

Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley
Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, February 4, 2026

Via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/91070175965?pwd=d2FUcWZCQjYzVEF2MFZabWJQQVRrUT09>

- 7:15 1. CALL TO ORDER & OPENING RITUALS**
- a. Chalice reading & lighting – Kristen Jensen
 - b. Board Covenant reading- David Rosales
 - c. Land Acknowledgement Statement –Helen Tinsley-Jones
 - d. Widening the Circle Statement – Pier Sun Ho
- 7:20 2. CONSENT AGENDA – Items may be approved in one motion unless a Board member requests an item be removed for question or placement under discussion/action**
- a. Approve agenda
 - b. Approve January 2026 Board Meeting minutes
 - c. Accept monthly Treasurer’s report
 - d. Accept Operations Director’s report
- 7:25 3. MINISTER’S REPORT**
- 7:35 4. ANNOUNCEMENTS/LISTENING**
- a. Board or staff announcements, Board Listening Presence
 - b. Congregants who wish to speak to the Board on agenda items or other matters.
- 7:45 5. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS - Break @ 8:30 PM, if needed**
- a. February Congregational Meeting Agenda, Tasks, and Roles
 - b. Budget Process Update (Janae or Lisa)
 - c. Authority for Janae to Pay Freestone Expenses (Lisa)
 - d. Funds for GRIP Donation – Request for approval to use some of money from the Board Discretionary Fund (Lisa)
 - e. Nonviolent Communication
 - f. Certify Membership
 - g. Beacon Article Ideas - March Beacon article – Helen Toy
 - h. Appreciation for Outgoing Board Members
- 8:50 6. BOARD COMMITTEE MEMBER/LIAISON REPORTS**
- 9:05 7. CLOSING COMMENTS**
- 9:10 8. ADJOURNMENT**

Aspirational Covenant of the UUCB Board of Trustees

Approved September 2019, updated April 2025

We as the UUCB Board of Trustees agree:

- To stay committed to connection even when we disagree;
- To recognize the fullness of our power, and the many responsibilities that power entails;
- To listen actively to each other and the congregation, and to seek out opportunities to do so;
- To be caring, respectful, present and open-minded;
- To work together to make the changes the congregation needs, as we keep the best interests of the congregation above our own and to live into our mission;
- To support and trust each other in our work;
- To remember the goal of our work is to build a thriving, loving congregation;
- To be unafraid in the face of hard decisions, to be unafraid of making mistakes, knowing that we will learn from them if we do, and to be unafraid of challenging our preconceived notions and updating our previously-held beliefs; and
- To come to decisions we all feel we can support while recognizing diverse views.

Land Acknowledgement Statement

As we begin, we want to acknowledge that this church occupies land in Huchiu, the unceded territory of the Chochoyeno-speaking Ohlone people. We understand that we continue to benefit from the seizure and occupation of this land. We acknowledge and embrace our responsibility to take restorative action. We affirm that this is deeply felt and commit our congregation to be in right relationship with Indigenous communities, aligning in solidarity, supporting Indigenous projects, and caring properly for the land.

Widening the Circle Vision Statement

We, the trustees of UUCB, commit ourselves to championing racial justice embodying anti-racist practices, and confronting and dismantling white supremacy culture and all forms of oppression (including but not limited to racism, sexism, ableism, homophobia, transphobia, classism, ageism, xenophobia and religious oppression (including anti-Semitism and Islamophobia) in everything we do.

Mission Statement of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley

The mission of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley is to create loving community, inspire spiritual growth, and encourage lives of integrity, joy and service.

Vision Statement of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley is a welcoming and vibrant congregation. We joyously support spiritual development guided by individual faith, reason, and conscience. We

are committed to serving one another, the church community, the community at large, and the global community. We foster a spirit of generosity and trust that encourages care for our church home and affirms diversity and relationships consistent with Unitarian Universalist principles.

**Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, January 7, 2026
Meeting Conducted via Zoom Video Conference**

Minutes – Draft

ATTENDEES

Voting members: Michael DeWitt, Kay Fairwell, Kristen Jensen, Beth Jerde, Carla McCasland, David Rosales, Helen Tinsley-Jones, Helen Toy

Absent: Pier Sun Ho

Ex officio members: Rev. Marcus Liefert, Selene Fabiano (Secretary), Lisa Maynard (Treasurer), Janae Heard (Operations Director), Liesl Dees (Intern Minister)

Visitors: Jean Gleason, Ann Harlow, Mary Muelbach, Larry Nagel, Mary Tobey

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by Kay Fairwell, president, at 7:16 p.m. Carla McCasland did the chalice lighting and reading, Helen Tinsley-Jones read the Board covenant, Kay Fairwell read the land acknowledgement, and Lisa Maynard read the Widening the Circle Vision Statement.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion for the following (M _HelenTinsley-Jones _/S_Beth Jerde) passed unanimously:

- Approve agenda
- Approve December 2025 Board Meeting minutes
- Accept monthly Operations Director report
- Accept monthly Treasurer's report

MINISTER'S REPORT

Rev. Marcus appreciated the staff and thanked the board for raising funds to show the staff our appreciation. The staff supervision structure has been reorganized; since the Facilities Director doesn't overlap with the AV team, Janae will supervise the AV team and Rev. Kathryn will oversee them on Sunday morning. Liesl Dees is now at UUCB full-time. Last Sunday, we had some heavy news re the death of Rev. Sue Magidson; her memorial will be held on 2/15.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/LISTENING

Board or Staff Announcements:

On behalf of the Stewardship Committee, Selene let the board know they will be receiving pledge letters next week. Stewardship is encouraging board members to be early pledgers, preferably by 2/1 or at least before the February congregational meeting on 2/22.

Report from Board listening presence: Helen Toy reported that 2 people asked for custodial help on Sunday mornings. Another expressed the need for more meeting space after church on Sundays. There was also a request for a table for newcomers which Rev. Kathryn is working on. And there was a request for more paid help in the kitchen.

Congregants who wish to speak to the Board: None

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

a. February Congregational Meeting Planning

The February Congregation meeting will focus on the Flaming Chalice awardees, stewardship, and installing new board members. We'll also recognize our staff.

b. Freestone Moving Forward – (current status, task force, discernment circles)

Last month Rev. Marcus shared a proposed process for next steps regarding Freestone. Since then, he has recruited a task force to get the process moving. Task force members include Board members, Kristen and Pier; two Committee on Ministry members, Suzette Anderson-Duggan and Dave Belden; and two members with particular interest or expertise, Deborah Schmidt and Peter Boland. We scheduled the initial circle for the board to be held on 1/25 from 1:30-3PM. The focus of this initial circle will be to process the process during the last Freestone vote before we move into the 2nd phase of discernment in the spring.

c. Budget process

Lisa Maynard reviewed the budget process which begins with the Operations Director, in consultation with Rev. Marcus and senior staff, developing a basic budget based on the staffing plan and projections for fixed expenses. Lisa, as the liaison for church programs, will give Program Council their budget call in January so those groups that have a budget and want one for next year can submit their requests. She will bring a draft budget to the Board in April.

Lisa noted that there are program expenses for whom there are specific people who make a budget request as well as expenses that have had wider congregational support but for which no one person/group is responsible for making requests (e.g. GRIP and Sogorea Te'. Land Trust). Her concern is that the latter items can fall through the cracks because no one group is specifically responsible for overseeing budget requests for them, and it doesn't feel like it should be the treasurer who makes a decision as to keep or not keep funding something. She raised the question about how to determine the congregation's budget priorities as well as involve the congregation overall in developing priorities for discretionary expenses. One idea would be to bring back "dot voting", probably in February. As it has been done previously, dot voting involves developing a small list of priorities. Each priority is written on a large piece of paper that is hung in the atrium. Church members are given a certain number of dot labels (usually 1 dot for every 3-5 choices) which they can allocate based on their preferred priorities. It can be done over a number of Sundays. We will also need a way

for people to do “dot voting” online for those who don’t come to church. Lisa will talk with Janae about what things should be included in dot voting. She’s also open to ideas from anyone else.

Discussion/Questions:

Q: How was the decision to support GRIP made? We want to be sure that we’re not undoing a decision by the congregation.

A (Lisa): It wasn’t a congregational decision. GRIP was supported for years by being a regular Good Neighbor every November. Two years ago, when the voting for the Good Neighbor agencies was happening, there was discussion about the fact that if GRIP was automatically chosen as a Good Neighbor each year, only 11 agencies were chosen through the voting process. As a result, a suggestion was made that the church fund a donation to GRIP each year, but not as one of the Good Neighbor organizations.

