

2010~2011 Annual Report

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# URBANDALE

## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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*Let the favor of the Lord  
our God be upon us,  
and prosper for  
us the work of  
our hands—  
O prosper  
the work  
of our  
hands.*

Psalm 90:17



©\*

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# Order of Meeting

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## URBANDALE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Annual Meeting, May 22, 2011

### HYMN OF GATHERING

“Be Now My Vision”

NCH 451

### GATHERING PRAYER

Randy Jedele

ONE: Pause. Remember that God is with us.

**ALL: We pause to remember that God is with us.**

ONE: Be aware of this loving presence.

**ALL: We are aware of God’s loving presence within us and surrounding us.**

ONE: Touch your fingertips to your forehead.

**ALL: Open my mind to remember your presence.**

ONE: Touch your fingertips to your mouth.

**ALL: Open my mouth to speak your wisdom.**

ONE: Touch your fingertips to your heart.

**ALL: Open my heart to extend your love.**

ONE: Hold both hands out, open, palms up.

**ALL: Open my hands to serve you generously.**

ONE: Hold your arms wide open.

**ALL: Open my whole being to you.**

ONE: Thanks be to God!

**ALL: Amen.**

*Adapted from Joyce Rupp’s Open the Door, A Prayer for Openness.*

### RECEIVING THE REPORTS

Randy Jedele

Minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting and 2011 Annual Budget Meeting

ALL: AMEN

Pastor David’s Report

ALL: AMEN

*(Each person will give a brief summary of the year and the congregation will respond with, AMEN)*

Ministry Program Coordinator

ALL: AMEN

Music Program Director

ALL: AMEN

Organist, Director of Children’s Choir and Handbell Choirs

ALL: AMEN

Office Coordinator

ALL: AMEN

Moderator

ALL: AMEN

Financial Secretary

ALL: AMEN

Treasurer

ALL: AMEN

Community Concerns Team

ALL: AMEN

Membership Team

ALL: AMEN

Worship Team

ALL: AMEN

Christian Growth Ministry	ALL: AMEN
Stewardship & Mission Interpretation	ALL: AMEN
Buildings & Grounds Team	ALL: AMEN
Tech Team	ALL: AMEN
Kitchen	ALL: AMEN
Personnel Team	ALL: AMEN
Pastor Congregation Covenant Team	ALL: AMEN
Small Group Ministry Liaison	ALL: AMEN
Caregivers	ALL: AMEN
Congregational Support & Education Work Group	ALL: AMEN

ONE: Do you accept these reports? **ALL: AMEN**

**THANK ALL MEMBERS SERVING ON TEAMS AND COMMITTEES** Randy Jedele

**OUTGOING MODERATOR COMMENTS** Randy Jedele

**THANK OUTGOING LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS** Bonita Wiley

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW LEADERSHIP TEAM** Randy Jedele

<b>Moderator:</b>	Bonita Wiley
<b>Vice-Moderator:</b>	Curtis Linhart
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Charlene Hjort
<b>Bookkeeper/Assistant Treasurer</b>	Joyce Bixby
<b>Financial Secretary:</b>	Taena Fowler
<b>Recording Secretary:</b>	Wendy Sontag
<b>Ad-Ministry Liaison:</b>	Joe Walters
<b>Christian Growth Liaison:</b>	Jerry Woods
<b>Worship Liaison:</b>	Linda Grathwohl
<b>Small Group Liaison:</b>	Chris Gonzalez
<b>Outreach &amp; Nurture Liaison:</b>	Laura Fefchak
<b>At Large:</b>	Steve Looney
<b>At Large:</b>	James Schaeffer

Vote on New Leadership Team: Randy Jedele

**NEW BUSINESS** Bonita Wiley

Election of Delegates to UCC Iowa Conference Annual Meeting  
 Amended 2010 Annual Budget  
 Other, if needed

**INCOMING MODERATOR COMMENTS** Bonita Wiley

**ADJOURNMENT** Bonita Wiley

# Minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting

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## URBANDALE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 23, 2010

Preceding the Annual Meeting members of the congregation gathered in the Fellowship Hall following the worship service on Sunday, May 23, 2010, for an all-church potluck. Moderator Amy Christensen called the annual meeting to order at 11:50 a.m. There were approximately 70 individuals in attendance. The congregation sang "Be Now My Vision" as the Hymn of Gathering. The Words of Gathering, adapted from Joyce Rupp's "A Prayer for Openness" in her book, *Open the Door*, was read responsively by Moderator Amy and the congregation.

Minutes of the 2009 Annual Meeting, 2010 Annual Budget Meeting, and April 11, 2010, congregational meeting calling Pastor David Sickelka were reviewed and accepted by acclamation. Annual reports were presented and key items were highlighted by staff attending and many of the Team leaders. Opportunity for discussion followed each report. The reports were accepted as presented.

Moderator Amy expressed her thanks to the members of the teams, committees, the Pastor Search Engine, the choir, and to everyone who helped with various projects for their work throughout the year. She stated that they are the lifeblood of the church and affirmed the fundamental goodness and caring quality of the members and friends of the congregation that shows up over and over again in our life together. Moderator Amy expressed special thanks to the members of the staff who have helped carry the church through their extraordinary service throughout the past year.

She then called on Moderator Elect, Randy Jedele. Outgoing Moderator Amy presented Randy with a rock to give him steadiness and remind him that God is always with him. Moderator Randy expressed thanks and appreciation for the wisdom and experience of the members of the Leadership Team who are stepping down.

Past Moderator Amy introduced the leaders of the new Leadership Team, asking them to stand. Members of the team are Moderator, Randy Jedele; Vice-Moderator, Bonita Wiley; Treasurer, Taena Fowler; Financial Secretary, Jennifer Gardner; Recording Secretary, Maryellen Knowles; Ad-Ministry Liaison, Steve Looney; Christian Growth Liaison, Jerry Woods; Outreach and Nurture Liaison, Jo Lilley; Small Group Liaison, Pat Boes; Worship Liaison, Jon Duvick; Members at large, Joyce Bixby, Laura Fefchak, and Debbie Gannon.

**Ron Lindhart moved acceptance of the new Leadership Team and Wesley Keeler seconded the motion. The new Leadership Team was approved by unanimous vote of those attending.**

Moderator Amy reminded those present of the new Leadership Team application process and encouraged everyone to consider serving on the Leadership Team. Applications are available from Tara in the church office.

### New Business

The first order of new business was election of Delegates to the UCC Iowa Conference Annual Meeting. **Moderator Randy Jedele, James Schaeffer, and Pastor David Sickelka were accepted unanimously to represent UCC at the Iowa Conference Annual Meeting.**

Treasurer Taena Fowler presented the revised 2010 budget (attached). Expected total revenue is \$310,252. Taena stated that \$5,600 had been received to pay for Pastor David's higher than previously budgeted salary and benefits package. Taena highlighted several bookkeeping corrections to the budget that she made. She stated that the shortfall for extra expenses for Pastor David will be balanced out by the money received, the corrections to the budget, and additional money available from the miscellaneous payroll expense line item. Thus the budget is balanced.

**A motion to accept the revised budget as presented was made by Joanne Andersen and seconded by Wesley Keeler. The revised budget was approved unanimously.**

Steve Looney reminded us that at the congregational budget meeting in January, 2010, the congregation authorized transferring \$10,266 of the 2009 Budget Surplus to the Praise the Roof fund, which is equal to one year of loan payments. During this budget meeting, the congregation asked the Leadership Team to study whether we should use this amount to pay down the loan principal or keep it in the Praise the Roof fund for an additional year of payments and to present information about this at the Annual Meeting in May. Following the budget meeting, the Leadership Team asked the Financial Health Team to consider the issue and make a recommendation for the congregation to consider.

Steve presented a recommendation from the Financial Health Team that the congregation keep the \$10,266 amount in the Praise the Roof fund until a year from now and to reexamine the issue at that point. Steve said members of the Financial Health Team felt that in a year from now, we will have a better feel for our ability to raise funds, as we will have gone through a Stewardship campaign with Pastor David at the helm, and we will have a better feel for the state of the economy. Steve stated that the cost of deferring the decision for one year is only about \$750 in interest.

**Karl Andersen made, and Wesley Keeler seconded, a motion to accept the recommendation of the Financial Health Team to keep the \$10,266 in the Praise the Roof fund until a year from now, at which time the issue will be reexamined. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Incoming Moderator, Randy Jedele, stated that being elected Moderator was an honor and that he looked forward to carrying out his duties along with Pastor David, the newly appointed Leadership Team, the church staff, and the congregation. He invited members of the congregation to call or email him with concerns and comments. He said that he had purchased a book from the Lombard Peace Institute for each member of the Leadership Team, *The Leader's Journey: Accepting the Call to Personal and Congregational Transformation*. He will share excerpts from the book with members of the congregation in his monthly CALL articles.

Moderator Randy then presented a card of thanks and gifts from the outgoing Leadership Team to Amy Christensen. These included a Picture Poem Painting by Jane Robinette, "Imagine the Moments of Your Life." Amy also received a gift certificate to Beaverdale Books. Amy was given a well-deserved standing ovation from all present.

A closing prayer was offered by Moderator Randy. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 with a motion by Karl Andersen, seconded by Wesley Keeler.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Freer,  
Recording Secretary

# Minutes of the 2011 Annual Budget Meeting

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## URBANDALE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

January 24, 2011

After a potluck lunch Randy Jedele, Moderator, opened the congregational meeting. He commented that this year our budget is \$20,000 more than last year's budget. There are two new line items in the budget: Stewardship of the Building and Habitat for Humanity. The budget includes a 3% increase in staff salaries with the exception of Pastor Dave's which is a 1.5% raise based on his six months service at UUC. Randy noted that we, as an executive group of the Leadership Team, were prayerful in our approach to cuts in the budget by safeguarding the areas of OCWM and the Youth. He noted that the team had to cut almost every area in the budget to get it balanced. OCWM received the biggest cut, but aside from staff expenses, it was also the largest item. Even with the OCWM cut, we were able to raise our amount. In 2010 we budgeted \$10,174, and in 2011 we budgeted \$15,000.

### Questions from the Floor:

**Question:** James Schaeffer: *"What happened between the 2010 actual receipt of the money and other revenue and the 2011 budget? Why was it higher in 2010?"*

**Response:** Jennifer Gardner: The \$52,000 is budgeted, not actual, but rather is based on information from December. The Actual YTD receipt is \$49,000. The reason for this difference is that over the past three years the Fundraiser line-item has not met the budgeted amount. Therefore the amount this year was set to be more realistic to match what we have been making in previous years. Last year the actual revenue was from a "Dig Deeper Fundraiser" where \$5,600 was received. Plate offering is "other revenue." When new members join or give money these offerings are put in a non-pledge category. Plate offering is about \$2100 in loose change.

Randy noted that out of one-hundred eleven pledges, fifty-two had increased in amount. He stated that there were thirteen new pledges.

**Question:** Mike Coveyou: *Explain the difference between the 'Capital Contingency' line item and the 'Stewardship of the Building' line item.*

**Response:** Taena Fowler: The "Capital Contingency" line item is reactive to immediate building needs. An example is an elevator service call, which costs about \$1000 a call.

Taena noted that the "Stewardship of the Building" line is proactive. In this line we set aside money for big-ticket building needs for the future (e.g. light panel for the sanctuary).

**Question:** Jeff Couch: *Where is the obligation on an annual basis to pay off our loan for the roof?*

**Response:** Taena Fowler: It is not in the budget. Randy Jedele noted that the loan would be addressed under the "UUC Construction Loan 2011 Update." (See attached.)

**The motion to accept the budget was made by Amy Christensen and seconded by Marci Freer. The motion carried unanimously.** David Yurdin expressed appreciation for the decision-making process.

