



January 2013

Volume 54 Issue 1

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### UUSP Mission Statement

"Providing a compassionate and welcoming community, inspiring spiritual and intellectual growth, and serving as a beacon for social activism and service."

# SCOPE

Unitarian Universalist Church of St. Petersburg

719 Arlington Avenue North

January 2013

## Alarums and Diversions

At the time of the New Year we think about changes — changes that have happened in the past year for good or evil, and changes that we want for the future. We make resolutions. This year we are going to be thinner, healthier, wiser, more loving, more forgiving, more organized, more of everything good. Or we decide to give up things like chocolate or alcohol or cigarettes. Sometimes we even succeed, but often we don't. It has become a standard joke, the meat and potatoes of January comics: the fragility of well-intended resolutions. What we forget or deny is that change, even if it leads to growth — perhaps especially if it leads to growth — is bound to be uncomfortable, if not downright painful.

Ours is liberal religion. We even used to call ourselves that before liberal became a dirty word in the secular world of politics. Liberals tend to be open to change, even eager for it. We think of ourselves as change agents and look with disapproval on those who put stumbling blocks in its way. Change — any change — is better than stagnation. Often change is as necessary as it is inevitable, but it is important not to confuse thoughtful caution with the fear of the unknown that often subconsciously puts roadblocks in the way of healthy change and growth. And sometimes, the unintended consequences...! I have never upgraded the system on my computer without losing some beloved application that will no longer open. It is always a good change, made inevitable by technological growth, but painful, nevertheless.

Change comes in different dress, too. Sometimes it may be huge, cataclysmic, with consequences reaching far beyond what anyone might have intended or wished. When things seem too difficult we often look for just that kind of change, not necessarily thinking about how the more cautious may react or what the process may do to those not acting as change agents, and then we're shocked when we find we've stepped on a rake. Probably even at the most problematic moments, even when everyone agrees that some kind of change must happen, the kind that works best is incremental, quiet, happening almost when you were looking the other way. Then, in a while, you look around and see a difference and are not quite sure how it happened.

How to achieve that is the question. Resolutions seldom work, cataclysms are sure to create pain and resistance. I suspect the best way is just to live the best way you can, as an individual or a community, working on all those improvements that you think of to make resolutions about, but working in a way that seems not to be doing much at all. It's almost like the 12-step process: Just for today I will not say one unkind word or think one unkind thought. Just for today I'll listen to one new idea and not immediately reject it. Just for today I will really think around a problem and consider all the possible consequences of what I might do about it. Do that each day, and be surprised at the changes.

May this be a particularly happy New Year, filled with change and growth that happens just a bit at a time but makes all the difference.

*Katy*

**Staff**

The Reverend  
Katy Korb

*Developmental Minister*

Jim Culver  
*Music Director*

Careena Cornette  
*Director of Religious Education*

J. Peter Schultes  
*Office Manager*

Aaron Johnson  
*Custodian*

Greg Burton  
*President*  
*Board of Trustees*

The Reverend  
Alec Craig  
*Minister Emeritus*

The Reverend  
Wes Stevens  
*Minister Emeritus*

**Board of Trustees**

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Jack Reed  
Eric Mitchell

Margie Manning  
Dani Skrzypek  
Ian O'Hara

Ginny Oppenheimer, *clerk*

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Margie Manning, *Treasurer*  
Michael Pohl, *Asst. Treasurer*  
Dani Skrzypek, *Financial Sec.*  
Kate Chambers, *Asst. Fin. Sec.*

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Darren Stowe, *Vice Chair*  
Alexandra Bolton-Schultes  
*Treasurer*

Karen Frank, *Secretary*  
Kent Fanning  
Mike Manning

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**President's Message by Greg Burton**

What better way to welcome in 2013 than with a birthday party for our beloved Church?! Did you know that January 5<sup>th</sup> is our birthday? Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup> we will have ourselves a party to celebrate out nearly 100 years of providing St Petersburg with the option of a "liberal church". Indeed, for years we were officially named The United Liberal Church of St Petersburg.

