

2013-2014 Annual Report

Annual Meeting
Sunday, May 4, 2014
11:15 AM Sanctuary



Unitarian Universalist Society of Iowa City

MISSION STATEMENT:

We are a diverse spiritual community that touches hearts, changes lives, and transforms the world.

VISION STATEMENT:

Our vision is to be a loving, inclusive, and growing spiritual community. We celebrate life and a liberal tradition that leads social justice work, heals the earth, and nurtures the lifelong journey of mind and spirit.

Unitarian Universalist Society of Iowa City

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Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, May 4th, 2014
11:15 am Sanctuary
Agenda

Please pick up your yellow voting card at the table in the back of the sanctuary prior to the meeting. Thank you!

Opening

Opening Words Rev. Steven Protzman

Call to Order & Establishment of Quorum Diane Martin

Action/discussion items

Presentation and Vote on Slates
for Board, CCLAM, Endowment and Leadership Development Lisa Stover

Report from Facilities Steering Committee Tim Adamson

Report from Search Committee for DLRE Deb Schoelerman & Carol Nordquist

Report from Communications Committee re: UUSIC Website Phil Beck

Recognition of and Thank You to Leaders Completing Terms of Office Diane Martin

Announcements

Closing

Closing Words Rev. Steven Protzman

Motion for Adjournment Diane Martin

"We are a diverse spiritual community that touches hearts, changes lives, and transforms the world."

OFFICERS

President: Diane Martin
Vice President: Vicki Siefers
Treasurer: Doug Wallace/
Adam Ingersoll
Secretary: Chris Taylor
Past President: Sally Hartman

STAFF

Minister: Rev. Steven Protzman
Director of Religious Education: Lois Cole
Office Administrator: Emma Barnum
Music Director: Barbara Buddin
Congregational Life Coordinator: Carol Throckmorton
Accompanist: Younjung Cha

TRUSTEES:

Mary McMurray
Paul Pomrehn
Pete Brokaw
Kirk Witzberger

UUSIC Thanks Its Many 2013/14 Volunteers

UUSIC VOLUNTEERS

Carol Adamson	Marji Davis	Kenn Hubel	Janet McKee
Tim Adamson	Jane DeWitt	Lois Hughes	Mary McMurray
Bobbe Akre	Monique DiCarlo	Merle Ihne	Tom McMurray
Bruce Alexander	Peggy Dietrich	Adam Ingersoll	John McNamara
Kate Anstreicher	Rob Dietrich	Brigette Ingersoll	Virginia Melroy
Kurt Anstreicher	Kelly Dolash	John Jennewein	Pamela Michaud
Olivia Atcherson	Sherry Dolash	Marilyn Jennewein	Gay Mikelson
Alice Atkinson	Andy Douglas	David Jepsen	Paula Miller
Ken Atkinson	Carolyn Dyer	Mary Jepsen	Madison Montgomery
Julia Audlehelm	Lee Eberly	Sarah Jewell	Kathy Moon
Larry Audlehelm	Susan Eberly	Carolyn Johnson	Jennifer Mordan
Brenda Barbour	Kay Eginton	Chris Johnson	Kathy Mossman
Kris Barrash	David Eifler	Debbie Johnson	Larry Mossman
Barbara Beaumont	Jonnifer Ellsworth	Donna Johnson	Ruth Muir
Philip Beck	John Elson	Jessica Johnson	Elyse Myers
Connie Becker	Lori Enloe	Allan Jordison	Paul Myers-Verhage
Sharon Beckman	Jim Ephgrave	Emma Kaboli	Shelby Myers-Verhage
Daniel Benton	Pat Ephgrave	Sue Kann	Mark NeuCollins
Celia Bingham	Andrea Fleming	Miriam Kashia	Carol Nordquist
Sharon Booker	Karen Fox	Larry Kent	Jerry Nordquist
Peg Bouska	Dan Gall	Kimberly Kim	Carrie Norton
Susan Boyd	Meredith Gall	Kathleen Kingman	Nancy Noyer
Gail Brashers-Krug	Winnie Ganshaw	Betsy Klein	Liz Noyes
Joey Braverman	Gail Garwood	Garry Klein	Kelly O'Berry
Joe Brisben	Joel Gilbertson-White	Nita Kosier	Terri O'Berry
Pete Brokaw	Stephanie Gilbertson-White	Susan Krohmer	Alison Oliver
Wendy Brown	Brian Glidewell	Clare Lanaghan	James Olson
Barby Buddin	Elias Gonzalez	John Lanaghan	Sue Otto
Margaret Burchianti	Trudy Gulette	Kasia Laskowska	Cecile Owings
Amy Butler	Prahlad Gupta	Barbara Laughlin	Ron Owings
Lynne Cannon	Kurt Hamann	Jim Laughlin	Kim Palmer
Jeanette Carter	Julie Hammer	Gary Lawrenson	Lula Palmer
Dixie Cassady	Barbara Haring	Melissa Lehan Mackin	Maureen Patterson
Maryellen Cazanias	Claudine Harris	Russ Lenth	Wayne Patton
Michael Cervantes	Sally Hartman	Lisa Lepic	Dorothy Paul
Younjung Cha	Lisa Haverkamp	Heidi Levine	Pete Paul-Petersen
Brett Chaney	Mike Haverkamp	Marta Little	Dorothy Paul-Petersen
Kirk Cheyney	John Hayek	Jan Locher	Gerry Pearson
Marsha Cheyney	Patricia Hayek	Stephen Locher	Emily Peck
Lucy Chossier	Kathleen Henderson	Mary Losch	Bonnie Penno
Sam Cochran	Joe Hennager	Nancy Lynch	Mark Penno
Lois Cole	Diana Henry	Caryl Lyons	Kate Perkins-Armond
Ron Crawford	Diana Henry	Christopher Malloy	Connie Peterson
Megan Creasy	Colleen Higgins	Heather Marshall	Ron Pile
Laurie Croft	Al Hood	David Martin	Paul Pomrehn
Sue Ellen Crosslea	Jean Hood	Diane Martin	Steven Protzman
Dan Cummins	Keri Hornbuckle	Karen Mason	Nancy Purrington
Laurie Cummins	Michelle Hosp	Marianne Mason	Anna Quandt
Barbara Curtin	Peggy Houston	Kathy McDonald	Judith Quinn
Martha Dahlin	Kathryn Howe	Brad McDowell	John Raley
	Jan Hubel	Sandy McFarland	Bruce Randall

UUSIC Thanks Its Many 2013/14 Volunteers

UUSIC VOLUNTEERS CONT'D

Christina Randall
Tabitha Rasmussen
Charles Read
Jean Reese
Jacqueline Reger
Linda Rice
Laura Rigal
Tom Rocklin
Shona Roeder
Jaia Rosenfels
Mary Roth
Rhonda Rowden
Charity Rowley
Wilmara Salgado-Pabon
Susan Salterberg
Pedro Samper
Kay Schneider
Deb Schoelerman
Amy Schoon
Eric Sharp
Jamie Sharp
Jesse Sheedy
Dick Siefers
Vicki Siefers
Jane Slaymaker
Cindy Spading
Renee Speh
Virginia Stamler
Jill Stephenson
Cory Stover
Lisa Stover
Stefan Strack
Faye Strayer
Gordon Strayer
Sheila Streeby
Jodie Tate
Adam Tatro
Christopher Taylor
Louise Tenenbaum
Al Thomas
Betty Thomas
Sharon Thomas
Kate Thorne
Carol Throckmorton
David Tokuhisa
Judy Tokuhisa
Rai Tokuhisa
Jim Trepka
Theresa Ullerich

Ed Aiko Van Cura
Stephanie Van Housen
Steve Vincent
Tova Vitiello
Peg Voelker
Terry Wahls
Doug Wallace
Mary Kathryn Wallace
Jan Warren
Julia Wasson
Connie Webb
Elizabeth Weinberg
Mary Lou Welter
Lauralee Wilkins
Janice Williams
Norman Williams
Tim Wilson
Kaye Winder
Jessie Witherell
Kirk Witzberger
Carol Wolfe
Ron Wright
Kari Yorek
Matt Yorek
Susan Kasal Young
Mark Yuskis
Lenda Zelinskas

YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

NURSERY

Adalyn Arcenas
Reed Cheyney
Louisa Haley
Jonah Heath
Rory Marshall
Julian Oliver-Shaw
Wyatt Palmer
James Powers
Peter Spragg
Jasper Strack
June TePoel
Hudson Turner
John Max Wirtz
Olivia Ruth Ann Yorek

PRE/K

Esvre Arcenas
Sammi Brashers-Krug
Jacelyn Cheyney
Henry Gilbertson-White
Atreyu Gullette
Audrey Howe

PRE/K CONT'D

Charlie Ingersoll
Henry Ingersoll
Katrina Ingersoll
Teddy Ingersoll
Marina Malloy-Salgado
Clara Martin
Peter Palmer
Yossanan Pierpont
Nadia Spragg
Lena TePoel
Ada Turner
Mabel Wittenkeller
Nora Wittenkeller

1-3 GRADE

Oriana Bloom
Coby Brashers-Krug
Lizzie Brashers-Krug
Brody Clarke
Daniel Hosp
Alex Howe
Lila Howe
Zaira Malloy-Salgado
Cameron Miller
Emma Peterschmidt
Rose Shepard
Noelia Tellez
Alma White
Mira Wilmot-DiCarlo

4-6 GRADE

Lily Bohlen
Julie Brashers-Krug
Aiden Burdinie
Nolan Case
Liam Clarke
Keith Firestad
Laura Firestad
Nathan Gall
Calvin Greene
Emma Jo Holmes-Wanluss
Franklin Hornbuckle
Grace Ingersoll
Leah Kaminsky
Max Lehan Mackin
Kiara Malloy-Salgado
Alex Miller
Madilyn Mossman
Samuel Myers-Verhage
Carlos Tellez

JR. HIGH

Sam Bloom
Benji Brashers-Krug
Audrey Firestad
Cassie Kaminsky
Abigail Patterson
Cora Patterson
Elizabeth Raley
Teagan Roeder
Ethan Trepka
Adam Wolfe

SR. HIGH

Audrey Adamson
Ike Barrash
Isabel Greene
Will Jewell
Megan Kann
Noah Lehan Mackin
Emma Myers-Verhage
Keegan O'Berry
Jonathan Raley
Nicholas Raley
Thomas Rigal
Tristan Roeder
Anneke Thorne
Rebekah Tokuhisa
Kai Trepka

We apologize to anyone whose name was inadvertently omitted from this list. If this has occurred, please notify the office at admin@uusic.org or call 337-3443.

LEADERSHIP: President's Report

Each Sunday we leave services reflecting on “the warmth of community” and “the fire of commitment.” This year has amply demonstrated that we believe in our mission and vision, but equally as important, that we believe in each other. We’ve worked and played together and accomplished much.

It’s been the year of the policy and the year of the facility. This process started with the passage last summer of updated by-laws. One of the biggest changes was to put future by-law changes into the hands of the congregation. This had previously been a function of the Board.

In addition, the Board has been working to establish policies in order to function more smoothly. It’s not enough that “we’ve always done it this way.” We’ve looked at our practices and at the practices of other organizations and articulated policies that will serve us into the future. This work continues and will ultimately be available on our web site.

The Facilities Steering Committee (FSC), with the assistance of four subcommittees, has led us through information gathering about where UUSIC can best locate to continue our mission, vision, and fun! This is exciting and often difficult work. The FSC needs input from us all! Please watch the newsletter and Wednesday emails for updates.

For the past 14 years, Lois Cole has served us as our Director of Lifespan Religious Education. She has been pursuing an advanced degree in ministry for the past several years and now finds it time to complete a year-long internship. That means that she’ll leave us and head to Florida in late June. A search committee is hard at work to find a new DLRE to help us in our lifelong learning – from infants to seniors! We thank Lois for her years of service and wish her well on her journey.

Last year, we established the Social Justice Action Fund. The fund has been created with monies from income from the Endowment Fund and funds over a base level from the spring auction. With this new fund, UUSIC has been able to fund housing for an intergenerational group that went to New Jersey to do service work, buy tables for the Center for Worker Justice, purchase ten cots for overflow at Shelter House on very, very cold winter nights etc. There is now a committee to oversee the use of these funds made up of the Board Finance Trustee, a representative from the Social Justice Coordinating Committee, a youth representative, our DLRE, and our minister.

One of the policies that the Board passed this year reinvigorated establishing Life Memberships. These are folks who have served UUSIC as leaders for many years. This year Jeanne and Ian Smith and Faye and Gordon Strayer were designated as Life Members. We recognized them with gratitude.

We’d like to thank departing Board members: Sally Hartman, Past President; Doug Wallace, Treasurer; and Paul Pomrehn, Trustee for their service. Serving on the Board is a challenging and rewarding endeavor – and they’ve served very well!

Based on the love and leadership that I’ve witnessed at UUSIC this year, I’m looking forward to our busy, bright future!
—Diane Martin

Leadership Development Committee

We are a group of five members that are nominated by the previous LDC group and then voted in by the congregation. We meet once or twice a month in the fall starting in September. We do not meet in the summer. In the winter during nomination time, our meetings increase to weekly and then twice monthly. The frequency of the meetings varies depending on the nominations and our success rate.

