

2022 - 2023 Membership Committee Annual Report

Members of the Membership Committee– Elaine Barr (chair), Mike Bailey, Adeline Bailey, Cynthia Ting, Darryl Ting, and Nina Redd

The committee has regularly met one Friday a month, at 9:30.

We have succeeded in regularly scheduling Hosts and Greeters for each Sunday service, with Adeline doing much of the heavy lifting to get folks to commit to serving as Greeters. The new system of having the Hosts and Greeters in the order of service helps to give those folks credit and help newcomers know who to talk to.

We have worked with Dawn to get nametags for everyone who wants one, and we encourage members and friends to wear their nametags each Sunday to create a welcoming environment.

We've kept track of visitors and newcomers using the visitor forms created by Adeline and a spreadsheet updated by Mike. This fiscal year we've had over 40 folks turn in forms! So far, over a dozen of those folks have become members or friends who attend FUUSM activities regularly. The committee uses the information from the cards to work with Ralph to get interested newcomers/friends on the email listserv and into the FUUSM directory.

In October we reinstated Circle Suppers and Darryl works hard to coordinate a rotating schedule of Hosts. Attendance at the Suppers has varied, with anywhere from over a dozen to four folks. Having the social hall as a hosting location may increase attendance or increase the number of folks who are willing to host.

The committee led a worship service in November and we had several new members, all relatively young folks, sign the book.

Once again, the committee led the Holiday Cards project. Committee members got cards and organized them for some folks to take home and sign before the big event on 11/27. We hosted the card signing party after the service on 11/27 and then committee members worked to sort out and deliver cards to senior facilities on both sides of the Ohio River.

In February, Darryl taught an 8 week New to UU course, with Elaine and Rebecca Phillips sitting in and learning so they can take over as co-instructors next year. The course was well attended with approximately 12 folks who were very engaged. Everyone agreed it was a very helpful course and we plan to run it each year at approximately the same time. Several folks who attended the course expressed interest in formally becoming members of the congregation.

The committee has discussed restarting newcomer orientation evenings, to happen in the fall and/or spring, to capture folks who weren't able to attend the New UU course, or just want a brief introduction to FUUSM. More on this in the future!

Submitted by Elaine Barr, committee chair