Spring Congregational Meeting Report
Sunday, May 20, 2018
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Reports Not Included in this Package:
  Building & Grounds ...........................................
  Fellowship ..................................................
  Child Care Center .........................................
  Human Resource ...........................................
  Technology ................................................
Meeting Agenda

Irvine United Congregational Church
2015 Spring Congregational Meeting
May 20, 2018

Call to Order ......................................................... Renae Boyum
................................................................. Moderator

Establishment of a Quorum ........................................ Michael Spindle
................................................................. Church Administrator

Opening Prayer ....................................................... Pastor Sarah Fiske-Phillips

Introduction of Parliamentarian .................................. Renae Boyum

Approval of Agenda ................................................ Motion by a Congregation Member

Note: if any additions or changes to the agenda are desired, a motion to amend
the agenda should be made here.

Approval of Minutes ................................................. Renae Boyum
2018 Winter Congregational Meeting (January 28, 2018)

Treasurer’s Report .................................................. Mark Allen
................................................................. Treasurer

Reception of Reports from Ministries and Committees ...... Motion by a Congregation Member

Proposed Bylaws Change -- Term Extension for Officers  Motion by Dave Schofield,
Bylaws Committee

Ratification of 2018-2019 Leadership Slate ..................... Motion by a Congregation Member

Update on Worship Renewal Task Force ....................... Rev. Paul Tellström
................................................................. John St. Marie

Update on Building Project ...................................... Anne Rosse
................................................................. Chair, Building Committee

State of the Church ................................................ Rev. Paul Tellström
................................................................. Senior Pastor

Adjournment ........................................................ Motion by a Congregation Member

Closing Prayer ......................................................... Rev. Paul Tellström
Winter Congregational Meeting Minutes for Approval
January 28, 2018

1. Moderator Renae Boyum called the meeting to order at 12:17 p.m.

2. Church Administration Board President Dave Schofield confirmed that enough congregants were present to establish a quorum.

3. Renae introduced Don Bjorklund as the Parliamentarian.

4. The opening prayer was led by Rev. Paul Teliström.

5. Approval of Agenda.

MOTION: To approve Agenda. Moved by David Caruthers, seconded by Jesse Billings. Motion carried.

6. The 2017 Spring Congregational Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.

7. The Sept. 9, 2017 Special Congregational Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.

8. Ratification of appointment of Cindy O’Dell as Chair of Communications Ministry and Cheryl Tobiani as Chair of Deacons Ministry

MOTION: To approve the appointment of Cindy O’Dell as Chair of Communications Ministry and Cheryl Tobiani as Chair of Deacons Ministry. Moved by Ken Wyant, seconded by Valerie P. Motion carried.

9. Treasurers Report: Treasurer Mark Allen discussed the Overview of the Package Items 2 and 3 and the 2017 Financial Review. He reported that 2017 was a decent year financially for the General Fund and especially good for the ECC. Overall for total IUCC for 2017, (minus CIF), the net income was $56,000 and the adjusted net cash flow was $74,500. The ECC had a profit of $77,200, and the General Fund had a loss of $21,400.

Mark Allen stated that the 2018 Budget is fairly conservative, forecasting a loss of $24,300 and an adjusted cash flow of $8,100. The Budget anticipates an ECC profit of $49,000. The General Fund is forecasted to have a loss of $70,400. Mark Allen expressed appreciation for the work done by Laura Smith and Colin Austin on behalf of the ECC and its staff. Congregation expressed their thanks. Mark asked for questions from congregants. None were put forth.

MOTION: To approve the 2018 Budget as presented. Moved by Dave Schofield, seconded by Jim Martin. A vote of the congregation was taken: No abstentions or no votes. Motion carried unanimously.
10. Reports:

A. Building Committee report was presented by Anne Rosse.
   A date of June 24 is set for the Building Dedication.
   The congregation will need to meet elsewhere (TBD) for April 8 and 15 while the
   sprinkler system is installed in the sanctuary.

   Anne shared slides of current status of construction and plans for finished
   product. The City of Irvine has approved the signage for Alton. Felicity Figueroa
   asked if there will be a street number on the sign; Anne responded that there will
   be two, so that there is visibility from two directions.

   Anne thanked the leadership for the weekly meeting participation and input.
   The Building Committee thanked the congregation for the timely pledge
   payments and stated that the committee is still actively raising money.
   Anne would be available for questions following the meeting.

B. Community Building Task Force report was presented by Keith Boyum.
   Approaches being used are internet based and forms of social media. The
   committee has implemented website improvements.
   The committee is seeking to build a team and requests that interested persons
   see Cindy O’Dell.

   Under discussion is idea of slogans; suggestion are welcome. Keith gave example
   of Jazz and Justice.

C. Worship Renewal Task Force report was presented by Pastor Paul and
   John St.-Marie.

   Looking at how to make worship more relevant;
   Planning to poll congregation; the survey items are still to be determined.

   Lily Grant had a big effect; more arts can be included in worship and
   community.

11. State of the Church report was presented by Rev. Paul Tellstrom.
    ECC has 60 enrolled; Paul thanked Laura Smith and Colin Austin for their work.
    Thanked board members and staff for all their input and work in many areas of
    church business and community.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Moved by Dave Smith, seconded by Wayne Banwell.
Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

The closing prayer was led by Pastor Sarah Fiske-Phillips.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Palen
Clerk of the Administration Board
Proposed Bylaws Amendments
Proposed Bylaws Term Extension for Officers

The Bylaws, Policies, and Procedures Task Force and Administration Board have recommended the following bylaw change. (NEW language is italics). Notice of bylaw changes must take place at least 10 days before a congregational meeting. The Spring Congregational Meeting will take place on May 20, 2018. Bylaw changes require a 2/3 “YES” vote of the members present to be approved.