There was understanding and agreement with Lisa’s point that decisions whether or not to continue funding something and/or to change the level of the donation shouldn’t fall on the people who are creating the budget.

Q: Would we be undoing a decision to fund Sogorea Te’ if it was not chosen through the Dot voting process?

A (Helen Tinsley-Jones): The board voted to put the Sogorea Te’ line item in the budget as part of the church’s commitment to be in right relations with indigenous people. This is an important donation. As a rep of HIP, Helen Tinsley-Jones connects with the treasurer every year to see if a check has been sent to Sogorea Te’. In the past there was a lot of publicity about this decision to include the Sogorea Te’ Land Trust in the budget. Now there are many new members who may not know what it, so it would be problematic to have people vote about it when they don’t know what it is.

Donations to GRIP and Sogorea Te’ don’t necessarily have to be included as items in dot voting; they were just examples of the kinds of budget items for which there is no specific group that oversees it.

Rev Marcus noted that dot voting wouldn’t be a binding vote but a way of getting information about what is important to the congregation. The goal is create a more participatory process for the discretionary items in the budget.

- d. Generous donation from a member in response to a targeted request for staff long-term disability and life insurance coverage

Last month, the board had given Rev. Marcus the greenlight to request a targeted donation to cover the cost of long-term disability and life insurance for the staff. In the past, these benefits had only been offered to our senior minister. Rev. Marcus reached out to a member and asked for a gift to allow UUCB to take advantage of this opportunity to provide these

benefits for staff. The donor very generously decided to donate \$50,000, which was much more than requested. Although the donor has not made any specific requests, this is not an unrestricted gift as the intention was for it to be used for staff benefits and needs. The proposed plan is to use this gift to cover these staff benefits both for this fiscal year (about \$12,000), as well as next year. In addition, some of this gift may also be used to help with health insurance costs that will likely be higher than was budgeted (almost \$300/month higher than anticipated). Exactly how the funds are used will be reported to the board.

Motion (M- Kristen/ S- Helen Tinsley-Jone). Board approves the acceptance and designation of a gift solicited by Rev Marcus to be used for staff benefits. The **Motion passed unanimously.**

e. Populating Committees (Endowment, Human Resources, Buildings and Grounds)

The need to get members for several committees was discussed again.

Endowment Committee. It might be good to revise the description/name of the Endowment Committee to make it less intimidating and to reflect the fact that committee members don't need to have expertise regarding investments. The work of the committee now needs to be more about educating the congregation and encouraging them to consider including UUCB in their will/estate plans. One idea would be to call it the Development Committee. It would be good to get input from people who have been on the Endowment Committee. Since many of the current Finance Committee members have served on the Endowment Committee in the past, Lisa will bring it to the Finance Committee for their input. Rev Marcus shared that the Rochester UU Church has a very successful "Legacy Society" that hosts an annual gathering/party for people who had named the church in their will/estate plan.

Human Resources Committee. Marcus has said that if we didn't have a committee, he and Janae would reach out to a church member to help them with the current issue of doing the annual staff salary review.

Maybe we can see what the interests/talents are of the new board members. Maybe we need a Committee on Committees – a small task force of people who would work on populating the committees. Could we pay a development professional who could start this up and mentor folks? As one strategy, Kristen is willing to talk with Charis and Victoria to get their ideas about people who might be good candidates for these committees.

Rev Marcus reminded the board that its responsibility is to populate the committees that report to the board. Most of the church's committees and teams are ministry teams that report to the staff, not to the board. The board needs to get clarity about which committees are specifically board committees.

- f. Beacon Article Ideas - February Beacon article – Helen Tinsley-Jones and Kay Fairwell. Where we've been and where we're going. Pleasures of being part of a committee. This is the Year of the Fire horse, a get things done sign. Reflection on the positive things you've seen over 3 years.

BOARD COMMITTEE MEMBER/LIAISON REPORTS

Social Justice Council. Every year a contingent from UUCB marches in the MLK Jr parade in El Cerrito. This year the parade is on 1/19 We'll meet at 9:30AM; the parade starts at 10AM. It's a wonderful event and a good opportunity to gather in solidarity.

Good Neighbor program. In December we chose 12 organizations. There is a potluck meeting this Sunday starting at 5:30PM. Theme: Do the Next Right Thing. There will be tables in which people can sign up to take action. We hope a lot of people will show up.

