

BUUF Stewardship Team

2021 Annual Report

Team Members: Harvey Johnson, Lisa Fuller, Rev. Jim McConnell, Charles Long, Beth La Fleur, Diane Gibbons, Lisa Quinlan Heibutzki, Joanne Krettek (Chair)

Key 2020-21 Accomplishments

1. Joanne attended numerous “Stewardship for Us” forums to learn what other UU churches are doing successfully and put together a slideshow of ideas/recommendations for the Stewardship team.
2. Joanne updated the database of members & friends for pastoral and stewardship outreach.
3. We delivered each pledge form with a gift bag to members and friends (many thanks to Beth La Fleur, Joan Guilfoyle and Diane Gibbons for helping deliver gift bags).
4. Rev. Jim organized a Generosity Sunday service to kick off the pledge drive.
5. Rev. Jim arranged for member testimonials throughout the next three services. Thanks to all who provided testimonials!
6. Charles Long, Harvey Johnson, Lisa Fuller, Diane Gibbons, Beth La Fleur and Joanne attempted to contact all gift bag/pledge letter recipients by phone, with a focus on member care, as well as a personal invitation to participate in the pledge drive.
7. Lisa Quinlan Heibutzki helped with sending thank you cards to all those who pledged.
8. Joanne provided regular pledge drive updates to the fellowship (in the BUUF Announce).
9. Here are the semi-final pledge campaign results. We anticipate at least two more members will send in their pledge form, as they plan to serve on the board in the coming year.
 - 36 pledging units
 - 51 voting members
 - \$43,193 in combined pledges and donations
 - An average of \$1,200 committed per pledging unit, an increase of 24% from last year
 - An average of \$847 per voting member, an increase of 25% from last year
 - 8 fair share givers (donating 2% or more of their income)
 - **20 step-up givers** (increased their pledge from last year by at least 5%)
 - 3 first-time voting members (Liz Goodwin, Les Rorick, Kristina McCloskey – welcome!)
 - 1 donation from a non-member (Gale Wagner)
 - A small increase in overall pledge dollars, as some members dropped from the fellowship and some experienced challenging financial circumstances

Goal Achievement for 2020-21 Church Year

1. Continue implementing the four-year cycle of stewardship recommended by the UUA's FORTH program. *This was delayed due to the pandemic.*
2. Recruit BUUF's new president to join the team, as well as retaining all of our current hardworking and creative members. *Thank you. Beth La Fleur, for joining the team. We are hoping that Terra Rasmussen and Candice Elders (both with a marketing background) can join us next year.*
3. Implement a better virtual giving platform to make it easier for BUUFers to pay pledges and offerings. *This goal was not met but is on tap for the coming year.*
4. Engage in a year-round stewardship program, as recommended by the UUA, with a focus on member outreach and pledge fulfillment:
 - Provide regular updates to the fellowship on how their funds are being used and the results they are producing. *Not completed*
 - Present a mission-focused budget to the fellowship. *Completed*
 - Provide quarterly updates on pledge fulfillment. *Not completed*
 - Offer worship services focused on generous giving and generous receiving. *Completed*
 - Implement another successful pledge drive in the spring of 2021, with personal one-on-one stewardship conversations and/or cottage meetings. *Completed*
 - Offer a workshop around healthy financial practices and values, such as the Tapestry of Faith program Wi\$dom Path. *Postponed to next year due to the pandemic.*

New Goals for 2021-22 Church Year

1. Recruit more BUUFers to join the Stewardship Team
2. Talk about finances and stewardship regularly in board meetings
3. Implement a better virtual giving platform to make it easier for BUUFers to pay pledges and offerings
4. Provide regular updates to the fellowship on how their funds are being used and the results they are producing
5. Consider conducting Cottage Meetings for the 2021-22 pledge drive

Annual Budget Request: \$50

Stamps, envelopes, paper for the 2021 pledge drive