

Annual Reports for Tapestry Committees June 2021

Aesthetics

Chair - Linda Yeargin: no report

Building and Grounds

Chair- Richard Boote

Members – Bill Medina

Other than some small maintenance and repairs, there is not much to report for the past year. We will be supporting the Reopening committee needs with associated building tasks.

Richard is stepping down and Tapestry is currently looking for a replacement volunteer for his position.

Caring

Chair - Linda Yeargin: no report

Communications and A/V

Chair - Lauren Schmid

Social Media efforts are now up and running. Lauren is stepping down and Grayson Gothard has agreed to serve on the committee.

Comprehensive Planning

Chair - Dave Kinnear

Committee on Shared Ministry

Chair - Rona Henry

June to November 2020

The Committee didn't meet July and August. In September we discussed having an Election Night Watch Party over Zoom for Tapestry members

We discussed the need to keep members engaged and to do outreach to them.

* CoSM along with Membership Committee made calls to all Tapestry members to check in - in recognition of tensions created by pandemic and election.

* Rev Kent has is starting 2 Touchstones Groups – which are similar to Covenant Groups.

* Rev Kent is starting a UU history education series.

* Rev Kent hosted a Zoom Thanksgiving event - e.g. dinner in the evening.

November 2020 to present

- Minister's yearly review
- We discussed the UUA report "Widening the Circle of Concern" on how to dismantle white supremacy and what can be done in our congregations. <https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/cic/widening>
- We discussed ideas for how to keep up the small group interactions and opportunities for meeting safely in person outside. Ideas included promoting the Touchstones discussion groups, encouraging people to meet for walks, promoting the UU History sessions.
- Discussed the possible adoption of the UU 8th Principle and there was support for it among CoSM members.
- There was also support for continuing to offer services online even when we are able to convene together.
- We noted how LA Times article about Tapestry yielded a new congregant who has joined in some of Tapestry's groups already.

Finance

Chair - Paul Bonfanti

Paul is rotating out of his position as VP of Finance and will be replaced by Ann Chandler on the board.

Friends of OC Detainees

Chair- Peggy Thompson: no report

Green Sanctuary

Chair - Carol Semelroth:

Members: Betsy Martin, Chuck Buck, Debbie Salahi, Kathy Dechter, JoAnne Konduri, Judy Tracy, Jane Steven, Marsha Medina; Ad Hoc, Reverend Kent Doss;

This past year Green Sanctuary participated in the following events:

Partnered with Families Forward with collections to help low-income kids with school supplies

Provided information on better choices for the earth on sunscreen, garden and yard products.
Promoted National Beach Clean up month and presented “50 minutes to save the world” to help educate people on the importance of Coral Reefs to our Oxygen supply and the steps they can take to decrease the destruction of the reefs.

Coordinated along with RECY a very much needed community nature walk, helping provide one of the first opportunities to see our friends in an outdoor setting following several months of lockdown. We enjoyed several of these hikes and outdoor adventures during the course of the year, including a beach clean up day in March.

Coordinated generosity Sunday to be directed to Coral Reef Foundation

Participated in Holiday Gifts for Families Forward, concentrating on teen gifts.

Held a hazardous waste collection event in February.

Thankfully celebrated Earth Day with a theme of Restore our Earth. Presented ‘Healthy You-Healthy Planet’, ‘Natural or Organic- The Dirty Dozen and the Clean Fifteen’, ‘Avoiding glyphosphates in foods’, and ‘The scary toxins hiding in your cookware, storage containers, and dishes’

Hospitality

Chair - Judy Tracy: no report

Nominating

Chair: Suzi Cassidy

Members: Demian Snipes, Jane Steven,

- Accomplishments for this year, we have found nominees for the open positions on the board and in several committees.
- The nominating cycle for 2021-22 was a challenging one and included several changes to the membership of the committee.
- Liz Bear and Ramesh Joshi stepped down from the committee this past year. Jane Steven filled in and has also agreed to be nominated for a new 2-year term 2021-2023. Demian Snipes has agreed to continue his term for 2021-2022. Michelle Del Vecchio has been nominated for a new 2-year term 2021-2023.
- The committee is committed to improved communications along with meeting more regularly going forward.

The Nominating Committee provides inclusion by getting the word out to the entire congregation about the available positions and that we accept inquiries from anyone in the congregation who is interested. We make this announcement through various forms of communication: an all tapestry email, monthly newsletter, order of service announcements, and an announcement at the beginning of the service.

