

November 2020

Inside this issue:

- UUMAN's Possible Move to the Great White North 1
- UUMAN Organization 101 2
- Notes from the Board 2
- Religious Exploration Program at UUMAN—Now and in the Future 3
- Life Celebrations 3
- November 2020: A Month of Sundays 4



UUMAN's Possible Move to the Great White North

You may have heard the rumor floating around that if the upcoming election goes a certain way, the congregation will be moving lock, stock and barrel north of the border into the great white north of Canada. I've been asked to condemn that rumor and I'm here to tell you, "I don't know anything about it...I know Canada is an amazing place...just amazing...they've got a lotta good people up there...lotta good people...and its very cold...very cold...and wonderfully."

Yes, the rumor is that if the election goes a certain way the Board will be forming a search committee to scope out the best possible relocation site for UUMAN. Apparently the front runners are Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and Minnedosa, Manitoba...but you didn't hear it from me (...bring a coat).

Yes...it may be a long journey but fear not, we won't be wandering up there for 40 years. IT'S COLD UP THERE!!! WE'LL NEED SHELTER RIGHT AWAY!!! And by the way, we will be taking our beloved Sanctuary with us. Our Operations Team will be disassembling the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall and the Chicken Coop piece by piece; painstakingly marking each item and populating it in one of Bob Popp's spreadsheets. This will enable us to easily reassemble our beloved church north of the border. (Discovery Hall will not be making the trip. A bonfire is being planned.)

A name change may also be in order. Apparently, the word "Canadian" will be placed in front of our name thus changing it to CUUMAN. Now instead of endlessly telling people that it's pronounced UUMAN, "like 'human' but without the 'h'", we'll now be endlessly telling people that it's pronounced CUUMAN, "like the spice but without the aftertaste."

And don't worry about rental income...The Premo School said they're coming too.

Yes...it will be like a new start for UUMAN, or should I say CUUMAN...the only downside being that you'll still have your old minister!

Nurture our spirit. Strive for Justice. Transform the world....and VOTE!

Dave

UUMAN Organization 101

If you are new to UUMAN or been coming for many years you may have wondered from time to time “how UUMAN is organized?”. It is a great question and one that I am going to try to answer in this UUMAN Organization 101 newsletter column.

At a high-level, in its simplest form, UUMAN has two primary parts – Governance and Ministry.

- **Governance** is responsible for: articulating mission, selecting major goals & strategies, making sure strategy is followed, delegating power & holding them accountable, and protecting people & property.
- **Ministry** is responsible for: the daily practical work of delivering on the Mission and Vision of UUMAN including building community, managing resources, transforming lives, delivering programs, making decisions about what to do and how to do it.
- The **UUMAN Board of Trustees** is responsible for Governance and is supported by the Standing Committees. The Standing Committees gather information, draft policies, propose and make recommendations.
- The **UUMAN Staff** (both professional and lay) working with the Ministry Teams and Program Council is responsible for Ministry.
- The **Congregation** supports both Governance and Ministry by:
 - ⇒ giving of their time and talent on Standing Committees, the Program Council and Ministry Teams,
 - ⇒ nominating and electing new Board members each year and
 - ⇒ participating in the annual planning process to define priorities and goals .



- Bob Popp



Notes from the Board

Jim and I began visiting UUMAN in May 2014. Our relationship was two years old and Jim was new to Georgia. I on the other hand have been here since 1979. Jim’s work had him travelling Sunday-Friday which left him little time for him to make friends in his new city and so his socializing consisted of hanging out with me (and my girlfriends).

For years, I had longed to being a part of a community with a purpose. Jim suggested we visit a UU church which I did not know anything about. As Jim says, it was where my people were, I just did not know it yet.

We began visiting UUMAN every Sunday and, in the Fall, the two of us were becoming regularly active within the church. Volunteering our time and talent opened the doors to getting to know everyone and we began building new special friendships the two of us shared. We made the decision to join the church in December 2014 and have never looked back.

What I have learned early on is it is the time and talent that keeps UUMAN ticking but we personally experienced a deeper understanding in the “time” aspect recently.

There are many beautiful facets to UUMAN, but we recently understood the value of our Care Circles. As UUMAN members, we have participated when fellow congregants have been in need but until you are on the receiving end of what a Care Circle provides, I do not think the concept is easily comprehended.

Jim and I were both diagnosed with COVID the end of September and our Care Circle was made aware. The meal train began practically immediately even with popsicles being delivered to the door for severe sore throats. It is when you experience firsthand this genuine care and selflessness of our members, you then understand what others have made witness to during their trying times.

It was amazing and we are ever so grateful to the many within our Care Circle and others who helped keep us fed just because they love us.

This is the community I searched and longed for for so many years. Thank you for your love and friendship.