We typically meet on Sunday evenings in someone's home. Due to confidentiality issues, it's easier to meet outside of church. However, we have used the church at least 4 times for meetings, typically in the library. We also used the church for our Welcome Home Wednesday (WHW) session.

We aren't the only ones using the leadership account on the budget line. The board uses money for books and sending people to district conferences etc. The LDC gets \$2,700 of the total Leadership budget.

Our committee furthers the mission and vision of the church first by covenanting together to run the committee as a spiritual practice. We follow the same meeting basics as recommended in Erik Walker Wikstrom's book, *Serving With Grace: Lay Leadership as a Spiritual Practice*. This includes: opening words, chalice lighting, check out, and closing words. We also have grown as a group by diving deeply into the book as a part of our WHW class. We cultivate new leaders by asking them to attend the Midwest Leadership

School, nominating them into roles with higher amounts of responsibility, and teaching them leadership and committee tips and ideas through WHW classes that we organize and facilitate.

As a group, we led a WHW class on leadership this winter. We nominated people into 10 leadership positions. We are sending at least two adults to the Midwest Leadership School (MWLS) with our portion of the leadership budget.

We are organizing and leading a summer service to promote leadership within the church and among youth.

We are shaping and molding the LDC to become more than a nominating committee. We've done this in various ways in the past, such as attending district meetings, organizing and facilitating workshops, and leading WHW classes. We also promote MWLS as a great place to learn grow and inspire. This summer we are leading a service along with a guest speaker. We are brainstorming new ways to get people involved in leadership, such as a ropes course at the UI outdoor school or visiting the new-member classes to discuss the importance of committee work. We may also promote the book *Serving With Grace* for all committees to use. But, our main focus is nominating great people to serve in elected positions so that they can help our church grow in many ways.

—Lisa Stover

STAFF: Minister's Report, Rev. Steven Protzman

*"From the dreaming of the night to the labors of the day...
What they dreamed be ours to do, hope their hopes and seal them true."*

These words from the hymn "Rank by Rank Again We Stand" (#358 in Singing the Living Tradition) inspired our theme for the 2013-2014 liturgical year "Ours to Dream and To Do." As I preached and led worship, as I taught and ministered to you, as I worked with the Board and the many committees and ministries, I invited us again and again to be bold, to dream about our future and the world we desire, and then to work to make those dreams and hopes a reality. I held up and continue to hold up a vision of the Beloved Community, a world where justice and peace are enjoyed by all people. I shared with you the ideas and resources I brought back from General Assembly last June, best expressed in the workshop I attended titled "Loving the Hell Out of the World." I challenged us to not only serve one another, but to look out beyond our walls and ask: "Who is my/our neighbor?" and "How am I/are we called to serve them?" as we continued to discern what our mission calls us to do in Iowa City and in the world.

I continued to pay careful attention to and nurture the spiritual state of the congregation, and I am pleased to report that in watching us work, worship, and play together, this congregation is emotionally, systemically and spiritually healthy. We are able to joyfully acknowledge our abundance and share our many blessings through the practice of generosity. You understand and embrace the concept of shared ministry, that each of us has gifts, wisdom, talents, skills, and resources, and that this community is a place where we can grow spiritually through both giving and receiving these gifts. My priorities this third year together were to continue helping each of you discover and share your gifts, walking with you through life's joys and struggles, continuing to deepen my relationship with you, growing in my skills as a staff supervisor and administrator, strengthening my organizational skills and time management, practicing better self-care, engaging in regular spiritual practices, and working carefully with the Board to create the policies and procedures we need to govern ourselves well and walk together in a covenant of mutual love and care.

Worship

As your minister, one of my primary tasks is to create worship experiences that challenge you, inform you, nurture you, connect you with the depths, and help you understand what it means to be human and Unitarian Universalist. Along with choosing the overall theme for the year, "Ours to Dream and to Do," I choose a theme for each month. Last year I began a three part sermon series on an ethical issue, and this year I

continued that practice, choosing the UUA Congregational Study Action Issue of Reproductive Justice. I also designated February "UU History Month" and did a four-part sermon series on various aspects of Unitarian Universalist history. We have a very rich and long history which many UUs do not know much about, and this is an opportunity to educate ourselves about our history and explore our living tradition. This is a practice I intend to continue each year, beginning with some aspect of European UU history as part of our annual Festival of the First Bread.

In close collaboration with Lois Cole (who always does a wonderful job gathering together props, scenery, costumes, fleshing out scripts and recruiting enthusiastic cast members for The UUSIC Players), we had five intergenerational services: Water Communion, Thanksgiving, (the Holiday service was cancelled due to bad weather, but the play was presented at a later time), the Wassail Service, Easter and Flower Communion. The Worship Associates helped shape and create worship in many ways this year, including the planning and coordination of summer services, leading worship on my Sundays off, assisting with Welcome Home Wednesday vespers, researching and discovering new worship materials and ideas, and offering each other support, care and encouragement. Thank you, Worship Associates, for your hard work, commitment to this community, and your passion for crafting good worship.

Governance

The leadership this year has once again been exceptional, and it has been a pleasure to work with a creative and hard-working Board. Through some long meetings and packed agendas, they demonstrated again and again their commitment and ability to listen to one another and to the congregation, to be open to diverse ideas, to think outside the box, to communicate well with one another and the congregation, and to work as a team. The by-laws were carefully reviewed and rewritten to reflect our movement toward policy governance. Our policy manual was out of date, so the Board spent much time and work identifying our governance needs and creating policies that were thoughtful and thorough in their scope. The Staff Relations Committee, assisted by Vicki Siefers, Mary McMurray, and Diane Martin, worked hard to create policies and procedures for all matters relating to staff, including benefits, updated job descriptions, grievances and disciplinary guidelines, an employee handbook, and performance evaluations. With a Strategic Plan in place, the Board was able to commission the Facilities Steering Committee (FSC) to continue the work of discerning what facilities will help us more fully carry out our mission, both now and in the future. The FSC quickly took on its role to educate and advocate for a solution to our facilities needs

Minister's Report, Cont'd

and they continue to do a great job of guiding us through the decision-making process with communication that is timely and transparent, building consensus and listening carefully to the congregation. After bringing us to a very successful vote in November (which included trying a new voting process) that eliminated renovating the existing buildings as a potential option, the FSC created subcommittees to explore the best possible options for our facilities.

Along with the FSC, the Board also recognized the need to improve the communication systems of UUSIC, and the Communications Committee, or "Comm Comm" as it's affectionately known, was established. We will have a new website later this year that will better serve our needs and communicate who we are to the world. The Board also commissioned the Pre-Capital Campaign Committee to publicize the very generous match grant given by Adam and Briggette Ingersoll and to invite congregation members to participate in this initial fundraising event for our future facilities. I was not surprised to see how quickly the match grant funds, and more, were raised as this congregation once again demonstrated its commitment and generosity, a generosity I have seen in action so many times already. Thank you to the Board, the Facilities Steering Committee, the FSC subcommittees, the by-laws task force, the Comm Comm, the Staff Relations Committee, and the Pre-Capital Campaign Committee for all your hard work this year and your willingness to do this difficult and often complex work, which sometimes meant extra meetings and lots of communication between meetings in order to ask the questions and make the decisions that arise as we seek to live out our vision and mission.

Our Ministry

Ministry, which is the main reason this spiritual community exists, is about serving the needs of others. Ministry is the heart of our spiritual lives, and it helps us become more fully human and alive as our compassion, love and care for one another and the world deepens. Our ministries continue to grow and thrive, and a number of new ministries, activities, and committees were created this past year in response to our ever deepening understanding of what it means to serve each other, the Iowa City community, and the world. Several new and noteworthy ministries include the Special Needs Committee, the Honoring Your Wishes Advance Care Planning program, and the Social Justice Action Fund Committee, as well as a number of new activities and other committees that formed. Under the thoughtful leadership of Carol Throckmorton, our Congregational Life Coordinator, ministries of hospitality, one of our most important tasks, continued to grow and thrive as new members and guests were welcomed and encouraged to participate in the life and

work of UUSIC. I wish to thank the Rev. Charity Rowley, who is willing and able to be on call for emergency pastoral care needs during my absences. Charity, in careful and thoughtful consultation with me, also graciously provides pastoral care and presence to members of our congregation who live at Oaknoll, and I am grateful for her support and commitment to this congregation.

All of our ministries, committees and activities (there are approximately fifty!) are nurtured by the Committee on Congregational Life and Ministry (CCLAM). This committee continues to ask the important questions of how we work and are together as a spiritual community and what shared ministry means, as they evaluate the ministries of the congregation and provide support and resources to help our many committees, ministries, and activities flourish and enrich our life together. The CCLAM visited with our many committees and ministries to offer support and encourage the work of creating committee mission statements and policies, and managed concerns and conflicts as needed. The CCLAM also did the second annual evaluation of my ministry, seeking input from the congregation and our leadership, which resulted in some very helpful feedback and guidance for my growing edges. In my first three years as a minister in Preliminary Fellowship with the UU movement, I am required to provide evaluations to the UUA Ministerial Fellowship Committee (MFC), which are a chance to reflect thoroughly and thoughtfully on my ministry and growth, both personally and professionally. The CCLAM takes time during our monthly meetings to talk with me about how things are going, to listen and respond with care and wisdom to the concerns and struggles I've brought to them, and to provide me guidance and support. I meet monthly with a mentor to discuss our shared ministry and with a spiritual director to continue my spiritual formation. Thank you to the CCLAM for your work this past year.

Staff

It has been a pleasure this past year to work with our talented, dedicated and hard-working staff, and I thank Emma, Barby, Lois and Carol for their commitment to UUSIC. The staff works with me and the congregation's leadership to see that our mission, vision and strategic plan are carried out and to lead and nurture the congregation's many volunteers. The staff and I began our liturgical year together with a half day retreat in which we deepened our working relationships, planned the year, and shared professional goals. We hold weekly staff meetings to minister to one another, coordinate the week's events, discuss any concerns or issues of importance, keep each other informed, and to hold each other accountable for achieving our year's goals and serving the congregation and its mission. I also meet with each staff member

Minister's Report, Cont'd

individually at least once a month and as needed to check in, discuss any concerns or problems, praise achievements, and share information. I also held a meeting with each staff member to review their year's goals, talk about how they've been doing with their goals, and adjust goals as necessary.

This has also been a year of transitions in our staff. Younjung Cha, who has served as our accompanist the last two years, resigned in March in order to serve as staff accompanist at Western Illinois University, Macomb. We will miss her extraordinary musical talent and gentle energy. Lyle Juracek, who has served UUSIC in the past, is serving as our interim accompanist while the Board, our Music Director, and I work together to figure out how to best serve the congregation's needs for an accompanist. Lois Cole tendered her resignation in January in order to take a ministerial internship in Orlando, Florida this fall as the next step of education and preparation for her goal of ordained ministry. Her gentle energy, creative writing skills, and ability to bring a play to life for our intergenerational services will be greatly missed. The DLRE Search Committee is working hard to find our next DLRE, who will help our Lifespan Religious Education programs continue to grow and flourish.

Love Bus

Since we began celebrating same gender weddings after marriage equality became legal in Iowa in the spring of 2009, we have welcomed 14 Love Busses and 150 couples to our church to be married. It is a pleasure to work with Mary Kathryn Wallace, who serves as the Love Bus coordinator. She works hard to ensure that our guests receive a gracious welcome and radical hospitality as they come from St. Louis to get married. Along with welcoming the Love Bus in August and again in October during this last year, a number of same-gender couples came individually from around the country, including Illinois, Indiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Missouri, to be married. It continues to be a great joy to me to be part of this very important ministry, and I am very grateful for the way this congregation opens its hearts and its home to same-gender couples as we affirm and practice marriage equality.

Life Passages

Member Deaths

Brett Gordon

Mary Levsen

Life Membership

Ian (posthumously) and Jeanne Smith

Gordon and Faye Strayer

We dedicated children:

Henry Peregrine Freeman Gilbertson-White

With Gratitude

As I finish my third year as your settled Minister, I continue to feel so very blessed and fortunate to serve this faith community! Week after week, I am amazed and humbled by the generosity, kindness, enthusiasm, love and commitment of each of you, as you serve as Board members, lay leaders, greeters, ushers, coffee servers, religious education teachers, pastoral care providers, volunteers, covenant group facilitators, choir members, newsletter assemblers, worship associates, committee members, kitchen workers, building-maintenance providers, social-justice leaders, and all the dozens of other ways you serve as you bless this community and the wider world with your time, passion, and energy. May our dreams and hopes for this diverse spiritual community and Unitarian Universalism continue to guide and inspire us as we touch hearts, change lives, and transform the world!

With deep joy and gratitude,

Steven

Lifespan Director of Religious Education, Lois Cole

This year we offered religious education classes for grades pre/k – senior high at the 11:15 am service, and pre/k at the 9:30 service. Our gifted teaching staff of 23 youth and adults created welcoming classroom communities, rich with discussion, music, creative projects, and service and justice opportunities. Kudos should be given to grades 1 – 3 and Clare Lanaghan from the senior high for raising \$648 for Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF this year—our most successful fundraising yet (grades 1 - 3 held a used toy sale, and Clare engaged a teen service group in trick or treating for UNICEF). Congratulations should also be given to Grades 4 – 6 for putting on such a successful talent show at the Senior Center that they were invited back. Grades 4 – 6s focus on the arts this year, not only included a music-themed curriculum, Sing to the Power, but making “The RE Movie,” a fun look at RE which will be shared with the future Director of Lifespan Religious Education and the congregation. A new development this year was offering a pre/k class at the first service, which drew early-bird families and gave our three youth teachers an opportunity to develop their skills and share their knowledge of Unitarian Universalism. For most of our classes, this was the third year of using *Tapestry of Faith* curricula, a series of lifespan online programs and resources by the Unitarian Universalist Association, which foster UU identity, ethical and spiritual development and draw from our UU Sources and Principles.

Our Jr. High had two program offerings this year. On Sunday mornings, they could engage in “Neighboring Faiths,” learning about and visiting faith traditions of their choosing, which included the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the Cedar Rapids Mosque, the Iowa City Zen Center, Cedar Rapids UU Peoples’ Church and others. On Wednesday evenings we offered Grades 7 – 9 “Our Whole Lives,” a comprehensive sexuality education program, which was well attended and spanned all age groups. Many thanks to our committed and trained OWL teaching staff, Kimberly Kim, Melissa Lehan-Mackin, Nicole Loew, Paul Pomrehn and John Raley.

Our youth group has expanded its commitment to service this year, taking up a periodic offering during class time to contribute to the congregation’s monthly collection to charitable organizations in Iowa City. The youth group has also chosen to do a “staycation” service trip at home this summer, planning a week of service and action opportunities in Iowa City, to deepen their ties to the community. Each year to promote youth leadership, we send a youth to Midwest Leadership School for Youth. Last summer we sponsored Tristan Roeder, and this year, we will be sponsoring Isabel Greene.

In our continued efforts to develop resources for our educators

in addressing the needs of children with ADD/ADHD and those on the Autism spectrum, Renee Speh and I launched the Special Needs Committee last August. Choosing “Creating a Welcoming Classroom” as this year’s RE theme, we introduced teachers to teaching strategies designed to make the classroom a meaningful and stimulating RE community for all children. The committee held a teacher workshop in the fall and provided additional resources at the mid-term teacher meeting. Another goal for the committee has been to facilitate connections and a support network for special needs families at UUSIC and has held several parent gatherings. Its role at the UUSIC continues to expand, as it focuses on facility needs for children and adults with special needs.

This year, we employed our first nursery supervisor, Trudy Gullette. Trudy has a B.S. in elementary education with a focus on special education. Her presence in the nursery has been instrumental in creating a safe, hygienic, and stimulating learning environment with art projects and stories to engage our toddlers, along with play.

In an effort to encourage opportunities to create community for our busy parents, we provided a mini-coffee hour following the second service so that parents could enjoy some social time with each other before picking up their children. For additional information on Religious Education for Children and Youth, family, and multigenerational programs, please see the Children and Youth Committee annual report.

We had some new developments with campus ministry this year, extending our outreach to all young adults, and offering a lunch every 2nd and 4th Sunday following the second service. This has proved to be a successful endeavor, providing a social opportunity for all young adults who attend services. The group has chosen a covenant group curriculum for informal discussion and sharing during lunch. For more information, please see the Campus Ministry and Young Adult Group annual report.

For information on adult RE programs this year, please see the Welcome Home Wednesdays Committee annual report.

Lifespan RE Goals:

- Continue to assess the quality of our programming, and explore ways to better meet the needs of children, youth, parents and teachers by fostering an atmosphere of encouraging and receiving feedback.
- Continue to explore ways to support teachers (communication, training, classroom management).
- Expand our understanding of family ministry and increase opportunities for parent classes, parent and children workshops, and better integration of families

Lifespan Director of Religious Education, Cont'd

in UUSIC community life.

- Continue opportunities to help parents connect with what their children are learning in their RE classes and bring faith development to the home.
- Provide Our Whole Lives (OWL) to elementary grades and Junior High in 2015 – 16.
- Increase opportunities for multi-generational justice/work projects (social, environmental, and community).
- Continue to provide welcoming classrooms for all children through teacher training and workshops and promote a welcoming community by increasing congregational awareness.
- Increase leadership opportunities for, and involvement in, UUSIC for children and youth.
- Nurture/encourage outdoor/nature/environmental education and awareness.
- Continue to explore new possibilities and a vision for young adults and campus ministry.

Long Range Goals:

- Address space and programming needs, by seeking facilities which can provide better-designed classrooms, adequate space, and developmentally appropriate classes (no more than two grades each for children preschool – junior high).
- Seek facilities with outdoor space.
- Develop additional programming for youth, possibly on Wednesday evenings or Saturdays, and hire a youth director or minister.
- Establish an Our Whole Lives planning committee with the purpose of offering Lifespan Our Whole Lives.
- Provide Religious Education for children, youth and adults on Sunday mornings.

—Lois Cole

Office Administrator, Emma Barnum

This has been my first full year as administrator for UUSIC, and it has been such an experience! I have had a great time learning the ropes, getting comfortable in the position, and finding ways to make the office run more efficiently. Getting to know the rest of the staff, the board, and all of the members and friends who volunteer their time to the Society has been a fantastic experience, and there's no way to adequately thank them for all of their help and support. They truly are the ones making UUSIC such a successful and vibrant place.

This year we instituted a lot of changes in the way we do things in the office and around the Society as a whole. You may not have noticed a lot of them, but hopefully they've made it easier for you to access the many services and programs UUSIC provides. Here are some of the big things that have happened since last year's Annual Report:

- Last spring I became a Notary Public in order to help with the Advance Care Planning program. If you need something notarized, please contact me in the office!
 - We switched to a different program, Mailchimp, for our weekly emails. This lets us do more customized formatting and makes the emails more accessible on mobile devices. We also added a "Community/Member News" section to the emails for non-UUSIC events and member-submitted announcements. We currently have 414 subscribers to the weekly email.
 - Over the summer I created a database to store information from the vouchers we use to process payments and reimbursements. We now can search for past payments by check number, date, budget line, payee, and description. This has already helped us immensely as we track spending and prepare budgets. The office volunteers, especially Jeanette Carter and Gay Mikelson, have done a tremendous job keeping the database current.
 - The Stewardship Committee added an option to the annual pledge forms allowing members who donate to UUSIC through automatic online contributions to choose to make a "sustaining pledge" so they don't have to fill out a pledge form every year. Over 40 pledging families took advantage of the sustaining pledge option for 2014.
 - In the fall we began printing Sunday announcements on a separate insert for the orders of service, allowing us to make the font in the orders larger and easier to read. The announcement inserts are also handy to take home if you normally recycle the orders of service!
 - With a lot of help from Carol Throckmorton and other staff and volunteers, I did a thorough cleaning of our membership files to create more accurate and up-to-date records for our voting lists, directories, and mailings. Remember to contact the office if you move or change your contact information!
- We installed a notice holder by the Iowa Avenue door outside of Channing Hall and began posting weekly calendars with events and descriptions. This should help people if they come too early for an event or don't know where an event is happening. It also serves as a great way to let people know what all is happening in the building— check it out next time you walk by!
 - When the Communications Committee set up the interim website, we added a Google calendar to the site. Now if you go to the Calendar page of the website, you will find an always up-to-date listing of our events and space availabilities. Click on any event to get a detailed description, attachments, and contact information!
 - We also began adding PDFs of our weekly email updates to the website, so even if you don't subscribe to the emails, you can still see what's going on. Find them—along with PDFs of the monthly newsletters and transcripts of the Sunday sermons—under the Communications tab of the website. Thanks to Chris Taylor for keeping these up-to-date!
 - Adam Tatro has revitalized and expanded the UUSIC Facebook page. Check there for events, photos, UU news, and more! If you have something you'd like added to the Facebook page (pictures of UUSIC events, for instance), please contact Adam or the office!

There were also updates to the way we track pledge data, how we communicate building issues between our custodian and our fantastic Building & Grounds volunteers, and many other improvements to how the office operates.

Some goals for the upcoming year include:

- Taking on the role of webmaster for the new website, which the Communications Committee is working hard on this summer!
- Working to make some office procedures easier, quicker and more efficient, such as streamlining the voucher process and recording system, reorganizing and updating the files for employees, and continuing to update and add to our membership records.
- Continuing to assist all of our staff, committees, and board members with office support, and finding more ways to increase office efficiency!

I will be taking a few months off this fall (I'm expecting my first child at the end of September), but I will be returning to work after my maternity leave.

As always, if you have any suggestions or ideas on how to improve the administrative process or make UUSIC a more welcoming place, let me know!
—Emma Barnum

Congregational Life Coordinator, Carol Throckmorton

One of the goals of the Membership Associates (MAs) this year was to develop a Mission Statement. It is: *We create a loving and inclusive community through the practice of radical hospitality.*

The Membership Committee consists of eight members. They are Larry Audlehelm, Pete Brokaw, Gary Lawrenson, Carol Nordquist, Kim Palmer, Adam Tatro, and Peg Voelker. Kari Yorek is a new and very welcomed member of our team. We sadly bid farewell to members Mike and Ruth Lindeen and Kimberly Kim, who have left the Iowa City area. The Committee meets bimonthly on the third Thursday of odd numbered months.

Each Sunday two Membership Associates serve as greeters and ushers for both services. This year, the greeter is positioned on the Channing Hall stage to assist congregants using the handicap door and the elevator. They also provide Orders of Service and other needed assistance.

The MAs supervise voting procedures for the annual congregational meetings, which are held in January and May, as well as votes on special issues.

Achievements this year:

Membership classes:

Three “Becoming a Member” courses were offered this year, in October 2013 and January and April 2014. These education sessions are conducted by our Minister, the Congregational Life Coordinator, and guest presenters. Membership Associates function as hosts for these orientation sessions. All UUSIC visitors, friends, and members were invited to participate. “Becoming a Member” folders, that contain pertinent educational materials, are provided to everyone who expresses interest in membership.

We held New-member Covenant Ceremonies following the courses where those desiring to join signed the membership book. The ceremonies include a special reception during social hour. New-member biographical information appeared in the orders of service, the *UUNews*, and the website and were displayed in Channing Hall. Forty-eight people became members of the UUSIC this year, as follows:

2013:

- June: Brenda Barbour, Connie Becker, Marsha Cheyney, Chris Vandervelde.
- October: Kelli Brommel, Gail and Tom Brashers-Krug, Wendy Brown, Brett Chaney, Joel and Stephanie Gilbertson-White, Trudy Gullette, Larry Kent, Chris Machold, Kate and Ken Nesbett, Anna Quandt, Connie Peterson, Sarah Shelton, Cindy Spading, Dain and Meg TePoel, Aiko Van Cura.

2014:

- January: Sarah Averill, Alesa Case, Kirk Cheyney, Laurie and Dan Cummings, Jessica Egli, Allan Jordison, Shelly Kerr, Ann Kolsrud, Christopher Malloy, James Margadant, Jennifer Mordan, Wilmaria Salgado-Pabon.
- April: Jenny and Robert Burdinie, Gail Falk, Elyse Myers, Tony Razavi, Robert Richardson, Shona Roeder, Stefan Strack, Tai Tomasi, Melissa Turner, and Haven Witherspoon.

Welcome Table:

Between services MAs staff the Welcome Table in Channing Hall where they provide information and education regarding Unitarian Universalism to newcomers, friends and members. They also connect individuals with interest groups and committees within the Society. At the Welcome Table, people can sign up to participate in the “Becoming a Member” class series and Covenant Groups, request name badges, and provide chancel flowers on Sundays. There is also a ‘Caring Corner,’ where people can write ‘cycle of life’ cards to members and friends, which are mailed from the Administrative Office.

Membership Associates’ procedure manual:

This year the manual was updated to clarify the MA’s roles as greeters, Welcome Table hosts, “Becoming a Member” course mentors, and congregational meeting supervisors.

Improved communication with visitors, members and friends:

This year we started conducting “Discovering Unitarian Universalism” classes after the second service on the second Sunday of the month. These informal sessions are conducted by the CLC and Membership Associates. The purpose is to introduce newcomers to the basic tenets of Unitarian Universalism and to answer their questions. Participants are invited to the next “Becoming a Member” class and provided with folder of materials used in the class.

A ‘Connections card system’ continues to provide communication to the staff. These cards, which are located in the pews and at the Welcome Table, are made available to everyone attending services. The pew folders that contain the Connections cards also includes the updated Opportunities document, which is a listing of all UUSIC interest groups, committees, and options for volunteer service as well as name badges.

Visitors:

Visitors who complete the Connections cards receive a personal letter with additional information about Unitarian Universalism and UUSIC. Their contact information is provided to the chairpersons of the interest group and committees in which they’ve expressed an interest. Visitors

Congregational Life Coordinator, Cont'd

this year numbered eight-four.

Information pertinent to UUSIC members and friends appear in the weekly email updates, orders of service and *UU News*. This year we began listing members and friends' birthday months (with their consent) in the monthly newsletter.

The Church Windows database was updated this year to reflect our current active members and friends. This information is formatted for the UUSIC Directory, which is printed multiple times throughout the year and available to members and friends.

