

## 2018-2019 TJMC-UU Annual Reports

### The Active Minds Group Annual Report 2019

**Chairperson(s):** The Active Minds Group has no chairperson in the typical sense. Barbara Yeaman has provided opening and closing readings for most of the past year. John Shackford maintains the email list of members and sends out emails when needed. Greta Dershimer contacts the TJMC office when necessary, to make special arrangements on meeting times/places, or to submit reports.

**Group/Committee Members:** Active Minds is a group that is open to all who are interested. Current members range in age from the late 60s to the late 90s. Members who have attended meetings fairly regularly throughout the past year include: John Anderson, Ed Barber, Jan Bernhard, Rick Benner, Tom Crowell, Greta Dershimer, Virginia James, Sallie Kate Park, John Shackford, and Barbara Yeaman. More sporadic attendees for various reasons this past year were: Bonney Andrews, Liz Evans, Kate Fraleigh, Joan Hunt, and Julia Sakallerios. John Lineweaver attended regularly until his health became too problematic. New members who joined us during the year are Helen Wilson and, more recently, Sudi Durland.

**Group/Committee Overview:** Active Minds was established to provide elders with an opportunity to meet, form relationships, and share ideas, experiences, problems, and concerns. The group meets weekly on Thursdays from 1:15 to 2:45 in the Church Parlor. We rarely have an identified topic in advance of our meeting. We begin with an opening reading, followed by a check-in from all attendees about their recent activities or issues they currently face. Comments made in the check-in can lead to discussion or exploration of a topic, or someone may raise a question which engenders further discussion. Conversation is fairly informal and laughter is frequent. We end with another reading.

**2018-19 Accomplishments:** Off and on during this past year we have discussed the possibility of changing our format slightly to include occasional discussion topics determined in advance, with or without an appointed discussion facilitator. This idea appealed to some group members, while others preferred the open-ended typical format. Some members wanted to share their concerns about the political divisions dominating the news, while others wanted more focus on sharing personal experiences and relationships, past as well as present. Finally we decided to invite Rev. Alex McGee to meet with us and facilitate a discussion about possible alternative processes we might consider. Alex met with us on Wednesday, June 5, and we had an interesting discussion. She shared some "ground rules" used by

other groups to enhance the flow of conversation, and to ensure confidentiality about personal issues that might be shared. She also noted the types of things a group coordinator might do if we decided to appoint one. An issue that surfaced in the discussion was concern about the aging of group members and the relatively few new members joining us this past year. Some wondered whether the group would gradually disappear. Alex made a number of suggestions about ways to spread the word and invite others to join our group. John Shackford volunteered to develop some materials that could be distributed in the Social Hall and elsewhere to inform potential new members about Active Minds.

**2019-2020 Goals:** We hope to explore some alternative discussion procedures in our meetings next year to provide a bit more variety. Alex McGee has volunteered to meet with us on a quarterly basis to help us review our explorations. We hope to have new members join us, and plan to continue to support each other as we cope with the common problems of aging, while staying alert to the common social and political problems of our world.

## **TJMC-UU Aesthetics Committee Annual Report 2018-2019**

**Group/Committee Name:** Aesthetics Committee

**Chair Person(s):** Elizabeth Breeden

**Group/Committee Members:** As Needed

**Group/Committee Overview:**

Overview: To help make decisions about aesthetics questions related to art, paint colors, hangings, bulletin boards, paints and symbols in the church buildings. Meet as needed

**2018-2019 Accomplishments:** Cleaned the refrigerator and emptied bad food (3x). The RE Committee put up the mural in the Lower Hall.

**2019-2020 Goals:** Whatever comes up, may we make good decisions.

**Submitted By:** Elizabeth L. Breeden

## **TJMC-UU Art Show Annual Report 2019**

**Group/Committee Name:** Art Show

**Chair Person(s):** Elizabeth Breeden

**Group/Committee Members:** Elizabeth Breeden

**Group/Committee Overview:**

Art shows in Sanctuary, Gallery hallway and Social Hall nearly monthly

**2018 Show**

July	Mary Rose Curtis's husband
August	Uzo Njoku
September	Shirley Paul
October	Judith Townsend (Erik met her)
November	Sara Gondwe sponsors Photos of Ghana Trip
December:	All Church Season of Light Show
2019 Show	
January	Season of Light show (continued)
February	Bill Hunt (Kim Grover's Friend)
March	Roban Griffin (Mary Rose Curtis)
April	Linda Staiger (Patty )
May	Marissa Minnerly (wants Friday opening too)
June	Hobby Parent ( Patty)
July	Tomas Manto

**2019-2020 Goals:**

Inspirational, aspirational, transformative, meditative, explosive art shows

**Submitted By:** Elizabeth Breeden

## **Bed and Breakfast Annual Report 2019**

**Group/Committee Name:** TJMC Bed & Breakfast Program

**Chair Person(s):** Bev Thierwechter, B&B Coordinator

**Group/Committee Members:** B&B Hosts: Elizabeth Breeden, Laura and Hasty Horn, Bev Thierwechter, and Fairhaven Guesthouse (Flame Bilyue and Raven Long).

**Group/Committee Overview:** The B&B program offers a variety of comfortable, friendly, affordable accommodations in the Charlottesville, VA area to UUs from around the country, usually for short-term stays of 1-7 days. Hosts are TJMC members. A light breakfast is included. All homes are welcoming. All homes are smoke free; some homes accept pets. Proceeds support TJMC.

Accommodations are priced from \$ 75 to \$85 for a single occupancy per night and from \$ 85 to \$95 for double occupancy per night.

Prospective guests should visit the TJMC website for more details at <http://www.uucharlotteville.org/about-us/tjmc-uubed-breakfast-program/>. Guests may also find details at <https://uurehome.com/joomla/>; TJMC is a member of this website.