Tanya Romine, Treasurer
UUMAN Board of Trustees

Religious Exploration Program at UUMAN—Now and in the Future



Life Celebrations

We currently have 39 children and youth registered for Sunday morning classes and have between 25 and 30 attending each week. The following talented and committed adults are teaching these classes:

- * Canedy Knowles and Carolyn Lee: Pre-K through 4th grade.
- * Mike Chambers, Elizabeth Rohan and Merri Beth Stephens: 5th, 6th & 7th grade.
- * Jennifer Phillippi and John Patanian: 8th and 9th grade.
- * Randy Blasch, Amanda Bralley, Stephen Shanahan and Sam Friedman: 10th, 11th & 12th grade.

The classes are focusing on building community, creating joy and learning UU values.

All four classes are meeting at least once this fall outside with masks, and social distancing. The older classes are engaged in some charity work doing such things as making blankets and collecting toiletries.

We have welcomed one family back as well as three new families with children. We will be offering OWL classes as soon as we can gather in person. And, in case you are worried, we will have a Christmas pageant this year. More information to follow soon.

Overall, I think we are doing a good job during this most unusual atmosphere but now it is time to think of the future. What will be needed for UUMAN to remain vital and healthy and meet the needs of families with young children?

We DO have new, younger families, but do we have enough? Are we meeting their needs? One could say human needs do not change but that is not exactly true. The needs may not change but the way those needs are met can radically change. Think about the way you receive your news today compared to how and when you did it 30 years ago. Remember going to college and feeling homesick? You stood on that hall speaking into a pay phone and having everyone on that hall hear every word? Now we just text. Anytime. Anywhere.

But how has life at UUMAN changed? Does it need to? Let's dream of what can be? What would have you bursting with pride? What would be a goal that would keep you up at night? Over the next few months we are going to be exploring what it means to grow in our faith, fight for social and economic justice for all and save the planet in the future. Are we ready and poised for success? What should we add? What can be left behind? Please join us in exploring these big questions. Send your thoughts to Dre@UUMAN or Minister@UUMAN. **We promise no committees**, only deep listening for what might be possible. Please design the future with us starting NOW.

Thank you,

Melinda Mischik
Interim DRE

We want to commemorate the happy occasions in the lives of our UUMAN members and other friends of UUMAN. We are looking for Naming Ceremonies, Graduations, Marriages, Anniversaries, Retirements, and Birthdays. Please submit the information about your special day, in the month prior to the event, to membership-tech@uuman.org

Date	Celebration
11/1	Susan W. is celebrating a birthday
11/6	Shelly N. is celebrating a birthday
11/10	Linda E. is celebrating a birthday
11/12	Merri Beth S. is celebrating a birthday
11/13	Steve A. is celebrating a birthday
11/14	Doug W. is celebrating a birthday
	Ilona W. and Randy J. children, Alexander and Arianna, are celebrating a birthday
11/18	Joss H. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
11/20	Carolyn L. is celebrating a birthday
11/21	Joe C. is celebrating a birthday
11/30	Becky N.'s child, Nicholas, is celebrating a birthday

All in-person Sunday services and any meetings or groups at UUMAN are canceled until further notice. See [this page](#) for more details.

We plan to continue live-streaming Sunday services on [YouTube](#).

November 2020: A Month of Sundays

ABOUT THE UUMANTimes: The UUMANTimes is the newsletter of Unitarian Universalist Metro Atlanta North (UUMAN). We go live with each issue by the first Sunday of the month; deadline for submissions is typically on the 22nd of the month proceeding the issue date.

Please email your news articles and artwork to Becky at newsletter@uuman.org

Date	Topic	Service Leaders
11/1	<p>Service of Remembrance</p> <p>Please join us as we remember those who have passed over the course of the year. Let us remember how they have shaped our lives in ways we could not have imagined.</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn
11/8	<p>What Did We Learn?</p> <p>What did we learn over the course of the last four years in our democracy? What does our learning compel us to do? Congregants will be sharing their perspectives on this topic.</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn
11/15	TBA	Lay Led
11/22	<p>Bread Communion</p> <p>Bread is a symbol of life-giving sustenance and today we will share a bread communion together. Please bring a bread (homemade if possible) that elicits memories of childhood sustenance. You will have the opportunity to share this memory with us. We will then collect bread for donation to NFCC.</p> <p>CONGREGATIONAL MEETING</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn
11/29	<p>America's Native Stories</p> <p>The story of Thanksgiving goes back to the Pilgrims who landed at Plymouth Rock. Yet before they were here there were already people here – loving their loved ones and living their lives. Let's hear some of their stories – stories of creation, stories of love and the ubiquitous trickster tales.</p> <p>NO RE ALEX OFF</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn