

*Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of Danbury*



*Opportunities for
Service, Enrichment,
and Fun!*

**Rev. Suzanne Spencer, Interim Minister
Rev. Peggy S. Block, Community Minister
Mary Collins, Director of Religious Education
Sherry Kyriacou, Office Manager
24 Clapboard Ridge Road
Danbury, CT 06811**

**Phone: (203) 798-1994
www.uudanbury.org**

Board of Trustees

Jean Bowen, President

Meets Second Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

Elected by the Congregation. Provides direction and administration for congregation's property, employees and business affairs. Members are welcome to attend Board meetings; please call Jean in advance.

Standing Committees

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Jeff Shaffer, Chair

Jon Dupree, Special Projects

Provides for the maintenance and security of the congregation's facilities utilizing professional as well as volunteer labor.

Committee on Ministry (inactive during the interim period)

Serves as a support group for the settled minister, a focus for congregational ministry in general, and a communication channel between the congregation and the minister. Appointed by the Board.

DRE Relations Committee

Mary Burnham & Jack Bestor, Co-Chairs

Serves to provide guidance and support to the Director of Religious Education and as a communication channel among the congregation, Board and DRE.

Denominational Affairs Committee

Mary Alice Kimball, Chair

Acts as a liaison between the larger UU community and our congregation.

Finance Committee

Bruce Buzby, Chair

Responsible for all financial analysis, planning, and execution. This also includes the storage and communication of financial data, assisting the Board and other members concerning financial matters, and the establishment of best practices for all financial transactions including fund raising and purchasing, etc.

Endowment Committee

Bob Bollinger, Chair

Responsible for investing our congregation's endowments, and for encouraging contributions to them.

Stewardship Committee

Bruce Buzby, Co-Chair,

Ross Fenster, Co-Chair

Responsible for the annual canvass and capital campaigns.

Membership Committee

Keith Dupree, Chair

Meets Second Sunday, 12:30 p.m.

Provides for the welcome, orientation and stewardship of potential, new and current members and friends.

Nominating Committee

Nominates members for Board of Trustees and Nominating Committee positions, and helps identify candidates for other positions within the congregation. Elected by the Congregation.

Religious Education Committee (for children and youth)

Samantha McCoy, Chair

Meets Second Thursday, 7:00 p.m.

Develops and implements a religious education program for our children and youth, with our Director of Religious Education.

Social Action Committee

Jean Hislop, Co-Chair

Anne Krieg, Co-Chair

Meets Second Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.

Coordinates the various social action programs undertaken by the congregation.

Dorothy Day Hospitality House Shelter

Christine Halfar, Coordinator

Members of the congregation volunteer overnight on the fourth Friday of the month.

Dorothy Day Hospitality House Soup Kitchen

Lynn Taborsak, Chair

Members of the congregation prepare and serve a hot meal on the first Saturday of the month.

Team Green

Donna Lawrence, Chair

Meets montly

Initiates and develops programs and activities which involve the members of the UUCD in inspiring and instilling positive environmental changes in three areas: personal and family lifestyle choices, Congregational activities, and the greater Danbury community.

Sunday Services Committee

Ross Fenster, Co-Chair

Bob Bollinger, Co-Chair

Meets First Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

Makes sure all aspects run smoothly on Sunday mornings so that the minister can concentrate on pastoral duties and not have to be concerned with the logistics of Sunday Services. Adjusts the OOS components and flow in conjunction/coordination with the minister and other committees. Develops and coordinates lay-led services each year using other committees, UUCD congregates, and outside speakers. This translates into one service each month September through June, and weekly during the summer season.

Special Committees

A-Team

Valerie Cochrane – Co-Chair
Lisa Austin-Smith – Co-Chair

Provides aesthetics coordination of the interior décor and configurations of our buildings.

Adult Programming

Barbara Myers, Chair

Plans a variety of one-time and on-going classes of interest to the adults in the congregation and the larger community.

Archivist

Doug Parkhurst

Maintains the congregation's historical records and promotes awareness of our local church history in the context of the greater Danbury area and the larger Unitarian Universalist movement.

