

## Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana, Inc. Annual Report to the Congregation Sunday, June 8, 2014

Current Membership: 500

Certified Membership: 492

#### **Board of Directors**

Kathleen Sideli, President; Von Welch, Vice President; Arzetta Hults-Losensky, Treasurer; Abby Gitlitz, Secretary *At Large:* Doug Cauble, Drew Schrader, Deb Hutton

Ministers The Reverend Mary Ann Macklin and the Reverend Bill Breeden

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## Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana

Seeking the Spirit, Building Community, Changing the World

Approved Congregational Meeting Minutes

June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013

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Submitted by Von Welch, Secretary. Presented slides are attached.

## Call to Order

Call to order by Kathleen Sideli, President, at 4:05pm.

Introduction of Parliamentarian Guy Loftman.

Chalice lighting by Reverends Macklin, Leite, and Child.

Changes to the agenda: Addition of U.U. General Assembly report from Iris Kiesling.

## **Special Purposes Fund (SPF) Committee Report**

Lloyd Orr reporting for Karen Jewell, SPF Chair. Purpose of the SPF committee is to manage special contributions to the church, which are not intended for a specific purpose and expenses not covered by the operating budget. These are mainly bequests and memorial funds. Committees with special projects can consider requesting SPF funding.

In the last year, the SPF contributed over \$28,000 to the new 50-year metal roof, which allowed the roof to be purchased without the Church taking on debt. The fund received roughly \$30,000 in bequests. The fund currently has approximately \$149,000 in assets.

## **Executive Minister's Report**

Reverend Macklin reporting, covering pages 20-21 of the annual report. She mentioned a few specific items:

- John Summerlot presented new Organizational Chart.
- The SPF chair will now serve a three-year term instead of one, which will allow the chair a longer tenure to serve after getting experience.
- The End Statements from the Board are used to direct staff, with reports coming back to the Board on how they are applied.

#### **Planned Giving Committee**

Libby DeVoe and Margie Schrader reported on this recently formed committee to educate potential donors on leaving bequests to the Church. The Legacy Circle consists of members letting the committee know they have included the Church in their plans. Bequests are managed by the SPF Committee.

## **Solar Panel Update**

With detailed photos Molly O'Donnell reported on the recently installed metal roof and solar panels. The roof's expected lifetime is 50 years and the solar panels, 30 years. Energy savings over time will be considerable.

#### **Sabbatical Committee**

Doug Cauble reported for Beth Lodge-Rigal, chair. Ministers accumulate one month per year for sabbatical. Reverend Breeden took his leave at this time in order to fulfill his employment agreement with the church and therefore serve for a full year after his return and prior to his retirement in 2014.

In March, Reverend Barbara Child was contracted to cover select certain ministerial duties for a 9-month period while our Co-Ministers are on sabbatical. She is serving primarily in the Sunday Pulpit regularly over the course of both minister sabbaticals. She will also fulfill select administrative duties during Reverend Macklin's leave.

Pastoral care and other executive/administrative duties will be coordinated with assistance from Reverend Emily Leite, Reverend Emerita, Barbara Carlson, and the church caring committee to ensure smooth day-to-



day functioning within our church community. Those seeking assistance should call the church office and will be directed to the Minister on call.

#### Stewardship Update

Mary Boutain and Jackie Hall reported that pledges surpassed the \$500,000 mark for the first time, with a total of almost \$501,000 as of the morning of the meeting. Over half of pledge units increased their pledges, with an average increase of \$458. There were over 30 new pledges as well. This represented an increase of slightly 7.5% increase.

Going forward, the plan is to have the Stewardship Committee be active year round. The Committee worked with Board on the recent drive, which sent well, and the plan is to continue that collaboration, as well as coordination with the Planned Giving and Communications committees. People interested in participating on the committee should contact Mary or Jackie.

#### **General Assembly (GA)**

Iris Kiesling reported ten delegates will be going to GA from our Church, plus two alternates and additional attendees.

## **Quorum Report**

John Summerlot reported the meeting successfully achieved quorum with 125 members present.

#### Motion for board to approve congregational minutes at a future board meeting

Motioned by Iris Riesling, and seconded by Becky Wagner. Vote: approved unanimously.

## Vote on 25% Sunday Plate Recipient

Ballots were collected at this point, voting on three potential recipients for 25% of the Sunday Plate:

- Volunteers in Medicine (VIM)
- Volunteers in Tutoring Adult Learners (VITAL)
- Circles Initiative

## **Motion: Bylaw Change**

On behalf of the Leadership Cultivation Committee (LCC), Tom Nelson-Laird co-chair of LCC, brought a proposed bylaw change to the congregation in order to bring the bylaws into line with current practice. Changes are in [brackets].

Section 5.8

The Leadership Cultivation Committee's membership shall consist of at least one Board member, normally the Vice-President or the President, and three [four] elected members, none of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors. The Leadership Cultivation Committee shall select its own chair. The non-Board committee members shall be elected to overlapping three-year terms, one [to two] member[s] chosen each year. Nominees for the Leadership Cultivation Committee shall be selected by the Leadership Cultivation Committee and elected at the Spring annual meeting. Elected committee members shall not serve two successive elected terms. Paid professional staff members shall not be



eligible to serve on the leadership cultivation committee with the exception that a minister shall serve ex-officio, non-voting on the Leadership Cultivation Committee.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

## Motion: Sponsoring congregation for Shari Woodbury

Von Welch brought forward a request from the Board for the Congregation to sponsor Shari Woodbury in her goal to be an ordained UU minister. The sponsorship is a statement to UU credentialing body that UUCB believes she has promise to become an effective minister, is a required step in her ministerial credentialing process and no other action by the congregation is required or any further commitment is implied.

Motioned by Iris Riesling and seconded by Connie Loftman. Vote: Approved unanimously.

# Motion: Approve Leadership Cultivation Committee (LCC) slate for Board, LCC, and SPF

Tom Nelson Laird, LCC Co-chair presented the LCC Slate of 2013-15 Board Members:

- Von Welch, Vice-president
- Arzetta Hults Losensky, Treasurer
- Abby Gitlitz, Secretary (serving final year of Von Welch's term).
- Doug Cauble, At-large
- Deb Hutton, At-large

And the LCC Slate for LCC and SPF (2013-16):

- Carol McCord, LCC
- Chris Haynes, SPF

Tom recognized Ann Haynes serving as Co-chair of LCC

Vote: Approved unanimously.

## **Board Report**

#### **Board priorities**

Kathy Sideli reported the Board's priorities for the 2012-13 year:

- · Creating multi-year plan for sustainable and fair compensation for all staff
- Planning for ministerial transition
- Collaborating with stewardship campaign
- Getting to know staff and their responsibilities
- Supporting executive minister
- Ensuring budget supports UUCB's vision

#### **Ministerial Transition**

Kathy Sideli reported that the Board had spent significant time planning the ministerial transition that would occur with Reverend Breeden's retirement and had several consultations with UUA professionals. The Board agreed the congregation will follow UUA and UUMA guidelines, namely hire an Interim Minister to serve for a two-year period after Reverend Breeden retirement in the Summer of 2014. The Interim Minister will be selected in Spring of 2014 to start in the Summer.

#### A Quick Look at Interim Ministry

Kathy introduced Reverend Barbara Child, who in addition to serving as a Sabbatical Minister, has recent authored a book on Interim Ministry and previously served as an Interim Minister for a decade.

Barbara described the interim period and discussed that we, as human beings, naturally react to major changes and want to get back to normal as quickly as possible. This is natural but not necessarily wise. Interim Ministry is not just a feature in U.U. congregations, but has been a feature in all mainstream congregations for decades. Congregations need intentional interim ministry to avoid *unintentional* interim ministry – if a congregation doesn't do interim work, then new called ministers often don't stay long. She noted that we are not the same as we were when we called our departing minister.

She stressed that Interim Ministers are not placeholders. They have extensive training from UUA and the Interim Ministry Network (an international, inter-denominational organization) in fostering transitions.

The interim transition takes two years – one year of looking back and analyzing the present, then search process in second year.

Q: Who selects the Interim Minister? The Board and Executive Minister Macklin, working with UUA Director of Transitions (Keith Kron), select and hire the Interim Minister.

#### Sustainable and Fair Compensation Committee (SFCC) Report

Carol McCord reported on the report from the SFCC. This committee completed its work during 2012-13 and has disbanded. With the announcement of Reverend Breeden's retirement, the committee added Sustainable to its title and mission.

The report:

- Recommended that the Board reconsider the 'package' approach and instead use a salary and benefits system.
- Analyzed comprehensive data from UUA for Geo Index 2 (using data between a Mid Size III and Large Size I UU church for ALL staff positions.)
- Noted a salary shortfall for all UUCB staff that would require 20% increase in our annual budget to address.
- Noted that the UUCB also fell 20% below budgets of comparable sized churches in similar communities.
- Recommended a plan to incrementally adjust staff salaries, starting with ministerial lines in 2013-14 which were most impacted by the compensation study.

Q: If we don't have enough money, will cut back in current staff compensation to pay the interim? Kathy answered that the current ministers are first in line for equity adjustments with the additional revenue from pledges.

A comment was made from the congregation that the Planned Giving and Stewardship committees attended a presentation that stressed that congregations "get what they pay for with Ministry" and that we have been extraordinarily lucky to have the Ministers we do to this point for our provided levels of compensation.

#### Treasurer's report and motion to approve 2013-14 budget

John Summerlot reported on behalf of John Lawson, Treasurer. A budget was distributed in hard copy to the congregation and is attached to these minutes.

Motion: We ask the congregation to approve the operating budget for fiscal 2013-14 and allow management and the board to determine how to use any extra funds above the currently projected level of expenses. Motioned by Amy Taylor, seconded by Deb Hutton Vote: Approved unanimously.

Secretary's note: Due to a clerical error by our payroll service, the RE Assistant wages for January-May were charged to the MRE Housing line instead of the RE Assistant wage line. This was corrected after the meeting. The RE Assistant had about \$1,300 left, not \$4,300 as reported.

#### **Recognition of retiring board members**

Kathy Sideli recognized the following members departing the Board:

- Carol McCord, Vice President (2010-2013)
- John Lawson, Treasurer (2008-2013)
- John Summerlot, At-large (2011-2013)

#### **Special Services award Recipients**

Reverend Macklin presented three Special Services Awards. A brief announcement in Reverend Macklin's words follows. See attachments to these minutes for full announcements for Stephanie Kimball and Amy Taylor.

"Congratulations to Stephanie Kimball, Amy Taylor and the Techno Fab Five who were recipients of our congregation's Outstanding Service Award, presented at the June 2nd congregational meeting. Stephanie is not only an amazing force for caring for our planet and curbing climate change within our congregation, but also beyond, impacting and creating interfaith networks throughout the state of Indiana. Amy's skills, passion and can-do attitude led her to become President of our Heartland Unitarian Universalist District where she helped shepherd the groundbreaking formation of our new MidAmerica UU Region. Our Techno Fab Five--Andy Beargie, Von Welch, Jackie Hall, Steve Krahnke and Diane Port--have worked tirelessly to integrate exciting technology upgrades for our congregation that we benefit from on a daily basis."

#### Announcement of 25% Sunday Plate Recipient

John Summerlot reported Circles Initiative is the winner of the vote with 80 votes. He noted that the meeting attendance peaked at 132 members, which might be a record.

#### Minister's Closing Words

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin recognized how fortunate we are to have Reverend Barbara Child in our pulpit during this sabbatical time as well as Reverend Emily Manvel Leite as our Minister of Religious Education.

For the upcoming UU MidAmerica Regional meeting in April, Bloomington has been invited to host the Southern location for live streaming of meeting.

Reverend Macklin announced a pilot program for next year. Our music program will have a Worship Artist in Residence who will assist and report directly to our Music Director, Susan Swaney. Colleen Haas has agreed to be this year's Worship Artist in Residence for this trial period.

Reverend Macklin has asked Reverend Leite and our religious education program, while Reverend Macklin is on sabbatical this fall, to create ways to celebrate Reverend Breeden's ministry. She suggested that folks take time to meet with and offer their gratitude to Reverend Breeden during this time, because if they wait until last couple of months, schedules will fill up with end of church year events.

She noted that with Reverend Breeden's retirement, the co-ministry will be dissolving. The congregation will be transitioning and so will Reverend Macklin's ministry as well, making it a vulnerable time for her and the congregation. During the transition, it will be a time for learning and introspection – we will all need to be honest, gentle and firm.

#### Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn by Harlan Lewis, and seconded by Clare Robertson. Vote: approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:42pm.

## Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington Approved Minutes of the December 15, 2013 Congregational Meeting



## Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana

Seeking the Spirit, Building Community, Changing the World

Unapproved Congregational Meeting Minutes

Dec 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013

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Submitted by Abby Gitlitz, Secretary

## Call to order 4:05

#### Kathleen Sideli

Kathy Sideli reflected briefly on how the ministerial sabbatical team worked well with each other and for the church this year.

## Introduction of Parliamentarian

Guy Loftman was confirmed as Parliamentarian with Robert's Rules of Order in hand.

## **Chalice Lighting Ministry Team**

Kathy invited the ministerial team to light the chalice. They couldn't resist asking how many ministers does it take to light a chalice?

## Introduction of Board members

Kathleen Sideli

Kathleen Sideli – President Von Welch – Vice President Abby Gitlitz – Secretary Arzetta Hults Losensky - Treasurer Doug Cauble – At Large Drew Schrader – At Large Deb Hutton – At Large

The congregation was invited to join the Board for meetings every month since they are open to the public.

## **Updates:**

## **Technology Grant Update**

#### Von Welch

A grant from Center for Congregations (<u>www.centerforcongregations.org</u>) contributed over \$28,000 to the church. Fourteen projects were funded including: iPads for streaming, new hearing assist, acoustic treatment,

video projectors, Google drive space for committees, computers and email for staff, voicemail, keycard lock, and more.

Many thanks to A/V Committee (Diane Port, Chris Haynes, Steve Krahnke, Bill Breeden, Andy Beargie), Jackie Hall, Carol Marks and our Ministers.

#### Green Sanctuary Task Force Update

#### Molly O'Donnell

The new solar panel created a \$962.44 surplus from May to Nov which we got back from Duke. We use roughly the same amount of electricity here in the church.

Last year we were working on getting the panels and learning what they could do. This year we hope to aggressively conserve energy including gas and electricity. Our electricity use has already dropped significantly.

- Question: Is there any remedy for snow covering the solar panels?
- O'Donnell: We are looking into it, but as of yet we don't have a good answer. Usually Bloomington does not have snow this early or this long so in the future it may not prove to be an issue.
- Harold Ogren : Is there any way for the congregation to track how much energy is being produced in real time?
- O'Donnell : We are working with G.K. Rowe to get the information up on the webpage.

#### Stewardship Report Drew Schrader and Mary Boutain

They reported that their goal is to realize a budget that matches our values and in that vein they are working towards fair and sustainable compensation for our ministers and staff. Last year they asked congregants to increase total pledges by 10% and we reached that goal. We will need to do it again this year.

The Stewardship committee consists of Ruth Aydt, Mary Boutain, Rich Janda, Abby Gitlitz, Carol McCord, Martha Sattinger, Drew Schrader, Kathy Sideli, John Summerlot, Rev Leite, Carol Marks, Rev Macklin and Rev Breeden.

Stewardship is now working with Special Purposes and Planned Giving to make a more comprehensive monetary plan for the church. While Commitment Sunday might just be once a year, stewardship of the church is a year round activity. The committee welcomes input and help from the congregation.

## Planned Giving

## Libby DeVoe

Last year the Planned Giving committee honored those who nurtured the church through their planned giving bequests. Some of their funds went towards the children's choir, landscaping, capital improvements and social justice initiatives.

Planned Giving has created the Legacy Circle to recognize those who include the church in their giving plans. Sixteen individuals and families so far have shared their commitment to include the Church in their estate planning. Some people chose to leave the church a fixed dollar amount. Others specify a fixed percentage of their estates. One has specified 5% to social justice. One extraordinary congregant is leaving her entire estate to the church.

The committee invites members to consider joining this group to help to provide a vibrant future to this community we cherish.

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## Ministry Team (April – Dec 2013)

## **Reverend Mary Ann Macklin**

Reverend Macklin thanked everyone for allowing her to have this sabbatical. She was in California for the first part and back in Bloomington for part of the second. She specifically thanked

- Barbara Child and Emily Leite for being a stable presence during both sabbaticals.
- Molly O' Donnell for all the grounds work.
- Emily Leite for taking on operations duties and working with the board.
- The Sabbatical Committee for being a group she could check in with while away.
- Social Justice which she could follow through the Herald Times and local press.

In her time away she looked at leadership in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Technology is really changing the pace of everything. We must take time to think, and we must take the time to reflect on what we have done. She would like us to be more deliberate and intentional in reflection. Think about how what we have done fulfils our mission statement.

This year we will be doing theme based ministry where each month will have a different theme that will tie in with all parts of the church; RE, committees, chalice circles, etc. It is building a community as we all work on a theme together, all groups, all ages.

There is group working on 21<sup>st</sup> century communication. Rather than embrace everything we need to look at, what technologies will enhance what we do as a congregation and what hinders us.

She asks us all to "Stop messing with the thermostats!!" As a church are working on energy use and zone heating and if you mess with the system it could cause real problems.

#### **Reverend Bill Breeden**

Reverend Breeden expressed his thanks for the outstanding sabbatical team and for all the church folk who have made the last six months so rewarding. This church continues to move forward and be better and better. For those who are seeking, we provide hope and a new opportunity of life.

## Reverend Emily Manvel Leite

Reverend Leite took on many of the duties of Executive Minister during the sabbatical time. It proved a great opportunity for her to learn more about the ins and outs of the church.

Some of the things that the staff has been involved in during the last 6 months include:

- Updating all our operational policies.
- Clarifying the role of the treasurer, CFO and staff.
- Involvement in training for how to build community using digital resources. Twitter, website, pinterest, youtube. This is stretching the staff in new ways which has been difficult and yet really good and exciting. The staff and ministerial team look forward to having Mary Ann join and bring new insights

Upcoming the church is starting to plan for Bill's retirement. We will continue to host many trainings. We will host the regional Mid America conference.

She offered a special thank you to Carol Marks who has really kept the Church running during this time. The congregation confirmed this with thunderous applause for Carol.

## Reverend Barbara Child

Reverend Child also expressed her thanks to the sabbatical team and the congregation. In addition to preaching as the sabbatical minister, she has also facilitated a chalice circle group, facilitated the board retreat,



written for the newsletter, and written post scripts for her sermons for folks to delve more deeply into her sermons.

Reverend Child is retired from full time ministry but is still an accredited interim minister. Interim minister is both a status and a role and, as she says, she "cannot not know what she knows." An interim minister is not a placeholder whereas a sabbatical minster is, and that has been a challenge for her. She has worked hard not to challenge the status quo as that is an interim's job, not a sabbatical minister's job. By and large, by her own admission, she did quite well. She had to decide in the pulpit what to do the UU Bloomington Church's way and what to do Barbara Child's way. She has walked a fine line and hopes that the changes she has offered met with approval and can be adopted if the congregation chooses.

As she preached one fewer sermon than she contracted to, she has made herself available to preach one more sermon in the spring.

In July 2014, when we do hire an interim minister, she will model the ministry of absence. Starting in January she will be doing consulting ministry in Deerfield Illinois.

#### Sabbatical Wrap-up

#### **Beth Lodge-Rigal**

Kathleen Sideli

The committee was called in October in 2012. Mary Ann laid a lot of groundwork prior to the two sabbaticals and the team worked together to make the year progress seamlessly.

#### Board presentation to Reverend Child

On behalf of the board and the staff she wanted to honor Barbara Child. All this year she provided thoughtful thought provoking sermons at a measured pace. Her skills at teasing money from the congregation for the offertory were a delight. She also has provided wise counsel to the board before this time of transition with the interim.

In thanks she presented her with a chalice made by Barb Lund and Abby Gitlitz.

## Treasurer's Report Arzetta Hults Losensky

Arzetta showed charts that demonstrated that we are doing quite well financially. Pledges and grants are 39% of the budget.

Include the slide in the final minutes. Income/Expenses.

#### **Quorum Report**

We have 72 members signed in for the meeting, well more than needed for quorum.

#### Motion for board to approve congregational minutes at a future board meeting

Amy Taylor so moved. Karen Jewell seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### Social Justice Grants Announcement

**Steve Mascari** 

Social Justice distributed \$1300 to 4 groups:

- \$145 to the Elder Focus Task Force to help fund the recent visit of Esther Hurlburt, an expert in elder housing issues.
- \$150 to the UU Circles Initiative to fund the preparation by church members of one meal for a Circles Initiative meeting.



- \$300 to the Reproductive Justice Task Force to help fund a resources cart of reproductive justice materials.
- 700 to the Homeless Task Force to support UU work with the Interfaith Winter Shelter

## **Board Report**

#### Minister Emeritus Working Group Deb Hutton

MEWG is composed of Deb Hutton, Jack King and Barbara Carlson.

Their charge is -

- To help Reverend Breeden develop covenants with the congregation, with the current ministers, and with the other emeritus minister.
- To support the minster and his family and children. To help them decide what they will do during this time of tradition.
- And to help the congregation process this transition.

They will work with the UUA which now has good support tools for congregations going through emeritus/ interim transition. Barbara Child has not heard of other churches forming a MEWG and she has passed this idea up the line to the UUA. Once again UUB is cutting edge.

MEWG has scheduled a "Saying Good-bye" workshop for January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014. It will look at how a congregation says goodbye to a minster who is staying within our community as well as other types of leave-taking in our lives.

#### **Celebration Committee**

#### Ann Kamman

Ann is chairing the "Bill" Committee. Her group is coordinating all celebratory events for the last 6 months of Bill's time here so that he does not get overwhelmed.

#### Ministerial Transition Timeline

#### Kathleen Sideli and Board

Kathy Sideli outlined what the timeline will be for the church in the next few months and years as a result of Reverend Breeden's retirement.

#### 2014

- January The Board will meet with Keith Kron, the Director of Ministerial Transitions for the UUA.
- The Board will finalize a three-person search committee of the board to choose an interim minister.
- Spring Interim ministers meet with Keith Kron and state their eligibility.
- April 1<sup>st</sup> The Church will apply to the Transition Office for an interim minister.
- The Interim Search Committee will have phone interviews with applicants.
- The Interim Search Committee chooses and negotiates a contract with an interim minister.
- End of April Negotiations for an interim minister should be finalized.
- Summer Interim minister arrives.
- Fall Ministerial Settlement Representative will work with the Board to outline a search process for a new minister.

#### 2015

- Ministerial search committee (MSC) is formed. It will be nominated and elected by all congregational members. Typically the members volunteer 400 hours each.
- Summer MSC will have a retreat
- Fall MSC will gather information about the church

#### 2016

- Spring Pre-candidates are selected and the MSC will listen to them preach in "neutral" pulpits.
- The candidate recommended by the MSC will come and spend a week at the church, preaches twice, and be voted on by the congregation in a simple "yes/no" vote.

The floor was opened up for questions.

- 1. David Keppel asks: If the congregation votes down a MSC chosen minister how will that affect the church?
  - a. Barbara Child: It is better to vote down a candidate than to accept someone you genuinely do not feel is appropriate. Sometimes the MSC may not find a suitable candidate and they choose not to recommend anyone. The important thing is to find a minister who is a good fit for the church. If the search is unsuccessful it is better to wipe the slate clean and begin again.

Clarke Miller: Why is it a two-year process rather than a one year one as we had in the past?

- b. Kathy Sideli: It is now the standard process. All UU churches that were looking for a minister in 2012 had an interim for 2 years. It allows time for the interim minister to help the congregation heal after the loss of the previous minister and figure out what we are looking for. And it gives more time for a committee to be formed and do a thorough search.
- c. Karen Jewell: Clarified Sideli's point.
- d. Amy Taylor: To do the job well and fairly, two years will be needed.
- e. David Keppel: The upcoming time will be a time of uncertainty, of fluidity. We will need that time to accept a new voice. We should see this time of interim as a time of opportunity and a time of spiritual discipline.
- 2. Chris Haynes: There are many churches our size that have two called ministers but some do not. We need time to evaluate what kind of ministry team we will need in the future.
  - a. Kathy Sideli: Clarified that an associate minister is a called minister. An assistant minister is not called but hired. Although we are losing a senior minister, our budget can probably only accommodate an associate minister.
- 3. Bill Breeden feels confident that the process is a good one and will yield good results.
- 4. Diane Port: Why is the MSC only comprised of seven people? We are so large now that we might need more people and more diversity.
  - a. Barbara Child: It is a standard way of doing business. In addition to making decisions there are seven distinct tasks that are done during the search, and each member does one task. Having a larger group would make the task more difficult.
  - b. Mary Ann Macklin: If the MSC is doing its job, it will search out multiple viewpoints and will represent the diversity of the church.

## Motion to Adjourn 5:37

Amy Taylor so moved. Karen Jewell seconded. It was approved unanimously.

## Social Justice Funds Committee 2013-14

**Fall Social Justice Grants program:** In September 2013 the Social Justice Funds Committee (SJFC) sought applications for grants that might be funded by the church's social justice large and small grant funds. We received the following proposals:

- 1. The Elder Focus Task Force requested \$480 to cover the expenses for Esther Hurlburt to visit UUCB and preach on Sunday, October 6, 2013 to talk about her work to alleviate isolation and loneliness in old age.
- The Homeless Task Force/Interfaith Winter Shelter requested \$1700 for operating the Interfaith Winter Shelter (IWS) on the second Saturday night of each month from November 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014. Reverend Bill Breeden served as site director on those nights.
- 3. The Reproductive Rights Task Force requested \$1000 for the acquisition of books, films/DVDs, curricula, and other resources that will be kept on a rolling book cart. The Rolling Resource will be available to parents and families at UUCB and in other churches in Monroe County (starting with First United Church and other liberal congregations).
- 4. The UU and Circles Initiative requested \$600 for a group of UU Volunteers to cook four meals for Circles leaders, allies, and volunteers during weekly meetings at St. Mark's Church, allowing members of UUCB to meet and get to know Circles participants on a personal level.

SJFC approved four proposals and forwarded all those proposals to the Special Purposes Fund Committee with a recommendation to fund, which the SPFC approved: Elder Focus Task Force for \$145, Reproductive Task Force for \$300, UU/Circles Initiative for \$150, and the Homeless Task Force/Interfaith Winter Shelter for \$700. Those four grants totaling \$1295 were paid out leaving the following Social Justice Funds current balances: \$1669.27 in the Lundin Social Justice Small Grant Fund A, and \$2792.37 in the Lundin Social Justice Large Grant Fund B.

**Spring award of Sunday Plate funds:** In April 2014, the SJFC sought nominations for non-profit agencies to be the recipient of 25% of undesignated Sunday Plate funds for the year 2014-2015. (Monroe County Circles Initiative received the award for 2013-2014 which has amounted to \$6600 thus far.) We received seven proposals, from the following organizations:

- 1. The Boys and Girls Clubs of Bloomington nominated by Iris Kiesling
- 2. Susie's Place Child Advocacy Center nominated by Sharon Yarber
- 3. Templeton Elementary Healthy Snack Food Program nominated by Laura Petersen
- 4. Bloomington Area Birth Services nominated by Martha Nord
- 5. Prism Bloomington nominated by Philip Cooper
- 6. Volunteers in Tutoring Adult Learners nominated by Ann Robins
- 7. Interfaith Winter Shelter nominated by Alan Backler

After careful consideration, SJFC members selected the first three on the above list to present to the congregation for a vote at the June 8, 2014, congregational meeting. The SJFC is currently working to assure that congregation members will have adequate information on which to base their vote.

The Social Justice Funds Committee Jana Anna, Steve Mascari, Ellen Tamura, Millie Jackson & Bret Eartheart



## Leadership Cultivation Committee Annual Report, 2013-14

The Leadership Cultivation Committee met monthly throughout the year.

Members are: Allison Chopra; Carol McCord; Tom Nelson Laird, co-chair; Kelly Rockhill, co-chair; Reverend Mary Ann Macklin, ex officio; and Von Welch, ex officio.



We planned and presented one workshop for education of the church leadership in the Fall, using Harvest the Power: Developing Lay Leadership curriculum from the UUA. In lieu of a Spring leadership workshop this year we worked with Jackie Hall to host Tandi Rogers, who provided excellent workshops on how to sustain our energy as a vibrant liberal religious community and how to further grow. The Leadership Cultivation Committee sponsored the food for the Saturday workshop and also hosted the event.

We also worked with the Board and Special Purposes Fund Committee to update volunteer job descriptions. This work needs to continue. We thank Chris Haynes and the members of Special Purposes Fund Committee for revising their job description for 2014.

This year we continued our commitment to planning ahead by proactively seeking leaders who will be ready to serve our congregation in years to come. We will send one congregation member and two youth to UU Mid West Leadership School this summer. Looking ahead, we have talked with others about going to Leadership School in 2015.

We anticipate our budget to remain the same for next year. This will allow us to send adult members and youth to Leadership School, as well as hold at least two leadership events during the year. We thank Tom Nelson Laird and Kelly Rockhill, who are ending their terms, for their service on this committee.

Nominees for office for the election to be held at the Spring Congregational Meeting June 8, 2014, at 4:00 pm, as follows. If elected, all terms begin July 1, 2014. The LCC would like to extend a special thanks to Kathy Sideli for stepping up to our request to continue her term as Board President. She has provided excellent leadership, and we are grateful to her for her willingness to offer her leadership expertise in this time of change.

#### Michelle Cook – Leadership Cultivation Committee (July 1, 2014-June 30, 2017)

Michelle has been attending UU Bloomington since July of 2012 and she and her wife, Jessie, became members of the church in December of the same year. Michelle has served on the Greeter/Welcomer Committee and Auction Committee for two years. She has also served as a substitute advisor to the high school youth group since the Fall of 2014 and recently joined the group as a full-time YRUU advisor. Michelle's professional life involves conducting condition assessments and trainings related to accessibility for persons with disabilities in the National Park System, and her down-time is primarily occupied by the antics of her four dogs.

#### Harv Hegarty – Leadership Cultivation Committee (July 1, 2014-June 30, 2017)

Harv Hegarty grew up on a farm homesteaded by his great grandparents. He is a retired IU faculty member where he taught Strategy, Organizational Behavior, Negotiation, Leadership, and Creativity. He and his wife, Connie, are active in community activities including the Shalom Center, Wednesday Pantry, Winter Shelter, and Cardinal Theatre. He is on the Board of Amethyst House and SCORE.

#### Kim Deckard – Special Purposes Fund Committee (July 1, 2014-June 30, 2017)

Kim Deckard is a native of Bloomington Indiana, and has resided there for the majority of her life. Kim has worked in the banking industry for 23 years, holding positions such as Teller, Vault Teller, Credit Analyst and Para Lender. Kim enjoys running, biking, kayaking and raising her 6 month old son, Max. She has been a member of the UU Church of Bloomington for 3 years and loves it!

#### Kathleen Sideli – Board President (July 1, 2014-June 30, 2016)

I started attending UUCB in 1989 with my husband, Dan Quilter, and two children. For the past 20 years I have had governance experience on ten boards, through my professional life of international education as well as local organizations. Most recently I have served as president of the Board of UUCB. Serving this church during a time of transition planning has been challenging as well as rewarding.



#### Pat Brantlinger - Board At-Large (July 1, 2014-June 30, 2016)

Patrick Brantlinger grew up in a Unitarian family in Indianapolis. After college and graduate school, he taught at IU for 38 years, chairing the English Department in the early 1990s. He was named James Rudy Professor in 2000 and received the College Alumni Distinguished Faculty Award in 2001. He is the author of several books, most recently *States of Emergency: Essays on Culture and Politics* (IU Press, 2013)

#### Ann LeDuc - Board Secretary (July 1, 2014-June 30, 2016)

Before moving to Bloomington, Ann attended many other Unitarian Universalist churches, societies and fellowships in the U.S. She asserts that our UU community is exceptional. As a result, she has become very involved in our committees and task forces. She is an active member of the Habitat for Humanity Task Force, the Greeters and Welcomers Committee, and the Reproductive Justice Task Force. Ann is the current chairperson of the Religious Education Support Team.



## Budget Report 2013-14

Operating Budget Report		Voor to Data	6/1/2011	
Operating Budget Report		Year to Date	, 0/4/2014	
	Jul '13 - Jun '14	Budget	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	% of Budget
Income/Expense				
Income				
2014 Pledges & Grants - Cmted	423,346.00	508,598.00	-85,252.00	839
2014 Pledges & Grants - New	10,175.00	3,000.00	7,175.00	3399
Bazaar	7,678.56		-2,321.44	779
Facilities Use Fees	6,957.00	6,100.00	857.00	1149
Interest Income	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0%
Investment Income	2,518.04	2,000.00	518.04	126%
Kroger-Marsh Fundraiser	7,000.00	8,000.00	-1,000.00	88%
Miscellaneous	4,186.61	1,200.00	2,986.61	349%
Other Fundraising	2,681.25	1,000.00	1,681.25	268%
Prior Year Pledges	41,872.54	10,000.00	31,872.54	4199
Sunday Plate Offering	28,845.92	26,000.00	2,845.92	111%
Talent Auction	12,792.93	11,000.00	1,792.93	116%
Total Income	548,053.85	586,948.00	-38,894.15	93%
Expense				
CAMPUS-YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY	822.67	4,552.00	-3,729.33	189
CHILDCARE	7,424.53	10,133.00	-2,708.47	73%
COMMITTEES	9,591.97	17,767.00	-8,175.03	54%
DENOMINATIONAL	42,477.00	45,282.00	-2,805.00	94%
MINISTRY (A)-MACKLIN	67,047.08	73,000.00	-5,952.92	92%
MINISTRY (B)-BREEDEN	55,883.20	60,000.00	-4,116.80	93%
MINISTRY (C)-BENEFITS (Macklin & Breeden)	27,613.56	30,430.00	-2,816.44	919
MINISTRY (D)-OTHER	7,292.18	9,220.00	-1,927.82	79%
MUSIC	32,994.53	36,823.00	-3,828.47	90%
OFFICE	88,776.84	105,047.00	-16,270.16	85%
PLANT	112,737.35	116,764.00	-4,026.65	97%
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	70,357.81	77,858.00	-7,500.19	90%
Total Expense	523,018.72	586,876.00	-63,857.28	899
Net Income	25,035.13	72.00	24,963.13	



## **Board of Directors Annual Report 2013-14**

During this past year, the Board continued its focus on the ministerial transition, and fair and sustainable compensation for the ministers and the staff. In 2012-13, the Board prepared by gathering information and consulting with a range of experts on these matters. In 2013-14 the Board executed the specific elements necessary to 1) ensure the church's fiscal health for the transition; 2) assist Reverend Breeden as he transitions into a new relationship with our congregation; 3) set up a process culminating in a contract with the best interim minister possible for our congregation; and 4) support the ministerial team and the staff during Reverend Breeden and Reverend Macklin's sabbaticals. The Board reached its goals, and we are pleased to have recently contracted with an interim minister who meets our established criteria. We are close to having a 2014-15 budget that continues to increase resources for the church at large and strives for fair and sustainable compensation. These goals were accomplished through careful strategic planning throughout the year by the Board, the efforts of hardworking Board subcommittees—the Interim Minster Selection Committee and the Minister Emeritus Working Group—and collaboration between the Board and the Stewardship Committee. We are more than ready to tackle what 2014-15 has in store for us, including initiating our search for our next called minister.

Kathleen Sideli, on behalf of the Board of Directors



## **Ministers and Staff**

## Executive Minister Report for the Ministry Team Reverend Mary Ann Macklin and Reverend Emily Manvel Leite May 2014

The fiscal year 2013-2014 involved the completion of Reverend Bill Breeden's sabbatical and the beginning of Reverend Mary Ann Macklin's sabbatical. Much appreciation goes to our Sabbatical Support Committee (chaired by Beth Lodge-Rigal) for a smooth transition during this time. Also, we are very grateful to Reverend Barbara Child who served as our sabbatical minister. Reverend Breeden and Reverend Macklin are very grateful for time away in order to reflect and renew in mind, body and spirit.

Reverend Emily Manvel Leite served as the ministerial liaison to the Board of Directors during Reverend Macklin's sabbatical. The following is her report for the months of August through December.

#### **Reverend Leite:**

During Reverend Macklin's sabbatical, staff members Carol Marks, Adrienne Summerlot, Judy Bennett, and myself, along with volunteers Molly O'Donnell and Jackie Hall, began attending a bi-weekly online course called 21<sup>st</sup> Century ministry offered through the Church of the Larger Fellowship. This class encouraged us to consider the use of online resources and media to improve the programs and ministry within our congregation. We explored issues and resources around our website, Facebook page and learned how to use Twitter, Pinterest, Youtube, and how to make effective video. The learning from this course have been continuously useful in every area of congregational life, including worship, outreach, religious education, and social justice.

In the fall, Carol Marks, Reverend Breeden and I also worked to update all of our operations policies, and I worked with Arzetta Hults-Losensky, John Lawson, and Carol Marks as they began to sort out their varied roles in overseeing the financial affairs of the congregation.

We also began work in preparation for Reverend Breeden's retirement in the spring, and convened a committee (the "Bill Committee") to plan for appropriate celebrations and rituals (please see their separate report of these many activities). Thank you to this committee (Chair: Ann Kamman) and their ongoing work to honor Bill and his ministry. Also thank you to the Minister Emeritus Working Group (originally consisting of Reverend Barbara Carlson, Jack King and Deborah Hutton) which has met with Reverend Breeden regularly regarding this retirement and Minister Emeritus status.

Throughout Reverend Macklin's sabbatical, Kathleen Sideli and Von Welch (president and vice president of the congregation) kept things moving thoughtfully forward for our congregation as we prepared for Reverend Breeden's departure. A very warm thanks to them. Finally, thank you to Carol Marks, who provided the necessary institutional memory and unfailing willingness to help which made it possible for sabbatical time to be a joyful and growing time for the congregation and for me.

#### Rev. Macklin:

Thank you Reverend Leite. Upon my return from sabbatical, we began our adventure into year-round themebased ministry. While exploring and enjoying this new form of ministry, our hearts were also mindful of Reverend Breeden's impending retirement. In January, the Minister Emeritus Working Group brought in Reverend Dr. Laurie Proctor in January to help the congregation begin its process of farewell and transition. Alas, our Minister Emerita Reverend Barbara Carlson also announced that she will be leaving to move to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to be with family. A celebration of her ministry will take place in late September. Meanwhile, Clarke Miller was chosen to replace her on the Minister Emeritus Working Group. In late February, UUA consultant Tandi Rogers visited our congregation for a "Beyond Congregations" workshop which helped us explore our identity beyond our walls and within the context of our current transition. Her visit involved meetings with many lay leaders and staff of our congregation and was enjoyed. She blessed us with her pulpit presence on Sunday as well.

Our ministry owes a deep debt of gratitude to all of our committees and Social Justice Task Forces, which continue to embody our vision of "Seeking the Spirit, Building Community, Changing the World." Their commitment and dedicated efforts cannot be over emphasized. Again, special emphasis remains on our Planned Giving Committee as well as our Special Purposes Fund as we remain rooted in the present while creating a sustainable future for this congregation.

In April, we were a hosting site for the first UU MidAmerica Regional Assembly. Again, staff and lay leaders gave much time and effort to make this a positive gathering for all. Also, our Chalice Circle Executive Committee hosted a multi-congregational training for small group ministry in April. Reverend M'Ellen Kennedy provided this successful training for members of our congregation as well as other UU congregations nearby. In May, we benefited from the labor of love from our Interim Selection Committee as our incoming Interim Minister was announced, Reverend Doug Wadkins. Thank you to that committee (Chair: Von Welch) for all of its work.

And so June arrives and Bill's departure from our congregation as its co-minister weighs heavy in our hearts. We hope all will participate in the farewell rituals and celebrations of his ministry. Bill's last sermon will be June 15<sup>th</sup> (Gospel Sunday) and the last worship service in which we will honor his ministry and celebrate his time with us will be June 22. An all-church picnic and Splash of the Sacred pool party will conclude that day of celebration.

Lastly, I have asked Reverend Breeden to submit his own report regarding his ministry with this congregation. Please see the following report.

Respectfully submitted, Reverend Mary Ann Macklin



## **Reverend Breeden's Report**

## A Final Report to the UU Church of Bloomington Indiana.

It is with a sense of thanksgiving that I submit this final report to the most amazing congregation I have ever known. While I cannot deny that the finality of such a report carries a twinge of sadness, and the thought of no longer being a settled minister of this congregation is a bit surreal, the overwhelming joy of having served this community provides a finish like unto the finest scotch ever distilled.

In the past thirteen plus years of ministry, I have witnessed the growth of this congregation, not merely in membership, but also in spiritual maturity. Indeed, the latter provided the fertile soil in which the former was a natural progression. The opportunity to serve with Reverend Barbara Carlson for a few years and then with Reverend Macklin for the duration is a blessing for which I will be eternally thankful, assuming of course that eternity, in the words of Mary Oliver, is "another possibility."

Reverend Carlson provided the initial encouragement for me to return to the ministry, and I am thankful for the few years we had to work together. After her retirement, Reverend Macklin courageously accepted the challenge of continued co-ministry, and with wisdom beyond her years provided steady and strong leadership

that allowed both of us to utilize our individual gifts to the maximum effect. Her ability to communicate with lay leaders and to coordinate planning with implementation helped the congregation to realize its unlimited potential to be a redemptive community.

When the growth of the congregation dictated a change in governance, and an adjustment in the coministry, Reverend Macklin accepted the challenge to be our Executive Minister. She has served in that role with grace and compassion, and I found it a joy to work with her in the lead. I expect her title will soon be changed to "Senior Minister," which is more in keeping with the parlance of our profession.

I also want to express my immense joy and thanksgiving for the work of Reverend Emily Manvel Leite who has stepped up in the past couple of years when sabbaticals demanded more of her. She has been a joy to work with and a great addition to our ministry team.

Of course, I could and perhaps should go on a bit about the rest of our staff. The core staff members, Sue Swaney, Carol Marks, Judy Bennett, and Adrienne Summerlot continue week after week and year after year to serve this church in ways that are often above and beyond the call of duty. Of course, the reason they do it is not out of duty, but rather out of a real commitment to, and love for, our community. The same can be said of the support staff, all of whom do their jobs with dignity and a great sense of humor. I was greatly blessed to work with all of them.

I do not wish to exhibit a false sense of humility. I believe that I have played a significant role in the growth of our community, and I am very happy to have had the opportunity to do so. Preaching at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington is as good as it gets. This congregation not only expects good preaching, it inspires good preaching. Furthermore, by its own dynamism, it demands that a minister change and grow.

While I appreciate the sentiment of the "Bill Sent Me" buttons, I believe it has been the congregation that has pushed me, formed me, and commissioned me to be a better human being and a better minister. The vision statement of this congregation, "Seeking the Spirit, Building Community & Changing the World" is more than a bumper sticker or T-shirt slogan, it is a way of being, and it inspires good ministry.

I look back over these past years amazed that they have gone so quickly and so smoothly. I believe the years ahead hold just as much promise as the years we have traversed, and perhaps even more so. The world is eager to hear the good news of Universal love, and this congregation has the voice with which to proclaim it. As the old song implores, "Keep your eyes on the prize, hold on."

Rest assured that I will carry this congregation in my heart for as long as it continues to beat, and I will support its ministry in every way possible as long as life gives me breath.

Peace and Love Always,

bill

June, 2014



## Church Administrator's Annual Report, 2013-14

#### SABBATICALS, REV. BREEDEN'S RETIREMENT, INTERIM MINISTRY

- Cheerfully met the challenges of both our ministers being on sabbatical in the past year. Though saddened by Reverend Breeden's retirement, we look forward to working with Reverend Douglas Wadkins later this summer as he begins his two-year interim ministry with us.

#### OFFICE SUPPORT STAFF

- Have appreciated the work of our Office Assistants Monica Overman and Jason Haworth. Monica was hired in summer 2012, and Jason was hired in July 2013.

#### CREDIT CARD READER

- Purchased a credit card reader to be used at the auction and similar once a year fundraising events to make purchases via debit or credit card easier. The donate page on our website, <u>www.uubloomington.org</u>, continues to be an easy way for members to make their pledge commitments and also make payments on those pledges.

#### CONTINUING EDUCATION

- Attended professional day for the Association of UU Administrators in Louisville preceding General Assembly in June 2013. I continue to serve on the AUUA Certification Review Board, helping evaluate submissions of administrators who are seeking formal certification.

- Took an 8-month web-based course (October 2013-May 2014) from the Church of the Larger Fellowship, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Social Media in Ministry, and learned to use a number of new tools for communication with our congregation. Results of what we learned can be viewed several times a week on our facebook page, <u>https://www.facebook.com/uubloomington</u>.

Looking forward to the learning and changing we will all experience in the coming year. Many blessings, Carol Marks, Church Administrator

## Music Director's Annual Report, 2013-14

Highlights of this year:

Worship Artist in Residence, percussionist Colleen Haas, who provided special music for Sunday worship, the district meeting, and performed with the choir on several occasions, including the special music Sunday in December dedicated to the memory of Nelson Mandela.

The choir's spring performance of parts of *Carmina Burana*, with two pianos, a battery of fine percussionists, soloists David McIntosh and Amanda Biggs, and our fabulous children's choir directed by Jill Courtney.

Performances of several pieces by composers affiliated with our congregation: Mary Goetze's setting of Bill Breeden's *Meditation* text, Don Freund's setting of Clarke Dewey Wells' *Welcome Prayer*, Edwin Penhorwood's Psalm setting for baritones Ray Fellman, Scott Hogsed and the choir, and lovely instrumental pieces by Lauren Bernofsky and Peter Strickholm. The children's choir also sang several songs written by children's choir member Kathrynn Meuser.

Two forays into hip-hop: a rousing version of Macklemore's "Same Love," performed by our youth, with guidance by Aleisha Kropf and Daniel Reed, and a clever mash-up, "Paradise" based on Gangsta's Paradise by Coolio and Amish Paradise by Weird Al Yankovic, created and performed by Ryan Bredemeyer and Abe Leite.

We said goodbye to Nicholas Dold and welcomed new pianist Molly Doran to the bench.

As always, this choir and congregation continue to be sources of great inspiration to me! Can't wait for next year!

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Swaney, Music Director



## Membership Coordinator's Annual Report, June 2013-May 2014

One of my goals as Membership Coordinator is to assure that guests on Sunday morning feel welcome and comfortable, and that they have the information about the congregation that enables them to get involved according to their interests. I also assist the new members in making the connections that enable them to participate in activities that speak to them.

My activities included:

- Staff liaison to Caring Committee
- Ex officio member of Membership Committee
- Staff liaison to Goods and Services Auction
- Organized and assisted with Exploring UU classes. Changed frequency to quarterly.
- Offered First Steps- a drop in class for newcomers.
- Facilitated Membership Book Signings six times a year
- Maintained Our Folks in Print, congregational members in the news.
- Contacted members once a year to recognize the anniversary of their joining date.
- Organized Member Celebration day to honor first-year, 30-year, 40-year and 50-year members.
- Participated in 8-month 21<sup>st</sup> Century on-line course on the use of social media.

I appreciate being able to work in this caring community.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Bennett

## 2013-14 Religious Education Report

Minister of Religious Education: Reverend Emily Manvel Leite Director of Religious Education: Adrienne Summerlot Religious Education Assistants: Kitty McIntosh & Vanessa Mendoza

#### CURRICULUM

2013-2014 is the first year that all of the classes have utilized the same curriculum for both the 9:15am and 11:15am classes for the entire year. This is also the first time we have offered a middle school class at both services.

#### Summer 2013-Passport to the World (June & July 2013)

Children kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup> grade explored the culture and religions of Japan, Peru, India, Mexico, Australia, Germany, Kenya and Spain with members of the congregation as their tour guides.

#### 2013-2014 School Year (August 2013-May 2014)

Preschool: World of Wonder \* K-2<sup>nd</sup>: Roots and Wings \* 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Holidays and Holy Days 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade (YUUMS): UU Action 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade (YRUU): High School Youth Group

#### Intersession 2014- Inquiry- Stories from Islam created by Rev. Leite.

Multi-age classes of children kindergarten-8th grade were able to choose to explore inquiry through cooking, drama or Spirit Play. Preschool classes also explored the stories.



#### \*Spirit Play Classrooms

Spirit Play is a story and exploration-based method of religious education. This was the first year of full incorporation of Spirit Play in 2 classrooms. 30 teachers have been trained in Spirit Play, including our entire R.E staff. We have been thrilled to discover that volunteers find teaching in Spirit Play classrooms both rewarding and easy! We have also offered opportunities for adults, teenagers, and families to explore Spirit Play through several Spirit Play evening programs for All Ages or for Teens and Adults.

#### Youth Religious Education (YRE):

Our High School youth group has been active this year, meeting weekly with a wonderful team of advisors: Cassidy Rockhill, Dan Beauregard, Jason McCord, Emily McCord, Michelle Cook, and Martha Oakley. They produced a beautiful Youth Sunday service in February, attended two district conferences, and visited Bethel AME services, Reverend Bill's new lake, and the interfaith meetings of youth addressing climate change.

Our Coming of Age program included 10 ninth graders who worked with their wonderful mentors and together enjoyed monthly workshops, attended services, and explored spiritual practices at an overnight. The program culminated with the youth working to articulate something about what they believe right now. They shared the resulting credo statements with the congregation in an inspiring service on April 13.

#### **Social Justice Projects**

During our Social Justice Sundays this year: we partnered with Help Feed our Hungry Neighbors task force to make Lasagnas for Shalom Center, learned about Peace and sang with Just Peace Task Force. We also bagged dog and cat food for Back to Basics Project, upcycled tee shirts into toys for Monroe County Humane Society, and created a beautiful welcoming art piece for the church.

- Guests at Our Table Envelopes and Procession of Giving collected over \$1,500, which was donated to Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.
- Hosted a mitten tree at the Family Christmas Eve Service
- UU Action participated in Rachael's Run for Justice, Run for the Animals, and Barktoberfest in the Fall. They also helped Rev. Breeden at the Interfaith Shelter in December.
- Our High School Youth Group partnered with Bethel AME youth and collected bras for Bras with a Cause to help women in need.
- Fourth Friday Fellowship made social justice more accessible with a variety of programming; Anti-Bullying, Social Justice Hymn Sing, a screening of Unfreedom (a documentary on immigration), Backpack Buddies, and planting seeds for our new vegetable garden.

#### NOTES

- Over 75 volunteer teachers dedicated their time and talents to the RE program this past year. 161 children and youth were registered for RE.
- This coming summer, Mara Flynn and Joseph Camacho-Roy will be bringing back their learning from Midwest Leadership School, where Abe Leite is newly part of the leadership team.
- Childcare continues to be a welcoming pathway for new families. Choir, Exploring UU, Chalice Circles and Adult Religious Education have been utilizing childcare often for programming.

#### CHANGES

- Last year's survey determined that with the addition of Worship for All Ages with Story and Spirit Play, members wanted more opportunities for fellowship and to engage in social justice. Family Worship was discontinued and Fourth Friday Fellowship was introduced.
- In August, we offered our first Religious Education Open house and plan to offer another one this year.
- We began sending teacher reports via email and to both the 9:15am and 11:15 teachers for each class; this has made a huge difference in teacher communication and support. From those teacher reports, the R.E Assistants were able to craft a Family Note that is also sent via email that helps inform parents of what happened in class this week and what is coming up next. Many parents have been appreciative of this note.
- Holiday Sing-A-Long, Gift Making Workshop and Soul Food Dinner were stand-alone events and were well attended.



## **Committees and Task Forces**

## Adult Religious Education Annual Report 2013-2014

Committee members: Carolyn Emmert, Chair, Allison Chopra, Rob Hongen, Lisa Meuser, Bob Taylor. Staff Liaison: Reverend Emily Manvel Leite

A total of 21 classes were offered in Fall and Winter:

Spirituality (8) Aging and Spirituality, Barb Backler and Bob Taylor (Offered twice) Stories and Spirit Play for Ages 3-103, Connie Loftman, Martha Nord, and Reverend Emily Manvel Leite (offered twice) Spirit Play for Grown-Ups, Eve Cusack and Reverend Emily Manvel Leite Knowing Woman, Bob Taylor Shambhala Meditation, Sarah Flint The Spiritual Foundations of Western Theatre in Ancient Greece, Paul E. Lane *Unitarian Universalism (1)* 

The Rituals of Our Lives: Sacred Moments in Ordinary Days, Reverend Barbara Child

Social Justice (4) A Warm Embrace: Exploring Ways to Enhance the Diversity of Race and Social Class within the UU Community, Cetti Cherniak 12 Steps to a Compassionate Life, Allison Chopra

NAMI class for families dealing with Mental Illness, Janet James

World Religions (4)

Attuning to the Sufi Path, Sara Steffey McQueen, Sharon Parsons Playing with Breath, Chris Haynes Traditional Yogic Philosophy and Practice, Chris Haynes Traditional Taijiquan ("Tai Chi"), Brian Flaherty and Christy True

Sharing Our Gifts (4)

Photo Op!, John Woodcock and John Summerlot Sharing Poetry, Bob Taylor Live to 100 and Enjoy It!, Al Strickholm Swingtime in Art: Stuart Davis in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Carol Ver Wiebe

The committee continues to work to seek ways to increase participation in Adult Religious Education.

## **Bill Celebration Committee Report 2013-14**

The Bill Committee:

an ad-hoc group of individuals meeting to think about ways to celebrate Bill Breeden and his ministry as we prepare for his retirement.

Members: Ann Kamman, chair, Laura Jesseph, Steve Krahnke, Dan Lodge-Rigal, Licia Weber, Dick Stumpner, Drew Schrader, Reverend Emily Manvel Leite, staff liason.

This group met monthly beginning in October at the request of the Board. They planned several events to celebrate Bill's retirement, while seeking to avoid overwhelming him. Events have included and will include:

December 4: Holiday Sing along with Bill and Glenda March 28: Games Night sponsored by the UU youth group April 13: showing of Times of a Sign documentary May 9: Campfire Sing along at the UU Retreat May 18: recognition of Bill's departure in the Flower Communion service



month of June: social justice work in honor of Bill June 8: minister emeritus vote June 15: Gospel Sunday and Bill's final sermon before retirement June 22: Goodbye Ritual and Service, Splash of the Sacred celebration

## The Booktable Committee Annual Report 2013-14

The Booktable Committee ran the Booktable during the Fellowship Hour Sundays in 2013-2014 to (1) greet newcomers and provide information about introductory Unitarian Universalist books and brochures; (2) offer books/audiovisual materials which promote UU Principles and Purposes, which are recommended by the ministers and others, which reflect current congregational interests, and/or which support congregational or local authors and musicians; (3) offer books for UU Adult Religious Education courses; (4) provide an opportunity for congregants to recycle and/or purchase used books/audiovisual materials; and (5) host a free magazine exchange. The Booktable also supported the book sale at the annual 2013 UU Holiday Bazaar by providing used book donations and assistance with set-up, sales, and tear-down.

Proceeds from sales and donations were used for purchasing new materials for the Booktable and the Ralph and Annetta Fuchs Library. Active members of the committee this year were Doug & Julie Cauble, Mike and Rita Drescher, Penny Fisher, Glee Noble (Chair), Harold Ogren, Veda Stanfield, John Summerlot, Ellen Tamura and Yasuko Watt.

## Building and Grounds Committee Annual Report, 2013-2014

The most exciting improvement to the building this past year was the new back counter and shelving in our main kitchen. The work and materials were donated in memory of Mike Job by his brother Monte Job and the company Mike had founded, Quality Surfaces. A new dishwasher was purchased and installed at the same time.

We had planned to replace the HVAC system for the offices in the summer of 2013. The larger sanctuary HVAC indoor unit, which blocked the smaller office unit, failed in early July so we replaced both systems with more efficient units, reducing our natural gas and electricity use.

A gutter was installed on the roof over the office steps and the other gutters were repaired. The worn weather stripping on exterior doors in the old RE wing was replaced and second floor recessed light fixtures were caulked and their incandescent lamps replaced with fluorescents. The upstairs kitchen light fixtures were replaced with LED fixtures.

As a consequence of the Audio-Visual Committee work in the Meeting Room, the sixty-two 250-Watt Halogen track lights were replaced with 36-Watt LED lamps. This move was embraced by members of the Green Sanctuary Task Force since this will further reduce the church's electricity use!

Carpet was replaced on the sanctuary steps, ramp and separate platform in the spring. Carpet tiles were ordered for the second floor hallways, work room, meditation room and interim minister's office, to be installed by volunteers this summer.

## Caring Committee Annual Report 2013-2014

Our Caring Committee has met monthly to update on congregational needs and respond with cards, visits, helping with food or medical transportation needs, as well as organizing memorial receptions. Last October, we formed and trained a group of Caring Visitors who also visit people in our congregation. In May we hosted a Caregiver Network Meeting for those who are caring for a family member or friend. From this meeting, the network will decide how to proceed.



This year the Elder Focus Task Force and the Caring Committee held two workshops on "End of Life" Issues. In October, Rob Stone, Medical Director of Palliative Care IU Health facilitated a workshop in response to viewing a documentary called "Consider the Conversation". Terminally ill patients, families, and medical professionals shared stories of the challenges and gifts in the process of dying. The second workshop in April hosted a panel involving; Reverend Mary Ann Macklin, Dr. Rob Stone, and Clarke Miller discussing with participants "how to die well". At each of these workshops, more than forty attended.

We appreciate all the volunteers in our church community who give support to others in our congregation.

Submitted by Sharon Yarber, Caring Committee Chair

#### Chalice Circles Small Group Ministry Annual Report 2013-2014

This year we formed 12 Chalice Circles with approximately 100 participants, including 18 facilitators. Each facilitator went through training in August 2013 and attends a monthly Facilitator Circle, under the direction of either Reverend Breeden or Reverend Macklin (Reverend Child led a Facilitator Circle when Reverend Macklin was on sabbatical.) These meetings allow facilitators to share experiences and learn from each other.

Chalice Circles is participating in the monthly ministry theme program adopted by UUCB. We provide facilitators with session plans, related to the monthly themes. This will continue in the fall.

Efforts have been made to make the Chalice Circles as accessible to congregants as possible. Some of the Circles met once a month, while others met twice a month. Some meet at the church, others at facilitators' homes. We have one Circle meeting in Martinsville and three Circles that meet at retirement communities. We plan to be even more accessible next fall. All facilitators were trained to deal with hearing issues among Circle participants. Each Circle is responsible for doing social service activities. Many committees within the church have learned to come to Chalice Circles when they need help. In addition, Circles continue to provide services for community agencies.

One of the highlights of the year occurred on April 26, when we hosted a workshop for congregations in our district, focusing on small group ministry. The workshop was arranged by Reverend Breeden and run by M'Ellen Kennedy. -- Alan Backler, for Chalice Circles

## **Denominational Affairs Committee**

Members of the Denominational Affairs Committee are those individuals who have attended the previous year's annual UUA Regional and/or the UUA General Assemblies. The purpose is to encourage members of the congregation to attend the following year's Assemblies. Also, if new denominational issues arise that delegates feel the congregation needs to be apprised of and participate in, the committee assists.

Currently, we are eligible to send ten delegates. The 2013 UUA General Assembly in Louisville, Kentucky, was attended by ten delegates as allowed by UUA By-Laws. The following people represented us during all or part of the UUA/GA 2013:

Sandy Dolby, Jackie Hall, Lloyd Orr, Iris Kiesling, Amy Taylor, Kelly Rauch, Beckie Wagner, Carol Ver Wiebe, Shari Woodbury, Anne Haynes, David Keppel, and our ministers and Reverend Barbara Carlson.

This committee should help and advocate for full funding of these delegates. In addition, we should assure that we continue to pay our "fair share" financial support to the Region and the UUA. –Iris Kiesling

## **Fellowship Potluck Dinners**

Sixty members of our religious community participated in the Fellowship Dinners for the months of October, November, January, February, March and April for 2013-14. These dinners provide opportunities to get to know one another and to share a meal and conversations. Everyone seems to enjoy the dinners. Sandy Churchill, Coordinator

## **Goods and Services Auction Report 2014**

This year's Goods and Services Auction took place on May 4th. The organizing committee consisted of cochairs Michelle Cook and Wendy Bethel; Molly Gleeson, silent auction; Arzetta Hults-Losensky, treasurer; Jan Skinner, donations; Jessie Monroe, creator of auction catalog with Michelle; and Judy Bennett, staff liaison.

The auction received over 130 items from at least 50 donors for the event, ranging from a rare engraving by James Whistler to homemade pies to vacation rentals. Like last year, a luncheon was held between the end of second service and the auction. Amy Crozier ran the kitchen with the help of several volunteers and members of YUUMs. Several people donated soup, bread, salads, and a wide array of desserts for the luncheon.

The co-chairs would like to thank the many wonderful volunteers that helped before, during, and after the auction, without whom the event could not have been so successful. Special thanks must go to the auctioneer, Darrell Breeden, for conducting a successful and fun auction. Many thanks as well to Carol Marks, who made many things happen in what was often a very short time and smoothed the way for a great event.

This year's total as of publication time was over \$11,000, with a few payments still to be collected.

Although the auction had a successful outcome, it cannot be denied that finding volunteers and people to serve on the committee this year was very difficult. Soliciting donations was also very challenging.

Wendy Bethel Michelle Cook Co-chairs of Goods and Services Auction Committee

## Greeter and Welcomer Committee, 2013-14

## Members: Yonjoo Cho, Craig Coley, Michelle Cook, Libby DeVoe (chair), Abby Downey, Molly Gleeson, Ann LeDuc

#### Accomplishments:

- Welcomed three new committee members.
- Scheduled 40 or 50 greeters and newcomer welcomers every month.
- Recruited at the Volunteer Fairs.
- Held two orientations for new volunteers.
- Maintained a loyal cadre of 90+ trained greeters and welcomers.
- Explored the feasibility of having volunteers sign themselves up on line for service.

Greeting continues to be both a significant service to the congregation and a good initial volunteer opportunity for newcomers.

#### Grounds Work 2013-2014:

Despite a year of challenging weather –from a late summer drought to the winter "polar vortex," snow and ice and a late spring– our grounds are looking very good.



Mowing and raking were donated by Jason McCord's landscaping business, allowing volunteers to concentrate on the gardens. We had help from two chalice circles in the fall and three in the spring, as well as from many other members. In the fall we removed many invasive plants from the adjacent wooded areas and under the large oak tree. In the spring we mulched that portion under the tree over layers of newspaper to keep them from returning. The other gardens and areas around the bushes were weeded and mulched both fall and spring. A small new vegetable garden was dug in the spring, to be planted in late May and cared for by RE children and their parents.

The bushes and youngest trees from the Green Spaces Initiative were watered during the drought and food spikes were added around their drip lines in the spring. They were mulched during both fall and spring cleanups. The cherry tree by the main entrance was pruned and mulched.

In the garden near the office entrance steps we removed a dead tree and weeded, laid cardboard under mulch and planted bulbs in the fall. In the spring we planted three boxwood bushes and transplanted Echinacea and Black-Eyed Susans to the left of those steps. The new plants will need additional watering this first summer.

Molly O'Donnell Chair, Building and Grounds

## Holiday Art Fair and Bazaar 2013

The 55th UU Holiday Art Fair and Bazaar had a reasonably good year, all things considered. The weather was a real challenge on the Friday, snow and ice kept many people away. Friday receipts were about half of normal. But Saturday was much better and we made up a lot of ground. We were able to net \$10,492.24 of which 20% or \$2,098.45 went to the Women's Alliance as usual. \$8,393.79 was paid into the church's operating budget.

The participating UU task force tables estimated taking in over \$4,000.00 collectively to support their various missions.

In spite of the weather Thursday night, prep volunteers carried on, and were even bolstered by some people who just thought we could use the help—for which we are hugely grateful. And still over 100 people volunteered to work one or more Bazaar shifts, and even more contributed cookies, jellies, persimmon pulp, books, white elephants, pies, soups, and other goodies and treasures. Our co-volunteers were our elders and our children, old and new friends. A few of our vendors never made it in on Friday, but everyone was there on Saturday, and once again expressed a genuine fondness for the event and for how they are received by the UU family. We like to think that the Bazaar is a very large, involving, engaging, friend-engendering, give-and-get back, fun event, that brings us together and also brings the greater Bloomington community to us. Many thanks to all!

Julie Lawson, for Your Bazaar Committee

## Membership Committee, 2013-14

- Members: Erin Wager Miller (chair), Lucy Fischman, Patsy Flint, Denise Ogren, Marlin Howard, Steven Gilbert, and Judy Bennett, ex officio
- Conducted six Membership Book signings, welcoming 26 new members between June 2013 and May 2014
- Continued to publish new member biographies in The Prologue.
- Gave the UU Pocket Guide and welcome packet to each new member household.
- Contacted guests every week to welcome them and answer questions about the church.
- Contacted those who had visited three months earlier to see if they had found a home with us.



- Hosted annual New Member Picnic at Bryan Park in June 2013. This family-friendly event gives new members an opportunity to interact with the Board, Staff and Ministers.
- Continued to print a weekly visitor's form in the Order of Service to track guests who have not filled out the yellow guest card.
- Did our part for Splash of the Sacred in July which included hosting a potluck similar to the New Member Potluck.
- Hosted Fall all-church potluck in October at which Alissa Davis spoke about street children in Russia. A follow-up activity was a collection of winter coats, mittens, gloves and shipped to a home for street children.
- Hosted Member Recognition Day which included recognizing new members as well as long term members. It was attended by 50 members, including 3 who had been members over 50 years. Different color ribbons were given to each according to how long they have been a member.

Erin Wager Miller, Membership Chair Judy Bennett, Membership Coordinator

## **Minister Emeritus Working Group - Annual Report 2013-14**

This year, 2013-2014, our Board of Directors created the Board sub-committee "Minister Emeritus Working Group" (MEWG), to function until the end of the first year of the newly called minister. Its purpose is to educate the congregation, Board, staff, and retiring Reverend Bill Breeden regarding all aspects of his Minister Emeritus status, as well as to support Reverend Breeden in his new position. Members of the collaborative MEWG (no designated leader) originally included Reverend Bill Breeden, Reverend Barbara Carlson (Emerita), Jack King, and Deb Hutton. In March, Barbara (because of her move) was replaced by Clarke Miller. MEWG continues to meet monthly. MEWG sponsored a workshop this winter, "Endings, Beginnings," to provide congregational education about the ministerial transition that is in our shared future, as well as start to create visions of five years hence, on the other side of the transition.

Respectfully submitted by Deb Hutton, on behalf of Reverend Bill Breeden, Reverend Barbara Carlson, Jack King, Clarke Miller.

## **Religious Education Support Team (REST) Annual Report 2013-14**

This year the Religious Education Committee implemented several changes. They include:

- The committee's name was changed to the Religious Education Support Team (REST), to better identify the role of the group.
- A monthly Parents' Corner was added. Parents' Corner provides a place between services where new and current parents can get information about the Religious Education program and socialize with other parents.
- In an effort to increase communication between the children's and youth REST, the two respective chairs meet monthly along with the Director of Religious Education (DRE) and Minister of Religious Education (MRE). Both the MRE and DRE also attend the children's and youth REST meetings.
- REST members have become more involved in teacher recruitment. Team members are asked to participate in teacher recruitment to the extent they are comfortable.
- Exciting plans for this summer and fall include a summer session circUUs theme, gardening opportunities, and an additional intersession in August. In the fall we will begin a new curriculum, "Marketplace 29 C.E.," for the 3-6th grade students.

## **Social Justice Circle**



## Elder Focus Task Force 2013-14

The Elder Focus Task Force had a productive year bringing our elders together in a variety of ways in order to create community. Activities included a Columbus, Indiana, architecture tour, Valentines tea, UU Artists' Tour, and weaving rugs for use in Spirit Play classes.

The hearing subcommittee has acquired 3 hearing devices that people can borrow to use in Chalice Circles or other group meetings at the church, is researching other hearing assist devices, and sponsored hearing tests.

With the Caring Committee we sponsored a showing of the film, Consider the Conversation about end of life issues. A followup panel discussion took place in April on end of life issues.

We visited Esther Hurlburt's Legacy Home in Lexington, KY which is a cooperative home for low income elders in Lexington. We established a sub committee on housing, chaired by Sue Medland. We plan to study elder housing needs in Bloomington and what's available. We have invited several resource people to meetings to discuss these issues. Services for elders who wish to stay in their homes is also a topic being explored. A neighborhood of housing for elders near Batchelor Middle School was also discussed.

Barb Backler, Elder Focus Task Force



## Habitat for Humanity Task Force Annual Report 2013-14

Habitat Task Force members: Barb Berggoetz and Connie Nelson Laird, co-chairs, Ann LeDuc, Nedra Carlson, Peter E. Garretson, Kathy Bruner, Sarah Bruner, Joan Caulton, Lindsey Harmon, Kathleen Chmelewski

Meetings: The task force meets monthly on the first Sunday, from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.

**Objectives:** Educate congregation about housing needs and Habitat; raise money for upcoming builds, including annual Women Build; support Habitat by providing volunteers, food and financial support, and provide volunteers for the ReStore.

**Funds:** Habitat had a total this year of about \$15,400, including a bequest of about \$5,500 from the late Wayne Mitter. Task Force members raised the rest through fund-raisers. Of that amount, \$5,000 was donated to Habitat to support 10 UUs volunteering to build in El Salvador in June 2014.

#### Activities:

August 10, 2013 – Breakfast Smoothie fundraiser: \$470. Football parking August-October 2013, with International Outreach Task Force: \$2,258

November 2013 – Sponsored table at More Than Houses Breakfast, Habitat's main fund-raiser. December 2013 – Craft sale: \$870.

Nov. 2013 through Feb. 2014 – Provided lunch once a month for builders on Saturdays.

March 2014 – Offered social justice moment about our upcoming El Salvador trip and Women Build. April 2014 – Served breakfast to support El Salvador trip; \$1,270.

May 16, 2014 – Recruited team of 36 women, mostly from UU, to help finance and build two homes in Bloomington.

June 1-10, 2014 – Participating in build in El Salvador, with each person contributing about \$750 and the task force contributing \$500 each.



## Help Feed Our Hungry Neighbors Task Force Annual Report 2013-14

The past year was another record-breaking year for the HFOHN Task Force. We continued the activities that have worked for us in the past, and expanded our food drive for Shalom Center.

#### 2013-14 Activities and Totals:

**Holiday Basket Food Drive**. (November 2013) Annual food drive for MCUM's Emergency Food Pantry. Individuals and families donated "holiday basket," 2-3 days worth of groceries, to benefit a local family. In 2013, our congregation donated a record-breaking 92 holiday baskets, 44 turkeys and 10 hams.

**BountyFull Sunday Food Drive**. Monthly food drive held the first Sunday of each month to benefit MCUM. 2013-14 donation totals averaged approximately 100 lbs per month. During April 2014, the food drive took place on Commitment Sunday and we collected a record 1,023 lbs of food, helping MCUM receive matching funds from the Feinstein Foundation.

**Fiber Arts Booth at Holiday Bazaar.** (December 2013). HFOHN runs a booth selling hand knit and handmade fiber items (scarves, hats, quilts, etc. made and donated by congregation members. In 2013, the booth brought in \$2139 (a record!).

**CROP Walk.** (October 2013) A local walk to fight hunger that is part of a national event that benefits local and national hunger agencies. We had one walker and raised approximately \$300.

**Macaroni and Spaghetti Drive for Shalom Center.** (2013-14). A joint effort with the Homelessness Task Force. Shalom Center has a very low grocery budget and needs organizations to volunteer to donate a single staple food item for the entire year. HFOHN has been collecting both macaroni and spaghetti (we added spaghetti donations this year), and we met our goal of 62 lbs of each per month.

Anne Graham, for the Help Feed Our Hungry Neighbors Task Force



#### Homelessness Task Force Annual Report 2013-2014

The major activity of the Homelessness Taskforce this year was to operate the Interfaith Winter Shelter (IWS) at First United Church on the second Saturday of each month from November 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014. Approximately 30 volunteers from UUCB and other churches, under the direction of Reverend Breeden, staffed the shelter from 7:30 PM until 7:30 AM on those nights.

The task force worked closely with other UUCB groups to serve the needs of people in our community experiencing poverty and homelessness. Chalice Circles provided hot meals for guests (40-60 people) on the nights that UUCB was responsible for running the overnight shelter and on other nights as well. We worked with the Hunger Task force to supply macaroni and spaghetti to Shalom Community Center every week, year round. We also collect sleeping bags, rain gear, and tents for distribution to Shalom guests who have no shelter during the months that the winter shelter is closed. Finally, middle school students from the RE program volunteered to help set up and clean up at the winter shelter in December.

This year, the Task force, working with Dan Lodge-Rigal and Steve Krahnke, organized a benefit concert in support of the Interfaith Winter Shelter. Several members of UUCB preformed. In addition, Glenda Breeden arranged for a quilt, constructed by prisoners at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility, to be auctioned off in support of IWS.

- Alan Backler, for the Homelessness Task Force



## Hope for Prisoners Task Force 2013-14

The mission of this task force is to work with the community to coordinate and encourage efforts to aid both incarcerated and released people in Monroe County and the state. We partner with New Leaf/New Life to advocate for and mentor clients in

Bloomington. Participants include members of the church and the community. Quarterly meetings are held at noon on the second Wednesday of January, April, July and October at the UU Church.

We continue our work in the Monroe County Jail by mentoring, doing addictions counseling, and assisting with life skills programs. The *Read to Me* program in which an inmate is recorded reading a book to his child continues; the recording along with a new book is sent to the child.

Task force members are also involved in job counseling for released inmates and visiting prisoners in other state facilities.

A special focus this year was involvement with IU instructor Lindsey Campbell-Badger and her students in the Inside/Out program. Emphasis was on planning successful reintegration into the community by investigating supportive housing and job training. Meetings were held in the Monroe County Jail with the IU instructor, students, inmates and volunteers; monthly evening meetings were also held in the New Leaf/New Life office.

Rick and Lois Holl, Coordinators



#### The International Outreach Task Force

The mission of the International Outreach Task Force (IOTF) is to provide direct financial, material, and/or humanitarian support to specified international development projects with the aim of bettering lives and building human bridges between people of different culture.



Member of Ndethya wa Ngutehya with family, Kathonzweni, Kenya.



#### Kenya Outreach

The IOTF currently supports the Ndethya wa Ngutethya women's agricultural cooperative based in Kathonzweni, Kenya. In July 2012, congregation members traveled to Kenya to represent our congregation and strengthen the ties of love and fellowship that link our community with the women and families of Ndethya wa Ngutethya. This trip focused on viewing the progress of past and current projects, meeting with group leaders to discuss ideas for the future, and enhancing our common bonds through cultural exchange. This trip

also included outings to the markets of Nairobi in search of beads, cloth, baskets and other handmade Kenyan goods to bring back and sell

in support of our Kenya Outreach projects.

The IOTF also supports the Spurgeon's Child Care Center and School based in the Kibera section of Nairobi. This school supports young AIDS orphans with education, food, and medical services. It also provides support services of AID widows and other family caregivers. IOTF members have visited the school on the last 3 visits to Kenya providing funds, school supplies, and other support. In July of 2011 UUCB funds helped to send a group of Spurgeon students on their first ever school trip. The students traveled to Kisumu on the shores of Lake Victoria to

Students from Spurgeon's Child Care Center and School at their dance competiton in Kisumu, Kenyua



participate in a country wide dance competition.



We also support the Nimba County Community College based in Sanniquellie, Liberia. Founded in 2011, the NCCC is a highly valued community institution providing the people of northeastern Liberia with educational opportunities in the areas of Science and Agriculture, Business and Public Administration, as well as Social Science and Liberal Arts. In 2013 the IOTF raised a total of \$1,721 to support the NCCC library project in association with Books for Africa. www.booksforafrica.org.

United States Ambassador to Liberia, Deborah Malac, addresses the students and faculty of NCCC in April 2014.

Jason Blankenship, for the International Outreach Task Force

## Jobs with Justice Task Force 2013-14

Over the past year, South Central Indiana Jobs with Justice has continued to work with the White River Labor Council, local unions, and other faith groups on raising the minimum wage, immigration reform, and supporting fast food and Walmart workers in their struggles for better pay and working conditions. We supported IU staff when 50 of them were threatened with being reduced to part-time status. Wage theft continued to be one of our major concerns. Our Workers' Rights Board examined several situations in which workers complained about being underpaid by their employers. We have also teamed up with Move to Amend, Hoosiers for Common Sense Healthcare, Indiana Coalition for Public Education, and Democrats for Monroe County in their various campaigns. Our annual Grinch of the Year Award for 2013 went to Governor Mike Pence.

## **Just Peace Task Force**

The Just Peace Task Force continues to pursue congregational certification as a Peace Advocate Congregation, fulfilling requirements for activities in four areas:

- 1. **International Peace**. Eventually, we hope to facilitate Bloomington's becoming a sister city to Yazd, Iran. However, this project is on the advice of Lee Hamilton on hold pending nuclear negotiations. Our work thus fell under peace lobbying for this year.
- 2. Personal, Domestic and Congregational Peace. A particular focus was ending the war on drugs and decriminalizing medical and personal recreational use of marijuana, by sponsoring a task force led by Guy Loftman, Steve Dillon, and leaders in the Bloomington NAACP. In addition, in May, the task force co-sponsored an event with the Bethel AME Church in mindfulness of the abducted girls in Nigeria. On this basis, we hope to build wider inter-denominational ties in the community.
- 3. **Peace Lobbying and Activism**. This was the bulk of our work in the past year, working intensively to head off diplomacy-destroying new sanctions on Iran and to urge moderation in regard to developments in Ukraine. We also co-sponsored an event on drone warfare and dirty wars. In addition, the task force is the major denominational sponsor of a proposed Congregational Study Action Issue on Ending the War on Terror, which
- 4. will come to the floor of 2014 UUA General Assembly.
- 5. **Military Personnel Support**. Subcommittee leader Phil Cooper spoke passionately and movingly on this issue during a Sunday service.

Submitted by: David Keppel, Keppel@sbcglobal.net





## Rainbow Rights Task Force (RRTF) Annual Report 2013-2014

**June:** RRTF again had a booth at Spencer PRIDE. This is one of the largest rural community PRIDE events with a large following. It is an important outreach for our Welcoming Congregation.

**Oct:** Hosted the Community Meeting for the Freedom Indiana campaign in Bloomington as it organized here to stop HJR-6 (the proposed marriage discrimination amendment to the Indiana Constitution).

Tabled in Fellowship Hall between services from the middle of Oct thru Feb to provide information, encourage legislative contacts, and participation in Freedom Indiana phone banks.

**Nov:** Conducted a Prologue reader survey.

**Dec:** Sponsored 24 families from Positive Link's Gifts of Grace program on the UU church's Giving Tree. **Jan & Feb:** Participated in and organized car pools to Indianapolis throughout the legislative session to oppose HJR-6. Provided updates and explanations on the process between services, during the Social Justice Moment, on the Social Justice Bulletin Board and in Prologue articles.

**Apr:** Hosted Prism Youth Community's Breaking the Silence Party.

Throughout the year RRTF has hosted Fair Talk Board meetings.

Beginning June 3, 2014 the RRTF will begin hosting Prism Youth Community Tuesday group meetings.

Phil Cooper, for Rainbow Rights Task Force

## Reproductive Justice Task Force Annual Report May 2014

We promote and maintain an active liberal voice as we <u>educate</u> ourselves and the community, <u>advocate</u> for reproductive justice, and <u>connect</u> with community partners, to ensure reproductive justice for all women and men. We have several small groups working on "nugget activities" – short-term (summary below). We meet as a whole group quarterly to check in and re-aim our efforts.

- 1. **Snacks for Planned Parenthood** patients on Thursdays (Abortion Clinic day at Bloomington Clinic). Patients waiting for termination procedure (and their families/support folks) are now able to have nutritious snacks and drinks without having to walk through protestors in the PP parking lot. We are collaborating with the First United Church and the Friends Meeting/Quaker congregations.
- 2. We are supporting **Backline**, an international telephone listening line for issues related to pregnancy, parenthood, adoption, abortion, and pregnancy loss. Shelly Dodson, Executive Director and Training Director, is a member of RJTF
- 3. We will host an informational meeting in June for the **Bloomington All-Options Pregnancy Resource Center**. This proposed resource will provide a place for women and men to receive counseling and help with decision-making that is non-judgmental and welcoming to all. The Center will also offer referrals, baby supplies, and free pregnancy testing. UUCB members will be invited to join the planning stages and to receive training as volunteers. We will also be involved with fund-raising for this new Resource Center.
- 4. We continue to work on a **Rolling Resource Library** for the use of UUCB parents, teens, young adults, OWL groups, and other interested folks. We will make these materials available for other faith community groups to borrow. Funding has been received from the Social Justice Task Force to help with this project.
- 5. We will continue to plan **film showings and speakers**, and will hope to schedule a program in June 2014.

Respectfully submitted, Melinda Swenson, convener

## **Stewardship Committee Annual Report**

The Stewardship Committee continued its multi-year efforts to help the congregation increase its operating budget to levels that will support our larger mission and enable us to reach the compensation guidelines set out by the Fair and Sustainable Compensation Committee. We continued the development of year-round stewardship by meeting regularly as a committee throughout the year. Additionally, we revamped our stewardship website to provide easy access to compelling campaign materials like spoken and written testimonials, along with up-to-date information about pledging and current campaign materials.

Our annual campaign ran roughly similar to years past with a series of in-service messages, mailed material, and electronic communication. A particular highlight of the campaign was the choir's awe-inspiring selections from Carmina Burana on Commitment Sunday. We are pleased that campaign contributions are coming in along the lines of our intended targets and that we are again moving towards a budget that reflects our values. A continued area of challenge is the timely receiving of member pledge commitments in advance of the annual budget work. We continue to work on ways of helping everyone understand the pledging timeline and its impact on budgeting decisions.

#### Special Purposes Fund Committee Annual Report 2013-14

#### Special Purposes Fund Annual Report - 04/01/13 to 03/31/14

#### Accounts

Beginning			Other				Ending
	Balance	Earnings	Distribution	Transfers	Deposits	Expenses	Balance
Endowment	42,134.40	5,940.32	-1,949.44				46,125.28
General	106,808.47	4,978.33	1,949.44		28,363.15	-23,019.72	119,079.67
Total	148,942.87	10,918.65			28,363.15	-23,019.72	165,204.95

#### Investments

Endowment 100% Vanguard Wellington Mutual fund (approximately 2/3 equities, 1/3 bonds)

General	18% Cash
	20% Vanguard intermediate term bond fund
	21% Vanguard short term bond fund
	37% Vanguard Wellington Fund
	4% Gold

Investments did not change in this period.

#### Deposits

- 15,113.67 Green Spaces loan repayment with interest
  - 49.48 Dividend
- 1,200.00 Social Justice fund from operating budget
- 2,000.00 Memorial donations: Elizabeth Lion, Dee Lane, Paul Petersen, and Dorothy Davis
- 10,000.00 Harv Hegarty non-restricted funds

#### Expenses

- 10,790.37 Tech Grant Matching Funds
- 5,925.08 Wayne Mitter Habitat fund assets to Habitat for Humanity
  - 459.27 Robertson Grounds Income fund endowment earnings to T account
- 1,295.00 Social Justice Task Force grant
- 1,050.00 Goodbye Workshop, 1/25/14
- 3,500.00 LED lamps for Mtg Rm

#### Note on large donation

An anonymous donation of \$127,570.73 was received late in the third quarter. These funds will be transfered in the fourth quarter from the general church checking account to SPF accounts, and are thus not reflected elsewhere in this report. At the donars request, \$50,000 will go to the General Endowment fund and the remaining to an unrestricted general Legacy Fund.

#### Committee

Chris Haynes (Chair), Arzetta Hults-Losensky (Board Treasurer), Lloyd Orr (Vice-chair), Von Welch (Board appointed), Joanne Wilhelm (Secretary)

## Women's Alliance Annual Report 2013-14

The Women's Alliance main funding comes from 20% of the net of Bazaar income each year. Our mission statement calls us to meet for fellowship as well as for church support and community outreach. Since we had horrible weather the weekend of the 2013 Bazaar, our income was less than usual. We made an effort to spend less while still having visibility in our community. We made financial contributions to the Soup Bowl, Women's History Month Luncheon, and Shalom Center in addition to supporting our delegates to the annual UUA General Assembly. We sponsored a grocery holiday basket to Monroe County United Ministries at the holidays. We traditionally collect gifts for Middle Way House at our December meeting. We are making an effort to update our ByLaws this year.

The new board for the 2014-2015 year: Ann Kamman, President; Lois Holl, Vice President; Ann Watzel, Treasurer; Bev McGahey, Secretary.

We have created an interesting program for each month (even throughout the summer) and invite all interested women of the church to join us on the first Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Respectfully submitted, Ann Kamman, Alliance President



#### Members of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana, as of May 28, 2014

**Debbie Acito** Thomas Albright H. Wade Altevogt Bob Althauser Hans Andersen Sandra Andersen Jean Anderson Judy Andrews Jana Anna Andrew Appel **Charlotte Appel** Jan Armstrong Carol Arnold Paul Arnold Stephen Arnold Pat Aungst Marianne Aurich Ruth Avdt Peggy Bachman Alan Backler Barbara Backler Janice Bagwell Rhonda Baird Edrice Baker Meg Ballard Tim Ballard **Bill Baus** Andy Beargie Anna Beauchamp Dan Beauregard Caroline Beebe Sheri Benham Judy Bennett Mary Bent Barb Berggoetz Lauren Bernofsky Wendy Bethel Maureen Biggers Amanda Biggs Robin Black-Schaffer Jason Blankenship Jennifer Blankenship Susan Bookout Kathy Boone Mary Boutain Phyllis Boyd Linda Bovle Pat Brantlinger Darrell Breeden Glenda Breeden **Reverend Bill Breeden Denise Breeden-Ost Cynthia Bretheim Clark Brittain** Lea Brown Lauren Bryant Scott Burgins Louray Cain

Larry Callahan Danny Callison Patty Callison **Beverly Camden** Laura Campbell Michal Ann Carley Elof Carlson Nedra Carlson **Reverend Barbara** Carlson Lori Carmichael-Howell Blaine Carrell Jack Cassidv Karen Cassidy Doug Cauble Julie Cauble Joan Caulton Jon Chaffin Cetti Cherniak Kathleen Chmelewski Allison Chopra Chris Chopra Fred Churchill Sandra Churchill Tamara Ciszczon Virginia Clendenning Sandra Clothier Patricia Coleman Craig Coley Sarah Collins **Bill Conley** Mary Jo Conley Jessie Cook **Michelle Cook** Phil Cooper Ruth Ann Cooper **Bill Corcoran** Amy Cornell Sean Cortright Steve Cotter **Jill Courtney** David Cox Dave Crane John Crosby Marjorie Crosby Amy Crozier Kathleen Cruikshank **Dick Curtis** Eve Cusack George Cusack Maryann Cusack Sam Cusack Alissa Davis Dawn Rae Davis Earon Davis Jessica Davis Rebecca Davis **Bret Davis Eartheart Deborah DeChurch** Kim Deckard **Beverly DeFord** Michael DeFord **Gladys DeVane** 

Erica Caldwell

Bob DeVoe Libby DeVoe Jim Dietz Philip DiLavore Regina DiLavore Stephen Dillon Martha Dogan Sandra Dolby Abby Downey Jim Downev Mike Drescher Rita Drescher Christine Eartheart Mayan Eartheart Barbara Edmonds Julia Eichhorn Ron Ellis Jonathan Elmer Melinda Elston Carolyn Emmert David Emmert Georgia Emmert Judith Epp Stephanie Estell Ray Fellman Ruellen Fessenbecker Lucy Fischman Penny Fisher Patsy Flint Kathy Floyd Bob Flynn Mara Flynn Martha Foster Laurette Frazier **Dolores Freiburger** Carole Garretson Peter Garretson Siri Garson-Montecino David Gatzke Rhonda Gatzke Kathleen Gilbert Steven Gilbert Kevin Gill Lynne Gilliatt Reverend Forrest Gilmore Abby Gitlitz Molly Gleeson Mary Goetze Bob Gonyea Christopher Goodbeer Jane Goodman Janet Greenblatt **Diane Gregory** Tom Gregory Marcie Grossack Colleen Haas Don Halford Jacqueline Hall Christopher Hanna Jack Harlow Marcia Harlow Michael Harris Pat Harris

Velma Harrison Clarence Hawking Lorraine Hawking Anne Haynes **Christopher Haynes** William Hegarty Joanne Henriot Helmut Hentschel Sandra Hernshaw Cathy Hiatt **Dick Hiatt** John Hicks David Hill Jason Hill Sandy Hill Scott Hogsed Lois Holl **Richard Holl** Erin Hollinden **Beth Hollingsworth** Amy Holmes Wayne Holmes Joan Hongen Robert Hongen Katherine Hopkins Sara Horton-Deutsch Carol Hostetter Marlin Howard Arzetta Hults-Losensky Jeffrey Huntsman Deborah Hutton Christoph Irmscher Millie Jackson Julie James **Richard Janda** Monica Kindraka Jensen Jerry Jesseph Laura Jesseph Karen Jewell Marty Joachim Gayle Judd Daniel Julian Ann Kamman Helen Kane Marni Karaffa Renate Kasak Melissa Keller Keith Kelly Victor Kelson David Keppel Jonathan Kidwell Iris Kiesling Stephanie Kimball Jack King Mindy King Sylvia King Jean Knowlton Noretta Koertge Georgia Koushiafes Steven Krahnke Aleisha Kropf Thomas Kuhn Hugo Kunoff Karla Kunoff

Nancy Lair Arda Landergren Paul Lane Cathy Larson Joan Lauer Naomi Lawlis John Lawson Julia Lawson Katherine Lazerwitz Ann LeDuc **Richard LeDuc** Abe Leite Adam Leite Veronica Lenard Steve Lessmann Harlan Lewis Angela Lexmond Jennifer Livesay Elisabeth Llovd Diann Lock Ted Lock Beth Lodge-Rigal Dan Lodge-Rigal Connie Loftman Eric Loftman Guy Loftman Paul Losensky **Terry Loucks** Barb Lund Sandy Lynch Mary Mahern Amy Makice Shalimar Manwani Carol Marks Brandee Marksberry Chris Marksberry **Nicole Martins** Steve Mascari Rosalind May Carol McCord Jason McCord Lori McCord Sheila McDermott-Sipe Jenae McElwain Paul McElwain Ann McEndarfer Ed McEndarfer Sally McGuire Ann McIntosh **David McIntosh** Kitty McIntosh Jane McLeod Sue Medland **Robert Meitus** Michael Melby Cherry Merritt-Darriau Heike Meya Wilhelm Meya Joan Middendorf **Clarke Miller** Jeanette Miller Jim Miller Michael Miller Susi Miller

Laura Mojonnier Jennifer Molica Vince Molica Jessie Monroe Alfonso Montecino **Cindy Mosca** Andrea Murray Lisa Marie Napoli Jen Navlor Shawn Navlor Jerry Nees Cvndi Nelson Dale Nelson Connie Nelson Laird Tom Nelson Laird Yarrow Neubert Glee Noble Martha Nord David Nowlin Mary Beth O'Brien Molly O'Donnell Martha Oakley Denise Ogren Harold Ogren Lloyd Orr Chuck Osborn Martha Osborn Jim Overman Monica Overman **Tommie Owens** Mary Jane Padron Lindsay Pappas David Parkhurst **Doris Parlette David Parsons** Sharon Parsons Allan Paton Kate Paul Mary Pendergrass Nick Pendergrass Jana Pereau Jon Peters Harriet Pfister **Deborah Phelps** Mark Phelps **Charlie Pickle** Linda Pickle Kenneth Pimple **Bill Polansky** Joyce Poor **Cindy Port** Cynthia Port **Diane Port** Nicholas Port Robert Port Vickie Provine Robin Pyle Maire Quilter Christine Quirk Phillip Quirk Becky Ramsey Kelly Rauch Susan Rautio-Dietz Kara Reagan

Jay Record Tony Reilly Carol Reimers Roger Reimers Barbara Restle Ilona Richey Nancy Richman Madeline Rivera-Gill Claire Robertson Ed Robertson Ann Robins Cassidy Rockhill Kelly Rockhill Kevin Rottet **GK Rowe** Barry Rubin Deborah Rush Raymond Rust Kim Sackmann Ruth Sanders Scott Sanders Martha Sattinger Jim Sauer Carla Schick Susan Schneider Drew Schrader Margie Schrader Anthony Schrock Ceci Schrock Cynthia Schultz Peggy Schultz Peter Schwandt Barbara Schwegman Margaret Sears Carol Shapiro Catherine Shipp Eric Shipp Robert Shull Kathleen Sideli Lisa Sideris Marion Sinclair Dennis Sipe Janice Skinner Bryan Smith Floyd Smith Roxanne Smith Fresca Sobrer Pep Sobrer Catherine Stafford Veda Stanfield Laurie Stant Matthew Stonecipher Al Strickholm Lee Strickholm Margaret Strong Keeva Stucker **Michael Stucker Richard Stumpner** Alicia Suarez Adrienne Summerlot John Summerlot Susan Swaney Jaime Sweany Melinda Swenson

Joseph Sylvester Sura Gail Tala Maggie Talmage Ellen Tamura Amy Taylor Bob Taylor Sandy Taylor Emily Tenney **Rebecca Timmons Rvan Timmons** Nancy Titus Alexandra Toledo Jose Toledo **Richard Torstrick** Grafton Trout Laura Trout Debbie Turner Melanie Turner Barbara Vance Marcia Veldman Carol Ver Wiebe Kim Vogelsang Erin Wager Miller Jim Wager Miller **Beckie Wagner Betty Wagoner** Roberta Watson William Watt Yasuko Watt Licia Weber **Dixie Welch** Von Welch Mark Welk Erica Whichello Tyler Whikehart Jennifer Whitaker Anna Wiley Joanne Wilhelm Mary Ann Williams Judy Witt Lee Witt **Doris Wittenburg** Yvonne Wittmann Lindsay Wood Loren Wood Shari Woodbury John Woodcock Kevin Woodruff Ian Woollen Brian Wright Claudia Wright Mary Wright **Timothy Wright** Cathy Wyatt Dan Wyatt Sharon Yarber Stuart Yoak Peggy Yood Robin Young Eric Ziemer

500 members