

**All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church**  
**Annual Business Meeting Agenda**  
**May 18, 2014**

- Call to Order Jane Wilson, President
- Chalice Lighting Ruth Robarge, Board Member & Past President
- Covenant John Holiday, Secretary
- Introductions and Thank You's Jane Wilson
- Thank You to Outgoing Board Members Kathy While, Meeting Coordinator
- Approve Minutes from 2013 Annual Meeting Jane Wilson
- 2014 Board Report by Lamar Hicks Vice-President Roxanna Jones, Board Member
- Minister's Report Rev. Dr. Kendyl Gibbons
- Finance Report Jane Gilbreath, Treasurer
- Growth Initiative Rev. Kendyl Gibbons
- Presentation & Approval of 2014-15 Budget Jane Gilbreath
- Collection: Participation Fund Jane Gilbreath
- Voting Bill Wright, Time Keeper
  - Board of Trustees Andrea Jonson
  - Audit Committee
  - Nominating Committee
  - Change to ASUUC By-Laws
- Exploratory Building Task Force Report Don Wakefield, Task Force Chair
- Vision Task Force Report Amy Robertson, Task Force Chair
- Emergency Preparedness Team Report Diana Hughes
- All Souls Lifetime Achievement Award Erin Liner
- All Souls Outstanding Care Award Cheryl Westra
- Announcement of Election Results Jane Wilson
- Adjournment Jane Wilson

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church  
**Carver Amigos Annual Report: 2013-2014**

**Members:** Ellie Dawson; Rev. Kendyl Gibbons; Jack Heller; Gordon Leak; Vera Locke; John Maher; Peg (Margaret) Maher; Rae Ann Nixon; Linda Parkinson; Lynda Pearson; Ginger Powers; Bill Raney; H. Lon Swearingen; Roma Lee Taunton, Coordinator; Don Wakefield; Kathy While; Jane Wilson

**Purpose/Mission:** As stated in the memorandum of understanding, the purpose of All Souls' partnership with the Kansas City Public Schools (KCPS) is to foster student achievement at Carver Dual Language Elementary School (English/Spanish) through tutoring and other projects. The primary focus is one-on-one mentoring and tutoring relationships with students at Carver, including in-classroom support directed by the teacher. In addition, the Amigos foster supportive relationships with Carver students, staff, and parents through mutually agreed shared projects and celebrations. All Souls Amigos are informal ambassadors for the school and district.

All Souls Carver Amigos are volunteers (17, listed above) who implement the partnership through a sustained commitment of on-site service. Examples of the time commitment are one or more hours per week, one hour per month, one or more hours per week when in Kansas City, and when the occasion arises. Amigos who work with students, individually or through classroom support, complete a district application process that includes a background check by the Family Care Safety Registry. In addition, All Souls' members and friends support the school through donations of clothing and other substantive items, donation of time and skills for one-time projects, and fundraising via the special offering and Sunday + Lunch initiatives.

In addition to All Souls Coordinator Roma Lee Taunton, key people in managing the partnership are Mary Moller, Carver Counselor and Volunteer Coordinator; Eric Nelis, Carver Principal; and Karen Grover, KCPS Director, Partnerships for Education. Mary Moller facilitates the assignments for All Souls Amigos.

**Activities for the year:** Carver enrolled ~380 K-6<sup>th</sup> grade students this year. On September 8 the All Souls Amigos hosted a Sunday + Lunch that generated \$309.95 for Carver. Principal Eric Nelis and Counselor Mary Moller updated guests about the school. Recognition of Bob Miller's 4 years of varied and outstanding service as an Amigo highlighted the event.

Volunteer services to Carver over the academic year comprised more than 600 hours of tutoring and other direct interactions with students and teachers. Ten Amigos worked with the same individual students, respectively, on reading and math; seven provided specific classroom support, working with students as directed by the teacher. Amigos also helped students and staff with gardening, field trips, and Field Day.

Linda Parkinson continued to manage the *The Sweet Shoppe* and *Holiday Boutique*. Happy Fridays in *The Sweet Shoppe* honored birthdays and good behavior, and students designated by their teachers received 450 books, bookmarks, and small treats. Teachers also were "appreciated" on selected Fridays. All Souls members and friends donated many items for the boutique as well as clothing for the emergency closet.

On April 25 Peg and John Maher hosted the Carver/All Souls 2014 volunteer celebration. Principal Eric Nelis and Counselor Mary Moller brought gifts for all Carver Amigos, acknowledged All Souls' support for the year, and expressed Carver's gratitude for the partnership. Mr. Nelis recognized Linda Parkinson for exceptional management of the boutique and presented a plaque to Roma Lee Taunton honoring 5 years of leadership of the All Souls Amigos. On behalf of All Souls, Roma Lee Taunton recognized Linda

Parkinson, Ginger Powers, and Lon Swearingen for 5 years' service to the KCPS Dual Language Program at Swinney and Carver.

Carver 5<sup>th</sup> grade students say in letters to volunteers, "...Thank you for everything because some volunteers water the plants...volunteers do boutiques so we can buy stuff...a lady that her friends make us cookies...a volunteer helps me with math on tuesdays and thursdays...another woman does stuff with kids". "...Everybody just can't thank you enough...I like the way the plants look...I really love the boutique". "...If no one watered the plants they would be all ugly...If I was the principal I would pay a lot of money...I would like to help you save the plants".

**Goals:**

- A smooth leadership transition as Peg and John Maher assume coordinator roles for the All Souls Carver Amigos effective August 1.
- A special offering for Carver, tentatively scheduled for June 4.
- Increase the number of active Amigos to 20 for 2014-2015.

Respectively submitted,  
Roma Lee Taunton, Coordinator

## **Committee on Ministry 2013 - 2014 Annual Report**

Members: Lee Ann Bergin, Matthew Westra, Carolyn Connor, Nelson Maurice,  
Jean Patterson, chair

The Committee on Ministry (COM) set two goals for this year:

- Conduct a mock conflict resolution
- Seek an opportunity for a public expression of gratitude to Kendyl for the wide range of gifts she contributes to All Souls.

For the first goal Jean and Matthew developed a mock conflict, which was conducted on March 24. It revealed that the process is not as clear as we thought and this exercise both pointed out gaps in understanding and sparked discussion of possible strategies. It also highlighted the need for a behavioral covenant in order for COM to function as successful facilitators of conflict resolution.

For the second, Lee Ann worked with organizers of the Valentine's Day Dance to crown Kendyl the queen and Mark the king (queen's consort?). There was a tiara, flowers and a light-hearted spirit of fun in our sincere recognition of the contributions both make.

Other actions by the Committee on Ministry:

We approved both a committee covenant and job description.

We continued to give monthly reports to the board and to submit a "Coolest Thing" item for the Flame.

We acted as a confidential, trusted sounding board for Kendyl.

We became part of the UUniversity program for leadership development. The COM is responsible for offering a class on respectful practice every three years. As part of the new member class cycle Kendyl asked COM members to address respectful practices and the conflict resolution process. As part of Leadership Practices--Nuts and Bolts the COM will outline the conflict resolution process.

At our regular meeting on February 10, the day after the powerful "truth and reconciliation" service, the COM agreed that further initiatives regarding healing/reconciliation were correctly in our sphere. On March 3, with ourselves as a test group, Carolyn used critical incident concepts to facilitate a small group discussion. Later news of a possible move to the Meyer and Rockhill facility led us to table any further action on such an initiative.

At the March 30 service we, the COM, introduced ourselves and spoke of what our committee does. This contributed to an ongoing effort to increase awareness of the role we play in the church community.

Discussions and the process related to any potential move are of utmost importance to this congregation. At the April 6 Church Chat Jean helped establish the tone of the conversation and provided suggested agreements to enhance respectful and productive communication. The COM will actively contribute to an atmosphere of healthy communication throughout this journey.

My fellow committee members are a talented, motivated, thoughtful team to whom I give my deepest respect and gratitude.

Respectfully submitted

Jean Patterson  
Chair, Committee on Ministry, April 2014

## **Demeters Annual Report to All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church**

2013-2014

Demeters, an affiliate of the Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation, is a social and service organization for the women of All Souls. It was established by a group of young church women, some of whom are active members today. Monthly meetings are held in Conover for dinner and planning of service projects. Currently, there are 42 members and friends. The officers for 2013-2014 are: Mary Louise Carver, president; Barbara Bemis, vice-president; Floy Williams, secretary; and Kass Wright, treasurer.

Activities for the 2013-2014 year:

- Participated in Leadership Information Workshop
- Contributed supplies and toys to Operation Breakthrough
- Provided a Sunday dinner for ReStart
- Worked with Facilities Committee to arrange new storage space and provide a secure cabinet in the kitchen
- Volunteered for the Un-Plaza Art Fair at the book sale, food concession, as cashiers, and donated cookies.
- Produced and staffed the annual Holiday Boutique for five Sundays
- Hosted a holiday dinner for members and guests
- Participated in the 30 Days of Love by preparing and serving a special luncheon for staff members
- Contributed supplies and toys to Operation Breakthrough
- Participated in the Baby Shower Quilt Project
- Contributed decorations and food to the COA Valentine Dance
- Participated in preparing and serving the March Sunday Plus Lunch
- Provided a farewell reception and gifts for Jean Dunlap, a past president of Demeters, who has moved to the Chicago area
- Prepared and hosted memorial receptions for the families of Charlotte Thayer, Gretchen Van Horn, Kathy Butterfield, Don Lyon, Eleanor Dunlop

Funds raised in 2013-2014:

- \$1,788.33 from Holiday Boutique sales and donations
- \$600.00 from Memorial Reception donations

Funds contributed to causes:

- Pledged and paid \$1,200 to the All Souls General Fund
- Gave monetary gifts of \$250.00 to Staff members in December

Continuing goals are to:

- Hold monthly meetings for fellowship and planning of projects and services
- Provide memorial receptions for members and friends of All Souls as requested
- Serve as a networking opportunity to promote church projects
- Increase membership to facilitate the continued work of the group
- Raise funds to support the work of the church, currently pledging \$1,200 annually to the general fund, plus smaller gifts to individual projects
- Support the work of the Unitarian Universalist Women's Foundation through annual dues

Submitted by Mary Louise Carver, president

For: Annual Meeting May 18, 2014  
From: Carol Harsin  
Date: May 7, 2014  
Topic: **Annual Report - Dinner for Eight**

### **Objectives for 2013-2014 Season of Dinner for Eight**

1. To facilitate a venue for personal contact between All Souls UU members/friends.
2. To facilitate as many different combinations of small group contacts as possible.
3. To help facilitate a deeper sense of belonging to All Souls UU Church.

