

ANNUAL REPORT DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

What a fantastic year we started with and what a weird way to end things! Even though the Corona Virus changed some of our yearly plans many wonderful things still happened this year. On the pages to follow you will read about all the amazing things that have gone on this year. It is important to recognize our Circle Coordinators. These dedicated volunteers have helped bring new and exciting programs and activities to UCH.

Worship: Linda Rio

Stewardship: Jim McDonald

Social Responsibility: Tracey Olson

Home and Gardens: Diane Barnes

Growth and Learning: KC Edgin

Community: Mary Getty

Of course, the circle coordinators cannot do their jobs without the support of the committee chairs, and the committee chairs cannot do their jobs without committee members. We thank ALL the volunteers that participate in the life and the work of our church. As you read about all the programs and the good works that have been done this year you will be proud of who we are and amazed at all we have accomplished.

I am blessed to help guide a wonderful group of children and youth! From our play group to our Senior High Youth Group we have had steady participation throughout the year. We are lucky to have a group of dedicated volunteer teachers to lead them each week.

Our Junior High Coming of Age Program was another giant success. Our seventh and eighth graders and their families made a big commitment to this wonderful program. Our nine participants dedicated themselves to coming to church every week with open minds and hearts and were more than willing to learn and share with the facilitators, the adult mentors, and each other. We are so incredibly thankful for our facilitators, Mike Ferrando and Bill Wilson. Even though we did not get to end our experience as we normally do, the youth still worked hard on their faith statements and fought through Zoom to bring us their wonderful words of wisdom. Congratulations to them!

Our senior youth group is super strong! They have been incredibly active this year. We are incredibly grateful to Joe Saintcross, Linda Rio and Hans Lonroth for their tireless commitment to this group! We appreciate all the fundraising support from the congregation. We had to postpone our service/learning trip but the funds will carry over.

Special thanks to the Religious Education Committee. I am so grateful to Wendy Hainey, Liz Cross, KC Edgin, Jen Hopkins, Susan Mooney for their support, good ideas and their willingness to search for creative ways to tackle problems and find solutions.

I had the pleasure of co-facilitating the New UU class. We met many wonderful new members and are so happy to have expanded our church family. I worked hard, with the membership committee's input, to revamp the curriculum in order to bring the most important info to the new members. We are grateful for the work of the Membership Committee to help everyone feel welcomed and comfortable in our church home.

It has been wonderful working with the Membership Committee. They are a hard-working, thoughtful group of people who have so many fabulous ideas! Their continued success with the Hospitality Team Program is great! Wait until you see our new membership video in the fall! We send a special thank you to Ashley Kennedy for her hours of filming and to partnering with Dave Mrazek to edit a special video that shows who we are!

This year a special committee of folks starting working on a celebration of our church's 150-year history. We were disappointed to have to postpone it for a year but don't lose hope we will have our big Homecoming weekend in 2021! Help us keep UCH strong for another 150 years!

In addition to the work I do here at the church, I continue to be active in LREDA (Liberal Religious Educators Association) Chapter. I am the elected President of the Central Midwest Chapter. Our chapter hosts and participates in two continuing education programs, works with new DREs in the area and helps write policy for Continental LREDA.

I am so incredibly honored to serve my church community and am blessed to be a part of this UU family.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Fodor