

**WHAT'S HAPPENING AT UUSRF -  
COMMITTEE REPORTS  
February 2016**

**The Communications Committee** has tried to meet regularly on the fourth Wed. of the month. We have nine members, each one caring for some part of the communications network, all participating in discussions and decisions. Recent work is focused on these goals and projects: a new sign at the road; updated ideas for the web site; ([www.uusrf.org](http://www.uusrf.org)), upgraded technology to enable recording and podcasts of services; consistency, accuracy, and timeliness among all media.

**The Program Committee** has the ongoing task of arranging services for UUSRF. Ted is contracted for 2 services each month. The committee has found forums to be one means of filling some of the available Sundays, and as a rule arranges for a forum on most 4th Sundays. We have also arranged several musical programs for this fiscal year, including two programs for April, and continue to work with the Social Action Committee on the Annual Scholtus program and other presentations. Finally, we are committed to at least one program in fall and one in spring using the "This I Believe" format.

**The Social Action/Outreach Committee** is the most widely visible wing of UUSRF because we send donations in blocks of \$100 - \$200 to many charitable institutions in our area. Recently, SA/O has begun working with two new outreach organizations: WUUTA (Western Wisconsin United to Amend) which works with similar small organizations across the nation and spearheads a city-wide drive toward a referendum to AMEND the CONSTITUTION so that money is less relevant in elections. We also represent UUSRF on the River Falls "Ecumenical Refugee Committee" which has brought a refugee family to live in River Falls.

**The Records Committee** needs someone to take over as the person in charge of getting our documents organized and filed. If you are interested in archiving, contact Don Leake.

**The Facilities (B & G Inside) Committee** has replaced all the lamps in the main meeting room with energy saving LED lamps due to the generous contribution of one of our members. Activities in process are the outdoor sign and beginning discussion on the current SE building. We are waiting for mock ups / drawing of various signs as examples for pricing. We also continually procure necessary supplies for the building (toilet paper among other items).

**The Membership Committee** is working to make connections with people who come through our door, (from long term members to visitors) more welcoming and intentional and to convey the idea that all of us are part of the membership committee of the society. We will hold a New Member Sunday in the spring. Membership and Finance are organizing the next Stewardship Campaign.



**The Finance Committee** met in October to discuss the dismal 2015 RF Days food booth profits (\$571), lower-than-average 2014 Goods & Services auction proceeds (\$3,160), and In-Service participation. We also began discussions on self-funding our mortgage note (4.5% interest rate) due in March of 2017. In November we heard positive reports from the treasurer on the budget for the first third of the year (\$3900 net gain) and the 2015 G & S auction (currently at \$4,568). We also made plans for this year's Pancake Breakfast. In February we discussed the 2016 stewardship campaign and began drafting a budget for 2016-17 for board consideration at their March meeting.

Interested in getting involved with a committee? There will be a chance to sign-up starting in April during the Stewardship Campaign.

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**The Music Committee** reports a decision by the **Choir** to take a hiatus for a while, planning sing-alongs after church on 2nd and 4th Sundays. Singers and instrumentalists of all kinds will meet informally after church to raise their voices together to create music using folk, rock, and popular songs, including those in "Rise Up Singing." We are also going to initiate the "Instant Choir" and are looking for a choir director for this group which would gather before service to learn one-part songs, ability to read music not required. We are also looking for someone to take over the duties of Music Committee Chair. Interested people should email Melyssa Rice for details.

**The Open-ended Hospitality Task Force** started up in October with the first Soup & Bread Sunday of the season followed by four others to date. We then offered an array of tempting savory and sweet treats for the Annual G&S

Auction in November. Dec. saw our first-ever Cookie Swap and Crafting Event, which preceded the next-day Christmas Cookie Bake Sale. We enjoyed sweet treats on Valentine's Sunday. Upcoming events involving the HTF include the Annual Chili Cook-off (March) and Mother's Day Brunch (May). Stay tuned-there may be something in April, too!

**Caring Circle** will be meeting in March. We welcome Rev. Derek Washington to this group. Derek has many gifts including his experience as a hospice chaplain.

**The Committee on Ministry** will meet in March. We met once this fall and had a lively discussion which included goal setting for Rev. Ted's ministry: more sermons on Unitarian Universalism.

The **S.E.** and **Grounds Committees** will report next month.

