
Heartland District Assembly & Spring Conference

13th Annual District Assembly
& Spring Conference

April 12-13, 2013
Horizon Convention Center
Muncie, Indiana



“Claiming the Future”

Heartland District Assembly & Spring Conference

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KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Rev. Stefan Jonasson

Director of Growth Strategies, UUA

sjonasson@uua.org / 204-889-4746

Whenever I wonder whether all our efforts to create liberal religious communities really matter, I think of the fascinating stories of countless individuals whose paths have crossed mine and I find myself compelled to say that Unitarian Universalism and its ministry of kindness and hope offers salvation to longing, sometimes broken spirits who stumble along in this ever-changing and sometimes dangerous world in which we live. Growth happens; one person at a time.

I have been Director of Growth Strategies since 2011, having previously served the Unitarian Universalist Association as Director for Large Congregations and District Executive for Western Canada. In my 21st year at the UUA, I feel like I've finally "grown up!" I'm an ordained minister by vocation, but a historian and folklorist by avocation ... and I often manage to sneak in something about Iceland during conversations. I live in Winnipeg, Manitoba, where my family has deep roots. My wife and I are the proud parents of two adult daughters.



Tandi Rogers

Growth Strategy Specialist, UUA

trogers@uua.org / 253-278-4646

I am an evangelical Unitarian Universalist, because when I open up a newspaper in the morning I think, "If only <insert random politician's name here> had taken Our Whole Lives, we wouldn't be in this mess." And while you might think I'm making a sexual joke, I'm actually being very serious.

OWL teaches consensus, respect, power dynamics, self-discipline and responsibility, what it means to be a community member... I believe OWL can change the world. I believe our Unitarian Universalist religious communities saves lives. They have saved my life over and over again.

When I am not inviting random people on the bus and at the store to a UU congregation, I am your full time Growth Strategist. Prior to that, I served the UUA in the Pacific Northwest for 10 years as their Program Specialist. I am a Credentialed Religious Educator, master level and a Candidate for the Ministry. Institutional ministry is my Call, and religious educator is my core orientation. As the mother of 3 boys (ages 4, 16, and 18) ministry to and with families is extremely important to me.

FROM SURVIVING TO THRIVING

Every church I've ever known has spent considerable time and energy talking about growth. Ministers are particularly dreadful about it. It's a constant focus....And yet, the number of churches that ever do grow is relatively small. We are mostly just surviving. Only a small percentage of individual churches and only a small percentage of denominations and only a few religions have been experiencing growth in the past few years, and even fewer....when you limit it to America. Because in America, there's a shift going on in regards to religious participation.

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WORSHIP SERVICES

OPENING WORSHIP, FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2013 (7:30 PM)

“Turning Worlds” Which societal and religious trends do we embrace, and which ones do we disturb? Let's turn the world around, with love as our guide!

The Rev. Kathryn Bert, Senior Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lansing, MI will preach. The Rev. Yvonne Schumacher Strejcek, Minister of the Community Unitarian Universalists in Brighton, Michigan, will serve as liturgist. This service will include a Welcome from host minister, Rev. Mary Moore, Interim Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Muncie, IN, and a Banner Parade. Music will be provided by Steve Robert and the Jazzmanian Devils (Shilo Couvrette - Bass, Steve Lange - African Percussion).

MORNING WORSHIP, SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2013 (8:30 AM)

“Building a New Way” With church membership in overall decline, and more and more people claiming “none” as a religious affiliation, how do we envision church life for a new era? Our liberal faith has a saving message for our society; we need to be the ones to “build a new way.”

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Landrum, Minister of the Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty in Clarklake, MI will preach her sermon that won this year's Heartland District UU Ministers' Association Sermon Contest. Chris Rothbauer, Intern Minister of the First Unitarian Church in Louisville, Kentucky, will serve as liturgist. Music will be provided by Bryce Ernest Taylor, singer/songwriter and member of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Muncie.

CLOSING WORSHIP, SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2013 (4:45 PM)

“Doors of Perception” Our chalice flame is more than a liturgical device or poetic metaphor. The flame is the transforming power of our message of hope delivered with the Spirit of Love to the world.

The Rev. Jeff Liebmann, Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Midland, MI will preach. The Rev. Andrew Weber, a Unitarian Universalist minister, will serve as liturgist. Music will be provided by Ric Dwenger, folksinger, and member of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Muncie.

SUNDAY WORSHIP, APRIL 14, 2013 (10:45 AM)

Unitarian Universalist Church of Muncie, 4800 W. Bradford Dr., Muncie, IN

“New Day Dawning, New Faith Rising” Change goes on continually; this isn't new. Many of our congregations are in transition, our District is, and even our national Association. Our own lives, too, are marked by constant change. In the face of all this, we may be tempted to find a “rock of ages” to cling to. “Change cannot be trusted” seems to be behind some of our fear and uneasiness with change. We need a different kind of faith and trust, a trust that doesn't grasp at finding some unchanging thing in which to rest, but rather trusts that we and our communities will be OK as we go through the inevitable changes. Come explore with me what this “new faith rising” might look like.

The Rev. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer will preach. Rev. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer is the Community Minister at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Muncie, IN, and is ordained as an interfaith minister, spiritual mentor, workshop presenter, part-time hospital chaplain, published author and poet.

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ORDER OF SERVICE

“TURNING WORLDS”

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2012 (7:30 PM)

Celebrant – Rev. Kathryn Bert
Senior Minister, Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lansing, Lansing, MI

Liturgist – Rev. Yvonne Schumacher Strejcek
Minister, Community Unitarian Universalists in Brighton, Brighton, MI

Musicians – Steve Robert and the Jazzmanian Devils
(Shilo Couvrette - Bass, Steve Lange - African Percussion).

Gathering Music #163: For the Earth Forever Turning

Welcome by the Rev. Mary Moore, Interim Minister,

Unitarian Universalist Church of Muncie

Banner Parade #1074: “Turn the World Around”

Call to Worship

Chalice Lighting

Hymn #281: O God Our Help in Ages Past

Responsive Reading #468: “We Need One Another” by George E. Odell

Sung Meditation #1031: “Filled with Loving Kindness”

Readings by Conrad Wright (1917-2011) and Theodore Parker (1810-1860)

Sermon: “Disturbing Trends”

Sung Response #131: “Love Will Guide Us”

Benediction

Postlude: “This Little Light of Mine”

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ORDER OF SERVICE

"BUILDING A NEW WAY"

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2012 (8:30 AM)

Celebrant – Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum
Winner of the Heartland UU Ministers Association Sermon Contest
Minister, Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty, Clarklake, MI

Liturgist – Chris Rothbauer
Intern Minister, First Unitarian Church, Louisville, KY

Musician – Bryce Ernest Taylor, Singer/Songwriter
Unitarian Universalist Church of Muncie

Prelude: "We Claim the Future" by Bryce Ernest Taylor

Call to Worship and Chalice Lighting

Opening Hymn: #146 "Soon the Day Will Arrive"

Meditation and Moments of Silence

Responsive Reading #555: "Some Things Will Never Change" by Thomas Wolfe

Sermon: "From Surviving to Thriving"

Closing Hymn: #1017 "Building a New Way"

Benediction

ORDER OF SERVICE

"DOORS OF PERCEPTION"

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2012 (4:45 PM)

Celebrant – Rev. Jeff Liebmann
Minister, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Midland, MI

Liturgist – Rev. Andrew Weber
Unitarian Universalist Minister

Musician – Ric Dwenger, folk singer
Unitarian Universalist Church of Muncie

Prelude: "Light My Fire"

Invocation and Chalice Lighting

Opening Hymn: #1028 "The Fire of Commitment"

Meditation and Moments of Silence

Reading: from "The Marriage of Heaven and Hell" by William Blake

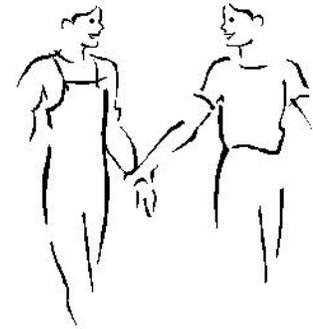
Sermon: "Light My Fire"

Closing Hymn: #1014 "Standing on the Side of Love"

Benediction

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“FRIENDS WITH HEART”



Dear Friends:

These are exciting times in the Heartland District! With every passing day, we're getting closer to a new way of being with each other: six program staff people across the region, with differing specializations and more deep experience in a wider variety of areas of congregational life. I'm excited about it, and I'm also aware that giving up the "Heartland" designation is one more change in a long line of changes here in the Ohio Valley and Michigan.

But what I know is that here, we're committed to Unitarian Universalism, and we're committed to helping ensure that our neighbors can benefit from this precious religious tradition, just as we have. In my life, UUism has been the bedrock—growing up in the tradition, I found congregations that taught me to believe in myself, to care about the world, and to make a positive difference wherever I can. That's why I went into ministry (after a detour into the paralegal and accounting worlds)—because I knew the value of this tradition in making my life better, and the power of us all together. When I was a lost teen, when I knew the Vietnam War was wrong, when I knew that Civil Rights for all had to be achieved, when I was losing friends to a mystery disease we later learned to call HIV—in all those times, my UU community was what pulled me through, held my heart, and helped me move more strongly into justice.

I'm sure it's the same for you—that your UU community has been there for you in hard and difficult times of life, as well as when you've needed company to share your joys. That's why you're part of your congregation. That's why you give money there.

And now, we're asking you to give money to Heartland District, too. The District exists to help your congregations do what you want to do, and do it better. We provide coaching and training, conferences, workshops and visits, resources and support. We're available through phone, email, Skype, and many other ways. We're here for you.

And so now, we're asking you to be here for us. In order to balance our budget to make sure we go into the future strongly, we need you to send us a bit of money. Not large amounts, but small amounts - \$25, \$30, \$50 or \$100. More if you want. You've already given well to your own congregation. It doesn't take huge donations to make a difference; to offer just one more youth CON or religious education training; to be able to afford the gas to visit a congregation in person rather than by phone. It takes just enough people to give their support with small donations.

We appreciate your generosity. Thank you for supporting UUism in the Heartland.

How to make a donation*:

- Make check payable to Heartland District Friends and mail to 5351 E. Thompson Rd., #229, Indianapolis, IN 46237-4094.
- Use your credit card by going to our website, www.heartlanduu.org, to make a secure online payment using PayPal.

Yours in faith,

Lisa

Rev. Dr. Lisa Presley
District Executive

**All donations are tax deductible.*

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BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2013

- 1:45 p.m. Call to Order
- Welcome and Introductions
- Adoption of Rules of Procedure Amy Taylor, President
- Credentialing Report Frank Nye, Secretary
- Financial Report Rae Jane Araujo, Treasurer
- UUA Trustee Report..... David Jackoway,
Heartland District UUA Trustee
- Staff Report Lisa Presley & Nancy Combs-Morgan,
Heartland District Staff
- Awards Charlotte Cowtan Award
Amy Taylor, President
- Ann Miller Award
Barb Friedman, Co-Chair
Lifespan RE Committee
- Vote on Motion to form the MidAmerica Region of the UUA Amy Taylor, President
- Fiscal Year 2014 Proposed Heartland/MidAmerica Budget Lisa Presley, District Executive
- Budget Acceptance Amy Taylor, President
- Nominating Committee Report..... Tammy Lemmer, Committee Chair
- Elections..... Amy Taylor, President
- New Business Amy Taylor, President
- Recognitions Amy Taylor, President
- 3:15 Adjournment

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RULES OF PROCEDURE

RULE 1. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Consideration of and action upon items must proceed in the order set for the in the Final Agenda unless during the meeting that order is changed by majority vote.

RULE 2. PARTICIPATION IN DEBATE

Speakers recognized by the President shall identify themselves by name and congregational affiliation. Participation in debate is limited to delegates. The President may waive this requirement.

RULE 3. MEANS OF VOTING

So long as a quorum is present, action on any question, unless the Bylaws otherwise provide, will be decided in the first instance by an uncounted show of hands/voting cards, or by an uncounted standing vote of the delegates present. If the President wishes a counted vote or if a delegate requests it and the President determines that 5 other delegates join in the request, the vote must be counted. No vote will be taken by written ballot unless the delegates order a written ballot by a two-thirds vote. Provided a quorum is present at the Annual Meeting, all matters submitted to a vote of the delegates will be determined by the number of votes cast by delegates present and voting on the matter. The required proportion of votes cast by delegates to approve any action or resolution will be as set forth in the Bylaws or these Rules of Procedure.

RULE 4. MINUTES

The Board of Trustees will approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting, which will be prepared by the Secretary.

RULE 5. PRESENTATION OF ITEMS

The provisions of Rule 6 notwithstanding, the Board will, at their discretion, move the item as printed on the Final Agenda or move an amended version of the item.

RULE 6. AMENDMENTS

Except for clarifying amendments, amendments to the main motion and motions to refer, table or to call the question will not be in order until there has been at least ten minutes of debate, if that much is needed, on the merits of the main question as moved. No amendment or other change to any motion under consideration will be entertained unless it is submitted in writing. However, the President may waive this requirement.

RULE 7. TIME LIMITS

The following time limits are imposed on all business transacted by the assembly. If, however, there is no objection from the floor, the President may grant minor extensions of time. Any time limits imposed by this rule may be extended by a two-thirds vote.

- a) No person may speak on any motion for more than two minutes, and not more than once, so long as there are others who have not spoken who desire the floor, except that persons having special information may, with the permission of the President, reply to questions.
- b) Twenty minutes is allowed for discussion of any proposed bylaw amendment, rule change, resolution, or action on a report that is on or admitted to the Final Agenda, unless the time limit is extended in the manner provided in the first paragraph of this Rule 7. Whenever possible, the discussion time will be equally divided by proponents and opponents and by the alternate recognition of speakers at microphones designated Pro and Con.
- c) A motion to call the previous question on the main motion shall not be in order if there are potential speakers at both Pro and Con microphones and the original or extended time for discussion has not expired. A motion to call the previous question on a motion to amend the main motion is in order after 8 minutes of discussion concerning the amendment.

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RULE 8. MICROPHONES

- a) Pro and Con Microphones. Usage of the Microphones designated "Pro" or "Con" is limited to statements in support or in opposition to motions.
- b) Amendments may be made from either the Pro or Con Microphones.
- c) Procedural questions may be brought to either the Pro or Con Microphones.

RULE 9. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

At any stage of the meeting, the President, without a vote of the assembly, at his or her discretion from time to time may order the meeting resolved into a Committee of the Whole or reconvened in regular Session. While the meeting is acting as a Committee of the Whole, the following Special Rule will apply: The Presiding Officer, without a vote of the Committee of the Whole, may permit reconsideration of any action taken by the Committee of the Whole and other departures of the Rules of Parliamentary Procedure if it appears to him or her that the work of the Committee of the Whole will thereby be expedited. When the assembly is reconvened, the only motion in order will be to adopt the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole. A motion recommended by the Committee of the Whole will not be subject to amendment, debate, or delay.

RULE 10. RESOLUTIONS NOT ON THE FINAL AGENDA

A Resolution not on the Final Agenda may be considered only if in response to a substantive portion of a report by an officer or committee reporting to the assembly.

RULE 11. AMENDING THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

These Rules of Procedure will be adopted by a two-thirds vote and may be amended, suspended, or repealed during the course of the assembly only by a two-thirds vote.

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FISCAL YEAR 2014 PROPOSED BUDGET

(JULY 1, 2013 – JUNE 30, 2014)

	MidAmerica sub total	MidAmerica Total	HLD Fallback	PSD Fallback	CMWD Fallback
INCOME					
Congregational Contributions	\$ 666,333		\$ 167,900	\$ 206,563	\$ 291,879
Discount	\$ (175,392)		\$ (47,012)	\$ (49,575)	\$ (78,805)
Net	\$ 490,941	\$ 490,941	\$ 120,888	\$ 156,988	\$ 213,065
UUA Grants		\$ 79,560	\$ 22,440	\$ 26,520	\$ 30,600
Program Registration Fees		\$ 61,600			
Lifespan Religious Ed	\$ 7,000		\$ 1,750	\$ 2,170	\$ 3,080
OWL	\$ 8,500		\$ 2,125	\$ 2,635	\$ 3,740
Youth MidWest Leadership	\$ 15,000		\$ 3,750	\$ 4,650	\$ 6,600
Youth Ministry Events	\$ 4,700		\$ 1,175	\$ 1,457	\$ 2,068
Young Adult Ministry Events	\$ 4,000		\$ 1,000	\$ 1,240	\$ 1,760
Regional Assemblies	\$ 7,400		\$ 12,000	\$ 1,400	\$ 3,000
Trainings	\$ 5,000		\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
Camp Star Trail	\$ 10,000			\$ 10,000	
Congregational Consulting		\$ 7,300	\$ 2,700	\$ 1,000	\$ 3,600
Investment Income		\$ 19,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 5,000
Grant: MUUC/MUUF		\$ 83,274	\$ 22,440	\$ 28,194	\$ 32,640
Fundraising		\$ 17,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,000
Chalice Lighter		\$ 60,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 22,000	\$ 23,000
Social Justice Fund		\$ 300		\$ 300	
Miscellaneous		\$ 1,540	\$ 40	\$ 1,500	
Transfer from Dedicated		\$ 3,200	\$ 800	\$ 2,400	
Total Income		\$ 823,715	\$ 212,108	\$ 286,454	\$ 335,153
EXPENSES					
General and Office Expenses		\$ 8,700	\$ 3,115	\$ 16,900	\$ 4,650
Equipment and Leases		\$ 10,750	\$ 5,050	\$ 3,300	\$ 1,000
Insurance		\$ 4,000	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,800	\$ 1,700
Communications		\$ 24,550	\$ 5,300	\$ 5,875	\$ 7,975
Contracted & Other Services		\$ 9,400	\$ 1,800	\$ 2,500	\$ 5,600
Administrative Projects		\$ 600		\$ 600	
Board & Governance Exp.		\$ 21,800	\$ 7,200	\$ 9,400	\$ 5,800
Stewardship Expenses		\$ 6,100	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,900	\$ 2,450
Chalice Lighter		\$ 55,850	\$ 13,800	\$ 20,850	\$ 21,200
Social Justice Fund		\$ 300		\$ 300	
Regional Staffing Costs		\$ 175,508	\$ 43,877	\$ 54,408	\$ 77,223

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	MidAmerica sub total	MidAmerica Total	HLD Fallback	PSD Fallback	CMWD Fallback
Regional Staff Prof. Exp.		\$ 7,000	\$ 1,750	\$ 2,170	\$ 3,080
Cofunded Staffing Costs		\$ 297,830	\$ 74,458	\$ 92,327	\$ 131,045
Cofunded Staff Prof. Exp & Travel		\$ 72,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 22,320	\$ 31,680
Payroll Expenses		\$ 12,172	\$ 3,043	\$ 3,773	\$ 5,356
Contractor Expenses		\$ 7,500	\$ 7,000	\$ 1,750	\$ 3,600
Regional Workshops/Programs		\$ 87,300	\$ 21,825	\$ 27,063	\$ 38,412
Youth MWLS	\$ 17,500				
Youth	\$ 7,500				
Young Adult	\$ 8,000				
Lifespan RE	\$ 7,900				
OWL	\$ 10,400				
Regional Assembly	\$ 15,000		\$ 8,000	\$ 1,400	\$ 3,000
Workshops	\$ 5,000		\$ 2,000		\$ 2,000
Camp Star Trail	\$ 10,000				
New Initiatives	\$ 2,000				
Social Justice	\$ 1,000				
Intercultural	\$ 1,000				
Faith Development	\$ 2,000				
Background Checks		\$ 300	\$ 50		
Scholarships		\$ 3,000	\$ 1,250	\$ 930	\$ 1,320
Youth MWLS	\$ 3,000				
Adult MWLS					\$ 1,200
Transition Support		\$ 10,500	\$ 2,625	\$ 3,255	\$ 4,620
Program Support & Resources		\$ 6,250			
Faith Development	\$ 1,000		\$ 700		
Young Adult Ministry	\$ 2,400		\$ 500	\$ 1,000	\$ 3,000
Youth Ministry	\$ 2,500		\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000	
New Initiatives					\$ 100
MOD Squad					\$ 50
Stone Tree	\$ 350			\$ 700	
Total Expenses		\$ 821,410	\$ 226,643	\$ 276,521	\$ 356,061
Total Income		\$ 823,715	\$ 212,108	\$ 286,454	\$ 335,153
Net		\$ 2,305	\$ (14,535)	\$ 9,933	\$ (20,908)
<i>In addition to the above amounts, the UUA contributes a further \$280,362 toward co-funded staff salaries and benefits</i>					

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MidAmerica Transition Statement of Activity

(July 1, 2012 to January 31, 2013)

		<i>To date</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>% of Budget Spent/ Received</i>
	Category Description			
Revenues				
	Contribution from PSD	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 72,700.00	28%
	Contribution from CMD	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 72,700.00	28%
	Contribution from UUA	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	100%
	UUA Reimbursement for Regionalization Research		\$ 3,000.00	
Total Revenues		\$ 60,000.00	\$ 168,400.00	36%
Expenditures				
Service Delivery				
	Software, Web and Organization Systems	\$ -	\$ 8,900.00	0%
	Bookkeeping Transition	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	0%
	Staff Transitions	\$ 30.00	\$ 5,100.00	.6%
	Staff Capacity Building Total	\$ 6,322.10	\$ 20,000.00	32%
	Regionalization Research	\$ 493.60	\$ 3,000.00	16%
	Financial Audit MA First Year	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	0%
	PSD Office Transition		\$ 20,900.00	0%
Total Service Delivery		\$ 6,845.70	\$ 70,400.00	10%
Governance Costs				
	Legal Fees	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	0%
	Meeting and Travel Costs Total	\$ 24,547.97	\$ 52,000.00	47%
	Financial Reviews for three districts	\$ -	\$ 18,000.00	0%
	Communications	\$ 2,331.22	\$ 10,750.00	22%
	Bylaws Subgroup		\$ 3,000.00	0%
	Consultants	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	100%
Total Governance Costs		\$ 27,879.19	\$ 87,750.00	32%
Total Expenditures		\$ 34,724.89	\$ 158,150.00	22%
Net		\$ 25,275.11	\$ 10,250.00	

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Motion to Form the MidAmerica Region of the Unitarian Universalist Association

WHEREAS leaders in the Central Midwest, Heartland, and Prairie Star Districts of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) have since 2010 actively explored the possible combination of their respective districts into a larger governance unit; and

WHEREAS the UUA has reorganized its field staff into regional teams, serving congregations across current district boundaries in order to offer congregations a broader range of skills and experiences in a cost-effective manner; and

WHEREAS the 2011 General Assembly has amended the UUA Bylaws such that its Board of Trustees will no longer include trustees elected by districts; and

WHEREAS the formation of a MidAmerica Region seeks to create a governance organization better able to (1) embody Unitarian Universalism within the context of our geographical area, (2) speak more effectively with our area's voice mediating between congregations and the UUA, and (3) encourage new levels of congregational and organizational collaboration within our area;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Heartland District of the Unitarian Universalist Association in accordance with Article 10 of its Bylaws, hereby authorizes dissolution or merger of itself and empowers its Board of Trustees ("Board") to take the appropriate steps in cooperation with the Boards of Prairie Star and Central Midwest Districts of the UUA to create the MidAmerica Region of the UUA ("MidAmerica") as a recognized legal entity;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Heartland District of the Unitarian Universalist Association also accepts the Bylaws of the MidAmerica Region of the UUA as presented at this meeting;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, before or soon after July 1, 2013, the Board shall transfer the Heartland District assets and any other relevant claims, rights, goods, and resources to MidAmerica, doing so in an orderly manner that fulfills the responsibilities of the Heartland District;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, upon completion of the transfer of resources noted above and the completion of any other required activity, the Board is instructed and authorized to take the necessary and appropriate steps to dissolve or merge the Heartland District as a legal entity, in accordance with the Heartland Bylaws and the relevant legal requirements; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that, in order to accomplish the tasks authorized above in an informed, expeditious, and efficient manner, the terms of service of those individuals serving as members of the Heartland Board shall hereby be extended to the date of dissolution or merger of the Heartland District or to June 30, 2014, whichever date shall occur first.

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MIDAMERICA BYLAWS

(IF THE ABOVE MOTION PASSES)

MidAmerica Region of the Unitarian Universalist Association

Article I.

Name

The name of this organization is the MidAmerica Region of the Unitarian Universalist Association (hereinafter referred to as the "Region").

Article II.

Purpose

Section 1. **Purpose.** The Region shall work to support, enrich, and extend Unitarian Universalism in the defined geographic area. The Region shall work in collaboration with the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Section 2. **Geographic Area.** The general geographic areas comprising the Region are that of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, most of Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, western Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Section 3. **Cooperative Relationships.** The Region affirms the independence and autonomy of local churches, fellowships, societies and congregations (hereinafter all called "congregations"), as well as the strength and vitality that comes from their active collaboration and cooperation with each other, with the Region, with the Unitarian Universalist Association (hereinafter called "the UUA") and with other groups. The Region affirms its cooperative relationship with the UUA.

Section 4. **Inclusivity.** Systems of power, privilege, and oppression have traditionally created barriers for persons and groups with particular identities, ages, abilities, and histories. We pledge to do all we can to replace such barriers with ever-widening circles of solidarity and mutual respect. We strive to be an association of congregations that truly welcome all persons and commit to structuring congregational and associational life in ways that empower and enhance everyone's participation.

Article III.

Membership and Representation

Section 1. **Member Congregations.** All congregations recognized as active member congregations of the UUA according to the provisions of the UUA Bylaws, and assigned to the Region by the UUA Board of Trustees, shall be member congregations of the Region.

Section 2. **Good Standing.** A congregation is in good standing if it has made a financial contribution to the Region in the preceding fiscal year of the Region.

Section 3. **Delegates of Member Congregations.**

- (a) Member Delegates. Each congregation in good standing is entitled to be represented at each MidAmerica Region Business Meeting by the same number of member delegates it is allocated at the UUA General Assembly, as specified in the UUA Bylaws and Rules.
- (b) Professional Delegates.
 - (1) Regional Business Meeting Delegate status is also conferred on each individual:
 - (i) holding ministerial fellowship,
 - (ii) holding credentialed status from the UUA, or
 - (iii) employed as a director of religious education.
 - (2) Such professional delegates must:
 - (i) be in active professional service to a congregation in good standing,
 - (ii) hold formal status as emerita/us as conferred on or before the February 1st proceeding the Regional Assembly by a congregation in good standing, or
 - (iii) be in formal affiliation with a congregation in good standing.
- (c) Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote on all matters coming before the membership of the Region. No person shall cast more than one vote. No delegate may vote by proxy.

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Section 4. **Church of the Larger Fellowship.** The Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF) shall be allocated one (1) delegate for every fifty (50) CLF members or fraction thereof residing in the MidAmerica Region as identified by CLF on or before the February 1st preceding the Regional Assembly. CLF members in attendance at any MidAmerica Region Business Meeting may select CLF delegates amongst those CLF members in attendance and be certified as delegates by a MA staff person and MA Board officer in attendance at the meeting location.

Section 5. **Tie-breaking.** The presiding Regional officer will only cast a vote to break a tie in a floor vote at business meetings.

Article IV. Business Meetings

Section 1. **Annual Meeting.** The Annual Business Meeting of the MidAmerica Region ("Annual Meeting") shall be held at a time and place to be determined by the Board of Trustees (hereinafter called the "Regional Board") and may be held in conjunction with the Regional Assembly.

- (a) The Regional Board shall decide the structure of Annual Meetings.
- (b) The Regional Board may authorize multiple sites for the Annual Meeting. Delegates at each site shall have equivalent voting rights. When a Business Meeting will be held in a multi-site format, the Regional Board shall define appropriate policies and procedures regarding the manner in which business is to be conducted, and these policies and procedures shall be communicated to congregations at least 60 days prior to the Business Meeting.

Section 2. **Special Meetings.**

- (a) The President may call a Special Business Meeting of the MidAmerica Region ("Special Meeting") with the consent of the Regional Board.
- (b) A Special Meeting shall be called by the President at such time and place(s) as the Regional Board shall determine upon receipt by the President of a written request signed by the governing bodies of no fewer than ten percent (10%) of the member congregations in good standing. Such a meeting shall be held no more than ninety (90) days after the receipt of such request and the called meeting agenda shall include business items stated in the meeting request.

Section 3. **Notice of Meetings.**

- (a) Notice of each Annual Meeting or Special Meeting, specifying the time and place thereof and the business to be conducted at such meeting, shall be sent by the Secretary of the Region to the Presiding Officer of each member congregation and its professional delegates no fewer than sixty (60) days prior to the date of such meeting.
- (b) Except that other business may be acted upon at an Annual Meeting with the consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates voting.
- (c) At least thirty (30) days prior to each Annual Meeting, copies of the minutes of the preceding Annual Meeting and any intervening Special Meeting(s), reports of the committees of the Board, the current financial statement of the Region, the Board-approved budget for the succeeding fiscal year, and delegate credentials shall be sent to the Presiding Officer of each member congregation and its professional delegates. Notice of any Annual or Special Meeting shall include the full text of any proposed amendments to these Bylaws which have been submitted by the Regional Board prior to the preparation of such notice.

Section 4. **Quorum.** A Quorum for Business Meetings shall be defined as consisting of delegates representing at least twenty-five (25) congregations located in at least five (5) states.

Section 5. **Business Submitted by Congregational Action.** Member congregations wishing to have business considered by the Annual Meeting shall do so following a process to be determined by the Board and communicated to the member congregations.

Section 6. **Chair of the Meeting.** The President of the Region or that person's appointee will chair Annual or Special meetings.

Section 7. **Accreditation and Certification of Delegates.** The Regional Board shall make rules for the accreditation and certification of delegates.

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Article V. Board of Trustees

Section 1. **Officers.** The officers of the Region shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The officers shall be elected as provided in these Bylaws, and shall serve until completion of their terms and until their successors shall have been duly elected or appointed.

Section 2. **Enumeration of the Regional Board.**

- (a) The Board of Trustees of the Region ("Regional Board") shall consist of nine (9) voting trustees (including the officers) and 1 ex-officio non-voting member:
 - 1) four (4) elected officers of the Region,
 - 2) five (5) at-large trustees, and
 - 3) the UUA-appointed MidAmerica Regional Lead Staff person, or that person's designee (ex-officio, non-voting)
- (b) All voting trustees shall serve three (3) year terms, with three (3) trustees being elected every year. No trustee shall serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.
- (c) Initially three (3) trustees will be elected for three (3) year terms, three (3) trustees will be elected for two (2) year terms, and three trustees will be elected for one (1) year term. This paragraph (c) shall become moot as of June 30, 2016, and will then automatically self-delete from these Bylaws.

Section 3. **Qualifications and Limitations for Election.** Each elected member of the Regional Board and each member of the Nominating Committee shall be a member in good standing of one of the member congregations of the Region or be a CLF member residing within MA geography. If someone is a member of both CLF and a MidAmerica congregation, for the purposes of this section their membership will be deemed to be in the congregation physically located in MidAmerica. The Board of Trustees and the Nominating Committees, together, shall not have more than two (2) members from the same congregation serving at the same time. No person shall simultaneously hold more than one elected position.

Section 4. **Term of Office.** The term of the members of the Regional Board shall begin on the July 1st subsequent to their election, or immediately upon appointment in the case of a vacancy.

Section 5. **Vacancies.** Vacancies on the Regional Board may be filled by action of the Regional Board until the next Annual Meeting at which time the vacancy shall be filled by election for the balance of the unexpired term of the previous incumbent in accordance with these Bylaws. Individuals appointed or elected to serve for less than one-half (1/2) of an unexpired term will be eligible to be elected for two (2) additional consecutive terms.

Section 6. **Removal from Office.** Any individual trustee may be removed from office for failure to fulfill the duties of the office, or otherwise for cause, by the action of a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Regional Board, provided that the trustee has received notice of the proposed removal and is given an opportunity to address the Board, either at the meeting or in writing.

Article VI. Duties of Officers

Section 1. **The President** shall:

- (a) Preside at all Business Meetings of the Region and meetings of the Regional Board.
- (b) Serve as ex-officio member of all committees of the Regional Board
- (c) Report on the actions of the Regional Board at the Annual Meeting.
- (d) Perform other such duties as are commonly associated with the office.

Section 2. The **Vice-President** shall:

- (a) Be vested with the powers and responsibilities of the President in the event of the President's absence or inability to serve.
- (b) Be responsible for ensuring that the Regional Board creates and implements a plan to strengthen connections with the MidAmerica Region congregations.
- (c) Perform other such duties as are commonly associated with the office.

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Section 3. **The Secretary** shall:

- (a) Maintain a complete record of the proceedings of all MidAmerica Business Meetings and all meetings of the Regional Board.
- (b) Give notice of all MidAmerica Business Meetings and meetings of the Regional Board.
- (c) Perform such other duties as the Regional Board shall from time to time prescribe including but not limited to, conduct of all correspondence.
- (d) Ensure that the minutes of all meetings are made publicly available within thirty (30) days of approval.
- (e) Perform other such duties as are commonly associated with the office.

Section 4. **The Treasurer** shall:

- (a) Be responsible for monitoring compliance with the Regional Board's financial policies and ensuring and protecting the financial integrity of the Region.
- (b) Coordinate and report on an annual financial review or audit.
- (c) Perform other such duties as are commonly associated with the office.

Section 5. **Powers and Responsibilities.**

- (a) The Regional Board shall have the responsibility for the general direction of the affairs of the Region. The Regional Board shall set policy, define strategic goals and priorities for its own operations, and for staff. The Regional Board shall approve a proposed budget for the next fiscal year 45 days prior to Regional Annual Meeting
- (b) The Regional Board shall ensure the fiscal integrity and stability of the Region.

Section 6. **Regional Board Meetings.** Meetings of the Regional Board shall be held at least quarterly. Notices shall be sent to Regional Board members at least ten (10) days prior to the time of the meeting. Five (5) trustees shall constitute a quorum of the Regional Board. The reasonable expenses of trustees incurred in traveling to and from business meetings shall be paid by the Region if requested Special meetings of the Regional Board may be called by the President and must be called upon request of three (3) trustees of the Regional Board. In emergency situations, Special Meetings of the Regional Board may be called with or without the required ten (10) days' notice.

Section 7. **Regional Board Report to the Annual Meeting.** A report of the actions of the Regional Board shall be submitted by the Board President to the Annual Meeting of the Region.

Section 8. **Minutes of Regional Business Meetings.** The minutes of each Business Meeting of the Region will be approved by the Regional Board within three (3) months of the Business Meeting during a regular Board meeting.

Section 9. **Board Committees.** The Regional Board may establish and appoint Board Committees for such terms and with such powers and duties as the Regional Board shall deem necessary or desirable to carry out its duties. Board Committees are responsible to the Regional Board, which shall appoint the chairs of such committees.

Article VII. Nominations

Section 1. **A Nominating Committee** shall consist of seven (7) persons. The committee shall elect its own chair no later than August 31st of each year.

- (a) The seven (7) members of the Nominating Committee shall serve terms of two (2) years. In even years four (4) members will be elected by delegates at the MidAmerica Region Annual Meeting; in odd years three (3) members will be elected at the Annual Meeting. Members will serve no more than 3 consecutive 2 year terms
- (b) The Nominating Committee shall nominate at least one person for each open position on the Regional Board and for each open position on the Nominating Committee.
- (c) The Nominating Committee will nominate members for open positions on the Midwestern Unitarian Universalist Conference board each year, in accordance with MUUC's governing documents.

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- (d) The report of the Nominating Committee shall be submitted to the Secretary not less than sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting. The Secretary shall publish the report of the committee and distribute it to member congregations not less than thirty (30) days before the Annual Meeting.
- (e) The Nominating Committee shall endeavor to nominate individuals so that the membership of the Board of Trustees and each elected committee reflects the full diversity of the Region, especially in regard to historically marginalized communities, but also balancing amongst size of congregation, lay and ordained, geography, age (including youth and young adults), and gender, among others.
- (f) In addition, the Nominating Committee shall recommend to the MidAmerica Board one (1) member of the Camp UniStar Foundation Board of Directors each year, drawing their pool of candidates from those who have attended Camp UniStar and are members of good standing in a UU congregation. This recommendation shall be made no later than June 30 of each year.

Section 2. Nominations by Congregational Action. A member of a congregation in good standing with the Region may be nominated for any position to be elected by formal endorsement of the governing bodies of at least ten (10) congregations within the Region. Nominations by congregational action must be received by the Secretary no fewer than thirty-five (35) days in advance of the Annual Meeting at which the election is to be held.

Article VIII. General Provisions

Section 1. Headquarters. The Board will determine the headquarters of this organization.

Section 2. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of this organization shall commence on July 1st and end on June 30th of the following calendar year.

Section 3. Budget. The Annual Budget, as approved by the Board, will be presented at each Annual Meeting. This budget shall include sufficient resources to permit the effective operation of the programs and services of the Region to its member congregations.

Section 4. Parliamentary Procedure. When not inconsistent with law or these Bylaws, the parliamentary rule and usages set forth in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order (Newly Revised) shall govern all MidAmerica Region Business Meetings and meetings of the Board.

Section 5. Member Congregation Dissolution. All property, or net sale proceeds therefrom, received by the Region from a dissolved or inactive congregation shall be held separately and allocated as if in trust for a period of five (5) years. During this time, the principal and the net income received from investment of the funds or rental or lease of the real estate of said congregation shall be used only for aiding a successor or new congregation in the same geographical area, as may be determined by the Board. After five (5) years all remaining funds, income, or property may, by action of the Board, revert to the Region.

Section 6. Initial Terms. For the first year of MidAmerica Region, the election of Trustees and Nominating Committee members shall be by the combined total of votes cast at the 2013 Annual Meetings of the Central Midwest, Heartland and Prairie Star Districts. Such elections shall include provisions to stagger the terms of the trustees and Nominating Committee members to allow for the smooth transition to the MidAmerica Region. This Section shall become moot as of the First Annual Meeting of the MidAmerica Region, and will then automatically self-delete from these Bylaws.

Section 7. Reports. All reports and notices required by Bylaws may be published electronically.

Article IX. Special Relationships to Other Organizations

Section 1. Camp UniStar Foundation (CUF). The MidAmerica Region is the sole corporate member of the Camp UniStar Foundation. The membership rights of the MidAmerica Region are described in the CUF bylaws. Three of the seven voting members of the CUF Board are appointed by the MidAmerica Region Board. Such appointments shall follow the guidelines expressed in the Article titled "Nominations" of these bylaws. These Directors shall meet with the MidAmerica Regional Board upon request and provide a written report for distribution at the Annual Business Meeting of the Region. MidAmerica Directors shall serve a term of three (3) years. Appointments shall be so arranged that approximately one-

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third of the total number of MidAmerica CUF Directors are elected each year. The MidAmerica Board will appoint the first three MidAmerica Directors of the CUF Board to staggered terms no later than September 1, 2013.

Section 2. **Midwestern Unitarian Universalist Conference.** The Region shall be represented on the Board of the Midwestern Unitarian Universalist Conference (hereinafter referred to as "MUUC") by persons elected in such numbers for terms as set out in the MUUC bylaws and MUUC governing documents. These Directors should meet with the Regional Board upon request and provide a written report for distribution at the Annual Meeting of the Region.

Article X. Dissolution of the Region

Section 1. **Dissolution of the Region** may be authorized by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present at an Annual Meeting. A motion to dissolve the Region can only be placed on the agenda by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Trustees. The full text of any such motion must be included in the notice of the meeting as specified in "Business Meetings, Notice of Meetings"

Section 2. **Transfer of Assets** Upon dissolution of the Region, all assets thereof shall be transferred to any successor district or region. If there is no successor district or region, then all assets thereof shall be transferred to the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) or its successor.

Article XI. Amendments to These Bylaws

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present at any MidAmerica Business Meeting, provided that the substance of the proposed change shall have been included in the notice of the meeting as specified in "Business Meetings, Notice of Meetings."

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NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: TAMMY LEMMER, CHAIR

Dear Heartland District Board of Trustees and Delegates:

The Heartland District Nominating Committee is pleased to submit the following Committee Report, including proposed slates for consideration at the 2013 District Assembly. This was an interesting and challenging year for the Nominating Committee, as we were essentially asked to prepare two slates; one for the proposed MidAmerica Region, the other for the District in case of "business as usual." You will see some names appearing on both slates. However, no individual will be serving in more than one position.

The committee met via conference call on several occasions in late 2012 and early 2013. Per our charge in the District Bylaws, we reviewed pending vacancies on the District Board of Trustees, Nominating Committee, and MUUC Directors due to term limits or other reasons. We also made contact with individuals whose terms are ending but might wish to continue in their current or different positions. Additionally, Committee Chair Tammy Lemmer served as a liaison to a group of representatives from Prairie Star and Central Midwest Districts in gathering information and potential nominees from each of the three districts to serve on the proposed MidAmerica Board and Nominating Committees. After contacting Congregational Ministers, Board Presidents, and other lay leaders for their recommendations, phone interviews were conducted with possible candidates for MidAmerica and/or District leadership.

MidAmerica Board of Trustees

Draft bylaws for the Region articulated job descriptions and terms for the newly forming board. Important considerations for regional leadership include geographic and other diverse characteristics. The inaugural board slate has representation from each of the three originating districts, including each of the current District Presidents*. Terms will eventually be three years in length. However, to create a natural transition for future leadership succession, staggered introductory terms are being instituted. Therefore, the candidates from across all three districts are sitting for one, two, or three year terms, as denoted in the chart below. (Please see the attached biography pages for personal information about each candidate.)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Candidate</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>State</u>
President	2 Year	The Rev. Bill Sasso*	CMD	IL
Vice President	2 Year	Charlotte Preston	PS	MN
Secretary	3 Year	Eric Huffer	H	KY
Treasurer	3 Year	Tom Sommerfeld	CMD	WI
At-Large Trustee	1 Year	Amy Taylor*	H	IN
At-Large Trustee	1 Year	Kathy Burek*	PS	MN
At-Large Trustee	1 Year	Erin McElroy	CMD	WI
At Large Trustee	3 Year	Dave Martin	PS	IA
At Large Trustee	2 Year	Rev. Dr. Cynthia Landrum	H	MI

District Board of Trustees

With four board terms scheduled to end, only one of the current incumbents was willing or able to continue serving on the board. The Committee then began searching for potential candidates to meet the required expectations of the positions while striving for diverse backgrounds and skill sets. As a result, we submit the following candidates for new two year terms (2013-2015). (see bios below)

President: Jim Moir, Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church (MI)

Secretary: Eric Huffer, UU Church of Lexington (KY)

Member-at-Large: Frank Nye, Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church (KY)

Member-at-Large: Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, UU Church of East Liberty (MI)

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MidAmerica Nominating Committee

Draft bylaws for the Region also articulated terms and scope of work for the newly forming Nominating Committee. The inaugural committee slate has representation from each of the three districts, including the chair of each current District Nominating Committee*. All terms will eventually be two years in length. However, to create a natural transition for future leadership succession, staggered introductory terms are being instituted for one and two years. Please see the attached biography pages for personal information about each candidate.

<u>TERM</u>	<u>CANDIDATE</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>STATE</u>
1 Year	Diana DeWeese*	CMD	IL
2 Year	Jamie Boyce	CMD	IL
1 Year	Carol Jean Larsen	PS	ND
1 Year	Marty Sozansky*	PS	MN
2 Year	Jim Laughlin	PS	IA
2 Year	Tammy Lemmer*	H	MI
1 Year	Rev. Barbara Child	H	IN

District Nominating Committee

There is one vacancy and one term ending on the Nominating Committee. The incumbent position is eligible for reelection, and is sitting for a second term. The vacancy is in the Heartland UU Minister's Association representative, a position mandated by the District bylaws. Appreciation is given to current HUUMA leadership for their guidance and assistance in identifying potential candidates. After contacting Congregational Ministers, Board Presidents, and other lay leaders for their recommendations, phone interviews were conducted with possible candidates to continue representation of congregations from across the entire District.

The committee is pleased to submit two candidates for three year terms (2012-2015):

Rev. Barbara Child of Indiana (HUUMA representative) and
Tammy Lemmer (incumbent) UU Church of Greater Lansing (MI)

MUUC Directors

The Midwest UU Conference (MUUC) was formed to manage assets from when Midwest Universalist and Western Unitarians merged. More recently the major emphasis of MUUC has been to increase capital and provide a reliable revenue stream to the member districts: Central Midwest, Heartland, Mountain Desert, and Prairie Star. Rev. Elwood Sturtevant, one of the Heartland District representatives to the Midwest UU Conference (MUUC) is at the end of his term and unable to serve again. This is a position that will continue with or without Regionalization, however, the processes and expectations moving forward are in transition. As of the deadline for submission of meeting materials, the committee was unable to identify a candidate, despite reaching out to numerous Ministers, congregational and District leaders.

MUUC Director, three-year term: TBD

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Lemmer, Chair
UU Church of Greater Lansing (MI)

Royla Furniss
First UU Church of Ann Arbor (MI)

Eric Huffer
UU Church of Lexington (KY)

Lathe Snyder
Miami Valley UU Fellowship (OH)

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Nominees for Election to MidAmerica Positions

MidAmerica Board of Trustees

The Rev. Bill Sasso

President, two-year term, expiring 2015



Rev. Bill Sasso currently serves as President of the Central Midwest District, and has served on the CMwD Board since April, 2011. A graduate of Meadville/Lombard Theological School, he retired from congregational ministry in June, 2012, after serving as Minister of the Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship for 13 years. During that time, Bill also served as Vice-President of the CMwD UUMA Chapter, and as President of the Carbondale Interfaith Council. Bill and his family reside in Carbondale, Illinois.

Charlotte Preston

Vice President, two-year term, expiring 2015



Charlotte Preston joined the White Bear Unitarian Universalist Church (Mahtomedi, Minnesota) in 1993. She has served on its Board of Directors and was its President when it became a mid-sized congregation. As a lay leader, she has focused on outreach – serving as a point of contact for the press and launching WBUUC's Facebook page, for which she is a site administrator. As a member of the Prairie Star District Board, Charlotte has been chair of Linchpin, an effort devoted to communication about regionalization. Professionally, Charlotte owns a small business which operates in the context of the global jewelry industry, via trade shows, group management, and private clients. Charlotte and Mary, partnered since 1984, have a young adult son who lives and works in Minneapolis.

Eric Huffer

Secretary, three-year term, expiring 2016



I am very excited to be a candidate for Secretary of the Mid-America Region Board. I hope to be able to serve our vibrant and amazing collection of congregations, as we continue to work to be that beacon of love and justice in the world. I have been in a number of leadership roles in my current church home, Unitarian Universalist Church of Lexington, where I have served as President for two terms, plus another two years as a Board member. I have chaired our Worship Associates Committee and Nominating Committee, as well as led and facilitated our covenant groups for a year. I am currently serving on the Heartland District Nominating Committee. I have been a delegate at numerous Heartland and General Assemblies, and have been a covenant group facilitator at two GA's. As a result of my covenant group facilitation experience, I value listening and tend to work to facilitate discussion when in a meeting. I think this has served as a useful trait in any of the positions I have held, and believe it would be an asset in my service on the Board. Thank you for this opportunity to serve our Region.

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Tom Sommerfeld

Treasurer, three-year term, expiring 2016



Tom Sommerfeld was born in Ann Arbor, MI, in July of 1948. He grew up in Ann Arbor; Stillwater, OK; and Chapel Hill, NC. Following high school, Tom returned to Ann Arbor where, in 1974, earned his Bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan, and met his wife, Elinore, who has been his life partner for nearly 40 years.

Tom retired from a career as a data communications specialist with the Railroad Retirement Board in Chicago in January 2000, and has been a "professional volunteer" ever since. Since moving from suburban Chicago to the North Woods of Wisconsin in 2003, Tom has been a volunteer on-air program host on WXPR, the local Public Radio station; board member and treasurer of a local performing arts group; a volunteer at the local public library; and a poll worker for elections.

After years of being un-churched, Tom and his wife, Elinore, discovered Unitarian Universalism in 1999 and joined the DuPage UU Church in Naperville, IL, in 2000. Tom was a member of the choir and vice-chair of the Music Committee. Following the move in 2003, Tom has served as volunteer music director of Northwoods UU Fellowship in Woodruff, WI, as well as 7 years as treasurer of the fellowship. Tom and Elinore have been frequent delegates from NUUF to CMWDA and to GA.

Kathy Burek

Trustee-At-Large, one-year term expiring in 2014



Kathy Burek is currently the President of the Prairie Start Board of Directors. During her 30-year membership at Michael Servetus Unitarian Society (Fridley, MN), Kathy Burek has served on its Board of Trustees, as its President, and in a variety of lay leadership roles. She served as Vice President of the PSD Board. In that capacity, she has worked on PSD Governance and strategic planning, and also chaired the Program Council. Kathy has assisted District Staff in developing a strategic plan for growth for the district. In addition to her PSD work, Kathy serves on the Board of Trustees for the UUA Health Plan, and was its chair from March 2007-December 2008. Professionally, Kathy is an independent consultant and facilitator, focusing on strategic planning and organizational design. She is married and has three adult children.