Appreciation. We raised enough to give each staff about \$120 apiece. Rev. Marcus will give the staff their financial gifts at their staff luncheon this week. Carla will send a thank you note to our recent large donor.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Kay shared that this has been the most collegial board she has worked on.

Rev. Marcus gave a blessing.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:32PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Selene Fabiano, Secretary

Operations Director's Board Report

January 2026

- **New Members:**
 - Stephan Aubertin
 - Dee Stump
 - Stephen Vernon
- **Average Attendance:**
 - In Person: 211
 - Online: 47

- **Finance**
 - Budget process has started, I have sent out staff budget requests, Lisa has asked program heads for their input on the program budgets, and Marcus, Lisa and I met to discuss initial staff salaries and raises. We will have a first draft ready for the February Finance Committee meeting.
 - I sent Alan and Gail a proposal for renewing the Good Earth Lease, and we will meet in the next few weeks to discuss. I plan to have the lease completed by the end of March.
 - We received the final disbursement from Grace Ulp's estate, which has been transferred to the UUA Building Fund

- **Facilities**
 - Everon, our fire alarm service, sent out a service tech on January 30th to fix the equipment that has been causing the system to beep.
 - Contractors have been scheduled for the beginning of April to start the playfield project, which is part of the 5-year capital project list. They are donating some of the labor to work within our budget.

- **HR**
 - The staff went out to celebrate another successful year at UUCB, and the staff received the Christmas gifts from the congregation. I wanted to express our gratitude for the generosity of the congregation.

- **Other**

- The staff worked together to file the annual UUA Membership Certification
- A neighbor at Freestone had some fallen trees removed from the property line, and we agreed to split the cost. He also asked about splitting the cost to repair some fencing that was damaged between our properties when the trees came down.
- We also need to reimburse other neighbors; they are going to replace water damage control across the shared driveway. The water gel rolls need replaced after the tree workers unknowingly damaged them.



Congregational Meeting Agenda

Sunday, February 22, 2026

Approximately 12:45 PM

Following the 11 am Worship Service and Lunch

In-person in the Sanctuary only (viewable on livestream)

Childcare is available at the Good Earth School

1. Call to Order

2. Convene:

- a. Quorum Count (15% of 311 = 46 members required)
- b. Chalice Lighting
- c. Covenant Reading
- d. Land Acknowledgment Reading

3. Consent Agenda:

- a. Adoption of Agenda
- b. Approval of April 27, 2025, May 18, 2025, and November 16, 2025 Congregational Meeting Minutes

4. Staff Recognition and Appreciation

5. Presentation of Flaming Chalice Awards for Extraordinary Service: Cynthia Greenleaf, Phil Maynard, Pier Sun Ho, and Sheila Tarbet (*listed alphabetically by last name*)

6. Reports:

- a. Stewardship Committee

7. Board of Trustees:

- a. Call for General Assembly Delegates
- b. Recognition of outgoing Board of Trustee members: Kay Fairwell and Helen Tinsley-Jones
- c. Results of Board of Trustees Election
- d. Installation of Board of Trustees

8. Benediction

9. Adjournment

There will be a brief Board of Trustees meeting immediately afterward to elect Board officers.

SJC Potluck and Meeting January 11, 2026

Notes taken by Jane Robbins-Laurent

In attendance

Cyndy Greenleaf
Paul King
Helen Toy
Lonnie Moseley
Sheila Tarbet
Sheldon Jones
Helen Tinsley-Jones
Christina Creveling
Karen Elliott
Norie Clarke
Francey Liefert
Victoria Bowen
Jenn McDougall
Don Klose
Harold Ogren
Denise Ogren
Mac Lingo
Win Williams
Judy Sam
Samira Sheehan
Jim Gasparini
Smiley Nelson
Julia Rogers
Paula Aiello
Roberta Shaw
Jane Robbins-Laurent

Opening

Jen McDougall & Francey Liefert led the group in a song of resistance, Go Through Us (by Leah Martin), followed by the chalice lighting and words by Gandalf the Grey, and a moment of silence for Renee Nicole Good.

