

## Tapestry UU Committee Annual Reports - June 2020

### **Committee: Aesthetics**

Chair: Linda Yeargin

Members: Marsha Medina and Bruce Mendonca

Accomplishments: 1) This year the kitchen was completed 2) The Plaque for Welcoming Congregation was hung 3) The choir wall was repaired

Next year's plans: 1) This committee will work with other committees to rearrange the sanctuary for social distancing requirements. No other improvements are planned so far.

Cultural inclusivity: Accessibility continues to be paramount in the building.

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Committee Name:	Building & Grounds	Date: May 2020
Members:	Richard Boote, Bill Medina, Laura Lunn	
Proposed Chairperson:	Richard Boote	
2018-19 Accomplishments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Evaluated fire safety needs and implement</li><li>- Installed interconnected Smoke Detectors Wireless</li><li>- Procured Fire ladders</li><li>- Escape Plan - Fire, other threats, signs,</li><li>- Completed Kitchen, dishwasher, hot water tank, plumbing</li><li>- Clear out, organize storage rooms - Partial</li><li>- Roof leak repaired</li><li>- Fix interior closet leak at front</li></ul>	
2019-20 Goals	Continued Maintenance – no anticipated costs at this time	

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### **Caring Committee**

Chair: Linda Yeargin

Members: Sheryl Hagen, Kathy Spahn, Janet Lusk, Joan Amendola Segal, Iris Anderson, Kent Doss

Accomplishments: 1) We have sent off about 55 cards of encouragement, support, and sympathy to our congregants 2) We have made (with help from our friends) at least the same number of phone calls to check on congregants who are ill or housebound 3) We have taken food to about 10 people 4) We have taken congregants out to lunch 4) Joan Segal has continued to send emailed birthday cards to congregants 5) Kathy Spahn has held two clinics for flu shots

Next Year's plans: 1) We will continue to meet to sent cards, make phone calls, deliver food, and visit as needed 2) Kathy will offer CPR classes when it is safe to do so 3) Joan will continue emailing birthday cards 4) Kathy will again offer flu clinics when it is safe

Inclusivity: We will continue to support all our members.

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## **Tapestry Choir - Director: Melissa Sky-Eagle**

Members:

Suzi Cassidy  
Lynn Cowan  
Penny Kinnear  
Laura Lunn  
Eddie Moler  
Julia Rampone  
Bill Reeves  
Nikki Rinderer  
Marilyn Schroeder  
Demian Snipes  
Keith Tuominen  
Wendy Washington  
Dave Weber  
Celia Young

This Year's Accomplishments (bullet points)

Director's Note: I'd like to think that in this time of introspection and sheltering in place, we are focusing less on goal-oriented accomplishments and more on building community and encouraging one another in spirit. Still, prior to taking a necessary break from in-person group singing in March, the choir has had much to celebrate this year, including the following...

- As always, we learned a wide variety of music, in many styles
- We incorporated the use of other instruments on several occasions (including violin, keyboard II, guitar, ukulele, and percussion)
- We participated in the Readers' Theater service, All Souls service, the intergenerational Christmas service, Christmas Eve, the Martin Luther King Choral Festival, and Celebration Sunday; we had also fully prepared a women's ensemble piece for Women's Rights Action Group Sunday, immediately prior to the shelter in place order
- Suzi Cassidy graciously organized and refurbished our music supply closet
- Since beginning Zoom services, we have made consistent improvements to our music sound quality
- Despite the many limitations of streaming the service content, we have done our best to bring as much variety as possible to the music programming
- New long-distance collaborations have been created with colleagues from other congregations
- We have seen new sides of the musicians within our congregation, and our musical volunteers have done an incredible job of stepping up when asked to develop their skills in new ways

**INCLUSIVITY:**

- The choir learned some inspiring new music composed by People of Color, additionally furthered by the director's attendance at the AUUMM conference in Denver, CO
- In the process of organizing our music supply closet, Suzi Cassidy unboxed our Braille hymnal sheets and moved them to a more accessible position in the filing cabinet
- The MLK Choral Festival at Neighborhood UU in Pasadena centered on themes of justice and freedom—the music selected for that event indicates devotion to those causes

**FUTURE GOALS**

- To navigate the unknown territory of returning to in-person music making as safely as possible

- To invest in a streaming license, so that we can expand our programming capabilities during our Zoom services
- To find ways for more musicians to participate in virtual group projects
- To maintain our Tapestry music community by having occasional Zoom meetings
- To continue singing diverse music from a wide variety of sources
- To foster a wider range of mutually beneficial collaborations with colleagues from other congregations

Many thanks to all the musicians of our congregation who have learned new skills and volunteered in new ways over the past several weeks, and to the hardworking and diligent AV team for their continued support of the music program at Tapestry!