Payment in full is due in advance by credit card via PayPal accessed through the B&B webpage cited above.

**2018-2019 Accomplishments:** There were seven separate B&B visits, a total of 17 nights, and \$ 1,610 in gross revenue for the church year (July 1 - June 30. Numerous other inquiries about the program were made, which are likely to generate more requests for B&B stays in the future. TJMC and Williamsburg UU church did a swap, each offering the B&B stay for 2 nights for two people, plus restaurant gift certificate. TJMC also offered tickets to Historic Williamsburg. (The previous year (2017-2018) proceeds were an anomaly because we had one guest who made return visits throughout the year, using the program 8 different times.)

**2019-2020 Goals:** Recruitment of more B&B hosts is a priority, as we sometimes are unable to fill requests for lack of availability of hosts. We will continue to work on spreading the word about the TJMC B&B program, including TJMC's Facebook page. Clearly, the TJMC B&B webpage has helped. The program is also advertised through the UU World (online only) and on UU're Home website. We recently reduced expenses by dropping the expensive print ad in UU World, while keeping the lost cost online ad. In addition, TJMC and the Williamsburg UU Church now have reciprocal advertising in place and TJMC and Williamsburg Churches have offered B&B weekends as auction items for the second year in a row, so that each congregation is familiar and hopefully will promote the other Church's B&B program. We hope to expand this kind of advertising to other UU Churches in the surrounding areas. We reviewed the program recently and given the considerable workload involved and revenue received, plan to re-evaluate its efficacy at the end of the church year.

**Submitted By:** Bev Thierwechter, TJMC B&B Coordinator

### **TJMC-UU CareNet Annual Report 2019**

**Group/Committee Name:** CareNet

**Group/Committee Members:** Lara Call Gastinger & Sandy Brooks

**Group/Committee Overview:**

CareNet is a network of all members and supporters of TJMC designed to help members and supporters of our community during times of special need. When a need is identified, the CareNet facilitators are contacted via email or through the church staff. We speak with the person needing assistance to determine their needs and place requests via email. CareNet efforts are coordinated with Pastoral Visitors and the ministers.

**2018-2019 Accomplishments:**

CareNet provided meals for church members using [www.takethemameal.com](http://www.takethemameal.com) to coordinate meal delivery. CareNet was also successful stocking the freezer in Summit house with numerous frozen meals that were given out as needed. Sandy produced labels that cooks can use to properly label the frozen foods.

**2019-2020 Goals:**

To continue our goal of helping church members in need. Bring continued awareness to the presence of CareNet in our church. To improve ways to arrange rides for members.

**Submitted By:** Lara Gastinger

**Communications Committee Annual Report-2018-2019**

**Chairperson(s):** Achsah Carrier

**Group/Committee members:** John Marier, Liberty Powers (Web sub-Committee); John Marier, Margaret Lambert (Sound sub-committee)

**Overview:** The Communications Committee subgroups maintain the TJMC website, provide sound for the sanctuary, and try to provide help and support to staff and congregation for any other communications issues that are brought before it. We also keep post church events activities on the church Facebook page and discussion group when asked.

**2017-2018 Accomplishments:**

The website kept running and problem free. With a lot of new input from Alex McGee in her role as worship leader, we continue to monitor and record sound in the sanctuary and post recordings on the website.

**2018-2019 Goals:**

Following the resignation of Jennifer Springer as webmaster, we need to find additional website maintenance help, particularly for dealing issues such as security and updates. We have a number of ideas for improving the website, including improving security, and the donation process. We hope to work on this with the new DAF once they settle in.

We would like to recruit one more person to work on church sound, so that we can rotate recordings on a monthly schedule.

**Submitted by:** Achsah Carrier.

## **2018-2019 TJMC-UU Contemplative Worship Annual Report**

**Chairperson(s):** Leia Durland-Jones

**Group/Committee members:** Cindy Mick, Wendy Steeves, Maggie Ober

**Overview:** We take turns providing a quiet atmosphere at the Labyrinth and in the Sanctuary for centering and reflection on Wednesdays from 11:30-12:30.

**2018-2019 Accomplishments:** We added Wendy Steeves to our committee—a stellar move. Leia refurbished a sandwich sign so that we can now invite passers-by on Rugby Road to come in if they wish. We usually have 7-10 people drop in, including several who come to center before going on the Wednesday Wonderings.

**2019-2020 Goals:** Continue to provide a contemplative atmosphere for any who need a quiet time mid-week.

**Submitted by:** Maggie Ober

## **TJMC--UU Covenant Groups Annual Report 2019**

**Name:** TJMC UU Covenant Group Steering Committee Chair Person(s): Shared Chair of Patsy Swindler, Bev Ryan, Cathey Polly

**Group/Committee Members:** Patsy Swindler, Bev Ryan, Cathey Polly

**Group/Committee Overview:** The Covenant Group Steering Committee was established to promote small group ministry within our congregation and work with the minister to recruit and train new Covenant Group facilitators and to publicize the registration process to connect people with covenant groups.

**2018--2019 Accomplishments:** only This year 12 Covenant Groups were meeting regularly, serving a variety of UUs, with at least 97 persons participating. Our covenant groups have enriched the church at large not with their service projects, but also through strengthening community ties based on the deep commitments created by covenant group membership. Covenant group brochures were provided throughout the year for other committees

to use, as well as distributed by the tabling of our committee, and our presence on the community life bulletin board.

**2019--2020 Goals:** Our hopes include increasing the number of trained facilitators within the congregation, supporting our current groups, and forming new ones. We would like to create new opportunities for those interested in forming deeper, more intimate relationships, and to enroll even more newcomers and new members in our outreach. We know that this has ripple effects extending into every area of our church structure.

Submitted By: Cathey Polly

## **TJMC-UU Food Pantry Annual Report 2019**

**Group/Committee Name:** Food Pantry

**Chair Person(s):** Carol Saliba, Elizabeth Breeden

**Group/Committee Members:**

Carol Saliba, Rosalie Simari, Edith Good, Walter Hoffman, Lois Brown, Elizabeth Breeden, Mary Ann Gentry, Gloria Morgan

**Group/Committee Overview:**

Using food from Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, both purchased and USDA, we feed folks who come to get the food on the first Friday of each month.

**2018-19 Accomplishments:**

We have been spending about \$130 per month. Each month we order enough food for 48 "families of 3."

We have been serving about 30 families per month, which include an average of 81 people. Those include mostly middle aged (age 19-64) 74 and children (under 18) 56.

We have been handling about 2800lbs of food each month. 21 TJMC volunteers plus 9 non-church members work each month, to receive the food from the Food Bank truck, record and process the folks who come for food and help deliver it to their cars. This year the Food Bank has introduced a computer system and Gloria Morgan has led us to learn the system.

**2019-2020 Goals:**

Feed everyone who comes to our door. Provide more fresh produce and healthy food. (Recently we have received more USDA meat than before). Provide the grocery scrip for our own members for gifts both at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

**Submitted By:** Elizabeth Breeden & Rosalie Simari

## **IMPACT Annual Report 2018-2019**

IMPACT (Interfaith Movement Promoting Action by Congregations Together)

**Chairperson:** Greta Dershimer, IMPACT Network Team Leader

**Group/Committee Members:** TJMC IMPACT Network Members continuing from 2017-2018 were John Anderson, Elizabeth Breeden, Susan Bremer, Burnie Davis, Karen Foley, Jenny Gaden, Sallie Kate Park, Jill Payne, Julia Sakallerios, and Sharon Utz. New Network Members in 2018-2019 were Edith Good, Dinny Jensen, John and Vicki Shackford, Rosalie Simari, Jim Souder, Laura Wallace, and Mary Beth Wiley. Four others who joined as Network members in September, but withdrew for various reason before March were Beverly Ball, Bob Diamond, Dick Somer, and Cypress Walker. Nine of the ten returning Network Members volunteered to take on some of the Team Leader tasks, because Greta Dershimer was also serving on the IMPACT Research Strategy Group this past year. In particular, Jenny Gaden and Sharon Utz led a House Meeting in the fall, Sharon Utz wrote the monthly announcements about IMPACT activities for the TJMC website, Burnie Davis attended several IMPACT Board meetings, and Karen Foley and Sallie Kate Park attended several research interviews with local leaders, related to affordable housing issues. Others helped to cover the monthly IMPACT Table in the Social Hall after Sunday services. In addition, Laura Wallace, a new Network Member, provided assistance with setting up computer records and gathered information for the IMPACT Research Committee about the length of waiting lists for rooms/apartments at housing developments for seniors. This extra support contributed greatly to the success of the Network activities in the past year.

**Overview:** Formed in 2007, IMPACT is a group of 27 local congregations representing varied religious, racial, political, and economic backgrounds, which engages members to find solutions to serious community problems. TJMC is a founding member. IMPACT is a direct action organization, following a cycle of activity each year. In August and September each congregation holds a series of "house meetings" where participants report problems or concerns their families and friends are experiencing, and recruit Network Members. Stories gathered are grouped to identify common problems or concerns, and in October Network Members from all congregations attend an Assembly to select one problem to be addressed. A research group is formed to study the issue selected and propose a solution, based on information collected from local and national experts. Meetings are held with local power groups and decision makers and in April a large public meeting, the Nehemiah Action, is held. Decision makers are asked to make proposed changes to improve the identified problem. Each Network Member commits to bring at least three other people to the Action, which draws around 1000 community members annually. Over the past decade IMPACT has won many changes in a wide variety of areas, most recently, a women's residential treatment center for addiction problems. TJMC members have been strong active participants in IMPACT almost every year since its founding.



**2018-19 Accomplishments:** As approved last year by the Social Justice Council, the TJMC IMPACT Network was awarded a special Social Action Collection to raise funds to cover the IMPACT membership dues, which had been dropped from the church budget. The September Social Action Collection for IMPACT raised over \$4,000. This was an important demonstration of the congregation's support for our membership in IMPACT. The issue of "Affordable Housing for All" was continued for both Charlottesville City and Albemarle County. County Supervisors approved designated funds for affordable housing totaling \$1.5 million in the 2019-2020 budget, and appointed a new director of Housing Development, Stacy Pethia. However, little progress was made in the City on zoning changes and expediting the approval process for housing projects that included 20% of affordable units, designed to encourage more development of affordable rentals. In addition, money to support the Charlottesville Affordable Housing Fund (CAHF) was dropped from the 2019-2020 budget. IMPACT members attended and testified at budget hearings and City Council meetings, advocating for \$1.55 million for the CAHF. Finally an agreement was made to provide \$1.5 million for the CAHF in the 2019-2020 budget. At the April IMPACT Nehemiah Action meeting, TJMC met our goal of 100 members and friends in attendance in the crowd of over 1000. IMPACT secured specific commitments from City Councilors and County Supervisors to further our issue initiatives, and the UVA Vice President/Chief Operating Officer agreed to work to get an IMPACT meeting with UVA President Ryan to discuss university plans for increased community involvement related to affordable housing and increased staff pay. As part of the IMPACT Celebration in May, TJMC Network Members and some other individual congregation members invested a total of \$4000 in the IMPACT organization to support the 2019-2020 budget. This will help pay for the addition of two new assistant organizers for the IMPACT staff in 2019-2020.

**2019-2020 Goals:** We hope that many Network Members from the past year will continue next year, and that several new ones will be added to the Network Team. We expect that IMPACT will take on a new issue next year, while continuing to monitor progress on affordable housing commitments made by the City and County this year. We are encouraged by the most recent news (The Daily Progress, July 25, 2019) that Albemarle County's Planning Commission has recommended approval of a resolution of intent to amend the County's Comprehensive Plan to incorporate an updated affordable housing policy. This recommendation was triggered by

the regional housing needs assessment, coordinated by the Regional Housing Partnership, an advisory board managed by the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission, which found that 20% of all renters and home owners in the county (10,700 families) are cost-burdened (i.e., spend more than 30% of monthly income on housing). We expect increased, sustained commitment to affordable housing in our area in the coming years. The TJMC IMPACT Network Team appreciates the wonderful support we have received from the congregation this past year, and hope that it continues to be strong in 2019-2020.

**Submitted by** Greta Dershimer

### **Labyrinth Ministry Annual Report 2019**

**Committee or Group Name:** Labyrinth Ministry

**Chairperson(s):** Patty Wallens

**Group/Committee members:**

Patty Wallens, Leia Durland-Jones, Cindy Mick, Maggie Ober, Wendy Steeves

**Overview:** (job description or charge for the committee/group)

The Labyrinth Ministry is an umbrella that is involved with 3 main groups/events: The Contemplative Worship Team ( Leia Durland-Jones, Cindy Mick, Maggie Ober and Wendy Steeves) holds a weekly service that incorporates the outdoor labyrinth; The Dream Quest Planning Circle organizes an annual Dream Quest for Women using the large canvas labyrinth; and the New Year's Eve Labyrinth Walk, which also uses the large canvas labyrinth. In addition, this group also cares for the 4 labyrinths at TJMC: the outdoor labyrinth, the 30' Chartres design, the 20' 7-circuit labyrinth and the 10' 3-circuit labyrinth. The smaller labyrinths are used by small groups or classes.

**2018-2019 Accomplishments:**

The Contemplative Worship Team held weekly services on Wednesday mid-days. The tenth Dream Quest for Women was held in February. The twentieth New Year's Eve Labyrinth Walk was on New Year's Eve! World Labyrinth Day was celebrated on Saturday, May 4 with a walk on the outdoor labyrinth at TJMC and walks on the labyrinths at Park St Christian Church and at Kilaurwen Winery. The 7-circuit labyrinth was loaned to 2 outside groups (a

retreat for women and a retreat for cancer survivors), and each made a donation in appreciation for the use of the labyrinth.

**2019-2020 Goals:**

Continue the above events and explore other opportunities to offer the labyrinth in its different forms to TJMC and the wider community.

**Submitted by:** Patty Wallens

**Membership Committee Annual Report 2018-2019**

**Chairpersons:** Sally Taylor & Achsah Carrier

**Committee Members:**

Sally Taylor-Co-Chair, Membership Tracker  
Achsah Carrier-Co-Chair chair & Tabling  
Jean Newland-Assistant Chair, Newcomer Orientations  
Donna Redmond-Graphics, Nametags, UU World subscriptions  
Kelly Dryden-Committee Treasurer  
Jenny Gaden-Greeters  
Janice Walker-New Member Recognition  
Bernice Melvin-food for Newcomer Orientations and other  
committee activities  
Gayle Floyd  
Kristen McCleary-committee secretary  
Kate Soderman-constant contact updates  
Amy Epp

**Overview:** The Membership Committee welcomes visitors, distributes our church and UUA information, works with the minister to conduct 4 annual newcomer orientations, supports the inclusion of visitors and members in the ongoing life of the church, supports our Greeters Committee and our Membership Tracker, guides new members through the process of signing the Membership Book, participates in the Community Life Council, and works with church staff to incorporate new member recognition ceremonies into the Sunday worship service.

**Accomplishments:**

This year the Membership Committee has:

- updated, organized and presented 4 newcomer orientations. Holding orientations involves creating a potential attendee list from our weekly visitor sign-in sheets, inviting participation via email and/or phone calls, advertising the sessions on the bulletin board and in the Weekly Update emails, organizing childcare, sending

reminders the week before each session to those who signed up, obtaining brochures and other information from the various church committees and small group activities and from the UUA, putting together the agenda, contacting those who would be leaders and supporters for these sessions, and providing food and drinks. 37 newcomers have participated in the 4 sessions held this year.

- welcomed 5 new members into the congregation in the New Member Recognition ceremony during services in October. Eleven new members signed the book so far since July 1, 2018. We hosted a reception. after the recognition service for New Members, their families, the Membership Committee, and Board Members
- updated the *Getting Involved* booklet detailing church groups and volunteer opportunities and the Flame brochure about TJMC.
- printed nametags for those who requested them
- contacted 75 congregants by phone to say hello
- maintained the UUsed Bookstore which has generated some revenue and served as a focus of interest during the Social Hour for newcomers and long-time members
- welcomed all to church on Sunday mornings at both services through our Greeter Teams, coordinated by Jenny Gaden
- welcomed visitors and members in the social hall at the Connections Table and connected them to church activities and opportunities
- maintained the Grab-&-Go box of promotional materials for use at outside events

**Goals for next year:**

- continue doing our multifaceted job well
- Recruit new tabling volunteers from a younger cohort
- Recruit new committee members
- Set up a card writing tabling set-up for a 3-month trial to see if it works
- Have a second Membership Committee Retreat (with minimal business) on August 10.
- Increase the number of phone calls made (with scripts) during our phone contact efforts including those who are not attending regularly.
- Have a ReOrientation session for those who have attended Newcomer Orientations over the last year or two. Lunch and discussion about volunteer opportunities.

**Submitted by:** Sally Taylor

## **Nominating Committee Annual Report 2018-2019**

**Group/Committee Name:** TJMCUU Nominating Committee

**Chair Person(s):** Sean McCutcheon

**Group/Committee Members:** Sally Taylor, Amy Nash, Dawn Dirks, (One Vacancy), Donna Baker (Board Liaison)

**Group/Committee Overview:** Per the bylaws of TJMCUU, the charge of the Nominating Committee is to recruit qualified persons to fill vacancies on all congregationally-elected committees including officers of the Church, trustees at large, members of the Nominating Committee, and members of the Personnel Committee, as well as other committees as requested by the Board. The Nominating Committee presents a list of qualified nominees for positions to be filled by election at the annual congregational business meeting.

**2018-2019 Accomplishments:** This year the Nominating Committee successfully created a slate of nominees for open positions of President, Treasurer, 2 AT-Large trustees, 4 members of the Nominating Committee, and 3 members of the Personnel Committee that were voted on at the Spring 2019 Congregational Meeting (see annual meeting minutes for full list of candidates).

**2019-2020 Goals:** Our year started with the need to fill the positions of Vice President and one At Large Trustee due to resignations. Our primary goal for the coming year is to thoughtfully recruit into leadership roles members of the church who understand the challenges and opportunity we face in this time of transition. Through these nominations we hope to lift up the many rich and varied viewpoints within our beloved community in a way that enriches our work toward the common TJMCUU goal of being a beacon of liberal religion and social justice in our larger community.

**Submitted By:** Dawn Dirks August 28, 2019

## **TJMC-UU PACEM Annual Report 2019**

**Group/Committee Name:** PACEM

**Chair Person(s):** Elizabeth Breeden

**Group/Committee Members:**

Committee Members: Gloria Morgan, Elizabeth Breeden, Linda McGee, Mandy Griffin

**Group/Committee Overview:**

To engage the faith community of the greater Charlottesville area in providing shelter, compassionate support, and access to services for people who are homeless. We hosted the men and women of PACEM for one week each season using about 100 church volunteers. Ebenezer Baptist partnered to host the men. Partners for the Women's shelter included Mid Atlantic Islamic Society Women's Committee and Salem United Methodist Church. Cville Women in Food provided Tuesday dinner for both shelters.

**2018-2019 Accomplishments:**

Hosted an average 40 men for the week of November 24-Dec 1, 2017 and 16 women February 9 to 16. We partnered with Ebenezer Baptist Church, Islamic Society, Salem United Methodist Church, the Cville Women in Food and Girl Scout Troup 382. The University of Virginia Theta's helped us with set up and cleanup of the women's shelter. This year the Women's Wednesday Covenant Group, The RE Committee/Parents, and the UUGuys took an evening preparing and serving the food.

**2019-2020 Goals:**

Host warmly and include as many members of TJMC as possible. Build more relationships with our partner churches. Engage in a relationship between church members and guests sufficiently to invite the guests to come to church.

**Submitted By:** Elizabeth Breeden

**Pastoral Visitors Annual Report-2019**

**Group/Committee Name:** Pastoral Visitors

**Chair Person(s):** Shirley Paul and Patty Wallens

**Members:** Patsy Swindler, Logan Blanco, Vicki Shackford, Rosalie Simari

**Overview:** The Pastoral Visitors Program has been designed to complement the roles of the Minister(s) and the CareNet program, in providing a comprehensive ministry of pastoral care. It is a lay ministry of support and hope, offered by trained volunteers who offer a caring presence for the congregation of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Church community (and their primary caregivers) who are experiencing crisis or stressful transitions. There is a commitment to care for and support persons undergoing stress and life challenges, on a short-term basis, so that no one has to feel alone.

**2018-19 Accomplishments:** Integrated two new volunteers, Ran a recruitment seminar, Integrated two new volunteers

**2019-2020 Goals:**

Continue to use church email alias  
Continue to refer to Carenet when needed  
Continue weekly meetings successfully

**Submitted by:** Shirley Paul

**TJMC-UU Racial Justice Committee  
Annual Report 2018-2019**

**Group/Committee Name:** Racial Justice  
Committee

**Chairperson:**  
Ann Forno

**Group/Committee Members:** The meetings have been regularly attended by Dinny Jensen, Joel McNally, Kit McNally, Edith Good, Linda Dukes, Sara Gondwe, Frank Dukes, Bob Gross, Kate Fraleigh, and Ann Forno, and many more people come intermittently. New members have come periodically throughout the year.

Membership is open to any interested congregant, whether officially a congregation member or not.

**Group/Committee Overview:** The committee meets the first Sunday of the month after the 2nd service, if there is one, or after the only service, if there's only one, in Lower Hall 2. We meet for 1.5 hours.

Based on our UU principles and the Public Witness Statement in Support of the Black Lives Matter movement, which was passed on October 2, 2016, we work to:

- grow TJMC-UU's knowledge of racism and white supremacy,
- grow our commitment to anti-racism work,
- grow our involvement in remedies to end racial injustice, and
- make an impact for racial justice in the community.

## **Accomplishments:**

The Racial Justice Committee discussed and processed the many things that went on in our congregation during this past year, including:

- criticism and disparaging of our former minister, Rev Erik Wikstrom,
- backlash against our Director of Administration and Finance, Chris Rivera,
- whether or not to broach the subject of changing our congregation's name, and
- how to move forward with processing events of this past year.

At our meetings, members participating in activities outside the church shared information about what's happening with external organizations, such as the NAACP, Police Community Review Board, housing organizations, IMPACT, VA Organizing, SURJ, Interfaith Center for Public Policy, Charlottesville Clergy Collective, and UCARE (University and Community Action for Racial Equity).

We worked with our Director of Religious Education, Leia Durland-Jones, to offer classes or series of classes focused on racial justice, including the continuation of the racial justice lessons taught as part of the regular children's RE classes. Classes were taught in two sets of three consecutive classes; the curriculum that was created two years ago was used again. Linda Dukes, Dinny Jensen, and Elaine Chapman taught the racial justice classes for the children of the church. Ann Forno and Donna Baker offered an adult faith development course, consisting of three sessions, called "Exploring White Privilege."

Kate Fraleigh has maintained the committee's bulletin board in the church hallway.

We took the following initiatives:

- ensuring that the tree topper on the congregation's Christmas tree was not a white angel;
- inviting congregants to write postcards to Governor Ralph Northam, encouraging him to resign, and to Lieutenant Governor Justin Fairfax, wishing him well as the new governor (BEFORE events shifted and news of allegations against Fairfax was released);
- inviting Rev Wik to come to our June 2019 meeting in order to say goodbye to him and to ask his final thoughts and advice for our racial justice work going forward;
- several of our members participated in the Charlottesville Clergy Collective's Conversations Toward Reconciliation events in January and May 2019, designed to create relationships between Cville's various faith communities, to move towards reconciliation around racial justice issues. Committee minutes are now regularly posted on the [UUCharlottesville.org](http://UUCharlottesville.org) web site.



## **2019-2020 Goals:**

To be determined

Submitted By: Ann Forno

## **Religious Education Committee Annual Report 2019**

**Group/Committee Name:** Religious Education Committee

**ChairPerson(s):** Elaine Chapman

### **Group/Committee Members:**

Cathy Sanders, Yvonne Chadwick-Mehta, Camille Thompson, Margaret Gorman, Janine Jakim, Don McCown, Nancy Hurrelbrinck, Elizabeth Ide, Leia Durland-Jones

### **Group/Committee Overview:**

The committee is responsible for developing, supporting and sustaining quality programming of religious education for children from nursery through twelfth grade. This includes sponsoring or coordinating activities which are family centered as well as linked with the wider congregation.

### **2018-2019 Accomplishments:**

The RE program had strong teacher teams for every level this year. Classroom rosters were full at the beginning of the teaching year which began with both parent orientation and volunteer orientation. A new curriculum, developed by another congregation adapted from the Harry Potter book series, was offered to children in two classes of grades 3-6 during the second service. As a new option this year, one of these classes provided a smaller, more active class for children who need more physical movement.. OWL (Our Whole Lives) was offered to grades 7-8 with an additional option of a new curriculum, The Twilight Zone, a UU contemporary and engaging approach for youth.

Racial Justice curriculum was provided in six sessions for Spirit Play through Grade 5. A grant was written to fund the editing of the curriculum by a black UU religious educator. This editing process is currently underway, with hope of sharing the entire curriculum (consisting of 30 lessons) on the "Teach In" website for use by other congregations. Prompted by a church member, a Wednesday lighting of the chalice by families at home was supported by weekly readings through the RE newsletter.

A new activity, a monthly gathering of families with young children, meets to support one another, in the quest for racial

justice. Committee members reached out to new families through greeting, emails of welcome, and invitations to events.

Members of the RE committee and teachers facilitated 3 meal packet IHS assembly, enjoyed by children. Food bags for refugees were assembled also. Other events included participation in the Giving Tree, and 10,000 Villages at holiday time. This year, a church picnic was initiated by Margaret Gorman and Pam McIntyre and enjoyed by participants.

The RE program supported PACEM with family and children involvement as well as the following events for families: Balloon Sunday, Ancestor Sunday with child dedications, Holiday craft party, Bingo and Chili Cook Off, PJs and Pancakes, the Elder dinner, and May Day celebration.

Both Purim and Passover Seder commemorations were presented by the Gil family, and open to the congregation. Both were appreciated by participants.

RE concluded the year with selling Paletas (Mexican fruited popsicles) along with providing gifts for the traditional recognition of volunteer teachers.

**2019-2020 Goals:**

Finalizing and posting the Racial Justice curriculum on the Teach-In website.

Recruitment of strong teaching teams at each level.

Pursuing increased ways to engage new families in the congregation.

**Submitted By:** Elaine Chapman

## **Remembrance Garden Annual Report 2019**

**Group/Committee Name:** Remembrance Garden

**Chair Person(s):** Elizabeth Breeden

**Group/Committee Members:**

Elizabeth Breeden, Doug Horwitz, Josie Taylor, Sally Taylor, Wayne Arnason

**Group/Committee Overview:**

A church is a community of memory and hope. In creating and dedicating a sacred space on our church grounds to honor those who were once part of our lives and this community, we recognize that the church is larger than its present-day members. The Remembrance Garden is a visible reminder of this invisible community of which we are a part. As an expression of hope, the Remembrance Garden reflects the trust that is placed in us to honor and remember past generations and to look to the future. This is a place where generations will be able to come and to

remember.

**2018-2019 Accomplishments:**

The Garden was maintained by Josie Taylor and Doug Horwitz.  
The following members or friends were installed in the Garden:

Christa Ann Pierpont

1947-2018

Howard C. Pierpont

1917-2006

Mary Irene MacAllister Pierpont

1922-2010

Dell Williams Smith

1919-2018

Glenn R. Short

1924-2018

**2019-2020 Goals:**

Maintain and provide a place of remembrance for all those members and friends who have died. Have the income exceed the expenses.

