

## Discussion of Website and General Items of Interest to the Congregation

At noon on October 9, the Board of Trustees held an open meeting and lunch with Marianne Snyder. Marianne is a website designer who reviewed the methods and recommendations she would use to build a new website for our congregation; Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lake County.

The congregation and Board of Trustees members who were present were: Phyllis Gillette, Betty Emery, Jack Champion, Gina Rossi, Ted Fessler, Russ Littlefield, Carl Hommel and Kit Tatum.

Marianne Snyder reviewed her previous proposal and took questions and suggestions from all of those present. She made notes and will respond to us with those suggestions in a new proposal for a flexible website.

After Ms Snyder left the meeting, at 2:30 p.m., we had a general discussion regarding which elements we thought would be appropriate on a current website. The useful drip-mail feature was discussed as an element we could add at a later time along with photos of phases of construction of our new church. The consensus around the group was favorable to adding a new website.

Russ Littlefield broached the subject of conflict resolution should we have any conflicts with the UUA during our building process. He discussed the use of the UUA Trustees to arbitrate any such conflicts.

There was general agreement that Phyllis Gillette could work from a budget of \$250 when planning the refreshments and flowers for the Memorial Service for Barbara Coats.

We discussed attracting younger people to become members of our congregation. Gina Rossi suggested using young adults in focus groups to ascertain what their interests would be in a UU congregation. Trying to attract young people with children, it was agreed, we would need a strong Religious Education program.

During this discussion Jack Champion suggested a series of debates, panel and notable authors open to the public at another location to call attention to our organization.

Russ reminded us we (UUs) are about social justice and spiritual questing. With the objectives in mind we can frame our discussions and Sunday services.

We discussed the possibility of renting a less expensive space and Russ said he would see if the WindHorse Building in Eustis would be a possibility.

Also in this conversation to improve our current aesthetics Betty Emery said she would look into finding a burning chalice for Sunday services, which would be attractive and not cause a fire hazard.

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