

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2019



Second Congregational Meeting House Society

Unitarian Universalist

Nantucket, MA

**January 26, 2020**

## 2019 Board of Trustees

	<b>Term Ends</b>
Susan Richards, <i>President</i>	January 2021
Kat Robinson Grieder, <i>Vice President</i>	January 2021
Peter Richards, <i>Clerk</i>	January 2020
Paul Stewart, <i>Treasurer</i>	January 2020
Joanne Polster	January 2020
Alison Forsgren	January 2021
Natalie Chambers	January 2022
Carl Borchert	January 2022
Rob Dunbar	January 2022
Rev. Linda Simmons	

Board terms are three years, except for the Treasurer whose term is one year. Board members, including the Treasurer, are elected by the congregation at the Annual Meeting. The board elects its other officers annually from among its members.

## 2019 Staff

Rev. Linda Simmons, *Minister*  
Rev. Ted Anderson, *Minister Emeritus*  
Barbara Elder & Nigel Goss, *Music Directors*  
Leyah Jensen, *Children & Youth Program Director*  
Sherlly Morocoima, *C-WE Assistant & Sexton*  
Emma Young, *Office Manager*

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**Second Congregational Society  
Unitarian Universalist, Nantucket, Massachusetts  
Annual Meeting - January 27, 2019  
Minutes**

- I. Call to Order and Establish Quorum  
Valerie Hall, Board of Trustees President, called the meeting to order in the Activities Room at 12:05pm. The necessary quorum was confirmed by Clerk, Peter Richards. Note taker: Susan Richards
  - II. Chalice Lighting and Opening Words  
Susan Richards, Board of Trustees Vice President, lit the Chalice and Opening words were provided by the Reverend Linda Simmons
  - III. Approval of Minutes of 2018 Annual & Summer Mtgs  
Clerk Peter Richards presented the Minutes of the 2018 Annual and Summer meetings: Lora Stewart moved that they be approved with a second by Paul Stewart. The Congregation voted and unanimously approved.
  - IV. Presentation, Discussion, and Approval of 2019 Budget  
MOTION: Paul Stewart, Treasurer - made the motion to adopt the 2019 Budget, the motion was seconded by Carl Borchert. After discussion (see below for summary) the motion was voted on by the congregation and approved unanimously.
- Discussion included Paul describing the budget process which begins after the third quarter of our fiscal year. The Board discusses needs and concerns for the following year - the Finance Committee then meets and reviews - making changes - additions and subtractions and a balanced budget is presented to the Board - the Board reviews and finalizes with a vote. The budget is then presented to the Congregation at our Annual Meeting. Paul stressed that this is the most important part of the process - the entire congregation having the opportunity to review, question, and discuss the budget before voting.
  - After the budget vote, Paul explained a change in UUA dues... which is now a percentage of our annual budget and not a per member charge as it has been in the past. This would triple our contribution which we feel is too much to take on at this time. We have decided instead to contribute 3% of our budget which is comparable to the cost of living raise that we are giving to staff \*Question: Does it affect our standing? Answer: Not too much -. UUA gives preference to congregations who pay full dues for when it comes to the grants that they offer. \*Question: ... would this affect our delegates at GA? - Rev Linda will look into this ... UUA expects that most congregations won't be doing the top percentage at first

- Question: Are we paying our staff a competitive wage? Answer: ... Yes. we think so...
- Annual budget doesn't represent the only money we spend for the year.... there is other money that has been designated for a specific reason - Parsonage fund, Ministers discretionary fund...

MOTION: Paul made the motion to transfer the surplus from our 2018 budget (approx. \$7,050.00) to the Parsonage Capital Maintenance Fund (which will get us to \$42,000.00) Lucille Jordan seconded. Congregation voted and approved unanimously

- Short discussion of our Parsonage Capital Maintenance Fund - We will most likely have a congregational meeting to discuss this project when we get a final figure of costs .... \$375,000 - \$400,000 was an estimate which included all of the work needed. .... Are Parsonages are on their way out? Should we consider selling it? These questions will all be discussed.
- We'll also be working on maintenance issues - boiler, etc. Have been working with Rick and Valerie Norton - island couple who work with historic building renovations to preserve historic nature as well as functionality... Sanford Kendall - was recommended if we need a second choice
- Some more discussion of Parsonage issues.... If it doesn't fall under SCPF - could we ask CPC for support? Perhaps adding a basement apartment for added income? Our Parsonage Committee - will meet sometime soon and a Congregational Meeting is suggested to discuss meet sometime soon –
- AR renovations were pointed out - painting, flooring, lighting

#### V. Election of Board of Trustees Members

Lora Stewart, Nominating Committee Chair submitted the slate of 3 members each for 3-year terms:

Carl Borchert  
Natalie Chambers  
Rob Dunbar

MOTION: Kat Robinson Grieder moved to accept this slate and Alison Forsgren seconded. Motion was voted on by the Congregation and approved unanimously.

#### VI. Election of Treasurer

Lora Stewart, Nominating Committee Chair submitted the nomination of Paul Stewart.

MOTION: Nancy Mack moved to accept this nomination and John Merson seconded. Congregation voted and approved unanimously (with a standing ovation!)

VII. Election of South Church Preservation Fund Directors

- a. Gary Langley, SCPF Nominating Committee Chair submitted the slate of 4 new members and 1 current member for re-election each for 3-year terms:

Four new members:

Mary Bergman

Tucker Holland

Marion Conley

Polly Miller

Reelected:

Debbie Kahn

MOTION: Carl Borchert moved that we accept the slate and David Hall seconded. Congregation voted and approved unanimously.

- Gary reminded the congregation that according to the by-laws of SCPF the majority of the members of the Board need to be Nantucket UU congregation members. With this vote, 6 of the 11-member Board of members of the UU congregation. Question about fundraising: Most of the SCPF funds comes from grants
- Paul let the Congregation know that the Board has voted to approve a switch to a new insurance for our Meeting house - Changing to Church Mutual Insurance - More coverage for less money!

VIII. Election of Nominating Committee

Lora Stewart, Nominating Committee Chair submitted the slate of 3 members, each for 1-year terms:

Val Hall

Susan Robinson

John Rivera

MOTION: Paul Stewart moved to accept this nomination and Nancy Mack seconded. The Congregation voted and approved unanimously.

IX. Committee Reports

**Food Rescue:** Gary Langley reported that Food Rescue started 4 years ago - it started with 3 members and now there are 16 volunteers in program - A congregant donated \$20,000 for a walk in cooler - which allowed the program to accept more donations - The cooler is located at Sustainable Nantucket - The program had a very successful pickup after the Wine Festival and is now working on a relationship with Stop and Shop - Bartlett's is current biggest contributor ( 400 lbs. a week ) During the summer there are food bins located in Wauwinet and Madaket locations for renters to leave unused/unopened food after rental periods. Also working on Pilot program at high

school to help students who are experiencing food insecurity -The group is discussing the idea of a grant for 3 years to hire a staff person to organize and take group to a higher level - Another donation just came in for \$9,000 to establish solar energy for our walk-in cooler... Making food donations weekly to Coast Guard who have been able to create their own food pantry and had their own food pantry day -

**Immigration Resource Center:** Rev Linda Simmons reported that this program opened in 2017 and is currently open the first Monday of each month 5:30-7:30 - not being used a lot and the feeling is there may be a fear that it's not a safe place and that ICE may be waiting for them. Recently decided to have quarterly International Potlucks at the Meeting house to increase trust in gatherings. The first one will be on Friday, February 1st. - The main members of the Resource Committee will be meeting with Chief Pearlman with other clergy and island leaders so that he can answer questions and address concerns. Trying hard to be "One Island" - please use the word "undocumented" instead of "Illegal"

**FUNDraising:** Alison Forsgren reports that we raised: \$19,150 with 4 events: 4th of July, By the Sea Auction, Summer Concert series, Stroll Craft Fair. This is down 3% from last year. Plan to continue 4 events - and adding one more - possible WeeGreen - website to test drive - 20% of online expenditures on green products goes to church - and perhaps one other fundraiser maybe on Daffodil weekend - an event to fundraise and raise awareness of the church -

Alison requested other contributors for ideas and events - current committee members are: Alison Forsgren, Kat Robinson Grieder and Lora Stewart, -Staff office manager Emma Young will be helping the committee in 2019 - The Committee's goal is to break events/projects down into simpler activities that everyone can do!

**Communications:** Bess Clarke reported that 6 months ago she, Alison Forsgren, Jack Weinhold, and Rev Linda met to discuss determining/articulating who we are and the work that we're doing - clarifying our branding etc. Had a special speaker come in to facilitate a discussion on who we are and what we're doing. Bess has been in touch with a professional in this field who has agreed to take this project on as her "passion project" Bess reports that they want to be really strategic in how to proceed. Our website and branding will be addressed in 2019. Rev Linda added that a congregant has contributed to the Minister's Discretionary fund which she is using towards this Communications Project.

- X. Adjournment/Extinguishing the Chalice  
Valerie Hall, Board of Trustees President adjourned the meeting at 1:22pm and Susan Richards, Board of Trustees Vice President extinguished the chalice with some closing words

**Second Congregational Meeting House Society  
Unitarian Universalist, Nantucket, Massachusetts  
Summer Congregational Meeting - July 21, 2019**

- I. Call to Order at 12:15pm  
Susan Richards, Board of Trustees President
- II. Lighting of Chalice and Opening Words  
Rev Linda Simmons
- III. Treasurers Report on first half of 2019  
Vice-President Kat Robinson Grieder for Treasurer, Paul Stewart - highlighted Emma becoming bookkeeper - things are going well and we're sticking to budget - thanks to Peter Richards for his help - Paul will be away for several months in 2020 - Finance committee working on a plan for his absence and all is under control.
- IV. Parsonage Update  
Carl Borchert, Board Trustee and Parsonage Committee Member - Insulation of exterior walls/exterior windows is planned for October - walls will be insulated by Mass Save - windows work will include vapor barrier - (stops moisture from coming up) - attic and crawl space not covered by Mass Save... possible painting project in works- heating/hot water system being discussed - heat pumps - hopefully before winter hits (general consensus is that heat pumps are great!- roof and siding is okay - we have 35-50 thousand dollars set aside for this - charge from Mass Save is a little under 2,000. Haziell asked about the possibility of changing to gas - 3% of interest from endowment goes to budget - some of that goes to parsonage
- V. Growth and Communications Update  
Rev Linda Simmons, Board Trustee Alison Forsgren,  
Board President, Susan Richards
  - Growth: Rev Linda spoke to the 4 types of congregational growth - not just numerical but organic, incarnational, maturational - for maturational growth - small group ministries are a good idea - we're a very healthy small (Family) Church acting like a moderate sized (Pastoral) Church - over extending ourselves! - we need to be economical with our people power!
  - Communications: Alison - updated us on the Communications Committee whose members are: Emma Young, Bess Clark, Rev Linda, Alison Forsgren has been meeting regularly since February - with a company rep from Candor - (Jasmine - also UU) - Our congregation gives and does so much but don't have a language for it - so working on messaging and logo, new website - working out elevator speeches - include the old and the new - those who believe in god and who don't.... Haziell - RE offered without the trappings of dogma...renamed the RE program - C-



WE (Citizen of the World Explorers) .... Also putting together a Brochure and brochure box outside church....

## VI. Social Justice Update

**Food Rescue:** Gary Langley - started with 2 people - now have 18 volunteers - people are starting to call them to give food away - have a walk-in cooler/freezer that is solar powered... taking extra food to police and fire station - also doing events (wine festival, etc.) Couple of articles in Inky and Gene Mahon - Food boxes placed on island for renters to drop non-perishable food off after rental time - food pantry has changed where they get their food.... Getting it off island - and freezer is full - so FR needed to come up with a new outlet - church groups - Faro de Luz (FDL) - Gary picks up at Bartlett's/Something Natural - FDL is thrilled - 5 days a week pick up at Bartlett's - up from 2 times a week - - one goes to Maria Mitchell interns - conversation with St. Paul's (Jamaican group) St. Mary's - Stop and Shop - Christina Strand asked about high school students as volunteers ? Suggestion of talking to Phaedra -Some High School students are food insecure but we can't get names and we can't distribute on school grounds - a mobile food storage space? Connecting is an issue - Marion - Brown bags on Fridays? For kids to take home - not allowed

**Make it Stop:** Randi Allfather - Common Ground in Gun Safety - Symposium - Colin Woodard as a speaker - involving high school students - planning for a panel - end of September at the earliest.

**Immigration:** Rev Linda Simmons - ICE was on island last week.... Warrants for misdemeanors not just criminal actions - Lights for Liberty - events - monthly resource date - first Monday of each month - Susan Kirk (new UU member) lives for 4 months in Southern Arizona where house 30 miles from border - goes to UU church in Amado which is 20 miles from border - they have a migrant quilt organization - honoring the deaths in the desert and create a quilt every year IDEA: our UU should make a quilt - honoring Nantucket immigrants - blue squares/ map of Nantucket/ flags of all different countries/ names of immigrants - if you'd like to join - first Monday of each month for quilting... "We're all Immigrants"

## VII. Adjournment and Extinguishing of Chalice at 1:12pm Susan Richards, Board of Trustees President

## Minister's Report

I have served as your minister now for six and a half years. My learning continues as I sit at death beds, celebrate new life, mourn those who have passed, and marry others. This year I have gotten better at staying focused on what is good while working to ameliorate what is not. I continue to be moved and returned to the heart-breaking vulnerability of life each time I am in community with all of you.

This year I led worship services and offered sermons on 36 Sundays. The topics were wide ranging and included themes such as: *100 Silences*, *Prophetic Imagination*, *Gender Queer* and *The Untethered Soul*. We also welcomed some guests to our pulpit including Tucker Orbison who did a standing room only talk called *Human Dreaming*. Rabbi Gary Bretton-Granatoor offered us a sermon in the sanctuary called *We've been looking at our Woes through the Wrong Lens*. I collaborated with UU member Natalie Chambers for a sermon entitled *The Idea of American* and also with UU member Margaret Ruttenberg to talk about morality in a sermon entitled: "*What's God Got to do with it?*" On Mother's Day we all marched with all our banners and posters, down to the Methodist Church for a service to support lgbtqi+ rights. Rev. Duane Clinker, interim minister of the Methodist Church, and I led an interfaith service.

We had our beautiful Solstice service on December 22<sup>nd</sup> with poetry, music, a calling in of the four directions, candle lighting and meditation. Thank you to all who participated. It is a labor of love.

We also had our *Blessing of the Animals* on Sunday October 6 outside in front of the sanctuary doors where the rain held off for one more year!

In addition to my Sunday morning responsibilities, I officiated twelve weddings and eight memorial services.

We welcomed five new members in 2019: Cesar Gianella, Lydia Sussek, Susan Kirk, Hans Breiter, Loretta Middleton and Bob Middleton. How blessed we are to include them in our community!

In February of 2019, Gary and I went to Tijuana to do some border witness work at Casa del Migrante. When we returned, we had a presentation of all we learned at the Atheneum replete with Gary's stunning photos. Between town folks and the UU Meeting House, we raised over \$7,000 for an industrial washer and dryer, to give to Instituto Madre Asunta, the women's and children's home next to Casa del Migrante.

Our social justice commitments, through the 7<sup>th</sup> Principle Project, continue to be a corner stone of our Society. The Immigration Resource Center, Food Rescue, Make it Stop, and other community outreach and support as it arises, remains strong and vibrant.

The Immigration Resource Center, IRC, under the auspices of the 7<sup>th</sup> Principle Project, opened officially the first Monday of June 2017 and has been open the first Monday of every month from 5:30-7:00pm. We continue to serve island immigrants; supporting them with legal advice through our pro-bono lawyer, offering referrals, building bridges and leading rallies and conversations to show our support as allies.

Food Rescue continues to be a dynamic program on island run with Gary Langley as Director who will give a more detailed report on the pages herein.

Make It Stop, an island team that also runs under the auspices of the 7<sup>th</sup> Principle Project, developed this mission statement: *Working to reduce gun violence through common sense legislation and committed action.* We held a symposium on September 16<sup>th</sup> at the Atheneum called, "Finding Common Ground: Reducing Gun Violence in American Culture." Representatives Marjorie Decker and Dylan Fernandes, State Senator Julian Cry, Mom's Demand Action and John Carl McGrady were part of a provocative and thoughtful panel. Make it Stop also hosted two vigils at the UU Meeting House after mass shootings, one to honor the 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of New Town.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Principle project also took the lead on a clothing and food drive for the Coast Guard at the UU Meeting House when they were not receiving wages. Much of the town came out to donate food and money on this cold and rainy night.

I became part of an interfaith team that hosted dinners every Monday for J-1 Visa students throughout the summer.

The board and I brought Hillary Allen over to the island to talk to us about growth. Her most telling phrase for me was, "You are a healthy, small church."

I facilitated a community class called, "Genderqueer, the Practice of Beloved Community" for six Tuesdays in the spring. One of the outcomes of this class was to form a task force with Health Imperatives, A Safe Place, and Alliance for Substance Abuse to become trained to facilitate a support group for friends, family and allies of LGBTQI+ folk. The first café will be in February 2020 at the Handlebar Café.

We also said goodbye to our dear Barbara Elder who was our Music Director, this time round, from January 2018-August 2019. We were sorry to lose Barbara and thrilled that Nigel Goss took up the Music Directorship. I am grateful beyond words to both of them.

Emma Young, our Office Manager from June 2018 resigned at the end of 2019 and Sue Mynttinen accepted the position. Sue has seamlessly taken her seat at the Office Manager table.

I continue to serve as a member of the Interfaith Council, a board member on the Nantucket Community Foundation and the Grievance Officer for Nantucket Housing Authority.

I devote a large part of my ministry to pastoral care. I am the chaplain with Palliative and Supportive Care of Nantucket (PASCON) and serve many of our island residents as such. I am also the chaplain of the Cottage Hospital and sit on the Ethics Committee there. This year I became the Fire Chaplain as well. I also make numerous house and hospital calls to our congregants as well as see many folks who come to the parsonage for tea and conversation. I continue to learn much about compassion, presence, love, forgiveness, hope and community from showing up in this way with so many of you. This part of my ministry blesses me deeply.

I extend my thanks to members of the Board especially President Susan Richards, Vice President Kat Robinson Grieder, Treasurer Paul Stewart and Clerk Peter Richards; and to Finance Committee members Randi Allfather, Kat Robinson Grieder, Nick Miller, Peter Richards, Susan Richards, William Schutt, Paul Stewart, Jim Sulzer, and Jeffrey Thomson for their extraordinary talents and commitment to the congregation. Committee chairs and members deserve equal thanks as well—Citizen of the World Chairs: Susan Richards and Lora Stewart; Lay Led Service Committee Chairs: Susan Richards and Kat Robinson Grieder; Nominating Committee Chair: Val Hall; Building and Grounds Chair: David Hall; 7<sup>th</sup> Principle Project Chair: Gary Langley; Caring and Membership Committees' Chair: Lora Stewart; South Church Preservation Fund Chairs: Gary Langley and Christine Sanford; Chair of the Docenting Program: Peter Richards; and Manager of Church Archives: Joanne Polster. And last but not least much gratitude to our staff: Nigel Goss, Music Director; Sue Mynttinen, Office Manager; Leyah Jensen, Children Youth Program Director, Sherlly Morocoima, C-WE Assistant and Sexton -- for their continued service and devotion. I also thank my colleague, Ted Anderson, *Minister Emeritus*, for the blessing of his friendship.

*Thank you all for showing up, keeping the faith, and working to increase the measure of love and justice in the world. It is a great honor and privilege to serve as your minister.*

Respectfully submitted,

*Rev. Linda Simmons, Minister*

## President's Report

Growth was the theme and major focus of the work of the 2019 Board of Trustees. Together the members of the Board - Susan Richards - President, Kat Robinson Grieder - Vice President, Peter Richards - Clerk, Paul Stewart - Treasurer, Alison Forsgren, Joanne Polster and Board members nominated and voted in at the Annual Congregational Meeting in January of 2019 - Rob Dunbar, Natalie Chambers and Carl Borchert, along with our minister, Rev Linda directed our energies to the discussion of growth along with beginning the action steps that will move our congregation forward.

For each of our monthly Board meetings we read and discussed a chapter from “UpCycle Your Congregation - Creative Ideas for Transforming Faith Communities”. Inspiring topics ranged in themes from reimagining our music and education programs to what works (and perhaps doesn’t work) about our coffee hours and reviewing the stories we tell about the history of our Congregation. All of this led to invigorating discussion and merged perfectly with our two Board retreats - in April and in October.

A good portion of our April retreat was dedicated to the review and discussion of the March presentation on “Congregational Growth” with UUA representative Hilary Allen who met with both the Board and interested members of the Congregation. (\*See below) Questions like: “Where should we focus our energies?”, “What areas can be back-burnered?” and “How do we grow our ‘people power’”? stimulated spirited conversations and led to the setting of some real action-steps... foremost among them was supporting the continuing work of our Communications team around advertising/social media strategies.

\*From Hilary Allen’s presentation:

### **Types of Church Growth**

- 1) **Numerical** - (numbers)- Number of active members is most important - not number in “the book”
- 2) **Organic** - (Strength) - Growth in function and practice of organization to achieve mission
- 3) **Maturation** (wisdom) - growth in the spiritual maturity of each member
- 4) **Incarnational** (action) - Grows its ability to “socially incarnate” - what UUism is all about

At our second retreat in October, we revisited the discussion of growth, reviewed our Communications strategies, and worked on some social growth ideas - including forming a plan for Friday night social events as well as expanding on our very successful Fourth of July event.

As a part of our growth discussion at this retreat , we also talked about our new covenant renewal sessions (part of our 2020 pledge campaign) and agreed to continue them for our 2021 pledge campaign. Formalizing a fundraising schedule to include 4 major events per year along with a permanent fundraising committee was also agreed upon.

Along with our two retreats, the Board maintained its usual schedule of monthly meetings. There are many congregational issues that find their way to our agenda. One

of our main responsibilities continues to be maintaining the integrity of our Congregation's finances.

Here's an example of a typical agenda:

**2<sup>nd</sup> Congregational Meeting House Society, Unitarian Universalist**

**Board of Trustees Meeting AGENDA**

**Tuesday, January 21, 2020**

**5:15pm**

- Call to Order
- Opening words
- Minutes from the December meeting
- Ministers Update
- Treasurer's Update

**Strategic Issues**

- Communications Committee
- Rental Rates

**Operational Issues**

- Office Manager/Bookkeeper positions update
- SHIM contract Update
- Covenant Renewal/Pledge update
- Board Handbook review
- Minister's Letter of Agreement
- Annual Meeting Agenda

**Committee/Task Force Check-Ins**

- Building and Grounds -
- Committee on Ministry -
- Layled Share the Plate Request
- Other

**Members' Concerns/New Business**

**Adjournment**

### **Ongoing List of Committees and Board Liaisons**

Ministry: Peter Richards	Nominating: Susan Richards
Buildings & Grounds: Rev Linda	Finance: Paul Stewart
RE: Susan Richards	Caring: Natalie Chambers
7 <sup>th</sup> Principle: Susan Richards	Membership: Susan Richards
Lay Led: Kat Robinson Grieder	Activities Room: Rob Dunbar
Docents: Peter Richards	Garden: Joanne Polster
Fundraising: Alison Forsgren	Pledge Campaign: Paul Stewart
Pledge Appreciation: Susan Richards	Archives: Joanne Polster
Hospitality (Coffee Hour): Peter Richards	
Communications: Alison Forsgren	Parsonage Renovation: Carl Borchert

At the end of 2019 we found out about a big upcoming change as our good friends of the Faro de Luz Congregation informed us that they have found another location and will be moving on by April 1st of 2020. While we are happy that Faro de Luz has found a home of their own, they have been sharing our building for quite a few years and will be missed!

At almost the same time the same time Faro de Luz was letting us know of their departure, Servants Heart International Ministries (SHIM) contacted us inquiring as to available space to rent for their congregation. As of this report a temporary rental agreement has been signed with a more permanent lease pending.

As Board President, I am so thankful for the dedication and hard work of my fellow board members and so many others who have stepped forward to help in a multitude of ways. Special thanks to the inspirational Rev Linda. I look forward to more growth together in 2020!

And finally, we bid farewell to outgoing Board members, Peter Richards and Joanne Polster and thank them very much for their dedicated service to the Board and our Congregation! Peter and Joanne will be missed on the Board but we have no doubts that you will both continue to be stalwarts of our Congregation!

*Susan Richards, President*

## Clerk's Report

The Clerk's Committee includes Peter Richards (Clerk), Paul Stewart (Treasurer), Susan Richards (President), Lora Stewart (Membership), and Reverend Linda Simmons. A meeting was held on January 14, 2020 to review the membership list and finalize the exact membership count under UUA guidelines. The final Member Count is 65. The total number of "Non-Member Friends" is 55. This will be further discussed during the annual meeting of the congregation on Sunday, January 26, 2020.

Overall attendance in 2019 for both the Sanctuary and Hendrix Hall, was 2,215 over 50 weeks, for an average of 44.3 per week. That is a 7.1% decrease from 2018's total of 2,471. The RE total attendance for 2019 was 179 children, for an average of 3.6 per week, a decrease of 16% from 2018's average. Separately, the attendance average over the 19 weeks for the Sanctuary in 2019 was 45.6; the average in Hendrix Hall over its 31 weeks of services there was 43.6.

2019 was the second consecutive year when there were no major winter storms causing the church to be closed and cancelling the Sunday service. There were two services held outside of the church in 2019. The first was on May 12 when the congregation participated in the Multi-Denominational Gay Rights March to the Methodist Church. The coffee hour was held back at our UU Meeting House and hosted by Lydia Sussek who made everyone who came, UU and Methodist alike, a grand feast!

The other, the annual Blessing of the Animals, was held on October 6th. We do not count the attendance because it is held outside on the front steps of the sanctuary and on the sidewalk area. It was the eighth straight year of good weather for this annual "blessing" by Reverend Simmons! A good time was had by all and an offering was accepted and donated to Nantucket Island Safe Harbor for Animals!

Respectively submitted,

*Peter Richards, Clerk*

## Music Director's Report

My report will include the time period from January until June with an add-on for July & August. I am very grateful for the time I was able to spend as the music director of the church this past year and a half. I sincerely enjoyed my reprise and feel confident with Nigel Goss taking over the reins. For the first eight months of this year, the choir



continued to perform new choral music; the Chickering piano (given to us by Randy Lee's family) gave way to a replacement piano, a Yamaha (given to us by Deborah Beale via the Congregational Church vestry); a new sound system was researched and installed in the main sanctuary; we established the Goodrich organ internship for Isaiah Williams with funding by the James Walcott Hammer gift.

From January to June, I was music leader for 73% of the services with additional music leaders covering 27% of the services. In July and August, I managed the planning of the Noonday Concerts, the choir anthems and hymn selections with Rev. Linda, the planning of services with Isaiah Williams and visiting/contributing musicians, as well as planning for memorials and weddings. While I was missing much of July - August and working mostly remotely through emails, Sunday music leaders substituted for me and were paid by deducting funds from my music director's salary. There were funds used that were established in the budget for visiting organists, guest artists, and sick pay.

We created a position for Isaiah Williams, a freshman at the Eastman School of Music, as a student intern organist this summer. The funding came from the James Wolcott Hanner gift which "is designated for support of the music program at the Second Congregational Meeting House, including the organ, choir music, sponsoring special concerts, or other aspects of the music program."

With 63% of our services downstairs and 37% upstairs, the music program is divided between our treasured spaces. We researched a sound system for our upstairs sanctuary and found a music engineer, Bryce Brasheers, who was able to work with replacing units in our system to give us a better quality of sound and more control. The choir continued to move up and down depending on the anthem and what instrument was being used (organ or piano). The choir continued rehearsing on Thursdays at 5:30 pm and coming at 10 am on Sundays to prepare for the services.

Many thanks to Mollie Glazer, Jacob Butler, Susan Berman, Nigel Goss, Ann Colgrove, Carson Cooman and Isaiah Williams for taking the reins on the Sundays I was not able to be there. Their ability and willingness to substitute allowed me to visit family off the island and also be present in California for my daughter during a health crisis. It also created a new music dimension within our church and an opportunity for additional musical contributors.

Thank you to Rev. Linda, the Trustees, the Choir and the Congregation for their support over this last half of the year. My husband Jim and I truly appreciate it as does our daughter Kate who is recovering after surgery.

Submitted by,

*Barbara Elder*

My first 10 weeks as music director have been a tremendous experience with lots of trial, some error, and some success as I step into my first ever music director's role. I have enjoyed getting to know the congregation, choir, and church leadership on a more personal basis, learning the hymnal and finding the strengths and weaknesses of both myself and the musical culture at the church. I look forward to more learning in 2020, as I find anthems to suit our small group of singers, find ways to utilize the instrumental talents of members of the congregation, and begin to invite guest soloists and musicians from the musical community of Nantucket.

I began my tenure as music director on October 20 2019, the first Sunday in Hendrix Hall, after being a substitute for most of the month of September while my predecessor Barbara Elder was tending to family health emergencies. The transition was not as smooth as I'm sure we would have liked, communication with Barbara being limited to occasional emails, but we've managed to get the nuts and bolts figured out and settle into a routine. The choir has switched from Thursday to Tuesday rehearsals without too much trouble, and I find the group to be pleasantly opinionated, while at the same time being open to direction and guidance.

Special music events since October have included a guest flutist, a number of new and old anthems by the choir, and an eclectic Solstice Service which featured as guest musicians a number of familiar congregation members as well as a new congregant. Mollie Glazer contributed as substitute musician one Sunday in December.

Music events besides the regular services have included a funeral for which I provided piano music, a service in honor of the anniversary of the Newton CT shooting at Sandy Hook elementary which featured instrumentalists from the congregation, and a wonderful Caroling event on Christmas Eve that sang at the Landmark House, the Island Home, the Homestead, and Grace Noyes' home.

I look forward to seeing what 2020 will bring, and will continue to look for opportunities for growth and change as the new year and decade unfold!

*Nigel Goss, Music Director*

## Archives

1. Previous financial records dating from the 1950s were purged. and destroyed We have retained the records for the past ten years although we are only required to keep them for seven. Before discarding the old files, I went through them thoroughly to salvage any archival material that should be retained.

2. Financial records prior to the most recent years were transferred from the Office to the Records Room.

3. I have completed an inventory and updating of the Archival files.

4. We retrieved our Records Book that contains older baptism, marriage, death, et al records from the NHA 's Research Library, where our very early records (1809-1899) are stored in order to answer efficiently and quickly questions from people who require such information.

My plan for 2020 is to prepare a printed and on-line, if possible, list of the files containing our archival material.

*Joanne Polster*

## Building and Grounds Committee

The Building and Grounds Committee has been ever busy keeping the UU Meeting House, now 211 years old, and the parsonage up to snuff. Minor and more major repairs have taken place over the last year. As Building and Grounds Chair, I have worked hard to address building needs as they come up. Our group includes Dennis Simmons, Angus MacCleod, Paul Stewart, Joanne Polster, Cesar Gianella and Rev. Linda, ex officio member.

Besides keeping the lights on, the toilets from overflowing, the windows from blowing out, the doors from locking shut and the place from falling down in general, below is a more specific list of what has been accomplished this past year:

### UU Meeting House & Parsonage Repairs & Maintenance

- Had the brick columns in the Activities Room pointed and painted
- Had the Activities Room and C-WE rooms painted
- Had insulation blown into all the parsonage exterior walls
- Passed a Meeting House building inspection that required repair to our emergency light box, exit signs and the door to HH
- Removed many old paint cans from the parsonage basement
- Made a plan for attic insulation in the parsonage
- Pruned trees in the church and parsonage gardens
- Helped reorganize archive storage

I am sure there are items that are forgotten on this list as so many jobs happen and are repaired quickly and never hit the meeting notes. Here's to another year of our buildings remaining sound. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

*David Hall & Rev. Linda Simmons*

## Caring Team

The mission of the Caring Team is to augment the pastoral care provided to members of the congregation by Reverend Linda Simmons and to help facilitate a culture of caring within the Meeting House community.

In coordination with Reverend Simmons, the Caring Team:

- \* Reaches out to parishioners with phone calls, visits and cards when appropriate
- \* Facilitates providing meals, transportation and errands for those in need
- \* Arranges occasional help with small household chores as needed
- \* Helps identify needs and resources among friends and family
- \* Encourages others in the congregation to participate in fulfilling our mission

A priority for the Team and Reverend Simmons is to reach out to community members who are unable to get to the Meeting House. The majority of home visits are made by Reverend Simmons, but these are augmented by the Team as needed. Reverend Simmons reports that she is unable to visit some people as often as she would like. In response, the Team will recruit congregants just to make regular social visits to particular people.

Under the umbrella of the Caring Team, the Shawl Ministry is dedicated to knitting and crocheting shawls for Meeting House congregants and their loved ones who are facing illness, bereavement or other challenges. At the moment, there are only two regular knitters and new participants are required to keep up with the need. A blessing of the shawls is planned for early February, 2020. All who have received one will be invited to bring theirs that day to be blessed along with the few that have yet to be distributed. Since the Shawl Ministry was started in 2013, sixty-two shawls have been given to provide comfort for those in need. Eight shawls were distributed in 2019. The Shawl Ministry is grateful for the yearly budgetary allocation to the Caring Team. Some of this money helps to defray the cost of yarn for the shawls.

Natalie Chambers joined the Team this year and her knowledge as an M.D. has been a good addition to the Team.

The 2019 Team consisted of:

Lora Stewart, Chair, Alison Forsgren and Natalie Chambers. David Hall continues to be available to be called on to help elders with odd jobs.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lora Stewart, Chair*

## Citizen of the World Explorers Committee

The first thing you may notice as you begin to read this report is our new name! In the past few years we have evolved from **Religious Education** to **Religious Exploration** to our new name - **C-WE (aka Citizen of the World Explorers.)** Around mid-2019 we began to rethink who we are, and what we're doing in our program. With the children's input we came to the conclusion that the education and exploration that we are always doing as a group is really all about our journeys that we are working on individually as well as together, to help us become full-fledged "Citizens of the World". So much of our program is geared towards how we see and interact with the world...what the world gives to us and what we can give back.... Thus, the name change... to better describe who we are and what we aspire to! And the group worked together to come up with a special C-WE logo too!

Some things have not changed - our C-WE committee still consists of Susan Richards and Lora Stewart with the regular input of ideas and assistance from Rev Linda not to mention our Children and Youth Program Director, Leyah Jensen. We have also received help from members of the congregation... big thanks to Mitch Blake, Michelle Whalen, and John Merson! The C-WE welcomes all input, whether you'd like to become a member of the committee, have some ideas to share, or would like to help out with the children on a service Sunday... Just reach out to Susan or Lora! And an additional special thanks to Katie Ponce who ably facilitated the C-WE program for the second summer in a row.

Luckily for us, another something that hasn't changed is the team of Leyah Jensen as our Children and Youth Program Director and Sherlly Morocoima, her right-hand person. Leyah's creativity and enthusiasm along with Sherlly's reliability and able assistance keep our Sundays exciting, educational and fun!

The general theme for 2019 has been The Seven Principles ...what they mean to us and how we can use them to help us navigate our journeys to becoming productive and happy citizens of the world. As usual, Leyah has used her abundance of creativity to address each principle. A year of examples are:

**January:** A room-sized knitting project worked on by all the children together!

**February:** A group discussion of what we'd like to see improved in the world along with setting some goals to advocate for these ideas, followed by a mini-field trip across Orange Street to Stone Alley to do some "planting" of hand painted stones with inspirational messages from the children.

**March:** A group creation of a Justice "Vision Board" with colorful art made in Zen.

**April:** Earth month! Design for change! Each student designed a work of art to take home that speaks for change - some examples were climate change, endangered animals and preserving water.

**May:** The children in attendance walked in solidarity with our Methodist friends in support of the LBGTQI+ Community and brought the rainbow-colored flowers that they had made the week before to show "that we love and accept all of Nantucket's diverse community".

**June:** A month of "team challenges" This is when the group created a new (C-WE) logo for the group, worked to participate in a "real" Art Show and created a boat by working out a construction strategy as a team.

**July/August:** For the second summer Katie Ponce led the group in crafts, walks, backyard games while modeling the ethics of compassion, justice, and interconnection.

**September:** The theme of the month was "Random Acts of Kindness" discussing ways of being kind to both strangers and friends as well as creating a variety of art projects to "install" in a community garden.

**October:** Celebrating all things October - from exploring why October is held as a sacred month in so many cultures throughout the world and then creating our own UU chalice pumpkins. Sherlly gave a special workshop to the older children on pumpkin carving.

**November:** Celebrating the season for baking - baking and selling bread as a fundraiser for seasonal project supplies. Group discussion revolved around how the making and sharing of bread is an important ritual among diverse cultures around the world.

**December:** A month for cozy Yuletide fun, with all things Scandinavian! Crafting with hot cocoa and candles in the spirit of "Hygge" - a word that means the warm glow - both outside and inside ---- of cozy togetherness. Crafts ranged from filling painted birdseed bags, and creating "angel wing" decorations for our downtown Christmas Stroll tree!

*Susan Richards and Lora Stewart*

## Committee on Ministry

*Soul Matters* Sharing Circle resource materials are compiled by Unitarian Universalists. The theme-based exercises, and thought-provoking questions, songs, and movies are designed to prompt discussion and exploration of topics relevant to our community and to the seven principles. The committee reviewed the intention and resource materials of the Circle program and hopes to roll out *Soul Matters* in early summer 2020.

The COM continued to advise and offer guidance to Reverend Linda as needed during the year. COM members – Nancy Mack, Peter Richards, and Cheryl Creighton – are available to talk with anyone who has concerns or suggestions regarding our congregation's practices.

This year the Committee on Ministry's responsibilities were expanded to include serving as the Personnel Committee. This includes advising Reverend Linda on personnel matters, serving as a sounding board for personnel, reviewing letters and matters of employment, and conducting exit interviews.

Reverend Linda will be on vacation February 17 – March 20, 2020. She has arranged to have Harvard Divinity School seminarians preach on Sundays in her absence. During part of her time away, Rev. Linda will be doing immigration witness work at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Calexico, CA, a men's shelter for agricultural workers.

To deepen her ministry work in the community, Reverend Linda has enrolled in an online program with the University of Massachusetts/Boston. Later this year she will begin a four year Master's degree program in Mental Health Counseling.

*Cheryl Creighton, Chair*

## Communications Committee

The Communications Committee has been meeting on a regular basis throughout 2019 to develop a strategy that will help encourage new membership and further engagement by our current members, leading to great financial stability for the congregation and larger outreach to the island community.

To help with this strategy Candor Branding, a brand, strategy and design firm, was hired to work with the committee on the new brand identity that included a redesigned logo, and the recommendation of a consistent font and colors to be used on all print and digital materials. The key elements that are included in the final design of the logo are the chalice, the clock tower and the laurel branches. The chalice was a symbol used in WWII by Unitarians in Lisbon to create documents for those fleeing Nazi Germany. It is an

expression of our commitment to offering: safe harbor, radical welcome and willingness to sacrifice personal comfort for justice. The clock tower and Meeting House building represents our notion “under one roof” where people of all background came come together in worship, celebration, and learning.

In 2020, the committee will work towards the implementation of an awareness campaign using various media methods including print and digital advertising. We will look to the members to help with our efforts to promote the Unitarian Universalist Meetinghouse on Nantucket where we will provide them with the tools to clearly articulate our mission.

*Bess Clarke*

## Docent Report

UU Docent Report for Annual Report, 2019 — Peter Richards

Beautiful weather during July and August was, once again, the dominant factor contributing to another overall low turnout of visitors to our sanctuary last summer. Over and over it seemed as if every day was sunny, hot and humid which means people were out on the water or very close to the edge of it.

The total for July 8-August 31, 2019 (48 days) was 467, up from 358 over the 2018 total, but way down from 2017's nearly 900 visitors (484/408) over the two months. While the island thrives on great summer weather, it's just not as favorable for people coming to visit our sanctuary.

Our docent team consisted of all returning veterans: Paul Stewart, Christine Sanford, Jim Sulzer, Cheryl Creighton, Kathy Tyrer, and Susan and Peter Richards. With the shortage of team members, we cut back to offering two 2-hour shifts of 10-Noon and Noon-2pm. As in recent years, Thursdays included the Noonday Concerts throughout the summer schedule. Thanks to all our team members for their volunteering and we hope they'll be with us next summer.

We'll look towards furthering the rebuilding of our docent team for this coming summer of 2020. Won't you please consider becoming a volunteer? There's no need to memorize dates as notes are always available for you. It's very satisfying when you see the reaction of visitors as they enter our beautiful sanctuary.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Peter Richards at [cobbleland@aol.com](mailto:cobbleland@aol.com)

*Peter Richards*



## Fundraising Committee

Fundraising Committee – 2019. We are still building our official Fundraising Committee and to date have the Crafting Group as the acting committee. I have invited several congregants to meet in the next few weeks to develop a plan and set some goals for this coming year. Please let me know if you would like to join us. Sharing constructive ideas does not mean you are on the committee!

Overall, we were down 12% from what was conservatively budgeted for 2019. We added a Yard Sale, hosted by Christine Sanford but remained shy of the \$19,200 budgeted amount.

The Fourth of July reading of the Declaration of Independence draws maximum capacity to our Meeting House and we are looking for ways to fundraise in addition to the raffle tickets that are sold at the event. Finding sponsorship and having the technology to capture donations with a scan code are topics that need development. This will be a priority at the planning meeting.

The Crafting Group this year had a table at the December Delight rather than stage a Christmas Stroll Craft and Grandma's Attic sale in the Activities Room. They have decided to focus on selling handmade items at the December Delight in 2020. What could we do over Stroll to fundraise?

We have a beautiful quilt handmade by Susan Kirk that we plan to raffle. Additional suggestions for fundraising have been Pie Auction, Wine Raffle, UU White Elephant Sale.

Thanks to all who have contributed to the fundraising efforts to date, too many to thank individually! Please be in touch with any comments or suggestions.

[alisonkforsgren@gmail.com](mailto:alisonkforsgren@gmail.com)

*Alison Forsgren, Chair*

## Lay Led Service Committee

As in past years, the Lay Led Service Committee has planned and officiated one Sunday service each month (excluding the summer months), in addition to hosting and introducing the seminarians and guest speakers who served in Rev Linda's absence for several Sundays during her time away. The Committee consisted of Val Hall, Kat Robinson Grieder, Peter Richards, Susan Richards, and new member this year, Elisabeth Sorrows.

We joyfully appreciate the new energy and enthusiasm of Elisabeth brings to our group and extend a welcome to any other members or friends of the congregation who would like to be a part of our group. If you aren't able to be a member of the committee but have some ideas for a service and/or would like to be a part of a lay-led service please let our committee know! We appreciate any and all contributions! A big thank you to all who contributed to our services in 2019.... And that includes our Reverend Linda who was always on hand to offer her ever-helpful insights and guidance!

#### Lay Led Services for 2019:

Month	Service Theme	Lay Leader/Guest Speaker
January	<p><b>The Man, the Dream, the Movement</b></p> <p><i>Intergeneration service using readers to tell the story of the Civil Rights' movement as it unfolded over the course of a decade.</i></p>	Lay Led Service Committee Members joining Rev Linda
February	<p><b>About Valentines: There are Many Kinds of Love</b></p> <p><i>A celebration of love in all its beautiful diversity.</i></p>	Val Hall
March	<p><b><i>Humanity, Can We Talk?</i></b></p> <p><i>A short play, written by David Ramsdell, in which Mother Nature and Humanity discuss the challenges in their relationship and how they</i></p>	<p>Kat Robinson Grieder</p> <p>David Ramsdell - guest speaker</p>

	<p><i>can move in the direction of improving it for their mutual benefit - Service followed by a discussion of Climate Change</i></p>	
April	<p><b>Getting in Touch with Your Inner Pooh</b></p> <p><i>In which it is discovered that the readings of The Tao of Pooh, The Pooh Perplex, and Pooh and the Philosophers have much to teach us about living in our current turbulent times.</i></p>	Susan and Peter Richards
May	<p><b>Spiritual Journeys</b></p> <p><i>Members of the Congregation share what has brought them to UU Community - an intergenerational service.</i></p>	<p>Val Hall</p> <p>With Michelle Whalen and Randi Allfather as guest speakers</p>
September	<p><b>Can One Person Really Make a Difference?</b></p> <p><i>At a time when most of us feel so powerless, it may be helpful to hear two</i></p>	<p>Val Hall</p> <p>With John Merson as guest speaker</p>

	<i>stories of how individuals have made a difference.</i>	
October	<b>The Smile Challenge</b>  <i>If you want to work on connecting with others, start with a smile. This week's talk will explore how we can practice connecting with others, and why it is so important today more than ever,</i>	Kat Robinson Grieder  With Jason Bridges as guest speaker
November	<b><i>Spiritual Sustenance: Sharing Food, Sharing Memories, Sharing Community:</i></b>  <i>Tom Proch will speak about his love of food and how the rituals of preparing and sharing food can connect us to each other in caring community.</i>	Susan Richards  With Tom Proch as guest speaker
December	<b>A Community of Giving</b>  <i>What does it mean to give as a community and what discipline, hope and commitment does sustained giving ask of us?</i>	Val Hal  With Jessie Glidden as guest speaker

*Susan Richards, Chair*

## Membership Committee

The mission of the Membership Committee is to build and support our community. We:

1. Support and recognize current members.
2. Intentionally welcome and encourage new members
3. Welcome our summer members, plan at least one church wide social gathering during the summer months, and help facilitate summer members' participation in congregational activities.
4. Encourage all members to participate in church activities and governance.

At the beginning of 2019, the Membership Committee assisted the Meeting House Clerk in determining the number of church members to report to the UUA as part of the annual report to the UUA. This makes sense and this cooperative effort has taken place for several years running.

In February, a well-attended pot luck Super Bowl party was held at the home of Lora and Paul Stewart. Happily, 2019 was a good year for the Patriots!

Reverend Linda facilitated a march, sharing of a church service and a social coffee hour to stand in solidarity with our Methodist neighbors as they made a public stand to continue to welcome LGBTQ folks to their church. Reverend Linda also facilitated a community dinner at the Meeting House in the spring with the Immigration Resource Center. These wider community efforts have been wonderful opportunities for members of the Meeting House to create a "bigger tent" of inclusiveness.

At the request of the Trustees, our 7<sup>th</sup> annual Summer Gathering included all members of the congregation instead of just Trustees and summer members. On August 14<sup>th</sup> of this year the event gathered 35-40 parishioners for a barbeque pot luck at the home of Lora and Paul Stewart with many specific contributions of main dishes from the Trustees. A good time was had by all.

The Membership Committee is actively looking for new members to dream up some more community building social events. Susan Richards and the Trustees are working on regularly scheduled social evenings that include movie nights, game nights, pot lucks and youth coffee houses. In the winter, these will be held most Friday evenings. What can you dream up? Come join the fun or even sponsor an event!!

In 2019, six new members joined the congregation. They are: Cesar Gianella, Susan Kirk, Lydia Sussek, Hans Breiter and Loretta and Bob Middleton.

Respectfully submitted, *Lora Stewart, Chair and Susan Richards*

## Nominating Committee

This year's Nominating Committee consisted of Val Hall (Chair), Suse Robinson, and John Rivera. Since there were no vacancies to fill during the calendar year, we met only in December to consider nominees for 2020. The following slate was presented to the Board of Trustees on December 16, and will be presented on the floor of the Annual Meeting on January 26, 2020:

- Trustees – Three-year term (2 positions)
  - Loretta Middleton
  - Susan Berman
- Treasurer – One -year term (1 position)
  - Jeffrey Thomson
- Nominating Committee – One-year term (3 positions)
  - Peter Richards
  - Joanne Polster
  - Anne Perkins

*Valerie A. Hall, chair*

## **7<sup>th</sup> Principle Project**

The UU 7th principle states: Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

In 2014 our Unitarian Universalist Meeting House congregation voted on a number of possible social justice projects that were presented. It was decided that the top three vote getters would be incorporated under the umbrella organization, 'The 7th Principle Project'. The following reports outline the activity in those areas during this past year.

### **Food Rescue Nantucket (FRN)**

2019 saw a significant departure in our food deliveries. Previously, most of our collections were given to the Nantucket Food Pantry. The food pantry is now getting a larger quantity of food from the Boston Food Bank and consequently, we had to create new distribution points. FRN is now picking up 3 times/week from Bartlett's Farm, two of which are given to Faro de Luz and the other to the Maria Mitchell interns in the summer and to the Coast Guard the rest of the year. Additionally, we are picking up from Something Natural on the same schedule as Bartlett's and including it in the deliveries mentioned above.

We now have an in-town collection bin for renters at Atlantic East Real Estate to complement the one in Wauwinet and the one in Madaket.





Zaazey Olive Oil, a new business of the Qureshi family, is donating 25% of their Nantucket sales to FRN and also gave us 25 bottles to sell...and we keep the entire sale. To date, we have collected \$1,100 for the church.

FRN is providing some of the food for Rev. Linda's new initiative, the Monday night dinners. And finally, the solar power for the walk-in cooler is now operational.

New volunteers and ideas to grow FRN are always welcome, please contact Gary Langley.



### ***Immigration and Clothing Drive***

**The Immigration Resource Center (IRC)** under the auspices of the 7<sup>th</sup> Principle Project, opened officially the first Monday of June 2017 and has been open the first Monday of every month from 5:30-7:00pm. We continue to serve island immigrants; supporting them with legal advice through our pro-bono lawyer, offering referrals, building bridges and leading rallies and conversations to show our support as allies.

**Make It Stop** also runs under the auspices of the 7<sup>th</sup> Principle Project, with the mission: *Working to reduce gun violence through common sense legislation and committed action.* Make It Stop held a symposium on September 16<sup>th</sup> at the Atheneum called, "Finding Common Ground: Reducing Gun Violence in American Culture." Representatives Marjorie Decker and Dylan Fernandes, State Senator Julian Cry, Mom's Demand Action and John Carl McGrady were part of a provocative and thoughtful panel. Make it Stop also hosted two vigils at the UU Meeting House after mass shootings and one to honor the 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Newtown shootings.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Principle Project also took the lead on a clothing and food drive for the Coast Guard at the UU Meeting House when they were not receiving wages. Much of the town came out to donate food and money on this cold and rainy night.

*Gary Langley, Director Food Rescue Nantucket.  
Rev. Linda Simmons, Immigration and Clothing Drive*



## 2020 Pledge Campaign Report

Toward the end of each year we run a Pledge Campaign in support of the following year's programs. Toward the end of 2019 we started the 2020 Pledge Campaign, which is still ongoing.



The general theme was Covenant Renewal, with tag lines of **We're On Fire!**, and **Help Feed the Fire!**

The current status is as shown to the right. →  
We continue to receive generous pledges and anticipate making our 2020 pledge income goal as the year progresses.

In addition, several other generous pledges have been received toward specific purposes (such 'directed' pledges are most welcome accompanying or after an unrestricted pledge 'to keep the lights on').

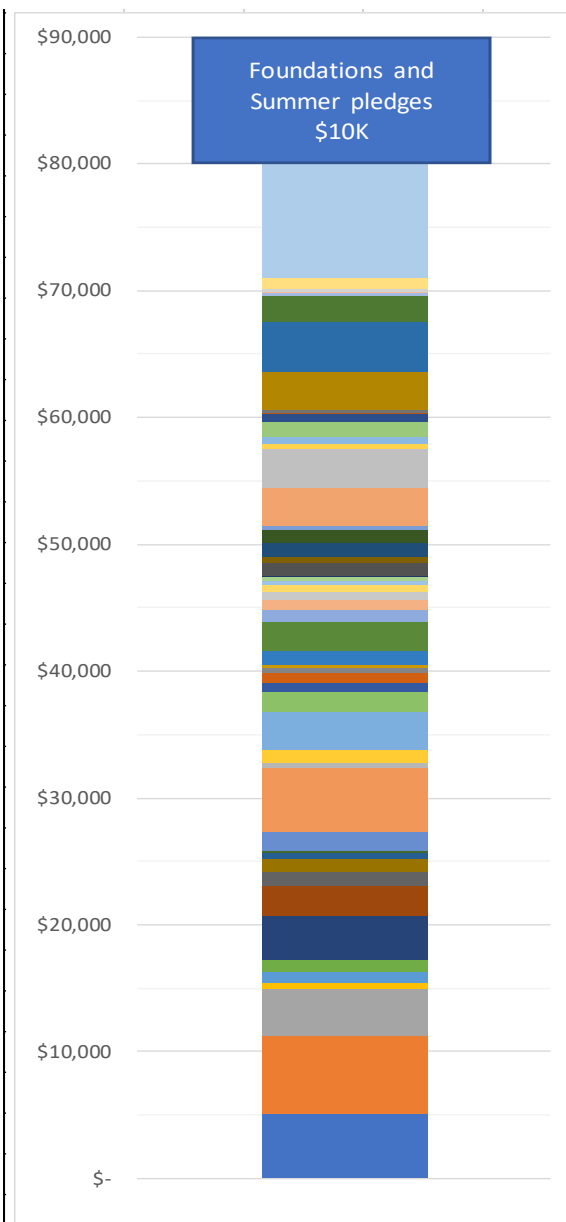
The Pledge Committee wishes to express appreciation to everyone who contributes to keep our congregation vital and growing, both pledgers and those who give other gifts of their time and treasure.

Thanks to your support, we are anticipating a strong 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Your 2020 Covenant Renewal Team,

Kat Robinson Grieder	Lora Stewart
Peter Richards	Paul Stewart
Susan Richards	Jeffrey Thomson
Rev. Linda Simmons	



**As of 1/22/2020  
we've received 54 pledges  
for a total of \$80,461.  
Every pledge helps!**

Of those that have pledged so far for 2020, their pledges are up an average of 8% over their 2019 pledges.

First pledges received are on the bottom of the stack.

# Combined Finance Committee and Treasurer's 2019 Annual Report

2019 was another good year for our Society's finances. People pledged and gave generously, and, along with other income, we were able to meet the budgeted expenses of operating our Society without spending the principal of our Reserves.

Accompanying this annual report are the detailed end-of-2019 financial reports of the church (q.v.)

The budget process we follow is laid out in our Congregational Handbook (available to all on our website):

The Finance Committee shall develop the Church's annual budget in conjunction with the various departments and committees, within the context of the actual financial realities and long-term goals, and present a budget to the Board of Trustees for approval by December 15, and then to the congregation two weeks prior to the annual meeting.

The 2020 budget approved by the Finance Committee and Board of Trustees was published to the Congregation by email earlier in January. It is now up to this Annual Meeting to adopt a 2020 budget. The Finance Committee and Board of Trustees recommend the balanced budget shown in the press 2020 Proposed column to the right (which is based on the details on the reverse hereof), but it is up to the Congregation to actually vote their official budget.

Reserves Goal: to maintain the real value of our Reserves over decades, while using as much as possible, as steadily as possible, to support our congregation's activities.

I am pleased to report that we have a surplus of \$16,869 of income over expenses for 2019. Our practice is to allocate any such surplus to one-time uses.

(2) I MOVE that we allocate that surplus as follows: \$3,322 to the R Sabbatical Provision Fund, \$3,000 to the R Minister's Discretionary Fund, and the remainder of \$10,547 to the R Parsonage Capital Maint. Fund.

(1) I MOVE we adopt the 2020 Proposed budget highlighted in green below:

In this 2020 budget we have two cases that differ somewhat from prior years. Each of the general categories in our summary budget to the left is the total of specific lines in our detailed budget on the reverse.

The first case is Rentals. When the budget was almost completed, we received notice that Faro de Luz was going to move out in two or three months. Faro de Luz represents \$23,300 (9% of our total income). On the same day that Faro de Luz announced their plans, Rev. Linda received an inquiry from Servants Heart International Ministries (SHIM) asking if we had any space to rent to their growing congregation. We have been in discussions with SHIM about the time they want and how we can fit them in while Faro de Luz is still here. It is still not clear exactly when Faro de Luz will move out, and it is not clear how much time SHIM will rent. However, it appears that the total 2020 income we had budgeted from Faro de Luz will be more or less made up by SHIM.

The second case is Fundraising, which is the total of the incomes from various events. There is ongoing discussion about reducing some of our energy among those various events. Similar to the above, we've not used exactly how much each event will take in (or even if some new events might be tried in place of others). We have projected an amount of income from all Fundraising events, while leaving it open exactly which events will happen in 2020.

Treasurer's Report: Pledges, Funds, and General Operating Budget									
2019		2020 Proposed		2019 Actual		2020 Proposed		2020 Proposed	
1	Number of Pledges	7	65						
2	Amount Pledged	\$ 78,973	\$ 93,573						
3	Funds (Restricted, by Donor)								
4	General Operating monies	\$ 73,411	\$ 230,046	\$ (214,231)	\$ -				
5	Parsonage Capital Maint.	\$ 35,229	\$ 11,651	\$ (3,090)	\$ -				
6	Sabbatical Provision	\$ 3,860	\$ 2,100	\$ -	\$ -				
7	RE Committee	\$ 489	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
8	R Social Action	\$ 28	\$ 1,725	\$ (785)	\$ -				
9	R Make It Stop	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ (55)	\$ -				
10	R Immigration Resource Ctr	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ (183)	\$ -				
11	R Membership Committee	\$ 324	\$ 350	\$ (100)	\$ -				
12	R Caring Team	\$ 550	\$ 250	\$ (192)	\$ -				
13	R Lay Led Committee	\$ 550	\$ 350	\$ (192)	\$ -				
14	R Activities Room Renovation	\$ 3,976	\$ -	\$ (5,198)	\$ -				
15	R Noonday Concerts	\$ 1,662	\$ 1,298	\$ (1,492)	\$ -				
16	R Back Yard and Garden	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ (1,256)	\$ -				
17	R Minister's Discretionary	\$ 1,951	\$ 5,365	\$ (6,470)	\$ -				
18	R Coffee Hour Supplies	\$ 674	\$ 360	\$ (389)	\$ -				
19	R Hanner Memorial Music	\$ 5,214	\$ -	\$ (763)	\$ -				
20	R RDS Duplicate Refund	\$ 4,688	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
21	R RDS TowerCorp Overpay	\$ -	\$ 36,135	\$ -	\$ -				
22	R RDS Food Rescue Fridge	\$ (403)	\$ 9,000	\$ (8,328)	\$ -				
23	R Honoring Ministry	\$ 9,824	\$ -	\$ (5,857)	\$ -				
24	R RDS Open House	\$ 1,100	\$ -	\$ (900)	\$ -				
25	R RDS Open House	\$ 4,107	\$ -	\$ (809)	\$ -				
26	R Subtotal R and RD above	\$ 77,063	\$ 88,923	\$ (36,397)	\$ -				
27	R Subtotal R and RD above	\$ 150,472	\$ 16,208	\$ (205,628)	\$ -				
28	R Subtotal R and RD above	\$ 150,472	\$ 16,208	\$ (205,628)	\$ -				
29	R Capital Reserves	\$ 943,718	\$ 22,879	\$ (31,249)	\$ -				
30	R Working Reserves	\$ 432,214	\$ 10,478	\$ -	\$ -				
31	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
32	R Capital Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
33	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
34	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
35	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
36	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
37	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
38	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
39	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
40	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
41	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
42	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
43	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
44	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
45	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
46	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
47	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
48	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
49	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
50	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
51	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
52	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
53	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
54	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
55	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
56	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
57	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
58	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
59	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
60	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
61	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
62	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
63	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
64	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
65	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
66	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
67	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
68	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
69	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
70	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
71	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
72	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
73	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
74	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
75	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
76	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
77	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
78	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
79	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
80	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
81	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
82	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
83	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
84	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
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86	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
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89	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
90	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
91	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
92	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
93	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
94	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
95	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
96	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
97	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
98	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
99	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				
100	R Subtotal Reserves	\$ 1,375,932	\$ 33,357	\$ (45,267)	\$ -				

Summary:

Our Funds are doing as they are supposed to do, accumulating and then providing money for specific purposes.

Our Reserves are providing steady support for our annual budget.

Our Annual Budget is proceeding close to plan.

I see no significant concerns in any of these financial areas.

Paul

Rentals note: Faro de Luz has announced that they are leaving some time this Winter. The Board of Trustees voted to commit to actually develop additional 2020 Rental income to fill whatever gap is left.

2020 Budget Income with Passenger

2020 Budget Expenses with Passenger

The Finance Committee meets approximately quarterly to review results and plan the next year's budget. All are welcome to attend.

Thanks to all who served on the Finance Committee this year and contributed their time and talent, from attending meetings to compiling and reviewing budgets and reports.

Respectfully submitted,  
your Finance Committee:

Randi Allfather, Kat Robinson Grieder, Nick Miller,  
Peter Richards, Nick Miller, William Schutt,  
Jim Sulzer, Jeffrey Thomson;  
with Rev. Linda Simmons,  
Susan Richards (President),  
and Paul Stewart (Treasurer).

## **South Church Preservation Fund (SCPF) 2019 Annual Report**

The SCPF had a productive 2019. We finalized the new lighting project after resolving some outstanding wiring issues. The project came in under the amount granted by the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) and we 'returned' the unused, \$37,000 portion to the CPC.

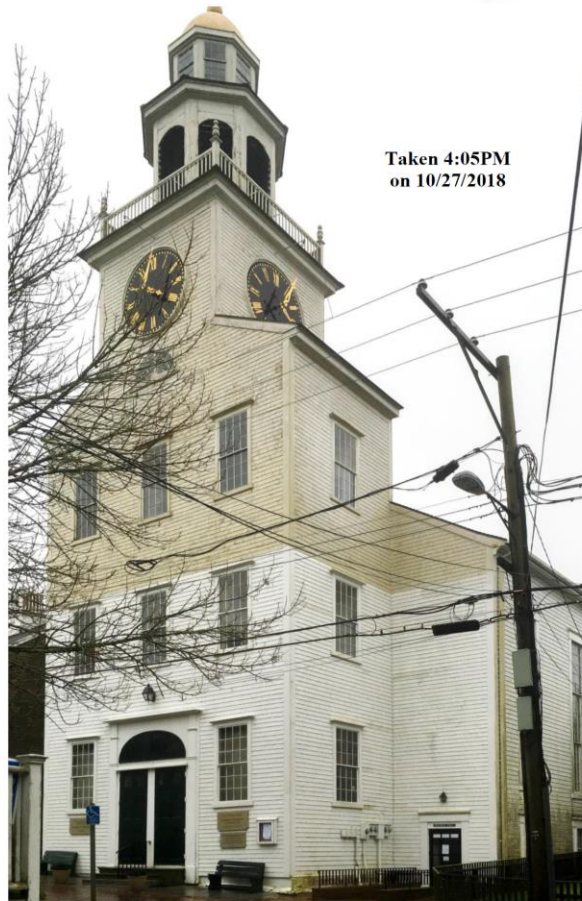
Given the condition of the meeting house exterior, the SCPF Board decided to move up the exterior painting/repair project from our planned 2021 date to 2020. We made an application for the project to the CPC this past September and the CPC granted about half the requested amount for the entire building based on a quote using scaffolding. In order to eliminate the substantial \$220,000 scaffolding cost it was decided to pursue a quote from Valley Restoration, who uses steeplejacks rather than scaffolding. The quote from them appears to allow us to do the entire building, including regilding the gold dome this fall, assuming the CPC funding warrant article passes the 4/4/20 Town Meeting. The steeplejack quote will be discussed and a direction forward decided on in our 1/24/20 board meeting.

We finished having the South side windows restored with all new sashes and installing the old style wavy glass panes where they had been replaced with standard glass, as needed, over the years. We anticipated submitting a grant application to the CPC for restoring the North side windows in 2020 but the above mentioned exterior painting project took priority. Consequently, the SCPF Board decided to do the North side windows in 2020 by using the SCPF's own funds, and to that end the windows were recently removed and delivered to Heritage Restoration in Providence, RI. They will be completed and reinstalled in May of this year. The SCPF is planning a fund-raising effort for this year to replenish those funds.

If anyone is interested in joining the SCPF Board, please contact Gary Langley.

Gary Langley, President, South Church Preservation Fund

### **Restore the Exterior of the Historic Unitarian Meeting House**



**The South Church Preservation Fund**  
FY2021 application to  
**The Nantucket Community Preservation Committee**  
September 6, 2019





**We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association,  
covenant to affirm and promote:**

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person
2. Justice, equity and compassion in human relations.
3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregation.
4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning.
5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregation and in society at large.
6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.
7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.



**Our Mission**

Working toward a more just and inclusive society, our congregation supports spiritual growth and service with open doors, minds, and hearts:

***Open doors*** for welcoming our diverse island communities and visitors;

***Open minds*** for exploring differing ideas and beliefs;

***Open hearts*** for deepening our connection with others and ourselves.