Section 2 QUALIFICATION, ELECTION and TERM OF OFFICE

A. The Officers shall be elected by the Membership at the Spring Congregational Meeting, and shall assume office July 1.

B. The candidates for office shall be nominated from the Corporate Membership by the Nominating Committee or from the floor.

C. Officers are elected for a one (1) year term and may be re-elected.

D. Except in the event of special circumstances, no person may serve in the same office more than five terms consecutively. (Persons who have served five terms consecutively are referenced below as “termed out.”) However, under special circumstances, an otherwise termed-out officer may be elected to an additional term.

1) Definition. The operational definition of special circumstances shall be at the discretion of the Administration Board. Examples include situations when there is a special need for continuity as the congregation faces major undertakings, such as a building project, or when the congregation must deal with major changes, such as the departure of a senior pastor or other key leader.

2) Procedure.
   a) A proposal to permit the nomination of a congregational officer who is otherwise termed out shall be brought by the Nominating Committee to the Administration Board at least 30 days prior to a congregational meeting at which an election for the office is to be held.

   b) The Administration Board may approve the proposal by a simple majority vote.

   c) If the Administration Board approves a proposal to permit the nomination of an otherwise termed-out officer, that proposal will be brought to a congregational meeting, and shall be separately put to a vote prior to an election to the office. The proposal shall be accompanied by an explanation from the Administration Board as to the special circumstances that justify nominating the otherwise termed-out officer.
(d) Upon the adoption by the congregation of the proposal brought by the Administration Board, the name of the otherwise termed-out officer shall be placed in nomination alongside any other nominations, and shall be elected or not elected by a vote of the congregation.

Note of explanation: Treasurer, Mark Allen, is termed-out (he has served five one-year terms. According to the previous language he would be not be able to serve another term. By following the process outlined in the new bylaw, Mark will be eligible to continue. The proposed bylaw also states that an explanation must be given to justify the “special circumstances”.

Given the complexity and ongoing nature of the finances connected with the building addition at IUCC it is critical that there be continuity in the office of treasurer. Therefore the Administration Board recommends an extension of one year for that position.

IRVINE UNITED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
Task Force on Bylaws, Policies and Procedures
Progress Update – May 2018

Current Scope of Work
The TF was asked to address:
• Recommend changes to Article 9 Officers of the Church, Section 2D Qualifications, Election and Term of Office

Recommendations
The TF has reviewed the bylaw and is making the following recommendation:

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Annual Reports from Ministries & Committees

Moderator

During my three years of being moderator, my life has been enriched in ways I never could have imagined. It starts with the ongoing vibrancy and vitality of the members and friends of IUCC. Beyond that is the opportunity to work with incredible leaders. That opportunity begins with the leadership of Pastor Paul. I have grown to treasure his gifts of preaching, caring, and support. Those are gifts not only for me, but for all of us here at IUCC. Steve Swope, Director of Adult Programs, continues to provide us with first-rate programs that enrich our spiritual lives. John St. Marie, our Music Director, gives us the gift of soaring music that touches our souls! What a blessing all of these leaders are!

In addition to Pastor Paul, we are all supported by an amazing office staff. Heidi Willcox, our bookkeeper, has just completed 25 years of service to IUCC. She goes above and beyond to ensure that our monies are well-managed and she does this with a strong sense of commitment and dedication. Michael Spindle, our church administrator for the past 18 years, is retiring at the end of June. I will truly miss his attention to detail, his love and care for IUCC, the support he gives to not only me, but to all those in leadership, and his sense of humor through some busy and challenging times. He will be missed! Good luck to him and David as they seek new adventures in Arizona!

Ken Wyant, Chair of the Ministries Board and Dave Schofield, Chair of the Administration Board are key leaders who guide and direct our two Boards. Both have given of their time, expertise, and leadership in ways too numerous to mention. What a gift they have been to me and to IUCC!

The members of the Administration Board give countless hours to guide the finances and personnel needs of IUCC. The members of the Ministries Board give of their awesome talents to provide us with meaningful programs and events that help us to be a strong voice in the community. I am grateful to all of these marvelous leaders.

A year ago, the members of IUCC adopted a Long Range Plan to guide us over the next five years. During this past year, we have moved forward with many of the goals. Two of the most important goals revolved around the formation of task forces. The first of these, the Community Building Task Force, gave their report at the Winter meeting. In that report, the Task Force cited the importance of a strong digital presence. The Communications Ministry, chaired by Cindy O’Dell, is working tirelessly to make that goal a reality. The other task force, the Worship Renewal Task Force, is in the process of analyzing and looking at the results of their congregational survey. I look forward to their report and welcome their ideas for renewing our worship experience.
"If only we had space, we could..." That "IF" will finally become a reality by the end of the summer. A huge thank you to the Building Committee, under the (there-are-not-enough-words-to-describe) leadership of Anne Rosse and the financial stewardship of our treasurer, Mark Allen. These new spaces with added administrative and pastoral office space and much-needed meeting space will be a gift to all of us within and beyond our community. I look forward to working with all of you to create new programs and activities that will enrich us and enable us to be the church that God is calling us to be -- God is truly still speaking here!

In faith and community,

Renae Boyum
Moderator

Administration Board Chair

The Administration Board and its committees and task forces have been truly proactive this year. We have participated in the business of the church as the Bylaws provide. The Administration Board has the principle responsibility to act in a fiduciary capacity for IUCC and we have certainly done so in this past year. It has been my pleasure to serve as the Chairperson of the Administration Board these past few years.

Enrollment in the Early Childhood Center has remained strong since our January meeting and in fact, enrollment continues to grow; we have 63 children enrolled at last count (above our budgeted enrollment). Many thanks to our Director, Irma Rosales and staff and the Child Care Committee, Laura Long and Colin Austin, the Childcare Committee Co-Chairs, Tom Mason, Sand Sudweeks, Lyle Norton, Pastor Sarah and Daniel Blackburn.

Wayne Banwell continues to serve as chair the Building and Grounds Committee. Here are just a sampling of the things they have accomplished this year: very successful all church workdays; several significant repair projects in the ECC, successfully tackling many lighting and light fixture/bulb issues and maintaining a volunteer gardening effort.

The Fund Development Committee, chaired by Bill Lawrence, created a stewardship campaign with a robust follow up plan to put together our budget. Many thanks to Bill for his dedication and to our stewardship campaigns over the years.

The Bylaws Task Force works diligently to revise our Bylaws to reflect current practice and to have the Bylaws be a "living" document for IUCC. Members of the committee are: Anne Rosse, Don Bjorklund and Ron Steiner. Thanks very much for your dedication and diligence.
The HR Committee advises the Administration Board on employee matters as they arose. A special thank you goes out to the committee’s Chairperson, Dale Vaughn for her excellent guidance.

Mark Allen, Treasurer, led the budget preparation process for 2018. Mark launched the budget preparation process in August so the various “budget line item owners” could do their due diligence to present an aspirational but not astronomical budget. Ministries and Committee Chair Persons took this very seriously and provided the information requested. Equal due diligence was used to prepare the other elements of the budget like payroll and other expenses for IUCC as well as the ECC. Mark developed many “scenario” worksheets for help in understanding the impact of various possible financial situations for a series of meetings in October, November and into early December. The Budget Committee members approved a budget for presentation to the Administration Board that approved modified aspirational requests and year over year expense considerations. I want to thank Mark for his tireless work as our Treasurer.

The Building Task Force has been working diligently with the City of Irvine, our Architects (Domus Studios) and our contractor (Wieland Contractors). I’d like to thank Anne Rosse (Chairperson) for her persistence Shepparding all parties (including your leaders) in keeping our building project moving forward.

The IUCC Administration Board has a dedicated membership that works conscientiously and responsibly to make sure the funds donated to IUCC are effectively used for congregational purposes. We have had our fair share of “hot-topics” this year that have been managed with conscientious and constructive intention and attention. My sincere thanks to the other voting members: Mark Allen, Treasurer; Renae Boyum, Moderator, Congregational Representative, Laura Palen, Administration Board Clerk; Daniel Blackburn, Congregational Representative, Ron Steiner, Congregational Representative and Scott Bollens, Congregational Representative. Additional thanks go to all the Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs as well as Ken Wyant, Ministries Board Chairperson, who positively and actively participate in the business of the church.

None of us in leadership would be able to serve this community without the assistance from our IUCC Staff – Pastor Paul, Pastor Sarah, Michael Spindle, Heidi Wilcox, Steve Swope, John St. Marie, Irma Rosales and their support staff. We are truly blessed to have such dedicated employees.

Finally, I would be remiss not to say “THANK YOU” to Michael Spindle for his support in each of my roles in leadership over the past 24 years. It was Michael who brought me to this Church introducing me to so many at IUCC whom I consider more than just friends but family and loved ones.

Dave Schofield,  
Administration Board Chair
Ministries Board Chair

During the past year the Ministry Board has coordinated the schedule and activities for all the Ministries in IUCC. When the leaders of those Ministries gathered, we used the Long Range Planning report as a springboard for our work beginning with the Leadership Retreat last July. We met again in February to check in with the Admin Board and identify progress in moving toward those goals especially in the areas of telling the IUCC story in the community and further enhancing the worship experience. We also followed in awe as the new building moved from concept into reality. Each of the Ministries looks forward to using the new possibilities that it represents.

The Ministries Fair in February provided an opportunity to remind all members of the Congregation about the variety of ways that we do Church work at IUCC. The Fair also became a place to recruit more members to share in carrying out that work together.

Our work as a Board could not have been effective without staff support. We have an outstanding professional team at IUCC. They are ready with ideas and effort to follow through on the programs and planning developed and carried out by each of the Ministries. This year we particularly appreciate Michael Spindle for all his work over the years. As chief “calendar keeper” he has used imagination, diplomacy and tact to be sure this very busy Congregation makes the most of our physical plant. Members of the Ministry Board are constantly surprised to discover Michael’s work behind the scenes to manage details that we had not even imagined. “Maybe we can...” is the refrain we hear from Michael, and then he comes through with some extra effort to turn “maybe” into accomplishment. We cannot sufficiently express our appreciation for all he has done, so we offer a simple thank you.

Ken Wyant
Chair, Ministries Board

Adult Programs Director’s Report

It’s been a great year for Adult Programs, and that’s because so many people have participated in the many things we’ve offered. So, thank you to YOU – all who have attended, expressed appreciation, made suggestions, and just kept things going!

Special thanks to Jim Aynes and the members of the Adult Programs Ministry, Ken Wyant and the Ministries Board, and moderator Renae Boyum. And I’m thrilled to be part of this wonderful staff team with Pastors Paul and Sarah, Michael, Heidi, John, and Irma!
Last year we developed a variety of arts programs for the summer of Pastor Paul’s sabbatical. I was so happy that so many came to church and special events outside their normal routine! It was such fun to be part of all the music, dance, visual art, and spoken-word artistry. Have you seen the three-piece artwork hanging in Plumer Hall? WE did that! Thanks again to the committee who helped plan it all: Pastor Sarah, Lauren Fleming, Michelle Lin, and Craig Tyrl.