**Submitted By:** Elizabeth Breeden

## **Soup Kitchen Annual Report 2019**

**Group/Committee Name:** Soup Kitchen

**Chair Person(s):** Elizabeth Breeden and Bonnie Hansen

**Group/Committee Members:**

**Team 1:** Mark Foley and family (Captain)

**Team 2:** Susan Kaufman (Captain)

**Team 3:** Bonnie Hansen (Captain)

**Team 4:** Elizabeth Breeden (Captain)

**Team 5:** Hannah Baran (Captain)

**Team 6:** Nancy Hurrelbrinck (Captain)

**Group/Committee Overview:** The volunteers that participate in our group come together to serve a home-cooked meal that bring physical nourishment to those in our community struggling with hunger and poverty. This physical act builds connections between the volunteers themselves, as well as between the volunteers and those they serve, creating emotional nourishment for both the parties doing the giving and receiving. The volunteers operate on six independent teams that rotate meal service every Sunday. Each team has a Team Captain and all

teams are overseen by the Soup Kitchen Acting Co-Coordinator, Elizabeth Breeden and Bonnie Hansen. Each team is responsible for purchasing the food and supplies for the meal, preparing the meal, and serving the meal. This service is in coordination with other congregations in the Charlottesville area which serve soup kitchen lunches on the other days of the week.

**2018-2019 Accomplishments:** Lunch served every Sunday at the Haven for those who need it.

**2019-2020 Goals:** To secure leadership for the Soup Kitchen which involves a time commitment for volunteer coordination.

**Submitted By:** Bonnie Hansen

Team 1 Mark Foley  
Mark Foley & Family  
Rick, Carol & Reese Parrish  
Marc Goldberg  
Don Landis  
Jennifer, Matthew & Frannie  
Billingsly  
Debbie Eggleston  
Barb Gemmersher  
Mandy Griffen  
Gloria Morgan  
Kathleen Jump  
Gill Griffs  
Gary Holmes  
Dan Foley  
Michelle & Pete Martin

TJMC Soup Kitchen Team #2  
Team Captain: Sue Kaufman

Susan Kaufman  
Cindy Benton-Groner  
Bill Plyler  
Pete Armetta  
Callie Smith  
Irene Wellman  
Judy Spellman  
Helene Frairman  
Kelly Dryden

Vivian Thompson  
LuAnn Cooley

TJMC Soup Kitchen Team #3  
Team Captain: Bonnie Hansen

Bonnie Hansen  
Michele Bascle  
Patty Kohstall  
Clair Moncure  
Maggie Guggenheimer  
Sandy Brooks  
Cathey Polly  
Christi Dojack  
Joan Chapman  
Emergency Back Up Only:  
Karen Fink  
Cynthia Dent

TJMC Soup Kitchen Team #4  
Team Captain: Elizabeth  
Breedon  
Ellen Cummings  
Cypress Walker  
Maggie Ober  
Roz Westerman  
Marc Goldberg  
Bernice Melvin  
Walter Hoffman  
Belinda Bullock  
Jim & Bev Gorham

TJMC Soup Kitchen Team #5  
Team Captain: Hannah Baran  
Hannah Baran  
Satyendra Huja  
Jenny Reid  
Lisa Ellison  
Mark Ellison  
Edith Good  
Linda McGee

Jenny Densin

Soup Kitchen  
Team #6

Nancy	Hurrelbrinck
Wesley & Joan	Farris
Joan & Wesley	Stalzer
Warren	Groeger
Carol	Wise
Danny	Gray

### **Sunday Coffee and Snack Servers Annual Report-2019**

**Chair Person(s):** Elizabeth Breeden + Lorie Craddock

**Group/Committee Members:**

Elizabeth Breeden, Nik Skaggs, Pete Armetta, Nick Waters, Lorie Craddock

**Group/Committee Overview:**

Set Up, Serve, and Clean up coffee and snacks each Sunday

**2018-2019 Accomplishments:**

\$20/Sunday reimbursement for snacks. Large sign in social hall and calendar in kitchen encouraging more people to sign up to serve.

**2019-2020 Goals:**

Enough Coffee and tea for all who want it every Sunday morning

**Submitted By:** Lorie Craddock

### **TJMC UU Committee on Ministry Annual Report 2019**

**Group/Committee Name:** Committee on the Ministry

**Chair Person:** Cathey Polly

**Group/Committee Members:** Katherine Parsons, David Shutt, Cathey Polly, and Beth Jaeger-Landis

**Group/Committee Overview:** The Committee on the Ministry exists to help foster healthy communication and to give people who feel that they have no voice a place where they know they will be heard. This group helps nurture and strengthen all of the ministries of our community. The committee is always searching for additional ways to obtain feed-back from the Congregation.

**2018--2019 Accomplishments:** The Committee launched, correlated, and presented the second iteration of the Pulse Survey to the board and to the congregants of the church.

The Committee responded to all written and oral questions and suggestions by our congregants, as well as hosted a Saturday breakfast with the board for all congregants to discuss any ideas, issues or items of interest.

**2019--2020 Goals:** The Committee will be the center of connections among the committees and contribute to the leadership of the church during the transition period.

**Submitted By:** Cathey Polly

### **Ushers Committee Annual Report-2018-2019**

**Chairperson(s):** Ann Forno, Maggie Ober

**Group/Committee members:** Ann Forno, Elizabeth Breeden, Dan Grogan, Gloria Morgan, Ann Salamini, Marcia Brecker, Will Farris, Robin Reid, Terry Epp, Amy Epp, Adam Slate and Susan Erno

**Overview:** Prepare sanctuary for service, greet/assist congregants, receive offering, sort offering for Plate recipients (from Treasurer), tidy sanctuary and prep for next service, Distribute and collect Social Action envelopes.

**2018-2019 Accomplishments:** We are adjusting to the new OOS arrangements and have found a way to distribute Social Action envelopes that seems to be working. We've been coordinating with the Treasurer's representatives to establish a better way to sort and protect the offering. We've added a couple of reliable ushers and aren't having too much trouble filling the Sunday slots. Terry Epp has agreed to replace Maggie Ober as the scheduling coordinator, starting in September of 2019.

**2019-2020 Goals:** As always, recruit new ushers. The list is long, but respondents to the Usher requests are a smaller subset of the list.

