

Quarterly Dialog Report

By Laura Espinosa, President
& Rev Greg Coles



Our Quarterly Community Dialog on April 22

was well attended and very productive, with a delicious meal so that we were fed spiritually, physically and mentally. A few brief announcements were shared:

- 1) Laura announced the resignation of Tim Atkinson from the Board of Trustees due to developments at his work and personal life. Tim will remain on the Finance Committee and Ushers Team and we are grateful for his ongoing service, including more than 4 years on the Board of Trustees. The role of Treasurer is now open to new candidates.
- 2) Nancy Berdasco presented the Financial Report and pointed out that action was required to increase our revenue or serious decisions made to decrease our expenses.
- 3) Reverend Greg shared about the need to migrate our antiquated accounting system, Green-Tree, to a more standard and reliable system called QuickBooks Online. A campaign to raise the needed funds will soon be announced.

The majority of our time was shared in dialog about creative ways to increase the use of our facility and to generate new revenue streams. Most ideas fell into these key areas:

- A. Utilizing a real estate firm that would use their contacts to find organizations with similar values who might be interested in leasing our facility for recurring events or services. This could include other religious groups, day care providers, etc. A realtor could also help identify potential organizations or developers to lease or buy the property we are not using.
- B. Recruit a marketing/public relations person to establish more resourceful ways to promote our services and facilities to generate new income streams.
- C. Increase community awareness of who we are through a variety of community events and educational opportunities that are of interest to the public. In addition to hosting our own public events we could solicit individuals outside of the UBC community who are already engaged in these activities and seeking new location venues. We rely on one another to help develop and implement these events.

Many in attendance volunteered to pursue a number of ideas. Your active involvement is valued and appreciated. Together, as UBC grows and fulfills its vision to be a Beacon of Light, we will indeed thrive and draw more than enough financial and other resources to do so. Thank you for your prayerful participation and support.

The next step of our Board is to host a Leadership Development and Strategy Workshop on May 5, to deepen our spiritual connection with one another and further discern Spirit's call for our Community. Outcomes from this Strategy Workshop will be shared in next month's beacon about how we will apply Spirit's Vision for our Community into a strategic plan of action.