

UUFM BLASTS FROM THE PAST
Celebrating 70 Years as a Fellowship
Tidbits from January Newsletters

Yes, this January blast is a bit late- but look further for news about former homes of the congregation, membership expectations, actions in the 90's by 3 current members, the initiation of 2 longstanding social justice initiatives at UUFM, and important votes on where we call home!

In 1960: "This newsletter reflects the benefits of a permanent location where the congregation could come and go as they pleased." This was a temporary headquarters at 802 Minneopa Road, Mankato.

In 1981: The Fellowship voted during its Annual Meeting to increase the minimum amount contributed to the congregation at least 30 days before the Annual Meeting in order to be considered a Member. This amount increased from \$15 to \$50. Our current bylaws describe the minimum monetary contribution to be \$1.00.

Before this meeting, the fiscal year was the same as the calendar year. During this meeting, the fiscal year was changed to July 1 of one year until June 30th of the following year, as it remains to this day.

In 1987: First mention was made of Intergenerational services- planned to be once a month, with the children joining the adults for the whole service.

In the 1990s, 3 of our current members/friends were mentioned:

In 1990: "Special "About Your Sexuality" class to begin for Jr/Sr High youth." Taught on Sunday mornings from Feb. 18- Mar 25. Facilitators were Randy and Mary Dailey-Ruddy. Mary has recently arrived back in person after moving away from Mankato for many years. Welcome back, Mary!

1991: Melinda Kjarum-Peterson & John Peterson from the Vegetarian Society of Southern MN spoke on ethical and environmental issues related to vegetarianism. They weren't members then, but have been members since 2017! Fun to see your names from back then, Melinda and John!

In the 2000s, several items of great importance to our congregation were mentioned:

In 2001: UUFM held a Welcoming Congregation Kick-off weekend, presenting the first 4 workshops in the UUA curriculum. This series of workshops occurred on Pohl Road. A second round of workshops were completed after our move to Charles Ave, resulting in our unanimous vote to become an official Welcoming Congregation, certified by the UUA (our national Unitarian Universalist Association) in 2006.

On Saturday, January 31, 2004 an Open House was held from 10am to noon at Victory Life Church at 937 Charles Ave in West Mankato. This was a time to inspect, ask questions, and ponder this space.

A year later, on January 30, 2005, the Semi-Annual meeting included a vote on the purchase offer for 114 Pohl Road. Approved 48 to 0. Purchase of Victory Life was reaffirmed with a vote of 43 to 1, after an initial vote on 9-8-04 of 46 to 7.

On 1-13-2008: UUFM Micro Project supporting Kiva.org loans was kicked off after the Sunday service, with brochures available, questions answered, and contributions accepted. Becky Rossow has kept this program alive and well ever since! Thanks, Becky!