

Folk Ensemble

Report to the 1U Annual Congregational Meeting – May 19, 2019
Respectfully submitted by Jeffri Moore on behalf of the Folk Ensemble
Co-Leaders – Alex & Jeffri Moore and Barbara Howe

The Folk Ensemble continues to grow and we work diligently to improve our quality of music. Several new individuals have joined the group over the past year and share their voices and instruments, including mandolin, tuba, and ukulele. We truly enjoy making a joyful noise!!!

During the Reporting Period of May 1, 2018 to April 30, 2019, we provided music for multiple services including:

- Summer Solstice service on June 24, 2018
- Sunday Service of August 19, 2019
- Labor Day Sunday service on September 2, 2018 (participating with the Choir)
- Sunday Service of September 9, 2018 (participating with the Choir)
- Sunday Service of September 23, 2018
- Yule (winter solstice) service on December 21, 2018
- Christmas Eve services (2) on December 24, 2018
- Sunday Service of January 27, 2019 – farewell for Rev. Kathy
- Sunday Service of February 10, 2019
- Sunday “Music” Service of March 17, 2019 (Participants of the Folk Ensemble shared their thoughts about what music is to each of them; these were compiled with thoughts from others in the music program and used as a reading during the service.)
- Earth Day Sunday Service of April 14, 2019

Alex, Barbara, and I actively participated in Rev. Kathy’s Worship Brainstorming sessions for several of the themed mini-series of services. We attended the sessions on multiple Sunday afternoons in order for Rev. Kathy and the Worship Team to gather ideas based on a basic outline that was provided prior to the event.

The Folk Ensemble participated in the Opportunity Fiestas held August 19 and August 26 (2018), sharing our enthusiasm for music and inviting all to participate.

We had continued opportunities for outreach when we were invited back to lead a sing-along at the domiciliary at the VA Hospital in Baldwin Park on September 30, 2018 and again on January 20, 2019.

The Folk Ensemble co-sponsored the Family-Friendly Intergenerational New Year's Eve 20th Anniversary Celebration on December 31, 2018 in Gore Hall. The event was started by the Folk Ensemble in 1998 as a way for 1Uers to ring in the new year in community and in a safe place for the night. The event included an all-night potluck, music, games, conversation, and more.

Alex, Barbara and I represented the Folk Ensemble at a meeting of 1U group leaders called by Mary Dipboye (President-Elect of the BOT) held February 10, 2019. The purpose of the meeting was to find out our views on how the small group activities were being run and if our groups needed more support.

We were really excited to find out that two of our friends and participants of the Folk Ensemble were chosen to be interviewed by Robin Hammond who runs a nonprofit in Europe called Witness Change. This group works to end discrimination using art – mostly photography and text. They contracted with National Geographic to do their first project in the United States – a photo essay with video interviews. The theme is exploring the challenges for the current generation of LGBT senior citizens that may not be there for succeeding generations or for their straight counterparts. Ellen Hone and Sharon Durrant were interviewed on Sunday March 24, 2019 before the service; and, the video camera was set up inside the Sanctuary to tape parts of the service as well. In addition, Robin and his crew visited the Folk Ensemble's practice on March 26 in order to videotape part of the evening.