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**Committee Name:** Committee on Shared Ministry

**Chair(s):** Michelle Antennesse, Rona Henry

**Members:** David Dearing, Rev. Kent Doss, Rona Henry, Carl Webb

**This Year's Accomplishments:**

- Presented Congregational Survey results to Tapestry Board members and summarized results in a Tapestry newsletter article.
- Refined a UUA minister's 360 Assessment template to be aligned to minister's contractual duties.
- Provided feedback for minister's 360 Assessment.
- Advised minister on topics affecting Tapestry as needed, such as how to adapt services to an online environment.
- Instigated the hosting of a Thanksgiving dinner at Tapestry.

**Next Year's Goals:**

- Advise minister on issues related to Tapestry's ministry on an as needed basis.
- Provide feedback for minister's 360 Assessment.

**We are increasing the culture of inclusivity by:** We included questions on the Tapestry Congregational survey about how welcoming the congregation is, and we paid particular attention to the results of those questions. During committee discussions we try to be mindful of how our practices could be more inclusive.

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**Committee Name: Communications**

**Chair:** Jeff Gothard

**Members:** Dave Salahi, Dave Kinnear, Suzi Cassidy

No report provided.

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**Committee: Congregational Nurse**

**Member: Kathy Spahn**

**Accomplishments:** A flu clinic was held in October of 2019 for 2 Sundays. We had 44 people vaccinated.

A CPR class was planned but was canceled due to the virus.

May 19, there was a on-line lecture on "Aging and Spiritually" sponsored by Hoag Hospital. An invitation was sent to all tapestry, a few people attend this.

We purchased a new battery and pads for the AED

Monthly reports about the AED

When able to attend, I went to a monthly nurse meeting at Hoag

**Goals:** Flu clinic in the Fall

CPR or First Aid when it is safe to have class

Health lectures either in person or on Zoom will work with Hoag

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**Committee Name: FOCD**

**Chair:** Peggy Thompson

**Members:** Kent Doss, Sheryl Hagen, Julia Rampone + other non-Tapestry members

**This Year's Accomplishments (bullet points):** Visitation program is on hiatus due to Covid-19 pandemic. Encouraging letter writing to detainees.

**Next Year's Goals (bullet points):** TBD

We are increasing the culture of inclusivity by: Maintaining regular weekly email communication, Facebook page, and website.

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<b>Committee Name:</b>	Green Sanctuary	<b>Date: June 2020</b>
<b>Members:</b>	Jane Steven, Judy Tracy, Marilyn Schroeder, Marsha Medina, Betsy Martin, Kathy Dechter, Debbie Salahi, JoAnne Kondori, Leyla Kondori, Carol Semelroth	
<b>Proposed Chairperson:</b>	Carol Semelroth	
<b>2019-2020 Accomplishments</b>	<b><u>Communities Engagement</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sponsored Letter Writing to Representatives to encourage legislation on Climate Change</li></ul> <b><u>Environmental Justice</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Very successful Back to School Collection with \$725 in gift cards and ten bags and boxes of clothes and school supplies for Families Forward</li><li>• Excellent response for Toys and Gift Collection for Families Forward with \$1460 of Scrip donated.</li><li>• Information encouraging individuals to buy Fair Trade chocolate for Valentines.</li><li>• Sponsored a collection of worn out shoes for the American Soldier Network which is a hands-on organization that raises awareness and</li></ul>	