So bring some treats to share on the 6<sup>th</sup>. We will have a birthday cake as well. Following the party Katy and I will host a second meet and greet for those interested at which time we will answer questions any of you may have.

We have many reasons beside our birthday to be joyful. I received a telephone call from Dani Skrzypek recently regarding membership. She is tasked with entering new pledges into our database. Since Rev Korb assumed the pulpit, we have begun to recover from the chaos of last spring. Not only is there an increasing number of visitors each week, some of those visitors are deciding to become members. As a result the number of pledge units is increasing as well.

What we have to offer was beautifully presented on Christmas Eve. The choir sang, the hand bells rang and Santa came down the chimney to land on a roasting yam. For those of you who missed the service, ask Katy for a copy of "The Cajun Night Before Christmas" if you are curious about the yam. But it was an evening when the content of the service, expertly complimented by the music, came together for a wonderful experience..

The next day Katy and Reggie Craig's picture was on the front page of the second section of the Tampa Bay Times. And so for the second time in her short tenure Katy was able to obtain great press of the Church and our faith.

So bring your snacks and questions and join us in a well deserved celebration.

**9<sup>th</sup> Annual Mirror Lake Clean Up Saturday**

This year's clean-up will be January 12<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. the city will provide trash bags, pickers, trucks, a boat and some gloves. Please bring what you need. The Mirror Lake Lyceum will provide soft drinks, and Coney Island dogs!

A light lunch will be provided for volunteers on a first come basis until we run out!

Please help us put the shine back on this historic lake!

Thanks!

## January Celebrations

### Anniversaries

28—Peter & Summer  
Papangelou

### Birthdays

2—John Clement  
6—Katy Korb  
19—Sally Wallace  
22—Teresa Kelly  
28—Alice Phillips

## Months of Sundays

January 6 "Poets Say It Better" Rev. Korb

January 13 Worship Committee

January 20 "The Taproot" Rev. Korb

January 27 "How Romantic!" Rev. Korb

February 10 "Hearts Core" Rev. Korb

February 17 Worship Committee

## Treasurer's report –

A major change is ahead for UU Church of St. Petersburg and other congregations in the newly created Southern Region of the Unitarian Universalist Association. The Southern Region, which includes the Florida District and three other districts across much of the southeast United States, is piloting the UUA's new GIFT program.

GIFT, which stands for "Generously Investing in Tomorrow," involves a single "ask" for the UUA's Annual Program Fund and district dues. Currently, those are separate requests, with the UUA's APF Fair Share for Fiscal 2014 set at \$60 per member, and the Florida District dues at \$23 per member. Effective July 1, 2013, congregations in the Southern Region will be asked to give 7 percent of reported annual expenses as part of GIFT.

GIFT is a covenantal process, unifying UUA and district/regional funding, and reminding us that UU Church of St. Pete is part of a larger whole. Our denominational support unites our energies, commitment, and financial resources to fulfill the dreams that no single person or congregation could achieve alone.

November 2012 financials

### Total income

Pledges	\$8,178
Endowment	\$3,191
Sunday services	\$820
Building use	\$879
Other income	\$105.80

### Total expenses

Compensation	\$13,268
Programs	\$459
Buildings & grounds	\$2,095
Other expenses	\$305



Margie Manning, Treasurer

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:00pm Emotions Anonymous	2 7:00pm Meditation	3 5:00pm B&G Meeting 6:15pm Handbells 6:30pm Spanish Class 7:00pm Adult Choir	4	5
6 10:40am Band Rehearsal 11:00am GAYT Box Collection 11:00am GAYT Boxes 1:30pm Sing Out Jam Out 7:28pm Collage	7 4:45pm Beacon House 7:00pm Shaolin Kung Fu 7:00pm NA	8 7:00pm Emotions Anonymous 7:00pm Worship Committee	9 7:00pm Board of Trustees 7:00pm Meditation	10 5:30pm Qigong for Health and Relaxation 6:15pm Handbells 6:30pm Spanish Class 7:00pm Adult Choir	11	12
13 10:40am Band Rehearsal 12:00pm Fair Trade Coffee 12:30pm Book Talk: Doing Time For Peace 7:28pm Collage	14 4:45pm Beacon House 6:00pm Homeless Ministry 7:00pm Shaolin Kung Fu 7:00pm NA	15 7:00pm Emotions Anonymous	16 7:00pm Meditation	17 5:30pm Qigong for Health and Relaxation 6:15pm Handbells 7:00pm Adult Choir 7:00pm World Religions 1	18	19
20 10:40am Band Rehearsal 12:30pm Freedom From Strongholds 7:28pm Collage	21 4:45pm Beacon House 7:00pm Shaolin Kung Fu 7:00pm NA 7:00pm Covenant Group	22 7:00pm Emotions Anonymous	23 5:30pm Migrant/Immigrant Ministry 7:00pm Meditation	24 5:30pm Qigong for Health and Relaxation 6:15pm Handbells 7:00pm Adult Choir 7:00pm World Religions 1	25	10:00am Visit Farmworker Camps
27 10:40am Band Rehearsal 12:00pm Fair Trade Coffee 12:30pm R.E. Meeting 12:30pm Freedom From Strongholds 7:28pm Collage	28 4:45pm Beacon House 7:00pm Shaolin Kung Fu 7:00pm NA	29 7:00pm Emotions Anonymous	30 7:00pm Meditation	31 5:30pm Qigong for Health and Relaxation 6:15pm Handbells 7:00pm Adult Choir 7:00pm World Religions 1		

## UUA Trustee Tidbits from Joan Lund

Happy New Year! Last month I indicated the 2009 Fifth Principle Task Force Report (5thPTFR) and the UUA Board of Trustees (BOT) work in this area warranted more than one Trustee Tidbit column. To continue the governance recommendations the 5<sup>th</sup> PTFR stated that GA business must reflect ultimate questions as a liberal religious movement, budgetary priorities and accountability; that there be substantive linkage between the BOT and delegate teams in preparation for and during the proposed biennial GA; that delegates be trained, and empowered and accountable to congregations through election or official appointment; that governance leaders of congregations serve as delegates.

As you realize the 5<sup>th</sup> PTFR only addresses the governance track of General Assembly (GA). But for many of us GA is so much more: workshops, worship, Ware Lecture, and a time for many of our “stakeholders” to meet and conduct their business, and more.

The 5<sup>th</sup> PTF ad hoc BOT group has determined we cannot go forward with the 5<sup>th</sup> PTFR recommendations until we determine “how we gather”, and further acknowledge there are really two pillars that make up GA: How We Gather and How We Govern. So between now and June we will be securing information from various sources and stakeholders to help determine our GA direction. These groups will include, but not be limited to our Administration, the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association, the District Presidents Association, Diverse and Revolutionary Unitarian Universalist Multicultural Ministries, Youth and Young Adults Ministries, and the General Assembly Planning Committee.

The BOT has invited the above-stated “stakeholders” to the January Board meeting for a conversation during the day on Friday. We have asked the invitees to converse with their constituents between now and the January meeting. In addition the 5<sup>th</sup> PTF BOT group will be sending out to our “stakeholders” rough draft information in two different documents titled: “How We Gather” and “How We Govern”. We also plan to make certain our congregations are equipped to meet and converse together about these two aspects of GA with information and discussion questions. At GA the BOT will conduct at least one informational workshop regarding these two pillars. Hopefully your congregation will spend time discussing these two pillars of GA and let me know your thoughts. Not too early to plan to be in Louisville for GA.

Hope your congregation prospers and grows in all the ways you hope in 2013. I always enjoy hearing from you about UUA matters and can be reached at [jlund@uua.org](mailto:jlund@uua.org) or 813-931-9727.

