

At the end of November, I wrote a letter describing the Board of Trustees' activities through the start of the church year and I described the Board's goals for the year. In keeping with those goals, this is the first of a series of monthly bulletins I intend to write for Connections to highlight and keep you apprised of the Board's ongoing work.

- In **November**, the Board had a regular agenda and meeting. One key outcome to note: the Board passed a new policy addressing alcohol at church. This policy is intended to promote responsible consumption of alcohol at church social functions, to comply with Virginia laws, and to support those who struggle with drinking. You can find the policy here: [Alcohol Policy \(November 2022\)](#).
 - For reference, you can find all of the Board's policies for UUCA here: [Board of Trustees/Governance](#).
 - As a note, the Governance Committee of the Board, chaired by Linda Battaglini, is working on a project to better organize these policies and to manage the church's key documents so that they both are easily accessible and provide a record of the church's business.
 - The Treasurer, Ashley Greve, and the Board Finance and Audit Committee continue to work closely on overseeing and managing the church's finances. We have really good news to report. See the link here to the [BFAC Finance Update](#), a brief description of the state of our finances through the end of November.
- In **December**, and instead of a regular meeting, the Board held a combination social event and working session to discuss its open question for the year: *"What are we becoming post pandemic -- what do our people, current and future, need from us? How do we rebuild our relationships and how can we know who is in community and covenant with us?"*
 - The Board will continue to discuss this question and think hard about where our congregation is going.
- In **January**, we resume our regular meeting schedule. We meet at 7 pm on the fourth Tuesday of every month over Zoom and we reserve the first fifteen minutes for public comment. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, January 24. The Zoom link is <https://uucava-org.zoom.us/j/82474250408?pwd=STk1WUJlMDVmaE0zVnlnQlF6RUdiQT09> (password: 1948).
 - If you can't make the meeting, you can always review the minutes. They can be found here: <https://www.uucava.org/board-of-trustees-minutes-monthly-reports/>.
 - The Board has also begun a new practice of having a Board member at the Welcome desk before both services and in the receiving line and at coffee in the Center post-service. Please look for a magenta name tag and say hello!
- In **February**, the Board will be hosting a conference of invited church leaders and staff to collectively develop an Annual Vision of Ministry. An Annual Vision for Ministry is a statement of priorities for the ministers and staff to implement. In my November letter, I discussed the Board's own formulation of such a vision. This year, however, we want to try something different and move this planning up to February so that it can inform budget and other decisions and so that we can involve more input from church leaders in addition to the Board and staff. We're reserving **Saturday, February 11**, for this conference.

- The Board's February meeting will be at 7 pm on February 28. You can use the same Zoom link and password to attend.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I can be reached by email at burke.kappler@gmail.com. If you would like to email the entire board, you can do so at this email: [mailto:uucaboardmembers2022-23@googlegroups.com](mailto:uucaboardmembers202223@googlegroups.com).