## UUCC Construction Loan 2011 Update

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Taena Fowler, Treasurer, reported that two-and-a-half years ago we opened up a twenty-year construction loan with Cornerstone Bank for the roof, windows and the parking lot. On this loan our interest increases in five-year segments. The current interest rate will remain at 7.5% until July 1, 2013. The original principal was \$106,000. In two-and-a-half years we paid down \$3000. At the end of 2010 we still have \$103,000 outstanding on the loan. Taena stated that a three-year “Praise the Roof” campaign has been completed with all pledges received.

At the end of the 2009 budget year we had a surplus so decided to put one- year’s worth of payments (\$10,266) toward reducing the “Praise the Roof” loan. We currently have \$40,000 in that designated fund, which amounts to about 4 years of loan payments. The Leadership Team has decided that since there is a cushion we can wait another year for the economy to improve and then see if we want to do another capital campaign to cover the loan.

Jennifer Gardner added that Cornerstone allows people to hold their deposits there. She said we have received a check for \$780, which was a  $\frac{3}{4}$  percent interest rate reduction. She thanked people for holding their money in Cornerstone.

Gayle Strickler Jr. asked about the rates at Cornerstone. Jennifer responded that it depends on the length of the note—usually around 3% which is currently better than the banks.

Ken Briggs noted that Cornerstone is exceptional in that few lending places will loan to members. David Yurdin said he was impressed because probably no other institution will allow this, and that they reduced our monthly payment is amazing. Taena agreed that Cornerstone is good to work with.

Steve Looney asked Randy to comment on the process if we have a surplus. Randy said we don’t know the process yet, but there will be some surplus since we didn’t spend last year’s entire surplus. We may take a portion of that and put into OCWM and the building fund. He said Leadership Team will bring that information to members at the annual meeting for a vote.

Elaine Lundstrom commented that one of the Lombard recommendations was that a congregation be in conversation about money throughout the year, such as at noon forums or other formats, rather than once a year.

Mark Seigel agreed, noting that it would be nice to talk about money more frequently. In four years we will owe \$95,000 if we only pay monthly on the interest. He suggested that we might need another campaign to clean it up. He liked the idea of addressing building needs though a fund rather than having another campaign. We could easily come up with a list of current building repair needs that would cost \$30,000 – \$40,000. He said he’d like to look at this soon rather than taking four years to pay it off.

The meeting was closed with Randy leading us in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Maryellen Knowles, Recording Secretary

## 2011 Budget Report

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	2010 Budget May Revision	2011 Budget	
<b>Expected Revenue</b>			
Pledge	\$260,000	\$280,000	
All Other Revenue	<u>\$50,252</u>	<u>\$42,576</u>	
Total Revenue	\$310,252	<b>\$322,576</b>	
<b>Expected Expense</b>			
<b>Staff</b>			
Senior Pastor's Salary	\$40,213	\$44,868	1.5% salary increase
Senior Pastor's Housing	\$20,530	\$23,142	
Senior Pastor's SS Offset	\$4,647	\$5,203	
Senior Pastor's Health/Dental	\$15,516	\$17,379	
Senior Pastor's Annuity	\$8,504	\$9,521	
Senior Pastor's Continuing Education	\$2,000	\$2,000	
Senior Pastor's Prof Expense	\$0	\$600	
Interim/Senior Pastor Total	\$91,410	\$102,713	
Ministry Program Coord. Salary	\$24,271	\$24,999	3% salary increase
Ministry Program Coord. Housing	\$7,280	\$7,498	
Ministry Program Coord. SS Offset	\$2,414	\$2,486	
Ministry Program Coord. Health	\$708	\$396	
Ministry Program Coord. Annuity	\$2,113	\$4,550	
Ministry Program Coord Prof. Expenses	\$1,800	\$1,800	
Office Coord Wages	\$33,969	\$34,988	3% salary increase
Office Coord FICA	\$2,599	\$2,677	
Office Coord Health/Dental	\$8,120	\$8,187	
Music Director's Salary	\$14,029	\$14,450	3% salary increase
Music Director's FICA	\$1,058	\$1,090	
Organist/Youth Choir/Handbell Director Salary	\$10,742	\$11,064	3% salary increase
Organist/Youth Choir/Handbell Director FICA	\$822	\$847	
Custodian's Salary	\$12,509	\$12,508	3% salary increase
Custodian's FICA	\$957	\$957	
Child Care Providers	\$4,035	\$3,000	3% salary increase
Child Care Providers FICA	\$309	\$230	Total reduced to match recent use
Payroll Processing	\$1,800	\$1,800	
Miscellaneous Payroll Expense	\$563	\$563	
Staff Development	\$0	\$750	
Pastoral Search & Moving Expenses	\$10,000	\$0	
TOTAL- STAFF	\$231,505	\$237,551	





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## STAFF REPORTS

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# Senior Pastor

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## *Report for the period June 1, 2010 through May 22, 2011*

*You're still the one who can scratch my itch  
Still the one and I wouldn't switch  
We're still having fun, and you're still the one. Orleans*

With the royal wedding a thing of the past, and William and Kate safely hitched and on their honeymoon, (please note that I am writing this before the wedding and am assuming a lot!) I am sure that everyone will be watching them closely now, looking for signs that the honeymoon is over. Every wayward glance, every scowl and frown, every separation and reunion will be examined to see whether or not there are some chinks in the armor of amour. Such is the life of a royal celebrity.

My arrival among you last June was a pairing that has many of the same characteristics of a marriage. The courtship of a search process culminates in a proposal and a mutual assent that is later formalized in a public ceremony. The giddy days of our honeymoon were marked by a more serious emphasis on taking the time to get to know one another, thanks to some clear and intentional thinking about how my entry into this ministry could be done right. We had ample opportunities to eat together, talk about our lives, eat together, reflect on our future, eat together, get to know extended families, eat together and establish healthy patterns of relating to each other (well, except for the eating thing). We can credit the leadership of the church for embarking on the Lombard study and for taking seriously the implementation of what was learned there.

Of course, the acid test for all of this is what happens when the honeymoon is over. When we see one another in sweat pants and without our make-up on, there may be some harsh realities that will have to be accepted. Fortunately, by that time we know each other well enough to see the deeper beauty that is ultimately what sustains a relationship and makes life a joy to share.

Here are some of the beautiful things I have seen in you:

- Ongoing attention to cultivating membership growth resulting in a number of people being incorporated into our fellowship since my arrival.
- The addition of another youth group for younger kids and a confirmation class for 10 of our youth.
- Care-giving that supports those who are in crisis and those who need on-going support.
- Two 2<sup>nd</sup> graders completing the God and Me program through the Cub Scouts.
- A yearning for spiritual growth and education through Adult Spiritual Formation, Lenten Study, Book groups and a study of Islam and the Qur'an.
- Sensitivity to the needs of staff (myself especially) and the life-changes we all experience.
- Deep and abiding faith.

Experience tells us that there are some risks in getting better acquainted. We may get into a rut in our relationship. I plan to pay special attention in the coming year to cultivating an atmosphere of growth and creativity. We may get too comfortable with the way things are. I am going to be looking for opportunities to challenge you to get involved in some things that are in keeping with our values and our priorities as articulated in your discernment statements. We may act irresponsibly with our resources, putting our future in peril. I want to promote and build stewardship of finances, facilities and abilities among our members and staff.

It cannot be said too often that on those numerous occasions when I have needed guidance and advice on important issues, the staff and leadership of the church have been there for me. For this and for their on-going attention to their daily work, I am very grateful, as all of us should be.

Finally, as with most relationships, there come times of re-evaluating and questioning. It is healthy and constructive to do so. As I end the first year of my ministry here, I echo the words of the song.... "We're still having fun, and you're still the one."

God's Peace with Justice,  
Pastor David Sickelka

# Ministry Program Coordinator

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What an incredible program year of transition and growth! The spring season is reflected at Urbandale UCC as we have shared in calling a new pastor and engaging in new ministries together. Personally, I have felt a renewed sense of energy and have experienced many of you with a renewed sense of call. As we continue through the seasons of our lives together I am humbled as this church family comes together to support our various ministries and grow in our faith. We continue to wear our UUCC shirts proudly that proclaim:

**Let Peace Start with Me! We may not all think the same way. We may not all look the same way. But God still loves us all the same way. Eternally.**

With the help of many of you we have accomplished the following over this past year in ministry together:

- 2010-11 Adult Spiritual Formation
- 2010-11 Sunday School Program
- 2010-2011 Confirmation Program
- Support & Train Childcare Volunteers
- 6 Everyone Is Welcome Units
- Worship Support and Planning
- Support for Christian Growth Team
- HyVee Coupon Booklet Fundraiser
- Mardi Gras Carnival Fundraiser & Silent Auction
- Youth Lenten Play: Ragman
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Planning
- Backpack Drive for Urbandale Schools
- Advent Workshop during Wednesday Night Alive
- Annual PJ Party & Potluck
- Support for 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade Youth Group
- Support for *new* 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade Youth Group
- On-call coverage for Pastor

Thank you for lending your time, talents and treasures to these ministries. May the seasons in our lives continue to remind us of the growth, transitions and many blessings God freely gives. Thank you for all you are along our collective faith journey.

Rev. Amy Murray  
Ministry Program Coordinator

Please plan to come and celebrate YOU & OUR CHURCH FAMILY at the  
**Annual Appreciation Ice Cream Social, Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> after worship.**

# Music Program Director

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When beginning a story or book, the advice often given is, “the first sentence is always the hardest to write.” I think this also applies to annual reports, and most especially a report that closes a significant portion of time. This is where I find myself as I sum up my work at UUCC for this past year, the past 15 ½ years here and for the past 44 years in the field of church music.

This year has been like many others: farewell to Pastor Bob and welcome and installation for Pastor Dave; the summer Sundays filled with music performed by many of the talented soloists and instrumentalists in this congregation; worship leadership by the Adult Choir, SOS Choir, Raggedy Band, Adult and Youth Handbell Choirs. A highlight on World Communion Sunday last October was the appearance of an exuberant youth choir comprised of Burundian refugees.

The Adult Choir also provided musical leadership at Howard Eldrenkamp’s funeral last December. I think six choir members have died during the time I have been here, and we are thankful for the time they served in the Choir. Through the years I have also had the privilege of playing for the funeral services of several other church members when Bobby was not available.

As I reflect on my time here, several events come to mind which involved the Choir as well as other members of this congregation:

Urbandale Ecumenical Choir Festival—already in existence before I came in 1996. It continued for several more years. UUCC hosted the event a couple of times, and I conducted the massed choir portion of the program.

1997 Vesper services—in celebration of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UUCC, coordinated with Sue Gallagher, minister at that time.

Workshop w/Glenn Burleigh—held at Corinthian Baptist in May 1997, the invitation for our Choir to participate was the result of their Choir appearing on our Vesper series.

Diversity Chorus organized in 1997.

Two identical worship services, 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.—begun fall 2005, schedule adjusted in 2008.

My 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a church musician celebrated in worship July 1, 2007.

Choral concert presented by the Adult Choir May 2, 2010; featured an anthem commissioned by UUCC in memory of Doug Hjort.

The UUCC Casual Concert series—organized in July 2008, has featured:

- Irish Sounds and Flavors • Lavender lace Band • Barn Owl Band
  - Tina Haase Findley (Jazz/Blues singer) • Dinner & Randy Coryell piano concert—twice
  - Dessert Theater with Tom Milligan • Three People, Many Notes • Music (Super) Bowl
- (These events have raised approximately \$8400 for the general church budget)

As with many others who find their way to this congregation, in 1996 I was feeling somewhat bruised and battered from my previous employment and the relationships in that church situation. I found a healing atmosphere here, and a place which welcomed the gifts and skills of music and worship arts which I could offer. For all of this, I am eternally grateful.

