

Live Oak UU Fellowship
June 13, 2:00-4:00 p.m. -- Congregational Meeting
Home of Truth, Garden Cottage

(Present: 15 members, 1 friend. Quorum requirement: 8 members).

At 2:00 p.m. Peter Hand, President, welcomed everyone and invited additions to the agenda. The agenda was approved as written. Kate Hand led us all in song (*Run this Race*). Richard Stromer said a few words and lit the chalice.

State of UUA/PCD Affiliation: With great joy, Peter announced that District Executive Cilla Roughley let us know -- just in time for our meeting -- that we are now officially an emerging congregation of the UUA. This is the first step toward affiliation. The Board will meet with Cilla to determine the steps and timing for moving forward to full affiliation and will report back to the congregation.

Coming Attractions: Ruby Reay told us about upcoming events planned for the congregation, starting with our participation in the Alameda July 4th parade. Kate Hand, who is leading this event, said we now have 8 or 9 singers who will sing from a flatbed truck decorated with signs and balloons as we pass the 20,000 or so spectators who usually turn out for this parade. We are still looking for more volunteers to walk alongside the "float" handing out candy and bookmarks with Live Oak contact info on them. And more singers are welcome.

Other upcoming events include the Mens' Movie Group (Friday, July 23), Circle Suppers (Saturdays, August 7 and October 9), and an intergenerational Games Night (Saturday, September 11).

Dyad Exercise: Vicky Jensen introduced our listening exercise. In Round 1, we paired off and each person had 5 minutes to speak to "How are you doing? How is the fellowship feeling to you?" In Round 2, we paired off with a different partner and answered "How do you want to put your faith into action?" At the end, people had the opportunity to express to the whole group anything they felt strongly about. The one issue that was brought up was the need to either make our current space wheelchair accessible or begin a search for space that is.

Stewardship: David Fry explained that though spring is when we will usually have a stewardship campaign, there is no formal campaign this year -- because our first stewardship drive was only a few months ago and it was designed to cover the remaining months of this fiscal year AND all of the coming fiscal year. David will send out statements soon. At that time he will also ask people if circumstances have changed and they need to adjust their pledge -- or if they are in a position to increase. Judith Heller graciously spoke about what Live Oak Fellowship means to her.

Budget Approval: David presented the budget, which had two changes from the one emailed to the fellowship. The cost of our liability insurance and bank fees were added to the budget.

Members present at the meeting expressed concern about having the "fundraising" line item in the budget. After some discussion, it was decided the board will write a policy directing the

finance team to show, in each year's budget, the monies raised from fundraisers in the previous year (and not aspirational goals for fundraising).

Vicky Jensen moved and Debra Temple seconded that the fundraising line in the current budget be changed to reflect the money we currently have from our one fundraiser (Ruth Levitan's poetry books which has brought in \$380 so far). Motion passed (with 1 abstention).

The budget as amended was then passed.

Social Justice Proposal: Darlene Pagano, with the support of the Board, offered a proposal with these steps:

- Form an ad hoc committee to take our congregation through a listening process to establish our congregational priorities for social justice commitments.
- Research and present to the congregation possibilities for partnership with an organization(s) that is congruent with our social justice focus and our UU principles.
- Have a congregational meeting on our UU commitment to justice and activism, which will include a vote on partnership and the establishment of a permanent Social Justice body at Live Oak.

Darlene also presented information about the difference between *charity* (in brief, providing direct services to ameliorate need) versus *justice* (promoting social change in institutions/political structures). She also presented a few examples of organizations that are the type that we might want to partner with after the discernment process.

Nanci Temple-Armstrong moved and Bill Pezick seconded that we form an ad hoc committee to lead us in a listening process to establish our congregational priorities for both internal and external justice commitments. Passed.

Kate led us in our closing song (*We're Going to Keep on Moving Forward*). After extinguishing the chalice flame, folks stayed to socialize, celebrate our emerging status, and share some snacks.