

## Annual Reports, 2024-25

7 items answered below:

1. Program/ Committee/ Group Name:
2. 2024-24 Chairs:
3. 2024-24 Committee Members/ Main Volunteers:
4. List 3 Accomplishments: July 1, 2024 through June 2025 (recommended 100-210 words)
5. Are you looking for new members/volunteers? If so, whom, for what?
6. Submitted by:
7. Chair for coming year (if known):

Clergy: Minister, Rev. Angeline C. Jackson

A minister's first ministry and first year are almost always difficult. We are learning names, codes, and congregational culture, attending to the church's spiritual needs, and working with the board for the church's business. These are usually the harshest challenges of the first year, but not this year. We have had to navigate significant and dramatic shifts in the political environment and country governance and learn how to continue having meaningful and fulfilling services without a music director and pianist for a few months (more about this in the section on music).

This year, we've built relationships and trust, the foundations for a strong ministry. We've also engaged in shared ministry including working together to co-create worship services such as the launch of the Worship Associates book: *The Outline of our Souls: UU Church of Davis Worship Associate Reflections* and recognizing UUCD members in civic affairs and community service.

I was excited by the April worship services celebrating our 70th anniversary. A very big thank you to the Archives Team led by Susan Steinbach and all the collaborators in worship for pulling so many threads together to create such a richly expressive month of celebration.

It was particularly meaningful to me to lead worship with three of the previous ministers, to have the opportunity to learn from them, and to be ministered to by them.

We also continue to explore how to have more shared worship spaces with our youth and children, such as our June 1st service, which they led.

This first year of ministry with UUCD has been both rewarding and challenging. As I've said to many of you, I know I am in the right place. Together, we've navigated multiple curveballs and continue to do so.

We are living in unprecedented times, yet we, as a people of faith, are already equipped with much of what we need to respond to the moment. We know the importance of coalition building, recognizing, and strengthening our interdependent web, for we know that our greatest success will come by working together with those who share our values.

2024-2025 Worship associates: Lee Ann D'Amato-Raymond, Sarah Larkin, Robin Dattel, Cliff Ohmart, Jenny Kobold, Laurie Warren, Emily Burstein, Leonie Pickett, Karen Kurth, Tamara Range, Jennifer Denson, Alexandra Lee-Jobe, Lisa Oakes, Karen Friis, Susan Steinbach

2025-2026 Worship associate: If you're interested in serving as a worship associate, please contact Rev. Angeline.

New members: Since August 2024, we've welcomed seven new members to UUCD. We're glad you're on this journey with us!

1. *Staff, Music:* Sparks Choir

2. Music Director: LuAnn Higgs, left position 31 Dec 2024; Position currently open

3. Sparks Choir Singers; Suzanna DePalma, Music; Librarian and Singer; Wade Edwards, Nancy Lower, Ted Swift

6. Rev. Angeline C. Jackson

In December 2024, Lu Ann Higgs ended her tenure at UUCD to allow her more time to participate in other music work closer to home. She received a warm send-off from Sparks choir and the congregation, including a litany of release during the December 22 service.

The HR committee and I created two separate job descriptions for a music director and pianist after reviewing these jobs at our UU congregations of similar sizes and sizes that we aspire to grow to. The board approved these descriptions and UUA-aligned pay ranges, and the jobs were then posted.

As we waited for new staff, our in-house music offerings (Juuliebells and Sparks) continued to bring their gifts to us. During this time, Nancy Lower, Carl Oser, and Chance McCauley served as accompanists and guest musicians. A small group of Nancy Lower, Wade Edwards, and Ted Swift stepped up to help lead the choir.

We successfully hired Jacob Lane to be our Collaborative Pianist. Jacob had the characteristics we were looking for in a collaborative pianist, and we're excited to have Jacob as part of the UUCD team.

We did not successfully hire a music director, so the search continues. We look forward to finding a suitable person for our Music Director by the end of summer who will help us grow into our vision for this community.

While we do not have a music director, Sparks continues bringing their voices and passion to Sunday services as an expression of ministry.

Sparks Choir is always looking for new singers.

1. *Staff, Music:* Juuliebells Directors

2, 6, 7. Co-Directors: Linda Birse, Kyria Boundy-Mills

3. Anya Clasen, Ann Wyant Halsted

4. In addition to meeting our goal of performing at UUCD services:

Ann Wyant Halsted led a project to write a comprehensive history of the Juuliebells to deposit in the UUCD archives.

Kyria Boundy-Mills coordinated with bell choirs from three other local churches to put together a group of 11 ringers. This multi-church ringer group met several times to prepare four pieces, attended an advanced ringers workshop in Redding CA, and performed at three of the churches including UUCD.

We provided feedback to write the position description for the new Music Director and Pianist, and provided a selection committee member (Anya Clasen).

5. We welcome new ringers at any time, and provide training as needed. It is important to have new ringers in training to replace those who leave the group.

1. Staff: Religious Exploration

2. Staff: Kate Logvy, Sophia Belvoir, Mollie Napier, Grace Range, Crystal Guerra Ortiz, Andrew Li

3. Main Volunteer - Scott Steward (youth)

4. Successfully hosted our 2nd Annual Community Carnival, welcoming families from UUCD and the wider Davis community for an afternoon of fun, connection, and outreach.

Offered Jr High OWL (Our Whole Lives) with positive feedback from youth and families, supporting values-based sexuality education.

Introduced quarterly all-ages game nights and community clean-up events to foster intergenerational connection and encourage shared responsibility for UUCD grounds and community space.

5. Yes! We're always looking for volunteers to assist with Sunday morning Religious Exploration classes, youth group events, and occasional special programs. No experience required, just a willingness to connect with our children and youth in a supportive, welcoming way.

1. Board of Trustees

2. Steve Burns

3. Karen Urbano, Vice Chair & Nominating Chair; Robin Datel, Treasurer; Liz King, Nominating Second; Alyssum Maguire; Michelle McFarland, Membership & Welcoming Liaison; Scott Steward, Facilities & Stewardship Liaison

4. Established a Security Committee

Updated the Bylaws

Held well attended Volunteer Fair, recruiting many new members on to committees and interest groups

Re-established Finance Officer and wrote new Finance Procedures, better establishing roles of Treasurer and Finance Officer.

5. Members are nominated and confirmed at the June Annual Membership Meeting. A new Secretary will be needed.

1. Caring Council

2, 6, 7. Carol Corbett and Jill Pickett

3 Barbara Bower, Claire Bradley, Perry Gee, Lorrie Irish, Linda Moreland, Lily Roberts, Nirupa Sheppard, Leslie Snow, Joan Stek, Samantha Zumwalt. We recently asked Terri LaBriola to join us after she showed an interest.

4. a. Participated in Volunteer Fair; Participated in the Carnival

b. Consulted with Rev. Angeline and with Mandy Dawn to follow up on members we had concerns about. Contributed regularly to the Caring Corner section of the church bulletin, especially for people who would benefit from cards, phone calls, visits, meals or occasionally rides.

c. The Council met monthly on Zoom to discuss congregation members we are serving and others we may need to serve. Certain of us met regularly with members, especially those who are homebound. Carol or I set up a Meal Train for those recovering at home from illness or surgery. Caring Council members and others delivered meals. Lorrie Irish created bouquets for Council members to deliver.

5. We are not actively looking for new members, but if someone is interested, we would invite them to

join. We are always happy to have volunteers to help with cards, meals and visits, especially if they are in a group with the person in need.

1. Celebration of Life Team

2, 6, 7. Jeri Ohmart

3. Beth Rezaee, Claire Bradley, Suzanna DePalma, Leanner Friedman, Sharon Hale, Susan Jellema, Liz King, Joan Randall, Julie Saylor, Leslie Snow, Susan Steinbach, Dawn Student, Claudia Utts-Smith, Lindsay Weston, Samantha Zumwalt

4. According to my records, we held only two Celebrations of Life during the 2024-2025 period:

o Kathy Robertson on July 20, 2024

o Phyllis Joy Bower on August 2024

Both Celebrations were wonderful and were attended by both church members and community members.

5. No

1. Climate Crisis Action Team

2, 6. Robin Dattel

3. Richard Bradley, Emily Burstein, Barbara Clutter, Kathy Coulter, Stefan Harvey, Marshall Hunt, Lynne Nittler, Clifford Ohmart, Scott Steward

4. In partnership with Social and Racial Justice, we produced UUCD's version of the UUA's first Climate Justice Revival, on the weekend of Sept 28-29. This involved a half-day of directed dialogs for adults and special activities for kids on Saturday, and the worship service and an hour of activism on Sunday.

We nominated and supported during their respective weeks of appearance the Ujamaa Farmer Collective and Community Mercantile as recipients of UUCD's share-the-plate program whose values and missions align with CCAT's.

We worked with the Church Administrator to create pages on the UUCD website listing our accomplishments, both those related to our Energy Sub-team and those of our Advocacy Group:  
<https://uudavis.org/justice/climate/>.

We participated in the church carnival, with a game entitled "Toss the Trash," in support of Yolo County's efforts to reduce waste going to the landfill and thus the production of methane, a potent greenhouse gas.

5. Yes, we are always looking for team members with a passion for engaging the Climate Crisis and time available for involvement. Good communication and organizational skills desired. Multigenerational participation is highly desired, as are interested supporters.

7. Chair for coming year \_\_\_\_\_?

1. Facilities (Operations)

2, 7. Ted Swift, Matt Seelke

3. Jake Whittaker, Facilities Coordinator; Mandy Dawn Kuntz, Congregational Admin (notetaker); Grounds reps: Gail Jankowski, Walt Swain; Energy Team rep, Rich Bradley; Board Liaison, Scott Steward

4. - Repair to Bridgehouse wall completed: Jake Whittaker conducting oversight.

- Main Building Plumbing improvements and safety measures/ Yolo Cty requirements, including TMV

installation, maintenance, repairs: conducted by Jake.

- Support for Grounds

5. We are always looking for people with facilities know-how: construction, repair, landscaping, and more!

6. Mandy Dawn Kuntz, Admin & Notetaker

7. Matt Seelke, Ted Swift

1. Facilities: Landscape, Grounds

2. Gail Jankowski and Walt Swain

3. Craig Labbe-Renault (Irrigation & Grounds workday Lead) while Walt and Gail were out on medical complications. Kathy Coulter (Guardian of our Grounds) Lead

4. A) Our focus primarily was on the grounds clean-up and tree maintenance of the cottage area and the west end of our property after a fire was suspiciously started in a hay bale and spread to the surrounding area. That's what we were told from the Fire Department. Our team of volunteers and many additional members of the church sprung into action for all the clean-up. We were lucky no building structures were burned. Just a few raised beds in the children's garden. Several trees were pruned and cleaned up and some small trees and bushes removed.

B) We are still focusing on our irrigation around our property to make sure our trees are healthy and we don't lose any because of our extreme Central Valley heat. We also have kept up with the pruning of branches and understory trees on the entire church property. We will need to get the arborist in to continue our tree maintenance on or very large trees, and trees that are hanging over and very close to our buildings.

C) We continue hauling enormous amounts of brush, weeds and pine needles from our grounds. We work constantly at high weed mowing, weed whipping and mowing of our grounds on an on-going basis for both landscaping and fire safety reasons.

Our heavy rains have made it a challenge to keep up with grass and weed growth. We still have work days scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup> and June 7th, along with additional mowing in-between and beyond.

5. YES, we are ALWAYS looking for new VOLUNTEERS! We realize everyone has times when they have something else scheduled. However, it would be wonderful to see more volunteers come out to help in our very busy season for clean-up. We still need another person to help with Landscape & Grounds maintenance as a back-up when Aaron Stratton-Quirk is unavailable.

6, 7. Gail Jankowski

1. Finance

2, 6, 7. Leonie Pickett

3. Robin Datel, Tiffany Eschbach, Karen Naliboff, Marty West

4. Drafted 2025-26 Budget

Provided monthly review of financial reports

Advised the Board as needs arose

5. We're looking for UUUCD Members who have familiarity with financial reporting, financial operations, and organizational budgets.

1. Historical Archives Task Force (we will change the name of our committee next church year to Historical Archives Committee, along with a new charge from the Board).

2, 6, 7. Susan Steinbach

3. Susan Steinbach, Barbara Bower, Jan Bower, Linda Olsen, Rich Bradley, Gail Cooluris, Linda Olsen, Lorraine Visher

4. Digitization of original membership books (5) and creation of master membership file organized by last name

Cataloged Local Authors Collection in Church Library

Posting archival photographs on Googlephotos for easy sharing

70th Anniversary Celebration: multiple events & worship services in April 2025

5. Yes, folks who like to do any of the following: scrapbooking, filing, digitizing, taking photos at church activities, using Word, Excel, working in the church Library, talking about our history

1. Human Resources

2, 6, 7. Betty Elasowich

3. Spencer Atkinson, John Cooluris, Dolly Hamilton; Liz King, Board Liaison; Mandy Dawn Kuntz, Congregational Admin. (Notetaker)

4. - Created the CalOSHA required Injury & Illness Prevention Program & Workplace Violence Prevention Program and Mandy Dawn implemented training for all staff.

- Updated HR related policies as needed (including Personnel, Hiring); Updated/Created Job Descriptions

- Hires including Auction Coordinator, Collaborative Pianist (filled) & Music Director (ongoing)

5. Yes! We are looking for UUCD Members to apply and be approved by the Board.

1. Membership

2, 6, 7. Stacy Grow

3. Stacy Grow and Lisa Oakes

4. a. Hosted a New Member Luncheon in January 2025 for approx. 30 people.

b. Hosted monthly membership classes.

c. Welcomed x new members to our congregation (insert number from the membership book).

5. Yes- members to lead monthly classes and to participate on the committee.

1. Memorial Grove Committee

2, 6, 7. 2024-25 Chairs: Jerry Friis

4. Replaced broken tiles

Had new tiles engraved

Installed new tiles

5. Yes, we welcome volunteers to assist with caring for the Memorial Grove.

1. Quilting Bee

2, 6, 7. Julie Saylor

3. Cathy Smart, Claire Bradley, Dawn Casteel, Eileen Allen, Emma Luna, Jane McKendry, Jennifer Sommer, Jeri Ohmart, Julie Saylor, Karen Friis, Leanne Friedman, Louanne Horsfield, Mair Winger, Mary Ann Robinson, Meg Auman, Pat Moore-Pickett, Patti Milhous, Peg Swain, Peggy Watterson, Phoebe Ford, Seanain Snow, Susan Jellema, Ximena Jackson.

4. \* Building community: The quilting group is a great place to build community. Dorie Dattel started the quilting ministry in 2005 and with one helper made quilts for boys at the Progress Ranch foster homes until 2008. Since then, about 8-15 folks have gathered to make quilts for Progress Ranch boys (more than 80 custom quilts from 2005 to 2023), for members of the UUCD church and for the broader community including children in hospital care and people whose lives are disrupted by fires, floods and other challenges. We enjoy meeting at the church where we have space for fabric and equipment and can spread out demonstration projects and sewing projects on the social hall tables.

\* Quilting and sewing: In summer 2024, Progress Ranch stopped providing residential therapeutic care in Yolo County. We miss making Progress Ranch quilts but now our emphasis is on quilts for our church community and for the broader community. Here is some of our 2024-25 sewing:

a. For our UUCD community: lap-size quilts for grandchildren, for special relatives of church members, and for church members; coasters for new members; coasters for members and friends who need a small pick-me-up; coasters for the former ministers at our 70th anniversary celebration; items for the church auction planned for fall 2025; a quilted and embroidered wall hanging of our UU values.

b. For Quilts for Kids (for children in hospital care): 23 quilts, 15 pillowcases and 3 preemie pads.

c. For STEAC holiday baskets: 16 lap-size quilts.

d. For adult residents of Paul's Place, 4 large lap-size quilts.

\* Diverting fabric from landfill: We receive donations of quilting fabric that might otherwise go to the landfill. The donated fabric allows us to make beautiful quilts with minimal expenditure.

5. Yes. We welcome everyone. It's a great opportunity to learn and get help or to share your knowledge and skills and to build lasting relationships with others in the group. Meeting announcements will be in the church bulletin.

1. Security Committee

2 & 6. Scott Steward

3. Betty Elasowich

4. We have created a Security Committee Charge: The purpose of the UUCD Security Committee is to initiate the acquisition and implementation of Board-approved physical features, technology, and training that deter and manage response to violent acts or acts of aggression designed to inflict emotional and/or physical harm on persons or property. (The entire charge is on the website)

We obtained initial proposals for motion detection lights for the main entrance and the office/library building, securing double doors (2 in the main building, 2 in the office library) and an estimate for applying a security screen to 7 windows in the office.

We have met with the Facilities and Grounds Committee to obtain their approval for the upcoming

upgrades. We have met with the Facilities Coordinator and the Congregational Administrator to review policies and understand where the Security Committee starts and stops with regard to existing Staff safety/security policy.

We have a standing meeting on Wednesdays at 2:30 to become monthly when initial projects are started.

5. We are looking for members.

You will learn about our facilities and how we intentionally create security and care for our congregation by knowing what to do in emergency circumstances. You will learn how we coordinate with our UUCD staff to follow UU-centered care and security practices, and you will learn how our Unitarian Universalist National Association provides multiple resources and guidance for congregations to implement secure practices.

We plan to meet once a month and have a near-term goal of creating a "pocket" guide for handling various emergencies and developing a budget for security upgrades to our facilities.

\*The Security Committee is a Committee of the Board and is open to UUCD Members. Those choosing to find ministry by volunteering for a Board committee are reviewed by the UUCD Board prior to service on a Board Committee.

Please contact Scott Steward or Betty Elasowich

7. Scott Steward until otherwise filled.

1. Stewardship

2. VACANT

3. Claudia Utts-Smith, Marty West, Emily Burstein, Sarah Larkin, Dolly Hamilton & Karen Friis

4. Created a Team & a Theme: The Stewardship campaign was re-energized this year by a committed team, in spite of proceeding without a committee Chairperson. Additionally, we had strong support from Reverend Angeline, and several worship associates. Theme was Grounded in Love.

Month long campaign to achieve budget goal: The committee set a pledge goal of a 5% increase, based on the proposed budget received from the Finance Committee. (The total pledges are not in yet, so we don't know if we met the financial goal, however- we accomplished all of our tasks.)

We began our Month long campaign by mailing each pledging household two letters about the pledge drive; one from Reverend Angeline, and a joint one from the Stewardship committee and the Board. We celebrated the kick off with a potluck luncheon which was enjoyed by the congregation. Each Sunday Service in March had testimonials given by a wide variety of congregants who shared why they pledge. These testimonials were very well received by the congregation. Personalized pledge forms were not only mailed to each household, but we (Marty West) tabled in the Social Hall and provided the opportunity for pledge forms to be completed and turned in, each Sunday.

Additional Pledge Drive Activities completed: An informational session was offered in conjunction with the Finance Chair, on Budget Basics and how to pledge via a Required Minimum Distribution. We coordinated with the Religious Exploration program to encourage incorporating the theme of giving with youth. "Thank you for pledging" telephone calls were made by the committee to each early pledging household. We will do follow up calls in April to current pledgers who have not yet pledged for 2025-56. Lastly, a portion of our budget and two of our members worked with the Archives team in hosting the UUCD 70th Anniversary Party!

5. New members are welcome, and we need a Chair.



6. Claudia Utts-Smith

7. None named

1. Uniting for Social & Racial Justice

2, 6. Jenny Kobold, Leanne Friedman

3. Barbara Clutter, Betty Elasowich, Jan Bower, Alison Pease, Millie Braunstein, Karen Naliboff

4. September 22, 2024, Tabled at UUCD Carnival, telling fellow members of the congregation and visitors who our group is, what we do, and what our future plans are.

September 28 and 29, 2024, Took part in the nation-wide UU Climate Revival Workshop at UUCD on Saturday with Jenny representing USRJ as a presenter and the rest of our group as participants. We also had active roles in the Sunday Service and After Service Discussion.

Welcoming Congregation renewal activities:

April 27, 2025, Hosted a well-attended book discussion of “Funny Gyal” with the author, Rev. Angeline, speaking and answering questions.

June 7, 2025, We will table at Davis Pride, telling attendees about our church and our Welcoming Congregation Renewal. We plan to recruit church members outside of our group to table with us.

5. We have a good-sized membership for now. We’re always looking for volunteers to help with events.

7. unknown