My colleagues on Staff are especially important to me. It is a delight to observe Amy mature as a leader, to share the joy of friendship and work with Tara, to rely (heavily) on Bobby’s skill and support, and to witness Dave’s quiet, kind and steady guidance as he begins his work among us.

Again, my deep appreciation for the opportunity to serve this congregation.

~ ~ ~ Elsie P. Naylor, Music Program Director

## Organist & Director of SOS Choir, Youth & Adult Hand Bells

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Wednesday nights continue to prosper here at Urbandale UCC. This year the participation in all the choirs grew. The SOS choir, as well as Youth and Adult Bells showed visible growth as they provided leadership on a monthly basis in our services from October to May. I anticipate these groups to continue grow and provide music to enhance our services in the next year.

We welcomed three new members to the Youth Bells for a total of ten ringers this year. Our Adult Bells welcomed three new members as well, which brought our group to a total of eight members. It has been fun working with these groups as they grow musically and have a desire to playing music a bit more challenging.

Our SOS is a combination of voices in grades 1-8 which provides music on a monthly basis as well. This group saw a big increase in membership this year. We added nine new members this year which brought our group to a total of eighteen singers! This group performed their spring musical “No Church in Churchville” during the May 8<sup>th</sup> service. Again, thanks to Elsie for helping in accompanying the SOS choir this year.

These various groups not only provide us with music on a monthly basis, but they help to offer social time for our church youth and adults. The SOS choir and Bell choirs learned and prepared their songs during a 30 minute rehearsal each week. Wednesday night dinners were prepared by various volunteers. A big thank you to all who helped!

My time serving on staff here at UCC as your organist has been a blessing. I have been enlightened and educated working with such a knowledgeable and talented musical director as our Elsie Naylor. It’s been a privilege my thirteen years here to work with her. She has been someone I have counted on to play in my absence, to accompany the SOS choirs, and to keep me in line. ☺ She has also been a musical colleague and dear friend. I will miss her leadership and wish the best in her retirement.

As we set a new course with new leadership this coming year, I look forward to our program’s continued growth here at Urbandale UCC.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bobby Stinnett

# Office Coordinator

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My goal this past year has been to contribute positively to the transition with Pastor Dave as UUCC's new senior pastor and head of staff. I have aimed to provide whatever information and support that I was able, while maintaining a flexible and welcoming attitude toward the inevitable changes that occur. We on staff have enjoyed this year, getting acquainted and discovering how we work together. As we all know, the only thing permanent is change. In light of that, my goal for the coming year is to remain alert to ways I can contribute to the process of doing church.

Details of office life during 2010-11:

- **Copier:** The office copier is finishing the second year of its 5 year lease, and has produced its 360,000<sup>th</sup> imprint... an amazing piece of equipment. Midwest Office Technology (MOT) continues to provide very reliable service.
- **ACS software training:** ACS is the software we use to keep track of membership and financial records. I participated in a two day training program in the ACS People module, available locally at St. John's Lutheran Church. Days one and two were combined into one long day, covering setup of common tasks, customizing reports and mail merge, and day two covering small group and activity reporting. I found this training extremely beneficial and quite long overdue.
- **Computer:** The server was replaced last summer by UUCC's Mike Mensing. Despite the typical complications in getting a new system up and running, computers have worked well throughout this program year. We continue to contract with the CST to handle some computer issues when necessary, and to rely on the Tech Team for regular computer housekeeping. Thank you Mike and the Tech Team!
- **Website:** Jane Robinette maintains the church website and uploads weekly bulletins, *The CALL*, and other UUCC information on a regular and timely basis. Thank you Jane!
- **Custodians:** Sadmira and Umihana Omerhodzic continue to provide very careful and reliable custodial service. Sadmira monitors and orders all custodial supplies.

THANK YOU! The position of office coordinator, by its nature, relies on the work of many others. I am always conscious of the variety of folks behind the scenes who make my job and the work of the church possible—daily aware of each of these helpers, supporters, and wise advisors, and so very appreciative of their role. That being true, I wish to offer a special thank you to Elsie Naylor for her crucial role in the office. You may think of Elsie as your Music Program Director. I think of her as the office coordinator's right-hand staff. Elsie has proofread every bulletin, newsletter and report that we produce here. She has filled in for me during every vacation—seeing that the bulletin is composed and printed, payroll figures submitted on time, or email and phone messages followed up on. Furthermore, Elsie has provided healthy feedback and wise council for every dilemma or sticky detail that has arisen in the office. I wish to make sure that others are aware of her essential services in this area. She has never been too busy to provide whatever help I have needed. My greatest appreciation and lasting thanks to Elsie!

Gratefully submitted,  
Tara McConnell, Office Coordinator



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## OFFICER REPORTS

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# Moderator

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Dear Members of Urbandale United Church of Christ,

In this report, I will review what I think we, the Leadership Team and members of the congregation, have accomplished this past year through my leadership. More than anything, in a very thoughtful and prayerful way we have worked hard to embrace the principles and practices that we learned from our Lombard retreat in February of 2010. That weekend experience has turned into a valuable investment because we have begun to build relationships amongst ourselves and with Pastor David and communicate with each other in more loving ways than ever before. In addition, I see three major accomplishments, two that have already been implemented and one that is in a gestation period, which will come to fruition next spring.

## **Pastor-Parish Covenant Team (PCCT)**

Through the summer and into early fall a team of folks spent a considerable amount of time meeting and attempting to see what this team should become. Purposely using the word *covenant*, this team redesigned how the team is formed and its membership maintained. Also, through education—reading Daniel’s and Copenhaver’s *This Odd and Wondrous Calling* and viewing Oswald’s *Forming a Pastor Parish Relations Committee*—the team has determined their primary function is to support the pastor and the pastor’s family.

## **Congregational Support and Education Work Group (CSE)**

This work group also began its work in the early summer. The purpose of this group was to design ways to support and educate the congregation about issues concerning the church and furthering the knowledge gained from the Lombard weekend. They accomplished their task in the following three ways:

- **Congregational Forums**  
The three forums held this year focused on various teams, so that the congregation could be informed about each team’s responsibilities and mission.
- **Lombard Articles**  
Various articles about family systems theory and ideas that were learned at the Lombard retreat were written, so that members who were unable to attend the retreat could be informed about the Lombard principles. These articles have been posted on the UUCW Web page.
- **Adult Spiritual Formation**  
Various Sundays throughout the year were set aside to share and teach about some of the Lombard principles, such as a review of family systems theory and triangulation. The new formation and function of the Pastor-Parish Covenant Team was also presented during a couple of Sunday sessions.

### **Introspection Work Group**

A couple of months ago, this work group began its work. For years we have avoided any type of pastor review or evaluation. However, the Lombard weekend suggested an appropriate method/tool to eventually accomplish this. Although there is much work left to do with this task, basically what is involved is introspection on three levels. First, each of us will undertake a personal introspection to reflect on our individual faith journeys. Those who decide to participate in this reflection will move on to the second level, where we look at the congregation in light of our Discernment Statements to attempt to decide if we are successful in some areas or if we need more attention in certain areas. And finally, we will have an opportunity to prayerfully look at Pastor Dave's performance and let him know how we are being blessed by his ministry and where we would like to see some changes/improvements.

### **Additional Comments**

All three of these initiatives demonstrate to me that we are working very hard on wanting to be effective children of God and attempting to live out our mission by using Christ as our mentor and example. I am grateful for all of the hard work that has been and continues to be involved with these initiatives.

### **Thank You**

I would like to thank the Leadership Team for their hours of service. We have had prayerful and playful moments together, while we have worked on keeping Urbandale United Church of Christ moving forward. I would like to thank Tara for all of her hard work behind the scenes in the office. I would like to thank all of the people who come on church work days and those who serve on ministry teams. Your devotion to the stewardship of our grounds and promotion of our mission are invaluable. I would like to thank Pastor Dave who has helped to make my job much easier, simply because of his years of wisdom and thoughtful ways of working with people. And finally, I would like to thank the members of our church family. It has been a growing experience for me and I have enjoyed the journey. Thank you for trusting me and believing in my abilities to lead.

Randy Jedele, Moderator

# Financial Secretary

Date : 04/27/2011  
Time : 7:41:48 PM

**Urbandale United Church of Christ  
Analysis of Revenues & Expenses -Annual Report  
January to December 2010**

Page : 1

Accounts	YTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (Last Year)	Annual Budget (This Year)	% of Annual Budget Used (This Year)
<b>Revenues</b>				
<b>Pledge Offering</b>				
1-400100 - Current Year Pledges	\$242,087.80	\$242,975.14	\$280,000.00	93.11 %
1-400110 - Prior Year Pledges	\$550.00	\$1,890.00	\$0.00	0.00 %
1-400120 - Future Year Pledges	\$19,945.59	\$11,000.00	\$0.00	0.00 %
<b>Total Pledge Offering</b>	<b>\$262,583.39</b>	<b>\$255,865.14</b>	<b>\$280,000.00</b>	<b>100.99 %</b>
<b>Other Receipts</b>				
1-410100 - Non Pledge and New Members	\$31,093.93	\$32,748.36	\$31,382.00	99.08 %
1-410200 - Plate Offering	\$2,188.23	\$2,002.78	\$2,000.00	108.41 %
1-410300 - Interest	\$44.32	\$127.59	\$70.00	83.31 %
1-410400 - Weddings	\$871.95	\$744.95	\$800.00	83.99 %
1-410500 - Miscellaneous Receipts	\$5,399.34	\$2,082.25	\$2,000.00	269.97 %
1-410600 - Building Use	\$992.00	\$1,340.00	\$1,200.00	82.67 %
1-410700 - Dig Deeper Fund	\$5,600.00	\$21,580.00	\$5,600.00	100.00 %
1-410800 - Fundraisers	\$3,921.81	\$7,948.17	\$7,200.00	54.47 %
<b>Total Other Receipts</b>	<b>\$49,891.38</b>	<b>\$88,554.10</b>	<b>\$50,252.00</b>	<b>99.28 %</b>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$312,474.77</b>	<b>\$324,219.24</b>	<b>\$310,252.00</b>	<b>100.72 %</b>

<u>Amount of Pledge</u>		<b>2011 Regular Pledge</b>
0	to 999	37
1,000	to 1,999	30
2,000	to 2,999	15
3,000	to 3,999	9
4,000	to 4,999	7
5,000	to 9,999	10
10,000	and up	5
Total		113
Total		\$290,650

I am always amazed at the dedication that the members of our church have in serving God! One very important task each week is that of the Offering Recorder. They spend an hour or two after Sunday services one Sunday a month to count, record, and deposit the weekly offering. The Recorders are Chris Jordan, Ruth Rasmussen, Lee Hood, Ray Bowler, Steve Chandler, Mark Siegel, Karen Capps-Davis, Jim Nervig, and Joe Walters. Please take a moment to thank them for the time and work they put in every month. They make the role of Financial Secretary much easier!

Thank you to those Offering Recorders that have stepped down this past year: Ruth Miller, Tom Rendon, Geri Jacobs, Joyce Hjort and Todd Peterson. I appreciate the time they have volunteered over the years to help our church.

A big thanks also to Jo Lilley and Nancy Boyer for their work recording and acknowledging all memorials received by the Church. This has been a great help to the Offering Recorders and the families involved.

Finally, thank you to each of you for your offerings of time, talent and treasure. Without you, the church would not be the same!

