

Social Justice Council

Members: Kay Gottesman, Co-chair; Pat Karlsen, Co-chair; Stephen Colgan, Secretary; Connie Nissley, Treasurer; Heather Janules, Ministerial liaison; Mike Burski, Nancy Janssen, Catherine Scott, Sandy Shaw and Rebecca White. Michael Benefiel and Marge Diamond were also regular attendees.

Meetings: The SJC meets the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM in the library.

The *SJC collectively* can claim two main accomplishments in 2010-2011.

Social Justice Fair, February 13, 2011

‘Successful’ is the word applicable to the many aspects of the 2nd Annual Social Justice Fair. Included in the 26 exhibits were: A Wider Circle, AIM (Action In Montgomery). Beacon House, Bethesda Men’s Shelter, Chesapeake Climate Action, Community Based Shelter, Environmental Task Force, Ethical Eating Study Group, Handbells for Justice, Housing Unlimited, International Concerns (ICC) projects (Friends of Chernobyl Centers US, Kakeyna Center, Partner Church Committee, Pueblo a Pueblo, Social Justice Projects: 7th Grade), Interages, LGBT Task Force, Martha’s Table, ONE, Peacemaking, Re-Building Together, Social Justice Council, Unitarian Universalists Service Committee, (UUSC), and Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice (UUSJ)

Our medium sized lounge accommodated the 26 exhibits and their staffs. Yet there was room to walk around and view the displays.

Visitors to the Fair were asked for their comments about their experience. Rather than being replete with complaints, these comments were constructive comments on how to improve the experience. Folks were interested in Social Justice, and, therefore, were interested in the way they could enhance this for themselves and others.

Chaired by Pat Karlsen with the able assistance of Nancy Janssen

Facilitating congregational financial support for specific social justice activities.

Once a month Cedar Lane splits the Sunday collection, on a 50-50 basis, between the church and a selected organization working in the social justice area. Since the last annual report the congregation has contributed \$6,329.47 to the selected organizations. (Turning The Page, UUA/UUSC – Haiti Earthquake Relief, R.E. Collection, Shelter Rock/UUSC Match Fund and Family Diversity Project.) Plans have been made for collections for each of the following: Doctors Without Borders, Re-Building Together and UUA Japan Relief Fund.

In addition, the church sent the total collection from Sunday, October 31, 2010 — \$2,356.56—to the UNICEF Pakistan Flood Relief Fund.

CLARITY’s Tree of Life Coffeehouse during Spring Bee collected \$641.85 for selected organizations. The January Cedar Lane Benefit Concert collected \$3,005.00 for the SJC Maurer Scholarship to Montgomery College. An additional CLARITY Coffeehouse on Feb. 5th generated \$2,846.00 to support youth participation in the summer Re-building Together trip to New Orleans. In sum, these Social Justice collections, including what stays at Cedar Lane, was \$17,899.02.

The 50-50 project is co-coordinated by Sandy Shaw and Pat Karlsen.

General SJC Activities

The passion, the leadership, and initiative of *SJC member groups*, who undertake a variety of activities on particular issues described in this report, are the driving force of social justice activities at Cedar Lane. The SJC supports these groups by providing:

- Financial assistance from the SJC budget to fund their activities.
- A listserv on which any member of the list can post informational messages about social justice events and issues.
- The *Lounge Lizards for Social Justice* table after each Sunday service at which members and friends can gather information about events and opportunities for service through task force activities and community happenings and engage in conversations related to social justice with SJC members, task force supporters, and involved members of the wider community. A list of upcoming SJC events is displayed on the SJC table.

In 2010-2011, these groups concentrated on (1) diversity issues, (2) environmental issues, (3) international concerns, and (4) national and local community issues.

DIVERSITY ISSUES

CLARITY: Cedar Laners Against Racism and Inspired by Togetherness - Yes

CLARITY was chartered to lead the process of the Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church becoming a welcoming, multi-cultural, multiracial congregation working to eliminate racism.