Agenda

Taking Action

- **Blessings Bags** – Beth Jerde announced that Blessings Bags have returned! She is looking for toiletries and socks, which can be put in the fuchsia box in the atrium until the end of January. She invited people to take bags and put them in their cars to give to those in need.
- **Bridging 4 Democracy** – Helen Toy said she and Dave Belden are working with the Othering and Belonging Institute to get people to reach out to others with different political beliefs to “find common humanity.” They will be meeting with Rev. Marcus to potentially find a conservative church in our area with which to develop community and dialog.
- **Climate Justice** – Sheila Tarbet said the Climate Justice Committee has upcoming actions this year including educational events on plastic and its health effects. She also highlighted the work that went into achieving Green Sanctuary recognition at UUCB and wanted the news spread to the congregation, as not everyone knows about this achievement. She added that the group wants to work with UUCB landscapers to help landscape the Tiny House Village. Sheila also had a stack of postcards that people can send to their members of Congress, as part of a national campaign to send 15,000 cards. She also passed out a list of climate actions that members can take.
- **Equity in Berkeley Schools** – Helen Toy noted that 1/3 of Berkeley residents are under the poverty line. She said the Berkeley Food Pantry is closed but the source of food is still open on 9th St, North of University Ave. She said more people are interested in working with the pantry. She said there is a need for volunteers to pack and deliver groceries. She also passed around a sign-up sheet for volunteers.
- **Confronting Racism and Oppression** – Helen Toy and Sheldon Jones shared that there will be a Martin Luther King, Jr. parade and rally on January 19th in El Cerrito. Everyone can meet up at El Cerrito City Hall at 9:30 am, the march will begin at 10:00 am and will conclude at El Cerrito High School, where there will be a program following the parade. Sheldon noted that this is the 37th annual parade and it honors MLK Jr’s legacy. Sheldon said the UUCB youth will be making signs for the parade and encouraged people to make their own signs as well. Sign ups for the parade will be at the Social Justice table on Sunday, but in case you aren’t able to sign up, just show up!

- **People of Color Caucus** – Lonnie Mosely said that diverse stories and music will be presented at the February 1st service, kicking off Black History Month.
- **Honoring Indigenous Peoples** – Helen Toy noted that last year the group read Beth Piatotes' book, *The Beadworkers*, and talked about the Three Sisters Garden, which is blessed in the spring and summer, then the harvest is celebrated in the fall with a luncheon. Everyone is invited to bring fresh fruit and vegetables which will be donated to a local food bank. Helen also talked about the Shuumi Land Tax which supports land rematriation for the Ohlone people. She noted that enough money has finally been paid so that another indigenous project can be built on the shellmound.
- **WOWS** – Julia Rogers gave everyone a handout called “A model of feelings” which explained that feelings are not caused by an event, rather they're a result of basic human needs being met or unmet. She invited us to reflect on our feelings and needs, using the handout. She announced that the next WOWS meeting will be held on February 8th from 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm via Zoom.
- **Immigrant Solidarity Project** - Francey Liefert and Jen McDougall noted that meetings are held on the 3rd Sunday of every month. This month, during the January 18th meeting, Jen will teach everyone how to use Signal, the private messaging app. She noted that IM4HI uses the app to coordinate their events. Jen also said that the group holds vigils every Tuesday afternoon at the Concord Immigration Court (along with IM4HI). She said they will be teaching songs of resistance at the February meeting. Francey talked about the whistle she was wearing, calling it “the new peace symbol.” Jenn said they're putting together packets with whistles and information cards about how to use the whistle system to alert neighborhoods to the presence of ICE.
- **PRIDE** – Jane Robbins-Laurent shared that last year the group had 3 potlucks, 2 movie nights, a coming out story telling session, and a kitchen help day. She noted that several members of the group have been regularly attending protests, writing and calling their legislators and connecting with local LGBTQIA+ organizations. She also noted that during future PRIDE meetings, members will focus on ways to fight fascism, including organizing & building community power and staying informed & countering disinformation.
- **Civic Action** –Francey Liefert announced that UU Oakland, with Bay Resistance, will hold a training in noncooperation on Saturday,

January 24th from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Doors open at 9:00 but the training will begin at 10:00.