RECY –

Chair - Molly Stelovich

DRE – Rob Nichols

- Created/Continued Online Zoom Classes with an average of 10-12 students each Sunday.
- Organized numerous All-Tapestry hikes at Aliso & Wood Park in Aliso Viejo
- Collaborated of Green Sanctuary to create a multigenerational Beach Clean-Up
- Created online kids auction for second year
- Created 5 year goals for RECY
- Created 3 videos of children reading the Time For All Ages for 3 different virtual services, including collaborative services with other Southern CA congregations
- Nominated High School Youth for Board Membership
- Assisted in organizing and performed in multigenerational holiday play of Polar Express

Tapestry is currently in the process of finding a replacement DRE following Rob's departure.

Safety

Chair - Marle Chen:

Members: Robert Traver, John Eckhart, Greg Cline, Marle Chen

1. The Safety Committee believes that because of Tapestry's public profile advocating on race, sexual-orientation, immigration, and other issues of social equity, there may be achievable and useful safety improvements that should be considered for Tapestry's procedures, and physical site. This committee will try to present those potential improvements, including funding opportunities, to the August 2021 Board meeting.

2. Safety Committee is currently arranging an appointment with the Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center (OCIAAC). OCIAAC provides threat assessment walk-throughs and cyber-security reviews of houses-of-worship in Orange County. [Info at: www.ociac.ca.gov]
3. Via OCIAAC, the Safety Committee was contacted by Kathleen Kooiman, Chief Chaplain, Orange County Sherriff. Chaplain Kooiman offered to meet virtually, or in-person, with Reverend Doss and the Safety Committee and provide information on what others in the Orange County faith community have experienced, including issues around the risks of homegrown violent extremism. This includes providing direct referrals to people in other churches who can speak to us about their safety programs.

Ways and Means

Chair - Kathy Spahn

Ways and Means raised the following amounts with events during the course of the past year:

Yard Sale: \$1,122

Fall Auction: \$11,224

Music event: \$1,880

Holiday Boutique: \$2135

Spring Auction: \$8700 --not exact

Music event: \$1654--not exact

Approximate TOTAL: \$26,715

Welcoming Congregation

Co-Chairs: Bruce L. Johnson, John Mendonca

Members: Rev. Kent Doss, Barbara Daly, Nikki Rinderer, Sheila Raymond, Betsy Martin, Scott Westerfield

A primary objective of the committee is to achieve all the UUA's program requirements for annual recertification as a Welcoming Congregation. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, Tapestry was successfully recertified for 2020.

Programs that were supported and documented by the Committee included:

- A sermon delivered by Rev. Kent Doss highlighting National Coming Out Day (Oct. 2020).

- A Sunday service recognizing the anniversary of the Freedom to Marry Act, featuring two of Tapestry's married same-sex couples (June, 2021).
- A discussion of the 2020 Netflix documentary "Disclosure," about the history of transgendered people in movies and television—the impact on the trans and non-trans communities.
- Minister's Seminar book discussion of "Becoming Eve" by Abby Stein, an autobiography of a transgendered rabbi.
- Donations to the Point Foundation in support of scholarships for LGBTQ BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) students.
- Recognition of LGBTQ+ days of observance through pulpit and newsletter announcements.

The committee will continue to use UUA guidelines for recertification and Tapestry's Five-Year Plan to guide its programming for 2021/22.

Welcoming/Membership

Chair - Karen Nichols

2020/2021 Membership and Welcoming Committee Annual Report

* **New Members** - 20 new members! Included their writes up in the following months Tapestry Communique

Spr 2021	Grayson Gothard
Spr 2021	Demian Snipes
Fall 2021	Sheryl Sterry
Fall 2021	Nicole Glasser
Fall 2021	Suzy Stautz
Fall 2021	Emily Bullis
Fall 2021	Marquita and Jay Miller
Fall 2021	Elisabetta Panzica
Fall 2021	Monica, Ben and Neal Patterson
Fall 2021	Joe and Michelle Del Vecchio
Fall 2021	John Kauffman
Fall 2021	Ann Chandler
Fall 2021	Shelley Scallan
Fall 2021	Janet Sheffield/Alan Garner
Fall 2021	Linda Baldwin

* **Member Contact**: reached out every three months to all Tapestry members via a phone call or note card

* **Spotlight** Shined on via the Communique Newsletter

	First Name	Last Name
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February-21	Daya (Archana)	Shankar-Fischer
February-21	Iris	Anderson
March-21	Gothard Family!	
April-21	Anne	Farrell
April-21	Connie	Pursell

* **Monitored Zoom New Visitors** and sent private chat welcoming message

* **Welcome Notes** – implemented welcome notes sent by Rev Kent to new members

* **License Plate Holders** - Publicity and Fundraiser for Tapestry- Designed, Purchased and began sales on Tapestry UU Beyond Belief License Plate Holders

* **New Member Orientation and Welcome Ceremony** implemented every three months.