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Trustee-At-Large, two-year term expiring 2015



Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum is in her ninth year as the minister of the Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty in Clarklake, Michigan, and lives in Jackson, Michigan with her husband, Peter Morrison, who teaches art history and her daughter, who is in grade school. Outside of ministry, she has previously taught English and composition at the local community college, is involved in many community organizations, is a Girl Scout troop leader and troop organizer, and is a blogger and occasional writer. For fun she enjoys science fiction, and you may have read her article on *The Hunger Games* in the UU World. She has previously served congregations in Texas and Massachusetts. Her history in the Heartland District (or its antecedent, the UU District of Michigan) goes back to her childhood, where she grew up in the Birmingham Unitarian Church in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. She has experience in Central Midwest District having gone to Meadville Lombard Theological School and served on the CMwD board briefly as a student liaison (2000-2001). Her additional experience in the Central Midwest District includes an internship at the First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee, a year of student ministry each in Marquette, Michigan, and Houghton, Michigan, and a summer ministry in Rockford, Illinois. (She has only visited the Prairie Star District, but found it delightful.) Additional experience she brings to the board is a term as President of the Heartland Chapter of the UU Ministers Association; a board role on a local non-profit organization, Family Service and Children's Aid; and she is currently the Vice President of the Ohio River Group, a minister's study group.

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Dave Martin

Trustee-At-Large, three-year term expiring 2016



Dave Martin has been a member of the UU Society of Iowa City for over 30 years. During that time he has served in a variety of leadership roles, including Board Trustee, Treasurer, and Board President. He has taught OWL (Our Whole Lives - sexuality education) classes and been chair of the Stewardship Campaign. He served on the PSD Program Council and has been on the staff of the Midwest Leadership School. Dave is Vice President of the Prairie Star District Board and has been helping to draft bylaws for regional governance. He is head of the Business Library at the University of Iowa.

Erin McElroy

Trustee-At-Large, one-year term expiring 2014



Erin McElroy has been a life-long member of the Bradford Unitarian Universalist congregation in Kenosha Wisconsin. She has served on the RE Committee of her church as Youth Chair and has been a very active member in planning for her church's Youth Group. Erin attended the 2012 season of Youth Midwest Leadership School and from there has been putting forth more action in helping out her church. She is currently a junior in High School looking to pursue Music Education.

Amy Taylor

Trustee-At-Large, one-year term expiring in 2014



Amy lives in Bloomington, IN and has been a UU for about 10 years and is a member of the UU Church of Bloomington, IN. She is an OWL (Our Whole Lives sexuality education) facilitator at several levels. Amy started UU governance work on the board of her home church as they transitioned to policy governance. She then joined the Heartland District Board, filling an at-large seat, followed by an election to the Vice President seat and then becoming President, her current position on the district board. It has been a rewarding experience to serve our denomination in these positions and to work with such dedicated and capable trustees on these boards. She has been working with the Prairie Star and Central Midwest Presidents and other members of all three Boards, putting together a proposal to create a MidAmerica Region Board of Trustees governance structure. The talent, concern and skills these people bring to the work have made it a remarkable and historic process that she has been privileged to participate in. Amy will continue for a year on the new Board as a source of institutional memory of conversations that have taken place over the past 3 years so that the new regional board will thrive, moving on to new conversations and work and not have to revisit work that was already done. She is excited about opportunities for us all to create a new era in UU in MidAmerica. In her professional life, Amy is a buyer. She also has two grown daughters.

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MidAmerica Nominating Committee

Jamie Boyce

Two-year term expiring 2015



Jamie Boyce is currently Membership Director at Third Unitarian Church-Chicago, where she has served for three years. Prior to that, Jamie was Membership Coordinator for two years at North Shore Unitarian Church in Deerfield, Illinois. Currently she is serving on the Central Midwest District Nominating Committee. In addition, Jamie works in compliance and grants management at AgeOptions, the Area Agency on Aging for Suburban Cook County. Prior to that, she worked at implementing after school programs in the North Lawndale neighborhood of Chicago.

She received her B.A. from Michigan State University and studied for 4 years at Bogazici University in Istanbul, Turkey. In her free time, Jamie loves to travel, explore Chicago's restaurant scene, and attend kickboxing classes.

Rev. Barbara Child

One-year term expiring 2014



Rev. Barbara Child serves as a Ministerial Settlement Representative (MSR) for Unitarian Universalist congregations in ministerial search. She is also a Good Offices Minister to ministers in the Heartland District. She began her working life as an English professor, later practiced and taught law, and became a Unitarian Universalist minister in 1996. An Accredited Interim Minister, she has served congregations in California, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio, and Vermont. In addition to a term on the UUA Commission on Appraisal, including two years as its chair, she has served the UUA on the Interim Ministry Guild, one year as its chair; the Commission on Social Witness, four years as its chair; and the Women and Religion Committee. She holds a certificate from the Corporation for Positive Change and often uses an Appreciative Inquiry approach in short-term consultations with congregations on a variety of issues.

Diana DeWeese

One-year term expiring 2014



Diana has been a UU for over 25 years and is currently co-chair of the Central Midwest District Nominating Committee. She is a member of the Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation and the Church of the Larger Fellowship. At ALUUC, Diana served on several committees and the Board of Directors. Currently, she is a Religious Education teacher and active in the pagan interest group at ALUUC. She just finished serving six years as a councilwoman of the UU Women's Connection, a Central Midwest District-wide women's organization. Diana served as Treasurer, Vice-President and President, as well as Conference Registrar for several spring and fall conferences. As a councilwoman, she had the opportunity to meet women in UU congregations throughout the district. She attended several CMwD annual assemblies, UUA general assemblies, and winter CMwD WomanSpirit conferences. Diana served on the Planning Committee for the 2005 WomanSpirit in Springfield, Illinois. She has been retired since January 2008. Her husband, Kurt DeWeese, is immediate past board president at ALUUC. They have two children. In the Springfield community, she is a sustaining member of the Junior League of Springfield, Illinois. Drumming, chanting, sewing, cooking and gardening are what she loves to do with her "my" time.

Heartland District Assembly & Spring Conference

Carol Jean Larsen

One-year term expiring 2014



Carol Jean Larsen has been an active member of her Bismarck-Mandan Unitarian Universalist congregation since the day she joined in 1986. Her passions are leadership development, adult religious education, stewardship, and social justice. She currently is her congregation's Board President. She served on the Prairie Star District Board from 1995-2004 as a Director, Vice-President and President. She served on PSD's Nominating Committee from 2004-06 and was appointed again in 2012. Carol Jean has retired from two careers: English teacher for 3 years; and 24 years in management positions in state government, private business, and non-profit agency. She is an avid long distance cyclist and hiker as well as an advocate for the environment.

Jim Laughlin

Two-year term expiring 2015



Jim Laughlin is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Iowa City (UUSIC), Iowa. Jim sings in the choir and has served on committees including membership, space, and buildings and grounds. He has been a Worship Associate. He has for three years been on the faculty of the UU Midwest Leadership School at Beloit College. Jim is a retired postmaster who lives on acreage outside West Branch, Iowa, with his wife Barbara, where he raises horses, gardens, paints, cooks, and more.

Tammy Lemmer

Two-year term expiring 2015



Tammy has been a member of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lansing (Michigan) for ten years, beginning when she moved to Michigan with her family (husband and two children). Previously, Tammy was a member of First Parish of Framingham (MA) where she was introduced to this welcoming, progressive faith community. She works for a social justice, anti-oppression organization (the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence), and is very active in her community.

Tammy has been involved with Children's RE, (including special events and teaching), Journey Towards Wholeness and other Social Action initiatives, and is honored to have served on the Congregation's Board of Trustees for five years,

including the roles of VP for Programs and Secretary. She also served as chair of an ad-hoc Program and Policy Transitions committee that initiated a review and update of the congregation's Constitution and Bylaws, and currently serves as Chair of the Denominational Affairs Committee. At times, she served as an usher and a greeter, and lay-lead worship service facilitator.

Within the Heartland District and the larger denomination, she served as a delegate to District Assembly three times and a GA delegate once. She is completing her first three-year term as a member of the Heartland District Nominating Committee, including two years as Chair of the Committee. Her strengths include organizational and policy governance experience, within her home congregation and in other personal and professional affiliations. Tammy is detail oriented, and looks forward to the opportunity to continue her service to our denomination.

Heartland District Assembly & Spring Conference

Marty Sozansky

One-year term expiring 2014



Marty Sozansky is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Duluth, Minnesota (UUCD), and was formerly (1982-1995) a member of First Universalist Church in Minneapolis. Marty has served her home churches as a member of the Board of Trustees and in several other capacities, including her current passion for History and Archives. She co-chaired the Prairie Star District Conference when it was in Duluth in 2007. Marty has been chair of the Prairie Star District Nominating Committee the past two years. Marty has recently retired from teaching at the University of Minnesota Duluth.

Nominees for Election to Heartland Positions

The Nominating Committee of the Heartland District has proposed the following individuals for election to the Heartland Board of Trustees and Nominating Committee.

Heartland District Board of Trustees

Jim Moir, Grosse Pointe (MI) Unitarian Church

President, two-year term, expiring 2015



Jim Moir is a lifelong UU, currently a member of Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church. His first opportunities in church leadership came along while he was still a kid in the RE program at the Detroit congregation. He has since filled a variety of offices, including President at two congregations. In service to Florida District, Jim was part of the Youth Council, chaired the Nominating Committee, and led the Growth Committee. He will soon receive a Master of Arts in Religion from Meadville Lombard Theological School.

Jim is ready to be President of Heartland District, but hopes that the plans for a regional organization come to fruition and his job becomes obsolete!

Eric Huffer, UU Church of Lexington (KY)

Secretary, two-year term, expiring 2015



Eric is very excited to be a candidate for Secretary of the Heartland District Board if Regionalization does not occur. He hopes to be able to serve our vibrant and amazing collection of congregations, as we continue to work to be that beacon of love and justice in the world. He has been in a number of leadership roles in his current church home, Unitarian Universalist Church of Lexington, where he served as President for two terms, plus another two years as a Board member. Eric chaired the Worship Associates Committee and Nominating Committee, as well as led and facilitated covenant groups for a year. He is currently serving on the Heartland District Nominating Committee. He has been a delegate at numerous Heartland and General Assemblies, and has been a covenant group facilitator at two GA's. As a result of his covenant group facilitation experience, Eric values listening and tends to work to facilitate discussion when in a meeting. This has served as a useful trait in the positions he held, and believes it will be an asset in his service on the Board. Eric is thankful for this opportunity to serve our District or Region.

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Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, UU Church of East Liberty (MI)

Trustee-At-Large, two-year term expiring 2015



Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum is in her ninth year as the minister of the Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty in Clarklake, Michigan, and lives in Jackson, Michigan with her husband, Peter Morrison, who teaches art history and her daughter, who is in grade school. Outside of ministry, she has previously taught English and composition at the local community college, is involved in many community organizations, is a Girl Scout troop leader and troop organizer, and is a blogger and occasional writer. For fun she enjoys science fiction, and you may have read her article on The Hunger Games in the UU World. She has previously served congregations in Texas and Massachusetts. Her history in the Heartland District (or its antecedent, the UU District of Michigan) goes back to her childhood, where she grew up in the Birmingham Unitarian Church in

Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. She has experience in Central Midwest District having gone to Meadville Lombard Theological School and served on the CMwD board briefly as a student liaison (2000-2001). Her additional experience in the Central Midwest District includes an internship at the First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee, a year of student ministry each in Marquette, Michigan and Houghton, Michigan, and a summer ministry in Rockford, Illinois. (She has only visited the Prairie Star District, but found it delightful.) Additional experience she brings to the board is a term as President of the Heartland Chapter of the UU Ministers Association; a board role on a local non-profit organization, Family Service and Children's Aid; and she is currently the Vice President of the Ohio River Group, a minister's study group.

Frank Nye, Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church (KY)

Trustee-At-Large, two-year term expiring in 2015



Frank was raised in the UU Church in Ann Arbor, MI. He is married with three children; one is getting ready to go to college. As a member of Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church in Louisville, Frank has served as Treasurer and Board President. Currently, he is the Secretary to the Heartland District Board of Trustees. Professionally, Frank develops software for a living.

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Heartland District Nominating Committee

Rev. Barbara Child, UU Church of Bloomington (IN)

Three-year term expiring 2016



Rev. Barbara Child serves as a Ministerial Settlement Representative (MSR) for Unitarian Universalist congregations in ministerial search. She is also a Good Offices Minister to ministers in the Heartland District. She began her working life as an English professor, later practiced and taught law, and became a Unitarian Universalist minister in 1996. An Accredited Interim Minister, she has served congregations in California, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio, and Vermont. In addition to a term on the UUA Commission on Appraisal, including two years as its chair, she has served the UUA on the Interim Ministry Guild, one year as its chair; the Commission on Social Witness, four years as its chair; and the Women and Religion Committee. She holds a certificate from the Corporation for Positive Change and often uses an Appreciative Inquiry approach in short-term consultations with congregations on a variety of issues.