### **Activities for 2013-2014 Season of Dinner for Eight**

1. There will be 72 dinners held this season from October to June, with 72 regular members as full participants.
2. There are 41 members/friends at this time that are alternates, people who would like to be called if a regular Dinner for Eight member cannot attend a dinner.
3. There are a total of 113 members/friends that are participating in the 2013-2014 Dinner for Eight season.
4. All the necessary information about monthly schedules and participants lists have been prepared and distributed to regular and alternate members.
5. Further adjustments and contacts have been completed and will be done as needed throughout the season.
6. There was \$100 raised (\$1.00 per person) for envelopes, stamps, mailing labels, etc.

## Emergency Preparedness Team Annual Report

2013-2014

**Purpose:** To provide resources, training and strategies to address safety issues on the church campus and critical conditions in people's lives. These situations include emotional crises, physical emergencies, weather conditions and natural disasters.

### **Accomplished:**

We have established several task teams to serve on Sunday morning:

Personal support (for people experiencing emotional disturbances): Susan Sarachek coordinator, Matthew Westra, Pete Allard and Scott Henze participants

Medical support: Margaret Drinkwine coordinator, Cynthia Butcher, Scott England and Robin Hathaway participants.

Building security (to watch entry points, survey building for secure windows and doors and walk the campus): Diane Cassity coordinator, Don Dickey, Robert Gaines, Bob Miller, Don Wakefield, James Warne and Walt Wells participants.

Tornadoes and Fires: The team has created procedures for evacuating the building and for tornado safety and conducted both kinds of drills last year. Look for brochures on bulletin boards for more information.

Weapons: We conducted research and deliberated on whether to make All Souls a gun free zone. We sent our proposal to the board who concurred with our decision to post signs designating All Souls a peaceful place, free of armed weapons. The signs are now posted on every door.

Trainings: Diana Hughes is continually conducting trainings in security procedures. Whenever there is an event at the church and staff is not present, either a custodian will be on duty or a building host, trained in security measures, will be on the grounds. Susan Sarachek and Diana Hughes attended a 2-day seminar on disaster preparedness. We hosted a CPR/Defibrillator training for church members last year.

Public Awareness: We have posted signs around the building on where to go in case of a tornado, hosted a church chat on security measures and have scheduled another church chat on June 1 to assess All Souls' interest in being of support to the community in case of a natural disaster. There is a bulletin board posted outside the front door, suggesting where people can get a free meal and stating that staff does not distribute cash.

Panhandling: When away from the church grounds, we encourage everyone to follow your heart when asked for money. When you are on church grounds and are approached for money, we ask you to refer that person to the church office or to anyone on the Emergency Preparedness Team. We do not give cash to the panhandlers, but instead support the social agencies in town which are equipped to help those in need..

**Continuing Goals:**

Keep medical equipment up to date and supplied

Keep water and energy bars stocked on the lower level in case of a weather disaster

Training and dissemination of information to the congregation

Assess the congregation's willingness and desire to serve the community in the case of a natural disaster

**Ways You Can Help:**

Be trained to serve as a building host

Host the building during evening hours when the church is busy with meetings and activities

Help on Sunday security teams (knowledge and/or experience with helping people in emotional, mental or physical health crisis)

Serve on the Emergency Preparedness Team (meets monthly on Wednesday afternoons for an hour and a half)

Volunteer as a greeter (we need a greeter at every door on Sunday)

Team members: Rev. Kendyl Gibbons, Rev. Judith Cady, staff; Barbara Bemis, Diane Cassity, Mike Jonasson, Susan Sarachek, Bev Sheldrake, Sue Trowbridge, Walt Wells

Submitted by Rev. Diana Hughes, team chair

**Endowment Committee Annual Report**  
May, 2014

The Endowment Trust was created by the Church in 1975 based on the belief of the Board that it would benefit the Church to keep funds from gifts and bequests separate from the general operating funds of the Church and to provide the Church with income earned on assets of the trust. It is specified that the Trustees shall invest and reinvest the funds of the Trust as the Trustees determine to be in the best interests of the Church in the exercise of their reasonable direction.

Funds are invested in a moderately conservative balanced portfolio. Results have been good this year and the balance as of December 31, 2013 was \$1,448,109.

A transfer of 4% of the average balance of the discretionary funds for the past 13 quarters is made to the Church every year. The transfer in 2012 was \$31,600 and the transfer in 2013 was \$35,877. The transfer for 2014 will be \$41,050. There Endowment Fund is also there for special opportunities that will benefit the Church and the presence of our liberal religion in the community.

The Endowment Committee is composed of five persons: Bill Wright, Bill Raney, John Peck, Becky O'Connor and Bonnie Schwarzenholz. Members of the Endowment Committee serve with the approval of the Board.

Respectfully submitted by

Bonnie Schwarzenholz, Chairperson

ASUUC ENDOWMENT TRUST  
ALLOCATIONS, ESTIMATED INCOME  
Dec 31, 2013

	Total	Cash and Bonds	Large Caps	Small and Mid Caps	Internat'l
Cash	48,167	48,167			
U S Treasury bonds	65,538	65,538			
Loomis Sayles bond fund	93,774	93,774			
Pimco High Yield fund	91,884	91,884			
Vanguard Total bond fund	89,320	89,320			
Ariel Appreciation fund	68,932			68,932	
NB Socially Responsive	199,393		199,393		
Ishares Dow Jones Select	83,194		83,194		
Ishares Russell 3000	278,506		278,506		
Schwab S&P	32,335		32,335		
Schwab Core Equity	42,818		42,818		
Ishares Russell 2000	83,982			83,982	
Vanguard Mid Cap Index	129,494			129,494	
Ishares MSCI Emerg Mkt	30,719				30,719
Ishares MSCI EAFE fund	85,546				85,546
	1,423,602	388,683	636,246	282,408	116,265
	100%	27%	45%	20%	8%
Guideline Percentages		40%	35%	15%	10%

## **2013-2014 Annual Report: All Souls Facility, Grounds and Simpson House**

The All Souls/Simpson House Campus is cared for by the Facilities Committee, which includes the Grounds Committee, and the Simpson House Committee.

The church year of June 2013-2014 was a year of change for the Facilities Committee. Brock Ginther, the long time Facilities Manager resigned and his position was not filled. Many of the responsibilities Brock had managed fell to the volunteers of the Facilities Committee to manage.

Jane Gibreath took over management of booking and rentals at Simpson House and Bob Miller has taken the lead in management of repair and maintenance of the church building and Chuck Downing continued to manage the grounds of the church and Simpson House. These three individuals were supported by a number of volunteers.

Long time Grounds Committee volunteer, Don Lyon, passed away this winter. For many years Don tended our lawn weekly during the growing season. The annual value of his services was deeply appreciated. Even more, we miss his kind presence and constant interest in our facilities and our community. He set a high standard for commitment to and support of All Souls and was a good and highly regarded friend and member.

The Facilities Committee raised funds to purchase a snow blower for use to clear the walks at Simpson House and All Souls.

The apartment on the third floor of Simpson House was painted and repairs were made for occupancy by Charles Dickenson and Miho Komatsu . Miho and Charles assist with setting up and cleaning Simpson House for rentals, do yard work and snow clearing in exchange for their housing.

Simpson House space on the second level has been improved through removing excess items, acquisition of new furniture and lighting for the second floor, and upgrades to the first floor bathroom.

Room E: An upright freezer was donated by LeeAnn Bergin to replace the chest freezer in Room E. This freezer makes it easier to manage the work done at ReStart. New shelving has been installed in the space, cabinets have been removed from the space and the room has been repainted.

Chuck Downing provided leadership for continued improvements to the grounds. This year the mulch on the playground was replaced. A new seating area was created on the lower level to minimize erosion, improve the function and aesthetic of the space.

The Facilities Committee has sponsored multiple workdays for fall and spring-cleaning and to get ready for the holidays. The workdays were staffed by committee volunteers who were joined by a diverse group of volunteers from the All Souls Church Community

**Finance Committee Annual Report**  
Spring 2013 – Spring 2014

Members: Bob Miller (Chair & Asst. Treasurer), Jane Gilbreath (Treasurer), Diann Spencer (Board member), Barbara Bemis.

The Finance Committee produces and reviews the Monthly Budget Report and assists with preparation of the Annual Budget. In reviewing the monthly budget, the committee monitors income and expenditures to ensure compliance with the budget. Concerns are brought to the board as needed.

Since the last annual report, the Finance Committee reports the following significant accomplishments:

Prepared the carry-forward 2014-2015 Annual Budget that was then updated by Kendyl in consultation with staff and the board – March & April 2014.

Respectfully submitted  
Bob Miller, Finance Committee Chair

## Grounds Committee annual report 2013-14

Our overall vision, adopted in 2004, remains the same:

Provide appropriate and adequate level of lawn and landscaping maintenance to enhance general appearance of All Souls property, demonstrate implications of our seventh principle, provide an educational resource for all our members, and provide attractive gardens for viewing pleasure, personal enjoyment and study by our members, friends and the general public.

Our custodian's duties and time are limited to partially cleaning the walks and clearing them of snow and ice. Snow plowing and/or sanding of the parking lot is done by a contract service. Charles Dickinson is responsible for the Simpson House lawn but not the Memory Garden, with which he is, nonetheless, quite helpful. Active helpers this past year have been John Awald, Dianne Cassity, Sharon Cassity, Don Dietrich, David Jackel, Kay Jones, Bob Miller, Joan Olsen, Ethan Robertson and Don Wakefield.

Routine maintenance continues apace – trim hedges, turn and tend the compost pile, weeding, replace dead shrubs, pick up trash, clean the walks, build up the rain gardens, replace the fountain pump, add perennials, spring bulbs and shrubs to various locations. We try to take particular care before the Un-Plaza Art Fair, weddings, memorial services and other special events.

To assure getting all our sidewalks cleared quickly and adequately, a snowblower was purchased in December and was soon tested by three major snowfalls during the winter. Operation of the blower will be a staff responsibility, but with backup support from Bob Miller and Matthew Westra.

During the past year the plantings in the southwest corner of the Simpson house lawn were altered to make it more open and varied. Also, a terraced sitting area was established by the playground entrance to minimize erosion and improve the appearance of the area.

The cherry trees added in 2011 and two transplanted dogwood seedlings (from our older ones) are doing well and further enhance the east side.

\* \* \* \* \*

We deeply regret the passing this winter of Don Lyon. For many years Don tended our lawn weekly during the growing season. The annual value of his services was deeply appreciated. Even more, we miss his kind presence and constant interest in our facilities and our community. He set a high standard for commitment to and support of All Souls and was a good and highly regarded friend and member.

Respectfully,

Chuck Downing

## **Membership Committee**

This purpose of your committee is to build, develop, inspire, integrate and retain member's for All Souls

The committee members consist of:

Camilla Huet-Derrossett-chair

Kass Wright-Secretary

Jan Talley

Mike Jonasson

Martin Hazlett

Marli Murphy

Barbara Bemis

Bob Miller

The membership committee is involved in the new member class. We recruit and develop the greeter's as well as create the greeters schedule. Your biggest project in 2013 was to update our membership directory as well as created new name tags for the entire membership at All Souls. All of the membership committee is heavily involved in the Un Plaza Art Fair.

Our goals for 2014:

Name a New Chair for our committee

Develop an extensive Visitor Welcoming Program

Submitted by Camilla Huet-Derrossett

# ALL SOULS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

## Music Committee Annual Report 2013-2014

**Members:** Anthony Edwards, Dori Bader, Carolyn Connor, Rev. Kendyl Gibbons, Ginger Powers, Joe Robertson, Keely Schneider, Roma Lee Taunton, James Warne

The Music Committee is a resource to the Music Director. Committee members assist and advise in the areas of music selection, guest artists, special programs, Adult Choir recruitment and Children's Choir development.

The Music Committee strives to support Sunday services and other congregational music needs by reinforcing liturgical themes through appropriate music. Because our Church membership values diversity, selections are drawn from a variety of music genres. In addition to Unitarian Universalist music, songs from other religious traditions, and compositions relevant to specific social justice issues, we include classical, jazz, pop, soul, rhythm and blues, and show tunes.

ASUUC offers weekly Sunday services. The Adult Choir sings approximately twice each month, except during summer months. The Music Director and other guest musicians cover the music during other weekly services. The Adult Choir also sings at holiday and other special services and events. The Music Committee also contracts with 4 full-time section leaders to assist the choir.

Currently, the Adult Choir consists of 27 members and the Children's Choir consists of 10 members.

### 2013-2014 Accomplishments

**Meetings:** The Committee has met three times, and the final meeting of the year will be May 25. Priority activities include re-establishing the bell choir, cleaning/reorganizing music library files, and expanding the electronic database for the library.

**Planning.** The Music Director and the Minister thoughtfully planned the musical requirements for all Sunday services for the entire choir year in advance. The Music Director and the Choir members deeply appreciated the Rev. Gibbons efforts to provide ample time for the Music Director and Choir to select and rehearse appropriate music for each service.

**Services.** The Adult Choir sang at 18 Sunday services. The Children's Choir sang at 4 Sunday services.

**Music Sunday events.** The Minister and Music Director began a new tradition this year by adding another Music Sunday. The choir will now present a Requiem the first Sunday in November each year to celebrate All Souls Day and Día de los Muertos as well as another major work on the first Sunday every May.

On Nov. 3, 2013 the All Souls Choir and Music Director Anthony Edwards presented the John Rutter *Requiem* with Sarah LaBarr and Seth Golay as soloists. The choir was accompanied by Anthony Edwards on piano and conductor, Dana Woolard on cello, Greg Briggs on flute and oboe, and Mike McKinley on percussion.

On May 4, 2014 the All Souls Choir and Music Director Anthony Edwards presented Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem* with Sarah LaBarr and John Stafford as soloists. Anthony Edwards conducted while the choir was accompanied by Evangelos Spanos on piano and Mike McKinley on percussion.

**Fundraising.** The Music Committee, along with the Lifespan Religious Development Board, was tasked to fundraise \$10,000 toward their operating budgets for 2013-2014. The Music Committee is pleased to report that our two committees beat that goal by raising over \$12,000 this year!

**Fellowship.** This year, the Adult Choir came together in fellowship for two choir parties – one at Christmas at the home of Ginger Powers and one in May at the home of Anthony Edwards and Scott Henze.

Respectfully submitted,

Roma Lee Taunton, Chair  
Anthony Edwards, Music Director

**Pastoral Care Team**  
**2013-2014 Annual Report**

Team Members : Betty Hutson, Lynisa Robinson, Bonnie Schwarzenholz, James Warne, Erin Liner--- chair, Reverend Kendyl Gibbons

The Pastoral Care Team is responsible for caring for our members in times of personal crisis. When members experience death, birth or illness we try to assist the minister in providing resources within the church to help them.

The Team has had another year of many transitions and continues to respond to an increase in needs and requests. Our team had a member move away from us. We all thank Lynisa Robinson her tireless effort to make All Souls an even more caring space than it already was and for her efforts to increase lines of communication for all of us. We welcomed Cheryl Westra as the new chair in May.

We have sustained several steps initiated in the past few years to adequately respond to our members' needs:

- Caring for Members---Many meals were delivered to members who experienced health challenges, the birth of a baby or loss of a loved one. Cards were sent to members who experienced health challenges, the birth of a baby, or the loss of a loved one.
- Listening Ministry—a list of members who have asked and those we on the team believe would like regular contact was developed. This is now known as a Chalice Call. We are still working on this program and hope to expand it in the coming year.
- Visits—Food baskets were delivered to 8 individuals and families in our congregation at Thanksgiving and again at Christmas. Additional food baskets were delivered during the year. Over two dozen Winter Baskets and Spring Baskets were delivered along with a visit from our volunteers were delivered this past December and May.
- Avenues of communication within the congregation that have been increased were strengthened including:
  - The Caring Concerns bulletin board size continues to be next to the drinking fountain. It is regularly updated with joys and concerns. The font continues at 18 pt. to make it easier for our members to read the information.
  - A secure mailbox and Caring Concern cards are located under the Bulletin Board. They continue to facilitate communication and the mailbox is checked weekly by a member of the Caring Committee.
  - We continue to work with staff and volunteers in the office when they learn of members concerns. Thank you Diana, Jenny and Sherri !!
  - A column with space for joys and concerns in the weekly blasts and bulletins continues to be another source of information about our members.

- The Sunday service bulletin maintains a space set aside for members Caring Concerns with contact information where appropriate.
- Meal tickets continue to be distributed to various groups within the church inviting visitors, and members in need, to participate in a shared meal at no charge.
- Information and resources continue to be shared with out-of-state family of aging members who have been in need of assistance.
- The Caring Committee Volunteer Dinner was held in March of 2014. We recognized Joan Olsen and her many ways that she has given of her humor, compassion and service to our congregation. We thank LeeAnn Bergin and her helpers for providing a delicious meal.. The tribute to Joan Olsen is below.

### **2013-2014**

#### **New and Continued Goals**

- Using the forms found on the bulletin board near the water fountain and personal requests, we continue to recruit volunteers to provide services such as respite care, childcare, transportation to church, hospital and home visits to members in need, and to arrange to have volunteers available to help provide for these requests when they are asked for. We always need more.
- With Bonnie Schwarzenholz leading the charge, we have created a secure database of those who have volunteered. We are in the process of adding this to the church's database for easy access in case of need.
- We continue to form and maintain Caring Circles for members approaching the end of life or those who have health issues or other troubles.
- We continue the creation of the Chalice Calls list, which includes creating and maintaining a list of at risk members and those asking for regular contact and regularly scheduling phone calls to them.
- Deliver Spring baskets containing a flower to the members of the congregation who experience health challenges or the birth or death of a loved one.
- Deliver Winter baskets containing fruit and goodies to members of the congregation who experience health challenges or the birth or death of a loved one.
- Work with Religious Education to prepare cards for inclusion in baskets and for members experiencing health challenges or the birth or death of a loved one. Thank you Sharon Cassity for your continued efforts to help us with this.
- Work with Religious Education to ensure that all families of the congregation have caring needs met. Thank you Reverend Judith Cady for all you do.
- Continue to work with members who have no family available to help them prepare materials necessary to deal with end of life issues.

- Continue a positive two way communication with the minister and others in caring roles to insure members' needs that can be met, are met.

### Joan Olsen

Aldous Huxley said "Most human beings have an almost infinite capacity for taking things for granted." Joan Olsen seems to have an almost infinite capacity for taking people for granted. She always goes into situations thinking the best of all of whom she encounters.

Joan has been a member here for over 35 years now. She joined in 1977. In that time, she joined Demeters, served on the board, joined so many committees too many to list in one night, and generally made this church, this faith group, more. More understanding with each other, more active in the community and more committed to our faith.

The main reasons we are thanking and praising this wonderful woman tonight are her work with Demeter Memorial Receptions and her own efforts on various committees through the years helping people in the church. She has served in an advisory capacity with the many incarnations of the Caring Committee/ Pastoral Care Team. Every time we have asked her to help, she has. Even when out of town on trips of fun and trips to do with the UUA, she has made time for many phone calls from members, including me. We bent her ear and she listened and helped. A few years ago, we asked to her help identify some people in the church. She took the most current directory and went through it name by name. Those she knew, she wrote down. Those she didn't know, she made a list of, and looked for every Sunday so she could become acquainted with them.

After Joan became a member, she helped start two favorite programs of mine, the COA and Wednesday Night Potlucks. Betty Hutson was Religious Education Director in the 70's and remembers Joan being one of the first Mentors for Coming of Age. She still builds connections with young ones. My 2-year old Ryan refers to her as "My Joan".

You have probably seen her at work on almost any issue both locally and nationally for the UUA especially in the areas of women's rights and helping to preserve All Soul's history.

For at least the past ten years that I know of, she has been in charge of Demeters' Memorial Service Receptions here at All Souls. She has made sure we have servers, refreshments, people to prepare the areas and the food and people to clean up. She has been kind and generous with her time to the families and friends that have been grieving.

She has been an adventurous companion around the dinner table, in Kansas City and on her many trips around the world. At their meetings, she has also helped Demeters keep informed on the situation of pertinent issues.

When we were planning this tribute, we asked members of Demeters, her small group and others she has worked with and had fun with through the years to send us memories of their time with her. Most stories had a recurring theme of a person that was warm, engaging, organized, correct in both verbal and written communication and a person who had a giant zest for life. That sounds like the Joan I know.

I now have a few of these stories to relate to all of you.

Jean Dunlap---Thank you for alerting me to this planned tribute. It is long overdue to a remarkable woman. Over the years I have seen her at work on almost every issue and helping Demeters keep informed on the condition of others. She has weathered health issues without complaint and is forward thinking on so many issues both locally and nationally for the UUA that I am blessed to have been part of her life here at ASUUC.

Barb Hildner--I have many memories over the years of Joan, with her camera, well before cell phone photography, taking pictures at all sorts of All Souls events from our own social gatherings to significant meetings and conferences plus important forum speakers. Joan has played an important role in preserving All Soul's history.

Sherry Anspach--A story of Joan:

I was serving on the board of trustees as vice president and then president for 2 years, when it came time to accept the past meeting's minutes...we would turn to Joan for any corrections. If she said there were no corrections we passed the minutes! We were grateful she took the time to read every word!

Sharon Gradischnig-- One of my funny experiences with Joan was when we road together to a Dinner for Eight in Lees Summit. Of course, Joan is known for her detailed planning and ability to get around. And I don't do so bad myself. But two talkers, though entertaining, can get in the way of navigation. The result being that we missed almost every major turn, both coming and going. But we had a good laugh and a great time talking and ended up at our destinations both ways.

I saw this quote from John E. Southard "The only people with whom you should try to get even are those who have helped you."

There is a roomful of people here that will try their best to get even with you Joan.

## **Religious Education for Children and Youth**

### **Annual Report, May 18, 2014**

Explore, ask, imagine...how you can live our Unitarian Universalist principles is the theme for our religious education programs at All Souls. We provided two hours of programming for six different age groups every Sunday morning. We are grateful for the dedicated volunteer teachers who have served our children and youth with joy and dedication. We had an appreciation picnic for our volunteers and their families in October.

Our children and youth joined their parents at the beginning of the 11:15 church service so that they could experience our opening traditions and celebrations. Our middle school and high school youth attended the worship service and served as ushers one Sunday each month. Ten children took turns serving as chalice lighters at our Sunday services. Under the leadership of Sarah LaBarr, our Children's Choir met from October through May.

Our seventh and eighth graders have been participating in our Coming of Age program this year. Their program involves learning through four quests: the mystery quest, the inner quest, the UU quest and the social action quest. The COA youth committed to give a personal pledge to the church and to provide service hours to All Souls and to the community. The culmination of the program is a trip to our national headquarters in Boston in July.

We initiated a new program in which families with children are greeters on Sunday mornings. Members of the congregation enjoy being greeted by our children when they arrive for our church service.

Our RE minister Judith Cady presented two workshops at the UU MidAmerica Regional Assembly in Topeka in April. Judith and Barbara Griggs took their robes and wands to present the Harry Potter Justice Summer Camp Workshop. Judith and Bonnie Blosser presented a workshop for all religious educators for sharing program successes and providing networking opportunities for religious educators in the region.

Our RE minister Judith Cady and our Director of Music Anthony Edwards led the "Standing of the Side of Love" worship service on February 16. Courageous love awards were presented to Tori Jonson, Greer Barlow, Angela Allard, Jim Mitchell and Roma Lee Taunton. Our children and youth were given flowering plants to take home at our Earth Day church service. Our annual Easter egg hunt was a great success for all ages.

We have promoted service through our religious education programs by participating in these service projects: UNICEF, All Souls Pastoral Care Committee, Guest at Your Table, mittens and a meal for reStart and stuffed animals for the children of Crittenton Center. We supported our high school senior Alton VanQuaethem in attending the UN Conference on the Rights of Women in New York City.

"Hands Across Cultures" was the theme for our successful summer camp in August. Through storytelling, art and music we learned about the people of Africa. It was a fun and enriching experience for children, youth and adults who attended the camp.

We appreciate Reverend Dr. Kendyl Gibbons, Mark Gibbons and the adult members of All Souls who have supported us in building community, promoting service and transforming lives in our religious education programs at All Souls. It is a joy and a privilege to serve the children, youth and families of All Souls.

Submitted by: Reverend Judith Cady, Minister of Religious Education. Re Board Members: Joe Robertson, chair, Kathleen Baker, Sarah Barlow, Kerri Duvanel, Bill Raney, Tracy VanQuaethem and Nelson Maurice.

**Explore, Ask, Imagine...  
How You Can Live Our Unitarian Universalist Principles**

**Religious Education Programs for Children and Youth  
2013-2014 School Year**

***Chalice Children: Preschool & Kindergarten***

Nurtures religious growth, creativity and connection to our Unitarian Universalist community through “hands on” experiences that reflect the natural religious development of young children.

***World Faiths: First, Second and Third Grades***

Explores the religious traditions and holidays of world faiths through stories, songs, arts and creative activities.

***Toolbox of Faith: Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Grades***

Invites our children to reflect on qualities of our Unitarian Universalist faith, such as integrity, courage and love, as tools they can use in living their lives and building their own faith.

***The Questing Year: Seventh and Eighth Grades***

Engages youth in quests connected to exploration of the inner life, the mystery of life, UU faith development and social action as a part of their Coming of Age program.

***A Place of Wholeness: High School***

Encourages youth to look inward for a clearer understanding of their personal faith and guides them to express that faith outward into the world in the context of Unitarian Universalism.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

ANNUAL MEETING MAY 18, 2014

Hello, Friends,

This has been an interesting year to be treasurer of All Souls. And once again, I can tell you that we expect to end the fiscal year, on June 30<sup>th</sup> without a deficit.

Although we started the year with a substantial amount in the rather quasi line item called "additional funding" there have been changes that have precluded us needing to do extra fundraising.

In August, long time Simpson House manager and church facilities manager resigned. Volunteers stepped up to fill his position, and we have divided his job into 3 distinct responsibilities. For the last 8 or 9 months, I have functioned as Simpson House events coordinator. We have now hired Matt Scanlon to fill that position on a part time, commission basis. Charles Dickenson and his wife, Miho Komatsu have moved into the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor apartment, and are filling the position of maintenance, yard care, and security. If you have not yet met these outstanding additions to our staff, please make it a point to do so, and let them know how much we appreciate them. Bob Miller has volunteered his time as facilities manager for both our buildings, and is doing a great job for us. With these changes we have been able to move much of the income from Simpson House into our church budget.

Midway through the year, Kendyl identified several part time positions that we needed to fill if we were going to continue to grow. She was able to raise the funds necessary to begin hiring for these positions for this fiscal year. You have already heard about the Growth Initiative from her and know that the board has agreed to ask the Endowment Fund for the funds necessary to continue these positions for the fiscal year, 2014-15. By then we anticipate that these will be incorporated into the annual budget

There have been some challenging years for All Souls, and I am honored to have been a part of a board of trustees that has been committed to meeting our problems head on, with an open and transparent way of operating. We are still looking at ways of increasing facility rental income.

Changes in the budget for 2014-15 include, in addition to the Growth Initiative, increased amounts in insurance costs, both for our buildings and for consistent health coverage for our employees. I feel sure our congregation will support the additional health insurance cost, with the understanding that a task force has been created to continue to explore the best health care options, before the end of the year.

The remainder of the budget is much the same as last year, with minor adjustments, and copies are available, along with the most recent balance sheet for this year. The board of Trustees approved this budget on May 7, 2014.

Therefore, Madam President, I move the budget for the fiscal year, 2014-2015 , as approved by the board of trustees, be accepted.

## **Name: UU UNO Committee**

Mission: Saving lives, seeking justice, and building a culture of peace. We believe the United Nations is the best hope for a just world community.

Members: Dick Dawson, Charlotte Haupt, Michael Jones, Betty Hutson, Pat Kenoyer, Manny & Sara Pedram, Louann Stahl, Alton VanQuaethem

Co-Chairs: Charlotte Haupt and Sara Pedram

What we have done this past year:

UN Sunday--October 20, 2013; Special Offering collected and sent to UUUNO

Sponsored Shawna Foster in December to speak at the Forum

Sponsored Bruce Knotts, Executive Director, UUUNO, on March 2 to speak at Sunday Service

Bruce also spoke to the middle school/high school group from 10:00-11:00am, prior to the church service

Held a Sunday Plus Lunch on March 9 to:

Reimburse Bruce Knotts for his travel to Kansas City

Make donation to Alton VanQuaethem (Youth Envoy) for trip to NYC to attend U.N.

Commission on Status of Women

Goals for next year: UN Sunday. Other programs yet to be determined.

Budget Request: \$150.00--to purchase U.N. material for church library & items for U.N. Sunday in October 2014

Thank you,

Sara Pedram

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