



Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth

Annual Report, May 2007

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Dear Member,

UU Ministry for Earth continues to build momentum for a powerful, faith-based witness and advocacy for the Earth, both within our denomination, and in the greater world. Thanks to your membership support, and the phenomenal work of our volunteers and staff, our accomplishments continue to grow as we “ride the wave” of environmental awareness and action.

- **We continue to grow an engaged membership**, both for congregations and individuals and families. For the third year in a row, individual and family memberships have grown by close to sixty percent, and **our congregational memberships have grown this year alone by eighty percent.**
- **We are increasing our services to congregations.** Through our network of volunteer Regional Representatives, our outreach via consultations, workshops, and worship services totaled 109 presentations this past year. Our Director of Environmental Ministry has made presentations reaching nearly 50 congregations, and consulted with a dozen more.
- **We are building visibility for the Green Sanctuary Movement.** Green Sanctuaries were recognized formally by the UUA at General Assembly last year, and will be again this year. Articles in the UU World and elsewhere have documented efforts by GS congregations across the country. At present, ten percent of all UU congregations are either Certified Green Sanctuaries, or official candidates. UUA Board Moderator Gini Courter has called the Green Sanctuary Movement “the fastest growing grassroots movement in the denomination”.
- **We are building strong, collaborative relationships with UUA leadership.** Because of our advocacy, the UUA sponsored an historic UU Earth Summit in January 2007, bringing together leaders from across the country to discuss how Environmental Justice might be lifted up as an increasingly important area of focus. UU Ministry for Earth was lauded by the summit participants as the leading organization doing this powerful and visionary work. As a result, **UUA President Bill Sinkford has named Environmental Justice as one of the priority issues for advocacy and witness for the faith.**
- **We continue to work to build our infrastructure to support improved services to members and congregations.** UU Ministry for Earth will be opening a **new national headquarters in Portland, Oregon this summer.** This will enable us to serve members more efficiently, house staff, volunteers, and interns to support our programs, and build a stronger presence for environmental justice in the national network. Fundraising and organizational development plans are in process to provide funding and support for staff development, website and communications capacity, and continued support for congregational efforts.

In the coming year, we continue our commitment to serving congregations through the provision of consultation, worship, and advocacy resources. We plan to produce the first national UU environmental justice conference; this conference will be presented in 2008. We will continue to build our membership base and financial resources to support the important work of all who incorporate care for the Earth as their spiritual mission. We plan to raise funds to hire an executive director and other staff to support the visionary work we are doing. And we will continue to advocate within the denomination for powerful Earth witness and advocacy by UUA leadership.

If you have renewed or joined since March, please accept our deep appreciation for your support in the next fiscal year (July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008). If you have not yet renewed, please reflect on the work above, and the work to come, and offer your generous support. At present, UU Ministry for Earth receives no funding from the UUA, and your membership and donations are what will keep our work going.

For the Earth,
Barbara Ford, Board Chair
Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth

Accomplishments and Acknowledgments

Membership

- Household and individual memberships have increased this year from 307 to 480, a 63% increase
- Congregational memberships have increased this year from 57 to 104, an 82% increase.

Program Delivery and Congregational Outreach

Ministry

Our Director of Environmental Ministry, Rev. Katherine Jesch, conducted 11 workshops reaching nearly 50 congregations, and 14 sermons and other formal presentations in five districts. Additionally, she has conducted more than a dozen consultations with Green Sanctuary teams in 7 districts. She has been interviewed on national radio, and has represented UU Ministry for Earth at various interfaith retreats and events on a local and national level.

Green Sanctuary Program

- The number of Accredited Green Sanctuaries has grown from 50 in June of 2006, to 54, with 6 more pending review prior to GA 2007. The number of GS Candidates has grown from 48 in June 2006 to 57, with applications arriving weekly. **Approximately ten percent of all UU congregations are now Green Sanctuaries or official candidates.**
- There are now two volunteer review panels (doubling from last year) formally reviewing all Green Sanctuary applications.

