

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF BERKELEY

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Report to the Board of Trustees Coordinating Team June 2006

Introduction

This report is respectfully submitted as the refulgent summer swirls around us with its brilliant sun and chilling fog. As we move into the summer flow of our church year, we decided to experiment with a different format of report. We will continue to provide the in depth reports on Ends and the detailed reports on trends and updates on our tracking in other reports, but for this report we wanted just to provide you with a few ideas for exploration, an item of celebration, and an opportunity to provide feedback on something your Coordinating Team is working on.

There Went The Sun

First off, we want to celebrate the success of the Here Comes The Sun-Religious Education-Field Day-Green Day-Celebration extravaganza. It was a full day and was made possible by the work of so many volunteers. Of special note were the contributions of Susan Lankford and the wonderful band Half Dozen of the Other. We look forward to future manifestations of both events woven or separate. It was a great day.

Leadership Discovery and Development

As some of you know it is sometimes difficult to recruit folks to participate in the work of the church. From Religious Education teachers, to filling positions on the Board and the CT, we often find ourselves pouring over lists of people, making numbers of phone calls, receiving often well meaning and loving sentiments amounting to “no”. The Council recently approached us with their recent experience of difficulty in finding

people to replace their outgoing members. We have decided to work with them both to help them fill their needed positions and also to explore the bigger questions.

We would also appreciate any discussion and ideas that you, the Board may have around these and other related challenges.

What is underlying the reticence people have about volunteering in leadership positions at the church?

Is it a cultural shift? Is it a lack of clarity about the mission and vision of the church? Are people's lives so crazy that there is no time to be carved out to serve?

How might we structure volunteer opportunities so that they are life-giving, exciting, engaged experiences of transforming the world?

What helped you decide to serve in your current roles of volunteer leadership?

Conclusion

Wow, you are thinking, I just made it through a whole CT report in record time. Well, savor that alacrity, and please think deeply about the questions around Leadership at the church. It is woven into the conversation around Stewardship we will be continuing on the 19th. Often we speak of giving of time, talent and treasure, and it is the non-cash related T's which we seem to be in systemic need of.

In deep thanks for your Leadership,

Your Coordinating Team

Revs. Bill and Barbara Hamilton Holway and Christopher Holton Jablonski, Linda Laskowski, and Anne Greenwood