

Annual Report – 2013



Second Congregational Meeting House Society
Unitarian Universalist
Nantucket, MA

January 26, 2014

Board of Trustees - 2013

Name	Term Ends
Linda Spery, President	January 2015
*Jim Sulzer, Vice President	January 2016
Susan Richards, Clerk	January 2016
David Hall	January 2014
Marina Sutro	January 2014
Jack Weinhold	January 2015
John Rivera	January 2015
Lora Stewart	January 2015
**Peter Richards, Treasurer	Elected Annually

*Elected by Board to fulfill Vice President position held by Brian Girard.

**Chosen by Nominating Committee to fulfill Treasurer position held by Bob Hall.

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.

Staff - 2013

Rev. Linda Simmons, Minister

Rev. David Horst, Interim Minister

Rev. Ted Anderson, Minister Emeritus

Diane Lehman, Director of Music

Lucretia Voigt, Office Assistant

Kim N. LaRue, Bookkeeper

Mimi Jones, Custodial Sexton

Dennis Santangelo, Maintenance Sexton

Minister's Report - 2013

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Minister since August 2013. I have now completed 6 months of service.

This year I led worship services and preached on 20 occasions. Topics ranged from the theological, "Who Do You Say That I Am?" on August 8, "Waiting With Hope," August 11, "To Be Worthy," September 8, "At-One-Ment" after Yom Kippur on September 15th to the relational, "Labor of Belonging" on September 1, "The Gift of Belonging" on October 7, "The Practice of Welcome," November 24th, to the spiritual, "The Re-enchantment of Our Lives," December 1, "The Paradox of Christmas," December 22nd, "Walking into the Future by Way of the Past," January 5th, to the embodied, "Body of Evidence," December 8th.

We enjoyed some alternative worship services including the Blessing of the Animals on September 29th, the Water Communion on October 20th, and Walking through the Doorway on January 5th. Sunday morning attendance averaged 60 throughout the year. We joined with our partner synagogue, Shirat Ha 'Yam, for one service during the High Holy Days in September at which I preached - which was well attended by members and friends of both congregations.

We began a Social Justice Committee after a call to action with the sermon, "Standing in the Storm," on November 3rd. We are planning a forum where issues can be discussed with our community partners, especially minority communities. As a congregation, we are hoping to establish a commitment as a UU Church to voter registration. Along with this, we have committed to a Multi-Cultural Workshop in March that I will lead.

Sunday morning music is rich and varied. Diane Lehman, Director of Music, continues the tradition of musical excellence at the Meeting House. Under Ms. Lehman's direction, the Meeting House Choir presented quality vocal music on Sunday mornings for which we are thankful.

In addition to my Sunday morning responsibilities, I officiated at five weddings and one funeral/memorial service. I also did a prayer for the release of ashes at Brant Point.

I was installed on October 6, 2013 with clergy members from the Boston area in attendance and congregants from the First Religious Society Carlisle, as well as many colleagues from divinity school. It was a grand service. The honor and privilege I feel in serving this congregation is boundless.

Religious Exploration continued to grow with the work and creativity of church members on the RE Committee. In November we hired Jen Dunbar, long-time childcare provider for the RE program, as lead teacher. We are thrilled to have her on board. The RE committee continues to provide quality religious exploration and is hosting RE dinners once a month throughout the year as a way to honor RE parents, children and volunteers. RE children this year built a succah in honor of the week-long Jewish festival of Sukkot, decorated the Christmas tree downtown, and honored the pagan holidays,

to name only a few of their activities. This year we will also be able to hire a childcare provider to replace Jen.

To involve and engage the children each Sunday, I have been reading or telling stories, some of the members of the congregation have even acted out these stories with great fanfare. I've also revised the order of service to provide a smoother flow including opening and closing chalice words.

Since I came on August 1st, we have welcomed 6 new members: Adam Reed, Joanna Greenfield, Jill St. John, Gary Langley and Dennis Simmons.

I have devoted a large part of my ministry to pastoral care. I have made numerous house and hospital calls as well as been in touch with folks by phone and email. Many parishioners come to the parsonage for tea and conversation. I welcome this wholeheartedly and feel that one of the strong centers of my ministry is and should be pastoral attentiveness.

I taught a World Religion class this January that was very successful. I will continue to offer adult education programs throughout the year.

I've given a great deal of my time to the staff these past 6 months. Kaitlyn Burke resigned as office assistant and we hired Lucretia Voigt who is doing a fabulous job. Kim LaRue, our bookkeeper, also resigned and we hired bookkeeper Chuck Gieg as a subcontractor. Changes were made to sexton hours as well and we are all pitching in more to keep our Meeting House beautiful.

I assisted the Finance Committee in creating a 2014 balanced budget and we are all thrilled that this was possible without taking from our endowment. Financial health is a hard won and important indicator of church health and we are well on our way.

I extend my thanks to members of the Board especially President Linda Spery, Vice Presidents Brian Girard and Jim Sulzer, Treasurer Peter Richards, Finance Committee chair Craig Spery and Finance Committee member Jack Weinhold for their extraordinary talents and commitment to the congregation. Committee chairs and members deserve equal thanks as well as the congregation staff-- Susan Richards, chair of Religious Exploration, Kat Robinson Grieder, committed member of the Sunday Service Committee, Bob Lehman, Building and Grounds chair, Lucretia Voigt, Church Administrator, Diane Lehman, Director of Music, and Mimi Jones and Dennis Santangelo, Sextons -- for their continued service and devotion. I thank my colleague, Ted Anderson, *Minister Emeritus*, for his friendship and counsel.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to all of you for your support, patience and guidance as I learn the ropes here and step into my ministry fully.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Simmons, Minister

Interim Minister's Report – January through July 2013

With a great sense of accomplishment and joy I conclude my Interim Ministry with you, having served for two years during a time of change and transition. I am thankful to have had the opportunity to minister with you and enjoy the pleasures of Nantucket. My family and I are grateful for your caring and support during our time in your community.

During my final six months I provided support and direction during the final stages of the ministerial search process, culminating in your vote to call the Rev. Linda Simmons as your settled minister. Rev. Simmons' arrival marks a turning point in the life of the Nantucket Unitarian Universalists, and you are now poised to move forward into a future of stability and growth. I commend the Ministerial Search Committee, the Board of Trustees, and the many leaders and members who devoted their time and attention to the settlement process and its successful outcome.

The addition of more than 20 new members during this period was another positive sign of progress and growth. Sunday morning attendance, another key indicator, settled at a weekly average of 60 children and adults. The growing presence and involvement of children and families in the community also bodes well for the future.

I preached and led services on 19 Sundays and supported many of the fourth Sunday lay-Led services. The most memorable services were "The Violence We Make," January 6, in response to the Newtown, Conn., tragedy; "The Dream Lives On," January 20, Martin Luther King, Jr., remembrance and tribute; "Does Prayer Work?" March 3; "Wake Up!" March 17, Easter Sunday: "Two Who Dared: Martha and Waistill Sharp," June 30, in conjunction with the Nantucket Film Festival with guest Artemis Joukowsky III, filmmaker; "Endings and Beginnings," July 21, my farewell address; and "The Faith We Make," July 28, a dialogue sermon with Rev. Simmons.

Successful community outreach and engagement projects included the community forum on March 2 to discuss Second Amendment rights and gun violence and our hosting of the Nantucket High School baccalaureate service on June 7.

Pastoral care was an important part of my ministry. I made regular house calls to members in need, providing support and direction during times of loss and transition. I hold dear my final visit with Jenny Garneau, a "force of nature," in June, just a few months before her death.

I conducted or assisted with four rites of passage during my final months: the marriage of Nicole Steinmuller and Ben Shappell at the Meeting House on May 4, the dedication of Brant Cramer on June 17 at Brant Point, the marriage of Kate Pelletier and Chris Andrews on June 23 at Lily Pond, and the dedication of Brayden Perry at the Meeting House on July 7.

The music and concert program, so much a part of life at the Meeting House, continued to thrive under the direction of Diane Lehman, Director of Music. With increased funding from ReMain Nantucket and new funding from the M. S. Worthington Foundation the community music program expanded while the Sunday morning music program and Meeting House Choir stayed strong. The

new “Thursdays@5” concert series replaced the Noonday Concert Series with a new artistic mission and program direction.

Administratively much was accomplished in preparation for the arrival of Rev. Simmons. We finalized the permanent hire of Ms. Lehman; hired a new Office Assistant, Kaitlyn Burke; and transitioned former Office Manager, Kim LaRue, to Bookkeeper.

As the final act of my Interim Ministry, I completed and submitted an Interim Progress Appraisal to the Transitions Office at the Unitarian Universalist headquarters, the Ballou Channing District, and the Board of Trustees.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to the members, friends, and staff of the Unitarian Universalist Meeting House for your support and generosity. I cherish the time we shared together and wish you all the best in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

David M. Horst, Interim Minister

President’s Report - Board of Trustees - 2013

What an exciting year we experienced at the Nantucket Unitarian Universalist Meeting House in 2013!

Just before the new year arrived, we all rejoiced in the birth of an addition to our growing Religious Exploration family. Eli Alexander Slosek was welcomed into the world at 11 pounds, 4 ounces by his proud parents Rachael and Sam. Then on New Year’s Eve, a crowd of members and friends gathered in Hendrix Hall to ring out the old and ring in the new—building upon a long-standing tradition at the Meeting House. Young and old alike marched up and down Main Street at midnight with shiny red bells in hand as the venerable 1813 Portuguese Bell rang out in the tower for all in the town to hear.

At our annual meeting on the January 13th we gathered as a congregation to adopt a new budget, which was carefully reviewed and discussed before receiving a unanimous vote of approval. And just prior to the meeting, Reverend Horst welcomed 10 new members who signed the book in time to take their places as voting participants and voice their support for business matters discussed.

The start of 2013 also found us witnessing an increase in both our Sunday service attendance and in our Religious Exploration program participation. Also starting out the year full speed ahead was our Search Committee. What a dedicated group with their weekly meetings, deliberations and decision making, resulting in the selection of our outstanding new settled minister, Rev. Linda Simmons.

Your board—Vice President Brian Girard succeeded by Jim Sulzer, Clerk Susan Richards, Treasurer Bob Hall succeeded by Peter Richards, Jack Weinhold, John Rivera, Marina Sutro, David Hall, Lora

Stewart and myself—worked diligently throughout the year on your behalf. During 2013 your Board of Trustees met twice each month to attend to the business of the church, making decisions regarding administrative, programming and financial matters in the best interest of all.

While each board meeting agenda varied from week to week, we remained focused on the goals which we set forth in our organizational retreat held in early 2013. Here are the goals that we set forth and what we achieved on each initiative:

- (1) **Parting with the Interim Minister** – Transition of leadership can be a tricky process if not handled properly and we knew that we wanted Rev. Horst and his family to have as seamless a departure as possible as they left the island after a successful interim ministry with us. Lots of puzzle pieces had to be put into place to make it all work but we did it, thanks to the cooperation and contributions of everyone in the congregation. We gave the Horsts a great send-off in appreciation for all they had done for us during their time here.
- (2) **Welcoming and Settling the New Minister** – Our dedicated Search Committee braved winter storms and high seas in pursuit of a new settled minister early in the year. Their hard work certainly paid off and today we celebrate Rev. Linda Simmons as our new minister. A bucket brigade of congregants handled the task of moving the Simmons-Langley belongings into the parsonage after Bob Lehman and other members of the Building & Grounds committee worked their magic. Then a special milestone in the history of the congregation was celebrated on Sunday, October 6 as Reverend Simmons was installed as our settled minister, following the path of the church’s very first minister Seth Freeman Swift over 200 years ago and those who succeeded him.
- (3) **Re-establishing the Membership, Music and Worship Committees** – Mary Beth Splaine stepped up to head the Membership Committee and has done an awesome job of welcoming and orienting our newest members in cooperation with Rev. Simmons. Music director Diane Lehman engaged a dynamic Music Committee—Cynthia Csabay, Al Fuller, Bob Lehman and Karin Gockel—who played a major role in the success of the summer concert series and advising Diane on the overall music program for the Meeting House. Jack Weinhold and Kat Grieder head up our new Sunday Service/Lay Led (Worship) Committee to provide advice and support to Rev. Simmons for Sunday services. The board is greatly appreciative of all of those who have volunteered to serve in these important leadership roles in 2013.
- (4) **Promoting and Sustaining the “Music at the Meeting House Program”** – Diane Lehman led her Music Committee in planning and implementing an outstanding music program during the summer and fall seasons. New talent was introduced to the congregation and community and the program received grant funding from both ReMain Nantucket and the M.S. Worthington Foundation. Kudos to Diane and the Music Committee for all their hard work to make the program a success.
- (5) **Expanding the Children’s Religious Exploration Program** – During the past year, the Religious Exploration committee, led by chair Susan Richards, named Jen Dunbar as new lead teacher

supported by volunteer teachers Susan Richards, Casey Boukus, Sissy Girard, Linda Spery, Saralyn Rice, Becky Hudson and John Rivera. The UUA "Tapestry of Faith" curriculum was adopted by the RE program, with tailoring of the program's units for each Sunday to fit the needs of the group. An RE workshop was held in October led by Harvard Divinity School student Schuyler Vogel, an experienced RE educator, who provided invaluable information to the program's teachers. The popular spaghetti dinner program was brought back by the RE Committee with a great time enjoyed by all who attended the Halloween themed dinner in October. In December the RE Committee led the congregation in decorating a holiday tree on Main Street. Closing out the year we collaborated with the Artists Association of Nantucket to sponsor a "Noon Years Eve Workshop" in the Activities Room on December 31, attracting a crowd of 35 children between 3 and 9, accompanied by parents, grandparents and caregivers as a featured event in the Nantucket New Year community celebration.

- (6) **Initiating an Adult Religious Exploration Program** - During the final months of 2013 we laid the foundation for new adult religious exploration offerings in 2014. Then in January 2014 Rev. Simmons began teaching her first adult religious exploration class. The world religion series is covering Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam and Judaism, with each class focusing on a specific religion. The first two classes each drew a crowd of over 15 attendees from our congregation and the community-at-large. Based on the strong response to these classes, Rev. Simmons and the board look forward to offering more programs on various topics throughout 2014. Off to a good start!
- (7) **Increasing Participation and Giving Levels in the Members Fund** – This year's Members Fund/Pledge Drive under the direction of co-chairs Peter Richards and Jack Weinhold was a great success. Members and friends of the congregation—both long-time and new-- recognized the importance of their financial obligations to the church in order for the programs they cherish to be able to be carried out during 2014. To communicate this message, the Finance and Members Fund Committees sent out a direct mail appeal and followed up with e-mail and phone messages to reinforce the message of "giving till it feels good." The budget for 2014 was formulated by the Finance Committee in early December, based on the outcome of the Members Fund campaign and the reduced independence on the church's endowment fund. Kudos to everyone who submitted a pledge for 2014. If you have not yet participated, you can pick up a pledge card in Hendrix Hall or the Activities Room.
- (8) **Creating More Opportunities for Fun and Hilarity** – Our minister emeritus Ted Anderson advocated for fun and hilarity as a congregation during his time as minister and amidst all the work we have done as a board and congregation this past year we have tried to be true to this goal. We had a great Souper Bowl Sunday event in February hosted by Christine Sanford followed by a rousing St. Patrick's Day dinner at the home of Mary Beth Splaine and Jack Weinhold in early 2013. The Goods & Services auction in June was lots of fun and opened the door to many follow-up dinners and outings bringing members and friends of the congregation together throughout the year. We celebrated the Horst family's departure in the summer followed by a celebration of Rev. Simmons' installation in the fall. Lora Stewart's

Seasonal Suppers were a big success and continue into the new year, providing small groups of congregants an opportunity to get to know one another better in a comfortable home setting. Before year-end we also bid bittersweet good-byes and raised our glasses in toasts to our beloved friends and church leaders Brian and Sissy Girard, Yve Shevalier, Anne and Jim Sutherland, and Georgen Charnes who moved off-island but who promised to return for visits whenever possible.

Now as we enter 2014, we embark upon a year of great promise and possibility. We've already begun laying the foundation for an exciting social justice program built upon our seven UU principles that guide our ethical choices. Our Religious Exploration program is energized with the addition of our new lead teacher Jen Dunbar and her supporting volunteer teachers from the congregation. We're also starting out the year by adding adult religious educational offerings, beginning with a world religions series.

Our music program is equally poised to excel in 2014 with a full complement of talented singers in our choir led by our outstanding music director Diane Lehman. And on the financial front, we have now moved away from dependence on the principal of our endowment. We're living within our means and conserving the endowment so generations to come can carry out our liberal religious tradition. And we have some new insights into stewardship, thanks to a workshop led by UUA Congregational Stewardship Network chair Dr. Wayne Clark and attended by board members Lora Stewart, Susan Richards and myself.

As we look forward to the year ahead, I encourage you to be an active member of the church community, lending a hand with your time and talents when you can. We love the fact that we're a small congregation where we all know and are able to care for one another in a way that would not be possible in a larger, more impersonal church. However, being a smaller congregation means that every one of us has to take responsibilities—for our financial stability, leadership roles and volunteer opportunities. With the energy I've witnessed and the willingness to step up by all of you, I'm convinced that the sky is the limit as to what we can accomplish.

It has been a pleasure to serve this past year as the Board of Trustees president. It's been a truly rewarding experience and has brought me closer to the Unitarian Universalist faith. Thanks for the trust you have placed in me and the rest of the board of trustees. We are grateful to every one of you.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Spery, Board President

Combined Finance Committee - Treasurer's Report – 2013

Fiscal Responsibility --- January 2014 marks a financial milestone for our congregation.

Here is a bit of historical perspective: At the annual meeting in January of 2010, there was once again heated debate over the budget. The Finance Committee presented, with graphs, charts and imploring rhetoric, the need to stop withdrawing principal from our endowment for the purpose of funding annual operating expenses. With the prospect of “seeing what happens” for yet another year, it was proposed that we adjourn.

The “wait---and---see” each year was done with the hope of increasing membership enough during that time to offset the annual budget shortfall. But a proposal was made that a July meeting would give us six months to reevaluate finances. The summer meeting was approved, with some members hopeful that we would finally come to our senses by July and the others relieved that a decision was again delayed.

To one degree or another all of us had some fear about making changes in the church, especially when it meant a 30% reduction in the budget. What or who could we possibly do without? Everything was just the way we wanted it, the way it had to be, to be our church.

The July meeting convened and the debate continued without change, other than the make-up of those present. There were summer members in attendance, and they added new perspective to the argument. The tenor of the meeting turned from “we can't do it ” to “how can we make it happen without pain,” and it was proposed that the reduction be gradual.

It was agreed that a reduction in principal withdrawal would occur over three years. By 2014 we would begin funding the annual needs of the church only with income derived from member contributions, in completion of their pledges, and other yearly fundraising activities.

The Finance Committee is very happy to announce that our goal has been met. The budget for 2014 has been balanced without the use of investment capital. This is a significant marker for our congregation; one we can all be proud of.

2013 marked the establishment of a separate Investment Committee, a working group of members with skills and commitment to fiduciary management of our endowment. We have financial strength, and plan to keep it that way.

Although this past fall we fell short of our 2014 Members Fund Pledge Campaign goal, which would have allowed us to maintain a 2013 level of programs and support services, pledges did increase enough to allow the Finance Committee to craft a balanced budget for 2014.

The budget, which includes the reductions, was approved by the Board of Trustees in December and is being submitted for congregational approval at the January annual meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

The Finance Committee: Craig Spery (Chair), Jack Weinhold, Gwen Richter, and Peter Richards, Treasurer.

Two names, no longer on this roster, are Brian Girard and Larry Miller. After many years of dedicated service Brian has moved to Florida, and Larry moved over to the Investment Committee this past fall. FinCom misses them for their sagacity and leadership which were a vital part of our congregational transformation outlined in this report.

Clerk, Board of Trustees - 2013

The Clerk's Committee, comprised of Mary Beth Splaine, Jack Weinhold, and Susan Richards, with the participation of Reverend Linda Simmons, met on January 10 to review the membership list and determine the exact count of Congregation members. This number has been determined to be 81.

The list of congregation members has financial implications. As a member of the Ballou Channing District and the UUA (Unitarian Universalist Association), we are responsible for paying a certain fee per each member of our Congregation to each of these organizations which helps support their services to us. With a full paying membership in the UUA comes grant opportunities which the Board plans on exploring in 2014 and beyond.

Meeting House attendance has been consistently accounted for by Bob Hall, David Hall, John Rivera, and Peter Richards. This has included the number of children as well as guests. Individual service attendance peaked in the summer at 124. The average attendance per each service for the year has been 60.9. This average has remained remarkably consistent over the past several years.

I would like to thank all those members of the congregation who have helped me perform my duties as Clerk, especially the attendance record and the membership count,

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Richards, Clerk

Building & Grounds – 2013

I would first acknowledge and thank the volunteer members of the B&G as well as those paid personnel who take care of the many mundane things that keep cropping up in and around the church and parsonage: David Hall, Craig Spery, Tobias Glidden, Rev. Linda Simmons, Mimi Jones, and Dennis Santangelo.

The following is a running list of duties performed as they appear in the monthly minutes of our B&G meetings. Generally the lights all work and the toilets flush. It's warm in the winter and cool (at least in the basement) in the summer.

At the church:

- Hendrix Hall and the Activities Room carpets have been periodically cleaned.
- A sinkhole which developed at the bottom of the handicap ramp was addressed twice - once by Craig Sperry and Bob Lehman, and then by Tobias Glidden using his mason's skills to re-lay the bricks. The sand still seems to be washing out and may require a larger scale excavation and brick work.
- Plexiglass sheets have been placed over the office windows with the help of Bob Hall.
- Damaged roof shingles have been replaced.
- A twice entangled bell rope has been rerouted by David Hall.
- Pencil marks belonging to some budding young graffiti artist left on the back walls of Hendrix Hall have been removed.
- A proposed ivory or brass plaque for the Ted Anderson portrait is approved, and in process.
- New signage was painted and placed on the front of the Meeting House.

At the parsonage:

- A good deal of painting was completed both before and after the arrival of Rev. Simmons.
- The kitchen heater was repaired.
- The cellar door was repaired.
- The kitchen storm door was replaced, and painted.
- Broken family room and downstairs kitchen windows were repaired.
- The brick walkways between church and parsonage have been power washed.

As of January 1st, 2014 a proposed charge of \$150 per month to Nantucket Energy as rent for their monitoring system out of the tower has been approved all around. Said fee is to increase to \$200 per month within 2 years.

The much needed painting and carpeting of Hendrix Hall is scheduled for February of 2014. The South Church Preservation Fund, Shirat Ha 'Yam, and Faro de Luz congregations will be helping with the funding.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Lehman

Archives - 2013

The archives are now in their maintenance mode; all that is now required is to add new material as it becomes available. I have filed all documents so far received in their appropriate spots.

I continue to update the indexes and hope, perhaps this year, to get them online.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Polster

Docent Program - 2013

The Meeting House docent program was successful this past summer, thanks to the many dedicated docents who greeted and informed our many visitors. Our thanks to Paul and Lora Stewart, Craig Sperry, John Rivera, Judy and Jeff Norkin, Peter Richards, Alex Harper, Jack Weinhold, Libby Oldham and Susan Richards.

Introducing visitors to the treasures of the Meeting House was a pleasure. Libby Oldham of the SCPF board has stepped forward to lead the docent program in the summer of 2014. Plans are underway to extend the days, hours and docent roster to better showcase the Meeting House to the community and island visitors.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Beth Splaine, President, SCPF

Fourth Sunday Lay-Led Service Committee – 2013

The creative Fourth Sunday Lay-led Committee celebrated its third anniversary in April 2013 of planning and conducting monthly services, calling on the talents of many members of the congregation. Under the leadership of committee members Sissy Girard, Yve Shevalier, Mary Beth Splaine, Clay Twombly and Christine Sanford, this dedicated group explored a wide range of topics and concerns. We are grateful for all the hard work they put into this innovative program, month after month!

In February Christine Sanford and members of the Fourth Sunday Lay-Led Service Committee led an inspirational worship service focusing on the seventh Unitarian Universalist principle that promotes “respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.” As the worship leader, Christine asked for feedback following her remarks and the comments on interdependence covered astute observations both global and local. We left the service with warm feelings on that cold, snowy day knowing that in our little part of the world there in Hendrix Hall, we are making a difference.

In March the Fourth Sunday Committee presented an insightful service reflecting on the Dahlia Lama’s definition of religion: “This is my simple religion. There is no need for Temples, no need for complicated philosophy. Our own brain, our own heart is our temple. The philosophy is Kindness.” Mary Beth Splaine and Jim Sulzer, board liaison to the committee, led the service.

In May the committee presented a thought-provoking service “A Memorial Day Remembrance.” The service featured memorable music, poetry, reflections and recollections, with our congregation’s veterans recognized for their service to our country.

In June Casey Boukus led the service entitled “Earth Rhythm.” Casey emphasized that religions of the earth have long found deep meaning in the natural rhythms of our planet and its moon and she wove a picture of these beliefs and practices on this day of the full moon.

In August, September, October, and November the Fourth Sunday Committee reflected on the fact that many of us have washed ashore to the Meeting House, a safe place that both holds and changes us. In these meaningful services, members of the congregation talked about what has led them here, to this Unitarian Universalist faith, to this Meeting House and to this shore in their lives. We thank everyone who shared their stories as a part of this series.

Closing out 2013, the Fourth Sunday Committee transitioned into the Sunday Service Committee, chaired by Kat Grieder and Jack Weinhold as Sissy Girard and Yve Shevalier moved off island. At the December service, Kat led the service with various members reflecting upon holiday traditions—past and present—in their lives.

If you are interested in helping plan and conduct lay-led Sunday services in 2014, contact Rev. Simmons or Kat Grieder to let them know of your interest. It’s a rewarding experience that will provide you an opportunity for spiritual growth and personal insight.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Spery (on behalf of the Fourth Sunday Committee)

Fundraising Committee - 2013

The Fundraising Committee was created by the Board of Trustees in 2010 for the purpose of reviewing and coordinating fundraising concepts to raise money to augment the operating budget income. The income generated from members and friends of the congregation at fundraising events is in addition to regular pledges made each year, not in lieu of annual pledges.

An important part of the fundraising effort is to plan and conduct events that meet dual objectives of creating community among the membership AND raising money. Committee meetings were held this year on an as needed basis with activity ramping up for specific events throughout the year. We are always open to new suggestions of new fundraising initiatives and welcome the feedback of everyone in the congregation.

Starting out the year, we held our second annual Souper Bowl Sunday at the home of Christine Sanford in February. The event was well attended and a big success. Following the Souper Bowl, a

group gathered for our second annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner at the studio of Mary Beth Splaine and Jack Weinhold. This wintertime occasion proved to also be very popular. Both events are planned again for 2014 so be on the lookout for "save the date" flyers.

In June we held the church's most important fundraiser—the second annual Goods & Services Auction. The event began on Saturday evening with a reception, silent auction and live auction and concluded with the silent auction close-out after the church service on Sunday. Income exceeded expectations and a great number of events and items were offered and purchased by church members and friends. Special thanks to auction chair Jack Weinhold, live auctioneer Bob Lehman and everyone else who stepped up to volunteer for the auction. The third annual auction is being planned for June 2014.

A new tag sale fundraiser took place, created by Christine Sanford, during the summer in conjunction with St. Paul's annual fair that was taking place nearby on Fair Street, adding revenue to the fundraising coffers for the year. Unfortunately, in the fall, the Congregational Church changed the date of the annual Harvest Fair to Columbus Day Weekend, which was a date in conflict with the annual organ crawl and other activities already planned for the church. Regretfully we were unable to participate but did express to the Congregational Church our hope that they hold the event on a fall date other than Columbus Day weekend in future years so we could again participate.

Throughout the year we hosted a number of UU couples and families for overnight stays as a part of our emerging Bed & Breakfast program. This program provides an opportunity to get to know members of other congregations with hospitality and also to generate income for the church. More rooms, homes and cottages are needed to meet the demand for this program. Thank you, Christine Sanford, Chris Lohmann and others who offered lodging to our guests.

All in all, the fundraising efforts in 2013 were successful, with the year ending at \$4,000 in income above the amount budgeted by the Finance Committee. Thank you, everyone, for making this year a success!

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Spery, Board Liaison

Music Director – 2013

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Music Director /Pianist/Choir Conductor. This year has seen a lot of changes in staff, but the choir remains a constant; voices we count on throughout the year sang out strong every Sunday but a few in 2013. The Noonday Concert series was renamed and relaunched as the Thursdays@5 Summer Concert series. We hosted 14 groups in the sanctuary over the course of the summer months and heard the rafters ring with the voices and songs of so many, while they enjoyed the applause and cheers of hundreds of people who celebrated talent and the

music and were visually awed by the beauty of the sanctuary itself. The music library grew, adding 12 new pieces for our choir to share with the congregation. We all learned a few more hymns from the supplement, which was a goal when we received them as a gift. Our Chickering piano is still holding up in Hendrix Hall and the beautiful Steinway upstairs was played by many a virtuoso. The Goodrich Organ was played to great satisfaction by a number of grateful organists who love the sound and the instrument. The musical collaborations for a few of our services kept the programs from being too similar and the soloists were talented and varied. It has been a wonderful year of change and growth. I hope that the music we shared each week reflected the passing of time, the hope and promise of a settled minister, the sadness in saying goodbye to our interim, David Horst, the joy of music itself and the challenges we all wrestle with regarding our role as ambassadors for the Universalist Faith.