### **Group Contacts**

#### **Administrative**

Margie Manning 374-0570

#### **Building & Grounds**

Fred Russell 542-5449

#### **Care Ministry**

Joan Barclay  
520-8922

#### **Children’s Religious Education**

Dolores Benjamin  
360-7592

#### **Communications Working Group**

Eric Mitchell  
327-9454

#### **Hospitality Team**

Dot Goldsmith  
344-7809

#### **Congregational Life Ministry**

Dave Coale 898-8038

#### **Music**

Jim Culver 616-318-4664

#### **Program Council**

Karen Coale 898-8038

#### **Scope**

J Peter Schultes 898-3294

#### **Social Justice**

Handcrafters Subministry  
Dani Skryzpek 488-3601  
Homeless Subministry  
Reggie Craig 631-1031  
Migrant Subministry  
Karen Coale 898-8038

#### **UU Service Committee**

Marilyn Barber 298-5096

#### **Worship Ministry**

Penny Duff 748-3178

## **UU ST. PETE. CARE COMMITTEE....**

Please let us know of any health or other concerns of members so that that we may contact them and be of assistance when needed. You may call the church office, 898-3294 or Joan Barclay, 520-8922. We now have confidential contact forms available in the community room off Gilmour Hall. Feel free to fill out a form and deposit it in the box provided there and we will be in touch and try to help. Our whole UU St. Pete church family is really a part of the Care Committee and we count on you to keep us informed. Current Committee members are Joan, Kathy Runde, Laurie Clement, Evie May, Mike and Margie Manning and Valerie Cadoret. We invite you to join us if you would like to help keep in touch with our shut-ins and members in need by sending cards, calling, providing rides to doctor appointments, church, shopping, etc., or visiting whenever a visit would be welcome. Just let us know if this is something you would enjoy.

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### **A Note From Sally**

Dear UUSP community,

You cannot imagine my surprise and my pleasure when I received an email from Amazon announcing a gift card from my church family. Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness and your generosity. Although Guyana is more developed than many third-world countries, there is still a great need here for improvement in the areas of health and education. I will use this gift card to buy books to donate to the children in the poorest section of New Amsterdam. A co-worker of mine runs a small lending library from her home in that neighborhood and will be very appreciative of more books for the children. Your gift to me is a gift to the children of Guyana. I am very grateful to be able to facilitate the gift. Thank you very much.

In faith and love,

Sally

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### **Happy Birthday Unitarian Universalist Church of Saint Petersburg**

January 5, 1915 marks the 98<sup>th</sup> birthday of our church.

We think we deserve a party. So after the service on Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup> we shall celebrate!

No gifts please!

But do bring a dessert to share with our coffee and punch.

## Standing on the Side of Love with Immigrant Families

### Looking Ahead . . . . . Into 2013

#### Arizona Is Our Town on Video

Filming of a video version of the educational immigration skit, **Arizona Is Our Town**, has completed. Luis Echeverri, Keevy McAlvey and Eric Mitchell are now in the editing phase. We are planning to have the UU St Pete premier in late January/early February, and then the public premier at the *Healing Our World and Ourselves* conference in mid February in Orlando. The Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Florida is financing the duplication of the DVDs to send as an educational package to the UU Congregations across Florida.

#### Federal Immigration Reform – A Strong Possibility

Since the General Election – immigration, and specifically the possibility of new federal immigration laws – has been a topic in the headlines and on the Sunday morning news programs. There appears to be bi-partisan support for updating federal immigration laws. Two approaches have surfaced:

A step by step approach with each step addressing various immigrant populations, such as a temporary worker program for unskilled workers, a DREAM Act for those who immigrated as young children and grew up here, and graduates in the STEM disciplines who earned their advanced degrees in the US.

Comprehensive immigration reform (CRE) with a path to citizenship for the estimated 11.2 million undocumented currently residing in this country.

At the Florida legislative level, bills have been filed to provide in-state tuition to residents who are citizens but their parents are not documented. This law was proposed in last year's session but was defeated within the House Judiciary Committee. A similar bill has been re-introduced again this year – despite a favorable judicial ruling that requires Florida colleges and universities to provide in-state tuition to this population.

Our committee will be closely watching developments and will plan a supporting educational and advocacy plan for our members and friends.

#### FL Gulf Coast UU's Uniting to Support CIW's Campaign

UU's from across the west coast of Florida as well as Orlando met in November with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) at the UU Fellowship in Port Charlotte. The purpose of the day was to provide an update on the CIW's progress with their Fair Food Campaign and to lay the foundation for working together in support of this campaign. More information will follow in the next few weeks on how each of us can support their effort for safer working conditions and fair wages.

See "Immigrants" page 8.....

.....“Immigrants” from page 7

### **Holiday Gifts for Immigrant Families – Thank YOU**

Your Migrant/Immigrant Ministry thanks all of you for your generous response to our “angel tree” for four immigrant families who live here in St. Petersburg. Many of you bought gifts. Several others donated money, and we gladly did the shopping for you. There was enough money – to even provide gifts for the mothers – including Sweet Bay gift cards. WOW!

The outpouring from this congregation is most moving. Our children enthusiastically wrapped and decorated the many gifts that you bought while we told them a little bit about each family – their first names and ages, where they are from and how our congregation supports these families. Rob then entertained us with a Christmas story about an Italian witch and the three wise men. My thanks to Joseph, Laura, Marissa and Rob for their caring help.

Then Santa’s Becker, Piacentino and Price delivered the gifts to the mothers. Thank you all for your generous hearts. This was truly a project that engaged most of our wonderful congregation.

### **Food Collections Sundays for Immigrant Families**

The food collections during January and February will be for the four immigrant families that we support here in St. Petersburg. Wagons will be placed by each entrance to the sanctuary and under the Social Justice bulletin board in Gilmour Hall. Please drop your donations of non-perishable food at any time. The extra boost of help you give these families with growing children means a lot to them.

### **Farmworker Families Have Returned to Strawberry Farms**

Our next trip to deliver children’s clothing to the farmworker camps near Plant City will be on January 26<sup>th</sup>. We visit the camps monthly during the winter months. Join us the next time. To sign-up contact Karen at 727 898-8038 or [kcoale@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:kcoale@tampabay.rr.com)

Meanwhile – our supplies are getting low. We need some more donations of new and gently used children’s clothing. Please no adult clothing – just children’s sizes. THANKS!

### **Help Plan Upcoming Events and Projects**

The Migrant/Immigrant Committee meets each month to plan outreach projects as well as social justice actions. Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 23rd** at 5:30pm in the Church Office. Please join us – we welcome your input.

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## **WhaleCoast Alaska 2013**

Have you always dreamed of visiting Alaska? If so, **WhaleCoast Alaska 2013** is for you! Four Alaskan UU fellowships invite you to experience our eco-cultural and spiritual program this summer! See Alaska through the eyes of local UUs in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, and Sitka with friendly homestays and unique tour activities. See wildlife, including moose, bear, whales, bald eagles, seals, and caribou. Visit Denali National Park. Experience Native Alaskan culture. Enjoy all that our beautiful state has to offer. Programs led by Dave Frey, a member of the Fairbanks, Alaska UU congregation, an expert in Alaska travel. To find out more about your Alaskan trip of a lifetime, visit [www.WhaleCoastAK.org](http://www.WhaleCoastAK.org), email [dfrey@whalecoastak.org](mailto:dfrey@whalecoastak.org), or call 907-322-4966. We would love to share our Alaska with you!

## **CROP Walk, 2013 –**

Would you like to take on a once-a-year project for UU St. Pete by chairing CROP Walk? Read on....The Homeless Ministry has sponsored St. Pete's Annual CROP Walk to raise funds to end hunger around the world and in our community for many years. We join with many other St. Pete churches in this worthy endeavor annually on the first Sunday of March year. All PR materials and a comprehensive guide are provided by CROP Walk, organized locally by The St. Pete Free Clinic so this is not a difficult chore, but it is surely a worthwhile one. If you're interested, please contact Pat Yochim or Reggie Craig for more details.

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## **Reservation deadline for \$75 “Christmas gift” for Healing Our World extended to January 15<sup>th</sup>**

The first two rooms reserved by January 15, 2013 by members of each Unitarian Universalist congregation in Florida for Friday night of the Healing Our World and Ourselves conference in Orlando Feb. 15-16 will receive a \$75 refund off the cost of the hotel at the close of the conference from the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Florida. This should be an outstanding conference for all concerned with transforming our world for the better for our people, our environment, and our democratic republic. We hope representatives from every UU congregation in Florida will have a chance to meet and get to know each other. Register by January 15 at [www.healingourworldandourselves.org](http://www.healingourworldandourselves.org) for the special hotel discount. For details of the special \$75 “Christmas Gift” refund and hotel contact information, contact your church office administrator, call 941.497.1764 or email [kindra\\_muntz@uulmf.org](mailto:kindra_muntz@uulmf.org).

Kindra Muntz, Chair  
Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Florida

This ministry is made possible in part by a generous grant from the Fund for Unitarian Universalist Social Responsibility

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## **Regional 2013 Spring Training - mark your calendar**

Spring Training for Southern Region leaders will be offered **April 4 - 7** in **Atlanta** (site TBA). This training will include all-inclusive Our Whole Lives (OWL) Training, Teacher Training Renaissance Module, Covenant Development, Compassionate Communication, Micro-Aggression and Basics on Growth.

### **Spring Training offerings will include:**

OWL elementary

OWL middle/high school

OWL adult/young adult

Compassionate Communication

Teacher Training Renaissance Module - Pat Kahn and Courtney McKenney

Micro Aggressions - Rev. Sunshine Wolf

Covenant - the development and practice of Covenant - Connie Goodbread

Basics on Growth - More Than Numbers and Congregational Size - Sue Sinnamon

OWL course descriptions and promotional materials can be found here: <http://www.uusouthland.org/linksresources.php>

## **Nominations by the UUA Nominating Committee**

Adopted November 18, 2012

### **Financial Advisor**

Ed Merck –Tiverton, RI (*3 year term*)

### **Board of Trustees**

Natty Averett – Arlington, VA (*1 year term*)

Rev. Rob Eller-Isaacs – St. Paul, MN (*1 year term*)

Rev. Clyde Grubbs – Revere, MA (*1 year term*)

Michael Sallwasser – Long Beach, CA (*3 year term*)

Julian Sharp – Craftsbury Common, VT (*3 year term*)

James Snell – Dallas, TX (*3 year term*)

Susan Weaver – La Jolla, CA (*1 year term*)

*(four current trustees have been appointed by the Board of Trustees for 2 year terms: Donna Harrison, Lew Phinney, Rev. Susan Ritchie and Rev. Sarah Stewart)*

### **Presidential Search Committee**

Rev. Wayne Arnason – Rocky River, OH (*4 year term*)

Rev. Mathew Johnson-Doyle – Rockford, IL (*4 year term*)

Rev. Michael Tino – Peekskill, NY (*4 year term*)

Elandria Williams – Knoxville, TN (*4 year term*)

Jacqui Williams – Albany, NY (*4 year term*)

*(two appointments for 4 year terms are to be made by the Board of Trustees)*

### **Board of Review**

Rev. Orlanda Brugnola – New York, NY (*8 year term*)

Maris Cornell – Lebanon, CT (*8 year term*)

### **Commission on Appraisal**

Lucy Bunch – Sacramento, CA (*6 year term*)

John Hawkins – Westfield, NJ (*4 year term*)

Nathan Hollister – Carrboro, NC (*6 year term*)

Myriam Renaud – Chicago, IL (*6 year term*)

### **Commission on Social Witness**

Rev. Christian Sillari – Portland, ME (*4 year term*)

Kiera Wesley –Woodenville, WA (*4 year term*)

### **General Assembly Planning Committee**

Mary Alm – Asheville, NC (*4 year term*)

Bart Frost – New Orleans, LA (*4 year term*)

Debra Boyd Gray – Columbus, OH (*4 year term*)

Rev. Chip Roush – Traverse City, MI (*4 year term*)

### **Nominating Committee**

Rev. Sofia Betancourt – New Haven, CT (*3 year term*)

Abhimanyu Janamanchi – Clearwater, FL (*3 year term*)

Ken Wagner – Marlborough, MA (*3 year term*)

Unitarian Universalist Church  
of Saint Petersburg  
719 Arlington Ave. N.  
St. Petersburg, FL  
33701-3621



### UUSP Mission Statement

“Providing a compassionate and welcoming community, inspiring spiritual and intellectual growth, and serving as a beacon for social activism and service.”