Auction Committee

Christine Bonansinga, Co-Chair

Responsible for the UUCD's largest fundraiser, the Annual Goods and Services Auction, held in the Spring. Subcommittees include: donations, public relations, food, décor, and music.

Caring Committee

Joanne Wells, Chair

Meets Fourth Tuesday, 10:00 a.m.

This Committee facilitates the caring of the entire congregation. Specifically, it supplies rides for medical appointments, runs errands, takes food to those in need from illness or traumatic life events, and sends notes of remembrance for sad or joyous events.

Events Committee

Valerie Cochrane

Meets bi-monthly off-site

Offers planning and guidance for congregational events, and coordination of church calendar and outside rentals.

Next Level Group

Pamela Mitchell, Chair

Research the build-out of the lower level to include: a needs assessment that looks at our need for this space for RE or other purposes; a current review to analyze the market for outside tenants; legal requirements for build-out under various assumptions; and a plan for build-out, cost and funding options, including timeline.

Office I/T Task Group

(Help Wanted—contact Sherry Kyriacou, sherryUUCD@gmail.com)

Provides support for the information technology utilized by the congregational office and staff.

Program & Operations Council

Jean Bowen, Board President

Rev. Suzanne Spencer

Meets Quarterly Fourth Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

Made up of the Board, Staff, and Chairs of Program and Operations Committees. Council meetings keep everyone informed, and provide a place for discussion of proposals/ideas that cross committee lines.

Publicity Committee

Jennifer Wipf-Leavitt, Chair

Shawn Sweeney, Promotion Project Manager

Responsible for publicity about our congregation, its activities and events and about UUism in general.

Search Committee

Charles Schott, Co-Chair

Carol Huckabee, Co-Chair

Elected by the congregation to search for and select a suitable ministerial candidate, who can then be called by the congregation to be its next settled minister.

Volunteer Coordination Committee

Marcia Brooker, Chair

Responsible for the coordination and facilitation of volunteers to the various committees and events of the congregation.

Website Task Group

Shawn Sweeney, Project Manager

Responsible for the design and operation of the congregational website. Most regular maintenance is performed by the congregational secretary and volunteers.

Activities

UUCD Conversations

Bruce Buzby, Chair

Meets Second Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

Discusses a current issue using as a source a non-fiction book selected by the group.

Hiking Group

Ross Fenster, Chair

Over hill and dale this hardy group goes. Hiking takes place on an intermittent schedule depending on member availability. The only thing we leave in the woods is footprints.

Knitting Ministry

Karen Gillotti, Chair

Meets First and Third Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.

Provides knitted shawls and other articles to be given to members, friends and others who are hospitalized, recuperating, bereaved or in celebration of life's achievements.

Men Out for Breakfast

Michael Searing, Chair

Meets at the Windmill Diner at 9:00 a.m. First & Third Saturdays

Semi-monthly gathering for the men of the congregation to share breakfast and fellowship.

Movies with a Message

Keith Dupree, Chair

Meets Second Friday at 7:00 p.m.

Our objective is to present films of substance in a living room setting and to provide an opportunity to discuss with friends.

Rebels with a Cause – Poker Group

Ross Fenster, Chair

Meets monthly

A poker group where the stakes are low and the bragging rights are high.

Potlucks & Round-Robin Dinners

These round robin dinners in homes of members and friends, and potlucks at the Ridge, are a great way to get to know one another. Watch the *Comment* for details.

Women Out for Breakfast

Karen Gillotti, Chair

Meets at Elmer's Diner, Second and Fourth Saturdays at 9:00 a.m.

Semi-monthly gathering for women of the congregation to share breakfast and fellowship.

Theatre Aficionados

Keith Dupree, Chair,

A *very* informal gathering of members, friends, and friends of friends who enjoy attending local theater together. Look for announcements in the newsletter and on the bulletin board. All are welcome.

If you are interested in any of these Committees or Activities, please contact the person listed. If there is no contact, please contact Marcia Brooker.