**Submitted by:** Maggie Ober

### **UUGuys ANNUAL REPORT-2019**

**Chairperson:** Gil Griffis

**Group/Committee members:** The members equally share responsibilities

**Overview:** The UUGuys is a men's covenant group that provide support to its members and to the church.

**2018-2019 Accomplishments:**

- + Hosted monthly meetings and annual retreat.
- + Provided chili and related dishes to PACEM and two other evening church events.
- + Assisted with annual yard sale.
- + Encouraged new adult male members of church to join group

**2019-2020 Goals:** Build closer ties between and among members.

**Submitted by:** Gil Griffis

**Wednesday Wonderings Group Annual Report- 2019**

**Chairperson:** Rev. Lou Centore

**Committee Members:** No standing committee. This is a drop-in group. All are welcome.

**Charge/Objectives:**

To facilitate discussion relating to life issues using  
Pertinent readings of various types focused on spiritual growth, mindfulness,  
Self/group awareness and loving support of one another.

We have increased our love and compassion for each other. We have learned  
to listen and feel more loving-kindness.

**Goals:** To continue the above and invite others who desire wisdom, love and  
Interaction in a safe and stimulating arena.

Submitted by: Rev. Louis Centore, M. Div.

**Worship Weavers Annual Report 2018-2019**

**Committee or Group Name---**Worship Weavers

**Chairperson(s) :** none

**Group/Committee members:** Lorie Craddock, Jeanine Braithwaite

**Overview:**

Worship Weavers work in collaboration with the Minister(s) to lead the Sunday Services.



At the beginning of the year, there were two Worship Weavers-- Jeanine Braithwaite and Lorie Craddock. Jeanine resigned before the end of 2018 and formal meetings were no longer possible.

Lorie last lead a service with Rev. Erik Wikstrom on 4/10/2019. Erik wanted to ask new people to be "part-time" weavers from March to the end of the year. Laura Horn, Bob Gross, Cindy Mick and Jeanine Braithwaite all acted as Worship Weavers in March - May.

**2018-19 Accomplishments:** The Worship Weaver program seems to have ended.

**2019-2020 Goals:** Alex McGee will lead Worship Weavers beginning in May 2019.

**Submitted by:** Lorie Craddock

## **Community Life Council Annual Report 2019**

**Group/Committee Name:** Community Life Council

**Chair:** Cathey Polly

**Group/Committee Members:**

Community Life includes representatives from community groups and committees.

(Not every one of these groups chooses to participate.)

Active Minds ~ No one participates

Art Show ~ Elizabeth Breeden

Care-Net ~ Lara Gastinger & Sandy Brooks

Communications Committee ~ Achsah Carrier

Covenant Groups ~ Cathey Polly, Patsy Swindler

Hospitality/Coffee/Snacks ~ Lorie Craddock

Membership/Greeters ~ Sally Taylor

Pastoral Visitors ~ Shirley Paul, Patty Wallens

Remembrance Garden ~ Elizabeth Breeden

Young Adults ~ Colleen Anderson, Alex McGee

UUGuys ~ Griff Griffis

Group/Committee Overview: We meet quarterly to share information and support each other.

**2018-2019 Accomplishments:** We successfully completed another year of connecting and communicating as a network of resources for the church.

**2019-2020 Goals:**

Our goal is to be a cornerstone of service for the lay leadership during our transition period.

**Submitted By:** Cathey Polly

**SOCIAL JUSTICE COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19**

**Co-Chairs:** Sally Taylor, Elizabeth Breeden

**Members:**

Emotional Wellness Ministry - Carol Saliba to Attend	Also Welcome
Food Pantry - Elizabeth Breeden, Carol Saliba Heritage Ctr. Support - Kate Fraleigh	AA
Forever Green - vacant - Bob Gross	AA Teaching Fellows
IHS Meal Packets - Margaret Gorman - Pete Armetta	Back to School Bash
IMPACT - Greta Dershimer Sara Gondwe	Immigration Concerns -
PACEM - Elizabeth Breeden Johanna Woodchild	Play Partners -
Partner Church - vacant	PAUN - Edith Good
PAUN - Doris Glick Kate Bird	Public Policies -
Racial Justice Committee - Warren Groeger, followed by Ann Forno	
Soup Kitchen - Elizabeth Breeden, Bonnie Hansen	

UUSC - Edith Good

### **OVERVIEW OF RESPONSIBILITIES/CHARGE**

The Council shall orient and support the chairs of all committees within the church that have a goal of Social Justice. It will assist in problem solving, facilitate the exchange of information among its members, oversee the public witness statement process, take responsibility for overseeing the social action collections, and will manage money coming to the groups from the church.

### **MILESTONES**

Our Social Action Collections, occurring monthly during the regular Sunday Services, collected over \$27,600 in support of 12 groups, including:

African American Teaching Fellows

Barrett Day Care

Food Pantry

Georgia's Healing House

IHS Food Packets

IMPACT

LilyPads Housing

Mother Health International

PACEM

Play Partners of Ready Kids

Public Housing Association of Residents

Sin Barreras

The council agreed that it should continue to be the group to approve the free use of church space by outside social justice groups when possible. In addition, it was agreed that the minister(s) should also be able to approve free use of space . It was suggested that the minister(s) be added to the policy in the policy manual clarifying this.

### **GOALS FOR THE NEW YEAR**

The council will strive to meet its duties as stated in the Overview of Responsibilities/Charge.

Having selected the recipients of the Social Action Collections for the upcoming fiscal year we will continue to oversee that process. Beginning with July, 2019, they are: Back to School Bash, Literacy Volunteers of C/A, IMPACT, Food Pantry, IHS Food Packets, Sin Barreras, PACEM, BR Abortion Fund, AA Teaching Fellows, Public Housing AR, Immigration Bond Fund, and AA Heritage Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Johanna Woodchild