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Gardner, Financial Secretary

# Treasurer

Submitted by Taena Fowler, Treasurer

Date : 04/27/2011  
Time : 7:34:26 PM

**Urbandale United Church of Christ**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**December 2010**

Page

Accounts	Assets	
<b>Current Assets</b>		
<b>Checking</b>		
1-100100 - General Checking	\$35,922.79	
1-100200 - Memorial Checking	\$7,181.52	
1-100300 - Designated Checking	\$70,649.76	
<b>Total Checking</b>	<b>\$113,754.07</b>	
<b>Investments</b>		
1-150400 - Endowment Fund Savings	\$39,100.25	
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>\$39,100.25</b>	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>\$152,854.32</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>\$152,854.32</b>

Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds		
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Fund Principal</b>		
1-299999 - Fund Principal	\$46,952.56	
Excess Cash Received	(\$7,151.95)	
<b>Total Fund Principal and Excess Cash Received</b>		<b>\$39,800.61</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>		
Total Temporarily Restricted	\$73,953.46	
Total Permanently Restricted	\$39,100.25	
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>		<b>\$113,053.71</b>
<b>Total Liabilities, Fund Principal, &amp; Restricted Funds</b>		<b>\$152,854.32</b>

Date : 04/27/2011  
Time : 7:41:48 PM

**Urbandale United Church of Christ**  
**Analysis of Revenues & Expenses -Annual Report**  
**January to December 2010**

Page : 1

Accounts	YTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (Last Year)	Annual Budget (This Year)	% of Annual Budget Used (This Year)
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1-410300 - Interest	\$44.32	\$127.59	\$70.00	63.31 %
1-410400 - Weddings	\$671.95	\$744.95	\$800.00	83.99 %
1-410500 - Miscellaneous Receipts	\$5,399.34	\$2,062.25	\$2,000.00	269.97 %
1-410600 - Building Use	\$992.00	\$1,340.00	\$1,200.00	82.67 %
1-410700 - Dig Deeper Fund	\$5,600.00	\$21,580.00	\$5,600.00	100.00 %
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<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$312,474.77</b>	<b>\$324,219.24</b>	<b>\$310,252.00</b>	<b>100.72 %</b>

**Urbandale United Church of Christ**  
**Analysis of Revenues & Expenses -Annual Report**  
**January to December 2010**

Accounts	YTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (Last Year)	Annual Budget (This Year)	% of Annual Budget Used (This Year)
<b>Expenses</b>				
<b>Personnel</b>				
<b>Pastor</b>				
1-500110 - Pastor Salary	\$33,261.42	\$20,743.63	\$40,213.00	82.71 %
1-500120 - Pastor Housing	\$20,788.52	\$19,284.88	\$20,530.00	101.26 %
1-500130 - Pastor SS Offset	\$5,921.28	\$6,696.75	\$4,647.00	127.42 %
1-500140 - Pastor Health\Dental	\$16,297.69	\$15,199.80	\$15,516.00	105.04 %
1-500150 - Pastor Annuity	\$9,051.55	\$10,021.27	\$8,504.00	106.44 %
1-500160 - Pastor Professional Expenses	\$223.54	\$780.54	\$2,000.00	11.18 %
1-500170 - Senior Pastor's Prof Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	0.00 %
<b>Total Pastor</b>	<b>\$85,544.00</b>	<b>\$72,726.87</b>	<b>\$92,010.00</b>	<b>92.97 %</b>
<b>Ministry Program Coordinator</b>				
1-500270 - Ministry Program Coordinator Sal	\$24,432.72	\$24,159.87	\$24,271.00	100.67 %
1-500271 - Ministry Program Coord. Housing	\$6,232.79	\$6,163.15	\$7,280.00	85.62 %
1-500272 - Ministry Program Coord. SS Offse	\$2,067.45	\$2,044.35	\$2,414.00	85.64 %
1-500273 - Minstry Prog Coord Health Acc	\$942.00	\$0.00	\$708.00	133.05 %
1-500274 - Ministry Program Coord. Annuity	\$4,656.68	\$2,640.75	\$4,417.00	105.43 %
1-500275 - Ministry Program Coord. Prof. Ex	\$1,566.23	\$1,545.00	\$1,800.00	87.01 %
<b>Total Ministry Program Coordinator</b>	<b>\$39,897.87</b>	<b>\$36,553.12</b>	<b>\$40,890.00</b>	<b>97.57 %</b>
<b>Office Coordinator</b>				
1-500310 - Office Coordinator Salary	\$33,598.15	\$33,428.11	\$33,969.00	98.91 %
1-500330 - Office Coordinator FICA	\$2,598.08	\$2,557.25	\$2,599.00	99.96 %
1-500341 - Office Coordinator Health/Dental	\$7,914.00	\$9,216.75	\$8,120.00	97.46 %
<b>Total Office Coordinator</b>	<b>\$44,110.23</b>	<b>\$45,202.11</b>	<b>\$44,688.00</b>	<b>98.71 %</b>
<b>Music Director</b>				
1-500510 - Music Director Salary	\$14,011.68	\$13,821.60	\$14,029.00	99.88 %
1-500530 - Music Director FICA	\$1,071.89	\$1,057.35	\$1,058.00	101.31 %
<b>Total Music Director</b>	<b>\$15,083.57</b>	<b>\$14,878.95</b>	<b>\$15,087.00</b>	<b>99.98 %</b>
<b>Organist/Youth Choir/Handbells</b>				
1-500610 - Organist/YouthChoir/Hanbells Sal	\$10,855.14	\$10,707.96	\$10,742.00	101.05 %
1-500630 - Organist/Youth Choir/Handbells F	\$830.42	\$819.16	\$822.00	101.02 %
<b>Total Organist/Youth Choir/Handbells</b>	<b>\$11,685.56</b>	<b>\$11,527.12</b>	<b>\$11,564.00</b>	<b>101.05 %</b>
<b>Custodian</b>				
1-500710 - Custodian Salary	\$10,765.58	\$12,280.00	\$12,509.00	86.06 %
1-500730 - Custodian FICA	\$823.04	\$868.68	\$957.00	86.00 %
<b>Total Custodian</b>	<b>\$11,588.62</b>	<b>\$13,148.68</b>	<b>\$13,466.00</b>	<b>86.06 %</b>
<b>Child Care Providers</b>				
1-500760 - Child Care Providers Wages	\$2,688.56	\$2,776.82	\$4,035.00	66.63 %
1-500780 - Child Care Providers FICA	\$205.66	\$211.20	\$309.00	66.56 %
<b>Total Child Care Providers</b>	<b>\$2,894.22</b>	<b>\$2,988.02</b>	<b>\$4,344.00</b>	<b>66.63 %</b>
<b>Other</b>				
1-500900 - Payroll Processing	\$1,584.01	\$1,698.20	\$1,800.00	88.00 %
1-500910 - Miscellaneous Personnel Expens	\$650.30	(\$128.41)	\$563.00	115.51 %
1-500980 - Pastor Moving Expenses	\$6,670.85	\$3,536.00	\$10,000.00	66.71 %
1-500990 - Pastor/AP Search Expenses	\$2,697.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00 %
<b>Total Other</b>	<b>\$11,602.41</b>	<b>\$5,105.79</b>	<b>\$12,363.00</b>	<b>93.85 %</b>
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>\$222,406.48</b>	<b>\$202,130.66</b>	<b>\$234,412.00</b>	<b>94.88 %</b>
<b>Other Expenses</b>				
1-530000 - Prior Year Surplus	\$26,500.28	\$0.00	\$35,000.00	75.72 %
<b>Christian Growth Ministry Team</b>				
1-520110 - Church School Curriculum	\$1,753.90	\$1,331.30	\$1,800.00	97.44 %
1-520120 - Adult Education	\$162.50	\$505.10	\$100.00	162.50 %
1-520130 - Church School Supplies	\$631.27	\$441.96	\$650.00	97.12 %
1-520160 - Special Activities	\$587.25	\$674.24	\$300.00	195.75 %
1-520170 - Youth Program	\$416.66	\$348.89	\$400.00	104.16 %
<b>Total Christian Growth Ministry Team</b>	<b>\$3,551.58</b>	<b>\$3,301.49</b>	<b>\$3,250.00</b>	<b>109.28 %</b>

**Analysis of Revenues & Expenses -Annual Report  
January to December 2010**

<b>Accounts</b>	<b>YTD Actual (This Year)</b>	<b>YTD Actual (Last Year)</b>	<b>Annual Budget (This Year)</b>	<b>% of Annual Budget Used (This Year)</b>
<b>Outreach\Nurture Ministry Team</b>				
1-520210 - OCWM	\$10,174.00	\$21,667.70	\$10,174.00	100.00 %
1-520220 - DMARC	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	100.00 %
1-520230 - Central Association Dues	\$1,204.00	\$1,204.00	\$1,200.00	100.33 %
1-520240 - Community Concerns	\$2,000.00	\$1,040.96	\$2,300.00	86.96 %
1-520250 - Advertising	\$414.00	\$375.00	\$300.00	138.00 %
1-520260 - Social Events	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	0.00 %
1-520270 - Membership	\$496.88	\$365.20	\$500.00	99.38 %
1-520275 - Habitat for Humanity	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	0.00 %
<b>Total Outreach\Nurture Ministry Team</b>	<b>\$14,788.88</b>	<b>\$24,677.86</b>	<b>\$15,474.00</b>	<b>95.57 %</b>
<b>Worship Team</b>				
1-520310 - Service/Worship Supplies	\$464.32	\$504.03	\$500.00	92.86 %
1-520320 - Sub Organist/Guests	\$195.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	97.50 %
1-520330 - Music Senior Choir	\$392.96	\$225.00	\$340.00	115.58 %
1-520340 - Music Childrens Choir	\$171.20	\$34.88	\$200.00	85.60 %
1-520370 - Piano Tuning	\$480.00	\$315.00	\$500.00	96.00 %
<b>Total Worship Team</b>	<b>\$1,703.48</b>	<b>\$1,078.91</b>	<b>\$1,740.00</b>	<b>97.90 %</b>
<b>Ad-Ministry Team</b>				
1-520510 - Electric/Gas	\$12,329.00	\$12,977.00	\$14,500.00	85.03 %
1-520511 - Communications	\$2,378.54	\$2,280.18	\$2,500.00	95.14 %
1-520512 - Water/Sewer	\$698.07	\$737.05	\$1,200.00	58.17 %
1-520520 - Buildings/Grounds Maintenance	\$6,105.48	\$6,365.18	\$6,000.00	101.76 %
1-520521 - Memorial Gardens Maintenance	\$27.24	\$69.67	\$250.00	10.90 %
1-520530 - Custodial Supplies	\$694.05	\$1,496.68	\$1,000.00	69.40 %
1-520540 - Snow Removal	\$3,176.43	\$3,336.47	\$3,000.00	105.88 %
1-520550 - Elevator	\$1,007.30	\$2,199.65	\$800.00	125.91 %
1-520580 - Capitol Contingencies	\$1,279.63	\$759.53	\$1,200.00	106.64 %
1-520585 - Stewardship of Building	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	0.00 %
1-520600 - Office Supplies	\$2,839.69	\$2,861.30	\$4,000.00	70.99 %
1-520610 - Office Equipment	\$5,751.56	\$6,658.58	\$7,600.00	75.68 %
1-520620 - Postage	\$2,578.72	\$2,020.52	\$2,500.00	103.15 %
1-520630 - Technology	\$3,231.38	\$3,245.52	\$4,500.00	71.81 %
1-520640 - Insurance	\$8,128.50	\$8,241.14	\$8,000.00	101.61 %
1-520650 - Stewardship	\$259.79	\$353.19	\$500.00	51.96 %
1-520660 - Kitchen Supplies	\$134.64	\$0.00	\$250.00	53.86 %
<b>Total Ad-Ministry Team</b>	<b>\$50,620.02</b>	<b>\$53,601.66</b>	<b>\$58,800.00</b>	<b>86.09 %</b>
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>\$97,164.24</b>	<b>\$82,659.92</b>	<b>\$114,264.00</b>	<b>85.03 %</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$319,570.72</b>	<b>\$284,790.58</b>	<b>\$348,676.00</b>	<b>91.65 %</b>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>(\$7,095.95)</b>	<b>\$39,428.66</b>	<b>(\$38,424.00)</b>	<b>0.00 %</b>

**Urbandale United Church of Christ**  
**Restricted Accounts Summary-Annual Report**  
**January to December 2010**

Accounts	Beginning Balance	Restricted Revenue	Restricted Expenses	Ending Balance
<b><u>Temporary Restricted</u></b>				
<b>Memorials</b>				
1-800108 - Louise Lamb	\$2.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2.00
1-800112 - Harriet Reynolds	\$808.77	\$0.00	\$65.00	\$743.77
1-800113 - Flo Eldrenkamp	\$0.00	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$80.00
1-800115 - Don Duvick	\$10.00	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$90.00
1-800116 - Lee Willems	\$425.00	\$0.00	\$425.00	\$0.00
1-800119 - Mickey Couch Memorial	\$0.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.75
1-800123 - Elizabeth Hamilton Memorial	\$625.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$625.00
1-800124 - Gayle Strickler Sr. Memorial	\$0.00	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$80.00
1-800125 - Doug Hjort Memorial	\$2,450.00	\$80.00	\$2,450.00	\$80.00
1-800127 - Joe Wahrer Memorial	\$265.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$265.00
1-800128 - Agnes Foote	\$825.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$825.00
1-800130 - Don Pease Memorial	\$0.00	\$785.00	\$0.00	\$785.00
1-800131 - Howard Eldrenkamp Memorial	\$0.00	\$410.00	\$270.00	\$140.00
1-800132 - Margaret Avaux Memorial	\$0.00	\$325.00	\$0.00	\$325.00
1-800133 - Jane Allen Memorial	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
1-800199 - Miscellaneous Memorials	\$0.00	\$255.00	\$105.00	\$150.00
<b>Total Memorials</b>	<b>\$5,411.52</b>	<b>\$2,145.00</b>	<b>\$3,315.00</b>	<b>\$4,241.52</b>
<b>Designated Funds</b>				
1-820110 - Adult Education	\$369.71	\$2,298.00	\$3,638.15	(\$970.44)
1-820130 - Building Fund	\$2,779.50	\$0.00	\$1,487.39	\$1,292.11
1-820140 - Camperships	\$488.18	\$3,940.06	\$2,406.71	\$2,021.53
1-820145 - Caregivers	\$674.92	\$320.00	\$230.87	\$764.05
1-820150 - Christmas Fund	\$3,250.00	\$1,595.63	\$4,845.63	\$0.00
1-820160 - Coffee Fund	(\$176.61)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$176.61)
1-820165 - Diversity Chorus	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
1-820170 - Flowers	\$20.98	\$1,917.50	\$1,843.87	\$94.61
1-820180 - Food Pantry	\$125.00	\$2,741.50	\$2,866.50	\$0.00
1-820184 - Funeral Receptions	(\$51.04)	\$250.00	\$466.20	(\$267.24)
1-820188 - Gift of the Heart Health Kits	\$55.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$55.00
1-820190 - Giving Tree	\$278.12	\$465.00	\$0.00	\$743.12
1-820210 - Hearts and Hand Helpers	\$538.82	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$538.82
1-820230 - Homeless Shelter Meal	\$112.67	\$580.00	\$224.05	\$468.62
1-820232 - Hurricane Katrina Task Force	\$260.49	\$1,245.00	\$1,525.70	(\$20.21)
1-820233 - Installation Reception	\$449.86	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$449.86
1-820235 - Interfaith Hospitality Network	\$358.49	\$145.00	\$158.69	\$344.80
1-820250 - Kitchen Fund	\$831.49	\$0.00	\$63.56	\$767.93
1-820260 - Memorial Garden	\$789.36	\$70.00	\$0.00	\$859.36
1-820270 - Miscellaneous - Designated	\$4,423.69	\$3,008.82	\$3,304.91	\$4,127.60
1-820280 - Music Fund	\$1,247.30	\$706.78	\$1,098.60	\$855.48
1-820290 - Neighbors in Need	\$0.00	\$768.00	\$768.00	\$0.00
1-820300 - One Great Hour of Sharing	\$0.00	\$724.00	\$724.00	\$0.00
1-820310 - Pastors Discretionary Fund	\$1,113.49	\$974.60	\$922.98	\$1,165.11
1-820315 - Pastors Health Care	\$0.00	\$896.75	\$896.75	\$0.00
1-820317 - Pilgrim Hts/Our Sacred Space	\$25.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,025.00
1-820318 - Praise the Roof	\$29,064.93	\$31,740.85	\$20,531.52	\$40,274.26
1-820320 - Prayer Shawl Ministries	\$489.64	\$119.00	\$276.19	\$332.45
1-820325 - Raggedy Band	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
1-820328 - Refugee Family Fund	\$0.00	\$360.00	\$360.00	\$0.00
1-820340 - Social Team	\$958.82	\$0.00	\$330.98	\$627.84
1-820360 - Strengthen the Church	\$0.00	\$989.00	\$989.00	\$0.00
1-820370 - Strickler Peace and Justice Fund	\$10,547.22	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$11,297.22
1-820385 - Sunday School	\$695.11	\$96.10	\$0.00	\$791.21
1-820390 - Technology Fund	\$661.05	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$661.05
1-820405 - Urbandale Food Pantry	\$1,560.37	\$0.00	\$1,560.37	\$0.00
1-820410 - Vacation Bible School	(\$18.17)	\$888.00	\$1,111.20	(\$241.37)
1-820420 - Wednesday Night Meals	\$647.06	\$882.00	\$703.64	\$825.42
1-820425 - Wedding Fund	(\$14.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$14.00)
1-820430 - Womens Fellowship	\$200.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
1-820435 - Youth Programs	\$960.00	\$78.00	\$818.64	\$219.36
<b>Total Designated Funds</b>	<b>\$64,266.45</b>	<b>\$59,599.59</b>	<b>\$54,154.10</b>	<b>\$69,711.94</b>
<b>Total Temporary Restricted</b>	<b>\$69,677.97</b>	<b>\$61,744.59</b>	<b>\$57,469.10</b>	<b>\$73,953.46</b>
<b><u>Permanent Restricted</u></b>				
1-900100 - Endowment Fund	\$17,396.99	\$21,709.26	\$6.00	\$39,100.25
<b>Total Permanent Restricted</b>	<b>\$17,396.99</b>	<b>\$21,709.26</b>	<b>\$6.00</b>	<b>\$39,100.25</b>

**Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Annual Report  
January to December 2010**

The 2010 Report looks like we ran a deficit this year.

2010 Total Revenue	\$312,474.77
<u>2010 Total Expense</u>	<u>\$319,570.72</u>
2010 Surplus/Deficit	-\$7,095.95

However, that doesn't account for the 2009 Surplus. The charges billed to that should not be counted against 2010 revenue.

2010 Total Expense	\$319,570.72
2010 Expense against 2009 Surplus*	<u>\$26,500.28</u>
<u>2010 Adj. Expense</u>	<u>\$293,070.44</u>
2010 Total Revenue	\$312,474.77
<u>2010 Adj. Expense</u>	<u>\$293,070.44</u>
2010 Adj. Surplus/Deficit	\$19,404.33

We also did not spend all of the 2009 surplus.

2009 Surplus	\$35,000.00
2010 Expense against 2009 Surplus	<u>\$26,500.28</u>
<u>2009 Surplus Remainder</u>	<u>\$8,499.72</u>
 So, our current total surplus is:	 <b>\$27,904.05</b>
2009 Surplus Remainder	\$8,499.72
2010 Adj. Surplus/Deficit	<u>\$19,404.33</u>
Combined Surplus	\$27,904.05



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## TEAM REPORTS

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# Community Concerns Team

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The mission of the Community Concerns Team is to facilitate outreach ministry in the name of Jesus Christ beyond the local church. The community is defined as the Des Moines metropolitan area, the state of Iowa, our nation and our world. Our role in empowering members to serve the wider community takes the following forms:

- Serving as a focus group for mission and outreach ideas and suggestions,
- Recommending specific projects to the congregation for its consideration and involvement,
- Forming sub-teams or sub-committees to perform particular outreach ministry.

\* \* \*

This year, here are some of the projects we organized and participated in:

## **AMOS (A Mid-Iowa Organizing Strategy)**

Urbandale UCC members continue their work with AMOS. AMOS advocates have been working to change how mental health care is delivered throughout the state. The AMOS Mental Health Issues Team has been working with other advocates and the legislature on this important topic. Project IOWA gained momentum this year. This unique project is a jobs training program based on a collaborative partnership among the Des Moines Area Community College, Iowa Workforce Development, Des Moines AMOS Cluster, and local employers. Local employers seeking trained people are identified and the other partners find potential workers, train them and place them in these job vacancies. People are getting job training with the guarantee of a job when they finish. The effort is based on a model used in San Antonio, Texas, and stemmed from a frequently raised issue of unemployment and underemployment raised during the issues campaign in 2009.

## **Central Iowa Shelter Meals**

The church served a dinner to residents of this homeless shelter twice this year. Special thanks to Deb Rebelsky and Joyce Hjort for organizing these events.

## **Habitat for Humanity**

Prior to leaving, Perry Washburn was our liaison with the Des Moines Area Habitat for Humanity group. He helped organize a number of building opportunities for church members and friends. Jerry Woods has agreed to be our new liaison and he pulled a group together in April for a Rock-the-Block event.

## **The Giving Tree**

We continued with our “Christmas in July” Giving Tree this year and provided many gifts for shelters of both animals and humans, recovery centers, and those suffering with AIDS and others.

## **Food Pantry**

Many thanks to Ray Bowler for continue to keep the Food Pantry front and center in our church. Monthly collections including a Lenten “Stone into Bread” theme meant a lot of food and personal hygiene products were provided for the Urbandale Food Pantry. Demand at the pantry, which grew last year, has still continued this past year. The church also participated in the Pantry’s holiday “Adopt a Family” program. A note of thanks to Elaine Lundstrom, Marci Freer and Deb Rebelsky for coordinating this effort.

### **Interfaith Hospitality Network**

For six years Urbandale UCC has been providing shelter and food to families experiencing homelessness. In the past year we opened our doors four times. The generosity of friends and members was evident as more than 60 different individuals provided some form of assistance during the weeks our guests stayed with us. Special thanks go to Donna Rusk and many others at Covenant Christian Church (DOC) who have been wonderful partners in this ministry.

### **Advent Gifts**

Instead of hosting our alternative gift-buying opportunity through SERRV, Wendy Sontag invited the Fair World Gallery to set up a gift bazaar in Fellowship Hall on two Sundays during Advent. Response to the sale was positive, and Fair World donated 10% of the proceeds back to Urbandale UCC.

### **Hunger Hike**

The church organized walkers and donors, and raised money for the Des Moines area Hunger Hike held on October 10. Kathy Marean was our organizer this year and walkers included both youth and adults.

### **Mokhtar Family**

The church continues to offer friendship and support to this refugee family from Afghanistan and Azerbaijan. The exciting news this year was that the two older children, Sabira and Khalik, who were not born in this country, became United States citizens. They took the oath in a special ceremony held at the State Historical Building along with many other children from around the world.

### **Rebuilding Together**

The congregation participated again on May 7 in this community-wide effort by helping older citizens make repairs to on their houses. This year we helped clean up a yard and install a new bathroom floor in house. The Bowtie Boyz and others contributed their time—and thanks to Jerry Woods for organizing this event.

Please thank the members of this year's Community Concerns Team who made all this possible: Marci Freer, Sharon Johnson, Wendy Sontag, Gladys Julstrom, Linda Grathwohl and Tom Rendon, as well as our liaison to the Leadership Team, Jo Lilley.

Tom Rendon  
Team Leader, pro tem

# Membership Team

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**God is Still Speaking**, and so is the Membership Team at Urbandale United Church of Christ.

The welcome table at the entrance to the sanctuary has greeted many new and returning visitors to Urbandale United Church of Christ this past year. A special thanks to Tara for creating the visitor nametags and keeping the table supplied with visitor packets. Thanks also to Juanita Baker for her assistance with visitor follow-up.

The Membership Team also coordinated three new member classes. Thank you to all who helped prepare food and cleaned up during these classes and receptions.

Thank you also to Maryellen Knowles for her creativity in photographing the new members and creating the eye-catching new member bulletin board!

The Member Care Program continues to track those not in attendance and follows up with either a postcard or caregiver phone call. Thank you to Joyce Bixby for managing this program for the team.

A special thank you to all that helped create the picture directory in 2010! It is a large undertaking, but worth the effort of scheduling photos, following up with members, staffing the greeting table during the photos, proofing the directory and distribution. THANK YOU!

It was a great year for the Membership Team. We were truly fortunate to have the pleasure of welcoming many new members this year. We look forward to welcoming many more in the years to come. We thank the congregation for being an integral part of this process.

Your Membership Team:

Jennifer Gardner (Chair), Andy Smith, Mary Schaeffer, Joyce Bixby & Nicole Seay

# Worship Team

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Worship Team Members: Elsie Naylor (staff), Ruth Miller, Jeff Couch, Sandy Gahn, Leslie Sheridan, Jon Duvick; *ex officio*: Pastor David.

The Worship Team works with church staff to make sure that ongoing worship needs are met: ushers, acolytes, greeters, communion servers, and audio monitors for each service; seasonal or special theme decorations/banners for the sanctuary; and help with special worship events. We also participate in brainstorming with church staff how best to use the worship space to help communicate the worship message.

We rely on many willing “Friends of the Worship Team” (FOWT) who pitch in as needed to help with church decoration, cleaning, etc., and want to thank the many FOWT without whom we couldn’t have accomplished what we did so efficiently: Mark Siegel, Dave Sheridan, Carol Looney, Steve Looney, Kathy Marean, Adam Dirks, Nathan Wiley, David Yurdin, Bobby Stinnett.

Dressing up the church throughout the worship year requires significant storage space, and we spent some time in January cleaning and organizing the worship storage space. The result is a much more space-efficient room with all containers clearly labeled. Thanks to all who helped!

We introduced gluten free bread for the first time this year, in the spirit of inclusiveness. We are still experimenting with the best way to deliver this alternative bread during passing of the plate.

Sanctuary banners play an important role in setting the tone for certain seasons/events, and the Worship Committee oversaw several banner changes throughout the year. Thanks go to Ruth Miller and Carol Looney for the beautiful handcrafted fabrics that grace our sanctuary, and to Mark Siegel for use of his ladder.

The Worship Committee took on oversight of the sound system monitors, with leadership by Jeff Couch. Thanks to all those who helped on a regular basis: Ray Bowler, Scott Davis, Jon Duvick, Kevin Gannon, and Robbie Nervig; and alternates: Jeff Couch, Jan Kinney, and Evan Lundstrom-Yurdin.

Highlights of worship activities this year: Pastor David’s first worship service was June 5, 2010; the Pastor’s Installation Service was celebrated on October 31<sup>st</sup>; Christmas Eve services were held at 5:30 (Family Worship Service) and 9:00 (Lessons and Carols Service); the Moravian Love Feast was held on the first Sunday after Christmas. Special decorations for the year included World Communion Sunday on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, (map and pin-board); a fishing sermon theme with nets in January; a relaxing “field of lilies” on February 27<sup>th</sup>; the Lenten Food Pantry drive in February-April utilizing large stones around the altar (“stones into bread”).

Finally, we want to recognize and thank Elsie Naylor for her wonderful and inspiring contributions to the Worship service through the Adult choir and hymnody, and Bobby Stinnett for his likewise awesome contributions through organ, youth choirs and bells.

John Duvick, Worship Liaison to Leadership Team

# Christian Growth Team

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## Children's Ministry

**2010-2011 Team Members:** Hattie Schott, Monica Sutter, Meredith Parks, Jessica Lown, Chris Jordan, Ken Briggs, and Rev. Amy Murray

Our team had another busy and exciting year. We supported and were responsible for the following ministries:

- Sunday School Clean-Out
- Back-to-School Potluck
- HyVee Coupon Booklet Fundraiser for Camperships
- Pajama Party & Potluck
- Mardi Gras & Silent Auction Fundraiser for Camperships
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade
- Support for the 3-6<sup>th</sup> Grade and 7-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Groups
- Backpack drive
- Volunteer Ice Cream Social
- Advent Workshop
- Participated in the Congregational Forum

**Teachers:** What a dedicated group of teachers we had this year! Our substitutes stepped up and filled in as needed. Thanks to everyone for being self-sufficient and committing to this important ministry.

**EIW & Nursery Changes:** Many thanks to Lily Clark for giving her time and talents to this ministry. She joined EIW last fall and has been a constant presence for our kids in this ministry. In the Nursery, Maleika, Julianie, and Jamel Carter started working at the beginning of 2011.

**Curriculum:** We used 'Gather Round' curriculum again for the 2010-2011 school year. It provides numerous options for our teachers choose from and is user friendly.

**Offerings/Food Pantry:** Classroom offerings for the year were dedicated to the support of the Urbandale Food Pantry. We will share the total in June. Class participation varied. We will continue this ministry next year and appreciate your support in collecting money and items for the food pantry.

**Wednesday Night Alive:** This ministry experienced a number of changes this past year. Jennifer Gardner and others have been providing consistent spaghetti dinners the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month for the wider community. On the other Wednesday nights, James Schaeffer has coordinated meals. Thanks to James and all our kitchen volunteers for their great service!

**Team needs:** We have had an exceptional year. Our new members renewed the committee and its focus. We are looking for a few more to join us. We meet for an hour most months depending on upcoming events and planning needs. Please prayerfully consider your participation on the Christian Growth Team. Please see a Christian Growth Team member for more information and to share your participation.

**Thanks:** Many thanks to all of you who supported our fundraisers, our children, participated in our potlucks, kept our church family in prayer, and wore your best PJ's at our annual PJ party in February! The Christian Growth Team is committed to our children, youth, families and our church family. We are always looking for ways to grow in our faith formation and strengthen our relationships with one another. Thank you!

Rev. Amy Murray for the Christian Growth Team

# Youth Ministry

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## 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Group

2010-11 was the year to begin a new youth group for younger children. The group was planned for 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders and originally met Sunday evenings from 4:30-6:30. As the year progressed, the meeting time was changed to 11:00am-1:00pm (immediately following Sunday services) because it was easier and financially better for those coming from a distance to remain after church rather than returning later the same evening. We have met on Sundays when the senior high group has not met and tried to encourage attendance at congregational and family events rather than competing with them. We have had a very consistent attendance of 6 – 8 youth. Youth have occasionally missed meetings due to a sports, music, or family event, but in general, they have been faithful in their attendance.

Youth group leaders, Chris Jordan and Ken Briggs, have emphasized a program which has stressed group building, education, service, and fellowship. We began with tinker toy and beach ball activities to build the group. Then we planned activities which paralleled events in the UUCC calendar. We met with UUCC members involved in the Food Pantry, IHN, and Des Moines Area Hunger Hike ministries of our congregation. Youth were challenged to try to individually get \$200 in pledges and walk in the Des Moines Area Hunger Hike. We helped serve at events such as Pastor Dave's installation, the Ash Wednesday pancake supper, and Easter breakfast. We viewed and discussed videos on such subjects as bullying, the Amistad, the hunger hike, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and "Bill" in order to expand our thinking. We presented the OGHS skit during worship. At times, we just had fun with parking lot games or a meal and games at Incredible Pizza.

As the year progressed, we realized that most of the group had read books entitled *The Dangerous Book for Boys* or *The Daring Book for Girls*. Those conversations resulted in the creation of a camp entitled "Dangerous Boys & Daring Girls" which will be July 31 – August 6 for 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> graders and directed by Chris Jordan, Ken Briggs, and Pastor Dave Sickelka. At this point, nearly all of those who have attended our youth group have registered to attend. We will culminate our youth year by attending camp together at Pilgrim Heights. We are looking forward to meeting new friends who decide to attend our camp with us.

Chris Jordan

## 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Group

Youth Group gatherings for 2010-2011 were tons of fun! This program year, 2010-11, the 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Group chose to focus on decorating the youth room. The group spent several meetings researching and planning how they would bring color and life to the room. Then in late fall, we finally put paint on our brushes and splashed shades of pink, yellow, purple and green on the walls. Decorating the whole room is a very large task however, and there's much more work that needs to be done before completion. Looks like our youth already have great project for next year!

Additionally, Youth Group members were busy participating in the life of the church by offering time and support to other events and groups. For example, several youth supported Christian Growth Team efforts by staffing the Mardi Gras Carnival, and many of the 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders were taking their confirmation journey this year.

As Youth Group leaders Ken Hanson, Janet Jones, Jessica Lown, and Kevin Gannon continue to support the 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Group, we welcome any suggestions or ideas on how to keep our talented and caring youth fully engaged at Urbandale UCC.

Jessica Lown

# Personnel Team

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Personnel team: Betty Christensen, Diane Dornburg

The primary functions of the Personnel Team in the past year have been:

- To respond to requests of the Leadership Team on personnel issues.
- To be actively aware of the needs of the staff during times of transition.
- Reviewed job description for Music Program Director.

Goals and tasks to be completed:

- Continue to seek ways to support the staff.
- Respond to requests of the Leadership Team as needed.
- As needed review of personnel policies and job descriptions for all staff.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Christensen & Diane Dornburg,  
Personnel Team

# Pastor~Congregation Covenant Team

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You are reading the first annual report by the Pastor-Church Covenant Team (PCCT). We are the latest incarnation of a UUCC church team responsible for tending the relationship between our congregation and our pastor. We were formed this time by a working group which was begun in the Spring of 2010. The group was a follow-up to the work many Urbandale UCC members did at a workshop conducted by the Lombard Institute earlier last Spring.

The working group was very deliberate in naming us. They sought to reflect that our responsibilities go beyond those common to a typical Pastor-Parish team. Besides acting as a conduit between the pastor and the congregation, we are to advocate for conflict resolution using methods healthy for our congregation's life. For example, we'll encourage the resolution of any conflicts via direct means rather than by triangulating using a third party.

In addition to Pastor David, our team consists of five members—Nancy Robinson, John Chaplin, Maryellen Knowles, Wendy Sontag, and Jeff Couch. We've spent time this year getting to know Pastor David a little better, reading and discussing the book *This Odd and Wondrous Calling*, and talking about the stresses and pressures that fall upon a congregation's pastor and family. Along with meeting monthly as a team, we reached out to the congregation by presenting an overview of PCCT at a Sunday Forum and at two Adult Spiritual Formation classes.

Jeff Couch for PCCT

# Stewardship & Mission Interpretation Team (SMI)

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## **Purpose:**

Coordinate opportunities for faithful stewardship of our individual and collective resources to meet the needs of the congregation and foster our mission as a Christian church locally and globally.