* **Monthly Attendance: Number** - the count represents number of zoom dial ins, not the number of individuals on each zoom call. Ex. A family on one line = 1

May 2020 = 389+
June 2020 = 351+
July 2020 = 296+
Aug 2020 = 392+
Sept 2020 = 327+
Oct 2020 = 346+
Nov 2020 = 349+
Dec 2020 = 336+
Jan 2021 = 460+
Feb 2021 = 270+ plus All UU Sunday Service
Mar 2021 = 331+
Apr 2021 = 343+

***Welcomed 7 New Committee Members including new Chair –**

First Name	Last Name
Amanda	Wainwright
Ellen	Bean
Barbara	Bradley
Emily	Bullis
Grayson	Gothard
Judy	Tracy
Kathy	Dechter
Kent	Doss
Linda	Yeargin
Penny	Kinnear (Chair)
Sheryl	Sterry
Suzy	Staulz

Welcoming Neighbors Home

Chair - Rona Henry

Welcoming Neighbors Home was incredibly busy this year with our community advocacy efforts in the areas of affordable housing, homeless, and hunger. Our accomplishments included:

Successfully advocated for increased affordable housing throughout the local area encouraging jurisdictions to take appropriate action.

Collaborated with growing network of partner organizations to further improve advocacy efforts, while delivering a large voice of public comments to several current projects within our local communities.

This includes the development of a new neutral website platform www.welcomingneighborshome.org

Developed and grew a team of 'Canaries' in the local area to assist with awareness of council developments and city specific efforts.

Continued and expanded food drive, clothing and supplies efforts to support local homeless and hunger needs. Drives targeted specific needs such as Hygiene kits, hats, warm clothing, sleeping bags, tarps and tents.

Provided educational presentations to increase awareness and understanding of relevant issues

Continued monthly sponsorship of dinner at the Friendship Shelter

Women's Rights Action Group (WRAG):

Chair: Karen Nichols

2020/2021 Accomplishments:

- **Ongoing** – WRAG members attended Zoom monthly OC Planned Parenthood Advocacy Nights with our Planned Parenthood Co-Champions Rona and Debbie.
- **July 2020 WRAG Talk!** Killing Us Softly - documentary and discussion
- **August 2020 WRAG Talk!** Mrs. America - series and discussion
- **September 2020 Co-Hosted with WNH** - The Feminine Face of Homelessness Community Event

- **November 2020 WRAG Talk!** *NOT DONE: Women Remaking America* - documentary and discussion
- **February 2021 WRAG Talk!** UNLADYLIKE2020 and American Masters Present: Where Are the Women? Documentary and Discussion
- **March 2021** \$878.06 was donated via the March Generosity Sunday donations that will be utilized by the I Support the Girls - Orange County Organizations AND 113 Bras, 434 Underwear, 3,264 Pads and 1,130 Tampons to OC organizations supporting women in need - Human Options and Waymakers

Next Year's Goals: Resume twice a calendar year community event with speakers

Worship

Chair - Greg Cline:

Looking forward to in person worship resuming soon and also to welcoming our new intern minister.

Also looking forward to integrating and continuing remote worship access learned and developed over the course of the past year.

Reopening Task Force

Members: Richard Boote, Sheryl Hagen, Dave Kinnear, Connie Pursell, Kathy Spahn, Linda Yeargin

Chair: Julia Rampone

2020-2021 Accomplishments:

- Formed in June 2020 to plan for and manage return to in-person worship after COVID pandemic
- Normally met monthly to review latest guidelines and update re-opening timeline forecast
- Determined that Tapestry would provide hybrid worship (simultaneous in-person and on-line) after in-person services resumed
- Reviewed facility issues specific to Tapestry and how to provide the safest environment
- Sent out a congregational survey in October 2020 to determine how members and friends felt about returning to in-person worship
- Suggested amendments to rental agreement for COVID safety measures
- Evaluated AV needs for hybrid model, developed a budget for equipment and received Board approval to proceed
- Purchased and installed required AV equipment

- Developed recommendation, which was approved by the Board, that everyone attending Tapestry in person be vaccinated, if a vaccine was approved for their age group
- Informed congregation of vaccination requirement and began collecting proof of vaccination for new name badges
- Reviewed insurance coverage to determine Tapestry's COVID-related liability issues
- Continued to monitor CDC, UUA, state and local guidelines for in-person activities

2021-2022 Goals:

- Return safely to in-person worship in the summer of 2021

Inclusivity:

- Providing hybrid services to allow for the widest participation within the Tapestry community

Rev. Kent:

Annual Report 2021

Our 2020-2021 year at Tapestry was strange to say the least. We made the best of it though. The Membership Committee stepped up its game, making regular outreach calls and sending cards to our members. And we managed to welcome a bunch of new members during our time apart. We have all benefited from the hard work and creative problem solving from our Audio Visual team. They ushered us into virtual worship so smoothly and grew the team of AV volunteers in recent months. We learned that we could host auctions online and concerts outdoors. And our music program featured Tapestry musicians in a whole new way. Like most of you, I wouldn't choose to do it again. But, we learned a lot and are a stronger community for having weathered this storm together.

