

## Bull Run Unitarian Universalists

# CONGREGATIONAL VOLUNTEER SURVEY

This is a paper copy of our online survey. If you don't care to go online, please complete this survey and return it to the collection basket, the Office, or Kelly Muzzin.

This survey is really simple. Just check anything that interests you, or items that you'd like some more information on before committing. The chair of that group will contact you, answer your questions, and see if it's a good fit for you and your schedule. See, we're super easy, and we so appreciate your contributions to this community of freely chosen faith.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

- Religious Education (Children's)**  
Religious Education is always looking for teachers and assistants. Currently need eight K-2nd and 3rd-5th classroom teachers, two Sunday superintendents, several special activity coordinators, and some RE table staff.
- Religious Education (Adult)**  
Always looking for people with good ideas to lead sessions at the Thursday Discovery Dinners twice yearly, and to present other types of learning experiences either evenings or during the day.
- Stewardship (Annual Canvass for Operations Funding)**  
The canvass is perhaps our most important activity as it provides the money needed to continue to operate.
- Social Justice**  
Food Pantry, V.O.I.C.E. Community activism, Split the plate coordinator, Soup for SERVE, Un-Trim a Tree, BEACON English Classes, GLBT advocacy, Communications coordinator.
- Green Sanctuary**  
We need people to: lead hikes; organize work parties such as stream cleaning, plan or participate in the annual Sunday Green Sanctuary service; participate in/coordinate the alternative Christmas gift program; write the monthly column for the newsletter.
- Fellowship**  
The committee creates opportunities for new guests, friends, and members to interact with each other and discover shared interests and connections. It sponsors events where BRUUsers can get together for fun! Who doesn't like FUN?!
- Building Use (BUC)**  
The BUC oversees allocation of space and functions within the BRUU building and adjacent commercial property; manages rental agreements; & schedules rooms for use by outside groups.
- Maintenance and Aesthetics (MAC)**  
The MAC maintains BRUU's physical structures. Needs Work Day volunteers, MAC specialists (electrician? carpenter? plumber? handyman?), Magazine Exchange Coordinator.
- Facilities (FAC)**  
Provides a clean, comfortable and safe building. It ensures rooms are cleaned, equipment works, water leaks after heavy rains are mopped up, inspections are performed.
- Communications**  
Runs BRUUnet, Facebook, Twitter, Google+, Foursquare, press releases, Crossroads newsletter, bruu.org, bulletin boards, and other technologies as may present. Needs professional and amateurs.
- Kitchen Krewe**  
Performs clean-up from coffee hour after each Sunday service, clean-up for major events (Auction, Annual Canvass Dinner, etc.), support for special events (memorial services), and has a sub-group (Koffee Krewe) that makes coffee for both services.
- Finance**  
Needs budget planners and accounting-knowledgeable people for year-round planning and management of BRUU's operations budget; budget-wise people to work with committees to plan budgets; visionaries for Finance/Stewardship planning; Assistant Treasurer.

**Jerry and Mary Sherman Endowment Fund**  
Manage Endowment Fund investments; plan, evaluate, and recommend endowment grants; develop procedures for planned giving (wills, trusts, stock, vehicles, etc.).

**Fundraising Events**  
Raises money on behalf of BRUU, and facilitates others doing the same. Help plan events and sales!

**Auction Special Event**  
Plans and executes our largest and most fun annual event—the November Service Auction—and always needs volunteers: set-up; clean-up; bring food/drink; prepare auction booklet; track auction donations; PR, community outreach, etc.

**Membership**  
The committee welcomes and integrates new people into BRUU, enhancing connections for all BRUU members and friends. Needs help in making sure this valuable service gets done for all new visitors.

**Pastoral Care Team**  
Needs people willing to provide meals, rides, and visits to our members who are going through hard times.

**Activity Room**  
The Activity Room (next to Social Hall) is open to children during both coffee hours and needs people to monitor the kids and provide fun things to do.

**Volunteer Coordination**  
Identifies potential candidates for serving on task forces/committees. Helps discern the next phase of leadership at BRUU.

**Ushers**  
Ushers pass out Orders of Service, help people find seats, collect the offering, and count the money after the service. If you want to meet more members and friends, here's the place to do it.

**Worship**  
Plans and leads lay-led services when Rev. Greg is not in the pulpit, and supports Rev. Greg when he is. Biggest bang for your buck in all volunteer-land at BRUU.

**Denominational Affairs**  
Liaison between the congregation, the UUA, JPD, and the Central East Regional Group (CERG) of UUA. Needs folks to facilitate getting larger UUA info to congregation, determine GA delegates, write newsletter articles, and promote Chalice Lighters program.

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**THE BEDROCK OF BRUU**

*By Christine Sunda, Maintenance and Aesthetics Committee (MAC) Chairperson*

When we think of BRUU we think of the spirit and community of our congregation. We think of how much we get from BRUU and how much BRUU gives. But the congregation would be hard pressed to continue as we now are without a place to gather in. Our building is the foundation of all that we are. It is our bedrock and without it we can't go forth well.

Thirteen years ago it was decided to buy this building, recognizing that as an older building it would need more upkeep than a new building and this would be an ongoing issue. The price for the building was right and we took on this added responsibility. During the first years BRUU was in the building, there was a strong sense of camaraderie and "let's roll up our sleeves and get this place spiffed up." People would sign up weekly to clean the building until we finally splurged on janitorial help. Other churches have a sexton—paid staff to do the repairs a building always needs doing. We have decided to do the work ourselves—by volunteers. This is all well and good—if we actually are committed to doing the work ourselves and volunteer when asked. About five times a year we have a workday. I challenge everyone to commit to coming to at least one workday a year. That would be over 50 people each workday and that's 50 different people! Instead we usually get between 10 and 15 people and mostly the same faces. I acknowledge that workday usually involves a lot of painting—but that is what a highly used building like this constantly needs. We also always have cleaning projects, but often don't get to them because we don't have enough people.

So again, thirteen years ago we committed to buying an older building, recognizing that it would need more upkeep than a new building. Think about how much you spend on your own homes throughout the year, fixing leaky faucets and broken light fixtures, replacing worn carpeting, buying furniture, or even replacing large ticket items like boilers etc. Now think about trying to do this for our large eighty-year-old building for \$3,000 annually! This is a shoestring budget that requires extreme amounts of sweat equity if we want to see any improvement. It would be lovely to increase the amount we spend on the building and it is very much needed, but then we would have to give up something else we spend money on at BRUU. Ah, the conundrum of balancing the budget. So at the auction this month, come early and spend freely! That's the ticket if we want BRUU to remain healthy. And remember to come to our next work day in January.