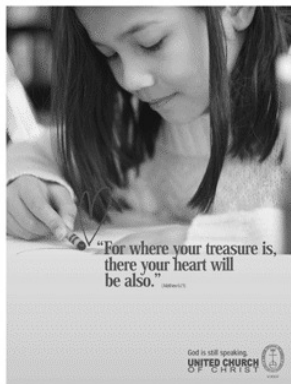
## **Team Members:**

Steve Looney, Marty Mickle, Gayle Strickler Jr., Mike Coveyou, Ray Bowler, Kathy Marean and Financial Secretary Jennifer Gardner.

## **Major Accomplishments:**

Consecrating Stewards program, “5 for 5” Giving to National UCC offerings.

## **Consecrating Stewards:**



The theme selected for the Consecrating Stewards campaign was from Matthew 6:21, “**For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.**”

The campaign this was based on relied on education, messages from our consecrating stewards, from the pulpit and materials received from national UCC. During the campaign we asked members to consider including the amount of their Dig Deeper contribution of prior years as a permanent part of their annual pledge.

The campaign resulted in pledges from 114 pledge units, totaling \$290,650, with an average pledge of \$2,550. This was up 2 pledge units from 2010 and an increase of \$23,576 and an increase of \$165 in the average pledge.

# 5 for 5

UCC has long been a generous giver to the general support of the UCC through Our Church’s Wider Mission (OCWM). In addition Urbandale UCC annually conducts four other special offerings in support of the national UCC. Again this year, the congregation responded and the UCC will, for the seventh year in a row, be among the congregations who are “5 for 5,” giving to both OCWM and the four special offerings:

## **One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS):      \$ 724**

In cooperation with eight other Protestant denominations and Church World Service, this offering is used for self-help programs in more than 80 nations to build sustainable communities that can stand against and rise above hunger, disease, illiteracy, and other forces of injustice. In addition, the offering is used to respond to natural disasters, civil strife and war; and provide advocacy, hospitality and hope to refugees.

**Strengthen the Church: \$ 989**

This offering furthers our commitment to be a multiracial, multicultural church, open and affirming, and accessible to all. Funds are used to strengthen and renew existing congregations, fund leadership for new congregations, and provide programs for youth, young adults and leadership development.

**Neighbors in Need: \$ 768**

This offering is used to support programs and direct grants offered by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries, many of which are made to address hunger and poverty. The offering is also used to support the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministry, the voice for American Indians in the UCC.

**Christmas Fund: \$ 3,275**

This offering is used to provide Christmas Gift checks, monthly pension supplementation, quarterly health premium supplementation, and emergency grants to retired UCC pastors.

Congratulations on being **"5 for 5"** in support of Christ's ministry locally and globally!

Submitted by Steve Looney on behalf of SMI

# Building & Grounds Team

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## **Thank you**

We greatly appreciate all of those building and grounds support people in our church that show up to help during clean up days as well as take of the little things as they come up.

Thank you to Sadmira and Umihana, our custodians, for their work in keeping our church clean and inviting. It is a pleasure to worship in such a space.

Thanks to the building and grounds team members for their contributions during clean up days and as needed throughout the year. The team currently includes:

Gordon Dunn	Chris Gonzalez	Wesley Keeler
Todd Peterson	James Schaeffer	Bob Shoemaker
Mark Siegel	Jerry Woods	

Also, B&G support members include:

Steve Looney	Marty Mickle	Dave Sheridan
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## **Some of our accomplishments**

- The biggest job was repainting all of the exterior wood trim. Volunteers contributed 140 hours of labor to complete the summer long project.
- The garden shed was repainted.
- The Pastor's study, classrooms, north stairway and the education wing hallway were repainted.
- New storage shelving was installed in the worship closet, IHN closet, upstairs furnace room, the basement maintenance room and the storage room off the upstairs elevator.
- The hard to reach lights in the sanctuary were cleaned.
- The lily garden on the east side of church was cleaned out and seeded with grass.
- The front steps were leveled and stabilized.
- Other miscellaneous repairs including lighting, plumbing, pew, railing, electrical, painting, cleaning, and numerous yard jobs.

## **Clean up Days**

We had three clean up days over the past year. We had a good turnout at each event and we got a lot done, both inside and outside. This year we added a winter cleanup day and coordinated it with the Kitchen Team. We were able to get a lot of cleaning and organizing done in both the kitchen and Fellowship Hall.

## **What can you do?**

We encourage everyone to help out during our regular clean up days. We'll find a job that fits your skills and comfort level.

The Building and Grounds Team has also compiled a list of longer term repair and replacement projects that can only be done as funds become available. If anyone is interested in financially supporting any of these projects, please see Pastor Dave, our moderator, Bonita Wiley or Mark Siegel.

Respectfully submitted by Mark Siegel on behalf of the Building & Grounds Team

# Technology Team

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UUCU Tech Team: Jon Duvick, Chris Gonzalez, Jon Greising.

A major accomplishment early on in the church year was the installation of a new computer web server for the church. Mike Mensing oversaw this operation and spent many hours working through the installation process. Many thanks to Mike for his hard work! The Tech Team rotated in a new set of members partway through 2010: Jon Greising, Jon Duvick, and Chris Gonzales. In early 2011 an additional firewall was installed to allow remote access to the church LAN (which we are still troubleshooting). The Tech Team handles weekly backup duties for the church server. We have plans to add remote backup as well (not yet implemented). A wireless network ("The Call") accessible to all church members was installed in March 2011. A plan is in place for extending sanctuary sound into the narthex, Fellowship Hall, basement and classrooms. We expect to have the new system in place before next fall. Thanks to Scott Gardner who is working with us on the sound system expansion.

Jon Duvick for the Tech Team

# Kitchen Team

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**Purpose:** Organize the church kitchen; purchase kitchen supplies; establish a Kitchen Use policy; coordinate with the Building and Grounds Team.

**Members:** Joyce Hjort, Ruth Rasmussen, Chris Gonzalez, Gloria Ward.

The kitchen area continues to serve as the center for overnight guests of the church, Wednesday Night Alive activities and Women's Fellowship monthly meetings. Other church and community groups include kitchen use for their events too.

We're celebrating our 12<sup>th</sup> year in the "new" kitchen! In June, 1999, church members hurriedly finished the kitchen in preparation for the 50th anniversary reception for the Mickey and Lee Couch family.

Thank you to everyone for their generosity in maintaining the kitchen. Your gifts of time and supplies do make a difference. Our goal has been to supply the basic kitchen items in the cupboards and keep countertops clear and ready for immediate use. We cleaned all the cupboards and scrubbed the kitchen floor thoroughly and cleaned the highchairs and booster seats. The Buildings & Grounds Team solved several of our problems. Thanks, Buildings & Grounds.

We encourage you to offer ideas to make the kitchen user-friendly while being respectful of the property and space available.

You are invited to be a part of the team in any way that is meaningful to you. Please contact Joyce Hjort for more information or to be part of the team.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joyce Hjort for the Kitchen Team.

# Small Group Ministries

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Small groups play a vital role at Urbandale UCC. Small groups provide ministry and fellowship to our members, friends, and the community. There are a variety of groups that currently exist at Urbandale UCC and the development of new groups is highly encouraged. A small group ministry packet was developed to provide tools to those who are interested in leading a small group. Small groups are featured on the bulletin board in the west hallway during the year. Check it out and get involved!

Listed below are the group names, contact information, and page numbers where you can find out more information about each group. Additional information is also available on our web site. Also, information about meeting days and times is listed in *The CALL*.

**Book Club:** Ruth Rasmussen;  
See below for details of this year's activities.

**Caregivers I:** The Caregivers I report by Jo Lilley is on page 43.

**Bowtie Boyz:** Mark Siegel & Steve Rebersky;  
Please find our report on page 42.

**Prayer Circle:** Joyce Bixby;  
Please find our report on page 43.

**Women's Fellowship:** Juanita Baker;  
See page 42 for details.

**Caregivers II:** The Caregivers II report by Laura Fefchak is on page 44.

**UCC Art Club:** Ann Boes;  
Please find our report on page 42.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Barb Woodsmall;  
Please find our report on page 45.

Pat Boes,  
Leadership Team Small Group Liaison

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## Book Club

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The Book Club met on the second Thursday of the month at Chapter's Café at the Urbandale Library. December included a holiday hors'oeuvre party at Debbie Rebersky's home. The following books were read and discussed September 2010 through June 2011:

**September 2010:** *The Shadow of the Wind*, Carlos Ruiz Zafon and Lucia Graves  
**October:** *The Cellist of Sarajevo*, Steven Galloway  
**November:** *A Reliable Wife*, Robert Goolrick  
**December:** *Tinkers*, Paul Hardin  
**January 2011:** *Stones Into Schools*, Greg Mortenson  
**February:** *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, Stieg Larsson & Reg Keeland  
**March:** *Caravans*, James Michener  
**April:** *Shanghai Girls*, Lisa See  
**May:** *South of Broad*, Pat Conroy  
**June:** *The Weight of Silence*, Heather Gudenkauf

The Book Club welcomes all readers.

Ruth Rasmussen

## Bowtie Boyz

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Bowtie Boyz is a group of men who regularly meet to talk about our church, our country, our community and our faith. We meet approximately twice a month. In addition to our regular Saturday morning breakfasts, we get involved in church work projects and other service projects.

Some projects this past year include: working with Rebuilding Together, Habitat for Humanity, providing a hot breakfast for the IHN families on Saturday mornings, helping raise money for Pilgrim Heights camperships by making pancakes for the Ash Wednesday dinner and serving an Easter Sunday brunch. The Bow Tie Boyz host fall and spring men's retreats and workday at Pilgrim Heights. This year our men adopted a large local family in need at Christmas time.

The group meets at the church about every other Saturday morning and we welcome new participants. Join us for breakfast; see if it fits you. We always announce our meetings in the Friday email Tara sends out. If you want to be included, contact a Bowtie Boy or just show up. You can also request to be included on our email list.

Mark Siegel and Steve Rebelsky  
Bow Tie Boyz coordinators

## Women's Fellowship

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Women's Fellowship meets the second Wednesday monthly from September through June in Fellowship Hall. We continue to assemble the monthly CALL for mailing. \$120.00 was sent to Church Women United. A program is presented at each meeting.

Anyone is welcome to attend our meetings--watch for the meeting notice in the church bulletin.

Juanita Baker

## UUCU Art Club

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The UUCU Art Club meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday afternoon of each month for a time of fellowship. We welcome any crafty individuals who would like to help support our church community through the arts.

The Art Club has two main functions. We are the founders of UUCU Unique Card Creations, a greeting card shop within our church, selling hand-made cards on a self-serve basis in the narthex. And, for the past two years we have also sold hand-made desktop calendars each December. All proceeds from card and calendar sales are given back to our general church budget. During the year of 2010, the art club raised \$1346 for the general church budget.

Ann Boes

# Caregivers

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## Caregivers I

The original Caregivers Team serves the UCC church family by caring for those who are ill, who are suffering a loss of a loved one, who are confined to their homes or care facilities or who have special needs. This Caregivers group meets the second Tuesday morning of each month to share their information and to pray for those who receive care. Our purpose is to always be watchful of the needs of our church family and serve in a caring and supportive manner.

If you are aware of someone who may be a candidate or have a personal need for visitations, phone pals, receiving of cards or prayer shawls, please call the church office or any of the people on this Caregivers Team—Berneda Milligan, Mary Looney, Juanita Baker, Darlene Harvey, Laurayne Robinette, ReNae Vanden Broek, Barb Woodsmall, Joanne Andersen, Joyce Bixby, Jo Lilley and Pastor David Sickelka.

