

UUSP NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY APRIL 19, 12:30 PM

April 10, 2015

Dear Congregational Member,

This letter serves to inform you of the 2015 Annual Meeting for the Unitarian Universalist Church of St. Petersburg, Florida (UUSP) to be held following the service on Sunday, April 19, 2015.

A packet containing materials for making informed decisions as a member of UUSP will be available, per the bylaws, seven days before this Annual Meeting. Dissemination of the packet will be by Infonet (as we strive to be a “green” community), and hard copies of the packet will be available for those who request it. Among the materials in the packet will be the agenda, bios for election of officers, and the proposed budget for fiscal year 2015-16. This year your Board of Trustees has struggled with a proposed budget to cover the wants and needs of UUSP funded by our income, not supplemented by the endowment at the levels we have had in the past, as we discussed at the Town Hall Meeting on March 29. We hope careful study of the materials contained in the packet will allow for discussion and creative thought in the days prior to the meeting.

Per our bylaws, all persons who have been members of the Congregation for at least 60 days (must have signed the book by February 19 and have made pledges of record for this fiscal year 2014-15) are eligible to vote. Ballot voting will be in writing and in all cases we will be following the bylaws of UUSP, as well as Roberts Rules of Order.

We encourage everyone to exercise our Fifth Principle: the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations, and in society at large, by participating in our Annual Meeting. We look forward to our Church community gathering and having your participation in a productive Annual Meeting.

Sincerely,

LORI PRICE, PRESIDENT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF ST. PETERSBURG
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AGENDA
APRIL 19, 2015**

Call to Order

Welcome and Establishing of Quorum (20% of voting members)

Adoption of Agenda

Approval of Minutes of May 18, 2014, Annual Meeting

President's Report

Minister's Report

Religious Education Coordinator's Report

Music Director's Report

Committee Reports

Nominating Committee Report

Election of Trustees and Officers

Adoption of Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016

Old Business

New Business

Adjournment

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF ST PETERSBURG

2014 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES – page 1 of 5

MAY 18, 2014

Opening

President Pro Tem, Board of Trustees, Jane Fanning, opened the Annual Meeting at 12:28 PM. Blue voting cards were distributed to those who had been members of the Congregation for at least sixty days; as were packets of information with the following information:

- * Agenda for today's Annual Congregational Meeting
- * Minutes from last year's Annual Meeting on April 21th, 2013
- * Nominations for Board and Offices for Fiscal Year 2014-2015
- * Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015
- * Annual reports: Board of Trustees, Building and Grounds, Children's Religious Education, Congregational Life/Membership Committee, Hospitality Committee, Music Director, Worship Committee, Social Justice Committees, & Minister's Report.

With 34 members present, a quorum (45%) was established & certified by Dani Skrzypek.

Approval of Agenda

Sally Wallace moved to approve the agenda and Teresa Kelly seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Review of Minutes

Dani Skrzypek moved to approve the minutes from last years Annual Meeting of April 21st 2013. Pierre Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Developmental Minister's Report

Rev. Katy Korb states she has nothing additional to add to the previously submitted written report & opened the floor for any questions; which there were none.

President's Report

Jane Fanning provided additional information, from her written report, on the state of the Church.

There have been multiple resignations including: Board of Trustees President Greg Burton & Vice-President Marcia Piacentino, Religious Education Director Albrecht (Carenna) Cornette-MacCue, & Office Manager Nick Wheeler. Additionally, while Greg Burton had agreed, following his resignation as President, to remain the Church Treasurer & seek re-election for 2014-15 that has changed; as he resigned as Treasurer recently & will not be seeking election.

2014 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES – page 2 of 5

The Treasurer position must be filled to maintain the fiscal responsibilities of the Church. While there is a part-time paid Bookkeeper Pam Kemp (who has agreed to extend her contract for another fiscal year), that performs about 65% of the Treasurer responsibilities, it is critical that we have the financial oversight of a Treasurer.

Additionally, at this time there are only four (4) people within the church authorized to sign checks: Michael Pohl, Karen Coale, Greg Burton & Marcia Piacentino; & at least the last two (2) people need to have their authority removed at the Bank.

Sally Carville mentioned that the following Board of Trustees positions must be authorized to sign checks: President, Vice-President & Treasurer; in addition to the existing member Michael Pohl. The specific individuals for these offices will be determined at a 2014-15 Board of Trustees internal elections being held at this conclusion of this Main General Membership meeting.

Also, the part-time Office Manager position was filled last month by Pat Fearn. However, our custodian Matt Ankrum was terminated.

Jane opened the floor for general discussion about the above topics of which there was significant member input. She also discussed that there would be a formal Dedication Ceremony & Ribbon Cutting for the new Mirror Lake Park & recommends as we are located on the Lake we should have a presence at this event Friday 5/23/14 @ 9 AM. Volunteers are needed to attend the event & display our church banner; in the crowd.

The A/C system replacement is about to begin; as are significant renovations to the alarm systems, bathrooms & kitchen. Because of the substantial withdrawal being made from the Endowment Funds to finance these renovations the Church will not be receiving the typical monthly payments for day-to-day operational expenses.

The “Give Me 5” fund raising drive has been very successful; driven by the outstanding hard work of Cynthia Patterson. Cynthia's commitment to the Church's financial success was recognized by the membership.

The Board of Trustees is exploring options regarding contracting local Church leadership & Connie Goodbread to begin the Smart Church program. There will be an open teleconference for pre-planning for this next step in the Church's growth on Thursday June 12th & additional information will be made available to the membership in the near future.

We need to form a committee to organize the 100th Anniversary Celebration Service & if Peter Morales is going to be asked to speak, then he will need to be contacted immediately; as his calendars fills up very fast. \$1200 has already been budgeted/raised for this event.

2014 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES – page 3 of 5

2 members of the Church designated as voting delegates & 1 alternate will be at this year's General Assembly Meeting in Rhode Island; June 25-29. The delegates will be determined by a vote of the Board of Trustees; at an upcoming meeting.

The Religious Education Committee & the Board of Trustees are actively searching & interviewing for a new RE Coordinator. Planning for the Summer services have been completed by the Worship Committee & all slots have been filled through 8/31/14. Complete services will be held throughout the Summer & there is no expectation of any cancellation of Summer services.

Finally, Jane addressed the most challenging issue that the church has faced within the last year; & the significant pain that it caused many of our members. She states that Rev. Korb has been subjected to the majority of the anger & frustration while doing everything possible to try keep everything on an even & peaceful path. This was especially challenging while Jim Culver still had an ongoing presence here for Rev. Korb's first year. UUA guidelines prohibit any congregational contact within a year of the separation of an existing minister from that church. This policy was obviously violated & we need to look to stronger enforcement of it by the ministerial search/selection Committees during our next change in pastoral leadership. Jane states “we will never all be pleased but we need to be tolerant & work together with each other. We must look inward & work toward the Best Church practices as we focus on the problems & their resolutions.”

Music Director's Report

Nic Filzen gave a written Music Director's Report; which was distributed to the membership at this meeting (see attached).

Worship Committee Report

Penny Duff stated that in addition to her written report about the state of the Worship Committee she must announce her resignation as chair of this Committee due to her health issues. She states that we need strong leadership of this group. Additionally, as mentioned previously, all summer worship services have been planned & each has a speaker; through 8/31/14.

2014 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES – page 4 of 5

Election of Trustees and Officers

Jesica Peters presented the amended slate of nominees. The slate presented by the Nominating Committee did not require a second.

Board of Trustees:

Laurie Clement - For term expiring June 30, 2016

Jane Fanning (Incumbent) - For term expiring June 30, 2017

Cynthia Patterson - For term expiring June 30, 2015

Jim Peters - For term expiring June 30, 2017

Barbara Riddle-Dvorak - For term expiring June 30, 2015

Officers:

Clerk: Keevy McAlavy

Treasurer: No nomination at this time

Assistant Treasurer: No nomination at this time

Financial Secretary: Dani Skrzypek

Assistant Financial Secretary: Sally Carville

Board of Endowment: Karen Frank & Barbara Rowell

David Coale moved to accept the slate as presented. Reggie Craig seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Adoption of FY 2014-2015 Budget

Dani Skrzypek reported the budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 is approximately \$135,900; and that it is less than the previous year; however pledges only represent approximately \$91,000 of the existing budget & it will be essential to find additional funding for daily operations as we will not have as much financial support from the endowment as in years past; due to the usage of the Endowment to finance the construction changes mentioned above.

Penny Duff moved to approve the proposed budget for fiscal year 2014-2015. Barbara Rowell seconded; & the budget passed unanimously.

Old Business

None

New Business

The church will start implementing the Smart Church program in September/October 2014.

We need to participate in the Mirror Lake Porch Party on November 6th; & the contact is Barbara Riddle-Dvorak

2014 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES – page 5 of 5

We need volunteers to show the church for events & make rental brochures.

The Interim/ Part Time Ad Hoc I committee needs to be combined with the Interim/ Part Time Ad Hoc II committee to address the needs of Fall/Winter Speaker & Ministerial coverage. The first meeting of the revised committee(s) will be Thursday June 5th at 7 PM. Milagros Padilla stated that Connie Goodbread had indicated that we would be able to pick a minister after the application deadlines. Volunteers for the Ad Hoc II committee going forward includes the previous committee (Ad Hoc I) & Cynthia Patterson, Laurie Clement & Barbara Riddle-Dvorak.

Adjournment

Joan Barclay moved to adjourn the meeting. Penny Duff seconded. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jesica Peters, Temporary Clerk to the Board of Trustees

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF ST PETERSBURG

2014-15 BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS MEETING

MAY 18, 2014

President Pro Tem, Board of Trustees, Jane Fanning, opened the Elections Meeting at 1:47 PM.

Attendees were the New Board of Trustees for 2014-15:

Laurie Clement - For term expiring June 30, 2016

Jane Fanning (Incumbent) - For term expiring June 30, 2017

Ian O'Hara - For term expiring June 30, 2015

Cynthia Patterson - For term expiring June 30, 2015

Jim Peters - For term expiring June 30, 2017

Lori Price - For term expiring June 30, 2016

Barbara Riddle-Dvorak - For term expiring June 30, 2016

The purpose of this meeting is to elect the Officers for the Board of Trustees for the 2014-15 fiscal year.

Ian O'Hara motioned for Lori Price to be President. Motion seconded by Barbara Riddle-Dvorak; & the motion passed unanimously. Lori stated that she needed some time to consider the nomination & would let the Board know as soon as possible.**

Jim Peters motioned that Jane Fanning & Laurie Clement be Co-Vice Presidents. Lori Price seconded the motion; & the motion passed unanimously.

Jim Peters motioned that Ian O'Hara be Treasurer. Lori Price seconded the motion; & the motion passed unanimously.

This meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM.

**Editors note: Lori Price accepted the nomination as Board of Trustees President on Wednesday 5/21/14 & duly notified the Board of Trustees of her decision via email; which was subsequently announced to the Congregation via InfoNet.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANNUAL MEETING REPORT – April 19, 2015

From the Board of Trustees:

This year has seen a number of positive changes for our congregation. We were fortunate to be able to hire Jack Donovan as a part time minister in the fall, and he has proven a warm and wise addition to our community, with the added bonus of his wife, Alisun, who has joined in supporting and helping us this year. We have made substantial progress on needed renovations to our historic building, including our new HVAC system, new alarm system, and bathroom updates. We are also in the process of upgrading our assisted listening system and repairing our organ and handbells. As we do this, we are mindful of our budget and striving to live within what we raise as income rather than continuing to decrease our endowment fund.

Although we have had some staff transitions in Religious Education, sexton, accompanists, and office administration, we know that this is sometimes inevitable as people accept new challenges and move on, or situations change and require different talents. We are hopeful that we can grow and learn with new staff as they bring their own gifts and strengths to join and serve us. Our staff does a wonderful job on a limited budget and we appreciate all they do for UUSP.

A dedicated group of members has been meeting and working through the Smart Church program with Connie Goodbread and her partners. Through this we have been exposed to many writings that are thought provoking and enlightening. We have also been able to share the recounting of our personal experiences at UUSP in an effort to better understand our past and how it affects us going forward. The lesson that has proved the most valuable to me personally is the commitment to approach our differences or disagreements with “humility, curiosity, and humor.” If we can all keep that in mind each time we have a disagreement, we can resolve our conflicts in love instead of in pain.

We have also been able to begin celebrating our 100th year as a congregation – something I feel truly fortunate to be a part of. There are so many opportunities to explore and apply our theme of epiphanies throughout 2015 and I look forward to continuing that.

And lastly, we have an incredibly dedicated bunch of volunteers who keep our community going forward. From the Buildings and Grounds committee, who has done so much work this year on getting our renovations done; to the unsung heroes of Hospitality who manage to provide coffee and refreshments on Sunday with so little support; to the Pastoral Care committee, who are up and running again and supporting those of us in need; to the many activities of Social Justice, too numerous to even count, including but certainly not limited to serving the migrant population, starting the Green Sanctuary process, and continuing the Friday Night Picnic; to the Religious Education Committee who have done an amazing job serving our youth and getting the RE program on an exciting and growing track; to the Worship committee who ensures we have a smooth and fulfilling service every Sunday; and all the other hard-working people who give of their time and efforts, I extend my greatest thanks and appreciation. This is what makes us a community – working together toward our common goals, sharing our UU values, and supporting each other.

In summary, it's been a year of positive energy and of looking forward with anticipation. Let's move on to the next 100 years!

Lori Price
President, Board of Trustees

BOARD OF ENDOWMENT ANNUAL REPORT – APRIL 19, 2015

The composition of the BOE did not change in 2014-15. The members are:

Darren Stowe, Chairman
Kent Fanning, Vice-chairman
Nancy Clark, Treasurer
Karen Frank, Secretary
Theresa Kelly
Barbara Rowell

At the start of the past fiscal year, the management of the investment fund was transferred from Alliance Bernstein to UBS. This allowed the Board to be re-united with Chris Coram who had relocated to UBS the year before. The BOE has been ably served by Chris in the past and will be again.

The Endowment Fund consists of actively managed assets and the Chubb Remainder. The Chubb monies are managed by Wells Fargo and the UUSP will inherit one-third of the bequest amount upon the expiration of the other two beneficiaries. At this time, the UUSP has no access to the Chubb monies or its earnings. The starting and ending balances are:

	UBS	Chubb
June 2014	\$591,825.52	\$423,251.06
December 2014	--	\$414,643.98
March 2015	\$307,242.02	

The HVAC system and fire alarm/security upgrades were paid by Endowment funds totaling approximately \$386,000. The Endowment funds will have contributed \$10,000 in operating funds to the Church for this fiscal year. This amount is below the 5 percent contribution anticipated by the by-laws.

The BOE intends to meet its requirement to meet quarterly. These meetings will be posted and attendance is welcome to Church members.

BOE members contributed comments to a Giving Brochure being prepared by the BOT. As the result of several gifts of stock to the Endowment, a detailed description of the logistics involved in such donations has been prepared and is available.

MINISTER'S ANNUAL REPORT (9/28/14 - 4/12/15)

Rev. Jack Donovan

The Pilgrim Covenant seems to characterize the spirit of our congregation over these past six months: “We pledge to walk together in the ways of truth and affection as best we understand them now or may learn them in days to come -- that we and our children might be fulfilled and that we might speak to the world in words and actions of peace and good will.” There is much to learn in order to walk together in the ways of truth and affection – a constant interweaving process of developing faith, spirit, and community. The congregation and its leadership seem intent on walking the way. What a good thing for us and for St. Pete.

You have the reports here of our boards and committees and the considerable number of good things they have done for our congregation and community. I am full of admiration for their devotion in making these contributions, their sensitivity to one another's perspectives and feelings, and their intent on making our church process work to empower us all. I am so pleased to get to share in this work.

In addition, we have worked together on programs to serve UUSP's purposes:

- Spiritual Development (so far, a dream work course, weekly meditation, and the Smart Church process for congregational health through covenant);
- Faith Development (so far, monthly orientations to UUSP);
- Community Development (so far, weekly lunch gatherings, two new covenant groups, and celebration of our 100 years in St Pete);
- Serving all of the above purposes through Sunday services, religious education, pastoral care, facilitation of several UUA Cluster and community justice events, plus regular work for immigrants, the homeless, and the environment.

Programs soon to come will be:

- UU principles as a path to spiritual development (expanding circles of devotion);
- UU sources as a path to faith development (drawing from the world's wisdom);
- Opportunities to strengthen friendship and helpfulness within and beyond church;
- Whatever other programs strike us as helpful for the spirit, faith, and sense of community of every generation and every soul we can serve.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your minister and be part of this wonderful congregation. I'm very glad to be here.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2015-2016 FISCAL YEAR

2015-2016 Budget

INCOME

Contributions	7,000
Endowment Pledge	15,000
Investment Interest	0
Loose Offerings	8,000
Pledges	98,776
Property Usage	12,000
Bookstore	0
Hospitality	0
Online Purchase Credits	0
Special Projects	1,800

Total Income	142,576
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EXPENSE

Lawn Service	1,440
P&L Insurance	13,000
Repairs/Maintenance	2,500
Security	1,800
Utilities	14,000
Total Building & Grounds	32,740

Advertising	0
Bank Credit Service Fees	150
Bookkeeping	2,400
Computr	0
<i>Copier Lease & Maintenance</i>	800
Licenses/Fees	100
Office Supplies/Maintenance	1,300
Professional Fees	50
Telecommunications	2,000
Total General Expenses	6,800

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Church Restoration	3,200
Housekeeping	4,056
Musicians/Accompanists	6,300
Child Care	4,500
Minister	35,000
Music Director	7,724
Office Manager	11,700
Religious Education	8,300
Sexton	4,680
Building & Grounds Maintenance	1,500
Special Events	2,000
Payroll Taxes and Workers' Comp	5,000
Total Salaries and Wages	<u>93,960</u>
Administrative	0
Board Discretionary	0
Canvass	0
Care	75
Congregational Life	200
Denominational Dues	1,000
Hospitality	500
Intergenerational Day	200
<i>Music</i>	925
Religious Education	4,400
Smart Church	0
Social Justice	500
Special Projects	200
Worship	<u>1,050</u>
Total Program Expenses	<u>9,050</u>
Total Expenses	142,550
Net	26

**Unitarian Universalist Church of St Petersburg
Board Financial Summary July 2014 -- June 2015**

	<i>Jul</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>Sep</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>	<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Apr- Jun e</i>	<i>YTD</i>	<i>Budget</i>
Money In:												
Pledges	6,431	4,435	3,858	6,994	3,876	5,233	21,277	11,503	9,917	-	73,524	68,250
Endowment	833	2,500	0	0	833	833	833	833	833	-	7,499	7,500
Sunday Service	886	566	669	1,306	1,551	3,088	1,995	1,279	2,068	-	13,409	11,250
Special Projects	91	139	171	0	0	775	0	0	0	-	1,175	2,250
Building Use	300	420	340	300	1,582	849	2,490	450	380	-	7,111	12,000
Other Income	41	0	10	48	31	30	49	26	64	-	299	0
Total Money In:	8,582	8,060	5,048	8,648	7,873	10,808	26,644	14,091	13,262		103,017	101,250
Money Out:												
Compensation	1,366	2,021	5,444	6,991	7,282	6,835	9,015	7,494	11,973		58,421	53,723
Programs	48	642	725	406	75	1,028	876	772	1,677		6,247	13,826
Building/Grounds	2,738	3,621	1,716	2,954	1,560	1,308	0	1,120	894		28,961	29,738
Other expenses	503	656	905	886	905	985	1,111	526	603		7,079	5,850
Total Money Out:	4,655	6,939	8,789	11,236	9,822	10,156	24,052	9,912	15,147		100,709	103,137
Net Operating Income:	3,927	1,120	-3,741	-2,588	-1,949	653	2,592	4,179	-1,885		2,308	-1,887

**Unitarian Universalist Church of St Petersburg
Annual Congregational Meeting – April 19, 2015
Treasurer’s Report**

Our 2013-2014 fiscal year was a low point for our church with a year-end deficit of over \$24,000. Thanks to prior years’ surpluses and withdrawals from our Endowment investment fund, we were able to maintain the cash flow necessary to stay afloat, but we started this fiscal year last July knowing we had a tough financial situation to deal with. But deal with it we did! Through careful control of expenses and generous contributions from members, we have arrived at a point where we anticipate a much smaller deficit for the fiscal year that ends on June 30, 2015. If we stay on track, we should see a much rosier situation in the next fiscal year.

Income:

With two-thirds (67%) of our fiscal year completed, we have received 76% of our budgeted income. That’s very good news. Even better news is that we have received 81% of our pledges – we are a generous congregation and we keep our promises to each other!

Expenses:

Although our expenses seem to be under control at this time, we know from past experience that many members pay our bills personally and then either get a reimbursement for the expense or make a contribution of that amount. As a result, we receive the notice of the expense several weeks – sometimes even several months – after the actual expense takes place. Right now, we show expenses that total 74% of our annual budget, but we know that there will be additional expenses reported.

Designated Funds:

I repeat, we are a generous congregation! During the first two-thirds of this fiscal year, we have contributed more than \$18,000 outside of pledge payments to designated causes within our church community. Here’s a look at some of our generosity:

Centennial Fund	\$4460
Assisted Hearing Devices Fund	5000
Kitchen Renovation Fund	2000
Minister’s Discretionary Fund	366
Social Justice – Homeless Outreach	1182
Social Justice – Migrants/Immigrants	842

Summary:

Although this fiscal year will probably show a deficit when we reach June 30, we are well on our way to having a healthy financial situation for the future. With the continued support of our generous members and friends, we will be able to continue the wonderful Sunday services, the exciting Religious Education programming, the

stimulating adult programs, and the diverse music presentations along with maintaining our historic and beautiful property for current and future Unitarian Universalists.

Sally Carville,
Acting Treasurer

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

Lisa Hill, 4/2/15

Events

Intergenerational Day was a lot of fun. I got positive feedback from many of the kids. They particularly like the face painting, bubbles and game station. I worked closely with Anne Justiss to learn as much as possible about the day and the goals of the activities. The Time for All Ages activity that day, weaving a web through the congregation, was well received.

RE Sunday: This year, on May 17, the children and youth will conduct the service. We are looking forward to showing the congregation what we have learned through our classes and about our UU principles.

Programs

Youth: We started *Popcorn Theology* for middle school and high schoolers. The program discusses moral issues through popular movies with the goal of encouraging youth to explore their UU principles through "big picture" examination. This class is currently being taught by volunteers. We will need additional volunteers or a paid teacher to continue this vital youth program in the fall.

Elementary: Our elementary aged students are currently exploring Tools of Faith, a UUA program. Once finished, they will begin Signs of our Faith: Being UU Everyday. This class is being taught by a paid instructor and assisted by Joe Benjamin. The children are enjoying the various activities.

Preschool: We began a modified version of Chalice Children in the nursery. We modified the program to introduce our preschoolers to UU ideas without a formal classroom setting (which they are not use to). The children enjoy the free play model available in the nursery. Therefore, we strived to implement more learning opportunities in the current structure. Both Marisa and Laura are excited about the program. (the kids are, too!)

Yoga: so much fun and popular with kids of all ages.

Ministry Sunday: We have asked various committees to come and talk with the kids about what they do and teach kids what they can do to support that type of ministry. The children have enjoyed learning activism and ways they can contribute. My own children were very excited about marching in the Fair Food parade (Social Justice) and made lovely get well cards (Pastoral Care). Having other members of the congregation teach these classes gives the students an opportunity for intergenerational connections within the congregation. I look forward to continuing this program.

Plans for Next Year

Summer: We have a busy summer planned! Our goal is to have activities throughout the summer for both families and kids. The newly formed parent covenant group, led by Michael and Morgan, has included family fun activities 1 time a month. We intend to have 1 more "kids only" activity each month through the summer as well.

Hogwarts (!!!): Everyone is excited about this one! This is a week long summer camp that combines UU principles and the magical world of Harry Potter. The goal of the camp is to raise community awareness of UU St. Pete. This will work in conjunction with other planned summer events to (hopefully) keep new families interested and coming back to visit us. Initial interest looks very promising. Finding volunteers will be the most challenging part. This camp is self-sustained and is budgeted to provide a small profit.

Fall Programming: My goal for the fall is to continue to nurture and support the 3 current classes, involve the RE program in on-campus and off-campus service projects and create a sense of community within RE and the UU St. Pete community.

Training: I was sent to a UUA Renaissance training module- Religious Educators as Leadership this February. It would take far too long to list all I learned from this valuable training session. The ability to network with other Religious Educators and learn about aspects of the position that would not have been in my forethought has been invaluable. I look forward to putting all I learned to use in the coming year.

MUSIC DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15

Nicholas Filzen

I continue to be very proud of the way that the music program has grown within the UUSP community. We have very dedicated folks in both the bell choir and vocal choir. Although the format of the busker program has changed slightly, it continues to be successful. I still hope to get some media coverage of the program to both encourage local musicians to fill the streets of St. Petersburg with music, and to bring some more attention to our congregation.

I'm especially excited about the steady musical growth of both choirs. This is due to the clear dedication of everyone involved, but also because we have some new folks that have contributed strong musical leadership. As we continue to grow in number, it is my mission to remind everyone that we do it to offer joy and beauty to ourselves and the congregation.

It was sad to see Josh Cessna leave us this year, but we are very fortunate that Erin Seibert has joined us as our new pianist. She has been a strong, stabilizing force in the congregation's worship experience and I sincerely hope that we can keep her for a long while.

Although we weren't able to implement a "Music Sunday" this year, it continues to be a goal of mine to prepare a large and advanced work/s to be performed as the sermon for at least one Sunday next season and beyond. It is also a goal of mine to continue to incorporate as many of our children in both choirs as possible.

I sincerely hope that music at UUSP can continue to be a positive spiritual and emotional experience for all and can continue to be just one of the many things that seem promising throughout the UUSP community.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15

Building and Grounds' focus this year has been on the new AC/heat project for the bulk of the church areas, on improving the kitchen, Conway and Gilmore, and on general upgraded cleaning throughout.

The bathroom sink areas were upgraded thanks to Joan B, Deb & Dani.

The kitchen has been transformed by deep cleaning, refurbishing the stove, painting the pantry and purchasing a new refrigerator thanks to John C, Travis, Laurie C, and Renee.

Clutter from the walls in Conway was removed, walls were repaired and painted and bulletin boards were remodeled.

The AC project and new fire/security systems are nearing completion.

Tommy Venterease continues with the window restoration in Gilmore.

Our focus in the coming year, aside from the AC / heat and fire alarm completion, is to continue refurbishing the kitchen, paint the exterior sanctuary walls and improve our lighting & landscaping. We will continue to repair and update Conway as well .

We are looking to gain more income from rentals in the coming year as we continue to improve our buildings.

B&G Committee

CONGREGATIONAL CARE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 4/19/15

The UUSP Congregational Care Committee is chaired by the minister and works to identify and support those in need of spiritual care, including practical support where possible. The committee currently includes Joan Barclay, Jane Fanning, Sue Price, and Kathy Runde. Meetings are monthly, with spontaneous communication as the need arises. Care includes presence, communication, pastoral guidance as requested, and provision of practical support as possible (meals, transportation, company, etc.). Referrals are appreciated.

The Rev. Jack Donovan, Congregational Care Committee chair

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 4/19/15

Sue Price, our chair of long-standing, has stepped down from this crucial position. A team of volunteers is much needed.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

This year's annual report contains good news and some bad news. First the good news. Attendance and membership figures are up. Listed below are the attendance figures for the 4-month period of November 2013 thru February 2014 compared to the same period 2014-2015. Attendance is clearly up in 3 of the 4 months:

Nov 2013	71	Nov 2014	86
Dec 2013	76	Dec 2014	70

Jan 2015	80	Feb 2015	80
Feb 2014	87	Feb 2015	96

Even better, there are now at least 14 new members since December of 2014.

With help from the Worship Committee we continue to have greeters on Sunday morning. And contact with visitors continues, especially if an email address is supplied. Member and visitor nametags are being supplied.

The membership committee has not been able to keep up with all its duties because of the loss of members who were active on the committee. In addition, because of budget cuts, the functions of maintaining records on attendance and visitor addresses have had to be absorbed. Thus, little has been done to organize programs and special events to welcome and introduce new members and prospective members into church life. No help is being offered to the Care Committee about maintaining contact with church members who are unable to attend regularly. Our visitor and new member information supplies are out of date. There is no systematic follow-up to those who leave the congregation.

Dave Coale, Chair, Membership Committee

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

Members: Dolores Benjamin (treasurer); Beate HughesBrown; Morgan Gresham (secretary); Meredith Keith-Chirch; Michael Pohl (chair). RE Coordinator: Lisa Hill. Board liaison: Jane Fanning. Minister and adviser: Jack Donovan.

At the beginning of the church year, due to the departure of our DRE in April 2014 as well as a greatly-reduced budget, the Religious Education Committee assumed a very different role as administrator of the RE program. We hired a lead instructor, Christina Sisson, to teach a single all-ages class, following our model from recent years. The Committee handled all program planning and administration due to the limited hours we were able to offer Christina.

In November, Christina announced that she would be leaving in January 2015 for a full-time teaching job. The Committee worked on multiple fronts to establish a stable program for 2015 with limited resources: researching UU curricula; searching for additional non-staff instructors; reaching out to other UU St. Pete ministries; and formalizing program policies and procedures. In January, the Committee introduced a program that rotated among formal curricula (led by a new non-staff instructor, Patricia Harding); yoga and meditation (led by another non-staff instructor, Katie Toth); and collaboration with various UU St. Pete ministries (led by volunteers).

While the Committee was proud of our work in strengthening our program's structure, we also recognized that running RE on a volunteer basis without trained leadership was neither sustainable nor in the best long-term interest of our children and youth. Therefore, in January, we presented new staffing recommendations to the Board of Trustees, requesting the hire of a part-time RE Coordinator as a tangible step towards restoring professional program leadership.

In February, we were very happy to hire Lisa Hill as our RE Coordinator. Under Lisa's leadership and with additional guidance from our minister, Jack Donovan, our program has continued to evolve quickly. Most

significant has been the introduction of separate age-specific classes: one for preschool & kindergarten age (with a current enrollment of 4 regular students); one for elementary age (9 students); and one for middle and high school age (5 students).

With Lisa providing program leadership, the RE Committee has been able to resume its more traditional supporting role: staffing the RE greeter table; setting up a parents' lounge; starting a parents' covenant group; preparing materials and handouts; crafting RE bulletin boards; and organizing the annual Easter egg hunt and other events.

We are hopeful that we will continue our upward trajectory with a comprehensive religious education program that serves our stated purpose: to foster the full spiritual and faith development of our children and youth so that they may lead healthy, happy, helpful lives.

*Michael Pohl, RE Committee Chair
April 6, 2015*

WORSHIP COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015 Submitted April, 2015

Meredith C. Keith-Chirch became the Chair of the Worship Committee after the church year had already begun. While she attended the first meeting of the church year in September, she did not take over the Chair role until October. Below are the highlights of accomplishments of the Committee since then:

- The Committee worked in conjunction with the Minister to adjust elements of the service based on feedback and the desire to maintain a well-organized, polished worship service.
- The Committee worked with Jack to create the Order of Service template and Worship Leader scripts for both Minister Sundays and all guest speaker Sundays. Having templates ensures that we have consistency from Sunday to Sunday.
- The Committee created the new role of Worship Leader, which combines roles that previously existed in the church including Worship Associate and Board Host. Meredith created a training session and trained all individuals who had agreed to serve as Worship Leaders. The Worship Committee maintains the schedule of Worship Leaders and provides them to the Minister in addition to creating and sending the script for the Worship Leader to use on guest speaker Sundays. Additional trainings will be scheduled for new Worship Leaders when there is a need, for example at the beginning of a new church year.
- The Committee created a document called "Guest Speaker Process" so that the various steps involved in having a guest speaker would be on record for the future.
- The Committee created a document called "Worship Service Checklist" that is now on the back of the supply room door next to the stage in the sanctuary. This serves as a checklist for anyone who is participating in the service to ensure that the sanctuary is ready for a Sunday service.
- The Committee, in conjunction with Jack, introduced some alternate methods for sharing Joys, Sorrows and Concerns, including a book in which to write them and cards to fill out in the sanctuary.

-Meredith worked with Nic to ensure that the Worship Committee can understand the needs of the Music element of worship. In the absence of a Music Committee, the Worship Committee is serving in a support role to the Music Director.

-The Committee replaced the petroleum candles used to light the chalice and Joys and Sorrows candles with new safe, non-toxic candles made of organic coconut wax and organic beeswax. This follows a directive of the Green Sanctuary Committee, related to a concern about the toxins released into the sanctuary when petroleum candles are burned.

-The Committee is working with a member, Andrew Chirch, who has created a procedure for running the sound system during the service to ensure the best auditory experience for congregants. Andrew has agreed to train a group of individuals who can take turns serving as sound technicians on Sundays and the Committee is seeking individuals to fill that role. Should a new Sexton be hired, it was determined that this duty could be a part of that role as well. This would alleviate the need to find volunteers for every Sunday, and instead could provide volunteers as potential backup when the Sexton is absent.

-The Committee led the implementation of the 2015 Worship Theme of "100 Years of Epiphanies", which was the idea of our Minister. Members and frequent guests share their life stories and insights or realizations they have had as they relate to Unitarian Universalism. The benefits of this series will be twofold: Congregation attendees will get to know members of the community better and the church will be assisted financially by not paying for outside speakers. This theme will cross into next church year since it's a calendar year worship theme.

-The Committee established a new plan for year-round services rather than special summer services. Worship will be held in the sanctuary and the Minister will deliver 2 - 3 sermons each month, just as during the rest of the year. This will be helpful for attracting and retaining visitors, since they will not have to "come back" in September to see a different service format.

-The pre-service meeting began in the Spring. This meeting includes the Minister or guest speaker(s), Music Director, Worship Leader, musician(s), ushers, RE Coordinator on guest speaker Sundays, and sound technician. The group meets in the Bridal Room 30 minutes before the start of the service to do a 5-minute review of the plan for that day, including the speaker's vision for the mood/feel of the service that day.

-Meredith began posting promotional information about Sunday services on the church Facebook page. This task should transition to the Communications Committee when that Committee is formed.

-The Committee has taken over the function of finding, scheduling, and training ushers, who will also serve as greeters. This will free up the Membership Committee to function more closely on supporting new members or assisting visitors who would like to transition to members.

-Going forward, Meredith will be concentrating on finding additional Committee Members for the 2015-2016 church year, as the Committee would like to move towards having individuals on the committee rotate as the point persons for each guest speaker service. In addition, Meredith will identify and train her successor as Chair, as she believes that 2 years should be the maximum time served on this committee due to potential for burnout and the benefits that a new perspective can bring.

Social Justice Annual Report 2014/2015

At this time the UU St Pete Social Justice Committee includes these six ministries:

Fair Trade Coffee
Farmworker/Immigrant Families
Green Sanctuary
Homeless
Move to Amend
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)

This year we added a new Social Justice ministry, Move to Amend, and have expanded the Green Sanctuary ministry into a major project for our entire congregation. The Criminal Justice

Ministry has not been meeting regularly but will meet as needed to address the important issues of fairness and equity in the criminal justice system.

Each of the six ministries plan projects to address the issues faced by those in need. Some projects are Outreach – like selling free trade coffee and chocolate, feeding the Homeless, supporting immigrant families or gathering donations using Guest at Your Table boxes.

This past year we continued our Justice efforts – wanting to address systemic issues. Examples include supporting the Coalition of Immokalee Workers campaign for Fair Food, advocating for immigration reform and economic justice thru our Free Trade Chocolate and Coffee sales.

And we brought multiple Educational opportunities to our congregation via speakers explaining why an amendment to the US Constitution to limit and manage the money spent on elections is needed, the plight of immigrant families and human trafficking, farmworkers, the environmental state of our climate, local transportation needs as well as a film about four undocumented students who beat out MIT in a robotics competition. However our educational efforts were not limited to just adults – as we also brought our message to the Children’s RE classes – introducing the children to the Coalition of Immokalee Workers and our Green Sanctuary work.

We also maintained and strengthened our partnerships with other organizations – The Society of Friends, Coalition of Downtown Churches, Florida Immigrant Coalition, Interfaith Action of SW Florida and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.

Each ministry’s report is on the following pages. We use a shared leadership approach and work together to plan projects that encourage and facilitate the participation of all congregants. YOU have, and we are most THANKFUL!

Nancy Clarke, UUSC
Karen Coale, Farmworker/Immigrant Families
Reggie Craig, Homeless Community
Karen Frank, Fair Trade Coffee
Dan Greenfeld, Move to Amend
Dale Potter, Green Sanctuary

Fair-Traded Coffee & Chocolate Sales Annual Report 2014/2015

The UUSC Coffee Project is an innovative way, through Fair Trade, for our congregation to reach out to small farmers in the coffee-growing world, allowing us to strengthen economic justice by our choices. As of December 2014, the Social Justice Committee has begun its seventh year of offering Fairly Traded Coffee, Tea & Chocolate products for sale, twice monthly, after the Sunday service. Each purchase benefits the work of our church, as the funds raised go into the Social Justice budget and will help to support the work of our Green Sanctuary committee.

For seven years, our congregation's continued support of these efforts has been helping to transform the lives of these small farmers, and their families, around the globe, helping the UUSC continue its commitment to their human rights, and helping our church community to live our mission.

Fair Trade Coffee Ministry Chair, Karen Frank

Farmworker/Immigrant Ministry Annual Report 2014/2015

This ministry identifies outreach, educational and justice projects that support farmworker and immigrant families. We organize supporting activities that enable and encourage members and friends of all ages and means to participate.

Major Activities for this year included:

Our biggest project for the year -- was our recent brunch for the Coalition of Immokalee Workers and their supporters. In partnership with UU Clearwater and the Unity Church -- we cooked 300 breakfast burritos and provide breakfast for 250+ marchers. Then participated in the parade here in St Pete supporting the CIW's Fair Food Campaign. We had a lot of fun -- and remain deeply moved by these persistent, peaceful and very effective people.

Via our bi-monthly food collections we have provided local immigrant families with food that they have difficulty funding on their own.

We provided gift cards to the mothers of two families to buy Christmas gifts for their children.

Comprehensive Immigration Reform remains stalled in the US House of Representatives. However we have decided to support Florida drivers' licenses for our undocumented residents. Though there are solid safety and economic arguments supporting such legislation, the Legislature is tied up on Medicaid Expansion and environmental funding issues -- which we of course also support.

Our educational efforts really expanded this year -- including showing the film Underwater Dreams, and providing speakers at three Sunday services including the undocumented law student who passed the FL Bar -- but could not get a license to practice in this state; two immigration lawyers who deal daily with victims of human trafficking and the unaccompanied children who have come to the US from Central America; and our

long time friends from the CIW. We also prepared and a provided a lesson on Florida farmworkers to our youngest members.

While our educational efforts expanded we decide to pull back on the collection and distribution of children's clothing at farm worker camps in the Plant City area.

All of the above accomplishments were only possible with your generous support. THANK YOU!

Farmworker/Immigrant Chair, Karen Coale

Homeless Ministry Annual Report 2014/2015

The Homeless Ministry takes to heart and carries our mission forward -- offering compassion and advocating for the rights of the homeless.

Through the initiatives of the Homeless Ministry, the generous support of this congregation and other faith based groups we partner with, we continue to be on the front line of homeless issues with direct outreach, political action and support to local agency's.

We raise funds to support, through monthly and annual fund raisers, established and emerging outreach institutions. Including Daystar, Free Clinic- Beacon House, Woman's Residence, Family Promise Pinellas County, Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board and Celebrate Outreach.

In addition to helping fund our many partners -- immeasurable hours are also contributed by many church member volunteers.

Our Friday night Picnic in the Playground is one example of the level of commitment in our Church. This past year we have reshaped this interfaith weekly service to include more volunteer participation, focusing on nutrition and sustainability. We continue to serve over 5000 meals annually to all those in need. This service has been held up as a positive model for other groups to follow. April we celebrate 6 years of continuous service.

Our Beacon House servers continue to serve meals every Monday evening of the month throughout the year.

With our children and the reinstated "Food collection Sunday" we continue to collect nonperishable food for distribution to those in need.

With our partner Celebrate Outreach we sponsor a monthly community forum, in Gilmour Hall, bringing in expert presenters to share knowledge on eradicating homelessness and ways to navigate existing and emerging services to benefit the marginalized poor.

Our members have helped co-sponsor the National Memorial Service held every December to remember those in our community that have died without homes.

We remain flexible and open to new ideas for finding solutions to the ever-changing landscape of homelessness.

Thank you for your continued support,

The Homeless Ministry Chair, Reggie Craig

**Green Sanctuary Ministry
Annual Report 2014/2015**

The Green Sanctuary Ministry is working to increase congregational awareness of climate change and to make UU St Pete a green sanctuary. The ministry is presently performing an audit of current church practices. The ministry will then develop and implement an action plan to fulfill the green sanctuary requirements.

The Green Sanctuary Ministry's recent activities include: 1) Book study of Naomi Klein's book *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs The Climate*; 2) THE GREEN CORNER, a weekly post on info net that provides information on climate change and suggestions on how each of us can become more involved; 3) A climate trivia booth at Intergenerational Day; and 4) A kick off day on Sunday April 26th to inform the congregation of the green sanctuary program.

Green Sanctuary Ministry Chair, Dale Potter

**Move to Amend Ministry
Annual Report 2014/2015**

The purpose of this ministry is to support the passage of a constitutional amendment to reverse a couple of disastrous Supreme Court decisions. The amendment will limit "personhood" to human beings. No other entities will have constitutional rights. It will also affirm that money is not speech, allowing it to be regulated in the political process.

We work with the Pinellas county Move to Amend chapter which includes people from UU St Pete, UU Clearwater, people from other churches and people with no church affiliation.

Towards the end of 2014, we participated in meetings and potlucks in support of Rana Bazini, an 80 year old woman who walked from Sarasota to Tallahassee to draw attention to the need for the constitutional amendment.

Move to Amend Ministry Chair, Daniel Greenfeld

**UUSC
Annual Report 2014/2015**

What Exactly is the UUSC?

Celebrating 75 years this year, the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee was initially formed to work with refugees from Nazi Germany. Today, the UUSC has commitments and partnerships within the US and across the world. Membership in UUSC means becoming a part of a global network of social justice activists and

advocates, and increases our collective ability to create positive change. It is in effect aligning UU principals with practice on a broader scale.

At UUSP, UUSC is best known for the Guest at Your Table campaign run each Fall. In addition, Marilyn Barber has steadfastly sold Holiday Cards. We are also participating in the James Luther Award for congregational involvement based on a minimum contribution per pledge unit. Recently, the Rev. William Schultz, President of the UUSC, was in the area speaking on behalf of UUSC.

There are many situations where the national office in Boston has designated areas which need our attention and advocacy:

Immigration and Deportation,
Climate Justice,
Human Right to Water (especially given the situation in Kenya and California)

Lastly, in conjunction with the UUA, the College of Social Justice is offering summer internships for young adults. In addition, congregations interested in a social justice mission can travel under UUSC/UUA's auspices to work with UUSC partners in the delivery of aid.

Membership in the UUSC gives us the opportunity to become better citizens of the human community. While many of these issues are not in our own backyard, becoming a member allows us to participate in bringing change and to make a better world for everyone.

UUSC Ministry Chair, Nancy Clark

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS FOR FISCAL 2015-2016

Board of Trustees

Three year terms - (to be elected)

Trustee Position #1 (term to expire 2018): **Andrew Chirch**

Trustee Position #2 (term to expire 2018): **Cynthia Patterson**

To complete the term expiring 2017: **Reggie Craig** (replaced Jim Peters)

Two year term remaining (expires 2017)

Jane Fanning

Barbara Riddle

One year term remaining (expires 2016)

Lori Price

Laurie Clement

Officers: (to be elected for one year terms)

Clerk: Dani Skrzypek

Treasurer (Acting): Sally Carville (Sally has agreed to temporarily remain in this position as we continue to seek a member to fill the office of Treasurer.)

Financial Secretary: Dani Skrzypek

Assistant Financial Secretary: Jack Reed

Board of Endowment:

Three year terms - (to be elected)

Endowment Position #1 (term to expire 2018): **Karen Frank**

Endowment Position #2 (term to expire 2018): **Teresa Kelly**

Two year term remaining (expires 2017)

Kent Fanning

Darren Stowe

One year term remaining (expires 2016)

Barbara Rowell

Nancy Clark

Submitted by the Nominating Committee: Jane Fanning, Chair; Morgan Gresham; Karen Frank