Probably our biggest learning from this experience was what a powerful resource meeting online can be. For those who live a long distance from Tapestry and for those who aren't comfortable driving at night, meeting online continues to be a good option for several of our committees and activities.

As we gather for our annual meeting, we are preparing to resume worshipping in person. A huge amount of work went into keeping us thriving while we were apart. Similarly, the re-opening task force along with a small army of Tapestry leaders and volunteers is strategizing to help us reopen safely and smoothly. There will undoubtedly be bumps along the way. Thank you for continuing to show the loving patience that is part of our community culture.

The past year and a half has been focused on holding Tapestry steady; maintaining our vitality has consumed my full bandwidth. As some of the barriers fall and we regain the energy of community, I am anxious to shift focus to pursuing a vision for Tapestry's future. We are a loving community with a life-affirming message. In the coming year, I deeply hope that we catch up on those postponed conversations and hugs, and invite our neighbors into the warmth that is available here. And, leaning on our belief that every soul is sacred and worthy, we will confront racism and other systems of oppression in ourselves and in the wider community.

This was a rough year. Like many of you I am tired. But, I am also excited to step forward into a new day together.

Rev. Rayna Hamre, Affiliated Community Minister

It has been my pleasure to serve the Tapestry Congregation and to share our Unitarian Universalist values in the larger community. In 2020-2021, while serving as your Affiliated Community Minister, I:

- taught the first seven sessions of the UU history course, 'Faith Like a River' (FLR) at Tapestry, in collaboration with Rev. Doss. From this on-line UU curriculum, I selected materials and put each FLR session into a PowerPoint presentation, formatted with text and pictures, for each online session, and led the presentation and discussion.
- Presented my yearly service at Tapestry. This year's social justice service brought us lessons from UUs Rev. James Reeb and Viola Liuzzo, killed in Selma by the Ku Klux Klan in 1965. As I was presenting the service on March 28, KKK flyers were being distributed nearby, inviting our neighbors to a KKK rally.
- felt called to attend the counter-protest and rally at the pier on April 11, supporting Black Lives Matter HB, prior to the scheduled KKK rally. As the only clergy person present, I led an interfaith prayer at the end of the BLM HB rally.
- joined the Greater Huntington Beach Interfaith Council. There is much work to do in HB around social justice, anti-racism, and anti-oppression.
- continue to serve on Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE) OC. We are currently supporting our local hospital workers as they negotiate with management in Fountain Valley and Los Alamitos, for a living wage and affordable health care options. In addition to offering prayers during on-line meetings, I marched alongside workers at Fountain Valley Hospital on May 6. More actions are upcoming.
- sent written comments to local officials to support the hospital workers, to support very low-income housing at the Laguna Hills Mall project with WNH, comments in support of housing efforts in the county, comments to support ethnic studies in Los Alamitos, and in support of flying the LGBTQ+ flag during Pride month in Huntington Beach.
- shared these social justice opportunities with Tapestry and our local UU congregations on our Facebook pages and on my personal page.
- have been appointed by District 2 County Supervisor, Katrina Foley, to serve on the Board of Directors for the powerful anti-poverty program Community Action Partnership OC.
- presented a homily on Unitarian history at our multi-congregation service on May 16.
- participated in the ordination of Rev. Rica Kaufel, and served as a clergy advisor on a colleague's hospital chaplain training review.
 - served on the PSWD Charles White Ministerial Scholarship Committee for the last three years. With the Western Region reorganization, 2021 will be my last year serving on this committee.
 - served on Welcoming Neighbors Home Team until December 2020.
 - covered for Rev. Doss for Tapestry congregational pastoral care during his time away in the summer of 2020.

- shared the mystery tradition of our ancestors with the larger Pagan community, through my mystery school.

I could not have done all of these activities without your support for my community ministry work. I appreciate the time and effort provided by Rev. Doss, who is my ministerial supervisor, this strong congregation, and the time commitment of Bev Huff and Karen Nichols, who currently serve on my Committee on Ministry. I look forward to our continued work for justice in Orange County.