The Caregivers oversee these projects:

### **Visitations:**

Many of the Caregivers offer ongoing care-giving to special people. Approximately 12 people are visited or called on a regular basis throughout the year.

### **Phone Pals:**

A Caregiver is paired with a church member who lives alone. A call is made daily at a prearranged time. These calls result in companionship and reassurance.

### **Cards:**

Throughout the year cards are created and sent to church people on the caregiver list.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jo Lilley

## Prayer Circle

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Knowing others are praying for and with you in your time of need can and does definitely make a difference. This is the purpose of the Prayer Circle Team. We are there for you so you do not have carry your problem by yourself. We do not meet monthly, but when a request is received it is sent to the team by e-mail and we add you to our daily prayers. Please feel free to contact either the office or myself if you need us.

Team members are JoAnne Andersen, Juanita Baker, Joyce Bixby, Nancy Boyer, John Chaplin, Jeff Couch, Liz Dopman, Gail George, Mabel Hardin, Charlene Hjort, Joyce Hjort, Lee Hood, Randy Jedele, Maryellen Knowles, Verna LeVear, and Re Nae Vanden Broek.

Respectively Submitted,  
Joyce Bixby

## Caregivers II

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The Caregivers II continues to provide support to members of our faith community. Requests frequently come through the pastors and we attempt to match those requesting care with an appropriate caregiver. There are many times in our lives when we could benefit from a listening ear and someone to accompany us down an unfamiliar path. This ministry assists those who may be going through a life transition such as becoming a parent, going through a divorce or caring for a loved one. The loss of a job, experiencing a mental health issue or issues of grief and loss can often overwhelm us.

The Caregivers want to let you know you are not alone. We are the body of Christ and as such, are here to walk with you on your journey.

Members of the Caregivers II group include:

Debbie Gannon, Co-Coordinator	Wendy Sontag	Nancy Young
Laura Fefchak, Co-Coordinator	Randy Jedele	Keeli Comito
Joanne Andersen	Bonita Wiley	Liz Dopman
Joyce Bixby	Jennifer Gardner	Don Walters
Amy Christensen	Linda Grathwohl	ReNae Vanden Broek
Elaine Lundstrom-Yurdin	Steven Rebelsky	Erin Dodd-McConnell
	Carol Looney	

For those interested in becoming a Caregiver, we are excited to offer training in August. Mental Health First Aid is a 12-hour class intended to teach the tools necessary to assist someone who may be experiencing a mental health issue. The training will take place on the following Saturdays in August: 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> from 9am until 1pm. More details will be available in upcoming issues of *The CALL*.

Respectfully submitted by Debbie Gannon and Laura Fefchak

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

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The UCC Prayer Shawl Ministry is in its **eighth** year of providing comfort, love and faith through the giving of prayer shawls to our church family and beyond. The narthex Prayer Shawl display, created in October 2006, offers a visual representation of the many shawls given. Each loop represents one year and each strand of yarn represents a prayer shawl that has been given.

Since the inception of the ministry (late December 2003) through April 2011, **439** shawls have been given. In the last year (May 1, 2010 – April 30, 2011), recipients received **63** prayer shawls. Of the **63** shawls given this year, **7** were baptismal shawls and **29** shawls were given to people outside our church family.

The **six** high school graduates presented with a prayer shawl in 2010 were: **Jeremy Boal, Grace Clark, Erin Maltby, Jill Maltby, Kara Renfrow, and Evan Lundstrom-Yurdin.**

Prayer shawl makers make shawls (knit or crochet) on their own time and have the option of meeting as a group approximately every 3 months. For more information on submitting a request for a prayer shawl or becoming a prayer shawl maker, please email: [prayer.shawls@urbucc.org](mailto:prayer.shawls@urbucc.org).

Prayer shawl makers who have knit or crocheted at least one shawl or whose completed shawl/s has been given to a recipient during this annual report are: **Alberta Bowler-Keeler, Ruth Brauer, Karen Capps-Davis, Keeli Comito, Sunny Duvick, Taena Fowler, Linda Hancock, Mabel Harden, Verna LeVear, Jo Lilley, Carol Looney, Barb Nervig, Jean Swift, Diana Griffith, Bonita Wiley, and Barb Woodsmall.** Others on our roster who have taken a reprieve this year from prayer shawl making are: **Joanne Andersen, Nancy Boyer, Gladys Julstrom and Elaine Lundstrom. Lois Strickler** is a new prayer shawl maker.

Aside from expressing appreciation for all the prayer shawl makers in the sharing of their time and talents, these other parts of the ministry deserve recognition:

to **Julie Linderkamp** for assisting in processing the prayer shawls and keeping the “behind the scene” prayer shawl duties current ;

to **Nancy Boyer** who designed the prayer cards and keeps the memory book current;

to **Tara McConnell**, our church coordinator, who assists and coordinates details and does computer documentation for our ministry;

to **all the caregivers** who keep their eyes and ears open and tuned to potential recipient;

and to all of our **church family** for wholeheartedly supporting this ministry!

Barb Woodsmall,  
Coordinator

# Work Groups

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## Congregational Support & Education Work Group (CSE)

The Congregational Support and Education (CSE) Work Group emerged as one of the three groups to do follow-up from the Lombard Institute training in April 2010. The group was charged with the mission of supporting the congregation through the past year of transition of receiving a new called pastor and learning new ways of responding to change, good, bad, and unexpected. The members of the group are Joanne Andersen, Karl Andersen, Mike Coveyou, Linda Grathwohl, Gladys Julstrom, John Schaeffer, Wendy Sontag, and David Yurdin, with Pastor David as *ex officio* member.

The work of the group was focused on three tasks: educational articles, adult spiritual formation, and congregational meetings.

### Educational articles

Through the efforts of David Yurdin, articles on Healthy Church Relationships were published in the Call and/or posted on the UUCC website. Following is the list of articles and authors:

- “Overview of the Lombard Retreat Weekend,” by Randy Jedele
- “How Congregations Are Like Families,” by Laura Fefchak
- “Systems for Managing Conflict Constructively,” by Karl Andersen
- “Healthy Church Checklist,” by Maryellen Knowles
- “Strengthening Support Systems for Pastors,” by Wendy Sontag

### Adult Spiritual Formation

Karl Andersen organized classes for Adult Spiritual Formation. Following is the list of the classes presented:

- “Understanding Family Systems”—Laura Fefchak and Debbie Gannon,
- “The Congregation as a System”—Debbie Gannon and Elaine Lundstrom,
- “Managing Conflict and Tension in Church Family”—Karl Andersen,
- “Why You Should Develop a Pastor-Parish Relationship Committee”—DVD from the Alban Institute with discussion facilitated by Jeff Couch.

### Congregational Forums

Congregational forums were envisioned to be held quarterly, on specific topics, to inform the members of the congregation about activities and ministries of the church. Three congregational forums were held during the last program year: These meetings were intended to have as a time to talk about issues in congregational life, in a more informal and relaxed setting where decisions do not need to be made.

The following meetings were held during the past program year:

**October 3, 2010:** Stewardship and Mission Interpretation Team (SMI) and Community Concerns Team,

**January 9, 2011:** Worship Team and Christian Growth Team,

**March 27, 2011:** Caregivers and the Pastoral Congregational Covenant Team.

Panelists were asked to answer the following questions:

- Describe what progress your team is making,
- Describe your hopes and plans for the coming year,
- What do you see as your mission focus (how does your team's work fit into God's mission for our congregation),
- What struggles or challenges do you face on this team?
- How could the congregation support you?

The meetings were well attended, with 50 members in attendance at the first two forums, and 35 members attending the last forum. In addition to the presentations, members had time to ask questions and discuss topics.

### **Future Plans**

The CSE Work Group was planned to be an *ad hoc* group, with its term lasting one year. A meeting was held on April 18, 2011, to evaluate the past year's work and to make recommendations for future actions.

The CSE Work Group makes the following recommendations to the Leadership Team and the congregation regarding the incorporation of the Lombard Institute principles into the life and work of our congregation. Those recommendations include:

1. Continue to hold Congregational Forums. Other committees or small groups may want to host the forums. The Leadership Team may also want to host forums in regard to the rewriting of the By-Laws and the work of the Introspection Team. We suggest that a special training session be held for facilitators and process observers for the forums.
2. In Spring 2013, the congregation may want to have another Lombard training, building on the principles learned in the first Lombard workshop.
3. Look at the issue of forming small discussion groups in regard to Lombard principles.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Sontag and Linda Grathwohl, Co-Chairs

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## Introspection Work Group

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Information about this new group can be found in the Moderator's report on page 20.

# Membership Report

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TOTAL MEMBERSHIP as of April 30, 2010 613

Additions from April 30, 2010, to April 30, 2011:

Confirmation.....	10
Confession of Faith.....	14
Associate Member .....	0
Transfer In .....	1
<b>Total additions:</b>	<b>25</b>

Losses from April 30 2010, to April 30, 2011:

Death.....	5
Transfer Out.....	5
<b>Total losses:</b>	<b>10</b>

Baptisms (*not counted in total membership*): 6

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP as of April 30, 2011 628



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# URBANDALE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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3530 70<sup>th</sup> Street ▪ Urbandale, IA 50322 ▪ Phone: (515) 276-0625 ▪ Fax: (515) 276-2451 ▪ [www.urbucc.org](http://www.urbucc.org)

*“We welcome into this community of faith, and affirm the participation in all aspects of church life, persons of every age, race, gender, nationality, ability, and sexual orientation. We will continue our efforts toward inclusiveness, and stand against all forms of discrimination. We will empower ourselves, our children, and one another to be fully present in the world, living in Christ’s image and striving for justice and peace.”*

## Staff

The Rev. David P. Sickelka, Senior Pastor ..... david.sickelka@urbucc.org  
The Rev. Amy Murray, Ministry Program Coordinator ..... amy.murray@urbucc.org  
Elsie P. Naylor, M.M., Music Program Director ..... elsie.naylor@urbucc.org  
Bobby Stinnett, M.M., Organist,  
Children/Youth Choirs and Handbell Director ..... bobby.stinnett@urbucc.org  
Tara A. McConnell, Office Coordinator ..... tara.aukes@urbucc.org  
Sadmira Omerhodzic, Custodian ..... sadmira.omerhodzic@urbucc.org  
The Rev. Gayle Strickler, Jr.,  
Adjunct Minister for Community Concerns ..... gayle.strickler@urbucc.org

## Ministry Leaders

### **Caregiving Ministries:**

Laura Fefchak ..... laura.fefchak@urbucc.org  
Debbie Gannon ..... debbie.gannon@urbucc.org  
Jo Lilley (homebound) ..... jo.lilley@urbucc.org  
Prayer Circle ..... joyce.bixby@urbucc.org  
Prayer Shawl Ministry ..... prayer.shawls@urbucc.org

### **Leadership Team Officers:**

Moderator ..... Randy Jedele ..... randy.jedele@urbucc.org  
Vice-Moderator ..... Bonita Wiley ..... bonita.wiley@urbucc.org  
Treasurer ..... Taena Fowler ..... taena.fowler@urbucc.org  
Financial Secretary ..... Jennifer Gardner ..... jennifer.gardner@urbucc.org  
Recording Secretary ..... Maryellen Knowles ..... maryellen.knowles@urbucc.org

### **Teams:**

Buildings & Grounds ..... B&G.team@urbucc.org  
Christian Growth ..... Amy Murray ..... amy.murray@urbucc.org  
Community Concerns ..... Tom Rendon ..... tom.rendon@urbucc.org  
Membership Team ..... Jennifer Gardner ..... jennifer.gardner@urbucc.org  
Worship & Music  
Usher/Greeter Coordinator ..... Ruth Miller ..... ruth.miller@urbucc.org

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Church Office hours are 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

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