- **World Peace Committee** – Don Klose said he is trying to revive the group, considering Trump’s latest actions against Venezuela. He noted that Adam Schiff sponsored the War Powers Resolution to restrict Trump from engaging in further actions against Venezuela. Don urged people to call their state representatives and urge them to talk with their Republican colleagues about the importance of the resolution. Don also said that on February 5th the New START Treaty will expire, so there will no longer be a cap on nuclear warheads, potentially unleashing a new arms race. Don urged everyone to call their representatives and said he had literature available to learn about it. Roberta Shaw said that Putin said he was willing to extend the treaty, but that Trump didn’t respond.
- **Volunteer Opportunities with Good Neighbor Organizations** – Cyndy said that one of the Good Neighbor nominees, Cardia Health, asked for volunteers to do a survey of homelessness in Alameda County. Training will be provided; you choose the hours and location. The survey will be held on January 22nd and volunteers can sign up here: [Volunteer to count and survey unsheltered residents](#)

Helen Toy said that last week’s theme of the service was “do the next right thing” and volunteering and taking actions offered by our projects is a chance for us to do that.

Karen Elliott said that people can take part in one of IM4HI’s weekly immigration vigils in either San Francisco or Concord on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Resolutions

We all took a few minutes to write down or think about “What small acts of kindness and love will we make in this New Year? How will we respond to the invitations we have just heard to create a more just and loving world?”

Business

Chair's Report – Cyndy said she needs to step back from some of the work she’s been doing and reiterated the need for a co-chair.

Treasurer's Report – Cyndy said we have \$17,000 available for someone to use to launch a project. These funds were made available from Nancy “Kelly” Kelly after she died, requesting that the money be used to amplify and augment good work in the community. Cyndy also passed out copies of the treasurer’s report, noting that we have \$2361.18 until the new fiscal year starts in July.

A Unitarian Universalist Service Committee liaison for our church is still needed, as UUCB’s liaison passed away. The role of the liaison is to call our church’s attention to the work being done internationally by the service committee and to engage families in events designed to be educational for the children. Jay Pacitti, Senior Congregation Relations Associate, has offered to talk with anyone interested in learning about this role. There is more information about the liaison role here:

<https://www.uusc.org/congregation-hub/liaisons/>.

Discussion and Vote

GRIP Funding FY 25/26 – Cyndy noted that UUCB has partnered with GRIP for many years, and that no money was given to them in 2025, other than the money that was in the budget for lunches. Cyndy proposed that we vote to fund GRIP for fiscal year 25/26, starting with a \$500 donation from SJC. Sheldon made a motion that was seconded by Helen Toy. A unanimous vote followed to fund the \$500 from the SJC.

Announcements

- MLK Jr. Day Parade 1/19 9:30 AM El Cerrito City Hall
- Reminder to enroll in UUSJ’s Interfaith Nonviolent Resistance training held on January 12 from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm.
- Nationwide Free America Walkout 1/20 2:00 PM – nationwide protest coordinated by the Women’s March
- First Unitarian Church of Oakland invitation to training on Strategic Non-Cooperation by Bay Resistance 1/24 9:00 - 3:00. If you are interested you will need to register right away since registration is capped at 150 people and over 100 have already registered.
- MLK Jr. Freedom Center Elihu Harris Lecture 1/31 7:00 PM By Hon. Thelton E. Henderson – “Where do we go from here: Chaos or Community?”
- GoFundMe campaign for Tiny Village Spirit to raise funds for accessible walkways (donate here: [Tiny House Village](#))

- Beth Jerde announced that on Monday, January 26th, from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm, the Rev. Allison Tanner and Dr. Greg Shay will be giving a talk about their experiences in Gaza. The talk will be held at Newman Hall in Berkeley.

Closing Song – Jen led the group in a reprise of the protest song, Go Through Us

Date: January 30, 2026

To: UUCB Board of Trustees

From: Anita Mermel for the Endowment Committee

Re: Endowment Committee Membership Status for the Consent Calendar

I would like to alert the BOT that my six-year term on the EC ended December 31, 2025. Officially, I should now be considered "EC Chair emerita". On that subject, the Governance Manual puts forth:

The Endowment Committee shall be composed of at least three members approved by the Board of Trustees. Each member shall be appointed to a three-year term, which may be renewed for a total of six years. In the absence of qualified members, a current member may exceed the six-year limitation until the Endowment Committee is able to both find and train replacement members who can then function effectively. In addition, the current Board Treasurer shall serve in an ex officio capacity on the Endowment Committee and attend meetings.

I am willing to exceed my six-year term and continue as caretaker of the EC (as an adjunct of the Finance Committee) until replacement members are found, trained, and can function effectively. I would also be pleased to be part of a team training those new members if the Board so requests.