

## UUFEC Board Meeting Minutes – Zoom, Monday, June 23, 2025

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86291556415?pwd=dhgCRfptKitAHOVD1OQu2C1uwUlCyF.1>

### Meeting started at 6:30 PM

In Attendance:

Kal Addams

Deborah Baker-Rian

Denny Lauer

Rev. Kathy Hurt

Melissa Winn

- **Opening Words & Check In**

- “If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself.” - Henry Ford

- Rev. Hurt will be here with us on August 10th. Deborah will hook the reverend up with people offering lodging for her first stay.

- **Minutes** from May 27, 2025 meeting (approval needed) – Kal Addams

- Denny motioned to accept minutes as presented, Melissa seconded. None opposed. Minutes accepted as is. Kal will send to webmaster.

- **President Update**, Deborah Baker-Rian

- Coordinated 2 UUFEC members' registration for UUA GA, June 18-22
  - Continued to contact & invite new members and chairs for our Caring, Communication, and Membership Committees. Linda has been carrying the chairpersonship for the time. Doria and Jim are active members.
  - Helped coordinate June 22 Service - Member Reflections & New Member Ceremony.
  - Discussed the new member joining procedures and coordinated with Membership Comm. members, especially about UU 101 class; appointed Karen L. Membership Chair.
  - Coordinated with Trudie G for 2 brunches (Mother's & Father's Day celebrations) for 2<sup>nd</sup> Hour time slot. Will coordinate other “food gathering” events often.

- **Vice President Update**, Melissa Winn

- “Member Reflections & New Members Welcome” service, June 22<sup>nd</sup>.
    - We should have these new member and member reflections periodically going forward at least twice a year going forward.
  - Update on starting a potential UUFEC CUUPS Chapter.
    - Three founding members identified and others interested in joining.
    - Space cleared out and will be working on the accessibility ramp next.
    - Looking for some custodians of the space.
    - Melissa will be working on a mission statement, by-laws, and a covenant to get started.
    - If they are able to get 5 UU members who are also CUUPS members, they will not have to pay the \$30 fee.
  - Other actions
    - Led UU 101 combined class with Kal for new members.

- **Treasurer Update, Denny Lauer**

- May 2025 Budget update
  - We are at about 30% of our pledged donations received already, so that's great.
  - Judy and Denny went and opened a new CD.
  - All CDs are three months at this time. Total is: \$93k+.
  - Checking/Savings is \$47k+ at the moment.
  - Added endowment to UU finance recordkeeping - they have had issues with tracking, and so Denny is having them report to the treasurer. The roof and Josh's tuition money are current expenses from the endowment.
  - Josh has asked about supplies and how to access funds.
  - RE will put together a budget and submit it to the finance committee. Denny will remind Josh of the submission procedure. On the honor system, generally. Let's remind all of our chairs that they need to submit expenses quickly and if they want to give it back to the church, they can.

- **Other Standing Committee Reports**

- Religious Education (written report, Josh Moore)
  - Continuing education for RE counselors requested to help navigate issues that older kids sometimes struggle with.
  - Rev. Kathy has some resources and will compile those for Josh.
  - RE plans on focusing on a different major world religion in RE each month. Each week they will have a different aspect of the religion.
- Religious Services (written report, Amanda P)
  - T-shirt Sunday this Sunday service.
  - July 6th we will have a dinner potluck that incorporates the service.
  - The RS committee wants to continue the subscription to the UUA Sermon Series. Board consensus is that this is a good idea.
  - Planning a Fall service leader training after Rev Kathy arrives.
- Membership, Caring, & Communication – (Deborah temporary chairs, appointed Karen L Membership chair, ongoing active search for Communication & Caring committee chairs- some movement on both.)
  - One of the new members checked that they were interested in Communications
- Social Justice (written report, Jane Park)
  - Share The Plate this month is for PFLAG
  - Stacey launched the Supplies drive - families can “adopt” a child.
  - According to law enforcement numbers, 1000+ people attended the No Kings Rally.
  - Pride occurred on June 7th - good showing.
  - The next action is July 17th John Lewis “Good Trouble” protest - not sure of our plan.
  - Holding a July 4th parking lot fundraiser for Irreverent Warriors
  - Denny would like to revive the Fourth of July BBQ before city fireworks show at the water. Will discuss later.
  - Period pantry is moving forward.
- Ryen would like to do a free store/clothing exchange. Deborah will reach out to Jane as the Special Projects chair and connect them if Jane is comfortable taking on this task with Ryen, as Ryen is a new member.

- **Old Business**

- Kal Addams & Josh Moore attended UUA General Assembly as virtual delegates, June 18-22, 2025, Baltimore, MD. They will give our congregation a 2025 GA report at a future service.
- Kal and Josh will meet this week to discuss the service on July 20th.
- Highlights include the new CSAI regarding Abolition, Transformation, and Faith Formation, Apartheid Free Communities, and a revival of new membership currently happening across the UUA (primarily young, BIPOC, and LGBTQIA+).

## ● **New Business**

- Membership Committee still working on updating UUFEF Membership list & UUA list. Karen has it pretty well complete, but she will be working on that to be finished before next week to send to Alyssa. Will continue with previous request policy for membership list.
- Will need to add to the UUA list online as well. Karen has done this previously and is familiar.
- Continue planning October congregational meeting where we will elect 2026 Board members. Continue requests for a member to fill vacant Board seat. Set up Nominating Committee in July.
  - Deborah will ask Jane as a Past President to step in as Nominating Committee Chair. There is also one person interested in the nominating committee.
- Deborah will ask for 2026 Board member nominations in E-News announcements starting July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Discuss Order of Service Template language. \*After much discussion, general consensus is that individual Board members may email personal recommendations to Religious Services Committee before the Thursday, June 26 Religious Services Comm. meeting.
  - Deborah noted that the perspective of someone who was a speaker,(but not a minister) was being described as a sermon in the OOS.
  - Deborah's concern is that we are promoting an antiquated concept of Christian services, and that we are not promoting UUFEF as a safe, inclusive, religious space for all. (In the new service leader's template, only the word "sermon" is used for the speaker's part of our service.)
  - In the speaker's circle yesterday, someone expressed that they felt uncomfortable in other more authoritarian Christian sects.
  - "Sermon" was emphasized during Rev Ruth's tenure.
  - Melissa and Kal often use "Perspective" when speaking.
  - Melissa's thoughts are that when it's a Reverend, use "sermon", when a lay person, "perspective",
  - Kal says that leaving it up to the service leader gives them autonomy, which is his preference. To him, "sermon" doesn't automatically have the same negative connotations as some others.
  - Denny says that he is led by our RS committee's reaction. If we came to a consensus here and made a recommendation, we would need to be united. We don't want to micromanage committees in any way. So instead, Denny recommends that we as individuals contact the RS committee before Thursday and offer our personal perspectives (not in our capacity as board members). Denny reminds us that as UUs here at our fellowship use hymns, prayers, and other

elements that mirror mainstream Christianity in name, but are very different in practice.

- Rev. Kathy would like to abstain from giving an official opinion until she has been with us for a couple of months. She has seen that the general use of the word “sermon” has come back into style in the UU over the past several decades, but she doesn’t care for the word, herself.

- **Next UUFEC Board meeting, Monday, July 28, 2025, 6:30 PM, Zoom**
- **Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm**