



Reports —

Board of Directors
page 6

Open and Affirming
page 7

**Youth and
Young Adult**
pages 8-11

Parents
pages 8-11

Conferences:
- Out Front
page 12

- Called Out For Good
page 13

Finance
pages 14-15

**Representatives
to the
National Setting
of the UCC**
page 16-20

**Financial
Contributors**
pages 21-23



Telling our story — living the promise

The UCC Coalition of LGBT Concerns 2007, report of the Executive Director

This has been an incredible year of growth and development for The UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns. The Coalition continues to offer support as well as skills and opportunities for specific actions to develop the full inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people in both church and civil settings. Building on our 35 years of advocacy, The Coalition has increasingly become an agency for activism, working with individuals and churches in the LGBT and allied communities.



Ruth Garwood,
Executive Director

for allies who want to worship and serve in inclusive settings, and for other faith centers in neighborhoods and cities where people need to know that God's Realm calls for the full inclusion of all kinds of people. As the number of ONA churches grows, we are also seeing the activity of existing ONA churches increase; not only welcoming people into our congregations, but also advocating beyond the church walls. There are about 190,000 members of our more than 700 ONA churches.

The welcome that Open and Affirming (ONA) churches offer is essential for LGBT people who have been specifically excluded from churches,

Congregations and their members expand their advocacy from their own congregations into

more on page 2

The UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns, 2007 continued from page 1



their communities in a variety of ways: responding to bullying incidents in schools, supporting legislation that would ensure the rights of LGBT people, and increasing the awareness throughout society that people of faith are LGBT advocates. This progression from “welcoming in” to “reaching out” is a natural extension of ONA values.

The momentum of the development of Open and Affirming churches has expanded through the work of local volunteers at the UCC Conference level. Our ONA consultants work with Conference staff to identify churches that are candidates for the Open and Affirming process, to assist churches through their study processes, and to support existing ONA churches as they move toward greater activism. In conjunction with the UCC’s Health and Wholeness Advocacy Office of Wider Church Ministries, we trained 20 new consultants in September, for a total of 49, who bringing this ONA support into 30 of the 38 UCC Conferences.

Our impact is also made evident by our presence in the national setting of the church, including Coalition representatives to national bodies. (See reports on pages 16-20)

Convening LGBT People and Advocates

To broaden connections and alliances, we co-sponsored two conferences. The first, “Out Front,” in Kansas City, was hosted by Country Club Congregational Church to draw together ecumenical advocates for work in the metro area. In Cleveland in April, working with the Health and Wholeness Advocacy Office, we brought together LGBT UCC ministers for “Called Out For Good,” to strengthen the connections among us. (Out Front, page 12 and Called Out for Good, page 13)

Youth and Young Adults

Our Youth and Young Adult Program is developing leaders and saving lives. The Coalition is unique in having a paid position for YYA activity. Although he is compensated only part-time for his Coalition work, Tim Brown’s leadership, vision and pastoral support both bring gospel welcome to young people and their mentors and equip others to also be bearers of that good news. (Pages 8-11)

Gathering 2007

The theme for Gathering was God’s Gift: Our Wholeness, to celebrate health in individuals, in the church, in society as a whole, and with the earth. Rev. Lynice Pinkard was our keynote speaker, talking from her perspective as a pastor and therapist, with her interest in the intersections of psychology, theology and sexuality. She challenged us to integrate all of the areas of our lives and to live into our values. Elaine Kirkland and Charlene Moore led the music at Gathering using a variety of genres for both choir and congregation. For the first time, Gathering was in a hotel rather than on a college campus, and being under one roof for the whole event made it easier to manage for people who have mobility



Keynote speaker,
Lynice Pinkard

more on page 3

The UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns, 2007 continued from page 2

challenges. We are likely to continue to meet in hotels, offering financial assistance to people for whom hotel costs would be an obstacle to participating.

General Synod

Observing the UCC’s 50th birthday with the whole denomination, The Coalition choir performed at worship, and The Coalition was included in a worship procession marking the development of the church over its five decades. The Coalition also provided information and safe space to the youth in attendance, offered workshops on Open and Affirming and on gender identity, and connected with hundreds of people at The Coalition’s pavilion in the display area.

Farewell to Ann B. Day and Donna Enberg

In June of 2007 the announcement of the retirements of Ann B. Day and Donna Enberg from the Open and Affirming Program made us all sad to see these two 20-year members of our staff move on; but their departure, as with any change of staffing, allowed the opportunity for an interim in the position and to see the program with new eyes.

During their 20-year tenure, the impassioned work of Ann B. Day and Donna Enberg shaped the Open and Affirming (ONA) Program, as it became a fundamental part of the work of The Coalition. In 1987 The Coalition started keeping a list of churches that had adopted ONA statements, responding to the 1985 General Synod’s resolution “Calling on UCC Congregations to Declare Themselves Open and Affirming,” of people of all sexual

orientations. (Our consciousness about gender identity came some years later.)

Beyond keeping that list, Ann began to create resources to assist churches in the ONA process; a curriculum for discernment, materials to convey the importance of becoming ONA, and stories of couples that had union ceremonies. Along with ecumenical colleagues (through what has become the Institute for Welcoming Resources), Ann produced a Bible study called Claiming the Promise, and a liturgy resource, Shaping Sanctuary. Both are widely used. (Coalition materials may be purchased through UCC Resources, at 800-537-3394 or online at www.unitedchurchpress.com.)

On a personal note, beyond the leadership Ann provided within The UCC Coalition and through her ecumenical connections, she was a generous colleague who always shared her wisdom with me, particularly during my first two years at the helm of The Coalition.

Stepping into the interim position of the ONA Program was Malcolm Himschoot, who with grace and insight, reviewed the program in light of the current context of our work. (Page 7) Malcolm’s analysis was one of the factors in our choice to staff the ONA program differently in the future, with activities that had been with the ONA Program Coordinator distributed among more staff, especially the Executive Director. The formulation of this idea began during the interim period; it was realized in January 2008.

more on page 4



The UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns, 2007 continued from page 3

Strengthening the organization

In July 2007 the Council of The UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns took several steps in shaping the governance structure to be more aligned with models used in many not-for-profit organizations. The changes include changing the name of our governing body from “Council” to “Board of Directors,” and the title of “National Coordinator” to “Executive Director.” Program staff members, who previously reported to the Council, now report to the Executive Director.

To support the work of The Coalition, we added the staff position of “Projects Coordinator.” Michelle Sims, who started working as Administrative Assistant in the summer 2007 was promoted in January, 2008 to this position.

The work of the Board also focused energy on reviewing The Coalition’s bylaws. To make the organization more nimble, authority for budgeting was given to the Board of Directors. Previously, the budget was approved during the annual meeting (at National Gathering), which meant that the budget was drafted more than eight months before the year in which it started.

The Coalition’s public face

This year, as Executive Director, I have been fortunate enough to attend the annual UCC Conference meetings in Minnesota and Northern California, to visit a number of UCC churches, and also to be at the National Black Justice Coalition’s annual Black Church Summit, the Fellowship’s annual leadership retreat, and the National Religious Leadership Roundtable and its Protestant and Welcoming Church Program Leaders caucuses. Through these connections, we participate in the national movement for LGBT equality, within the UCC and beyond. The Coalition’s presence and leadership are gifts to the whole movement.

“For All The Children”

To honor the ministry of Ann B. Day and Donna Enberg, David Lohman wrote a beautiful hymn, “For All the Children,” which is included in a liturgy resource called, “A Place in God’s Heart...A Place at Christ’s Table.” The Institute for Welcoming Resources and the Welcoming Church Movement collected the materials and dedicated the project to Ann and Donna. David Lohman is the Music Director at Spirit of the Lakes UCC in Minneapolis, and a staff member at the Institute for Welcoming Resources.

The whole booklet is available for download at the IWR website, www.welcomingresources.org.

Communications

We have begun the development of a DVD showing our history, programs and goals. The rough cut of this identity piece has been completed; the project will be finished in 2008, and will be available from our website and in DVD for anyone wanting to show the accomplishments and purposes of The Coalition. The project team included Kara Hooper with volunteers Adrienne Brockway and Ashley Moore, and I am grateful for their gracious offering of their gifts.

Another big change for The Coalition was the departure of Kara Hooper as our part-time Communications Coordinator. After seven years designing our communications and giving The Coalition a visual identity, she felt it was time to spend more time with her family and full-time job. Kara’s broad experience in addition to her publications expertise made her a valuable part of the Coalition staff.

We increasingly use electronic means to reach our constituents. Our electronic and web communications are managed by Chris Paige. And for the current time, print materials will be jobbed out to a corps of volunteer professionals or other designers.

Partners with the national setting

The Coalition has worked as a partner with Mike Schuenemeyer and the Office of Health and Wholeness and LGBT Advocacy in Wider Church Ministries in the national setting of the United Church of Christ for such events as ONA Consultants training and the Called Out for Good Conference referenced above. Lori Tisher, the intern in the Health and Wholeness Advocacy Office, was a tremendous partner during the year, working on all of our joint projects.

more on page 5

The UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns, 2007 continued from page 4

Support for our mission

The Coalition accomplishes its work through careful stewardship of contributions, including financial support from individual and church members, foundations, and resource sales. (Financial report pages 14-15; list of contributors pages 21-23). And, without the commitments of hundreds of volunteers, we could not have the impact we do now. We thank them all for service at local, regional and national levels.

We look forward to full inclusion and affirmation of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities, both within the church and in society as a whole. The Coalition’s mission is to attain this level of inclusion, and our work moves us ever closer to this vision.

Delegation to Palestine

Mike Schuenemeyer’s office sponsored a May trip to Palestine and Israel for a small delegation, most of whom were Coalition members: Peter Barbosa, Adrienne Brockway, Diana Gurley, Scott Howell, Harry Knox, Sala Nolan, Mike Schuenemeyer, John and Pamela Selders and their son Jay, Sandy Sorensen, and myself. The group had originally formed for an August



2006 trip to World Pride in Jerusalem, but like many other groups, we canceled when Israel’s war with Lebanon started earlier that month. The delegation still wanted to see Palestine and so we scheduled the May visit. We toured the Old City of Jerusalem and saw the Dead Sea, Qumran and Jericho, but the primary purpose of the trip was mission exposure; to see what life is like for Palestinians.

The itinerary for the 10-day trip was created by Mike Schuenemeyer, Cathy Nichols (of Wider Church Ministries — Global Missions), and Peter Makari (also from Global Missions). With onsite leadership by Cathy Nichols, we spent most of our time in the West Bank, with one day in Gaza. Although we did visit Jerusalem Open House (the LGBT Center in Jerusalem) and met with the openly gay member of Jerusalem’s City Council, most of our time was spent in meeting and talking to Palestinian human rights groups, activists and church leaders. We also exemplified our solidarity when we joined the weekly demonstration in Jerusalem by Women in Black, many of whom are Jews, who weekly for 20 years have been making a public witness against the occupation of Palestinian territory.

Most of the people with whom we met were Christians. Seeing the economic, political, and social restrictions on Palestinians was sobering. When we asked, “What can we do to help?” the answer was, “Tell people about us. People need to hear our story.”

The Palestine trip has shaped my preaching and outreach as I draw the connections between oppressions and share stories from our visit. Here at The Coalition, we too know the power of story and personal experience; most people who become our advocates know LGBT people personally, or have come to know about LGBT people through their story.



REPORTS

The Board of Directors

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Vice Moderator

Kathy Church

Treasurer/Fundraising

Rich Fluechtling

Secretary

Lydia York

Members-at-Large

James Christie
(Jan-Nov)

Bill Lyons
(Jan-Feb)

Ashley Moore
(Jan-Nov)

Lisa Robinson
(June-Dec)

Melanie Savage
(Jan-June)

Susie Smith
(Jan-Dec.)

Shannon Spencer
(Jan-Dec)

Trent Williams
(June-Dec)

Ex-Officio

Mike Schuenemeyer

Greetings to you, friends, in the name of Christ,

The love of God and change are the two constants in our life together as the United Church of Christ Coalition for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns. You'd think we'd be used to that reality by now, but, human creatures of habit that we are, we still depend on the one—God's love—to help us address the other—change—with courage and creativity. This year our Coalition was blessed with double-helpings of both.

As we do every year, those members of our far-flung body who were able Gathered to sing, pray, teach, learn, and laugh together, but in a new way and in a new kind of space, in East Hartford, CT, in conjunction with General Synod XVI. There we gave thanks for the foundational ministries of Open and Affirming program leaders Ann B. Day and Donna Enberg, even as we bid them Godspeed in their retirement. We also celebrated the 50th Anniversary of our United Church of Christ and were ourselves celebrated as an integral part of the history and the future of the UCC.

As a Board of Directors, we continue to rely on the grace of God and your prayerful support as we address new institutional challenges in our mutual Gospel ministry as the Coalition. For example, in the wake of Ann and Donna's retirement, we welcomed Malcolm Himshoot as interim Open and Affirming Coordinator. His faithful work and fresh outlook helped us recommit to this core ministry of our Coalition and our denomination. As a direct result, we have

chosen to make ONA work the center of our Executive Director, Ruth Garwood's, job description. At the same time, we continue to invest in ONA consultants training, recognizing that these dedicated regional resource people are necessary for the continued expansion of the program. Similarly, the Board has worked hard to re-examine our own role as servant-leaders. We have updated our job description to better reflect the current needs of our Coalition, particularly around project direction, leadership development, and fund-raising.



John MacIver Gage

These challenges have not been easy, either to foresee or address; in fact, on occasion we found the landscape changing so fast under our feet that we needed to amend our best estimates and best efforts on the go. This has been a significant challenge for us as a Board, both collectively and as individuals. We have spent many hours working together around the conference table and even more online and on the phone, and we believe we have made good and faithful decisions on your behalf and on behalf of the ministry God has shared with us all.

As always, of course, we ask your forbearance as well as your wise counsel and your active participation as we step out into the future together in faith. We trust that God has yet more light and truth to reveal to us and through us.

Yours in Christ,
John MacIver Gage, Moderator
New Haven, CT

Open and Affirming Program Interim Reflections

I began a 6-month interim with the Coalition for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns as ONA Program Coordinator on July 1. It was my job to guide sustaining as well as transitioning tasks for the ONA Program during a move from Massachusetts to the Coalition's Cleveland office.

Sustaining Tasks:

Churches experienced consistency and continuity with ONA standards and practices during the interim. To be listed officially Open and Affirming, a congregation must have a policy explicitly welcoming people of all sexual orientations. I spent 20 hours a week on email and phone, responding to questions, following up with churches, networking ONA volunteers, and arranging for long-term planning and visioning. I spent 400 hours traveling nationwide (to Massachusetts once and Cleveland three times, the heart of The Coalition's ONA Program; to Minneapolis and Nashville for ecumenical networking; and also to local ONA churches in Ft. Collins and Englewood, Colorado. I enjoyed relationship-building and the training of volunteers, especially. 20 new people were trained as ONA Consultants to offer consultations and workshops, maintaining ONA visibility and presence throughout UCC settings. We now have consultants in 30 of 38 Conferences, and 2 of 4 COREM constituency groups (United Black Christians and Pacific-Islander/Asian-American Ministries).

Transitioning Tasks:

The Open and Affirming Program was nurtured for 20 years out of the home of Rev. Ann B. Day and Donna Enberg. This year, program educational resources were moved to the United Church of Christ Resources warehouse for distribution. Coalition office staff began clerical and data assistance. Vision for the program has been developed by the Executive Director, and is now vested in a committee appointed by the Coalition's elected Board, which will meet in Cleveland twice a year. Those charged with guidance of the ONA Program have developed three orienting landmarks for the program. 1) Training ONA Consultants in each Conference; 2) Doubling the number of ONA congregations nationwide within five years; 3) Pur-

suing multi-cultural, multi-racial faithfulness.

ONA Summary Statistics

The ONA Program nurtures the leadership of people with passion for change, offers educational and human resources to congregations in discernment, and keeps record of and publicizes congregations' public witness of LGBT affirmation.

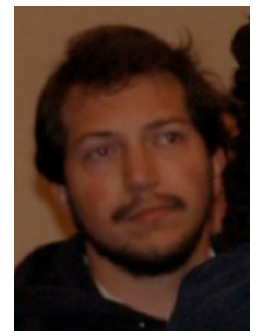
In 2007 the ONA Program added to our list 82 congregations in the United Church of Christ. An increasing number of churches is listed ONA each year, suggesting that the total number could double within five years! (In human terms. When I was 10 years old in 1987, the ONA program began with the listing of 15 congregations. That number doubled, and doubled again while I was in puberty. When I turned 23 in 2001, I transitioned from female-to-male, and the program had 365 churches. Somehow, during the 7 years that I've been "Malcolm," the number of ONA listings has doubled again, to 731!)

The active count of ONA congregations is 710, just under 12% of member congregations in the UCC (representing 15% of congregants). This year three New Church Starts, 1 Church in Conversation with the UCC, 1 Association, and 1 Conference of the United Church of Christ were listed as well.

The number of ONA Consultants stands at 49, with 30 of 38 Conferences having some coverage, as well as 2 of 4 historically-recognized Racial-Ethnic Ministry constituency groups.

Rev. Malcolm Himshoot
Denver, CO
Open and Affirming Program Interim

ONA
ONA
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ONA
ONA



Malcolm Himshoot

ONA Advisory Committee

Margaret Jacoby
Linda Jaramillo
Sam Loliger
Lydia York (Board Liaison)

YYA

YYA

YYA

YYA



Tim Brown

Youth and Young Adult Program — What we do

The work of the Youth and Young Adult Coordinator centers in three central areas:

1. support and advocacy for lgbtq youth and young adults - This takes the form of telephone calls, emails, instant messages, and the like; it includes things like pastoral counseling, presenting educational workshops, and advocacy.
2. resourcing those who work with youth and young adults — Being available as a resource for youth ministers and campus ministers
3. liaison to lgbt students at UCC-related colleges and ONA Campus Ministries

As I reflect on the work of 2007, our work was focused in each of those areas. Youth and young adults from across the United States have come into contact with The Coalition through finding us online, through peers, and through our presence at the General Synod as well as at other events.

Capacity building

Some of our work this year was focused on capacity building. For example, two of us from The Coalition are now Registered Suicide Intervention Skills Trainers. (See below.) A workshop was offered in Western Massachusetts for youth leaders to present our most frequently-requested workshop, Biblical Self-Defense. Youth and young adults have made presentations. Having a group of volunteers from which to draw enables us to do additional education and advocacy work.

There is a steady stream of emails and instant messages from across the United States from youth and young adults, as well as phone calls. Issues can include questions about relationships, coming out of the closet, sexually transmitted infections, dealing with in-care committees, etc. This year also saw the extensive re-working of a workshop on homophobia.

Appointees

In the revised structure of the UCC, The Coalition is requested to designate people to serve on various boards and committees. This year our appointees were:

1. Obadiah Ballanger - from Minnesota, in-care student at Yale Divinity School to Council

for Youth and Young Adult Ministries (CYAM). In turn, CYAM nominated Obadiah for the UCC Executive Council.

2. Jared Adams - from Wisconsin - youth representative on CYAM
3. Marika Kuhlman - from Idaho - young adult representative on National Youth Event Planning Committee (resigned and we are looking for a replacement)

Here are some of the specific activities in which we have been involved in the past year:

New York Conference Youth Event

March 9-11, 2007

Painted Post, New York

New York Conference Youth Event - Aaron Aanenson and I staffed the New York Youth Event which was held in Painted Post, NY, March 9-11. Aaron, who is a student at Pace University, took the bus with the Metropolitan NY Association youth. We gave two workshops: Biblical Self-Defense, and Ho-Ho-Homophobia. The homophobia workshop has been completely redesigned and now includes video and audio clips for discussion in powerpoint format. Preparing this took many hours. We also staffed a display table, and Safe Space was available.

Gunnison, Colorado

March 22-25, 2007

Gay / Straight Alliance of the Gunnison Valley

I participated as the keynote speaker in an event in Gunnison, Colorado. The keynote

more on page 9

Youth and Young Adult Program continued from page 8

presentation was “Homophobia and the State of Things” and was at Western State College. There were a number of workshops presented at this event, of which I led two: Creating an Open and Affirming Campus, and Coming Out. On Sunday, I was the guest preacher at Gunnison Congregational UCC (an ONA church) and then lead a workshop with youth at Union Congregational Church UCC of Crested Butte (Biblical Self-Defense). The event was sponsored by the college, both of the churches already named, Western State College of Colorado, and the Gunnison Watershed School District RE-1J. The event was given a lot of good press coverage, and there was intentionality about reaching out to the fundamentalist and conservative religious groups in the area.

Called Out for Good: Ministering in the UCC Conference

April 24-27, 2007

UCC Church House, Cleveland, Ohio

A convening of openly lgbt authorized ministers in the UCC was held at the UCC Church House in Cleveland. My role in this was primarily as a participant, although I was also introduced as a staff member.

Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting & Camp Training

June 8-10, 2007

Green Lake, Wisconsin

I was one of several presenters involved in training camp staff at Pilgrim Center, one of two UCC camps in Wisconsin. (The other, Moon Beach, was given resources.) Some of the training included topics about making sure the camp was a safe environment for lgbtq youth, and involved some role plays of pastoral counseling situations.

The second piece of this event was the Wisconsin Conference UCC annual meeting, at which I made a presentation (twice) on lgbt youth suicide.

UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns National Gathering

June 19-21, 2007

Hartford, Connecticut

The National Gathering this year was held prior to the General Synod in Hartford. We had fewer



YYA at Gathering, 2007

travel funds available I offered workshops: Mentoring Queer Youth, and Ethical Relationships and Dating, and Creating an Open and Affirming Campus. I also staffed a table and was responsible for youth/young adults.

UCC General Synod

June 22-26, 2007

Hartford, Connecticut

Synod was a busy time for me. Betzi Yungclas coordinated those who staffed a table in the exhibit hall. We are offered two workshops, and I was one of the two facilitators for young adults for a discussion group. I also spoke at the opening orientation for youth, at the young adult breakfast, and at the 20-30 Clergy Network. I participated in a book signing and staffed Safe Space at the university in the evenings. At other times I was a “chaperone.”

ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training)

August 20-24, 2007

Denver, Colorado

My office received a renewal of our grant from Plymouth Congregational Church in Seattle to offer suicide intervention training. Last year, a group of people were trained at Community UCC, Boulder, Colorado. This year, the grant was used to train two of us to become accredited trainers, so that The Coalition may then offer the training on its own using certified people. This work stems in part from my own experiences having to do suicide interventions with sexual minority young people

more on page 10

Youth and Young Adult Program continued from page 9



Tim Brown and Betzi Yungclas at ASIST

(who account for 1/3 of teen suicides), and from a 1999 General Synod Resolution on the prevention of lgbt youth suicide (for which Community UCC served as one of the sponsor churches).

A second segment of this work has been passing along information to UCC-related colleges who may be eligible to receive federal funding for suicide prevention and intervention programs.

We can now offer the following workshops:

suicideTALK (two hours)

safeTALK (four hours)

ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) (two days)

ONA Consultants Training

September 14-16, 2007
UCC Church House, Cleveland, Ohio

The work of The Coalition with the Open and Affirming movement has grown significantly, and is more than a staff person can handle alone. Many individuals in countless local churches are involved with this work, ranging from those who serve as ONA contacts to those who present educational seminars and have those behind-the-scenes conversations with members of congregations. For this reason, the Coalition has now held a few trainings for "ONA Consultants." The goal is for each conference to have a designated person or persons to work with congregations. My role in training was both as a staff member and participant. I shared resources which are available for youth, and the

importance of involving youth in the ONA study process.

OASOS of Boulder County

September 17, 2007
November 14, 2007
Boulder County, Colorado

I presented a workshop (Biblical Self-Defense) for OASOS (Open and Affirming Sexual Orientation Support) and attended their Community Potluck. OASOS was the first support group for lgbtq youth in the United States organized through a county mental health office.

UMHE/PRISM at CU Boulder

I was a speaker at United Ministries in Higher Education (PRISM) at the University of Colorado at Boulder for the Coming Out Faithful series in September.

Western Massachusetts Youth Ministers Event

October 13-14, 2007
First Churches of Northampton

The most frequently requested workshop we offer is Biblical Self-Defense for Youth. We have started training others to give this workshop, which builds our capacity. The workshop was presented to a group of youth ministers in Western Massachusetts, and then a training session conducted for potential presenters. I also spoke briefly during the worship service at First Churches of Northampton (which is Jonathan Edwards' congregation for church history buffs) and worked with the confirmation class.

UCC-related educational institutions

As for contact with the 47 educational institutions related to the United Church of Christ, we have sent a couple of mailings (usually one per semester - in 2007, they also received information about the suicide intervention skills training). The UCC Council for Higher Education now meets biennially due to budget constraints, so there was no meeting in 2007. However, additional contact of some sort was had with the institutions listed below. Several asked for and received support on various topics. This included creating and enforcing anti-harrassment pol-

more on page 11

Youth and Young Adult Program continued from page 10

icies, conferring on pastoral counseling and support issues, updating workshop lists and descriptions, providing bibliographies, information about training residence hall staff, and the like.

Doane College
Elmhurst College
Heidelberg College
Defiance College
Grinnell College
Dillard University
Elon University
Rocky Mountain College
Illinois College
Lakeland College
Northland College
Olivet College
Ripon College

In addition, we are in the process of approaching the seminaries of the UCC about offering suicide intervention training with a focus on sexual minority and gender minority youth and young adults.

Resource Transfer

In the past, seekers of Coalition resources had to order things from three different places. Open and Affirming resources were in Massachusetts, national Coalition resources were in Ohio, and youth/young adult resources were in Colorado. In the summer, 16 boxes left my garage. All Coalition resources are now available through United Church Resources.

Ecumenical Welcoming Movement Youth/Young Adult Leaders Meeting

December 7-8, 2007
St. Paul, Minnesota

Representatives from 10 denominations were invited to a meeting at Macalster Plymouth United Church in St. Paul. The meeting was convened by the Institute for Welcoming Resources, which is a program of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss best practices for ministry with lgbt youth, and to find out how the denominations could work together and support each other. I am the only paid staff member in the lot; two other denominations have interns (Brethren/Mennonite and United Methodist) who work mostly with college campuses.

Coming up

We are gearing up for several events in 2008, including the National Youth Event, the UCC Council for Higher Education Convocation, and some conference youth events.

We also expect to offer our ASIST training at least two times in 2008.

Timothy Brown,
Commissioned Minister
Youth and Young Adult Coordinator
Youth and Young Adult Program

The Parents of LGBT Children

The Parents of LGBT Children has a small core group which attended either the 2007 National Gathering or Synod, or both! We recognize the importance of our ministry to parents of gay children and the need to spread information among church leaders.

Our new focus is to better understand the journey of Transgender folks. That will prepare us to be more sensitive to the issues of their parents.

Parents

Parents

Parents

Parents

— Cy Sherman

The Out Front Conference

The Out Front conference for building GLBT Faith Alliances in the Kansas City area was held on February 9-11, 2007 at Country Club Congregational United Church of Christ. The conference was a joint endeavor of the Pacific School of Religion's Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies in Religion and Ministry and the United Church of Christ Coalition for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns.

The Out Front conference started out Friday evening with a concert by a group from the Heartland Men's Chorus. The men got the conference off to a rousing start.

Saturday was a full day. It started with a concert by the Kansas City Women's Chorus. The women were followed by the keynote address by Rev. Jimmy Creech, who is the Executive Director of Faith in America, Inc., an organization whose mission is to end bigotry disguised as religious truth. Also speaking to the group that morning was Professor Robert Minor, speaking on the Bible and LGBT people. Dr. Minor is the founder of the Fairness Project which promotes fair and positive understanding of all human beings regardless of sexual orientation, sex, gender identity, or any other dividing factor.

The afternoon was devoted to workshop groups. One group had a panel discussion on ways churches could become more welcoming; another discussed transitioning youth groups for positive LGBT inclusion. Donna Ross led a group discussion on Transgender and Spirituality. Tom Ogletree, representing GLAAD (the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation) presented a discussion of developing media skills on how LGBT faith leaders could get their voice heard in the media.

The conference was attended by about one hundred people of many faith communities. Their main purpose was to figure out how we could all work together in the Kansas City area to get the voice of the LGBT community heard. The workshop headed by Kathleen Griffin of the Kansas City Anti-Violence Project focused on strategizing and implementing methods of enrolling all of Kansas City in the vision of an open and affirming community. The group focused on the many success already attained in the Kansas City area as well as current challenges that we face. They developed a community action plan.

Our closing worship moved the participants to a faithful experience with the jazz music of Alice Jenkins. Kansas City is the home of jazz and it was a special treat to have one of Kansas City's top jazz musicians close our time together.

The conference was over, but the work is just starting. A coalition was built that will work into the future in Kansas City. A coalition that will work to bring the voice of the LGBT community to the larger community in Kansas City is built and ready to work for a more just and loving community...a community built on love and understanding.

The conference was a success because of many people, but special thanks go out to Bernard Schlager of the Pacific School of Religion and Ruth Garwood of the United Church of Christ Coalition for LGBT Concerns. Their moral and financial support was invaluable. Also a thanks to the coordinating committee made up of representatives of many of the faith groups in the Kansas City area that worked and made the Out Front Conference a huge success.



Called Out For Good Conference



With Mike Schuenemeyer and the UCC's Wider Church Ministries Health and Wholeness Advocacy Office, The Coalition sponsored the Called Out for Good Conference. This conference brought together 33 openly LGBT people in authorized ministry in the UCC — ordained ministers, seminarians in-care, commissioned and licensed ministers — and their partners for three days in April at the Church House in Cleveland, Ohio. The only prior event that was similar was in 1999 when Bill Johnson, Minister for HIV/AIDS Ministries and Minister for LGBT Concerns, convened about 35 "out" LGBT ministers serving UCC churches. At the time, we knew of about perhaps 70 "out" ministers serving churches. In the eight years since then, openly LGBT ministers are less remarkable, so we don't have as easy a time estimating the total.

Planners for this year's event were Mike Schuenemeyer, Ann B. Day, Phil Porter, Damaris Ortega, Lisa Robinson, Cameron Sharp, Daryl Kistler, Marilyn Stavenger, Lori Tisher, and Scott Howell. John Thomas preached at one of our worship services, we ate together, enjoyed a concert by a local lesbian singer, talked with staff from Local Church Ministries staff about the search and call process. Phil Porter led us through a process in which we identified the issues we most wanted to talk about.

There was a tremendous power from simply being together — not concentrating on developing a mission or building an ongoing network, but getting to know each other and learning what is going on in different parts of the country — and in different areas of ministry.

Financial Report



Rich Fleuchting

The Coalition continued its growth and transition in 2007. Staff changes included the retirement of Ann B. Day and Donna Enberg and Kara Hooper. A full time interim ONA coordinator was hired for several months during late 2007. The Coalition hosted Called Out for Good- a clergy/seminarian conference in addition to the National Gathering.

Total assets and liabilities increased primarily from higher deferred revenue which is funds received from grants which have not yet been spent for the designated purposes. Increases of Designated Net Assets came from sales of designated fund resources paid for in the previous year, contributions to the Ann B Day and Donna Enberg Endowment Fund, and from growth of investments.

The income and expense statement shows less Members & Friends contributions while Church and conference basic support increased significantly over the previous year. Grant income varies from year to year and shows a lower total than last year. Contributions in-kind total is slightly more than half from donated work for creating a DVD of The Coalition's story and history with the rest from Board member expenses for which reimbursement was not requested. Resource sales are a key to getting information to those who request and need it. Event revenue reflects the

additional conference.

Total expenses also increased significantly for the year. Staff expense reflects increased compensation and changes in staff makeup. Leadership support increased from last year from more travel by the executive director, more complete reporting of board expense and training costs for ONA consultants. Communications expense is higher from production costs for the new DVD and newsletter printing and website costs. The General Synod line shows the net expense. Youth and Young Adult total includes travel and other direct costs expenses from conducting suicide prevention workshops. Event expense is higher reflecting the additional event. Support Other Ministries decreases due to a delayed payment and one time support for a DVD in 2006 of a national UCC black clergy conference held in 2005.

Net income is a modest positive amount in 2007 even with the many changes from the previous year.

The financial records of The Coalition under go a CPA review each year; a copy of the review can be obtained by calling the national office of The Coalition.

Rich Fleuchting, Treasurer
Madison, WI

Balance Sheet * for the years ending December 31, 2007 and 2006

	12/30/2007	12/30/2006
Assets		
Cash	\$86,407.70	\$65,264.24
Other Current Assets	2,647.66	5,999.17
Prepaid Expenses	3,202.92	4,814.39
Investments (at market value)	40,975.94	28,003.57
Total Assets	\$133,234.22	\$104,081.37
Liabilities & Fund Balances		
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 4,226.09	\$ 5,617.06
Deferred Income	45,667.00	17,500.00
Total Liabilities	\$ 49,893.09	\$ 23,117.06
Net Assets		
Operating	6,753.73	29,419.69
Designated	76,587.40	51,544.62
Total Net Assets	\$ 83,341.13	\$ 80,964.31
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$133,234.22	\$104,081.37

Income and Expense Statement * for the years ending December 31, 2007 and 2006

	12/31/2007	12/31/2006
Income		
Operating Income		
Members & Friends	\$ 68,513.06	\$ 79,230.71
Churches, Conf, etc	58,718.05	36,019.18
Grants	55,123.51	63,247.10
Contributions In-Kind	19,947.71	7,067.21
Endowment Contributions	11,119.00	0.00
Resources Sold	13,052.84	12,774.28
Event Revenue	76,702.94	58,903.35
Investment Income	818.70	706.30
Other Income	672.74	492.01
Total Operating Income	\$304,668.55	\$258,440.14
Expense		
Operating Expense		
Staff Expense	\$124,133.84	\$107,834.99
Program Administration	17,635.65	22,906.55
Resource Costs	5,824.30	7,554.57
Leadership Support	34,966.86	19,868.81
Communications	25,724.03	8,231.59
General Synod	1,220.86	0.00
Open and Affirming	5,649.83	6,345.29
Youth and Young Adult	14,566.20	13,190.42
Event Expense	65,118.27	56,842.46
Fund Raising	8,605.26	6,442.35
Support Other Ministries	700.00	3,250.00
Total Operating Expense	\$304,145.10	\$252,467.03
Net Income	\$ 523.45	\$ 5,973.11

* Internally prepared on accrual basis

The Coalition representatives serving in the national setting of the UCC

The Executive Council and each of the Covenanted Ministry Boards of the UCC call for representation from the “Historically Underrepresented Groups” in the denomination: The Coalition; the Council for Hispanic Ministries; United Black Christians; Ministers for Racial Social and Economic Justice; Pacific Islander and Asian-American Ministries; the Council for Youth and Young Adult Ministries; and the Disabilities Ministries. These seats ensure representation by members of these groups, in addition to any sent by their conferences.

In addition to the representatives whose reports are presented here, Karen Curtis-Weakley holds The Coalition seat on the Local Church Ministries, and Diane Darling is The Coalition representative to the General Synod Nominating Committee. Peter Barbosa was serving on the Hispanic Ministries Implementation Team, but had to resign during the year.

Report from Representative to the Board of Directors of the Office of General Ministries

The Office of General Ministries (OGM) is one of the four Covenanted Ministries in the United Church of Christ. Its mission is to care for the spiritual life, unity, and well-being of the church, to nurture our covenantal life and its ecumenical and interfaith relationships, to provide regular processes which focus on theological reflection throughout the church: and to assist in the total mission of the UCC. The OGM works through five teams: Office of General Ministers, Common Services Ministry, Covenantal Relations Ministry, Proclamation, Identity and Communication Ministry, and Financial Development Ministry.

It is important to consider the specific mission and work of OGM as the national boards continue to assess the proposed restructuring of governance within the national setting. During our last meeting in Cleveland, Ohio in November 2007 we continued to evaluate the “streamlined” consolidated structure that has been suggested by the UCC’s five-person Collegium of Officers.

Generally, the OGM members are in favor of making the necessary changes in

order to allow those working in the national setting to act strategically and respond quickly to various issues.

A few members of the OGM board continue to express concerns about equal representation and sharing of power. Obviously, I am participating in this discussion since we want equal representation for GLBTQ folks in this new form of governance. Any new structure could not be implemented until 2009, at the earliest. The members of all of the boards will meet in April to continue to evaluate these ideas.

In addition, the personnel subcommittee of OGM reported that there would be no additional layoffs at the national office for 2008. They recommended a 3% cost of living wage increase for national staff. The recommendation was approved by the OGM Board members.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve in this ministry. I look forward to the April 2008 OGM meeting.

Peace,
Rev. Dr. Julie J. Kilmer
Eagle, MI

Report from Representative to the Board of Directors of the Justice and Peace Ministries

Greetings from the Board of Directors of Justice and Witness Ministries! The board had its fall meeting October 25-27, 2007 at Franklinton Center at Bricks in Whitakers, North Carolina.

As you may recall from previous reports from other Coalition representatives to covenanted ministry boards that last year the boards began discussions around restructure proposals. Justice and Witness Ministries or Local Church Ministries did not accept the first proposal, which was presented to the boards from the Collegium of Officers. Following those decisions a Governance Follow-Up Study Team began developing different structure models.

At this board meeting a new proposal was presented, proposing the merging of the Executive Council and the boards of each of the covenanted ministries into a new United Church Board of Directors. The covenanted ministries themselves as corporations would not be dissolved, but would have directors from the United Church Board have directors assigned to their specific ministries. The board would be comprised of 50% or more women, 50% or more people of color, 1/3 lay women, 1/3 lay men, and 1/3 clergy. The specific board makeup would be similar to the current composition of Executive Council. However most historically under-represented groups (HUGs), including the Coalition, would have two representatives. The UCC Disabilities Ministries, will have 3 representatives since there is currently very little presence of UCCDM leaders on national setting boards and committees.

After much discussion and discernment, the JWM Board voted to support the work of the Governance Follow-Up Committee,

with some concerns that we hope will be resolved in the next draft of the proposal. Chief among the concerns was the preservation of justice work within the new form of governance.

Also at this meeting the board engaged in a brief cultural competency training led by JWM’s Minister for Communications, Bentley de Bardelaben. We approved several standard financial resolutions as well. Minister for Public Education and Witness, Jan Resseger sends her thanks to the Coalition for signing onto the Joint Organizational Statement on the No Child Left Behind Act, which calls for the reform of this troubling policy. The Coalition joined these other UCC organizations on the statement: Justice and Witness Ministries, Council for Hispanic Ministries, and Ministers for Racial, Social and Economic Justice.

Finally, I want to encourage you to give generously to the Neighbors in Need special offering. Commonly taken in local churches on World Communion Sunday, it is administered by JWM to support the Council of American Indian Ministries and grants for local justice organizations in each conference. Most of the funds to CAIM help pay the salary for Native American pastors in 18 of the 20 Native American congregations of the UCC. These salaries average to \$17,000 a year. The American Indian congregations of our denomination need your assistance in order to minister to their communities. If your congregation does not currently take this offering please encourage them to do so. You may also give directly to Justice and Witness Ministries at 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115.

Respectfully Submitted,
James Darnell

The Coalition representatives serving in the national setting of the UCC

Report from Representative to the Board of Directors of the Office of Wider Church Ministries

The Coalition representatives serving in the national setting of the UCC



Oliver Martin

With over 20 years of professionally promoting and teaching how to celebrate diversity, I am pleased to be your appointed representative to the Board of Directors for the United Church through the Wider Church Ministry, and proud to be part of a LGBT Ministry that not only asked for Parity, Inclusion and Representation from others, but also expects it from within.

One of our priority Board Duties is related to the advancement of Board operations from a four Covenanted Ministries Board Model (4 separate Boards) to the model below in an effort to streamline Board Duties starting in 2011 as recommended by the Governance Follow-Up Team of the Board.

Under the current draft for consideration our UCC LGBT Concerns Ministry which is considered a traditionally underrepresented group would be able to select two (2) representatives to the 69-person Board.

Under the current proposed plan, all members of the United Church Board of Directors will be elected by General Synod (GS). Sixty-nine (69) of the board members will go through the “standard” nomination process (similar to the nomination process of our current model) in which each group being represented submits three (3) nominations to the GS Nominating Committee for selection and vote by GS. Seventeen (17) members will be nominated by virtue of their respective positions.

The 69 positions following the standard nomination process will be as follows:

- Thirty-eight (38) local church members, one representing each UCC conference
- Ten (10) members, two (2) from each of the following groups: 1) Council for American Indian Ministry, 2) Council for Hispanic Ministries, 3) Ministers for Racial, Social and Economic Justice, 4) Pacific Islander and Asian American Ministries, and, 5) United Black Christians
- Three (3) members from the UCC Disabilities Ministries
- Two (2) members from the Council for Youth and Young Adult Ministries (2-year term)

- Nine (9) At-large youth and/or young adults members (2-year term)
- One (1) representative from the Council for Racial and Ethnic Ministries
- Two (2) representative of the UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns
- One (1) representative of the Council for Theological Education
- One (1) representative of the Council for Higher Education
- One (1) representative from the Historical Council
- One (1) representative from the Council on Ecumenism

To address issues of Parity, Inclusion and Representation the composition of these 69 positions will closely follow the guidelines modeled by the current JWM Corporation Bylaws, including the following distribution:

- Fifty percent or more (50%) shall be persons of color
- Fifty percent or more (50%) shall be women.
- One-third of the members will be ordained ministers or persons with ordained ministerial partner standing
- One-third laywomen, and one-third laymen
- Twenty percent of the members are to be under 30 years of age at the time elected. When possible, under-30 representation shall include (a) youth, persons of high school age; (b) young adults, persons graduated from high school or over 19 years of age.

In addition to the 69 members going through the standard nomination process described above, the following seventeen (17) positions will be nominated and elected by virtue of their respective positions.

more on page 9

Report from the Representative to the Executive Council

Much of the attention of the Executive Council during the past year focused on the financial condition of the denomination and the alternatives to the current structure of the Church that might lead to substantive expense savings.

In addition, there was significant time devoted to the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the United Church of Christ, with emphasis on the General Synod held in Hartford, Connecticut in June 2007.

The good news is that the financial support of the church, through OCWM (Our Churches Wider Mission) and the Special Mission Offerings, was up from prior years and that means more money went to Conferences and the National Setting for their work.

As the new chair of the Special Mission Offering committee, I was impressed by the hard work and imaginative efforts of the staff to help raise awareness within churches around these funds. But, I was blown away by the impact these dollars made in the lives of people here in the U. S. as well as throughout the world. The work of your denomination, locally and globally is something that all of us should proudly proclaim – and support – in our individual UCC churches and settings.

Many of you attended General Synod, so I won't elaborate more on this 50th Anniversary celebration except to say that

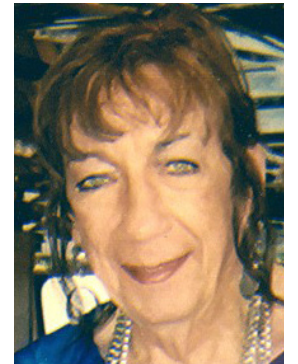
it was a wonderful event filled with energy, passion, and great music and worship.

I thought it was a magnificent occasion for a special reason that I hope never gets lost in the annals of the UCC. This historic gathering represents the best of this denomination: when it was discovered in 2007 that the Hartford's new Convention Center and the adjoining hotel would not sign a labor agreement with its workers, the UCC said “we won't meet in such an environment”. At great expense – and a lot of sleepless nights for staff – a new venue in Hartford was found and new arrangements made for unexpected transportation and logistics needs. The new venue, the Civic Center, worked so well that many people may have forgotten all about the situation that led up to this space. But the fact is the UCC acted as a Church should when confronted with injustice and inequity. I see this as an important milestone to add to the already glorious history of our Church.

As we progress into 2008, the issue of restructuring the national setting of the church is, and will continue to be, a major issue confronting the Executive Council as well as the boards of the other Ministries. Another significant challenge will come as the UCC begins its search for a new President and General Minister to replace John Thomas – a formidable task.