Our accomplishments this year:

- Participated in a strategy session with Paula Cole Jones, currently the JPD Director for Racial & Social Justice.
- Presented an open invitation for CLUUC committees to invite us to consult on what they specifically can do to help attain this goal. Our first consultation will be with the Music Committee on March 13.
- Assisted in a "talk back" session on January 9 following Rev. Heather Janules' sermon on "White Identity and Privilege"
- Helped sponsor the "Fleur de Lis" concert on February 5 that raised about \$2,800.00 for transportation costs of student and adult volunteers to help rebuild New Orleans in August 2011.
- Participated in the Social Justice Fair on February 13.
- Facilitated "A Faithful Conversation About Race" at the Forum on February 27.
- Managed the reception for the Ysaye Barnwell Community Sing on March 5.
- Sponsored the "Tree of Life" Coffeehouse as a part of "Spring B" in May 2010, with much music, poetry, and other cultural expressions on the theme of freedom and fighting racism. The hat was passed on each Sunday for groups dealing with issues that especially affect communities of color, including Haiti, the Highlander Center, and the Coalition Against State Executions. Several hundred dollars was raised over the 4 Sundays.
- Planning another "Tree of Life" Coffee House for this May, building on the popularity of last year's event.
- CLARITY members participated in anti-racism workshops such as "Journey Towards Wholeness" (October 16) and "Transforming Our Whiteness" (October 29), and continued to build a repository of training and educational materials for usage throughout CLUUC.

Current members of CLARITY are Susan Clark, Marge Dimond, Nancy Janssen, Heather Janules, Steve Jones, Mary Karimi, Pat Karlsen, Bill Michie, Ariel Mora, Alison Moses, Lexi Prochniki, Sandy Shaw, Susan Staff, Helen Strang and Jack Welch.

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Task Force

The LDBT group has continued its mission of weaving the "Living the Welcoming Congregation" initiative (with its UU goals of respect, equality, and justice) into the life of Cedar Lane, by organizing or sponsoring and participating in the following events and projects:

- *Photo essay exhibit.* "Pioneering Voices: Portraits of Transgender People" a photo essay focusing on the lives of transgender and gender variant people, was displayed in the vestibule from January through mid-February. This exhibit was made possible partially by a grant from the UUSJ.

- *Community Conversations:* To complement the photo exhibit of Pioneering Voices, the LGBT Task Force worked collaboratively with the Interfaith Coalition of Maryland and Equality Maryland to host two "community conversations" around the exhibit. The conversations were attended by a total of approximately 35 people, including clergy and members of other faith communities, transgender persons and allies from both Cedar Lane and outside our church walls.

- *Financial contribution (\$524.23) to The Family Diversity Projects through a 50-50 split collection.* The Family Diversity Project publishes books and traveling photo essays to promote understanding of human diversity. We've hosted a number of their exhibits including the one mentioned above.

- *Collaboration with the Forum Committee to plan the forum program (Gender, Faith and Politics: A Conversation and Briefing about Maryland Legislation Today),* on January 30. The program featured a panel of three speakers, including long-time Cedar Lane friend Dana Beyer. The panel led a discussion that began with the panel telling their personal stories, their thoughts on the importance of legislation providing transgender people with protection from discrimination, particularly with jobs and housing and the bill that is pending in the Maryland Assembly this legislative session. Following the presentation, the Forum was open for discussion and an interactive conversation with the audience took place.

- *Availability of information* about current LGBT-related issues and events at the SJC Lounge Lizards table and the January SJC Social Justice Fair.

- *LGBT Lobby Day Bus trip to Annapolis on February 14, 2011* included roughly 25 Cedar Lane members and riders from the community outside of our walls. The purpose of the trip was to attend a rally in support of two pieces of legislation, one for marriage equality and the other for transgender protection from discrimination. Following the rally, riders visited with the legislators from their districts.

- *LGBT Film Series:* In the fall of 2010, the LGBT Task Force began offering a film series as part of the Adult Programs Committee. Films are shown the second Friday of each month. The fall semester featured films that focused on sexuality and faith, including the Mormon Church, Islam, Judaism and Christianity. The spring series focused on gender and families, with films such as *Trans America* and *The Kids are All Right*. Each film is followed by a discussion that is led by Subject Matter Experts. Moderators have included a Mormon Elder, a Muslim Imam, a representative from the Human Rights Campaign, Dana Beyer, and others as well as Cedar Lane members Liz Quinn, Marge Dimond and Stephen Colgan.

- *Rainbow Youth Alliance (RYA):* The Task Force and the Social Justice Council

committed to support this group as a founding member through an annual commitment of \$250. RYA is based at the Rockville UU Church and is the only group of its kind in Montgomery County that supports LGBT high school youth.