**Comma Groups** have completed their eighth year, with about 70 people in 8 groups. Our leaders, as always, were fantastic – thanks to Renae Boyum, Lorraine Fox, Linda Haghi, Terry LePage, Laura Long, Jim Martin, Anne Rosse, and Glenda Wyant. Sign-ups for the 2018-19 Comma Groups will begin later in the summer – and there may be a new “twist” to our study resource!

We held a **Jesus Seminar on the Road** event in early October, featuring two speakers on texts from the Nag Hammadi discoveries and ways they might contribute to contemporary worship and spirituality. And in March we welcomed renowned scholar Amy-Jill Levine who explored connections between Jesus and Judaism with us and our University Synagogue guests. In October Rev. Traci Blackmon, head of the UCC’s Justice &amp; Witness Ministries, will be our **Faith & Works** speaker.

**Midweek Salon** continues to be an opportunity for members to share lesser-known aspects of their lives in a relaxed atmosphere. We explored spirituality through poetry, forest healing, and human travel to Mars. If you have something you’d like to share – maybe a hidden talent or little-known experience – or know someone you’d like to hear from, please let me know.

**Adult Sunday School** – Thanks are due to Eduardo Arismendi-Pardi, Bil Aulenbach, Terry LePage, Jim Martin, and Glenna Matthews for leading classes during the past year. Look for special offerings in the coming year from Bil, Glenna, Anita Schwab, and Pastor Sarah! Again, suggestions are always welcome.

Ken Wyant continues to lead the **Tuesday Bible Study** with equal measures of scholarship and humor. We’re nearing the end of the New Testament in the order it was (probably) written. What will be next? Come on Tuesday afternoons to find out!

I have also resourced the **Seekers** and **Women's Fellowship**, particularly in technical matters.

I continue to be grateful for the opportunity to work and worship in this special community, and I’m looking forward to another great year!

Steve Swope,
Adult Programs Director
Adult Programs Ministry Report

Special thanks go to the Rev. Steve Swope, who has been a blessing to IUCC and particularly to the Ministry of Adult Programs. His ability to see problems and to correct them unobtrusively has been much appreciated. His Biblical knowledge and insights have been impressive. His technical expertise and assistance have been extremely helpful. Of course the entire IUCC staff has been very supportive, and Adult Programs acknowledges its gratitude to the many members of the congregation who have assisted and participated in the various activities.

In Comma Groups there were over 65 participants. The wrap-up luncheon was held on April 29. A big thank-you goes out to the Comma Group Leaders, Comma Group members, and to Pat Sauter for the wrap-up lunch. Next year we have many possibilities for study.

The Rev. Steve Swope continues to faithfully lead our Sunday Adult Education. Bible Study on Tuesdays at 4:00 is enthusiastically led by the Rev. Ken Wyant, with the Rev. Steve Swope assisting. Ken does a wonderful job of facilitating spirited and lively discussions that lead to great insights. For many of us, Bible study is the highlight of our week, and we look forward to it with great anticipation.

Our Midweek Salons have had some fascinating speakers. We found them very enlightening and entertaining, and we appreciate the time they spent sharing their experiences with us.

We were fortunate to have Amy-Jill Levine as our speaker on March 9. There were at least 200 people in attendance on Friday evening to listen to her talk on “Jesus & Judaism: The Connection Matters.” She showed not only a deep knowledge of Jesus and the Jews, but a surprising sense of humor. The audience received her remarks appreciatively. Those in attendance included some 80 members of University Synagogue. Pastor Paul and Rabbi Arnie Rachlis led in an interfaith Shabbat blessing over the meal shared by about 60, including around 20 from the Synagogue.

We are grateful for the support of the Plumer Adult Education Endowment Fund, and others for financially supporting Amy-Jill Levine as our speaker. As the Rev. Steve Swope has noted, we are also very thankful for those who volunteered: Karen Smith, Kathi Smith, Sandy Exelby, Tommie Kozlov, Pat Sauter, Jessie Billings, and Faren and Phoebe Eng for the dinner; Cheryl Trobiani and Christine Roy with parking and directions; and Sarah Fiske-Phillips, Tom Key, and Mary Swope on registration.

I am grateful to the members of the Ministry of Adult Programs, who have worked together cooperatively this year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Aynes
Ministry of Adult Programs, Chair
Advocates for Peace and Justice

This is the 9th year that the Advocates for Peace and Justice have been a ministry of the Irvine United Congregational Church. Officially, "the Advocates for Peace and Justice Ministry reviews public policy issues, with a goal of taking stands informed by Christian teaching." One particular emphasis is on writing letters to local newspapers and our elected representatives. By so do, we 1) encourage IUCC members and friends to name, consider, and embrace norms that we think are consistent with progressive Christianity; 2) remind us all that public policy matters; 3) energize ourselves on matters of social justice; taking a stand is the parent of taking action: 4) claim the title "Christian" for progressives, and 5) alert the community that we are here.