Barbara Satin
UCC Coalition representative
Minneapolis, MN

The Coalition representatives serving in the national setting of the UCC



Barbara Satin

The Coalition representatives serving in the national setting of the UCC



Obadiah Ballinger

Report from the Representative to the Council for Youth and Young Adult Ministries

The Council for Youth and Young Adult Ministries (CYYAM) is a group of two dozen youth and young adults that gathers to talk about youth and young adult involvement in the UCC nationally. We have members in the group from all over the US, from California to New York, and there are quite a few LGBT members. Jared Adams represents the UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns on the Council. Our mission priorities for the next two years also include: increasing UCC campus ministry opportunities, considering the role of technology in the lives of young people, and educating ourselves and others about youth and young adult sexuality. CYYAM also hopes to have a significant role with the National Youth Event this summer in Tennessee. We want to help the UCC to become an even better denomination by making national UCC events more "Green" (e.g. reducing carbon gas emissions, changing incandescent lights to compact florescent bulbs, etc). We talk by

conference call each month and meet in Cleveland twice a year.

At the beginning of January we learned that the second of our two national staff liasons had resigned, leaving us no official support. We have arranged a February meeting in Cleveland to help us make plans for how to proceed. We plan to meet with the executive ministers of Local Church Ministries and Justice and Witness Ministries, as well as other conference and national staff eager to support youth and young adults. We will think together about CYYAM's mission and how the national setting can support youth and young adult ministry throughout the church. Our discussion will include the special concerns and possibilities of ministry with LGBT youth and young adults. The UCC has been friendly to the LGBT community for a long time, and CYYAM proves this even more. Everyone has open minds and tries to make our experiences as enjoyable as possible. We hope that you'll hear more about us soon!

Obadiah Ballinger
New Haven, CT

Wider Church Ministries *from page 6*

A few November 2007 Board Actions

Below are a few items that passed in our November 2007 Board meeting that may be of importance to the LGBT Ministry. If you need a full report of all motions passed, contact me separately at martinow@aol.com and I will email you a full report.

The Wider Church Ministries Board voted unanimously with 1 abstention to affirm in principle the recommendations of the Governance Follow-Up Team, noting affirmations, concerns, and questions.

The Wider Church Ministries Board unanimously voted with 1 opposition and 5 abstentions to approve the extension of a letter of credit facility with Key Bank to United Church of Christ

Insurance Board in the amount of \$750,000 for the calendar year of 2008 provided that all letter of credit fees and expenses are paid by the United Church of Christ Insurance Board and further provided that Wider Church Ministries has a voice without vote representative to the Board of Directors of the United Church of Christ Insurance Board.

The Wider Church Ministries Board unanimously voted to adopt the 2008 Budget expenditures cap not exceeding disbursements of \$8,991,335, estimated receipts of \$7,917,597, and transfers from FFE II (Unrestricted Reserves) of \$1,703,758 (which includes the funding of the Financial Development office in Cleveland).

Oliver Martin,
New York City, NY

Honor Roll of Contributors 2007

\$5001 & up

Arcus Foundation
Carpenter Foundation
Faith Covenant Church, Houston, TX

ANGEL (\$1,500-5,000)

Paul Bradley
Ann B. Day & Donna Enberg
Stanley & Betsy Dole
Rich Fluechtling
Ruth Garwood
Jan Griesinger
Sarah Griffin

.....

First United-Oak Park Oak Park IL
Rock Spring Congregational UCC Arlington VA
San Marino Congregation San Marino CA
United Church on the Green New Haven CT
United Parish of Auburndale Auburndale MA

PROPHET (\$1,000-\$1,499)

John Gage
David & Lois Garwood
Ann Kansfield
Samuel Loliger
Richard Peterson
Mike Schuenemeyer
Cy & Gordon Sherman

.....

Beneficent Congregational Church Providence RI
Colonial Church in Prairie Vilage Prairie Village KS
Plymouth Church of Shaker Hts Shaker Heights OH
United Congregational Church Worcester MA

BENEFACTOR (\$500-\$999)

Stephen M. Anderson
Adrienne Brockway
Cheryl L. Burke & Julie J. Kilmer
Howard Burton & Brett Kincannon
Kathy Church
Paul Day
Maggie George & Rebecca Voelkel
Jane Heckles
Susan Jelinek
David Knapp
Nancy Krody & Patricia E. Szabo
Gregory Morisse
Bill Nye
Ed Pratt
Robert Snyder & Gwen Snyder
Ellen M. Sweetin & Wendy J. Taylor
Richard H. Taylor
Nancy Thrans & Fran Twomey
William & Marguerite Voelkel

.....

Claremont UCC Congregational Claremont CA
College Ave Cong-Modesto Modesto CA
Congregational Church of Needham Needham MA
Cross Creek Community Church Centerville OH
First Cong-Madison, WI Madison WI
First Congregational Church San Jose CA
First Congregational Church UCC S. Portland ME
First Congregational-Berkeley Berkeley CA
First Plymouth Congregational Church, Englewood CO
Massachusetts Conference of the UCC Framington MA
Minnesota Conference UCC Minneapolis MN
Mission Hills UCC San Diego CA
New Hampshire Conference Pembroke NH
New York Conference of the UCC East Syracuse NY
Phoenix Community Church Kalamazoo MI
Pilgrim Congregational Church UCC Birmingham AL

The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme Old Lyme CT
The Second Church in Newton West Newton MA
Union Congregational Church West Palm Beach FL
United Church in Tallahassee Tallahassee FL

SUPPORTER (\$100-\$499)

Richard Adams
Alison & Fred Anderson
David Anderson & Timothy Devine
Robert Anderson
Charlotte Asher & Maryellen Grayson
David Baker
Kendall & Sonia Baker
Susan J. Baker
Diane E. Bennekamper & Lorraine J. Martin
Gail Anne Benson
Sharon A. Benton & Jamie Kepros
Rev. Malcolm & Barbara Bertram
William Bordonaro
Theodore & Donna Braun
Christina Brochu
Timothy Brown
Robert Bucklew
Bernard L. & Marian E. Buckner
Doris Buell & Ruth Dalbeck
H.B. & Patricia Bullard
Joanne Burgess
Carole Carlson & Marjorie MacNeill
Susan Cartmell & Peggy O'Connor
Mari Castellanos
David T. Chesney
Vernon Clausing
Ann Marie Coleman
Pat Conover
Lorin Cope
Florence A. Coppola
Kent Cormack & William Pugh
Laura & Edward Cousineau
Kathleen Crewdson
Dan Brink
Rebecca Davis
Bill Deckhart
Susan Ebbers & Carolyn Pressler
Donald & Martha Farley
Douglas E. Fauth
George H. Fisher
Yvette W. Forinash
Joan Forsberg
Marie Fortune
Cliff Frasier
Dorothy Gannon
Lois Gibson
Charles & Charlotte Gosselink
Dennis M. Grauel
Joanne Graves
Carole Greenauer
Jerry & Edith Guffey
Bob Gunn
Jon & Miriam Haebig
Keith Haithcock
Judith Hanlon
Phil Hart
Richard Harter & Angelica Harter
William Hensley
Joanne Herman
Carri Hoagland
Craig Hoffman
Rev. Douglas R. Holder & John W. Farmer
Kate Huey & Jackie Cassara
Bill Ingraham

continued on page 22

Honor Roll of Contributors 2007 *continued from page 21***SUPPORTER (continued)**