- *Donations from the LGBT line item in the SJC budget (\$500):* In addition to the \$250 pledged to RYA, we will contribute \$200 to Equality Maryland, and we are among the sponsors pledging \$50 toward a UU presence (booth at the Pride Festival and in the Pride Parade) during Capital Pride week.

- *May 7 conference:* The UUSJ along with other LGBT advocacy organizations is sponsoring a conference, *Supporting LGBTQ Youth: Community Needs and Resources*, at Cedar Lane on May 7, 2011. The LGBT Task Force is working collaboratively with the hosting organizations to plan, support, and facilitate this event.

Marge Dimond and Stephen Colgan co-chair the LGBT Task Force.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The Environmental Task Force (ETF)

Since Cedar Lane became certified as a Green Sanctuary the spring of 2010, the Environmental Task Force has sponsored the following activities.

- Planned a Spring B class which included these activities:
 - Tour of LEED silver certified Eastern Village CoHousing thanks to Noelle Jovey, director of Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light.
 - Visit to Master Gardener's garden in Derwood.
 - Donna Runyan - on healthy foods.
 - Cleaned Rock Creek and served organic picnic lunch.
- The autumn Rock Creek Clean up was a great success, combining with FORCE (Friends of Rock Creek Environment). Its advertising brought two AU Law School students, one from Sri Lanka, the other from Japan, together with 3 others, who were led by 14 year old Kaz Hawver. About 30 people participated.
- Environmentally-concerned Forums since September 2010 included:
 - Jeff Leonard speaking and showing his electric car.
 - Richard Smith PhD -.addressed Hard Facts and hard Realities of the Energy Crisis.
 - Peter Lowenthal - Alternative Energy Sources
 - Ken Cook - from his Environmental Working Group - Spoke on harms of toxic chemicals, including cosmetics.
 - Jeff McManus, from the Chesapeake Climate Action network, speaking about Off Shore Windmills.
- Dick Kauffinger has continued to take CFL bulbs and other hazardous waste materials from the ETF lounge Box to be recycled at Shady Grove. He also recycles ink cartridges, earning money for CLUUC.
- The ETF led letter writing campaigns on the bag bill, offshore windmills, a bill concerning "frakking" for natural gas, and a bill concerning arsenic in chicken food (last fall and this winter). These bills were considered in the MD General Assembly.
- The ETF worked with the Senior High group and Faud Balashov (a Cedar Lane youth and engineering student at U. of MD) to show the film Pick Up America and a short DVD of U. of MD students picking up trash from the Eastern Shore to Ohio. This was a

fundraiser for the organization Pick Up America, which collected \$250 from donations and sales of recycled bags. At this event there was a "no waste" potluck supper, using no disposables.

Molly Hauck and Charlotte Brewer co-chair the Environment Task Force.

INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS

The *International Concerns Coalition*, formerly the Global Task Force, is now in its third year. Though small in membership, we are staunch in our commitment to serve the international organizations we work for within and outside of the Cedar Lane walls. Each project in the coalition is sanctioned by the Social Justice Council. Besides an at-large member, we have members that represent the following projects.

Friends of Chernoble Centers U.S. (FOCCUS)

The following activities highlight what FOCCUS has done this year.

- Hosted a delegation of Ukrainian businessmen and local government officials in Madison, Wisconsin, June 10 – 19.
- Coordinated a second shipment of surplus medical supplies to the Korosten City Hospital.
- Sent two mental health professionals to Ukraine to provide training to 145 professionals on working with individuals with severe mental illness.
- FOCCUS and photo journalist Michael Foster Rothbart's "After Chernoble" photo exhibited was featured at the 24th Anniversary Ceremony at the Ukrainian Embassy in April 2010. It has also been displayed around the country, including at Cedar Lane.

Don Cleary coordinates the local program.

Kakenya Center for Excellence, Enoosaen, Kenya

Cedar Lane has been a steadfast supporter of this school for girls, from groundbreaking forward. Last year the Center welcomed its second class of fourth grade girls as the first class advanced to grade 5. In January 2010, the third class of fourth graders arrived, with the school now representing grades 4-6 and numbering some 95 girls. The school continues to be a revolutionary force changing the way the entire district perceives girls' education. Families now want their daughters enrolled in school and are rejecting Maasai traditions of female genital cutting (FGC) and early marriage. In fact, on their own, parents initiated a new policy in which they are required to sign a pledge that they will not have their daughters undergo FGC. Cedar Lane continues its tradition of supplying the majority of funds for books through Alternative Giving (\$700 in December 2010) and through an SJC/ICC allocation of \$200.

Kakenya was given a warm welcome by Cedar Laners when she gave a Forum in 2010.

Cedar Laner Katherine Green is donating her time to the school to create a Leadership Training curriculum for the girls at the school as well as for girls in the neighboring school, to be utilized during community vacation camps.

Kabultec, Afghanistan

Another longtime Cedar Lane-supported organization, Kabultec offers couples literacy classes in and around Kabul, Afghanistan. Each year, supported by a large group of volunteers, Cedar Lane hosts the only fundraiser in the world for this group. In January 2011, the dinner, silent auction, and donations from supporters who could not attend raised a net profit of \$7,880.33 after

expenses. Kabultec is also supporting 5 orphanages in Afghanistan, for which Cedar Laners are soliciting donations.

In spring 2010, through Kabultec, a large group of Cedar Lane and community members welcomed Afghan presidential candidate and opposition leader Dr. Abdullah Abdullah.

Pueblo a Pueblo

Cedar Lane has been supporting Pueblo a Pueblo since 2007. Pueblo a Pueblo, a U.S. nonprofit, was formed in response to hurricane devastation in 2005 to the small indigenous T'zutujil Maya village of Santiago Atitlan and nearby villages. Pueblo a Pueblo helps build sustainable, viable, and healthy indigenous communities in the highlands of Guatemala. Projects are developed in close collaboration with local partners to respond to their most pressing needs. Each project is designed to build the capacity of the community to thrive on its own while achieving health, nutrition, and educational opportunities for the children and their families. Guatemala has the highest illiteracy rate in the Americas with corresponding high malnutrition.

During 2010/2011, Pueblo a Pueblo continued support of its child-sponsorship and mother-infant sponsorship programs; expanded the free lunch program to two additional schools; lead in the development of organic gardens at two schools to support the school free lunch program; and sponsored the creation of a library at one of the local schools. The goal of the library project is to boost literacy skills and encourage independent learning.

During the summer, Cedar Lane held a special collection for Pueblo a Pueblo to support emergency relief efforts during a mudslide that closed roads and contaminated water supplies.

Nancy Derr coordinates this project.

Partner Church Committee

In addition to having its own standing committee, described elsewhere in the Annual Report, Cedar Laner extraordinaire Carol Bertaut also sits on the International Concerns Coalition to represent the Partner Church Committee in the international sphere of Cedar Lane.

Alternative Giving

In addition to raising funds for our regularly sanctioned projects (FOCCUS, Kabultec, Kakenya Center for Excellence, Partner Church and Pueblo a Pueblo) as well as for the UU Holdeen-supported Self-Employed Women's Cooperative—which currently has no one on the committee to represent them but which consistently receives generous donations—the ICC also supported two projects from Alternative Giving International: Promoting Good Health & Nutrition in Haiti and Restoring Forests with Rural Communities in Nepal.

Religious Education Social Action Projects of an International Nature

For the fourth consecutive year, we offered listings in the Alternative Giving catalog for social action projects of both sessions of grade 7 RE: Operation Smile (session 1) and The Association of Christian Mothers for Assistance to the Vulnerable (AMCAV), offering aid to women victims of violence in the DR Congo and their children.

In addition, the Session 2 7th grade class launched a fundraising campaign in March 2010 by selling "Paper to Pearls" jewelry, a microfinance project supporting women beadworkers who are also internally displaced persons in Uganda. The proceeds go to the beadworkers and to AMCAV. Considering that this project fits well with the International Concerns Coalition's mission, Annette Scarpitta, in her capacity of ICC member and chair, continued sales after RE ended

International Representation at the Social Justice Fair

For the second consecutive year, ICC represented many of its organizations at this well-attended event. With the SJC's blessing, Annette Scarpitta also invited a representative of ONE to host a table.

Annette Scarpitta coordinates the International Concerns Coalition.

ICC meetings and events are open to all, and newcomers to the group are welcome.

NATIONAL AND LOCAL COMMUNITY ISSUES

Action in Montgomery (AIM) is a multiracial, multiethnic, multi-faith, nonpartisan organization affiliated with the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF) with a membership of 28 religious congregations, a senior living facility, and a program working with at-risk teenagers. Cedar Lane was a founding member of AIM ten years ago and many members have contributed to its victories during that time. During 2010-11, AIM's priority activities have been the following:

- Affordable housing - Successfully campaigned to obtain \$24 million for the county's Housing Initiative Fund
- Health care - Successfully obtained a \$500,000 increase in the budget for the county clinics that provide primary care for the 23,000 residents without health insurance.
- Access to higher education - County Executive Leggett committed to a large gathering of AIM members to continue access to Montgomery College at in-state rates for all eligible county residents regardless of their immigration status. AIM joined with sister IAF organizations in Howard County and Baltimore City to create MD IAF, which has actively worked and organized in the 2011 session of the Maryland State Legislature for the passage of the Maryland Dream Act, which would allow eligible graduates of Maryland high school to apply at in-state rates to Maryland state colleges and universities after having attended a Maryland community college. In March 2011, the Dream Act passed the Maryland State Senate and is under consideration in the House of Delegates. Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley publicly committed at a large meeting of AIM members in October 2010 to sign the bill if it is passed by the legislature.

Nancy Janssen, Sandy Shaw, and Helen Strang are members of AIM's Strategy Team.

Beacon House children and young people received school supplies in the fall, Halloween party materials, and Christmas gifts including games, mittens, gloves, scarves, and hats.

John Gubbings is the new coordinator for Beacon House support, including information on volunteer opportunities with disadvantaged kids in Northeast DC

Bethesda House is a shelter managed by Catholic Charities serving 15 men. For more than a decade a team from Cedar Lane has provided a meal on the fourth Tuesday of each month. In the spring of 2010 a second team was organized to provide a meal on the third Saturday of each month. A total of 13 people from Cedar Lane are involved.

Peter and Connie Nissley coordinate the project.

At the *Community-Based Shelter* during the week of January 2-8, 100+ Cedar Laners volunteered their time, food, and money. We estimate those volunteers spent more than 250

hours and more than \$900 during the week, preparing and serving meals. The Social Justice Council provided an additional \$400+ to buy supplies and additional food.

Sandy Shaw coordinates this activity.

Kensington-Parkwood "Homework Club": Corallie Adler, Betty May Cleary, Nancy Janssen, Alison Moses, Tim Muldrew, Helen Strang and Wanda Van Goor participate in the "Homework Club" at Kensington-Parkwood Elementary School on Saul Road. We meet two afternoons weekly from 3:15 to 4:30 pm with 3rd, 4th and 5th graders whom the school has selected. If there is time after homework, the students go to "Study Island", which is a computer program the school is evaluating. This is gratifying work and we welcome new volunteers.

Nancy Janssen coordinates this effort.

Manna Food Packing is accomplished by Youth Activity Group members (grades 7 and 8), who pack food boxes at Manna Food four or five times each year. Fifteen to twenty students plus adult chaperones go to the food pantry in Gaithersburg and pack 192 boxes. Each box contains 20 or so food items, enough food for two to three days for a family. Needy families in Montgomery County pick up the boxes the next day. Manna's client list continues to grow each year, especially in these economic times. To help meet this urgent need, Cedar Lane, with the SJC's assistance, initiated a more intentional effort to contribute food to Manna. The "First Sunday" campaign was started; Cedar Laners are urged to bring food items to fill the Blue Box by the Chapel. Also on First Sundays, students in the Religious Education Program and their families bring food for the "First Sunday Smart Snacks" campaign, depositing the food in Red Barrels in the RE Lobby and by the Chapel. This effort collects food items that are provided to children over the weekend when they are unable to receive meals at their school. In just the first three months of the new First Sunday campaign, we collected almost a ton of food items for Manna, reflecting the generosity of our congregation. Of course, Cedar Laners may bring food items to fill both the Blue Box and the Red Barrels at any time.

John Daniel and Helen Strang chair this effort.

Martha's Table is a community based nonprofit organization in the District of Columbia that serves 1200–1500 meals to homeless and needy people every day. The Cedar Lane Social Justice Council contributes over 200 pounds of fresh fruit every month, and 40 generous Cedar Laners purchase and contribute another 500-600 pounds of fresh vegetables, fruits and meats, as well as packaged rice, beans, pasta. The vegetables we donate are washed and chopped for soup by 14 other Cedar Laners in the church kitchen, while three others deliver the food to Martha's Table on the second Tuesday and Thursday of each month.

Karen Lerner coordinates the project.

Judi Maurer Scholarship Program was started in 1976 by Judi Maurer's family. Judi had been involved in Cedar Lane youth programs and died unexpectedly in her first year of college. The program has supported serious students like Judi, who also consider themselves citizens of the world. It has provided full tuition for two semesters at Montgomery College for a strong student with financial need who is graduating from Rockville High School and planning to attend Montgomery College. For academic year 2010 – 2011, the recipient was Gene Ramon, who is preparing to study engineering.

Becky white chairs the committee.

Re-Building Together Montgomery County (RTMC) was supported by Cedar Lane through fiscal sponsorship and volunteer labor for the April 23 & 24 rebuilding project day in 2010. Cedar Lane took the lead on serving a disabled elderly homeowner by repairing several items in her house including weatherization, light carpentry, doorway repair, yard work, and painting. The homeowner was very appreciative of this work. Over the 2 days 18 Cedar Laners volunteered in this effort. Cedar Laners are building on this commitment in 2011. We are co-sponsoring and providing leadership and volunteers to perform home repairs on a house owned by an elderly person with disabilities in Kensington. This will be an intergenerational effort that will occur in April 2011.

In a related venture, Cedar Lane has supported *Rebuilding Together New Orleans (RTNO)* over the past 2 years. In 2010, fifteen volunteers from Cedar Lane spent a week in New Orleans repairing homes from Jan. 30 – Feb. 6. In 2011 nine volunteers made the trip to New Orleans from Feb. 19 – Feb. 26, and an intergenerational group from Cedar Lane is planning on traveling to and serving the New Orleans community in this capacity in August 2011.

Mike Burski coordinates both these projects.

ACTIVITIES OF UU ORGANIZATIONS

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)

UUSC engaged in the following activities.

- Families in the Religious Education program participated in “Guest at Your Table” in November 2010 and collected \$186.55 for UUSC.
- Fair Trade Coffee purchased from UUSC is served in the lounge and at all events. Hot chocolate sometimes served by the JHS students is also purchased from UUSC.
- UUSC had an informational display at the Social Justice Fair in February 2011.

Kathleen Reedy coordinates this effort.

Unitarian Universalist for Social Justice (UUSJ)

UUSJ celebrates its 11th anniversary this year. It coordinates and supports the social justice efforts of the congregations in the region by providing technical assistance, information, and inspiration for advocacy of a number of social issues and the promotion, recognition, and support for numerous social justice activities.

The SJC at Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church supports the regional program by relaying information about UUSJ programs to the congregation, attending regional meetings, and promoting opportunities for CLUUC members to act on social justice issues. In the past year, SJC:

- Participated in periodic UUSJ Board meetings.
- Responded to a request by UUSJ for ranking of social justice issues.
- Participated with AIM in the Non-Partisan Gubernatorial Accountability Assembly at the Southern Asian 7th Day Adventist Church.
- Supported the Third Annual UUSJ/Open Door Social Justice Awards Benefit Gala. The 2010 UU Interfaith Advisory Committee Affordable Housing Award was presented to Linda Collyer, a Cedar Lane member, for her seventeen years of leadership, *pro bono* accounting and wise counsel in support of social justice.

- Helped to staff the UUSJ booth at the Washington Green Festival at the DC Convention Center.
- Contributed to the UUSJ Environmental Issues Networking meeting at All Soul's.
- Actively lobbied on behalf of LGBT issues including participation in the LOBBY DAY at Annapolis advocating for LGBT equal rights.
- Participated in a UUSJ seminar on Understanding Immigration as a Moral Issue which included presentations by many of UUSJ clergy and opportunities for participants to explore various dimensions of these issues.
- UUSJ through SJC was the facilitator for informing CLUUC members about the views and social justice activities of other UU churches in the region and for promoting joint action by the UU churches for social justice.

Kay Scott and Pat Karlsen are both members of the UUSJ Board. Kay serves as Cedar Lane's representative and Pat is an at-large member of the Executive Committee.