

Coordinating Council Email “Meeting” September 2025

Team Reports

From Communications Committee, Sally Erb

The loss of Judy Houston to the Communications Committee is sad and difficult. Judy handled press releases. I have copies of her press releases, but don't have the personal contacts Judy had at the Gondolier, Venice Main Street, Herald Tribune and the Chamber.

The committee right now is myself, Linda Underwood, Ayleen and Kathy Miller. I have set up a zoom meeting for Communications for early October.

We have new bookmark and rack cards designed by Ayleen & Rev. Amy. To be printed soon.

From Marcia re: New features of the website

- Reminder: Board and Coordinating Council Agendas and Minutes are now in the members only section. Password is 1998.
- The Sunday Bulletin is now available online – the link is in 2 places – can you find it?
- If you want an event promoted as a special event, request via email and Ayleen can add it to the events section at the bottom of the home page.
- The UUCOV library now has an online catalog.
- The wish list now has a form for proposing a new addition to the list – find it on the giving opportunities page which is under Quick Links.
- The worship leader and worship associate are now listed on the calendar service link, as part of my goal that every item on the calendar includes some descriptive information and who to contact.

From Marcia re: AV Team

The AV team has added new members in 2025. It now includes Thom as chair, and members Barb Gundy, Mike Keough, Mo Morison, and Jackie Wides. All rolling slides and service slides are made by either Barb Gundy or Thom Reeves.

Social Justice and Communications want to inform you that we now have two Social Justice Facebook pages, similar to UUCOV itself having 2 Facebook pages. One is internal and one is outward facing. Social Justice wanted the external page to help market non-partisan things we are doing. The internal social justice group is for more private sharing and communication about the activities of the social justice committee.

From Social Justice Meeting August 2025

Ayleen has set up Social Justice Facebook, Instagram, and TicToc accounts to promote activities in advance and post photos of activities.

UUCOV wrote 300 postcards to Nokomis voters urging them to vote by mail. UUCOV is favorably considering hosting a Social Justice Alliance Event on February 21 on Defeating Authoritarianism.

In October, date TBD, UUCOV will host the Immigrant Justice Coalition team panel discussion.

Note from Marcia: Our Social Justice leader, Anna Drallios, co-lead a workshop through Indivisible on resisting Authoritarianism at the Jacaranda Library. Four other UUCOV members attended.

From Finance:

1) Wish List Update

There is now a Wishlist proposal form link on the Giving Opportunities page on the website. The Wish List fund has a reserve but is still soliciting funds for the Reclaimed Water hook up.

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3) Matching contributions proposal:

Barb Gundy, endorsed by the Finance Committee, has proposed that UUCOV add a line item to its budget to supplement the special offering collection for our chosen charities. We voted unanimously by email to endorse this proposal. It now goes to the Board.

From our Librarian, Cathay Keough:

The new UUCOV Library is almost ready to launch. You can view our entire library via a [link](#). Cathay will create accounts for all members and friends, and will staff regular hours for those who want librarian help on Tuesday mornings. Stay tuned for Banned Books celebration in October.

From Office Staff re: Communication:

Brochures or other external communication

If you need something publicized in the community and on the internet, provide information about the event to Ayleen and Sally Erb (Communications Team Leader) as far in advance as possible. We have a standardized look and tone that should be used consistently. They can create what you need or guide you through the process of creation, and they will add your event to the calendar.

If you would like to produce pamphlets, brochures, posters, or other marketing materials, please provide the information to Ayleen. She has access to professional design programs and is very skilled at creating your piece aligned with our “brand.”

If you want to design your own piece, it needs to be reviewed and proofread by Ayleen and a Communications Team member before you put it out.

Office staff

Ayleen Howe, our office manager, is here to help you. She has been with us for several years and has a system in place that allows her to complete her routine work while also adapting to

changing needs as they arise. Dawn Forest is her excellent assistant and provides back-up to Ayleen. They have time to help you!

There are two keys to working with Ayleen:

- 1) Every team or committee needs to designate ONE person to communicate needs to Ayleen for any particular project or event. Too many cooks in the kitchen make Ayleen have to start projects over multiple times
- 2) All requests for help from Ayleen need to be communicated by EMAIL so that there is a written record, to prevent misunderstandings. Ensure you receive a reply from Ayleen confirming that she has received your message and understands your needs. Our email system has experienced some technical issues, so please confirm that your request was received.

From Sunday Hospitality: (Jean Barlow)

The Sunday Hospitality Team continues to function in all 5 areas--Sunday Bulletin; Refreshments; Flowers on the pulpit; Candles; and, monthly Birthday Celebrations.

My idea of the Sunday Bulletin on the UUCOV website is now live, ready to be reviewed/enjoyed by our streaming and other online visitors.

Our Team has functioned with a skeleton crew over these summer months and we're looking forward to more fellow members returning to serve with us in the coming weeks.

From Membership (Anne Harrison)

FY24 (4/1/23 - 3/31/24)

11 new members; 13 member losses (3 deaths, 4 resignations, 6 removed by the team)

FY25 (4/1/24 - 3/31/25)

23 new members; 20 member losses (6 deaths, 8 resignations, 6 removed by the team)

FY26 (4/1/25 - present)

2 new members; 5 member losses (2 deaths, 3 resignations)

As of today, we have 183 active members and 8 emeriti. Pending an updated count on contributing friends. At last count we had about 25 friends.

Looking ahead, Amy and I have scheduled a new member orientation (ie. Pathways) for November 16th. I have been corresponding this summer with a good number of visitors and am optimistic we'll get a strong group of new members. We'll do another session in January or February.

Thanks

Marcia Smith, Vice President

Next Meeting: Tuesday, Oct 7, 9:30 am