UU MFE Regional Representatives

Starting in 2005, UUMFE organized and trained a group of volunteer Regional Representatives in order to increase services to congregations and districts. Presently, there are 12 active volunteer Regional Representatives. Out of the 20 regions, 12 are well served by our Regional Reps, 4 have had limited service, and 5 have had virtually no services. Since June of 2006, Regional Reps have provided approximately 70 presentations (trainings, sermons, workshops) in congregations and district events. Contact information for Regional Representatives is available by calling the MFE office, or from Rev. Jesch.

UU Environmental Justice Conference

Working with a talented planning team, UUMFE will produce a national Environmental Justice Conference. The team members include: **Pam Sparr**, All Souls Church, Unitarian, Washington, DC, Conference Coordinator, **Greg Geiger**, UU Congregation of Shelter Rock, New York, NY, **Rev. LoraKim Joyner**, minister, UU Fellowship of Gainesville, FL, **Rina Fa'amoe**, Northlake UU Church in Kirkland, WA, **Rev. Robert F. Murphy**, minister, UU Fellowship of Falmouth, MA, **Patricia Jones**, UUSC, Environmental Justice Program Manager, **Terri Dennehy Pahuck**, Middletown NY, UU Congregation at Rock Tavern, Washingtonville, NY, **Ramon Urbano**, Orange Coast UU Congregation, Costa Mesa, CA, **Dr. Jenice L. View**, All Souls Church Unitarian, Washington, DC

Special Acknowledgements

To the members who contributed more than the basic membership, we are especially grateful:

Generous anonymous donors of \$20,000, \$10,000 and \$2,500; and
27 individuals and 25 household memberships between \$100 and \$1,000.

To the UU congregations who supported UU Ministry for Earth beyond the annual membership level with special collections, split-the-plate collections and donations:

UU Church of **Arlington, VA**
UU Society of **Wellesley Hills, MA**
First Religious Society, **Newburyport, MA**
Northwest UU Congregation, **Atlanta, GA**
First Parish of **Sudbury, Mass-UU**
First Parish of **Watertown, MA**
Pathways Church, **Southlake, TX**
UU Congregation of **Frederick, MD**
Channing Memorial Church, **Ellicott City, MO**
UU Church, **Riverside, CA**
UU Church of **Palo Alto, CA**

Mt. Vernon UU Church, **Alexandria, VA**
All Souls UU Church, **Kansas City, MO**
First UU Church of **Nashville, TN**
First UU Church of **Houston, TX**
First Parish Church UU, **Northborough, MA**
UU Church of **Davis, CA**
First UU Church of **San Diego, CA**
UU Fellowship Sussex County, **Newton, NJ**
River Road UU Church, **Bethesda, MD**
UU Congregation of Monmouth County, **Lincroft, NJ**
Accotink UU Church, **Burke, VA**