The Advocates operate via a physical presence at the church (on Sundays – frequently on the patio & our monthly open meetings, and for a variety of special events) and via a very active exchange of e-mail messages in cyberspace (as Advocates Chair I have archived nearly 500 of these messages in the past year). We serve as a clearinghouse for information on justice and peace issues for members of our congregation and other progressive Christians across the region – and we connect to larger national organizations like the United Church of Christ Justice and Peace Action Network, UCC/DOC Global Ministries, etc. We have a listserv and invite any and every member of the congregation to join. We also have regular meetings, scheduled for the third Sunday of each month (sometimes, like today, we cannot meet) that are open to everyone. We frequently have a "table" at coffee hour after each service where it is possible to "sign on" to advocacy letters on a large array of social issues to our elected representatives and or to the local news media. Among the "patio letter" topics this past year: curbing police brutality, supporting DACA recipients, ending gun violence, support for Palestinian refugees, transgender rights, funding for the EPA, homelessness in the OC, etc. At least three of those letters (on DACA, gun violence and homelessness) were published in THE DAILY PILOT. This past year we were involved in a variety of events (at IUCC or off campus): including some Sunday justice-themed after church events, a recent Ballot Review Forum, the Women's March in January 2018, rallies in favor of gun control and supporting DACA at Rep. Mimi Walter's office. In September we led an effort to collect donations to help local DACA eligible people pay their "renewal fees" ($485 was raised in our congregation in one day!). Following a visit last year from Rev. Loren McGrail, the Global Ministries person in Jerusalem, we've provided support and education about unjust and illegal Israeli government policies and support for Palestinian human rights and dignity. Our members are active in various forms of "resistance" to unjust policies and politicians via various vigils and marches and political organizing activity. This winter set out two ministry initiatives that are still "pending" and not yet yielding results: One was an attempt to organize an Orange County inter-faith mobilization for justice centered on IUCC (the idea was to use our church as a "center" for progressive faith communities in our city and area, hoping to build bridges to other like-minded faith groups). The other is an effort to push the congregation to become a "sanctuary church," in light of the massive crackdown on immigration in the last few months (we are hoping to sponsor a visiting pastor as a speaker to the congregation on this issue in the immediate future). The idea would be that, even if IUCC doesn't yet have the facilities to house people in need of refuge, we could be a "support church" (ala the Family Promise program). Finally, the Advocates are supporting the Green Faith committee and helping to make our Creation Justice Church designation, new this past year, meaningful as we advocate for environmental justice and the integrity of creation.


Congregational Care

CARDS SENT (Sympathy – healing – support)  47
INTERACTIVE CORRESPONDENCE:  19 Individuals
HOME AND HOSPITAL VISITS:  24 Individuals (many visited often)
TRANSPORTATION:  6 Individuals (4 given rides to church on a regular basis)
PRAYER SHAWLS:  48
PHONE CALLS:  23
MEALS DELIVERED:  6
MEMORIAL SERVICES:  Hosted - 2
  Attended – 2
PRAYER CHAIN: Updated weekly
GAS CARDS TO PASTOR PAUL FOR NEEDY PERSONS:  $200
PARTICIPATED IN MINISTRIES FAIR TO RECRUIT VOLUNTEERS

Submitted by:

Barbara Carse
Lorraine Fox
Deacons

The Deacons Ministry serves the IUCC each Sunday by setting up for worship services.

The 23 deacons are volunteers both members and non-members who serve either at early service to open the church, set up the Sanctuary and altar, the flags, literature tables, coffee service tables and Adult Sunday School seating. The late service deacons provide the reverse, putting away the worship service items, tables, and flags. They close and lock the Sanctuary and children's play areas and often help with coffee service cleanup. Deacons at both services act as greeters at the doors, distributing our Sunday programs, and acting as ushers to collect and lock the offering.

Over the past year, we were led by Craig Tyrl from July – November 2017 and by Cheryl Trobiani from November 2017 – June 2018. Lead Deacons had the task of keeping the deacons team organized to ensure that the needs of all services were covered.

Deacons also provided service as greeters and ushers and sometimes as parking attendants for special events such as Maundy Thursday service, Ash Wednesday service, Choir Concerts, and the Jill Levine evening lecture. We hosted an Easter breakfast for the IUCC Boy Scout Troop, whose members served on Easter Sunday as parking attendants.

We held an AED training with Janet Emery in April that was attended by approximately 8 Deacons. We are mindful of security advice given to the church by the Irvine Police Department, and follow their precaution to keep one Deacon in the narthex with a cell phone during services. Over the last few months, we have experimented with a few online scheduling tools such as Doodle and Sign-Up that are working well to make our scheduling easier.

As a team, we happily join together each Sunday to set the stage for Pastor Paul, Pastor Sarah, Pastor Steve, for John and for the Choir. And for our congregation community.

Respectfully submitted by C Trobiani 05-15-18
Fund Development

The Fund Development Committee's primary task is to conduct the Annual Stewardship Campaign and to fund raise to meet the annual budget for IUCC. With assistance from the entire Administrative team, we established our Stewardship goal at $425,000 and planned our campaign. With generous support from IUCC members we received pledges totaling approximately $404,000. The Budget Committee worked with this figure and set a 2018 budget which meets most of the “aspirational goals” of each IUCC committee and allows for funding for all IUCC activities.

Fund Raising events through the year will include our Choir Concerts and It is anticipated that these events will meet our budgeted goal of $5000.

The generous support of our members allows us to continue to offer programs at IUCC that enhance and improve our community. Thank you for sharing your Time, Talents, and Treasures.

Bill Lawrence,
Fund Development Chair

Hospitality

As Chair of the Hospitality Ministry for 2017-2018, I would sincerely like to thank the Administrative Board as well as the Ministry board for all their support and encouragement in my leadership role. I have appreciated the opportunity to serve. Since becoming a member in 2016, this was my first opportunity to serve IUCC; I look forward to a future of service in some capacity in this very cherished faith community.

The Hospitality Ministry will have new leadership beginning in July. It has been a pleasure working with a wonderful team. A great big thank you to the following individuals who have worked so hard to make coffee hours as well as hospitality for all church events so successful. Thank you to Kathi Smith and Karen Smith as they have worked tirelessly and diligently to plan, prepare, and oversee hospitality for all church events. Thank you to Pat Sauter who has continued to buy and coordinate our coffee hour supplies. Thank you to Joan Henderson, John Emerson, and Tom Florey who have been our amazing coffee preparation team each week and have worked hard to make sure that the coffee keeps pouring. Another huge thank you to Tommie Kozlov and all the Deacons who set up tables, help with coffee between services and who help to clean up afterwards and take care of all the little details to make sure coffee hours are successful. Please, let these wonderful members know how much you have appreciated their support and service.
Especially, thank you to all congregants who have contributed to and have helped in any way each week in providing coffee hour. Individual members, small groups and most Comma Groups have pitched in to follow through for hospitality each week. Your service, literally, has been most appreciated.

Hospitality strives to encourage fellowship among members as well as visitors to IUCC. In keeping with IUCC’s Long Range Plan, the Hospitality Ministry seeks to encourage nurturing and reaching out to IUCC’s membership and visitors.

Thank you, IUCC members and visitors, for nurturing me and supporting me as chair of the Hospitality Ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Arismendi

Mission & Service

Dear IUCC Friends –

This year has been a very productive one for all of us in the Mission & Service Ministry. We are proud to sponsor the continuing programs and the exciting new projects listed below. The names you see associated with each belong to the team leaders who are responsible for the incredible success of these activities. Please thank them when you have the chance; they have devoted countless hours to our church and are truly amazing individuals!

Here are the highlights:

FAMILY PROMISE
(Iris & Don Bjorklund 2017; Roni Portillo and Colleen McNamara 2018) – IUCC provided meals and companionship to guests at Church of the Foothills in May/June, July, August/September and December of 2017 and in February and March of 2018.

HUNGER (CROP) WALK
(Steve Goetz) – The 2017 Walk on October 21 raised around $3628, about one-third of last year’s total. Of that amount, IUCC brought in $1318.
ISAIAH HOUSE/CATHOLIC WORKER
(Steve Goetz) - Every month, this group visits and provides meals for the homeless women at Isaiah House in Santa Ana.

FRIENDS OF OC DETAINERS
(Colleen McNamara) - IUCC is an affiliate of Friends of Orange County Detainees (FOCD), a group that runs a visitation program in local detention centers for immigrants and asylum seekers, many of whom have no other visitors; FOCD also helps asylum seekers post-release. Colleen serves on their leadership team. IUCC has hosted many of the monthly volunteer orientations and visitor debriefs. Over the holidays, Christmas/Holiday cards signed by church members were sent out to all those in detention who requested a visitor or are currently being visited. The FOCD program was also the happy recipient of a $10,000 grant from the UCC Neighbors in Need fund this year!

GLOBAL MISSION (Randy Romine & Ken Matsuyama) - Throughout the last twelve months, Randy and Ken have visited Las Memorias AIDS Hospice in Tijuana on numerous occasions, both alone and with IUCC members, to spend time with the hospice residents and help out as needed; they have taken down clothing, towels, bedding, pharmaceutical products and other supplies to both the hospice and to numerous immigrants languishing in this border city (they also gave some of the clothing to victims of the Ventura fires). $100 was donated from the Global Mission budget towards the purchase of a new wooden roof for Las Memorias. Randy and Ken are currently leading a trip to Japan with 5 participants.

AIDS WALK
(Felicity Figueroa) - The 2017 AIDS Walk was held on May 6; Team IUCC Walk the Walkers with 23 members brought in over $11,000 and once again garnered the position of top faith-based team. The 2018 AIDS Walk took place on May 5; as of now, our IUCC team of 16 has raised $5,438.

DONATION DRIVES
(Nancy Dreckman) - During the last 12 months, collections were held for Families Forward (backpacks and food), Las Memorias AIDS Hospice (clothing and other items) and the homeless (feminine hygiene products, baby wipes, bus passes, AAA batteries and clothing).

ONA
(Cheryl Schou) - Last year, IUCC had a booth at OC Pride on June 24, Pastor Paul gave a short talk at the Transgender Day of Remembrance at the LGBT Center on Nov. 19 and local clergy organized a Let Justice Eat Cake event in Santa Ana to draw attention to the Masterpiece Cakeshop case on Dec. 3. IUCC is looking into getting a booth at this year’s OC Pride on June 23 and is helping to organize UCC churches in the county to march together in the parade.
INTERFAITH
IUCC members have participated in many interfaith opportunities, including Newport Mesa Irvine Interfaith Council's monthly luncheons (the one this coming June 13 will be held at IUCC). A member of our IUCC Boy Scout Troop #602 read the proclamation at the annual NMIIC Thanksgiving service; and Rev. Sarah Fiske-Phillips participated on a Women of Faith panel at an NMIIC luncheon in March and also gave a prayer at their National Day of Prayer event this month. IUCC members visited the Islamic Center of Irvine on Open Mosque Day and enjoyed iftars (breaking of the Ramadan fast) at a number of different locations.

OTHER PROJECTS
Third World Crafts ($902.70 raised), Toiletries for Women in Prison, and the Write for Rights! event with our local Amnesty International Chapter (417 letters and 36 encouragement cards were sent) all took place in December. We attended monthly meetings of CLUE (Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice) on labor and immigration issues and of the OC Human Trafficking Task Force's Faith Advisory Council; a speaker from the latter organization will give a presentation to IUCC on June 10. IUCC members participated in the OC Women’s March in January, the Great American Write-In and the March for our Lives in March and the annual May Day Marches on May 1st. We had a speaker in July who told us about different ways of being a Sanctuary Church and last month a group from the March Without Borders stayed overnight in our sanctuary. Regarding charitable monetary contributions, $400 was donated in 2017: $200 to victims of the hurricane in Puerto Rico and $200 to help Mexico after the earthquake. We also participated in several denomination-wide activities, including Neighbors in Need ($1600) and the recent One Great Hour of Sharing, in which we raised $4,242 for unexpected domestic and international crises. Meetings are held the first Sunday of every month after second service to share updates and explore ideas for new projects. We invite you to join this wonderful ministry and discover how you can help promote the IUCC values of love, justice and understanding in our world.

In peace and gratitude,

Felicity Figueroa
Mission & Service Chair
New Member Development

The Ministry responsibilities include:

• Taking attendance at both Sunday services
• Greeting visitors, and providing them with relevant materials at Sunday services
• Welcoming, soliciting and orienting new members, via organized printed resources and informal conversation and Q&A
• Leading and managing membership classes (Visitor’s Information Gatherings – VIG - and New Member Inquiries - NMI)
• Coordinating with ministries, boards and committees to assimilate new members into the church
• Recruiting and training visitor hosts for Sunday services

Greeting Visitors:

Tommie serves as visitor host for both the 9:30am and 11am services; in addition, Randy Romine has also graciously continued in the role of visitor host at both early and late services.

Kaytee Macdonald serves as a visitor host for the 11:00am service. We are grateful to Jeannie Lee and Joan McDonald for continuing to assist when possible with visitor hosting duties. We are also grateful to the many members of the congregation at both services that continue to assist visitor hosts in an unofficial capacity by approaching and introducing themselves to visitors and new attendees.

New Member Development Resources, Records and Reporting:

New Member Development materials include the red visitor folders that are available on the information table located on the patio or in the narthex. In addition, class materials are updated as needed and made available to participants at each VIG & NMI meeting. We monitor attendance in the red books each Sunday, and use contact information provided to send all new attendees a welcoming email with information on the next steps for learning more about IUCC.

Our VID (Visitor ID) group includes the pastor, church administrator, moderator and co-chairs and meets every six weeks to review how we can improve the connection with repeat visitors. We have added many great new members during the past 12 months. Photos of new members are on display in the narthex. The beautiful photos are done by Paul Shirey ... Thank you Paul!

Our congregation is regularly complimented for being an uncommonly welcoming congregation, and we would like to thank all of you who greet visitors sitting near you on Sunday and engage them during the coffee hour. I hope you have had a chance to get to know someone new this year. As we look forward to our exciting building improvements, it is important that we embrace our new members and visitors as they will be an integral part of our growing open, accepting, inclusive church. We are so proud to be a part of and to serve this very special church community.

Respectfully submitted,
Kaytee Macdonald and Tommie Kozlov, Co-Chairs
Music

As I end my first year as Chair of the Music Ministry, I am grateful for the experience.

IUCC is so fortunate to have such a strong music staff. Our choral interns provide leadership within the choir, and offertory solos regularly. We are fortunate to have a wonderful accompanist in Josh Chandra. Above all, we are blessed to have the inspired leadership of John St. Marie as Director of Music.

The IUCC Chancel Choir provides music for Sunday services, special services, occasional memorial services, and two concerts per year. We feel blessed to share these musical offerings with the congregation. As part of the largest small group and ministry of the church, we are fortunate to share a camaraderie as we prepare each week.

The members serving on the Music Ministry currently are: Joni Baker (Chair), Adele Bloom, Suzie Feick, Carol Getz, Jim Hamilton (Librarian), Jeff Oleson, Suellen Rowe, Pat Sauter, and John St. Marie (Director). Patty McCarthy served on the ministry until a few months ago, when she went on a leave of absence. These people handle the behind-the-scenes work to keep the music ministry strong and functional.

As always, the music ministry is happy to welcome new members. If you want to make a difference in the life of the church, consider joining us. You can sing in the choir, join the music ministry, or offer to help with concert or reception duties.

It is a privilege to serve as the Chair of the Music Ministry. I feel fortunate to be a part of this special group of people.

Respectfully,
Joni Baker
Chair of Music Ministry
Assistant Pastor/ Director of the Ministry for Young People

It’s been an exciting year at IUCC! It’s hard to believe that Pastor Paul’s sabbatical was almost a year ago, and we were just beginning our summer of the Arts. During the summer while Pastor Paul was away, I enjoyed providing pastoral care, preaching, and thinking about worship in a new way. I know Pastor Paul learned and grew a lot, and I think we did as well. I am grateful for this time to connect more deeply with all of you and push ourselves into newness and challenge.

Last summer was also exciting for our young people. The junior and senior high youth group went to The Oakland Peace Center in Oakland, CA. They learned about immigration, mass incarceration, and other systemic issues that affect the community. The youth were hard workers and great students as we visited many different nonprofits and community organizations. It was a joy to see them be open to new ideas and push themselves.

We had our annual Vacation Bible School and we had ten young people attend camp at Pilgrim Pines. We had a good group attend Family Camp at Pilgrim Pines in October where people of all ages got to connect in the mountains!

Another new addition this year was to have a young person as worship leader once a month. You might notice a youth or young adult serving as worship leader on the last Sunday of the month. The youth also serve as deacons on the last Sunday of the month and are learning to serve the church through setting up, collecting the offering, etc.

It’s been a fun addition to my schedule to sit on the childcare committee. They are doing great work in creating a space that is inclusive and exciting for children to learn in. I also have enjoyed leading prayers and speaking at community events such as the National Day of Prayer breakfast in Newport Beach, and a Women of Faith panel with the Newport Mesa Irvine Interfaith Council.

I am so grateful to work with Pastor Paul, Michael, Heidi, Irma, Steve and John. They challenge me to be a better pastor and colleague daily, and are supportive and encouraging. I am also grateful for the support of the MYP committee: Jessie Billings, Lauren Fleming, Laurie McComb, and Barb Sellke who help create meaningful programming for our young people. And, the success of the MYP is due in large part to our incredible staff members Ben Allen, Sara McComb, and Aidan Mitchell who give so generously of themselves to our children and youth. I can’t wait for another exciting year at IUCC!