Tammy Lemmer, UU Church of Greater Lansing (MI)

Three-year term expiring 2016



Tammy has been a member of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lansing (Michigan) for ten years, beginning when she moved to Michigan with her family (husband and two children). Previously, Tammy was a member of First Parish of Framingham (MA) where she was introduced to this welcoming, progressive faith community. She works for a social justice, anti-oppression organization (the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence), and is very active in her community.

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ad-hoc Program and Policy Transitions committee that initiated a review and update of the congregation's Constitution and Bylaws, and currently serves as Chair of the Denominational Affairs Committee. At times, she served as an usher and a greeter, and lay-lead worship service facilitator.

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES PRESIDENT'S REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: AMY TAYLOR, PRESIDENT

This is not only a re-cap of this past year but also of my tenure as District President which is coming to an end. In the fall of 2009 when I came onto the District Board to fill an at-large vacancy, I had no idea what an incredible journey I was starting. It has been a privilege to serve you all and to serve with an amazing group of dedicated people on the Board. In spring 2010, I was elected VP and by fall I stepped into the role of President. The Board completed updating policies, revised bylaws and downsized. Much of my time on the Board has been about questions like what does the Board do and what should it do and what is regionalization and should we even spend time on it. I have had the pleasure of working closely with a total of 5 Presidents from Prairie Star, Central Midwest and Mountain Desert Districts, and Presidents from across the country. In addition to our Annual Assembly meeting, I have attended annual gatherings in Prairie Star and Central Midwest Districts. I've been to Ministers gatherings and District Presidents Association meetings and General Assemblies. I can't count how many conference calls I have run and how many more I have participated in. I have gotten to know our District Executive and benefited from her skills, her forthrightness, and her continual support and acknowledgement. There was a historic meeting in Chicago, October 2011 when the Board executives from Prairie Star, Central Midwest, and Heartland Districts and Staff met to determine if we should move forward together exploring regionalization (it seemed more efficient to work together than do it in triplicate). We came away with the decision to move forward and a vision of:

A NEW ERA IN UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM, where UUs:

- ❖ *VISIBLY LIVE OUR FAITH*
- ❖ *CREATE CONNECTIONS*
- ❖ *GROW OUR MEMBERSHIP*
- ❖ *WELCOME ALL PEOPLE WHO SHARE OUR UU VALUES*

Then there was a momentous meeting August 2012 in Rock Island, IL of all 3 full Boards, our UUA Trustees, and Lead Staff. An action plan was created, timetables set, committees, task groups and teams were formed. Incredible momentum and a great deal of work by many happened in a short time to bring us to this year's vote to create a MidAmerica Board to replace the Heartland District Board.

I have witnessed extreme dedication, faith and trust. I have seen what can be done when everyone comes to the table assuming good will. We may be an association of independent congregations but I have witnessed the strength we have when we work together. I also came to a deeper understanding of generosity when the Prairie Star and Central Midwest District Boards and membership voted to finance the cost of transition to a region, when our region was not able to contribute financially. I trust that you will have your questions answered and understand why I believe that regionalization will offer us a future we cannot have without it. Everywhere I went it was obvious how much there was a desire to connect with other UUs, to learn and share and be a social justice voice that is heard. I am excited about this New Era and hope you are willing to join me and embrace this opportunity.

Thank you for your graciousness and the wisdom and trust you have shared during my term.

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Board of Trustees Treasurer's Report

SUBMITTED BY RAEJANE ARUAJO, TREASURER

As Treasurer of Board of Trustee of the Heartland District, I perform a monthly review of our finances. This review ensures that we are in compliance with the UUA ENDS statement.

I also present quarterly statements to the Heartland Board of Trustees, noting the financial condition of the District.

And, on a monthly basis, I monitor the District Executive expenses.

This year I have participated, along with the Treasurer's from Central Midwest and Prairie Star Districts, on the MidAmerica Transition Team. This team has written and proposed Financial Polices and an Investment Policy for the MidAmerica Region.

My thanks go out to Peg Fay-Feder, who performed this year's financial review.

Respectfully submitted,
Rae Jane Araujo
Heartland Board of Trustee Treasurer

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Peg Fay-Feder conducted her review on December 18, 2012 at the office of the Heartland District.

Ms. Fay-Feder reviewed the finances and financial procedures of the Heartland District to assure that appropriate controls are in place and in use.

She reviewed the following:

- Operating Funds – Income and Expenses
- Assets and Assets Accounts
- Salary, Wages & Payroll
- Records
- Security and Safety

Ms. Fay-Feder noted one serious problem with a lack of controls on income arriving via the PayPal account. And she stated that this needs to be corrected immediately. I know our District Executive, Lisa Presley, is currently working on ways to improve this problem. Ms. Fay-Feder stated that the PayPal account was overlooked last year when she inquired about other income, and therefore not mentioned in last year's review.

Ms. Fay-Feder stated, "On all other accounts I believe the Heartland District has effective procedures in place and in use to control the district's funds. Because of the physical distances involved, the three officers (District Executive, District Treasurer, and District Administrator) work via shared on-line files. Almost all financial information is available to all three of them all the time. As a result, it is my judgment that it would be difficult for funds other than those from PayPal to be accidently or deliberately mishandled."

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DISTRICT EXECUTIVE ANNUAL REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: REV. DR. LISA PRESLEY

This year has been the year of transition work—moving from the past into the future, with stopovers in the present.

A number of years ago now, the Boards of Heartland, Central Midwest (CMwD) and Prairie Star (PSD) Districts agreed with the UUA Congregational Life Director that it made great sense to follow the staff's suggestion to have the three districts come together for administration and service delivery. There were three reasons: (a) the nature of the work was changing so that geographical location was not as crucial; (b) the nature of church was changing to ask different things of congregations and staff working with them; and (c) the nature of economics was changing so that we could no longer afford to do things in the "old" pattern.

Let me say a bit more about this third driving force. While many thought that the recession would be only a temporary blip on the radar, and we'd return back to "the good old days," we here in the center of the country realized that we would come back to a new normal, rather than the old one. If the country and this region started recovering economically, we realized that our congregations who were doing without would need a while to recover on their own deferred dreams before we could see much increased giving to the Districts and the UUA. So, even as people were thinking optimistically, we knew that realistically, things had to change for us at the "middle judicatory level" of district operations.

So that's why the decision was made to move forward on the regionalization of administration and service delivery. And then, your Board (along with CMwD and PSD Boards) voted to recommend that governance follow the same path. That happened almost a year ago, and ever since, there's been an amazing mad dash to move the governance structures ahead to be ready when the service delivery and administration changes happen July 1, 2013.

This year, then, much that we've been doing as staff has centered around getting ready for the big move. We've been dreaming of the future. Here's what we've been doing—the six of us in CMwD, PSD and Heartland.

- Dreaming of the programming that we can offer—such as a new urban immersion program for young adults, a spring break social justice trip to support the Immokalee workers in Florida, and ways of helping congregations become more adept at intercultural communication and engagement
- Exploring distant learning programs and possibilities through helping religious educators gain greater competency
- Designing the new administrative structure—getting our administrative staff working together now to help move us more smoothly into the future
- Learning new ways of doing faith formation and making resources available, through the notion of "curation" rather than always being the "experts" ourselves
- Creating a regional finance and budget system to make sure we garner the benefits we know are there
- Creating a regional transitions system to support the departure and arrival of new ministers
- Looking at how to connect congregations by interests, similarities, as well as by geography.

All of this has been in addition to the "business as usual" of reaching out to congregations, responding to your questions, preparing and leading webinars, monitoring the finances in the Heartland, providing coaching for congregation leaders, supporting transitions in ministerial placements, and reading and responding to countless emails. It's been a busy time.

The great news is that we're getting more and more ready for the changes. You will be receiving the first ever MidAmerica budget—this budget went through six levels of approval before it got to you and as the "finance maven" for the region, it was my honor to shepherd this through, with support and help from our administrative staff and the finance people in the other districts. I felt like we were going for confirmation by the Senate for a cabinet level position.

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As we do this work, more and more I am realizing that the way we “do church” has to change—the demographics in our areas, those seeking religious community, the finances available, the increased ways of connecting with each other—all of these cry out for us to come together mindful that we are no longer in the 1960s, 1970s, 1980s, or even 1990s. What worked then, worked well, but it’s becoming more and more clear that we have to look at all the assumptions we bring forward. What does it mean to be a congregation—are you there only for those who find their way inside your building, or are there ways you can (and need to) reach those who might not find your building but need your message? Is the building you have still the building you need, or might there be things you could do better somewhere else? When was the last time you looked at your reason for being, and decided to reaffirm why you exist? Have you had a recovenanting with your professional leaders to allow you to shift who you are with each other as your gifts, talents, and needs have shifted? All of these questions have been there for years, but the need to explore them seems more and more prominent as we go through each month.

One thing that saddens me is that conflict in congregations is still taking a disproportionate amount of congregational energy. Over the past year, we’ve had at least two ministries end because of conflict, aided by economic pressures. We’ve also had at least one other congregation in substantial conflict, and trying new ways to come back together. What I’m reminded of, though, are the words by congregational consultant Gil Rendle. Gil states that congregations often run into difficulty because they try to make their members happy. But that won’t work—especially in UU congregations where there is such a wide diversity of ideas and needs in order to be “happy.” Rather, Gil says, it’s important for a congregation to determine what their mission is, and then to be faithful to that mission. It’s all about knowing who you are, who you want to be, and then using that deep understanding to help the congregation make decisions going forward. It’s also true that we UUs really want to believe we couldn’t be in such tension in our congregations, and so often low level conflicts are overlooked until push comes to shove. Finding ways to deal with conflicting ideals and desires early on is one of the key skills of any congregation. We can help you with this—both with determining your mission, your reason for being, and for dealing with ways to talk openly when you disagree.

By the Numbers: State of the District

Membership

Many congregations in Heartland are struggling. Loss of overall members happened for the sixth year in a row (and for seven of the past eight years), with some congregations losing substantial number of members. The net loss was 69 members (to 7342), while the total loss of members from our high point in 2005 is 872 members. Twenty-five of our congregations grew, adding a total of 250 members, but 24 congregations lost a total of 319 members, leading to the net loss of 69 members. Two of our congregations reported steady numbers, while 5 congregations failed to file their numbers in time, and so were recorded at last year’s numbers.

The following chart summarizes the growth/decline in the past year by state.

<i>Growth/Loss by State</i>	<i>Number Congregations</i>	<i>Growth</i>	<i>Loss</i>	<i>Net</i>	<i>Average per congregation</i>
Indiana	14	51	-141	-90	-6.53
Kentucky	8	28	-69	-41	-5.13
Michigan	23	122	-98	24	1.04
Ohio	11	49	-11	38	3.45
	56	250	-319	-69	1.23

The “top ten” congregations by member increases are: First UU, Ann Arbor, MI (55); Lexington, KY (24); Heritage UU, Cincinnati, OH (21); Bloomington, IN (20); People’s Church, Kalamazoo, MI (17); Columbus, IN (15); Brighton, MI (13); West Lafayette, IN (12); Bloomfield Hills, MI (10); and Mt. Pleasant, MI (9). The congregations that have grown the most since 1996 (and that have reported for the whole time) are: Bloomington, IN (186); First UU, Ann Arbor, MI (93); Bowling Green, KY (89); First Unitarian, Cincinnati, OH (78); Thomas Jefferson, Louisville, KY (69); Lexington, KY (68); West Lafayette, IN (66); Danville, IN (58), Columbus, IN (53); and Heritage, Cincinnati, OH (48).

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The ten congregations that declined the most over the past year are: UU Indianapolis, IN (-100); First Unitarian, Louisville, KY (-42); Owensboro, KY (-24); Southfield, MI (-21), East Lansing, MI (-18); Flint, MI (-17); Muncie, IN (-12); Farmington Hills, MI (-10); Traverse City, MI (-10); and Evansville, IN (-9). The congregations that have lost the highest number of members since 1996 (and that have been in existence that whole time) are: All Souls, Indianapolis, IN (-278); Detroit, MI (-118); First Unitarian, Louisville, KY (-111); Fort Wayne, IN (-90); Bloomfield Hills, MI (-65); Northern Hills, Cincinnati, OH (-54); Grosse Pointe, MI (-52); Southfield, MI (-46); Traverse City, MI (-41); and Evansville, IN (-39).

As is usual, some congregations find them on both lists—growing this past year, but having declined overall since 1996; declining this past year, but having grown overall since 1996. If you want your membership history over time, feel free to be in touch and I can provide it to you.

Finances

The financial impact of the declining membership, and the fiscal downturn, has been staggering for our District. We are very thankful and appreciative of the congregations who have made being a Fair Share contributor a high priority for their budgeting—it is only by mutual support that we are able to continue serving congregations in any personal way.

Yet we realize that many congregations are facing tough financial choices, just like their members are. Heartland District, and Ohio Valley and Michigan Districts before us, were always proud and generous contributors to the wider movement—both at the district and national levels. However, over time, that support has diminished. Prior to 2005, we were often in the 95-100% Fair Share giving ratio—I remember the stories, even as I don't have the financials back that far. I remember going to meetings where we were the highest givers, more often than not.

But the conditions here have created a decrease in the ability to be that generous. The chart below shows how congregational giving has declined over the past few years. The good news is that giving to the UUA has remained pretty constant over the past three years, and that congregations were able to give a bit more to the District this past year.

	FY06	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12
UUA APF Heartland Giving Percentages	91%	83%	74%	71%	71%	71%
Heartland Fair Share Percentages	84%	85%	79%	76%	72%	74%
National UUA APF Giving Percentages	84%	84%	77%	78%	76%	76%

For the District (and soon for the region), the percentage of giving matters. The UUA pays a portion of the costs of the professional staffing, and that remains much the same year to year. But there are two grants that are dependent upon both the percentage of Fair Share given and the number of Fair Share congregation. One is the UUA direct grant (this year about \$24,000), and then the grant we receive from the Midwest UU Conference (MUUC, this year about \$23,000). So, congregational giving to the UUA matters more than just in supporting the UUA.

Over the past five years, the Heartland District has lost somewhere around \$70,000 in income from decreased giving by congregations to the UUA and the District. This has had a deep impact on what we can do and how we do it—it is one of the reasons why we have Nancy Combs-Morgan only part-time as a Faith Development Director, why we no longer have a bricks and mortar office, and why we have few face-to-face trainings. I, for one, am thankful that we appear headed into economic partnership with Prairie Star and Central Midwest Districts—without that, we would need to radically restructure what we do in order to live within our diminishing means. The financial oversight of Heartland has been one of the most anxiety provoking parts of my position—and the only reason we're doing as well as we have been is that all those working on committees and projects, as well as on the Board, have exercised incredible financial restraint while producing quality services and products. I am very thankful for all they do, and have done.

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Thank You

There are many, many people who make this District run smoothly and well, and I want to thank those sometimes invisible people who work to provide our congregations with the best possible help as you move forward.

First and foremost, I'd like to thank the members of the Board. These people work many hours trying to sort out what our congregations need, and where religion is trending in our nation. This year, the need and their work level has increased exponentially—doing both the Heartland work and the work of the Region formation. Kathy Silver served on the Transition Team; Susan French on the Linchpin Group; Frank Nye on the Bylaws Group; RaeJane Araujo on the Treasurers Group. But the person who has clocked the highest number of conference calls, emails, and hours invested must be, without a doubt, President Amy Taylor. She has done incredible work, and it has been an absolute delight to watch her flourish in this role, and to work alongside her. All the Board members deserve your thanks and appreciation, for the ones not serving on the regional teams also picked up more in the District work. Thanks to you all: Amy Taylor, Kathy Silver, Frank Nye, RaeJane Araujo, Rev. Cathy Harrington, Susan French, and Nancy Garrett.

Secondly, I'd like to thank all the members of the Heartland's standing committees: the District Youth Steering Committee and the Lifespan Religious Education Committee. This group of young people and not-so-young people ensure that there is training, support, and conferences for their constituent groups. They have also practiced incredible fiscal responsibility, and I am thankful for all that they do. So thanks to DYSC members Somaya Bernard, Daniel Church, Addison Coleman-Brewer, Shannon Harper, Rianna Johnson-Levy, Jon Lord, Doug Taylor, Will Taylor, Spencer Thomas, and Alexandra Todd, and LREC members Barb Friedland, Shannon Harper, Teresa Putnam, Kathy Silver, Natalie Spriggs-Trobridge, Stacey Stone, and Nadine Tringali, and LREC Librarian, Barbara Hadden.

Thirdly, I'd like to thank the various consultants who are available to come help you in your congregations. We have very skilled and dedicated folks who can help run your board retreats, assist with stewardship, mission and vision work, safe congregations, transitions, and governance, just to name a few. Please be in touch if you'd like to have a consultant help you in your next steps forward. Thanks to those willing to serve: Sara Clavez, Barb Friedland, Ellen Germann, Rev. Joan Kahn-Schneider, Diane Melvin, Teresa Putnam, Barb Weber and Ray Wilson.

Fourthly, I'd like to thank those who work in our District in conjunction with programs that originate with our national staff. In particular, I'd like to thank our UUA Trustee David Jackoway (the last Trustee from the Heartland District), District Compensation Consultants Art Hillman and Ellen Germann, and Ministerial Settlement Representatives Rev. Barbara Child and Rev. Nana' Kratochvil.

Each year I end my report by thanking the folks that I work most closely with—the staff of your Heartland District. Working alongside Faith Development Director Nancy Combs-Morgan is always a delight—I value her insights and wisdom, her depth of caring and commitment to our liberal faith. I'm so delighted that this will continue in the MidAmerica Region. I've also enjoyed the expanded work with the rest of the MidAmerica team: Ian Evison, Nancy Heege, Phil Lund and Dori Davenport Thexton. That we will all work together going forward is a privilege.

And, I will undoubtedly miss District Administrator Barbara Hamilton as she leaves our service and begins a well-deserved retirement. Barbara's tireless efforts, her steadfast commitment, her dedication to doing a job well, and her sense of humor have blessed us in the past 10 and a half years she's been serving you all. It will be hard not to pick up the phone and call her every Monday morning at 10:00 a.m., and to know that there's one place I can find the answer to many of my questions. It has been an honor to know her, and I hope you'll all join me in thanking her for a job well done, and wish her well as she moves into the next phase of her life.

It still remains an honor and a delight to serve you in this role. Thank you for your trust, and for all that you do for your congregations. Without Unitarian Universalism, our world would be a little less bright. But by holding out our chalice to all who search for a religious community, you help (in the image created by Unitarian preacher Theodore Parker) bend the arc of justice closer to the world.

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FAITH DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR ANNUAL REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: NANCY COMBS-MORGAN
FAITH DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR AND
MIDAMERICA COORDINATOR OF EMERGING MODELS OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES

In 2012-2013, a momentum has been building to sustain and nurture congregational youth and young adult ministries in Heartland District, and the evolving MidAmerica region. We are blessed in Heartland District with a robust and sustainable youth ministry experience created by our youth and adult congregational leaders, especially those serving on our District Youth Steering Committee. Our programming year includes 8 youth ministry events, for youth and adult leaders, focused on building leadership development skills and empowering leaders with skills to build sustainable congregational youth programs. The emergence of congregations who have stepped up to take on some of our larger events must be applauded. In particular, the UU Church of W. Lafayette, guided by their talented DRE, Sheila Garrett, created a plan to build a strong youth program and then opened their lens to inviting other leaders to join with them in a Leadership Development Conference, in September, and also did a sterling job in hosting JusticeCON in late February.

The success of these youth events is enabled by the DRE's, ministers, and congregational leaders who heartily welcome events and then help to make them a reality and success. We have been successfully partnering with congregational leaders to help realize quality conferences with our veteran youth conference organizers, and I have been very pleased with the willingness to open up these conferences to leaders from the entire MidAmerica region.

An example of a premium event, which is one of the highlights of my program year, is the Youth Midwest Leadership School in Beloit, WI. This last July was no exception, for YMLS continued to be a remarkable experience. I was so moved at the commitment of the Heartland congregations who intentionally raised funds to send youth to YMLS. We celebrate the talents of many of the Heartland youth, who have been asked to serve on the youth faculty for YMLS. Included on our 2013 faculty is Mary Grayson Batts, a youth faculty member, from the UU Church of Bowling Green, KY.

YMLS is an amazing face to face experience, but we do remain committed to offering virtual opportunities for leaders to share and learn. Our MidAmerica webinars have been well attended by Heartland leaders, and in the last year I offered webinars on: Basic Youth Advising; Chaperoning Children and Youth; Sustainable Youth Ministry; New Trends in Young Adult/Campus Ministry, and a webinar for new DRE's, "Start As You Mean to Continue." One totally new virtual opportunity is a collaboration with Rev. Phil Lund, where we are offering a 6 session online course on "Youth and Young Adult Ministry." Our target group has been religious professionals, and in particular, members of the RE Credentialing program. This experience galvanized my own professional development, and in February I was accepted into the UUA's Religious Education Credentialing program. I am excited about this new endeavor and hope to have other religious educators from the Heartland and MidAmerica region join as well. What a blessing it is to be part of any intentional learning community.

One such intentional learning experience has been a series of virtual and face to face open meetings on the future of youth and young adult ministries in MidAmerica. I took part, with Phil Lund and Dori Davenport Thexton, in a series of "Thoughtful Conversations," which were held from August 2012-December 2012. The results indicated that: Youth and Young Adult ministry in the MidAmerica region is highly valued. Congregations are thirsting for more for more leadership development opportunities; for more skills, resources, and opportunities to connect youth and young adults. Congregations are ready, and in many areas are already hosting, and even co-hosting with other congregations, terrific youth and young adult conferences. Leaders are naming the need for a regional body of youth and adults working together to maintain a greater vision and structure of accountability. The language being used is the emergence of a "Youth Ministry Advisory Group." The YMAG would work directly with MA staff in mapping out multi-year plans for enriching youth training opportunities (which congregations are not equipped to handle solo); to provide feedback on staffing for our Youth Midwest Leadership School; to provide opportunities for youth and adults to become co-trainers for such events as Basic Youth Advisor workshops; Spirituality Development conferences; Pastoral Care/Lay Chaplaincy trainings; Leadership Development Conferences, etc....

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The YMAG will also be the communication portal for congregations to contact when they want to host a conference. The advisory group will have trained and talented Con Coordinators who can assist congregations in realizing their goal to have a successful event. The YMAG will also be working with staff in creating and sustaining service trip opportunities for youth groups in the region.

There is clarity that current Young Adult structures need to be fostered and to deepen/grow support for YA's in MidAmerica. Leaders expressed a vision for a Young Adult Ministry Advisory Group, focusing on the entire region. Current YA groups would be working in solidarity with other YA leaders throughout the region, and our MA staff, working directly with congregations who want to hold a YA conference. Also, there would be YA's, who are serving on the YAMAG, to work directly with congregations and clusters of congregations who want to deepen their commitment to young adult ministry. Having engaging service trip opportunities for young adults, as well as strengthening support for campus ministry in our region were all expressed as clear goals. Linkage with our Midwest Leadership School is seen as an excellent goal, to make sure that congregations have a commitment to send young adults and for funding/scholarships to be available to realize this goal. We are currently partnering with the leaders at People's UU Church in Kalamazoo, MI, who have requested to have their leaders trained in Young Adult OWL. Thanks to a grant from our national UUA Youth and Young Adult office, we will be able to host this training in late spring or summer of this year.

There was a consensus throughout all of the conversations on youth and young adult ministry that "safe congregations" issues remain paramount. Congregations are wanting standards clarified by the region on what specific criteria is needed to make sure that any experience provides the highest standard of safety for all participants. One participant expressed the hope that the MA region would have a safety and liability document, posted, to make sure that all congregations would be striving to maintain those same safety practices in youth ministry. With regard to young adult ministry, there was discussion of have and maintain a statement of ethical standards, which are currently being used at many young adult events.

I plan to continue in partnering with our regional Directors of Religious Education around issues of safety and liability in youth and young adult programming. We have been blessed in Heartland District with a very talented group of DRE's who have nobly served on our Lifespan Religious Education Committee. For many years they were the point people in organizing our OWL programming and Renaissance Modules. We have transitioned much of that work into a regional and congregational plan, but are ensuring that religious educators can take part in being trainers for upcoming Renaissance Modules. We hope to offer at least 2 Renaissance Modules per program year.

For the future, I dream that we partner together with the shared pursuit of growing Unitarian Universalism; growing our faith by raising lifelong UU's and by having an outward and invitational element to all of our endeavors.

