

FUUSB 2019/2020 Year End Financial Report
June 2020
Christina Fulton, Director of Operations & Finance

The First UU Society of Burlington, Vermont has finished the 2019/2020 Fiscal Year in a strong financial position. The year itself did not go as anyone had expected, with everything being turned on its head as our community, our state, our country and indeed the entire world moved into quarantine to contain the COVID-19 pandemic. In mid-March, just as our Stewardship Campaign was beginning, in-person services were cancelled and staff began working from home. The staff worked diligently to find alternative ways to hold worship, to meet, and to contribute. While the pandemic caused many unexpected expenses and loss of income, working from home and closing the Meeting House also brought us much savings.

Balance Sheet

Some things to note in our Balance Sheet for this year are:

1. The overall balance of our Trust Funds has decreased by nearly 17%. Note that the reasons for this are that we moved funds from the First UU Trust to our General Fund to cover the prior year's deficit and the congregation also approved spending funds from the Meeting House Fund for capital maintenance on the Meeting House.
2. Under "Savings" you will note an increase of \$108,872.07. These funds are a Payroll Protection Act Loan that we received through the Federal Government. These funds were made available to small businesses in order to continue to pay their staff during the pandemic. This loan will be forgiven in the next fiscal year as long as we can provide proof that we continued to employ and pay our staff.
3. A new Temporary Restricted Fund, The Angel Fund. This fund was created in response to lower/fewer pledges in our Stewardship Campaign. It was noticed that some members were unable to pledge because they lost employment due to the pandemic. Members were asked, if they were able, to contribute to this fund for the 2020/2021 fiscal year. These funds will be transferred into the Non-Pledge Income line of the budget in the 2020/2021 fiscal year.

Treasurer's Report

Revenues: Our total revenues came in right on budget.

1. Total pledges came in at just over 100%.
2. Due to COVID, our total Rental Income came in \$10,000 under budget. This difference was due to loss of some parking income, rental property income and church use income. People were working from home and not needing to park in our lot for a bit, our renters at 34 Elmwood Ave lost income and needed to reduce their rent, and we had several weddings, memorial services, and concerts cancelled due to the pandemic.
3. Trust income was nearly \$18,000 over budget due to a calculation error in the budget.

Expenses: Our total expenses came in about 4% below budget.

1. Payroll & Benefits - overall this section of the budget came in about 2% below budget. We continued to pay all of our staff from the beginning of the lockdown until the end of the fiscal year, whether or not their position allowed them to work from home.
2. Governance & Ministry - This section of the budget represents the program areas of our Society. Many groups had special things planned for the final quarter of the year that they were just not able to accomplish given the pandemic. Therefore, we see a lot of unspent and/or under-spent budget lines in this area: hospitality, guest musicians, Membership, Faith Development, Lay Leadership Conferences, and Board Development to name just a few. Overall, this area of the budget came in \$20,000 under budget.
3. Operating Expenses - this section of the budget was very interesting to look over. While some lines were quite under-budget, other lines were over. In the end, this area was underspent by 2%. During this fiscal year we switched to new database software, switched to a new phone system, updated the operating system on all our computers, and even purchased several new computers, all while staying on budget.
4. Building & Site - Overall this section of the budget came in right on budget. Many significant and exciting changes in this area during the year. As mentioned earlier in this report, a new phone system was installed in early 2020. Luckily this new system made for a seamless transition to working from home. When a voicemail message is left on someone's phone, we get an email with the voicemail message attached and can listen to it from our computer. The decision was also made to discontinue our lawn service and opt for caring for our lawn. We purchased electric powered lawn care equipment and our Custodian and Caretaker staff have been cutting our grass. We updated our alarm system, which in turn caused us to update our doorbell and the computer that runs our heating system, etc. David has worked terribly hard updating our systems. When we are able to meet once again at our Meeting House, it will be ready for us.

I am pleased to report that we ended the 2019/2020 Fiscal Year with a surplus of \$42,988. In addition to that budget surplus, we hope to have the entire \$108,000 PPP Loan forgiven sometime this fall. The Finance Team, Board, Minister and Staff are evaluating our situation for the upcoming year and are working on a plan on how best to utilize this surplus. We are committed to not only the financial stability of our congregation, but also to the promise of our mission, and will take both into account as we plan for our future.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Fulton
Director of Operation & Finance