

Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley UUAA Good News House Committee

Mike Muha, Committee Chair

Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley works to enrich Washtenaw County by providing affordable homeownership and additional programs to support families of low- to moderate-income. UUAA is a strong member of the Good News House Group, which is a 30-year ministry of 17 churches that combine resources and volunteers to support Habitat's mission.

Our UUAA committee coordinates volunteers to work on-site building and refurbishing homes and grounds, provides lunches for the on-site crew, and raises money to defray building costs.

This aligns with several of our principles because we strive to make a difference in our community, in a way that supports our work on economic injustice, racism, sexism, together with other congregations in the community, an interfaith cooperative effort.

The building season this year runs from June thru September. For the past several years, instead of building one new house, we have rehabilitated two foreclosed houses. We do such things as:

- repair the structure,
- hang drywall,
- install windows,
- do landscaping.

There is a professional house leader who coordinates the activities and works with volunteers to assure they are comfortable with what they are working on.

Because of COVID-19, we are planning on offering opportunities for congregants to contribute in ways in addition to doing the on-site work or offering financial support. Details are still being worked out, but we are committed to assuring that those who want to can contribute to Habitat's success. We are also following Governor Whitmer's recommendations to assure safe working conditions.

In 2019:

- Over 70 congregants participated, including those providing lunches and those working on the houses
- The congregation donated over \$9,000 toward building expenses.

Committee members include Mike Muha, Sandy Simon, Fran Lyman, Gwen Guthrie, Lucy Graff, Keleigh Anders, Dale Sniegowski