With confidence in our future,

Nancy Combs-Morgan

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DISTRICT YOUTH STEERING COMMITTEE (DYSC) ANNUAL REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: WILLIAM TAYLOR, YOUTH CHAIR

The District Youth Steering Committee (DYSC) continues to provide excellent programming due to the superb group of 3 adults and 8 youth who comprise the committee. We work tirelessly to be one of the most active districts in the nation. This year alone we will have produced 6 Youth Conferences, or Cons.

We continue our tradition of providing trainings so youth throughout the district can take on roles of leadership. We had a new training this year, led by Social Action Coordinator, Rianna Johnson-Levy, to teach district youth the basic components of leading a group.

Our Junior High Cons continue to be an important part of our program. We hold two Junior High Conferences a year, and they are always well attended. These Cons give younger youth an opportunity to meet other younger youth from all over the district, as well as to encourage them to remain active in the UU faith as they move into their high school years.

CONtagious, the annual fall conference that starts the season is a very popular and well attended con. Opportunities for youth and adult mentors to come together to laugh, learn, worship, and share the common bond of being Unitarian Universalist -- it's what it's all about! This year we had a large group attending from the Central Midwest District of the UUA.

DYSC is in a constant state of change. Being a mostly youth run committee, no one member can ever be on for more than a few years. This makes the committee a dynamic organization, and we are constantly looking for new and better ways of doing things. Although things will be changing a lot these next few years with the structure of DYSC, it would still be encouraging to see this exciting youth empowerment continue!

Thanks to all who have helped make this such a successful year for the youth of the Heartland District!

LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE (LREC) ANNUAL REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: STACEY STONE & BARBARA FRIEDLAND, CO-CHAIRS

Committee Members: Barb Friedland, Co-chair; Stacey Stone, Co-Chair; Nadine Tringali, Google group Administrator & LREC Secretary; Kathy Silver, Treasurer; Natalie Spriggs-Trobridge, previous OWL organizer; Shannon Harper, DYSC Liaison; Mary Darner, LREDA Good Offices; Teresa Putnam, Past-Chair and DRE retreat organizer; Nancy Combs-Morgan, Heartland Faith Development Director.

Our goal is to provide opportunities for the development, support, and nurture of religious educators; and to help congregations provide engaging lifespan religious education programs in order to enhance the quality of UU religious life in the Heartland district.

In accordance with the Heartland District's Global Ends Policy as stated by the Board of Trustees, the LREC has taken the following actions:

- To contribute to leadership development, the LREC:
 - Organized a workshop for the District Assembly on Innovative Programming for the Future of Religious Education with a panel of representatives of the professional DREs in HUUD and experienced volunteers- April 2013
 - Organized the Professional Day activities prior to the Annual Meeting with offerings and worship for the religious educators- April 2013
 - Presents the Anne Miller award to honor excellence in religious education leadership at this year's Heartland District Annual Meeting. Diane Melvin, credentialed Religious Educator was the recipient in 2012.
- To support healthy and growing congregations in our district, the LREC:
 - Offers and organizes the Heartland LREDA Chapter Annual Retreat for Religious Educators. The 8th Annual retreat is centered on spiritual growth for religious educators. If there is space available, we will invite neighboring districts to join us for this nourishing time of reflection, guidance, and self-discovery. May 2013

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- Offers the resources from the former Heartland Lending Library for a modest donation at this District Assembly. Our intention is to provide resources to newer Fellowships and congregations starting RE programs and experiencing limited budgets.
- To promote congregational connections with one another as well as the district and the UUA, the LREC:
 - Supports regional cluster meetings within the Heartland District for religious educators both professional and volunteer RE leaders. Religious educators benefit from regular gatherings with other colleagues by sharing ideas and resources, offering support and collaborative efforts between our congregations.
 - Supports that Renaissance modules for religious educators are now offered in collaboration with neighboring UU Districts, rotating locations to allow a more cost-effective way to continue this valuable programming. In May 2012, Kalamazoo hosted a Renaissance module based on the MidAmerica collaborative model.

Our committee has gathered for a teleconference the first Wednesday of every other month at 10:00 am. We meet in person at the District Assembly. We have worked hard to insure that all of the trainings that have been offered are self-supporting and work closely within our budget.

During this time of transition from Heartland District to the MidAmerica Region, the LREC members realize that this District RE Committee's work has come to a close. The MidAmerica region offers consultants who will provide trainings and opportunities in LREC's place. It is our hope that the Religious Educators will continue to meet in clusters, and conference calls for ongoing support and resource sharing.

We envision our local LREDA chapter to grow with active involvement from all of the Religious Educators in our area. LREDA (Liberal Religious Educators Association) is a wonderful support for professional religious educators but it does require that congregations are able to fund membership fees for the local chapter and national chapter.

The Co-chairs of LREC would like to thank the Heartland District for the opportunity to serve our Religious Educators and congregations. We feel honored to have helped provide resources, support and training to Religious Educators throughout the years.

The LREC has been led by a group of dedicated DREs volunteering their time to support and enrich religious education in many forms. We would also like to thank all of the religious professionals who have helped in these roles throughout the years. You have helped create the vibrant RE programs that benefit all of our congregations.

We could not have organized all of the trainings, events and "Con" registrations throughout the years without the endless support of Barbara Hamilton, District Administrator. We appreciate your patience, dedication and humor.

We lift up the guidance, inspiration, and support of the Heartland District staff: Nancy Combs-Morgan, Faith Development Director and MidAmerica Region Coordinator of Emerging Youth and Young Adult Ministries and Rev. Dr. Lisa Presley, our current District Executive. We have enjoyed working with you both!

Respectfully submitted,
Stacey Stone & Barbara Friedland, Co-chairs
Heartland Lifespan Religious Education Committee

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UUA TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: DAVID JACKOWAY, UUA TRUSTEE

We are in a period of transition as we move into the next fifty years of our Association's history. During this transition period we are reviewing all aspects of how we are together and determining how we need to evolve, both as an organization and as a faith movement, to address the challenges of the future. Throughout this period of discernment we have actively sought to hear your opinions through informal discussions and formal initiatives such as Gathered Here, a joint initiative by the UUA Board and Administration. (A summary of the Gathered Here results is available at http://www.uua.org/documents/gatheredhere/1212_summary_report.pdf.)

One change will take place this summer at the General Assembly in Louisville. The UUA Board of Trustees will be reduced in size by half. To insure continuity the Board has selected four current members to remain on for the next two years, but in Louisville you will have an opportunity to elect seven new trustees. You will also have an opportunity to select a new Moderator, as the esteemed Gini Courter concludes her term of office. One focus of this year's Board has been to prepare the way for the new leaders who will follow us. We have strived to insure that the new Board will be able to concentrate on vision, planning and policy while the administration handles the day-to-day business of the Association.

Guiding the work of the Board and the Administration are our Ends, statements about what it is we are trying to achieve together. This year the UUA Board began a process of rewriting our ends based on information we have solicited from congregation members and other sources of authority. The UUA blog (<http://board.blogs.uua.org/how-the-board-works/report-to-congregations-january-2013/#more-167>) has a draft version of the new Ends. As we work to finalize the Ends we would welcome your assistance by participating in a short online survey (<http://surveymonkey.com/s/5CLRDWH>) which asks your thoughts about the future of Unitarian Universalism.

If you haven't heard by now, another major change for the Association occurred last month when the Board voted to move the UUA headquarters to a new home. We will be selling our building at 25 Beacon Street, and the other properties we own on Beacon Hill, and moving to 24 Farnsworth Street in Boston's Innovation District. While our current facilities have served us well they have significant limitations to meet the needs of a modern workspace and to promote the values of our Association. Our new home is better suited to support an environment of collaboration and community while also addressing accessibility, environmental and technological needs. As the announcement by the Board stated "We believe the new property will become a hub of hospitality and inclusion, a place where Unitarian Universalists will deepen their connection to each other and our faith."

New leaders, new goals, new home. This truly is a time of transition. And yet what stays constant is our commitment to our principles, our purposes and to each other - our covenant to be together in community and to work together for a better world. I hope to see all of you at the General Assembly in Louisville where we will explore our covenantal faith and make decisions that will propel us into the future of Unitarian Universalism.

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An Invitation to Louisville for General Assembly 2013

My name is Jill Sampson, I'm from Louisville, Kentucky and I'm honored to be the District Coordinator for General Assembly (GA). The Heartland District is looking forward to hosting GA 2013 in Louisville and we invite you to join us. The Heartland District represents fifty-six member Unitarian Universalist (UU) congregations throughout Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, with over 7,400 member UUs.

As part of the MidAmerica Region, the Heartland District is in partnership with the Central Midwest and Prairie Star Districts. Currently home to three UU congregations, Louisville has a rich history of Unitarian Universalism with one of the oldest congregations west of the Appalachian Mountains. First Unitarian was founded in 1830. Just ten years later, First Universalist of Louisville was founded. And those two churches merged in 1870. UUs have been here ever since.

Why Louisville?

Louisville is within a day's drive of many cities in the Eastern United States and has many interesting facets. Allow a little extra travel time to visit the Muhammad Ali Center, Thomas Edison's house, the African American Heritage Center in the historic Russell district, or maybe the Louisville Slugger Bat factory.

Plan to weave your way along the beautiful Ohio River, hike in the quiet ridge tops and hollows of Bernheim Forest, or stroll through the largest Victorian neighborhood in the United States. Louisville is known as Possibility City. Our city was declared a Compassionate City for its community commitment to living out the golden rule. Pursuing his goal of making Louisville an even more compassionate city, Mayor Greg Fischer has signed a resolution adopting the International Charter for Compassion, making Louisville the largest city in America to take this action at the time.

So who should come to Louisville's GA?

Everyone. This is an opportunity for UUs around the country to gather in ways to support our UU principles and worship, witness, learn and work together. This is an opportunity for everyone to grow and experience Unitarian Universalism in ways that we only do when we're together in one large body. And don't forget, we'll have some fun. So once again, I invite you to come to Louisville June 19 through 23, 2013. I can't promise you that it will not be as hot as Phoenix. But, I can assure you of a very warm welcome in the Bluegrass State and look forward to the possibility of continuing the work we started in Phoenix.

Go to <http://www.uua.org/ga/> to get details on:

GA Registration

GA Housing Reservation System

List of GA programs

GA Tentative Agenda

NOTES

Let's do
Lunch!

Call
Me!

Rush!!

F.Y.I.

To DO:

→ DON'T
FORGET!

E-mail
→ Me ←

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District Assembly Conference Schedule

Your opinion is important to us. In the upcoming week, we will email you a link to an evaluation of this year's District Assembly. Please make sure to give us your feedback. Thank you.

Friday, April 12, 2013

5:00-9:00 pm Registration Open..... Main Lobby
6:00-7:30 pm Delegate Credentialing OpenDelaware Hall
7:15-7:30 pm Banner Parade Assembly.....Shared Lobby
7:30-8:30 pm Opening Worship & Banner ParadeDelaware Hall
8:30-9:30 pm Opening Reception.....Delaware Hall

Saturday, April 13, 2013

8:00-9:00 am Registration Open..... Main Lobby
8:00 am-12:00 pm .. Delegate Credentialing OpenDelaware Hall
8:00 am-4:00 pm Exhibits Open Main Lobby
8:30-9:00 am Worship ServiceDelaware Hall
9:00-10:00 am Mini Assembly/Conversation about RegionalizationDelaware Hall
10:00-10:30 am BREAK.....Delaware Hall
10:30-12:30 am Keynote Interactive Session.....Delaware Hall
12:30-1:30 pm Group Lunch.....Delaware Hall
1:45-3:15 pm Business Meeting & Awards Presentations.....Delaware Hall
3:15-3:30 pm BREAK.....Delaware Hall & 2nd Floor Hallway
3:30-4:30 pm WORKSHOPS (2nd Floor)
 ➤ Envisioning Our Future White River #1
 ➤ Greening Your Sanctuary Prairie Creek #3
 ➤ Innovative Programming for the Future of Religious Education White River #2
 ➤ The Israel-Palestinian Conflict Prairie Creek #1
 ➤ Multigen Nuts and Bolts Prairie Creek #2
 ➤ What is Reproductive Justice?..... Cardinal Creek #1&2
 ➤ What's Your Question? Cardinal Creek #3
4:45-5:15 pm Closing WorshipDelaware Hall

Sunday, April 14, 2013

10:45 am UU Church of Muncie, 4800 W. Bradford Dr., Muncie, IN 47304