

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2018

The very devoted, energetic, idea-filled and caring members this past year are: Sherry Davis, John and Pinkie Hoffman, Sue Pyne, co-chairs Chris and Rick Walter, and Jane Watts. The Committee meets most months - August, September, October and November 2017 and January, February, April and May 2018.

Working to fulfill our Mission to Welcome, Greet, Facilitate into membership, and Nurture (in Partnership with other groups at UUCGT) prospective, new and current members, the committee organized and sponsored numerous activities and rituals this year:

- ★ **STAFF the Welcome Table** each Sunday - **NOTE:** Dottie Cain, Membership Committee Emeritus, often helps in this capacity.
- ★ **PROVIDE Greeters** for all Services - All new members are added to the Greeter List and encouraged to sign up. Personal recruiting plus announcements in Services and e-publications occur.

Dates for the following activities are set at a meeting with staff and a representative from the Sunday Services Committee September 2017, in consideration of all schedules.

- ★ **ORIENTATION SESSIONS - for Prospective (and current) Members, 12 Noon - 1:15 pm Sundays**

History of UUCGT, Getting to know each other, Brief Q/A about UUism; ***Participating:*** Rabbi Chava Bahle and Membership Committee representatives

October 8, 2017 - 6 pre-registered, 9 attended

January 28, 2018 - Canceled, No registrants

April 8, 2018 - 3 pre-registered, 4 attended

- ★ **15 MINUTES WITH THE RABBI, 10:00 - 10:15 am Sundays**

Intended for individuals or small groups, no more than 3-4 people; Informal chats for prospective members who feel they already know Rabbi Chava or for busy families who find it difficult to schedule a separate one-on-one meeting with her; also, for people who have already been involved in a UU fellowship or congregation.

October 15, 2017

- ★ **FELLOWSHIP FRIENDS**

The Committee adopted this program in which current members volunteer to answer questions, invite to UUCGT events, guide, and help integrate our newest members. The first set of Fellowship Friends and New Members were paired in June 2016.

- ★ **NEW MEMBER WELCOME SERVICES**

November 5, 2017 - The following returned their Pledge Forms and were welcomed as new members during the service: Deanne Briggs, Barbara and Hugh "Dusty" Culton, Chris Lautz,

Geoff Norman-Anderson, Karen Perrino, Katie Pierce and Ken Sands. They signed the Member Book after the service and received their New Member Welcome Folder plus small gift bag.

April 29, 2018 - Planned, postponed.

New Member Folders are assembled for each new member and presented to them at the service. Most of the forms included were revised and updated during the year, and this process continues as we improve the information flow. The Committee chair works closely with office Administrative Assistant Susan Sherman on all processes, updates, communication, organizing materials for the Welcome Table and scheduling. Beginning October 2015, New Member Welcome Bags, including local food and paper products, are assembled for all new members. Special snacks and celebratory food are provided on New Member Sundays.

Eight New Members joined / were welcomed since June 2017. The Committee is aware of the deaths of two members and the resignation of three members during the past 12 months. Notes are sent to resigning members.

Other Membership Activities:

Jane Watts facilitated the new 2018 Member and Friend directory made available beginning March 2018.

Telephone and email communications as well as personal contact help us stay in touch with committee members, visitors and new members. **Welcome - Hope to See you Again Soon Postcards** are sent to all newcomers who fill out a Welcome Registry at the Welcome Table. **Forty-five** individuals filled out Welcome Registry forms to date since July 8, 2017. Beacon articles are written each month and Flash articles as needed to keep everyone informed about Membership activities.

New members are encouraged to fill out a newly developed Member Information Form. Information obtained is used to write brief articles about each new member in Beacons following their membership. New Member interests are assessed and this year our Membership Team lobbied for the inclusion of an extensive **Time and Talent Survey** with Pledge Campaign materials.

The Committee drafted a Bylaws change regarding pledge / contribution of record wording and presented it to the Board for their study.

Informational items were updated for the Welcome Table: Pathway to Membership card and Becoming a Member leaflet, featuring the art work of UUCGT founding member Mary Ann Force. (Copies of these can be seen here [Pathway to Membership](#), [Becoming a Member](#)) In-house-produced Seven Principles bookmarks, Noteworthy individuals who are UU, lists of UUCGT committees and activities, and current Beacon issues are also available at the Welcome Table.

Outreach "Missing You" postcards with UUCGT building photo were sent to about 20 folks we haven't seen for a while. We used a brief message Fall 2017 and let them know about upcoming events such as the Thanksgiving Feast.

Articles in Grand Traverse region publications featuring Members and Friends are posted on the hallway bulletin board.

Members and Friends are encouraged to participate in numerous social events such as Wednesday Night Suppers, Brewing Community gatherings, Men's Group, Thanksgiving Feast and many others. A New Member Picnic will be held in June 2018 at the home of one of our committee members.

Goals: In 2018-2019 the Membership Team will plan and schedule more social / fellowship activities such as Game Nights, an ice cream social in the summer, and luncheons throughout the year following Sunday Services. Communication about committee needs and event information occurs through personal contact, emails, phone calls, Flash notices and Beacon articles.

Budget: \$303.89 of the budgeted \$400.00 has been expended to date by the Committee for Membership Supplies - locally and from UUA.

Submitted by Chris and Rick Walter, Co-Chairs
April 30, 2018

