

UUC Grounds Ministry Annual Report May 31, 2019

Members: George Lally, Susan Baker, Joe Powers, Amanda Morgan Haynes, Walter Pirie, Dean Mook, Valerie Bidwell, Susan Fry, Dan Brown.
Stalwart Volunteers: David Warner, David Baker, Bill Baker

The UUC Grounds ministry has had a very active year. Total work time for our team in the past twelve months has been over 2500 person hours. The maintenance itself -the mowing, mulching, planting, pruning, watering etc- consumes many hours of Grounds Ministry time. Unexpectedly, during the year we had to have two very large trees removed (with extra \$ support from UUC's B.O.D.)

Beyond the maintenance, there have been numerous new projects and further development of existing features including:

- .Reconfiguration of the playground to add more age-appropriate features/equipment
- .Enhancements to all current flower beds and gardens and the picnic areas
- .Installation of signage at the Othakarhaka Water feature
- .Installation of Buddha statuary, 'kindness' signage, and pebble path
- .Construction a 32 ft. fence on the berm as a safety precaution.
- .We have also begun construction on the lower lawn, near Hardwood Drive, of a 'Memorial Walkway' and related landscaping, that will honor notable Unitarian-Universalists and the several UU martyrs.

We were honored to be selected for the 2019 Garden Tour. This prestigious and highly publicized July 6th event is a fundraiser for the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library System. It is expected bring 600 visitors to the UUC and has spurred the busy Grounds Team to an even higher level of activity as we prepare to introduce ourselves to the broader community.

Relation of Grounds to UUC Mission:

Our goals are:

- To provide a place of beauty that Inspires, uplifts, and nurtures the spirits of congregants and visitors,
- To Create a protective habitat for flora and fauna
- To increase public interest in, and awareness of UUC in support of our Vision to be a 'Beacon of Liberal Religion in the NRV

Grounds Budget Numbers:

- Landscaping: \$3,155. budgeted for FY 2018-19, \$990. remaining this date (anticipated expenses are expected to use entire amount)
- Labyrinth:(ESS) \$200 budgeted, \$200 remaining as of this date
- Mowing: \$950 budgeted, \$150 remaining (does not incl anticipated June mowing)
- Playground: \$725 budgeted, \$500 remaining (for equipment to be purchased)
- Snow Removal: \$600 budgeted, \$150 remaining

Respectfully submitted, George Lally and Susan Baker, Co-chairs

We dig the Grounds!