

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

First UUFM Newsletter; New Hymnal; Capital Campaign; Green Sanctuary

1959: First Newsletter

The Genesis of the first official newsletter of the 'Mankato Unitarian Fellowship.' This was an effort of a new committee called the Public Relations Committee. The editor, C.J. Arnold, invited criticism of this new communication tool, stating that "Criticism.. a fundamental principle of Unitarianism,...is essential for change and true growth."

1987: New Hymnal

"The UUA Hymnbook Resources Commission is inviting all UU's to submit new materials and/or suggestions of materials from existing sources for possible inclusion in a new hymnbook for the denomination. They seek tunes, hymn texts, and reading materials for worship." The hymnal at the time was titled: *Hymns for the Celebration of Life*. The new hymnal is our current grey hymnal- *Singing the Living Tradition*, published in 1993.



2004: Capital Campaign

4-3-2004: UUA Fundraising Consultant Jerry King conducted a "How Do We Get There" Workshop for the congregation, centered on the process for UUFM to come to a decision point on a capital campaign and the steps involved.

As purchasing the current church property was being seriously discussed, UUFM received a letter of encouragement from longtime member, Beth Haugen. Beth was a member when the fellowship purchased the Pohl Road property. Beth remembers that after a few years of ownership and fluctuating membership numbers, a controversy developed about whether to keep or sell the property. With perseverance and dedication, the congregation added on to that building and grew in members. She urged the congregation to have faith, expand our physical space, and support growth!



2012 Green Sanctuary:

Nancy Cramblit received a vote of confidence from the Board to form a committee in order to pursue UUA certification as a Green Sanctuary Congregation and to work with other committees to reduce the environmental impact of our Fellowship. Lisa Coons was the first chair of this new committee. Our Green Sanctuary Committee is still going strong!