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Sarah Fiske-Phillips
Assistant Pastor & Director of the Ministry for Young People
Ministry for Young People

MYP Past events:

- Went as a group to God Spell from the Wayward Artist
- All-church baseball game at Angel Stadium on March 25

Upcoming events:

- Youth Mission Trip: August 5-9 BorderLinks, Tucson, AZ
- Hear migrants’ stories, learn about current policies, and how we can take action
- Vacation Bible School: July 16-20, 9-12 am in Plumer Hall
- Sponsoring pastors’ potluck August 15  Sarah Fiske-Phillips, MYP Director

Submitted by

Co-Chairs: Jessie Billings and Lauren Fleming
Stephen Ministry

The Stephen Ministry continues to meet the needs of IUCC community by serving those in need of a Stephen Minister, having Ministers available for prayers and support after services on the First Sunday of the month, sending cards to those in the Congregation needing support, reaching out to those who have experienced a loss through sending them a series of experiencing grief books, and providing educational events throughout the year.

The ministry currently consists of five (5) Stephen Leaders; Brian Pearcy-Schofield (Stephen Ministry Chair, Supervision Group Coordinator & SM Trainer), David Schofield (SM Referral Coordinator, Supervision Group Facilitator & SM Trainer), Cheryl Trobiani (Awareness & Outreach), Janet Johnson (Continuing Education) and Jeanne Maag. We currently have two (2) Stephen Ministers with one (1) active relationship. Over the past seven (7) years, the Stephen Ministers have worked with well over thirty (30+) individuals in a Stephen Ministry relationship and the SM team looks forward to serving many more. It is with a heavy heart that we are going to be going through some changes in the next few months in the program. Brian Pearcy-Schofield and David Schofield after serving all 7 years in leadership positions with the Stephen Ministry program will be stepping down from being involved in the program and Janet Johnson will be nominated as the next Chair with the continued leadership support of Jeanne Maag as the SM Referral Coordinator.

The Stephen Ministry is a ministry program that serves individuals who are going through a crisis, coming out of a crisis or is about to go into a crisis. We are what they call, the “After care people”, we are there when everyone from the funeral has gone home, we are there after the divorce has been finalized, we are there after someone has experienced a significant loss. A Stephen Minister is someone who is assigned to a care receiver (called a Stephen Partner in our congregation) for a period of time who is going through a crisis or simply needs someone to talk to about personal struggles in their life. The Stephen Minister and the Stephen Partner are matched up by the Coordinator of the Ministry and Pastor Paul. All relationships are kept Confidential with the identity of the Stephen Partner only known by four (4) individuals – Pastor Paul, the SM Coordinator, the Stephen Minister and the Stephen Partner.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brian Pearcy-Schofield, Current Stephen Ministry Chair
Building Task Force & Capital Campaign Report

Thank you, IUCC, for your GENEROSITY, PATIENCE and GRACIOUS COOPERATION as we’ve navigated our church home being a construction site. It is tremendously exciting that we are projecting just two more months of construction. We are getting so close!

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, September 9. On that day, we will dedicate the new building and thank this church community for its generosity and vision for IUCC’s future. Our thanks to Jessie Billings for stepping up to chair the Building Dedication Committee.

Building Project
- Our current timeline has construction wrapping up in late July, with occupancy in early August. Of course, there are still opportunities for delays — the City of Irvine is always a wild card!
- As soon as the current church office is vacated, it will be ready for remodeling into a new classroom for our busy preschool.
- The newly-vacated adult education office will be converted for use by our active ministries. Complete with mailboxes, countertops, a copier, etc., this new space will be an easy stop on Sunday mornings.
- We plan to deliver a functional building - as in, it will have enough furnishings to be functional on day 1 so that our dedicated staff members have what they need and the meeting rooms are useable immediately. Our gratitude to Michael Spindle for taking the lead on furnishings.
- We believe that the furnishings we have currently identified are doable within our current soft costs budget. We’re compiling a “wish list” of items that will make life in our new space even better – that list will be shared at the Building Dedication on September 9.
- IUCC is well represented by Pastor Paul, Mark Allen, Jim Raver, Anne Rosse, Michael Spindle and Steve Swope. We are profoundly grateful for their expertise and dedication. Many thanks to Heidi Willcox for her outstanding support of this project and to Cindy O’Dell for sharing news of our construction progress via multiple platforms.

Capital Campaign
- Thank you for your generous pledge payments! Through April 30th we have already received more than $1,083,911, putting us ahead of our collection schedule. Your speedy payment of your campaign pledges is deeply appreciated and helps IUCC stay financially strong.
- Our greatest need right now is to raise the remaining $75,000 campaign shortfall. Without these funds, we’d have to rely on IUCC’s reserves even more, something we don’t want to have to do. Over the next few weeks, we’ll be running a mini campaign to erase this shortfall. So, if you have been procrastinating making a campaign pledge...or you are a new member and haven’t yet joined your new church family in supporting this project...or you have completed your pledge and are in a position to do just a little more, the time has come!

Please make your new or amended pledge today.
Please contact btfchair@iucc.org (for the Building Project) or capitalcampaign@iucc.org (for the Capital Campaign) with questions or for more information. Again, thank you, IUCC. As Pastor Paul recently posted to Facebook, “We are seeing a dream come alive.” Indeed!

Anne Rosse, Chair
Building Task Force
Irvine United Congregational Church
Irvine, California
Financial Statements

For the four months ended April 30th 2018

DRAFT