

Connection Committee Annual report – May 2023

Chair and members: Pauletta Copenheaver and Lisa Evanylo co-chairs; Akiko Nakata, Kim Feucht, Patrick Feucht, Crosby Houston, Rev. Pam Philips – ex-officio

Purpose of the Committee: Promote and enhance membership by developing programs, conducting activities, and producing materials to connect with potential members and visitors, encourage interested parties to become members, and enhance the integration and involvement of current members and friends.

Achievements: Held two in-person/Zoom newcomers' orientations, supported (or will support) 2 new member ceremonies, held monthly "Get to Know UUC" and building tours following services, held coffee hours after services, donated a basket to the UUC auction, supported the Chili Cookoff, started up a Surviving Spouse Support Group, held monthly potlucks, arranged to have 2 elderly congregants communicate daily, organized an August Ingathering Extravaganza ice cream social, a December sing-a-long, and a May Sundae Sunday activity, assisted with the Stewardship Celebration, and initiated Circle Suppers again. Checked up on inactive congregants.

Lessons learned: In-person newcomer orientations are much preferred. The updated agenda works better, but we need to shorten the session a bit. It is difficult to find additional committee members.

Expenses for the year to date: Greeters: \$0, Connections: \$144.61

How does the committee or group work to further our mission and vision? We support our mission by creating connection opportunities and providing ways for new and old to develop friendships. We help transform friends into active members. Our vision of being known as a place of welcome, joy, and celebration is practiced as we welcome visitors, celebrate new members and support the new members ceremony.

Goals for the coming year and how do they further our mission and vision?

Assist with an activities' fair or something similar, to acquaint people with possibilities to serve. Support upstairs, downstairs connections. Continue newcomers' activities and support connections among all UUC members and friends as well as supporting activities which are intergenerational. Increase participation at social events.