than budgeted. Thank you to all who have made a pledge and honored it in a timely manner. UUCM had one major fundraising event: the Holiday Fair. The Spring Tag Sale is scheduled for June 11, 2023. In addition to our fundraising events, income has been raised through the sale of face masks and crafts at Gallery 53. Rev. Tony made great videos which helped with our Holiday Appeal. This year the Holiday Appeal was targeted to the Pastoral Care Fund. Rental income is close to the budgeted amount.
- Expenses are anticipated to be slightly lower than budgeted. The Finance Committee was able to keep the building expenses low by prepaying heating fuel.
- In 2023, our Legacy Fund income has fluctuated due to economic and political uncertainties in the world, but it has experienced a small gain. As of March 30, 2023, the Legacy Fund stood at \$59,803.87, which is a gain of \$3,000 over July 2022.
- The Mortgage on the building as of May 1st is \$24,163.09. The mortgage will be paid off on July 1, 2025.

In FY '23 the Finance Team:

- Ran a successful Holiday Appeal for the Pastoral Care Fund. The Holiday Appeal raised \$950.
- Researched potential sources of income, such as grants and loans for energy efficiency.
- Conducted monthly reviews of the congregation's financial reports.
- Conducted a congregational budget forum prior to the Annual Meeting.

Many thanks to this year's members of the Fundraising event teams and Finance Committee. Special thanks to the Fundraising events organizers: Diane Szymaszek and Trish Schneider. Thanks also to those members who helped at the Holiday Fair and upcoming Tag Sale. Finance Committee members are: Trish Schneider, (Treasurer), Elaine Donovan, (Assistant Treasurer), Janet Hiller (Secretary), Sandy Duffy, Richard Gault, Rich Kargher. Lastly, thank you to Rev. Tony Lorenzen for his creative support for the Holiday Appeal and the Pledge Drive.

If you are interested in joining the Finance Committee, please contact the Treasurer, Trish Schneider, at Trish1864@gmail.com.

Respectfully Submitted by Trish Schneider, Treasurer

Property Annual Report

Donna Stimpson

First, I would like to thank Randy Heath for being the Property Chair for several years, especially during his busy work life.

This report will discuss the inspections done in 2021-2023 and the projects in the short, middle and long term.

Inspections:

The Meriden Health Department inspects the facility annually, most recently on August 9, 2022. They found the water in the bathroom was too hot. We will address this issue.

The Meriden Fire Marshall completed an inspection on August 23, 2022. Not all of the emergency lighting works. We will replace emergency lighting and use the maintenance budget to do so. Hometronics Company completed the fire alarm inspection; we are in compliance.

Fire Extinguishers were inspected and in compliance.

City of Meriden Property Assessment: Every four years non-profit organizations must complete M3 Quadrennial Renewal Report to maintain property tax exempt status. The City has not enforced this requirement in quite some time. The report needed to be submitted by November 7, 2021. The Meriden Assessor's Office did an on-site inspection, and we are deemed a non-profit and will maintain our property tax exempt status. The next M3 Quadrennial Renewal Report is due in 2025. The question of the church having an up-to-date inventory for tax and insurance purposes was raised. The church does not have an inventory list. The church furnace was inspected by Roman Oil Company and cleaned on December 27, 2022.

Other Property Issues:

Rentals: With the COVID pandemic slowed and vaccines available, the church is now allowing groups and individuals to rent the church for events.

Property Projects have been grouped into short term (in the next several months), middle term (six to 12 months), and long term (more than one year).

Short Term Projects:

- New or refurbished emergency lighting system
- Parking lot lines
- Handicapped parking lines and symbols
- Remove current desk in Rev. Tony's office
- Electrical issue in Tony's office
- Contact Al-Anon if interested in renting
- Curtains for Lemon room
- Weed garden at church sign
- Replace ballast light in first floor hallway near kitchen and bathroom
- Health department license
- New regulations, Health Department
- Fire extinguisher review and check
- Repair parking lot

Middle Term Projects:

- Kitchen: remove mixer motor and install electric outlet between oven and refrigerator
- Parking lights around parking lot
- Walkway asphalt repair (parking lot to Pete Seeger/Lavender Room)

Add asphalt walk to shed
 Light for church sign
 Ceiling panels for sanctuary
 AED for church

Long Term Projects: Property Issues 2023-2024 and Beyond

New roof
 Solar panels on church roof
 Solar panels on shed or individual parking lot lights
 Security cameras
 Sign, CCTV monitoring
 Outdoor platform
 Roof over outdoor platform
 Resurface parking lot
 Vegetable Garden fence
 Path to big rock for meditation (Bob Muir)
 Light poles check out and fix

Submitted by Donna Stimpson, Property Chair

Faith Formation Reports

Worship Associates Annual Report

Peg Kirkpatrick

Worship Associates Team

The lay members of the Worship Associates (WA) team are Anita Sanders, Elaine Donovan, Jeff May and Peg Kirkpatrick, with leadership by Rev Tony Lorenzen. Working with Rev Tony, the WA team meets monthly and supports all aspects of planning for what is needed to offer consistent worship services on Sunday mornings as well as to review the services offered each month to see what has worked well and where we might grow. Utilizing Soul Matters themes and materials, we plan and offer a variety of subtopics within each month's theme. The worship associates offered the majority of lay-led worship services and coordinated with and supported facilitation for all our guest ministers.

We are aware that due to the pandemic, worship on Sunday mornings is now somewhat different than it was 3 years ago. As we try to settle into our new "normal," in the coming weeks we hope to gather input from the congregation, via survey and congregational conversations, about how to best support the needs and desires of the congregation for Sunday morning worship. We offered 50 Sunday morning worship experiences this past year (see "Worship Year by the Numbers" below), and we are hoping to support a few members of the congregation who are interested in participating in lay-led worship, to join our team in the fall. We plan to offer a training on facilitating worship in September or October.

WA team accomplishments in 2022-2023:

As the pandemic waned, the community returned to regular in-person services held in the sanctuary, and from September through June, this included hybrid worship (in person and on Zoom). We are very grateful to Jeff May who has led our technical systems and been present most Sundays (fall through spring) to support both the Zoom process and loading videos and slides used in the services for music, stories for all ages, etc. Liz Hall has trained with Jeff to offer tech support when Jeff is not available. The majority of our services in '22-'23 have been video recorded. One focus this year has been to incorporate the knowledge we gained through the

sudden and steep learning curve needed to offer worship during the pandemic, into our worship processes now (i.e. hybrid worship using Zoom, utilizing more online music offerings for Sundays when we have no accompanist). The team met its goal of having our entire '22-'23 year's worship schedule filled in by the beginning of September. Fifty (50) services were offered this past year: Rev Tony led 19 services, our guest ministers offered 9 services, and lay leaders offered 21 services.

Rev. Tony continued to offer worship services bringing messages to our community reflecting the spiritual challenges he shares—UU theology and values, as well as the messages aimed at building the health of our community. Our lay-led services continue to offer a variety of worship offerings, based on Soul Matters themes, including services with a clear sermon or personal sharing, as well as with services offering the opportunity for several members to join in participating in worship via readings or personal sharing. In the summer months, our lay-led services tend to be somewhat less formal and are often in person only, with some services following a 'spiritual sharing circle' type meeting while others offer a traditional message via sermon, readings, and music.

We were saddened by the departure of our longstanding accompanist, Alan Dougherty (although we wished him well!!!), and the WA team worked with the Board to vet, interview and hire Kevin Wyman as our new accompanist beginning in November. He has been a welcome addition to the services Rev Tony offers. With the new budget year, we hope to expand the number of services in which Kevin is present to include more lay-led and guest minister services. We have also had the Meeting House group, (traveling UU musicians) join us on two occasions.

Worship Year by the Numbers:

- 50 services offered July '22-June '23:
 - Rev Tony led 19 services, our guest ministers offered 9 services, and lay leaders offered 21 services. (note accompanist only present on the services Rev Tony led)
 - Lay Leaders offered 2-5 services each:
 - Anita Sanders, Jeff May, Elaine Donovan, Peg Kirkpatrick, Steve Volpini, Liz Hall.
 - Guest ministers offered 9 services:
 - Rev. Dave Jarvis, Rev. Jan Carlsson-Bull, Jennie Mulqueen, Rev. Dianne Daniels, Deacon Felix Rivera, Rev. Alix Klingenberg, Rev. Kelly Mason.
- 10 months of Soul Matter Themes, September through June:
 - Belonging, Courage, Change, Wonder, Finding our Center, Love, Vulnerability, Resistance, Creativity, Delight
- Attendance:
 - Sunday morning in-person attendance average range 25-40, with 5-8 attending on Zoom.

Respectfully submitted by Peg Kirkpatrick

Membership Annual Report

Liz Hall

At the start of the fiscal year, July 2022, there were 47 members.

Eight new members joined this year.

Three members communicated that they were no longer able to be a member.

We have eight people who are Friends.

Nine people are members who give financially but are not active.

We have not had an active Membership Committee this year. Donna Stimpson was the chairperson for a part of the year. She is now the Property chairperson, and Liz Hall is the Membership chairperson.

Reverend Tony held a class for new members on a Sunday after worship service. He also put together online tutorials on our website. They are under the LEARN button and are called "New Member Class - UU 101." There are videos about our church, the Unitarian Universalist Association and Unitarian Universalist history. Tony requests all people who want to be a member to watch those videos.

The Caring & Concern/Pastoral Care Committee is a sub-committee of the Membership Committee. Kathleen Lindberg is the chairperson of that committee. She has been actively mailing out cards to members and friends whose family members have died or who have been in the hospital. People have prepared and delivered meals to members and friends who have been in need. Several members helped clean the home of a member who lost a spouse. And a member on the committee has visited a longtime member who can no longer come to church.

We've had two Game Nights this year, and there has been interest in doing this once per month.

We've been having a UU Read-Aloud Book Group one Tuesday each month. We have read Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer, First Light by Sue Monk Kidd, and will soon begin Starry Messenger by Neil de Grasse Tyson.

Our gardens are looking really good thanks to all the help from many members on the new Garden Committee. They have been coming each Monday and weeding and putting mulch down.

Donna Stimpson, Trish Schneider, and Steve Volpini have been recruiting people to be coffee hosts, and now we have a list out for people to sign up during the entire year. We are very grateful to the people who have been hosting this year!

People have been jumping in to be Greeters and Collectors during the Sunday services.

The goal for next year is to recruit members for the Membership Committee and start having monthly meetings where we will plan the scheduling and procedures for hosts and greeters, dinner-go-rounds, game nights, book groups, New UU classes, potluck dinners, crafting get-togethers, and find out what other activities people would enjoy.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Hall
Membership Chairperson

Pastoral Care Team Annual Report

Kathleen Lindberg

I have provided rides for a church member both to church and to medical appointments. I maintained telephone contact with her, too. I have continued to mail cards to church members. I visited a church family at Christmas and brought some holiday treats to them. There are now more people offering to help the Pastoral Care Team. We need better communication from church members in order to help those in

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Lindberg

Social Justice Council Annual Report

Steve Volpini

This has been another busy year for the SJC, which has worked successfully on local, regional, and nationwide wide events and campaigns.

On July 4, 2022, white supremacy leaflets were found in a few locations in Meriden. In response, we contacted the NAACP, political leaders, and clergy to respond. On September 17, a rally with several dozen people took place on the Meriden Green. Rev. Tony Lorenzen, our minister, spoke, along with clergy from Christian and Jewish groups, as well as a speaker from a local mosque. A choir from a predominantly Black church sang. Diane Szymaszek produced and distributed a poster collage of Meriden voters, of many hues and ages.

At Christmastime, we wrapped scores of winter gifts—underwear, socks, gloves, hats—and delivered them to the Meriden Shelter.

We began the Guest at Your Table promotion/fundraiser on Nov. 11, 2022, which culminated with Stone Soup Luncheon on Jan. 22, 2023. A dozen SJC folks participated, with a result of \$867.89 collected for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, which partners with indigenous groups fighting for justice.

Under the guidance of Peg Kirkpatrick, using a Side With Love UU initiative, we began a UU the Vote campaign in July of 2022. Letter writers grabbed packets of 20 envelopes and stamps and wrote personal, encouraging letters to likely voters in Arizona and Georgia, where there were tightly contested races. Our letters did not mention party politics. In all, we reached 640 registered voters!

The annual Martin Luther King Jr./Albert Owens Scholarship Breakfast was held on Martin Luther King Day (Jan. 16, 2023). SJC paid for a \$100 ad for our church in the event's brochure, and 20 UUCM members bought tickets and attended.

We provided information about the activities in the CT for Transgender Day of Visibility on Jan. 31, 2023.

We're not done yet. We are working on having a booth—with painted rainbow rocks—at the Middletown PRIDE Festival on June 3, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted by Steve Volpini

Fundraising Annual Report

Diane Szymaszek

The two main consistent fund raisers each year are the annual Tag Sale and the Holiday Fair. The tag sale for this year has not taken place as of this report but will be held on June 10th. We have \$40 in pre-sale items towards this year's sale.

The Holiday Fair which was held on December 3, 2022 netted a total of \$4068.
The breakdown of money from the Fair is as follows:

Vendors -\$40
 UU Craft Table -\$346
 Boutique -\$568
 Bargain room -\$97
 Cookies -\$1036
 Silent Auction- \$450
 Diane's Table -\$695
 Donna's masks -\$50 plus a recent \$20 for masks
 Gallery 53- \$766.

Gallery 53 has been nice enough to sell our leftover items without a commission on some items and a lesser commission than they normally take on other items.

Fundraising will continue to sponsor an annual tag sale and the Holiday Fair. Hopefully a third event can be planned to help support UUCM.

The best possibility would be a Silent Service Auction which would include services offered as well as items.

Respectfully Submitted by Diane Szymaszek

Stewardship Annual Report

Liz Hall

The pledge campaign started with an announcement at the end of the Sunday service on March 5, 2023. The announcement informed people they would receive a letter in the mail along with a pledge form. The theme for the Pledge Drive was to use your human super powers of intention and commitment to create a vital and loving community by stating what you can give of your time, talent, and treasure. The pledge campaign would end on Sunday, March 26, 2023.

Personal emails were sent out during that week to remind people to get their pledge form turned in by going online, mailing, or bringing the form the following Sunday. Announcements were done the following two Sundays. Notices were in the weekly newsletter. Personal texts were sent the third week reminding people to get their forms in.

Liz Hall was the chairperson of the committee. She received assistance from Reverend Tony on how to write up a letter. Liz shared the letter and pledge form with the Board for feedback before mailing it out. Steve Volpini assisted Liz by making an announcement on one Sunday and by helping to contact people and collect pledges.

Fifty-six (56) letters were mailed out. Personal emails were sent to everyone within a few days of their receiving the letter. Three people notified us that they would not be able to be involved in the community any longer. We didn't hear anything from seven of the people who were mailed a letter. We received 40 pledges and are still waiting for four more responses. We received four pledges from new members/families.

Our goal was to raise \$72,000 for this coming fiscal year, '23-'24. For the first time in a very long time, we have gone over our goal. We have raised \$80,370. Here's a breakdown:

Number of Pledges

Dollar amount	Number of Pledges
Under \$500	6
\$500-\$999	8
\$1,000-\$1,499	10
\$1,500-\$1,999	4
\$2,000-\$2,999	6
\$3,000	1
\$4,000	1
\$6,000	3
\$7,000	1
\$10,000	1

Respectfully submitted: Liz Hall, Stewardship Chair

APPENDIX –

**FY 2021-2022 Treasurer's Report
Trish Schneider**

The Unitarian Universalist Church in Meriden (UUCM) ended the fiscal year 2022 with a deficit. The good news is that Pledge Income was slightly higher than expected. The Collection Plate, Special Collections, and Building Rentals were higher than anticipated. Unfortunately, Fundraising income was lower than anticipated by \$12,000. This created a deficit of \$-8,600.65. To offset the deficit, the Treasurer used \$7,706.94 from UUCM's Cash Reserves and was able to reduce the deficit to \$-893.71. The deficit of \$-893.71 was brought forward into

FY 23.

Designated Funds:

- The Pastoral Care Fund received one donation for FY22 of \$250. The Pastoral Care team distributed \$700 to members of the congregation. The Pastoral Care Fund beginning balance for FY23 is \$560.09.
- The Building Reserve Fund was used to pay for the upgrade to the fire alarm and security alarm systems. The Fund balance is \$1,604.13.

- UUCM's Legacy Fund had a loss of \$7,468.69. The balance as of June 30th, 2022, was \$56,668.73.

Detailed Financial Reports for Fiscal Year 2022 are available upon request. Below is a shortened Financial Report for the Operating Fund and the Social Justice Fund.

Respectfully submitted by Trish Schneider, Treasurer

Unitarian Universalist Church in Meriden
Profit and Loss
July 2021 - June 2022

	Total
Operating Income	
4100 Annual Pledge	64,719.93
4111 Pledges, Prior Years	556.43
Total 4100 Annual Pledge	\$ 65,276.36
4120 Collection Plate	2,875.32
4124 SJC	668.58
Total 4120 Collection Plate	\$ 3,543.90
4130 Special Collections	3,984.63
4140 Building Rentals	5,505.00
4200 Fundraising	8,573.00
4300 Other Income	50.00
4320 deficits	-890.79
4330 Discounts/Refunds Given	130.00
Total 4300 Other Income	-\$ 710.79
4340 Designated Reserves net asset Released	7,706.94
Total Operating Income	\$ 93,879.04
GROSS Operating Income	\$ 93,879.04
Operating Expenses	
6000 Operating Expenses	
Total 6010 Financial Fees	\$ 1,193.37
6020 Miscellaneous Expense	50.00
6030 Office Printer Lease	2,699.07
6040 Insurance	
Total 6040 Insurance	\$ 4,099.90
6045 UUA Dues	1,000.00
6060 Office Supplies & Software	
Total 6060 Office Supplies & Software	\$ 647.28
6110 information and Tech	
6116 Publicity	43.40
6117 Teleconference fee	159.42
Total 6110 information and Tech	\$ 202.82
Total 6000 Operating Expenses	\$ 9,892.44

6200 Professional Ministry		
Total 6210 Profession Ministry- Salary	\$	36,320.96
6214 Minister Pension		3,373.81
Total 6230 Professional Ministry- Benefits	\$	8,432.10
6235 Professional Ministry- Professional Expenses		3,998.66
Total 6200 Professional Ministry	\$	52,650.93
6300 Salaries & Wages		
6305 Pianists Salary		2,625.00
6310 Payroll Services		424.20
Total 6350 Payroll Taxes	\$	205.79
6355 Worker's comp. Insurance		596.00
Total 6300 Salaries & Wages	\$	3,850.99
6400 Property Expenses		
Total 6401 Mortgage	\$	11,522.00
6410 Regular Indoor Items		
6413 Dishwasher supplies		40.99
6415 Oil Heat Service Contract		429.90
6417 General Building Maintenance		290.00
6424 Trash		360.00
Total 6410 Regular Indoor Items	\$	1,120.89
6420 Regular Outdoor Items		
6035 Security Monitoring		659.79
6421 Mowing and Landscaping		4,290.00
6422 Snow Removal		1,285.00
6423 Alarm Inspection		347.50
Total 6420 Regular Outdoor Items	\$	6,582.29
Total 6430 Utilities	\$	6,997.07
Total 6400 Property Expenses	\$	26,222.25
6530 Worship		
6535 Music		981.09
6536 Music Licensing		505.00
Total 6530 Worship	\$	1,486.09
6700 Social Justice Council		
6702 Humanitarian of the Year Honorarium		100.00
Total 6700 Social Justice Council	\$	100.00
Unapplied Cash Bill Payment Expense		0.00
Total Operating Expenses	\$	94,202.70
Net Operating Income	-\$	323.66

Unitarian Universalist Church in Meriden
Statement of Financial Position
As of June 30, 2022

	Total
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Total 1005 Operations- 6601	\$ 11,586.25
Total 1010 target-6628	\$ 9,736.62
1020 Online-9090	1,206.68
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 22,529.55
Other Current Assets	
Total 1120 Legacy fund	\$ 56,668.79
Total Current Assets	\$ 79,198.34
Fixed Assets	
Total Fixed Assets	\$ 430,464.21
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 509,662.55
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
2220 Prepaid Pledges	16,625.00
2331 Payroll- State of CT income tax	3.75
Total 2300 FICA	\$ 3.75
2332 PFML insurance	0.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$ 16,628.75
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 16,628.75
Long-Term Liabilities	
2101 Mortgage-Paddock Avue	33,937.70
Total Liabilities	\$ 50,566.45
Equity	
3111 General Fund	260.00
Total 3110 Unrestricted net asset	\$ 260.00
3200 Designated Reserves net assets	
3130 SJC net asset	0.00
3220 Memorial Fund	2,180.00
3230 Building Fund	1,604.13
3240 Pastoral Care Fund	560.09
Total 3200 Designated Reserves net assets	\$ 4,344.22
3300 restrict net assets	
3310 Legacy fund	64,137.42
3400 Net asset of building	396,546.08
Total 3300 restrict net assets	\$ 460,683.50
Retained Earnings	0.50
Net Income	-6,192.12

Total Equity	\$	459,096.10
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$	509,662.55