Green Sanctuary Congregations and Volunteers

Accredited Green Sanctuary Congregations May 23, 2007

<p>First Unitarian Church of Albuquerque, NM UU Church of Annapolis, MD First UU Church of Ann Arbor, MI First UU Church of Austin, TX First Universalist Church of Barre, Barre, VT UU Church of Belfast, ME River Road Unitarian Church, Bethesda, MD UU Church of the Lehigh Valley, Bethlehem, PA Arlington Street Church, UU, Boston, MA All Souls Church of Braintree, MA All Souls Church UU in Brattleboro, VT UU Church West, Brookfield, WI UU Church of Chattanooga, TN Beverly Unitarian Church, Chicago, IL UU Congregation of Columbus, IN UU Church of Davis, CA Mainline Unitarian Church, Devon, PA First Unitarian Church of Duluth, MN UU Church of Elgin, IL Unitarian Church of Evanston, IL UU Church of Fort Myers, FL UU Fellowship of Franklin, NC UU Fellowship of Gainesville, FL Jefferson Unitarian Church, Golden, CO First Unitarian Church of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada Unitarian Church of Harrisburg, PA UU Comm. Church of Washington Co., Hillsboro, OR</p>	<p>Bay Area UU Church, Houston, TX Emerson Unitarian Church, Houston, TX Bradford Community Church, UU, Kenosha, WI UU Congregation of Monmouth County, Lincroft, NJ First Unitarian Society of Madison, WI Bull Run Unitarian Universalists, Manassas, VA UU Society East, Manchester, CT UU Fellowship of Midland, MI Unitarian Church of Montpelier, VT Unitarian Church of Montreal, Quebec, Canada UU Fellowship of Morristown, NJ Community Church of New York, NY UU Fellowship of Sussex County, Newton, NJ UU Congregation of the Upper Valley, Norwich, VT First Unitarian Church, Oklahoma City, OK Hopedale UU Community, Oxford, OH Allen Avenue UU Church, Portland, ME First Unitarian Church, Portland, OR Granite Peak UU Church, Prescott, AZ Olympia Brown UU Church, Racine WI UU Westside Congregation, Rio Rancho, NM Universalist Unitarian Church of Riverside, CA UU Church of Sarasota, FL Unitarian Fellowship, Sarnia & Port Huron, Ont., Can. UU Church of Spokane, WA UU Church of Saco & Biddeford, ME UU Church of Tallahassee, FL</p>
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Green Sanctuary Review Teams

Team A	Team B
Dave Segel , UU Church in Elgin, IL	Leisa Huyck , UU Church of Davis
Peg MacMorris , Jefferson UU Church in Golden, CO	Bill Fischer , Unitarian Church of Evanston IL
Vacancy	Happy Bradford , UU Church in Belfast, ME

Volunteers and Financials

2006-2007 Board of Directors

Chair - Barbara Ford, Portland, OR
Treasurer - Terry Wiggins, Kansas City, MO
Directors
 Lara Hoke, Worcester, MA
 Robert Keim, Bushnell, FL
 Claudia Kern, Lyme, NH
 Steve Maier, Middlebury, VT
 Ann May, Houston, TX
 Karen Urbano, Oakland, CA
 Rev. Katherine Jesch (ex officio), Portland, OR

Regional Representatives

Ballou Channing District – Kevin Carlson
Clara Barton District – Kath Shomaker
 Denise Frizzel
Florida District – Lea Hall
Joseph Priestly District – Jack Harper
Mass Bay District – Marilyn Castriotta
 Wendy Irvine
 Bruce Langmuir
Metro District - Reena Kondo
Mtn. Desert District – Denise Rue-Pastin

New Hampshire-Vermont District – Jon McGovern
Northeast District – Sally Breen
Ohio – Meadville District – Nancy King Smith
Pacific Central District – Craig Scott
Pacific Northwest District – Rina Fa'amoe
Pacific Southwest District – Vincent Pawlowski
Prairie Star District – Doug Walter
St. Lawrence District – Pat McEvoy
Thomas Jefferson District – Kitty Bass
 Anita & Eric Harrington
Northeast District – Sally Breen

UU Ministry for Earth Third Quarter Financial Summary July 2006 - March 2007

Income

Memberships	\$8,695.00
Donations	\$40,627.94
Resource Sales	\$13,823.45
Green Sanctuary Fees (Programs, Worship, Travel)	\$4,998.10
GS Application Fees	\$2,300.00
Joanna Macy Workshop	\$2,892.50
Other Income	\$1,076.40
Total Income	\$74,413.39

Expense

Internet Fees	\$254.10
Office Supplies	\$448.86
Postage & Shipping	\$836.34
Board Meetings & Conferences	\$2,623.02
Telephone	\$1,513.97
Newsletter	\$361.58
Advertising	\$262.50
Administrative Expenses	\$1,604.23
Resources	\$6,881.11
General Assembly	\$4,422.65
Green Sanctuary Program	\$5,635.62
Payroll	\$30,544.36
Organization Development	\$1,220.82
Env. Justice Conf. Planning	\$3,635.74
Total Expense	\$60,244.90