Cari Jackson
 William Johnson
 Harold & Ellen Kameya
 Kathleen Kinkema
 Harry Knox
 Philip LaFollette
 Delbert Lancaster
 Michael Lawrence
 Jonathan Leavy
 Diane LeClair
 Michael Linder
 Barbara Lohrbach
 Leroy E. & Christine M. Marcroft
 Stephen Marston
 Patricia A. Mayer
 Leanne McCall Tigert
 Townley McGiffert
 Joseph McGowan
 William McKinney
 Melinda McLain
 D.L. Meckes
 Mary Miller
 Joellynn Monahan
 Darren Morgan
 Judy A. Nablo
 Arlene Nehring & Stephanie Spencer
 Les & Jane Norman
 Paul & Keran Olm- Stoelting
 Sarah Olson
 Kenneth Orth
 Paul Osgood & Jerry Cundiff
 Ronald Patterson
 Joanne Paul & Wendy E. Vanderhart
 Frederic Pease
 Estelle Petitt
 Mary R. Phinney & Cheryl A. Meserve
 Doris Powell
 Eleonore Powell
 David W. Ragan
 Verna Rapp Uthman
 David Reppert
 Pat & Gail Rickey
 Thomas L. Riis
 Callie Rogers-Witte
 Royard & Anne Rowe
 L. Roselin Runnels
 Sally P. Sandorf
 Robert G. Schneider
 David Shaw
 Robert J. Shaw
 Margaret M. Slater
 George J. Smith
 Susie B. Smith
 Jill Sneed Bobholz
 John Snyder-Samuels
 Jeffrey S. Spencer
 Susan E. Spote & Bennie E. Whiten Jr.
 Irene Stamm-Kirk
 Mark & Eleanor Steiner
 Joseph Story
 Robert & Joyce Strommen
 Kurt Stutz
 Vincent Summers
 Virginia Taylor
 Mark & Patty Thompson
 Michael Tiss
 Ginny Turner
 Robert Walton
 Margaret Warner
 Phil & Betty Weber
 Ellen Webster & Shirlee Bromley

John Weingartner
 Tracy S. Weller
 Gerry Woodroffe
 Don & Patricia Yungclas
 Donald Zaininger
 Lee E. Zortman

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Ainsworth UCC Portland OR
 Ballard Vale United Church Andover MA
 Bethel UCC Cahokia IL
 Bloom in the Desert Ministries Palm Springs CA
 Broadview Community UCC Seattle WA
 Cherokee Park United Church St Paul MN
 Christ Church Summit NJ
 Christ Congregational Church Princeton NJ
 Christ Congregational Church Silver Spring MD
 Church of the Good Shepherd UCC Carbondale IL
 Collenbrook United Church Drexel Hill PA
 Community Christian Church Rochester NY
 Community of Hope Madison WI
 Community of Reconciliation Pittsburgh PA
 Community UCC Raleigh NC
 Edwards Church UCC Framington MA
 Emmanuel Friends Church Schenectady NY
 Epiphany UCC, St Louis, MO
 First Church in Cambridge Cambridge MA
 First Church of Christ Congregational Glastonbury CT
 First Community Church Dallas TX
 First Congregational Church of Guilford, Guilford CT
 First Congregational Pelham, Pelham NH
 First Congregational Alameda CA
 First Congregational Church Long Beach CA
 First Congregational Church Pasadena CA
 First Congregational Church Danbury CT
 First Congregational Church Asheville NC
 First Congregational Church of Baraboo Baraboo WI
 First Congregational Church UCC Corvallis OR
 First Congregational Church, UCC Lorain OH
 First congregational UCC Ocala FL
 First UCC Northfield MN
 First Congregational Church of Santa Cruz Santa Cruz CA
 Galewood Community Church Chicago IL
 Garden of Grace UCC Columbia SC
 Grace UCC of Loyal Oak Norton OH
 Gunnison Congregational Church, UCC Gunnison CO
 Hammond Street Congregational Church Bangor ME
 La Selva Beach Community Church La Selva Beach CA
 Ladera Community Church Portola Valley CA
 Lakewood United Church of Christ St. Petersburg FL
 Liberation UCC Lakewood OH
 Maple St Cong Church Danvers MA
 Mount Hollywood Cong. Los Angeles CA
 Newton Highlands Congregational Church Newton Highlands MA
 Old First Reformed Church Philadelphia PA
 Pilgrim Cong-Oak Park, Oak Park IL
 Pilgrim Congregational Church Lexington MA
 Pilgrim UCC Carlsbad CA
 Plymouth Congregational Church Fort Collins CO
 Plymouth Congregational UCC Grand Rapids MI
 Redlands UCC Redlands CA
 Richmond Beach Congregational Church Shoreline WA
 Robbinsdale UCC Robbinsdale MN
 Second Congr Church Bennington VT
 Shadowrock Phoenix AZ
 Sojourners United Church of Christ Charlottesville VA
 Somesville Union Meeting House Mt. Desert ME
 South Congregational Concord NH
 Southern California Nevada Conference Altadena CA
 Spirit of Peace, San Antonio TX
 St Paul's, Chicago IL
 Storrs Congregational Church, Storrs CT

*continued on page 25***Honor Roll of Contributors 2007** *continued from page 22***SUPPORTER (continued)**

The Church of the Redeemer
 New Haven CT
 Trinity Church of Northborough
 Northborough MA
 UCC in New Brighton
 New Brighton MN
 Union Congregational Church
 Hancock ME
 United Church of Auburndale
 Alfred ME
 United Church of Chapel Hill
 Chapel Hill NC
 United Church of Jaffrey
 Jaffrey NH
 University Church
 Chicago IL
 Virginia-Highland Church
 Atlanta GA
 Wild Rose UCC
 Evergreen CO

FOUNDATION (\$50-\$99)

Margaret & Michael Arighi
 Michael A. Baal
 Robert Bachelder
 Jill Baker & Lana Rizzo
 Phyllis Baldwin
 Melissa Baughman
 Howard Bell
 Mark Bergen & Patrice Blomgren
 David & Carol Ann Bergman-Hill
 Henry & Evelyn Bradshaw
 Lucy Brady
 Gay Brookes
 Bobby Cardwell & Roger McCullough
 K.L. Carroll & L. S. Severance
 Charles J. & Phyllis B. Richards
 Hal Chorpenning
 Virginia Christie
 R. Edwin Crabtree
 Georgia L. Davis & Bonnie M. Smith
 Helen Davis
 Bentley De Bardelaben
 Matthew Emery
 James C. & Roberta Etheredge
 Alvin Fauth
 Curtis Filer
 Katherine Fulton & Katherine Kunst
 Grace Goodman
 Karen Graham
 Nancy L. Hannah
 Ann Hanson
 Richard E. & Claire J. Heinzelman
 Malcolm Himschoot
 David Hohmann
 Al Horn & Jim Carpenter
 Ed & Betty Horner
 Larry Hoyt
 Joan Ishibashi
 Myrna Johnson & Barbara Vaneck
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 Jane Lovelady & Janet Standlea
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 Charles & Marion Schepel
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 Marianne & Arthur Talis
 Eugene W. Taylor
 Ken Tipton
 Arthur & Ina Waidman
 Mary Ann Waterman
 Alan Weaver
 Sheila Whetzel
 Martha Williams & Nora Willcutts
 Nancy Worthing

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 Altadena CA
 Columbia United Christian Church
 Columbia MD
 Community Church of Chesterland
 Chesterland OH
 First Congregational Society of St. Anthony
 Minneapolis MN
 First-Plymouth Congregational
 Lincoln NB
 Niles Congregational-Fremont
 Fremont CA
 United Church of Christ Blaine
 Blaine WA

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 Portia Cornell
 Ruth Dalbeck
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Betty Fox
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 Jane Vennard
 J. Michael & Anne R. Vosler
 Randi Walker
 Jon & Chris Walters
 Zilla Way
 Paul Werner
 Jeffrey A. Williams
 Betsy York
 Rick Yramategui

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1st Congregational Church,
 Waterville ME
 First Congregational Church
 Manhattan KS

The UCC
Coalition
for LGBT
Concerns



God's Extravagant Welcome

The Coalition National Office

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