**2023 UUCWC Auction Overview *KEEPING IT KINDLED!***

**What’s it all about?** Maybe you’re new to UUCWC or have not yet participated in our annual auction, the largest fundraiser of the church year. Church members make the auction a successful event with their generous contributions and energetic bidding!

This primer will give you an overview of \*why we hold the auction \*when the auction occurs this year \* how you can participate.

**The auction helps us make connections and builds community.**

Many auction items give members and friends a chance to share meals, participate in events, provide a skilled service to one another and get to know each other better throughout the year. This is a great way to become more connected to our church community.

**The auction raises money**.

For many years, proceeds from the auction have provided about 10% of the annual operating budget of the church. Auction revenue is a vital part of the current budget 2022 – 2023, allowing UUCWC to continue to offer great programs and community outreach. 50% of auction surplus proceeds (over the budgeted amount) will go to social justice programs.

**When is the auction?**

Here are some important dates to put on your calendar:

**March 31** – **Contribution deadline**. See contribution form on the church website, Giving Page, Auction section. The auction succeeds when everyone participates. So please consider donating a meal, event, service, or item, such as a gift card to one of your favorite local businesses. Talk to an auction team member for ideas or click on the form on the website Auction page.

**April 16** **– Auction book** is distributed at church. It is also posted online on the website Auction page.

**April 28 – Kick-off Party & Preview Join us for food, beverages & entertainment** with a chance to preview the physical items being offered for Fixed Price purchase or Competitive Bidding. Door Prize and Raffle baskets available, as well as our unique BoUUtique!

**April 29 – Bidding and purchasing is open at 9:00 a.m**. There will be fixed priced items for immediate purchase. Each fixed price item is a separate purchase and is paid for separately. *Note: this purchase procedure differs from online catalogue shopping where you can “fill a cart” with multiple items. Check your email for a confirmation/receipt of your purchase of a fixed priced item.* You may also start bidding on other items shown in the competitive bidding items with categories such as Items, Services, and Gift Cards.

**May 6** – Final bidding opportunities! Bidding closes at 9:00 p.m.

**Questions? Want to volunteer?**

Contact the Auction Team CoChairs: Barbara Drew, Lori O’Neil, Jayme Trott and Marcia Wittmann at auction@uucwc.org .