Neighborhood Groups:

Five UU Neighborhoods were established this year. Our community was divided geographically into five areas: Iowa City North, Northeast, Southeast, Southwest and Coralville/North Liberty. The first use of the neighborhoods occurred during the 2013 Stewardship Campaign where residents of each area were invited to enjoy an autumn picnic together.

Hospitality Teams:

The Hospitality Teams continue to provide valued services on Sunday mornings by ushering and managing the social hour. There currently are ten teams, with a goal of having twelve total. The team leaders are Mary and David Jepsen, Brian Glidewell, Marianne Mason, Paula Miller, Carol and Jerry Nordquist, Nancy Noyer, Kim Palmer, Bonnie Penno, Mary Roth, Cindy Spading, and Mark Yuskis. Kim Palmer volunteered to be the Hospitality Team recruiter, and he provides initial training to the new teams. In addition to the team members, there is a list of people who are 'short notice' volunteers who fill in when there is a need.

The procedures for ushering and social-hour hosting were updated and provided to the Hospitality Team Leaders for distribution to their team members. These instructions are also posted on the UUSIC website and available in the usher and kitchen cabinets.

Volunteer Recognition:

April is National Volunteer Month, and on Sunday, April 6th, our 300+ members and friends were honored for providing many invaluable services to the UUSIC and our community through sharing their time, talents, creativity and passion. They were recognized during the morning services and at a special reception held in their honor during the social hour. A list of our volunteers is included on pages 4-5 in this Annual Report.

Skills, Talents and Interests Survey:

Members and friends are asked to complete Skills, Talents and Interests Surveys, which provides areas to indicate not only their skills, talents and interests, but also Society activities in which they are interested in participating or volunteering. Our number has increased from 156 completed surveys last year to over 200 this year.

New interest groups:

In the past year two new interest groups were established: That's Entertainment! and the Grief Group.

Goals for next year:

- Continue improving our new-member classes for the purpose of meeting the needs of prospective members.
- Implement a mentor program for new members.
- Develop a Membership Associates' Auxiliary Team.
- Invite inactive members to become involved in Society activities.
- Continue to encourage 'radical hospitality' for our visitors, members and friends.
- Encourage and recognize volunteerism in our congregation.
- Coordinate the annual Committee Fair, which is scheduled for September 28th, 2014.

I want to thank our very dedicated Membership Associates for their exceptional efforts in providing a welcoming environment to our visitors, members and friends. It is a joy working with them, and I am continually amazed and appreciative of their enthusiasm, creativity and commitment to this vital ministry.
—Carol Throckmorton

Music Director, Barbara Buddin

Choir:

The choir began rehearsing on Thursday evenings in the unbelievable heat of August and continued until the second week in May. Beginning the first Sunday after Labor Day in September and continuing until Mothers' Day in May, they performed two to three Sundays per month. The group numbered from twelve to fifteen volunteer singers. There were four new members to the group that included two University students. This year, sadly, there were no high school students involved in choir. They are welcome at any time to join this deeply dedicated and loyal performance group.

We provided an eclectic repertoire from Renaissance to contemporary literature, in English, Latin, German and Italian. We provided a historical to hysterical mix of sacred, secular, pop, show tunes, and even Motown. This year several Unitarian parodies were presented.

We were accompanied by Younjung Cha, a doctoral piano student from the University. Her time with us ended on March 23rd. Lyle Juracek, from the UI Dance Department,

returned to UUSIC to assist us as an interim accompanist. Several pieces performed this year included assisting instrumentalists. On Christmas Eve a lovely group of flute players performed. The choir presented several congregational songs that will be repeated for future use. There were solo opportunities during at least one service per month. The door is always open to new recruits of any performance level.

Jazz Group:

The chamber jazz group has a varied personnel which allows opportunity for soloists. They meet ad hoc on Wednesday evenings and perform for services at least once per month. Their repertoire is derived from the standards published in the *Fake Book*.

To add to individual interests, and in accordance with the UUMN protocols, private voice and piano lessons were offered by Younjung and me. These lessons added to the multigenerational musical offerings. The lessons are offered at a greatly reduced fee to encourage the study by all musicians.
—Barbara Buddin

UUSIC Website Report

Our Web Site, uusic.org, in 2013

During 2013, our UUSIC website, uusic.org, had 58,437 visitors who opened a total of 147,108 pages on the site. Our busiest month was March, when 6,309 visitors opened 14,761 pages.

On average, our site had 4,870 visits per month; 160 per day. Each visitor opened, on average, three 3 pages per visit.

Usage at UUSIC.org	2012	2013
Total visitors	53,455	58,437
Total pages opened	109,809	147,108
Average visits/month	4,455	4,870
Average visits/day	147	160

Most Popular Pages

After our home page, the ten most frequently visited pages at UUSIC.org were, in order of usage:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. UU News, various editions | 6. Staff |
| 2. From Within These Walls, 9-2008 | 7. Bylaws, Policies, and Procedures |
| 3. Sunday Services | 8. Programs, Groups, and Committees |
| 4. Contact Us | 9. Treats and Talents Auction |
| 5. Calendar | 10. Welcome, Newcomers |

How Do Visitors Find Us? Just over half of our visitors come to us through key word searches for UUSIC, Unitarian, UU, or Unitarian Universalist Society. For the other half of our visitors, the most frequent referrals are from Google, followed by Baidu (a Chinese search engine), Yahoo, Bing, and Lampokrat (a Rumanian web tool). The first page opened is most often Sunday Services, with other popular entry pages being the Calendar, the *UU News*, and the Sermon Archive.

Transitioning to New Website: At the end of 2013, Sue Eberly retired as webmaster after nearly 10 years of service. The Communications Committee, formed in October, was given the task of guiding the transition to a new webmaster and new website. One of the committee's early members, Prahlad Gupta, created a temporary website, which resides at the current web address. Chris Taylor, another original member, maintains it. The old homepage can be accessed at uusic.org/BAKin-dex.html but has not been updated since Dec. 31, 2013. The committee began a search for a web designer to create the new site, which will be ready sometime in 2014.

—Phil Beck for the Communications Committee

PEOPLE GROUPS: Committee on Congregational Life & Ministry

Mandate and Committee Membership

The Committee on Congregational Life and Ministry (CCLAM) furthers the mission and vision of UUSIC by reporting to the congregation and the Board on the ministries of UUSIC and educating the congregation on shared ministry. The CCLAM meets monthly, has six members and two ex officio members, and has no budget.

The 2013-2014 members of the CCLAM are Marilyn Jennewein, Caryl Lyons, Karen Mason, Kelly O'Berry, Jim Olson, and Bonnie Penno, with Rev. Steven Protzman and Lois Cole ex officio. We recommended to the Board that the youth position be eliminated. The Board accepted this and the congregation voted to make this by-law change at the congregational meeting in January of 2014.

CCLAM Activities

Since CCLAM's December 2011 inception, policies and procedures continue to be formulated, revised, and implemented to enhance the effective means of fulfilling our charge by the governing UUSIC Board. The current 48 separate ministries are divided into either Operational or Interest Groups that fulfill the mission and vision of UUSIC. Each ministry has a CCLAM liaison in order to fulfill CCLAM's mission of monitoring the ministries of the congregation. Throughout the year, each ministry was contacted and worked with as warranted in order to thank them for all they had accomplished. CCLAM also emphasized the importance of institutional memory that they carry, encouraged each ministry to establish written goals and procedures that will help ease transitions as committee membership changes, and encouraged each ministry to have a covenant.

CCLAM recognized the growth of our membership and the additions of several new shared ministries, including the Communication Committee, Special Needs Committee, and the Social Justice Action Fund Committee.

A CCLAM subcommittee evaluated Rev. Steven Protzman in the fall of 2013, as one of the evaluations required by the UUA Committee on Ministerial Fellowship as Steven advances to Full Fellowship in the UUA.

Evaluation of the Ministries of UUSIC

In keeping with our charge to monitor and evaluate the ministries of UUSIC, the CCLAM is pleased to report that overall our ministries are robust and growing. In particular we note the following:

- Our membership is growing. Our staff and members welcome visitors, and we have an effective process for orienting and engaging new and prospective members.
- UUSIC offers an expanding number of opportunities for spiritual growth, service, and fellowship. As noted

above, we have 48 committees and interest groups.

- We are becoming a program church, with volunteers taking responsibility for several aspects of ministry, coordinated and supported by Rev. Steven and our staff. We understand and practice shared ministry.
- We are well governed. UUSIC has a dedicated and effective Board of Trustees, which meets each month (often twice a month). In addition, our committees generally function well and increasingly are developing written mission statements, covenants, and policies and procedures.
- We are generous with material resources in support of the Society, social justice causes in Johnson County and around the world, and our partner church in Transylvania. A spirit of abundance prevails.
- We support, comfort, assist, and watch out for each other.
- We practice "radical hospitality," as shown, for example, in our ongoing ministry of marriage equality and our new Special Needs Committee, developed within the Religious Education program.
- The process for deciding on our future facilities, led by the Board and the Facilities Steering Committee and engaging all members, has been marked by transparency, respect for diverse opinions, and commitment to the democratic process.

While affirming these aspects of our shared ministry, the CCLAM raises the following questions:

- As our membership grows, as we launch new committees and interest groups, and as we move toward becoming a full-fledged program church, how do we provide the skills and training to enable even more volunteers to discover and apply their gifts of leadership?
- How can we build on our commitment to social justice to create the beloved community beyond our walls?
- Are our ministries reaching out to Johnson County "free range" Unitarian Universalists (those who identify as "Unitarian" but are not connected with a congregation) and others who may not wish to "join" in the traditional sense?
- As we design our new facility, how can we define who we want to serve, and where, and why, and how?

CCLAM Goals

Our short-term goals:

- Maintain contact with each ministry in order to affirm their special ministry as they function towards the mission and vision of the UUSIC.

CCLAM, Cont'd

- Promote awareness of UUSIC's mission among members and advocate for high levels of commitment to that mission through monthly newsletter articles, forums, worship services, and reports to the Board and congregation.
- Send a CCLAM representative to each monthly Board meeting to provide a strong and supportive relationship with the Board, staff, and congregation members.
- Evaluate Rev. Steven Protzman, based on input from the congregation, in the fall of 2014 as part of the

ministerial fellowship process.

Our long-term goals:

- Continue encouraging each group/ministry to develop written policies and procedures to better enable both continuity and leadership transitions within each group.
- Plan for transition as a CCLAM Committee to a revised role of ministerial collaboration once our minister has received final fellowship and we are no longer part of an evaluation team.

—Jim Olson & Bonnie Penno

UNI-Care

UNI-Care activities center around the needs of members and friends of the UUSIC community. This may be in the form of providing meals during times of illness or bereavement, transportation for medical visits, planning and implementation of memorial services, or loaning medical and rehabilitation equipment. This year, UNI-Care provided meal service to three families, friendly visitors to four members, transportation for two people, and memorial service assistance for two members' families.

When notified of an individual's or family's need, the committee coordinator notifies the UNI-Care team and solicits volunteer assistance. This is usually accomplished via email. Thirty-five people serve on the Committee.

The compassion of the UNI-Care team is very much appreciated by those who receive their services.

—Carol Throckmorton, Interim UNI-Care Coordinator
& Marianne Mason, Transportation Coordinator

Pastoral Care Associates

The mission of the Pastoral Care ministry as shaped by the UU principles is to affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person and to practice compassion in human relations. Our goal is to provide a ministry of support, hope and caring, so that no one connected to this congregation needs to feel alone. This goal furthers the vision of UUSIC to be a caring, inclusive community. The team meets monthly at UUSIC with the minister. We review contacts that team members have had with congregational members needing emotional or physical assistance, and discuss other issues related to pastoral care at the UUSIC.

Current members of the team include: Diana Henry, Jean Hood, Marilyn Jennewein, Tom McMurray, Christina Randall, and Rev. Steven Protzman.

Past Year Achievements:

- Began an "Honoring Your Wishes" Program, facilitated by Mary Jepsen, Peg Bouska, David Eifler, and Rev. Steven Protzman.
- Revised the Pastoral Care Team Guidelines.
- Updated and revised the Pastoral Care/UNI-Care pamphlet.
- Instituted a UU Grief group, which meets monthly.
- Received training on Hospital Visiting and on Empathy.

- Developed a procedure for requests for pastoral care while the minister is unavailable.
- Coordinated action with CCLAM and the Communications Committee.
- Met with a representative of the Facilities Task Force.
- Continued to make phone calls, send e-mails and conduct visits that provide support to UUSIC members and friends.
- Referred people to community services as needed.
- Referred people to UNI-Care.

Goals for 2014-2015:

- Continue to nurture a culture of pastoral care in the congregation.
- Create and implement a standard training program for the members of the Pastoral Care Team.
- Select new members to the Pastoral Care Team.
- Assist the minister in finding a new chairperson for UNI-Care.
- Continue to promote and offer the Advance Care Planning "Honoring Your Wishes" program, as well as the UU Grief program.

—Christina Randall

FINANCE GROUPS: Treasurer's Report

This report is written by Adam Ingersoll, acting Treasurer since April 1st, 2014, on behalf of Doug Wallace, who was Treasurer of UUSIC in 2013 and prior. Under Doug's stewardship, the UUSIC finances in 2013 continued 2012's pattern of stability and growth.

The summary below shows 2013 net ordinary income of over \$18,000, an amount virtually identical to the 2012 income figure. Our income growth is driven by increased pledges, which totaled \$346,786 in 2013, an increase of 6.8% over the 2012 total of \$324,688 and a 5.9% increase over the 2013 budget of \$327,500. Our membership is generous and growing!

UUSIC's financial health also results from thoughtful planning and sound fiscal management throughout the year by the Society's committees, staff, and Board. 2013 operating expenses totaled \$349,453, exceeding our budget of \$348,600 by only .25%.

2012 was the first year in some time that we had paid our full share of Denominational Expenses (UUA and MidAmerica Region - formerly Prairie Star District). In 2013 we again were able to honor this commitment of \$21,000 and have budgeted to do so in 2014 as well.

The cash reserves of the Society at the end of 2013 exceeded \$100,000, a strong safety net equal to roughly 1/3 of our annual budget. Our total endowment funds totaled approximately \$875,000 at the end of 2013, continuing to grow from a 2012 year-end figure of \$790,000. The Faith in Our Future fund has grown rapidly and currently stands at approximately \$285,000, not counting a pending contribution of an additional \$262,000 to be made when the Society successfully passes a vote on a specific plan for new facilities.

Our congregation continues to be supportive of the Society and its goals, and there is ample cause for optimism that this pattern of generosity will continue.

—Adam Ingersoll

2013 Income & Expense Summary

	2013 Actual	2013 Budget
Revenues		
Total Pledges and Donations	\$346,786	\$327,500
Total Other Revenues	\$20,756	\$21,100
	\$367,542	\$348,600
Expenses		
Total Religious Services	\$2,753	\$3,000
Total LifeSpan Religious Education	\$5,583	\$4,650
Total Adult Programs	\$4,618	\$5,450
Total Membership Committee	\$2,288	\$3,640
Total Endowment Campaign	\$389	\$550
Total UU Board	\$2,619	\$2,500
Total Denominational Expense	\$20,898	\$20,898
Total Salaries & Wages	\$181,078	\$183,180
Total Employee Benefits	\$44,657	\$44,978
Total Professional Expense Allowance	\$9,332	\$9,975
Total Administrative	\$38,953	\$35,354
Total Library and Historical Records	\$310	\$400
Total Canvass Expenses	\$399	\$1,000
Total Special Projects	\$300	\$350
Total Building & Grounds	\$16,903	\$15,275
Total Utilities & Insurance	\$18,373	\$17,400
	\$349,453	\$348,600
2013 Net Ordinary Income	\$18,089	

Endowment Committee

Endowment Committee members are elected for 5-year terms with one member rotating from the committee each year. Current members are, Jean Hood, Alice Atkinson, Jerry Nordquist, Barbara Haring, and Tom Rocklin. We usually meet monthly and more frequently when needed. The purpose of the Endowment Committee is to oversee the Endowment Fund investments, provide an annual report to the Board and advise the Board on the use of Endowment funds.

The committee writes thank you-letters for contributors to the Memorial Fund that has been established to honor individual lives, and updates the names engraved on the Memorial Plaque. The committee also reviews and evaluates proposals for the Program (Detiger) Fund that underwrites the cost of community-wide programs that raise the visibility of the Society.

Other restricted funds overseen by the committee include the Music Enhancement Fund for repairs, etc., for the organ and piano, and individually-donated restricted funds such as the Whittaker and Carr Funds (held at the UUA) and the Bristol fund held at the UUSIC.

The Endowment Committee is charged with identifying ways to increase the Endowment Fund through education and preservation of capital for future needs. Our Financial Advisor, Richard Stevenson, provides guidance for investments. Most of our budget of \$550 was used to host a successful Endowment party that raised \$15,571.35 for the general endowment fund this year. Members of the Endowment Committee met with the Minister, Treasurer, members of the Stewardship, Social Justice and Facilities committees, and UUSIC Board members in October to discuss topics relating to finances.

Our primary goal is to create a sufficiently large endowment fund that will support the Society in reaching the mission and vision goals of the organization. This is based on a long range planning objective developed in the Society in 1994 by congregational input and a Study Group: "Realize a total endowment, in its separate funds, of \$1,500,000 by the end of the 1999 fiscal year." This goal was not met in 1999 but as a continuing goal, we are working very hard to reach the more modest level of one million dollars in the Endowment Funds.
—Alice Atkinson

Social Justice Action Fund

The Social Justice Action Fund Oversight Committee was formed by the Board of Trustees and is charged with reviewing and approving requests to fund projects for social justice work, both within and outside UUSIC's walls. The Oversight Committee is able to fund projects that are presented by anyone in the UUSIC congregation. Funding is approved based on merit and need using the UUSIC Strategic Plan and Mission and Vision statements as guidelines. This group is separate from the Social Justice Coordinating Committee and has its own budget.

The Oversight Committee has six members:

- Board Financial Trustee, chairperson (Pete Brokaw), 3-year term
- Social Justice Coordinating Committee representative (Joe Brisben), 3-year term
- Director of Lifespan Religious Education (Lois Cole), permanent membership
- Minister (Steven Protzman), permanent non-voting membership
- Congregational Representative (youth) (Kate Anstreicher), 1-year term

- Congregational Representative (currently unfilled), 3-year term

The Social Justice Action Fund receives funding from these sources:

- The Endowment Fund (a portion of the earned dividends from the previous year)
- The UUSIC Auction (proceeds above a specified amount determined by the UUSIC Board of Trustees)
- Special contributions from UUSIC Congregants

Unallocated funds for the SJAF are carried over from one year to the next and may be earmarked for projects beyond the current year.

The Social Justice Action Fund Oversight Committee meets at UUSIC once per quarter (minimally), or more frequently if there are funding requests to evaluate or other administrative work that needs to be done.

Funded projects will be highlighted in the UUSIC Newsletter and weekly email updates. —Pete Brokaw

Auction Committee

This year, the Treats and Talents Auction Committee has been co-chaired by Sharon Booker and Mary Jepsen. Creative and energetic committee members Joe Brisben, Barbara Curtin, Sherry Dolash, Jim Laughlin, Jan Locher, Marianne Mason, Gay Mikelson, Mary McMurray, Bonnie Penno, and Carol Throckmorton have applied their skills and talents to implementing this year's theme, Galaxy of Stars. The theme was chosen to celebrate the many stars of the Society's members and friends who have worked so hard to bring forth such positive results in facilities planning, new members, new groups to meet the needs of members and friends, and so many other successful efforts this year.

The Auction Events this year took place on April 26th and 27th (Opening Reception, Silent Auction and Cake Walk) and on May 3rd (the Galaxy of Stars Dinner and Live Auction).

Last year, the Board agreed to the recommendation of the Treats and Talents Auction Committee to share all profits

over \$8,000 from the Auction with the Society's commitment to social justice causes. The 2013 Auction raised over \$14,000 and sent over \$6,000 to the Social Justice Fund. As a result, auction proceeds funded youth to travel to the East coast to assist with Hurricane Sandy recovery, cots were purchased for Shelter House so bed capacity could be increased during brutally cold winter nights, a little lending library was developed for a local mobile home park, and furniture was purchased for the Worker Justice Center. We are so pleased the Board has agreed to a similar allocation for 2014.

Last year, Mary Jepsen researched an appropriate quote for each donated item for the auction catalog. This proved so successful and appreciated that the same effort was undertaken for 2014. Many members and friends have indicated they read the catalog cover to cover so they will not miss any of the quotes. Participation on the Treats and Talents Auction Committee is an intense but fun four-month annual commitment. New members are always welcome.

—Sharon Booker

Stewardship Committee

The pledge campaign for the 2014 calendar year was again a rousing success. For the third year in a row, we set a record for the amount pledged. At the end of January, we had pledges of \$337,000.00. That is an increase of around 3% from the previous year. We lost quite a few pledges due to deaths and several families moving out of town. We made some of that up with pledges from new members. We conducted our normal campaign where we sent out pledge information during September and requested that pledges be returned by the end of October. Our theme this year was "Ours is to Dream and to Do." Then, during November, we had approximately 30 volunteers contact those who had not returned pledge information. During October we had four picnics at four different sites around the Iowa city/Coralville area as a way to connect neighborhoods. Membership Associates helped with the planning and preparation of the picnics. We also were more focused on the concept of "sustaining" givers—making a pledge that is ongoing over a period of years. Thanks to all who pledged for 2014 and to all who helped with the canvass.

—Dave Martin, for the Stewardship Team (Tom McMurray, Carol Throckmorton, Gary Lawrenson, Jim Laughlin, and Dan Gall)

Yard Sale

Carried off with its usual blend of camaraderie, laughter, and hard work, the 2013 UUSIC Yard Sale was held on Saturday, August 24th.

Many UUs contributed to its success:

- Members and friends who donated the interesting, artful, and utilitarian items that are our stock in trade.
- Volunteers who cleaned, sorted, and priced donations; staffed the sale on sale days; cleaned up afterwards; and hauled unsold items to local consignment stores, the ICPL Book End, Goodwill, and Crowded Closet.
- Customers, many from our congregation.

The combined efforts of all these good folks has helped us to reach our goal of netting \$1,500 for the UUSIC general fund.

—Susan Eberly and Jeanette Carter

BUILDING GROUPS: Building & Grounds Committee

The general purpose of the Buildings and Grounds Committee (B&G) is to maintain and facilitate repairs of our buildings and grounds as well as facilitate needed inspections or repair of the boiler, elevator, appliances, etc. This year B&G worked closely with the Aesthetics and Space Committees. Together we coordinated painting projects and the library upgrade as well as general clean up. (See the Aesthetics section below).

Deb Schoelerman and Kurt Hamann are the co-chairs of B&G. Our budget for 2013 was \$15,275, which included a separate line for Aesthetics projects of \$5,600.

The core workers of the committee are John Jennewein, Lee Eberly, Gary Lawrenson, Pete Paul-Petersen, and Adam Tatro. Many others have helped with clean up days and other small projects. Those include Pete Brokaw, Kate Perkins-Armond, Jerry Nordquist, Lois Hughes, Merle Ihne, Sue Eberly, Jeannette Carter, Linda Rice, Dorothy Paul-Petersen, Vickie Siefers, Jim Laughlin, Paul Pomrehn, Theresa Ullerich, Bruce Randall, and Mary McMurray. Our apologies to anyone we may have omitted who has helped with the building this year. The committee also wishes to thank Emma Barnum for coordinating calls and emails with B&G members and contacting professionals when needed.

Aesthetics/Indoor projects

- Additional lighting was installed along the beams in the sanctuary and all lamps in the sanctuary were replaced with LEDs.
- Painting projects included the inside entry on Gilbert Street, the north wall of the stairwell between the two buildings, and the restroom on the 2nd floor.
- The library was refurbished with new carpet, area rug, end tables and lamps, a sofa, and a large conference table. Four chairs were reupholstered. The conference table, sofa, area rug were purchased using memorial funds. The gray storage cabinet (in library) and wooden cabinet doors were painted to match the file cabinet.
- Two new air conditioners were purchased and installed in the library.
- Some new window coverings were added to the building and a sofa was purchased for the Jr. High room.
- For better visibility, white reflective strips were installed on the edges of the steps at the Iowa Street entrance.

Repairs:

North boiler:

- In December we installed a new steam condenser receiver tank and pump.
- The north boiler pilot went out in January during one of the cold spells. One of the kitchen windows blew open and the panes broke. Several of the pipes in kitchen froze as well as first floor bathroom pipes. Gary

Lawrenson, Paul Pomrehn and Deb Schoelerman were “first responders” and Kurt Hamann came later to do much of the repair work on the window and the pipes.

South boiler:

- The pilot went out a couple of times in January during the cold spell. We were able to relight it with no freezing in the building.

Kurt repaired the leaking first floor toilet in the fall.

Dish Sanitizer:

- The dish sanitizer was not draining properly and service was needed to repair it.

Elevator:

- Kone, Inc., our elevator service provider, has been called several times this year. Some issues were mechanical failures; some were due to user error. Kone was always able to identify and fix the problem. Kurt learned how to avoid some the elevator’s problems and it has been more reliable since. To put it mildly, a non-working elevator is a great inconvenience to our members and friends who rely on it to move between floors in the building. To quote Emma, problems “may just happen because the elevator is old and persnickety.”

Outside:

- The fascia ends were repaired on the Sanctuary roof. The brick planters on the west side were repaired by a professional bricklayer.
- In June the landscaping on the west side was redone. Old bushes were removed and replaced with a hydrangea, three small arborvitae, some perennials, and the entire area was mulched.
- In the fall, the area of the roof by the stairwell leaked with heavy rains and was patched for a temporary repair. We have had three roofers look at the Worthley Building roof, and are seeking estimates to repair the area by the stairwell that leaks.

Mission:

B&G furthers the mission of UUSIC by maintaining and repairing the building to the best of our ability with the funds available from the operating budget in order to provide a safe and comfortable space for our members and friends to gather. However, the building is old and not energy efficient. It is not air-conditioned. It is not very accessible. The restrooms could be upgraded. More space in the building is needed for meetings and for storage. The roof of the Worthley Building is old and will be in need of major repair soon. It continues to be a challenge to maintain our building.

We appreciate all of the volunteers who help to maintain the building. We couldn’t do it without you!

—Deb Schoelerman & Kurt Hamann

Green Sanctuary Committee

The Green Sanctuary Committee meets on the second Tuesday or the second Monday of each month (depending upon member availability) from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Our members are Jeanette Carter, Kate Perkins-Armond, Deb Schoelerman, Carol Throckmorton, Mark NeuCollins, Peg Voelker, and Miriam Kashia. We have a budget of \$350 for 2014.

The mission of the Green Sanctuary Committee is to promote stewardship of the earth in our congregation and in our local and global community. The driving force behind this mission is a commitment to the UU Seventh Principle: “Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.”

We strive to have all actions of our committee exemplify our accordance with the Mission and Vision statements of UUSIC, with emphasis on social justice work, healing the earth, and transforming the world.

Our activities of the past year included:

Hazardous waste cleanup day. We contacted the Iowa City Recycling Center to arrange pickup of household hazardous waste on a Saturday morning last May. We invited members and friends to bring their hazardous household waste for safe disposal. We took advantage of this opportunity to clean out the UUSIC storage unit of old paint and potentially hazardous cleaning agents. We moved still-useful chemicals and cleaning agents out of reach of children.

Summer of Solutions. The summer of 2013 marked our second year of supporting the Summer of Solutions group. This committed group of young adults engages in environmentally-oriented community activities, utilizing the church as a base for operations and meals. The group led a service in August 2013 summarizing their activities of the summer. We have been contacted and are delighted to welcome this group back to our church for the summer of 2014.

Welcome Home Wednesdays. This winter we presented a WHW Class, based on the UUME Curriculum “Our Place in the Interdependent Web.”

Tabling. Once and sometimes twice a month, we staff a table during social hour for writing letters to congressional leaders regarding climate issues. Some of the issues that we addressed this year included: opposition to the Keystone XL pipeline, support for banning single-use plastic bags in Iowa City, and opposition to frac-sand mining in Northeastern Iowa.

Bold Nebraska. We sent two of our members to participate in the Bold Nebraska initiative to build a solar barn in the path of the Keystone Pipeline.

Awakening the Dreamer Symposium. We partnered with the Iowa City Climate Advocates and the 100 Grannies for a Livable Future to host an “Awakening the Dreamer” symposium attended by more than fifty people. This was a half-day symposium developed by the Pachamama Alliance that aims to awaken us from the unsustainable dream of modern life and attune ourselves to the wisdom of indigenous peoples.

Greenest Church Subcommittee. Two members participated in the “Greenest Church” subcommittee of the Facilities Steering Committee. This subcommittee was charged with evaluating the sustainability of proposed directions forward regarding the UUSIC facilities.

Earth Day service. On April 13th 2014 our committee presented the Earth Day Sunday Service featuring an address by State Senator Rob Hogg.

I IPL. We maintain our membership in Iowa Interfaith Power and Light (I IPL), the statewide organization of faith organizations in Iowa whose mission is to mobilize the religious community to become leaders in the fight against global warming through education, assistance with carbon footprints reductions, and advocacy for sustainable policies.

UUME. We are also members of the Unitarian Universalist Ministry for the Earth (UUME) and continue to work towards accreditation from this organization.

Goals for 2014:

- Change all lights building-wide to LED.
- Paint the Worthley Building roof white.
- Seek ways to influence church decisions regarding the building, the purchase of products that are safe, and promote environmentally friendly, and sustainable practices.
- Work to establish UUSIC as a recognized leader in the community for promoting and supporting local green initiatives.
- Reduce the carbon footprint of our congregation by 10% - 20%. We can achieve this by implementing a program such as Iowa Interfaith Light and Power’s “Cool Congregations” program.
- Work toward official Green Sanctuary certification with the UUA.

—Mark NeuCollins

ADMINISTRATIVE GROUPS: Communications Committee

The Communications Committee of UUSIC promotes and facilitates effective communication within the Society and between UUSIC and the wider community, in accordance with the Society's mission and principles. This includes recommending print and electronic communication policies and practices to the Board of Trustees, and providing guidance on those policies to committees, groups and staff to help achieve their goals.

The committee was formed in October 2013 by Chris Taylor, who acted as liaison to the Board of Trustees. Besides Chris, the original members were Nancy Noyer, Sharon Beckman, Ron Pile, Brian Glidewell, Prahlad Gupta, and Phil Beck, who was appointed chairperson. Adam Tatro joined in December.

After defining our goals and developing our mission statement, we spent most of our time preparing for the transition to a new UUSIC website. Sue Eberly announced she would retire as webmaster at the end of 2013, and as a result, our current website would no longer be updated. We were charged with finding a web designer to create a more

up-to-date site to serve the Society's growing needs. We recommended the Board hire a professional designer rather than asking for a volunteer from the congregation. The new site won't be ready until sometime in late 2014, so Prahlad designed an interim website, and Chris assumed the duties of managing it. The group then devised criteria for the new website and began the search for a designer by contacting web design companies in Iowa City, Cedar Rapids, and Des Moines.

Our second major task of 2013 was distributing a survey to the heads of all groups and committees, asking for their input about current communication practices, needs, and challenges. We will use the information we gathered when we begin compiling existing policies and procedures and adapting them into a comprehensive communications policy document. We intend this document to be accessible to all members, in order to guide communications within UUSIC and between UUSIC and the community with regard to announcements, publicity, email communication, use of Facebook and other social media.

—Phil Beck

Office Volunteers

Jeanette Carter, Diane Martin, Sue Eberly and Gay Mikelson have continued as office volunteers this year, and David Martin is joining us this spring. He will be working with Emma on Church Windows database, a nice help with her work. And we will enjoy more diversity in our group.

We perform the same tasks as always during our Tuesday and Thursday schedule and have added another: entering invoices and check numbers into a database for easier accessibility.

—Gay Mikelson

Historical Records Committee

Members: Jeanette Carter, Susan Eberly, Marilyn Jennewein (chair), Charity Rowley, and Faye Strayer.

The Historical Records Committee furthers the mission and vision of the congregation by celebrating our liberal tradition, nurturing the lifelong journey of mind and spirit, and honoring those who have led this congregation through decades of sometimes difficult times by maintaining, preserving, and publicizing our rich history.

Most of our business is conducted by e-mail. The committee meets over lunch, as needed, approximately twice a year to plan or work on projects. We were delighted to have Rev. Steven participate in both of our meetings during the past year.

Since May of last year, we have worked on the following projects:

- We recruited Lee Eberly to refurbish the right-hand half of the Horack bookcase at the back of the sanctuary for use as a display cabinet, by adding lighting and locks. He did a beautiful job of preserving the cabinet, yet making it functional for our needs. Following this, the small display table that we have used for several years was re-commissioned as the official repository for the Society's membership book.
- We expanded the UUSIC Digital Archive. We continue to investigate ways of making this archive available to the congregation and have discussed this with members of the Communications Committee.
- We published short historical articles for the *UU News* under the heading "From Within These Walls" on the following topics: the history of UUSIC's participation

in Pride Month; Rev. Al Henriksen's changes to the Christian directional signs for our church, the UI victory bell and the old Universalist church, a 1909 parade postcard showing our church, gay and lesbian dances in Channing Hall in the 1970s, the newly refurbished 1908 Horack bookcase, the Fracker plaque, hymns connected with UUSIC, and mayors who are members of UUSIC.

- In collaboration with the UUSIC Board, we researched and published full-page articles about those members who were honored as Life Members this year, (1) Jeanne and Ian Smith and (2) Faye and Gordon Strayer.
- We created and installed the following exhibits in the Horack cabinet: UUSIC Treasures (September); Our Partner Church (January); "Our" Hymns (April).
- We presented a slideshow about UUSIC history for the fall and spring new members' classes.
- We collaborated with the Aesthetics Committee to frame Joe Brisben's Partner Church Award plaque and certificate for display in the Henriksen Library and to re-install historical photographs in the library.
- We compiled information and created "Unitarian Universalist Society of Iowa City: More Than a Century of Social Justice Work" to be used as part of an exhibit at the MidAmerica Regional Assembly.

Plans for future newsletter articles and for involving congregation members who are interested in our history are underway. We have begun to discuss ideas for celebrating our congregation's 175th anniversary in 2016. As always, our main focus is to work to preserve and share our Society's rich past with both current members and future generations.

—Marilyn Jennewein

Staff Relations Committee

In the summer and fall of 2013 the Staff Relations Committee (SRC) was reconstituted and policy and procedures were developed and approved by the Board defining its charge and operating procedures. The SRC provides counsel, support, and monitoring for the Minister in his role as supervisor, including performance reviews and evaluations; provides information on personnel policies and working conditions, as well as advocacy, when needed, to staff employees; and acts as liaison to the Board to develop and revise personnel policies, including a first-time-ever staff employee handbook (in process).

The SRC consists of three members appointed by the Board on rotating 3-year terms. Recommendations come from Leadership Development in consultation with the minister and current SRC. The current members are Steve Locher, (Acting Chair, stepping down in July), Tim Wilson, and

Dixie Cassady. Members usually meet once a month at UUSIC.

The SRC affirms the worth and dignity of Minister and staff employees through supervisory and employment policies and practices. It promotes fairness, justice, and democratic process through its counseling, advocacy, and monitoring practices. The SRC aspires to touch hearts through support, change lives through wise counsel and advocacy, and transform the workplace through caring and well-articulated policies and procedures.

So far significant policies and procedures have been completed and Board-approved regarding compensation and benefits, including Paid Time Off and retirement, performance review and evaluation, and discipline and grievances. Many issues remain, and we anticipate a busy summer!

—Steve Locher, Acting Chair

PROGRAM GROUPS: Buddhist Sangha

The UU Buddhist Sangha is a community of people who gather weekly to explore contemporary Buddhist practice and teachings in the context of Unitarian Universalist principles. We rely on our collective wisdom and mutual support to promote clarity, compassion, and ethical behavior through the practices of meditation, mindfulness, and discussion. We respect and nurture our unique journeys of mind and spirit. We welcome gathering people who wish to deepen their connection to Buddhist practice by participating in a sangha.

The UU Buddhist Sangha meets weekly in the evening for meditation, reading, and discussion. The members sit in a circle and use egalitarian democratic principles for discussion and making decisions. Meetings typically open with a 30-minute silent meditation, continue with a 45-minute discussion, and conclude with a 5 to 10-minute silent meditation. One member may act as a facilitator for the meeting, handling meeting notices and announcements, and in some cases preparing remarks or excerpts for the discussion portion. The focus of practice and discussion is experiential, empirical, and pragmatic. Emphasis is given to the work of Western Buddhist teachers, mindfulness-based practice, a spirit of free and responsible inquiry, and practical application of the teachings in daily life. Guests are occasionally invited to share teachings, practices, and stories. Diversity of view and practice is welcomed as a foundation for collective wisdom. Members find that participation in the Sangha gatherings

provides a strong motivation for ongoing personal practice and study.

The Sangha uses a listserv through UUSIC to communicate the schedule for meetings, share the focus topic for the coming meeting, and share reflections, insights, and ideas during the week. A summary of the meeting is often posted following the gathering. Typical attendance is between 5 and 10 members. During Welcome Home Wednesdays, meetings sometimes shift to alternate evenings. A number of new members have joined, bringing varying viewpoints and experiences.

We continue to use a wide range of resources for discussion including articles from Tricycle, Shambala Sun, downloads from various internet sites and the writings of contemporary western Buddhist teachers, such as Bhante Gunaratana, Pema Chodron, Thich Nhat Hahn, and Jack Kornfield. We often take turns finding materials for discussions and in facilitating the meditation and discussion.

The Sangha continues to welcome new members with an interest in meditation and the application of Western Buddhist dharma teachings to everyday life. We have had several new members join us over the year, and our listserv currently has fifty subscribers. The Sangha is part of the diversity of our UUSIC spiritual community in its hope to touch our hearts, change our lives and transform the world.

—Charity Rowley

Campus and Young Adult Group

The Campus and Young Adult group provides an environment for young adults to participate in and learn about Unitarian Universalism while having a good time and engaging with the congregation and the student community.

Meetings:

The group meets the second and fourth Sundays of the month (during the Fall and Spring semesters) following the second service. Meetings include checking-in, discussion and a meal provided by a church members or committee, or by group members.

Committee members:

Elias Gonzalez, Lois Cole, Sally Hartman, and Pete Brokaw (Faculty Advisor).

Over the past year, the Campus Ministry group has undergone significant changes. Three years ago the group focused on establishing itself as a student organization recognized by the University. That process included creating a constitution and naming officers and identifying a faculty advisor.

The core group was very committed and active and attendance for Sunday evening ranged from four to eight people. As the core group graduated and left UUSIC, the momentum that had been building began to slow. The core group remained committed, but attendance on Sunday evenings remained low and inconsistent. We weren't successful in finding new core members to replace those that had graduated.

The committee members brainstormed ways to rejuvenate the group and implemented several changes this past year. The results so far have been encouraging.

We changed the meeting schedule and location. The group now meets twice each month in the Library immediately after the second Sunday service. Meeting less frequently and

earlier in the day makes it easier to provide meals, which continue to be greatly appreciated.

We expanded the target group demographic. By talking to young adults who attended services and coffee hour, interest was sparked with a slightly-older group than had participated previously. We have found that the target group has changed from almost exclusively University-aged to graduate students and those not tied directly to the University. Attendance has been more consistent at around eight people. Group members have also been more likely to attend the second service before the meeting.

While it has been very encouraging to see these changes rekindle the group, we still have decisions to make as we move forward. The imminent change in leadership in Religious Education will no doubt be a consideration for the group.

Some issues to consider include:

- How can we maintain and build the momentum that has begun this past year?
- Should the focus move away from University life to a broader one?
- Is the group meeting a spiritual need for those participating? Should that be the primary focus?
- How can this group interact with UUSIC to be more visible to the congregation?
- Are there social justice issues that are important to the group that can coordinate with the Social Justice Action Fund?
- How can we communicate within UUSIC and beyond to promote the group?

—Pete Brokaw

Children & Youth Committee

The Children and Youth Committee (CYC) supports the Religious Education program at UUSIC, assists the Director of Religious Education in building programs designed to promote the mission of our faith community—to touch hearts, change lives, and transform the world—and organizes multigenerational and social outreach activities, which offer opportunities to practice joy, service and community life.

The members of the committee this year were: Elyse Myers, Chair; Diana Henry, Carol Nordquist, and Matthew Yorek. Kari Yorek was a much-appreciated adjunct committee member. CYC meets monthly at UUSIC. Committee members attended meetings, were liaisons with the five RE classrooms, and planned CYC-sponsored events. The committee assisted the DRE with RE teacher recruitment and orientation, selecting RE curricula, reviewing the RE budget, writing a CYC covenant and mission statement, and re-writing the RE mission and vision statements.

The CYC organized a number of activities this year for families and members of the UUSIC community. These included family activities referred to as “Second Saturday Events,” Parent Gatherings, and intergenerational events. The CYC also organized a community garden effort during the summer of 2013 at New Pioneer’s Earth Source Gardens. Produce was donated to the Crisis Center. To promote these social and service opportunities, CYC made postcards, fliers, and advertised events on various listservs.

Second Saturday Events included:

- September: Cookout at the Lake Macbride Sailboat Shelter
- December: Caroling and Bingo at the Lantern Park Nursing Facility
- January: Family Swim at the University Recreational Center
- May: Outdoor family fun at the Kiwanis Park in Iowa City

Parent Gatherings included:

- September: RE Orientation
- November: Practicing Gratitude
- February: Lunch in Channing Hall
- April: Lunch in Channing Hall

Intergenerational activities included:

- October: Halloween FUUN Night with a meal, games, costume parade, and movie.
- December: Hanging of the Greens with a meal, holiday crafts, caroling, decorating the church, and making holiday cards for Lantern Park residents (which were distributed at the Second Saturday Caroling Event)

The CYC also worked with the newly-formed Special Needs Committee to revise the RE program’s mission and vision statements, making them more inclusive and welcoming. We look forward to further collaboration with this committee in the year to come.

—Elyse Myers

Covenant Groups

The covenant group program at UUSIC offers members and friends the experience of nurturing our connections and exploring our spirituality within small, committed groups. Each group meets once a month and is facilitated by two trained facilitators. The facilitators form the Covenant Group Facilitators Council, which meets several times a year to select topics for upcoming months, to plan the annual All-Covenant Group Potluck, and to discuss issues that arise in the groups. In 2013, the Council met in January, April, June, August, October, and December. In August, Debbie Johnson resigned as co-chair of the Council, and Dave Jepsen volunteered to co-lead the group with Phil Beck, who is continuing in this position.

There are currently six covenant groups and 64 active members. We began the year with seven groups and added a daytime group in February, bringing the program total to eight groups. However, two groups—the third Monday and second Sunday—disbanded because membership had dropped and their facilitators decided not to continue. Several members were absorbed into other groups. A few wished to continue meeting on Sunday, and efforts began to recruit others for a new Sunday group. If these efforts are successful, we will form one in 2014. Currently, one of the first Thursday groups and the third Thursday group are functioning with only one facilitator.

In 2013 we expanded our efforts to recruit new members by putting more announcements in the Sunday orders of

service and weekly email updates. As in past years, we invited interested people to the All-Covenant Group Potluck usually held at the end of January (2013's was canceled because of a snowstorm but 2014's took place in February), and continued publishing the "News about Covenant Groups" feature in the monthly newsletters. Carol Throckmorton regularly discusses covenant groups during the "Becoming a Member" classes. Phil Beck made a presentation to a September session and plans to do more in the future. As a result of these measures, approximately 15 new members joined groups in 2013. In 2014 the Council is considering using the newly formed neighborhood groups to identify potential new members, and Jan Locher and Dave Jepsen volunteered to lead a "demonstration" covenant group if there is interest.

Other notable events: Jan Locher revised the facilitators' manual. Rev. Steven Protzman discussed the UUSIC's Disruptive Persons Policy at the January meeting as a way to help facilitators deal with challenging group members. CCLAM representatives were guests at two meetings—Jeannette Carter in April and Caryl Lyons in December. During those meetings, all were in agreement that the Covenant Group program has clearly defined its mission, policies, and procedures in its organizational notebooks and brochure, and that its ministry is fully supported by the minister and administrative bodies of UUSIC.

—Phil Beck

Circle of Friends Immigration Issues Study and Action Group

The Circle of Friends group began after the Welcome Home Wednesday series, "Immigration as a Moral Issue." Since then, members of this group have been supporting two immigrant families in the community.

In coordination with SJCC and the holiday giving project, gifts and gift cards were collected and delivered to our two families. Support is offered to one family by interpreting at the elementary school.

Eight of us have also been volunteering to teach English classes at the Church of the Nazarene on Wednesday nights.

Circle of Friends is not funded through the Society operating budget. In order to raise funds used to support the families, we organized two Guatemalan meals that were served after the 2nd service. Donations were accepted for the meals. The first was on November 17th, 2013 and the second was on March 2nd of this year. The funds were used to pay the water bill for a woman whose water had been turned off, provide food for Thanksgiving dinner, help with rent one month, and pay for tax preparation fees.

2014 Annual Report

On January 5th we hosted a family gathering and potluck supper in Channing Hall to celebrate "King's Day," a holiday celebrated in Latin American countries. Before eating we played games and visited. The Three Kings, bringing gifts to the baby Jesus, arrived at UUSIC to share their story and give gifts to the children.

Members and friends who participated and supported Circle of Friends this year include Kim and Lula Palmer, Nancy Noyer, Gay Mikelson, Pedro Samper, Barbara Curtin, Peg Bouska, Sally Hartman, Paul Pomrehn, Karen Fox, Chris Malloy, Wilmara Salgado-Pabon, Jan and Steve Locher, Rev. Steven Protzman, Deb Schoelerman, and all those who donated to Project Holiday or came to the luncheons. Your support is appreciated.

We believe our work touches hearts, changes lives, and transforms the world.

—Deb Schoelerman

Free Lunch Program

Through our commitment to serving a generous, well-balanced, and tasty meal on the second Friday of every month, our UUSIC Free Lunch team provides us with an opportunity to foster ethical and social responsibility and to affirm the inherent worth and dignity of each person. We welcome our Free Lunch guests knowing that our lives are enriched by the opportunity to interact with each of them.

An informal planning group, made up of Sherry Dolash, Sue and Lee Eberly, Jeanette Carter, and Bonnie Penno, has been coordinating each month's meal. In addition, Jeanette Carter has served for several years on the Iowa City Free Lunch Program board of directors, though sadly her term will end this year.

In 2013 our Free Lunch team included 51 active volunteers—

from preschoolers to golden-agers—who worked together to provide a well-balanced menu each month. At an average lunch we served 135 meals, an increase over the average number of meals (120) that we served in 2012. We take great pride in being known for the excellence of the meals we serve.

The larger Iowa City Free Lunch Program (with 40+ teams like ours that make it possible to provide a hot meal 6 days a week, 52 weeks a year) also benefited as the Social Justice Agency that received our Sunday cash collections (\$1,700) for the month of December, 2013. This March our “fifth Sunday” offerings went to the 1105 Project, of which Free Lunch is one component. Thanks to that project, in January 2014 we began preparing and serving lunch in a great new setting at 1105 S. Gilbert Court.

—Sue Eberly

Girls' Night Out

Girls' Night Out meets at 5:15 pm on the fourth Monday of each month at a local restaurant (usually Bob's Your Uncle) for fellowship, fun and food. The purpose of the group is to get to know one another better, building the UUSIC community. It is an informal gathering with women coming and going as their schedules permit. Participation this year has ranged from six to seventeen at our meetings.

—Carol Throckmorton

Interweave

Established in 1997, the Unitarian Universalist Society of Iowa City Interweave Chapter is a membership organization actively working to end oppression based on sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression. We meet monthly to plan and socialize. Interweave is affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist Association, and our work is guided by Unitarian Universalist principles. By providing and supporting leadership, and working in collaboration with other organizations of similar vision, we strive to connect and nurture all lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender, questioning people, communities, groups, and their heterosexual allies. We are dedicated to facilitating the celebration of the culture and lives of our members, and we support our congregation's continuing commitment to being a Welcoming Congregation. The chapter's responsibilities include organizing and supporting programs that affirm lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender, queer and questioning people within our congregation and society.

Past Year Achievements:

- We participated in Marriage Equality forums.
- We helped with the marriages of LGBTQ people who came to UUSIC.
- We continued our outreach efforts to both UUSIC and to the local community.
- We maintained an Interweave Bulletin Board in Channing Hall.
- We have representation at OWLS (a lesbian/bisexual organization).
- We were active participants in Pride Month.
- We marched in the Pride Parade carrying our UU Pride banners.

- We attended political meetings, and stayed informed of political events.
- We hosted events that entertained as well as educated the UUSIC community on LGBTQ issues (films, discussions, dinners and game nights).
- We have a member (Tova Vitiello) who is now on the national Interweave Board (Interweave Continental).
- We have a member (Tova Vitiello) who is the editor of the national Interweave newsletter (*Interweave Connect*).
- We had two members (Tova Vitiello and Peg Voelker) conduct a Pride Service in June.

Goals For This Year:

We want to continue to achieve the above listed activities. We plan to organize social events for the LGBTQ community and encourage participation of allies. We will continue to remain connected to the national Interweave organization, and to maintain our relationship with the UUA. In order to help members establish closer connections to one another and the UU community, we will continue to hold numerous social events. We want to bring about Marriage Equality though out the US, and we will continue to work toward that goal.

Members and Friends:

Joe Brisben, Amy Butler, Barbara Curtin, Christie Dancel, Shon Derifield, Rebecca Durkee, John Elson (co-chair), Linda Fisher, Elias Gonzales, Beth Halloran, Jessica Johnson, Betsy Klein, Garry Klein, April Lefever, Kathryn Messer, Gay Mikelson, Liz Noyes, Stan Paden, Jean Reese, Faye Strayer, Gordon Strayer, Theresa Ullerich, Tova Viteillo (co-chair), Peg Voelker, Connie Webb, and Mark Yuskis.

—John Elson and Tova Vitiello, co-chairs

OWL Moon CUUPS

OWL Moon CUUPS (Covenant of UU Pagans) is a community of people that gathers to celebrate earth-centered traditions. It is a part of the larger UU tradition, and brings awareness to the greater Pagan community in Iowa City and the surrounding areas. We met on the new moon most months this year, with potluck dinners held when the new moon fell on a weekend. These meetings were held in Channing Hall during the cold months, and outdoors as often as weather permitted. Attendance at monthly gatherings is fluid—ranging between 6 and 20 participants at each gathering. Participants include both members of the UUSIC congregation as well as members of the greater Iowa City community. This year we also participated in both the

Central Iowa Pagan Pride and Eastern Iowa Pagan Pride events, held a Winter Solstice Celebration, and in April 2014 brought in a Pagan speaker, Teri Starnes, to present workshops on moon astrology. Our budget is \$500 this year.

Our goals for next year include leading a service for the congregation or teaching a class on Paganism in modern life. We also hope to bring in more speakers as the opportunity arises. This group furthers the mission and vision of the UUSIC by expanding outreach to the community, drawing new membership to the UUSIC, and bringing perspectives from the sixth source of wisdom to this congregation.

—Marsha Cheyney

Partner Church

In 2013 we celebrated our 20th anniversary of being part of the Partner Church program. Our Partner Church team strives to enhance awareness of our shared religious heritage with those in our partner church, Parocia Unitariana, in the village of Janosfalva, Transylvania, Romania, which is located in the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains. Village size is 165 and declining. Village needs, however, are increasing. Our goal is to deepen, widen and strengthen our partnership. Each winter we celebrate our relationship by holding the Festival of the First Bread, a traditional Hungarian dinner. It's a time of good food and conversation with an educational component and wonderful music. This event is our fundraiser for the needs of our village partners. The next day's sermon is devoted to our Partner Church relationship, and a special offering is collected.

Team members: Joe Brisben, Mary Kathryn Wallace, Sally Hartman, Sherry Dolash, Adam Tatro, Liz Weinberg, Lori Marshall, Sharon Thomas, and the many volunteers at Festival time. We meet several times prior to the Festival and welcome others to join our team. Through our partnership we truly practice our 1st, 2nd and 6th Principles: #1: The inherent worth and dignity of every person, #2: Justice, equity and compassion in human relations, and #6: The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all.

Past Year's Achievements:

- Thanks to the 2013 Festival of the First Bread and the following Sunday program, we raised \$3,050 for Janosfalva and sent our \$150 annual membership fee to the UUPCC (Unitarian Universalist Partner Church

Council). We're very grateful for the generosity of our congregation! In the recent past we helped our partners purchase a used minibus which is very important to the village. (Horses and carts are commonly used.) The minibus is used to provide transportation for medical treatment and outings for the many village elderly. Money is needed for its repair, tires, gasoline, etc. They would like to modify the minibus so it's handicapped accessible. Additionally, there are always village upkeep needs.

Past Year Achievements:

- In September 2013 we sponsored a pilgrimage to Transylvania which included a 5-night/4-day home stay in Janosfalva.
- We were instrumental in reconnecting the Davenport UU congregation to Janosfalva.
- We raised \$3,050 for needs in Janosfalva.

Next 12 – 15 Month Goals:

- Raise awareness and commitment for an intergenerational service pilgrimage to Transylvania and Janosfalva to be held in July 2015.
- Increase membership and participation in our Partner Church Team.
- Establish a Skype connection with our partners in Janosfalva.
- Hold the 21st annual Festival of the First Bread in early 2014. —Joe Brisben & Mary Kathryn Wallace

Secular Humanists

UUSIC Secular Humanists are a community of like-minded humanists who:

- Look for meaning and motivation to the rational and natural, rather than the supernatural.
- Strive to live ethical lives that promote well-being for all.
- Support secular democracy and the separation of church and state.
- Affirm the critical roles of science, free inquiry, critical thinking, and reliance on evidence as the best means for making our lives and our world a better place.

The Secular Humanists group has been meeting at UUSIC for twelve years. We meet on the third Tuesday of each month, except for January and the summer months.

For the 2013-14 year, we have focused on the humanist part of secular humanism. To that end, we had guests come to our meetings to lead us in discussions on secular and religious humanism (Rev. Steven), humanist approaches to resolving

gun violence (Richard Tibbets and Joan McMillan), secular morality (Louis De Grazia), and we discussed Christopher Hitchens' book *Letters to a Young Contrarian*. We also discussed Iowa politics with Representatives Mary Mascher and Sally Stutzman at one meeting, and Alan Koslow from Secularity USA at another.

Potluck parties were held at Jeanette Carter's home in September and Sue and Lee Eberly's home in December.

Our mailing list consists of 89 names, and attendance at our monthly meetings has ranged from 12 to 22 people. Excluding potlucks, all meetings have been held at the UUSIC building. We have no budget.

We serve the mission and vision of the Society by emphasizing our liberal tradition and nurturing the lifelong journey of mind and spirit. Several members come from the larger community, expanding our reach beyond these walls. We have been especially pleased to establish relationships with members of the University of Iowa's Secular Students at Iowa.
—Brad McDowell
2014 Annual Report

Social Justice Coordinating Committee

The Social Justice Coordinating Committee (SJCC) seeks to apply UU principles as we coordinate projects and events related to social justice, offer information and education about issues of social inequality, and distribute funding to the agencies selected by the congregation.

SJCC functions as a committee of the whole:

- Set agenda and convene meetings - Peg Bouska
- Write and distribute minutes - Barbara Curtin
- Treasurer - Gay Mikelson
- Agency feature for *UU News* cover page - Peg
- Sunday Order of Service announcements - Peg
- Newsletter articles - Peg and others
- Day of Service - Diane Martin
- Crop Walk organizer - Kathy Henderson
- CRC liaison - Barbara
- Interweave liaison - Tova Vitiello
- Partner Church liaison - Joe Brisben

Additional committee members included John Elson, Sally Hartman, Dorothy Paul, Deb Schoelerman and Joel Gilbertson-White. Many others participated in events and projects throughout the year.

Past year Achievements:

- Two Days of Service - more than 100 people participated in various projects throughout the community, including planting a wetland, gardening, washing windows, cleaning a home, knitting preemie hats, working at the Food Bank, and making a Free Lunch meal.
- SJCC recruited UUSIC walkers and collected pledges for the annual interfaith Crop Walk. Our local Crisis Center receives a portion of the money raised locally and UUSIC is among the group of international organizations which receive designated contributions.
- The annual Shelter House benefit luncheon was held on May 31st, 2013. This popular event is made possible by the many generous volunteers who donate salads, desserts, bread and drinks, serve our guests and clean up afterward. This luncheon raised \$1,800.
- School Book Bags: Twenty-five sewers put together 250 cloth bags for Grant Wood school children. Another two dozen volunteers helped with other parts of the process.

- Organized the construction and installation of a Little Free Library at Forest View Mobile Home Park in Iowa City. Some books, including adult, children's and a few in Spanish, were initially provided for the little library by the new Social Action Fund, and others were donated from personal libraries. Replacements are added as needed.
- Continued to have a member represent UUSIC at CRC's (Consultation of Religious Communities) monthly meetings and report back.
- Many people contributed gently used winter clothing for CRC's annual drive, and about a dozen helped with the sorting and distribution, which took place at the Coralville United Methodist Church in October.
- Organized several social occasions with Circle of Friends families. At holiday time: gift cards for gas stations, Target, and Hy-Vee were donated by the congregation and given to the families, as well as personal gifts for each member of the two families.
- A number of children's gifts (about 50) were donated for the Homeless Children's Trust Fund party, which has taken place for a number of years; this is our first year to be involved with it.
- Following the vote to determine which 12 agencies would receive funds from our Sunday offerings for the next few years, the funds were distributed to the agencies selected by the congregation. In each month that has a fifth Sunday, a specific need is identified and the contributions from that Sunday are sent there. In 2013 UUSIC sent fifth Sunday offerings to the 1105 Project (Free Lunch, NAMI, Crisis Center and DVIP, now all located in one renovated building), Oklahoma Tornado Recovery and Philippine Typhoon Recovery.

Next 12 -15 Month Goals:

- Encourage more involvement in SJCC by the UUSIC community.
- Continue annual projects and events.
- Collaborate with Green Sanctuary on environmental education and projects.

SJCC meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the UUSIC library. We encourage anyone interested to attend a meeting and consider joining the group.

Please see the next page for the 2013 SJCC Contributions.
—Barbara Curtin and Gay Mikelson

Social Justice Coordinating Committee, Cont'd SJCC Contributions in 2013

2013 Total Giving: \$29,806
(2012 Contributions: \$26,840)

Agency Schedule

DVIP	\$1300
Hospice	\$1000
Crisis Center	\$1600
Elder Services	\$1450
Table to Table	\$1000
Comm. Mental Health	\$1100
Free Medical Clinic	\$1000
United Action for Youth	\$1050
Emma Goldman	\$1550
Shelter House	\$1850
Free Dental Clinic	\$1300
Free Lunch	<u>\$1700</u>
	\$15,900

Misc. Contributions & Expenses

Common Fund of CRC	\$1200
Center for Worker Justice dues	\$250
Misc.	<u>\$264</u>
	\$1,714

Other UUSIC Fundraising in 2013

Partner Church	\$3050
Guest at Your Table	\$608
1105 Project	\$1300
Crop Walk	\$ 855
SH Benefit Luncheon	\$1750
Oklahoma Tornado Recovery	\$1000
Book Bags for GW School	\$514
UNICEF	\$1115
Philippine Typhoon Recovery	\$1400
Gift cards, Circle of Friends	<u>\$600</u>
	\$12,192

Balance on 12/31/12 \$995
Balance on 12/31/13 \$644

Sages and Sherry

UUSIC senior members and friends gather for a noon lunch or afternoon hors d'oeuvres and sherry in Channing Hall. These events, which include a program, are held on a quarterly basis, meeting in June, September, December and March.
—Carol Throckmorton

Theology on Tap

Our minister leads lively theological conversations in the Unitarian Universalist tradition, while also enjoying refreshments. Theology on Tap meets at 8 pm at varying dates and locations, usually on the third Friday of most months at the Sanctuary bar in downtown Iowa City.

—Rev. Steven Protzman

Vegetarian Community

UUSIC members and friends who observe a plant-centered lifestyle meet for a dining-out event on the first Friday evening and a potluck and program at UUSIC on the third Sunday evening of each month. Members of the greater vegetarian community are invited to participate as well.

—Carol Throckmorton

Welcome Home Wednesdays

Welcome Home Wednesdays (WHW) consists of two six-week series, one in the fall and one in the winter, which include a weekly dinner, worship service, and classes/programs. Daycare and children's programming is provided after the meal for the midweek service and classes. Welcome Home Wednesdays gives the congregation an opportunity to reflect, share and grow intellectually or spiritually each fall and winter. The evening meal is a nutritious and joyful way to converse with other members and to foster new connections. The service gives us all a chance for mid-week reflection and inner peace. The classes or programs offer opportunities for discussion, self-growth, new experiences, or service experiences.

Classes/Programs:

Fall, 2013:

- Tai Chi: A Moving Meditation
- Our Place in the Web of Life: An Introduction to Environmental Justice
- Spiritual Awakening 101
- Your Life as Story: Discovering Memoir

Winter, 2014:

- Zumba Dance
- Walking the Artist's Way
- Campaigning for Racial Equity
- Leadership Skills for UUs

Committee Members:

Lois Cole, Mary Jepsen, Gary Lawrenson, Lucy Choisser, Carol Throckmorton, Marianne Mason, Gail Garwood, Wendy Brown, Janet McKee, Terri O'Berry, Julia Audlehelm, Sherry Dolash, Cindy Spading, and Linda Rice.

Meetings:

Our committee meets about four times per year. We meet

once in late summer to finalize classes and plan for the fall session, once after the fall session to evaluate and plan for the winter session, once in January to finalize winter class offerings, and once after the winter session to evaluate and look ahead to plan for the next WHW class series.

Our WHW Committee's meetings are on Wednesday nights and last for about two hours.

We continue to work well as a committee and to be very efficient in our planning sessions, planning most things through email, rather than hosting a lot of meetings. Committee members also help with dinner set up and clean up and provide desserts for the twelve WHW evenings.

Goals:

We strive to offer intergenerational opportunities, encouraging personal growth and fostering relationships and connections with others and with the environment. Also, we hope each session will provide a forum for discussion, focusing on various personal, political, service-oriented, environmental, and spiritual topics. Those planning the mid-week services aim to provide a balance between group participation and quiet meditation/ reflection.

We want to maintain a healthy and delicious menu each session at a low-cost to our participants.

Our cook uses organic ingredients, offering vegan or vegetarian meals, depending on the session. To continue the green theme, the committee uses no disposables in serving the meals.

We invite members of the community to attend our classes. Our goal is to continue to explore new and better ways to advertise our WHW classes to the community.

—Linda Rice

Worship Associates

The Worship Associates are the UUSIC members who work with the minister to plan and conduct worship services and develop their skills in creating and leading worship. On the Sundays when Rev. Steven Protzman is in the pulpit, Worship Associates welcome members and visitors, lead the congregation in the words for the lighting of the chalice, encourage the giving and receiving of the offering, and deliver the readings, plus assist in other ways as needed. When Rev. Steven is not in the pulpit, the Worship Associates lead the services or help identify and recruit guest speakers or programs.

The 2013-2014 Worship Associates are: Alison Oliver, Peg Voelker, Ron Pile, Jane DeWitt, Russ Lenth, Joel Gilbertson-White, Heidi Levine, and Susan Salterberg. They met monthly with Rev. Steven Protzman to plan upcoming services. In addition, during 2013-2014 the Associates held two retreats to deepen their relationships, gain experience in creating and planning worship, share resources and ideas, and build community.

During the 2013-2014 program year, the Worship Associates and Rev. Steven developed a liturgical calendar with a theme for each month:

- September: Beloved Community
- October: Commitment
- November: Abundance
- December: 'Tis the Season
- January: Wisdom
- February: The Larger Faith
- March: Reproductive Justice
- April: The Chorus of Life
- May: Saving and Savoring the World

Several Worship Associates led worship during the Welcome Home Wednesday series in fall and in spring. Many of the Worship Associates participated in the second-year evaluation of Rev. Steven. Preparations are underway for the summer worship services during the summer of 2014. Special outdoor services will be planned for Memorial Day and Labor Day services, both followed by an all-congregation potluck.
—Rev. Steven Protzman

Yahoo Drummers

The Yahoo Drummers meet every Tuesday night from 8 to 9:30 pm. When the weather is cold, we meet at UUSIC, in Channing Hall when it's available. In the late spring and summer when the weather is warm, we meet on Tuesdays at the same time on the Ped. Mall. We have been using the church an average of about 25 times a year. We have a core of about 8 members and about 10 other less frequent participants. We have no budget. Our group furthers the mission of UU because several times a year we are invited to play at UU services and events.
—Carol Severino

NOTES:

