



NEWSLETTER

Monkey Mind

Rev. Bob Renjilian – Facebook Livestream at 10:00am, Sunday

I've had the chance to practice Buddhism (emphasis on "practice"). My brain is pretty active though, and I learned this is called "monkey mind." What do we do to notice and then release the chatter that gets in the way of our meditations and centered life?



"Compassion can be put into practice if one recognizes the fact that every human being is a member of humanity and the human family regardless of differences in religion, culture, color and creed. Deep down there is no difference." — The Dalai Lama



Upcoming Remote Vote

Kay Webb

The COVID pandemic, resulting in no in-person congregational meetings, has made carrying on the business of governing a bit awkward and cumbersome, to say the least!

Within a few weeks, a Remote Vote will be held using mail-in ballots. Two items will be on the ballot. To have a valid vote on these two issues, a quorum of at least 30% of the membership must return their completed mail-in ballots by the required deadline.

The first item on the ballot is a vote on the adoption of a proposed revision of the 2017 Bylaws. If a quorum is met, adoption of the proposed Bylaws requires 2/3 of the quorum to vote in favor of adoption.

The substantive revisions incorporated in the proposed Bylaws accomplish the following:

- *clarifies Member and Friend definitions and updates the mechanism for changes in Member/Friend status
- *clarifies term limits for Board members
- *establishes the Board President, President-Elect, and Treasurer as the Board Negotiating Team for negotiating ministerial contracts
- *establishes a Congregational Endowment Committee
- *establishes a mechanism for remote voting in lieu of in-person congregational meetings when they cannot be held safely
- *establishes the Community Outreach Endowment Fund
- *allows the congregation to determine where UUTC assets go in the event of dissolution of UUTC.

The Administration Committee hosted a Q&A Forum via Zoom on August 12, 2020, to entertain questions and comments from Members regarding the proposed Bylaws. In addition to the Committee members, four Board members and nine congregants joined in the Forum. During comments, a congregant noted that the section that establishes the Community Outreach Endowment Fund (Article XI, Section B) included two historical references that did not belong in Bylaws. After discussion, the Board members and the Committee members present agreed to make a minor, non-substantive change that would eliminate the historical references. The consensus was that historical context is not appropriate in Bylaws and should be eliminated. An updated Proposed Revision of the Bylaws for the Congregation will be posted on the website prior to the Remote Vote.

The second item on the ballot is a vote to elect members to serve on the Endowment Committee. Election of the nominees requires a simple majority of the quorum voting in favor of a slate presented by the Nominations Committee. Since the Endowment Committee is established in the proposed Bylaws, the election of members to the Committee is contingent upon adoption of the proposed Bylaws.

Yes, it may be awkward and cumbersome ... but necessary!!

The Green Gets Fellowshipped

Various groups have been making good use of the campus — it's a delight to see!





And at Chalice Camp...



Rethinking Stewardship

Your Stewardship Team

Most people probably think of stewardship as an activity which raises money for an organization. While this is true, it actually has a broader meaning which we prefer. Stewardship is also taking care of something entrusted to our care. As part of our Unitarian Universalist community, we take care of our church, and increasingly we take care of one other. We check in, we offer a lending hand, or simply a sympathetic ear.

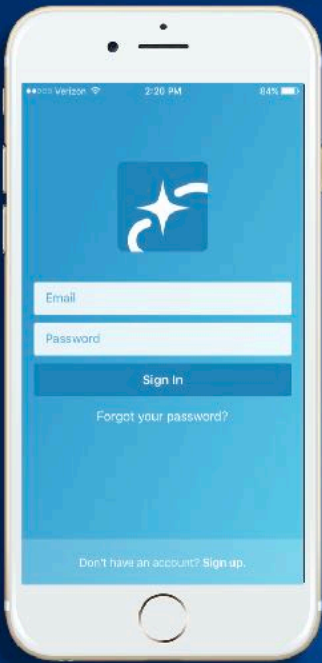
As part of this outreach effort, the Stewardship Team is working on a Virtual Auction to be held later this year. What talents, treasure, or time might you share with others? What do you need help with, and what could you contribute to help others? Please take a moment to reflect on these questions and fill out the survey [at this link](#).

Catching Up on Contributions—& Banks

RK Young

Recently, a giving statement was emailed out to all contributors. This statement showed pledge completion on the 2019-2020 fiscal year, and contributions to other funds. It also showed that some of us had not gotten pledge giving restarted for this fiscal year.

An earlier newsletter gave step-by-step direction on entering the information necessary to “re-start” your pledge. **New privacy laws required software changes that keep staff from being able to edit your financial gifts and sources— only you are empowered to do that!**



Introducing the Realm Connect App

You can now log into the Realm Connect app for quick access to our church database!

- ✓ Update Your Information
- ✓ Give Contributions
- ✓ Follow Church Announcements
- ✓ Communicate with Groups and Teams

Visit our website for more information on how to get started.

Have you downloaded the Realm Connect app? This app puts complete control of your giving in the palm of your hand. Call Eloise or RK to learn more!

This coming week (August 17-21), Treasurer Gail Meyers, Bookkeeper Sue Gervais, and I will be fully engaged in the changes made necessary by the acquisition of Entegra Bank by First Citizens bank. All the account numbers are changing, and every financial tool connected to UUTC has to be updated with that new information. This includes our utility providers and others who had been enabled to draw payment directly from our account to streamline the bookkeeping.

In addition, First Citizens charges more and higher fees to business, so we will probably convert some processes to make use of lower-fee options.

Those of you who have set up your giving in Realm, or in the Realm Connect app, don't need to make any changes. When we update the "back end," your contributions will automatically go to the right place. Pat yourself on the back!

Those of you who have an "auto draft" directly from your account, like an online bill pay, may need to get in touch with me for our new routing and account number. On the Pay Bills section of your personal bank website, you will have to either edit your current autopay or delete the old one and create a new one. Please do not call before Monday— I will not have that information in my hand until then! You can send me an email and I will call you back with the information you need.

Pray for us, ya'll. It's gonna be a week.... ;)



Like to Sing?

Again this week, you'll be able to see selected choir members singing to accompany John Austin's playing of a hymn. All this is happening over great distances thanks to technology. In this case, it's an app available on iPhone or iPad called *Acapella*, by PicPlayPost. At the moment, the Android version is still in Beta.

If you have experience in singing, particularly with a choir (and yes, high school counts!), have an iPhone, headphones that can be plugged into that iPhone, and an urge to sing some hymns, fire off an email to RK at administrator@uutc.org. Since the singing is done sequentially, and is getting squeezed into everybody's

day, it can take a little while to complete a piece, but we are going to be working on making deposits in our "hymn bank" to make it easier for Rev. Bob and Worship to plot out Sunday services. And have fun while we're at it.

Singing: it's not just for showers, anymore!