	<p>funding to tackle the psychological and emotional battles affecting veterans on the home front organized by Marilyn Schroeder.</p> <p><b><u>Sustainable Living</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Efficiency and Water Tolerant Landscaping program by Irvine and Moulton Water Departments organized by Jane Stevens with excellent information but fewer people taking advantage of it than hoped.</li> <li>• <u>Clean Air Day held on October 20<sup>th</sup>.</u></li> <li>• Great involvement by members sharing 12 clean air vehicles exhibited</li> <li>• Disappointed that more members didn't take time to talk to the owners</li> <li>• Sun Country Solar panels representative to answer questions.</li> <li>• Distributed a recipe book of sustainable recipes</li> <li>• Held hazardous waste collection February 2020 organized by Judy Tracy</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Worship and Celebration</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planned Earth Day Celebration canceled and designated to an email campaign with poor response received.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2020-2021 Goals</b></p>	<p><b>Environmental Sustainability</b> We have the opportunity to reduce our congregation's environmental footprint while lightening the burden of our lifestyle on our Earth's systems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicating with Karen Brammer with UU Ministry of the Earth to determine if any grant funding possibilities to put solar panels at Tapestry.</li> <li>• Promote more effective recycling at Tapestry among attendees.</li> <li>• Pursue the plan to create a "green space" at front of the building for social interaction during coffee time and a butterfly garden for kids and create a fund to support this cause.</li> <li>• Provide educational films and discussion on environmentally conscious subjects.</li> <li>• Provide a program on toxins in the environment and reducing exposure to individuals and families.</li> <li>• Reinstate Meatless Mondays with meet up at restaurant or meatless recipe day.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Environmental Justice</b> - Partner with communities who bear the economic and health costs of economic degradation to create projects that mitigate those effects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to collect for Families Forward participants</li> <li>• Support Planned Parenthood's work by advocating for funding, supporting the elections of candidates who support the Planned Parenthood organization, and provide education to the community on an important issue that affects women's reproductive rights and an opportunity to get involved at the local level.</li> <li>• Support the work of the "Welcoming Neighbors Home" and assist with food drives and other collections.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Worship and RECY</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Celebrate Earth Day 2021 with a nature programs for the family</li> </ul>

<b>Increasing Culture of Inclusivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teen member, Leyla Konduri, providing a different generational perspective.</li> <li>• Advocate for more diversity of members by holding open meetings and reach out to new participants.</li> </ul>
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### **Gift Cards – Penny Kinnear**

Gift Card Income for this FY is \$1,110.14

### **Hospitality – Judy Tracy:**

**Members:** Marsha and Bill Medina, Sue and David Dearing, Terry Black, Elisabetta Panzica, Kathy Dechter, Bart and Ellen Bean and Women’s Action Group.

\* Provide coffee, tea, water and juice for social hour after the service. Clean up afterward. \* The committee has also taken on the responsibility of making bulk purchases of supplies (paper plates, napkins, plastic glasses and cups, paper towels and coffee supplies).

Goals: Add more people to the committee. Find a co-chair.

### **Nominating Committee**

Members: Liz Bear, Damian Snipes

Co-Chairs: Penny Kinnear and Amanda Standish Wainwright

We have two open positions outstanding but have approached candidates and are awaiting their responses. Our goal was to get back on track in adherence to the Tapestry Bylaws and we are accomplishing this goal.

### **Committee Name: Religious Education for Children and Youth**

Chair: Molly Stelovich

Members: Paul Bonfanti, Annette Eckhardt, Jennifer Guy, Shannon Stoker, Molly Stelovich

DRE: Rob Nicholas

#### 2019-2020 RECY Accomplishments

Hired new DRE, Jan 2020

3 RECY classes during service, Prek-1st Grade, 2nd-4th, 5th Grade and up, Jul 2019-Mar 2020  
Organized lessons, secured classroom materials, volunteer teachers and nursery care givers, Jul 2019-Mar 2020.

Avg. attendance varied by time of year, 10-25 students

Taught World Religions curriculum (all classes) in RECY classes, Sing to the Power curriculum (2-4th & 5th up classes),

Picture Book UU curriculum (PreK-1st gr.)

Teacher appreciation, RECY fall registration, and RECY orientation breakfast, Aug-Sep 2019  
 Halloween Party, Oct 2019  
 The Grinch Stole Christmas Intergenerational holiday pageant, Dec 2019  
 Moved all RE classes to online format, March 2020 to present  
 Online story times two days a week, March 2020 to present  
 Rob/DRE completed Ren Module—Philosophy of Religious Education  
 Created RECY Safety and Emergency Plan/Procedures, Apr 2020  
 Planned and re-scheduled Family Camp Out weekend, May 2020  
 Completed OWL for grades 4-6, Sept 2019  
 Started high school OWL, Spring 2020  
 Helping Rev Kent plan a service with high school Tapestry members, June 2020

**RECY Goals for 2020-2021**

Finish High School OWL  
 Prepare classrooms and RE for new operations in post-covid world  
 Increase teacher volunteer base  
 Continue to offer excellent RE programming

We are increasing the culture of inclusivity by first acknowledging areas we could be more inclusive then by leadership modeling behaviors that would showcase the means by which we become more inclusive. This includes but is not limited to dialoging with children and youth as to what they are seeking in religious education. Moreover, we are looking to find areas of increased collaboration intergenerationally. Lastly, we can seek through our UU sources, many ways in which to strengthen our culture of inclusivity through curriculum choices and activities.

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**Committee: Ways and Means**

<b>Members:</b>	Kathy Spahn, Sue Dearing, Linda Yeargin, Sheryl Hagen, Judy Tracey, Marsha Medina
<b>2019- 2020 Accomplishments</b>	<p>We started out with a yard sale held at Kathy’s house.          We had a BBQ to start off the Church year          We had our Fall Auction in October          A Pub Night in January          After that our events were put on hold due to the virus.          We did have a meeting with some of the board and Rev. Kent to discuss how to proceed. We were unable to have Musical Tables or the Spring Auction due to the virus.</p> <p>Garage Sale: \$1,567.00          BBQ: \$1,309.00          Fall Auction: \$14,056.92          Tapestry’s Got Talent: \$870.46          PUUb Trivia: \$1,035.00          Total:\$18,838.38</p>

2020-2021 Goals	When it is possible, we would like to have events that are entertaining and safe, and would raise money.  Yard Sale this summer. Auction by end of this summer, possible part Zoom and part live.
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Committee: Welcoming and Membership

Chair: Amanda Standish Wainwright

Members: Richard Boote, Judy Tracy, Linda Yeargin, Barbara Bradley

This Year's Accomplishments: Held First Sunday Brunches, Hosted New Member Meetings and held ceremonies, Hosted New Years Eve, Hosted A Game Night, Hosted a Movie Night

Next Year's Goals: *To introduce the Tapestry congregation and our Unitarian Universalist faith to our local community and welcome anyone seeking a liberal spiritual home. To support visitors, members and their families as they engage in the activities we offer. To grow our congregation while maintaining an interconnected sense of close community.*

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## Welcoming Congregation

Co-Chairs: Bruce L. Johnson, John Mendonca

Members: Rev. Kent Doss, Barbara Daly, Nikki Rinderer, Sheila Raymond

The UUA recently reconfigured the Welcoming Congregation program to encourage continuing LGBTQ+ support in congregations through annual re-certification (Tapestry achieved original certification in 2008). The committee was formed near the end of 2019 with the goal of achieving that status for 2019. We were successfully re-certified for 2019 based on our programming.

Programs that were supported and documented by the Committee included:

- Sermon ("Uganda is Calling," Nov. 2019) and film discussion with the Rev. Mark Kiyimba, minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Uganda and an activist for LGBTQ rights in Uganda.
- A six-part film and discussion series ("Transforming Hearts Collective: Trans Inclusion in Congregations") on understanding and welcoming persons with non-traditional gender identities.
- Minister's Seminar book discussion of "Unisex" by Jeffrey Eugenides, a novel about the intersex experience.
- Donations to the LGBT Center of Orange County and El Jardin de Las Mariposas, as part of our Generosity Sunday program.
- Recognition of LGBTQ+ days of observance through pulpit and newsletter announcements.

The committee will continue its work to achieve WC certification for 2020.

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**Committee Name:** Welcoming Neighbors Home

**Chair:** Rona Henry

**Members:** Rev. Kent Doss, Rev Rayna Hamre, Bev Huff, Ryan Lenny, Julia Rampone, Dave Salahi

**This Year's Accomplishments:**

- Kick-off meeting on February 20,2020
  - 35 in attendance.
  - Goals of the program announced:
    - Recruit enough volunteers to be able to commit to serving dinner 1 night a month at the Alternative Sleeping Location (ASL)
    - Advocate for development of:
      - 125 new supportive housing units by 2025
      - 700 new supportive housing units by 2035
  - Participants signed up to:
    - serve meals at the ASL (enough to meet Goal #1)
    - make meal and care kits
    - run food drives
    - monitor South County cities regarding the development of affordable and supportive housing
    - advocate in the form of letter writing, attendance and speaking at city council meetings, for development of affordable and supportive housing
- Committee members visited supportive housing sites – one in Yorba Linda operated by National Core and one in San Diego called the Alpha Project.
- On April 1<sup>st</sup>, a training on how to speak at City Council meetings was held via Zoom for Tapestry volunteers. Kimberly Adams of YIMBY (Yes in My Back Yard) conducted the training and Rev Kent Doss discussed activism in the context of UU values.
- Bev Huff conducted a 4-part training of nearly a dozen volunteers on how to monitor the housing plans of South County cities. This group, called The Canaries, will monitor planning commission and city council agenda to determine when affordable and supportive housing developments are being considered. They will then alert the Welcoming Neighbors Home advocates.
- Karen Nichols led a virtual food drive raising \$2,069 for the Laguna Food Pantry.
- Ryan Lenny led a virtual kit-making drive which produced just over 150 care and meal kits which were donated to South County Outreach and CityNet.
- Dr. Stuart Perlman, a retired psychotherapist who is also an artist who has been doing portraits of homeless people in Venice Beach gave the sermon for Tapestry's April 26<sup>th</sup> service.
- A collaboration with United Way's United to End Homelessness is scheduled for June 2020 to host a virtual Advocacy 101 class.
- Dave Salahi created a Welcoming Neighbors Home webpage on Tapestry's website: <https://tapestryuu.org/welcoming-neighbors-home/>

### **Next Year's Goals:**

- Tapestry volunteers will continue hosting 1 dinner per month at the Alternative Sleeping Location
- Conduct 1 to 2 food drives
- Hold 1 to 2 kit-making assembly parties
- Tapestry "Canaries" will continue to monitor South County cities on their progress toward developing more affordable and permanent supportive housing
- Continue training and development of our cadre of Tapestry housing advocates
- Turn out advocates as needed to city council meetings to advocate for affordable and supportive housing
- Advocate for the conversion motels into affordable and supportive housing units

**We are increasing the culture of inclusivity by:** This committee's work focuses on those who are among the most vulnerable – people without homes who need supportive services. We regularly communicate about the work of the committee in Tapestry's newsletter and on its website where we welcome additional volunteers.

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**Committee Name:** Women's Rights Action Group (WRAG)

**Chair:** Karen Nichols

**Members Base:** Carol Wheeler, Iris Anderson, Suzi Staulz, Rona Henry, Debbie Salahi, Marilyn Schroeder, Michelle Antennesse, Betsy Martin, Jan Cochran, Ana Riviere, Kathy Dechter, Nancy Thrush

### **This Year's Accomplishments:**

- Ongoing - WRAG members provided **snacks** for the congregation on the last Sunday of each month for congregations
- Ongoing – WRAG members attended monthly **OC Planned Parenthood Advocacy Nights** with our Planned Parenthood Co-Champions Rona and Debbie.
- May 2019 - **WRAG represented at the Stop the Abortion Ban Rally**
- July 2019 - **Community Event: OC Human Trafficking Task Force Presentation Scores!**
- July 2019 – **OCHTTF WRAG Generosity Sunday Recipient raised** \$550 in cash donations
- July 2019 - **Movie Dvd's for Deployed Female Soldiers** 150+ dvds donated
- August 2019 - **Women's History Museum; Service Auction Event Offering** Women's History Museum in San Diego
- November 2019 **Community Documentary Screening:** The "If Project" documentary with Guest Speakers: Stephanie Hammerwold. of **Pacific Reentry Career Services** and two of her clients discussed the challenges of formerly incarcerated women returning to the work. Raised \$400 for the screening of the documentary and \$100 for Tapestry general fund.

- January 2020 – **4<sup>th</sup> Annual OC Women’s March** - 30+Tapestry folks showed up with their family and friends.
- March 2020 – **WRAG Sunday Service** to celebrated National Women’s History Month  
Tapestry’s Sunday Sermon
- March 2020 - **Generosity Sunday for a WRAG nominee – Scholarships** - AAUW Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley (CA) Branch

**Next Year’s Goals (bullet points):** TBD

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### **Worship Committee**

Chair: Gregory Cline

Members: David Weber, Susan Jagielko, Conne Pursell, Nicola Stupka, Nikhat Contractor and Sheryl Hagen. Rev. Kent Doss also attends in his capacity of Minister.

No report provided.

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### **Rayna Hamre, Affiliate Minister**

- I attended WNH meetings and advised on beginning actions as the group got started. I introduced members to outside group leaders of HHROC.
  - I co-led and provided the homilies for the two Memorials for Neighbors Who Died on the Street with Rev. Kent Doss, held at Tapestry.
  - I led an all-age RE day for all the children on a Sunday, presenting on Paganism, using Trees as a way to connect them to a nature-based theology.
  - I led one Past Lives workshop in collaboration with the Board and Adult RE. More workshops were planned but canceled due to covid-19 issues.
  - I attended Lake Forest City Council meetings and led the interfaith opening prayer at the first LF City Council meeting in the new complex. I represented Tapestry and a progressive housing-positive point of view through public comments at City council meetings.
  - I attended two County Board of Supervisors meetings in 2019.
  - I represent Tapestry at CLUE OC meetings. I led the interfaith closing blessing at the April meeting for 35 participants. They are working on expanding their assistance to those in need in South County and are excited to have someone from Tapestry attending meetings and connecting. I have volunteered to help out on their hot line in May
  - I will be preaching at Tapestry on May 31st. I'm looking forward to it!!
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