

President's Corner

Last week we took a look at the Membership Committee, how it is structured and functions, and we also briefly introduced some of the fabulous people who keep this critical congregational function constantly on track.

This week we will look at a different kind of committee. This is not a permanent committee like the ones we have explored thus far, but a temporary committee which has formed to complete a specific function. The task at hand is to organize the annual UUCGT Thanksgiving Potluck Feast for the congregation.

This grand gathering has been ongoing for a long time...I have been unable to determine the exact start date, but it probably has about a 20-year history and Mary Kiner organized the event for well over a decade. We are very grateful for her long and faithful service but she has decided to pass the mantle to a new crew of organizers. Fortunately for us, two members have volunteered to "get this party started".

I want to use this column to let you know a bit about them and how well organized they are.



Victoria Gallup & Carol Ritter

Victoria Gallup, who is a long time member, and new member, Carol Ritter, are co-chairing this year's event which will take place after Sunday Services on November 20th at the Gilbert Lodge at Twin Lakes Park. So far we have nine turkeys pledged and Carol, who is in charge of the kitchen crew, will also be the smashed (not mashed) potato queen. John Bailey will be in charge of music and the Vocal Ensemble will perform. Saran Montgomery-Richards will read a little wisdom for all ages from the children's literature.

For those of you who are unaware, there are some traditions around this event that make things a bit easier without detracting from the spirit and fun of the time together. For the sake of the environment, everyone is asked to bring their own

dishes, cutlery and napkins, but paper plates and plastic utensils will be available for those who forget to bring their own. Although tickets will be sold to cover the expenses of renting the facility, decorations and other miscellaneous expenses, the food is provided by the attendees. So....please plan to come with a casserole or dessert that will serve 8 or more. And....don't eat a big breakfast because there will be plenty of delicious food that you'll want to sample.

Much intricate planning has already been done by Victoria and Carol and many have volunteered for the wide variety of helpers needed. But....there are lots of helper slots that are still vacant. Whether you have recently visited or joined UUCGT, or have been a member for decades, you are invited to help us make this traditional gathering a reality this year. All will be enriched by joining this temporary committee that has formed for the purpose of celebrating our bounty which includes not only food to sustain our bodies but love of each other that sustains our spirit and bonds us together. In fact, volunteering in any of our committees serendipitously provides that avenue, but this one, though only active once a year, brings special meaning as we celebrate our bounty of love that is the foundation of this fellowship.

Please contact Victoria or Carol if you are interested in helping out. Sunday ticket sales began in the sanctuary lobby after services on Oct 9th and will continue on the 23rd and the 30th. The cost of tickets is \$3 for children, \$5 for adults and \$15 for families. You can also buy tickets at the door.

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Next week we'll look at another committee...yet to be selected. I welcome committee chairs who would like the congregation to know more about what you and your committees do to please contact me to talk about your work so we can let the rest of the congregation know how your work supports us all.

Peace in your hearts,
Linda