David Horst was especially helpful, mentoring me as a church employee, and then handing me over to Rev. Linda Simmons for what has been an easy and enjoyable 6 month transition. We'll hope to have as much laughter and fun along with thoughtful interaction in the year to come. Rev. Linda has brought a clarity of ideas, and a true intention to the Sunday services that has kept me interested, challenged and validated. Thanks to Kim in bookkeeping for all she does, and Mimi and Dennis for being there for me even if I don't get to see them much. My little closet and my piano area are always clean and kept without disturbance to music or instrument. Bob Hall and Christine Sanford were my first encouragers, and as the board changed hands, Linda Sperry and her new board were positive and supportive in all my efforts. Kaitlyn moved on, and Lucretia took over, a seamless transition that has not even seemed like a bump in the road. Through all the changes, I think we have continued to offer excellent music and meditative musical accompaniment for the Sunday Services throughout 2013. Thanks to the entire choir for supporting my musical decisions and choices. Every choir member has been incredibly kind in their acceptance of me; their voices and enthusiasm have buoyed me through this year again.

The choir is a joy all year long, and their hard work and dedication is the most important contribution (musically) on any given Sunday. We sang for most every service, adding 12 new repertoire pieces and welcoming 6 part time singers throughout the year. Thanks to their abilities and talents, we can continue to offer an Anthem for at least 3 Sundays of every month. Making the anthem work is a large part of my duty and very rewarding.

The Music Committee was incredibly helpful in the running of the Thursdays@5 Concert series. Thanks to Cynthia Csabay, Al Fuller, Karin Gockel and Bob Lehman. Their attendance and help were essential in the running of the programs; without them, we would not have been host to so many people and performers. Susie Jarrell was ever present, John Rivera, Jack Weinhold, Jack Reindel and Rev. Horst were always on hand to assist. Kaitlyn printed the programs each week and the entire series went off without a hitch each Thursday. It was a pleasure to be there and to contribute; the 3 performances that I was a part of were a memorable part of my summer. We hosted Coq Au Vin, The Bart Weisman Trio, The Bob Lehman Trio, The Matt Hutchinson/Nigel Goss Trio, the Hyannis Sound A Capella group, Daniel Charness, Singer/Songwriter, The Nantucket Women's Chorus, John Murrelle-Baritone, TimBukBlues, Tony Deblois, Courtenay Hardy on Flute, Jessie Lambrecht our very own Operatic Soprano, and the NCMC Jazz Band among others. If we do the series again, we will have some work to do to present another fine and eclectic mix as we did this year. With the help of ReMain Nantucket and the M.S. Worthington Foundation, we were given a generous budget and we

stayed within it and made money from charging an admission price of \$10 for the first time in the summer concert series history.

Throughout the summer, we engaged soloists and instrumentalists which were all a true joy. It was particularly wonderful to be in the sanctuary this summer with the beautiful painting to look at, music all around and friends to enjoy it with. Carson Cooman joined us at the organ for 4 Sundays this summer, offering a newly composed anthem to us as a gift. "Hope" was written to the words of our newly settled minister Rev. Linda Simmons and put to music by Carson. We have performed it once since we introduced it at Rev. Linda's installation service. We had a few guest organists this summer, Don Ingram and Ryan Bartosiewicz, and many a soloist who brought their talents and repertoire to us, varying our musical offerings each week to the delight of myself and the congregation. Over the course of 2013: The St. Paul's Choir joined us at Easter, Pam Goddard played the flute, Amanda Torchia sang for us, Valerie, Susie's niece, joined the choir and also sang with Susie at the organ. Richard Loftin played the trumpet and Chelsea Remick sang on a few different occasions, Jake Butler wowed us on piano, vocals, and cello and also provided hymns for services on Sundays when I was absent. Jim Sulzer filled in for The Blessing of the Animals in a similar capacity and continues to share his talents, singing with the choir, and providing service music and guitar solos much to our total enjoyment. We were lucky enough to have Rene LaPierre on the organ more than once, Cynthia Csabay and Bob Lehman soloing on several occasions, Bill Schutt on saxophone, Juliana Burdick singing with such delicacy, and our friend Erik Wendleken offering his songs of love from his latest album. Brian McCaig, appearing in his first solo performance, was also the first person to reap the benefits of the Sunday Open Rehearsals, where he was able to work on his repertoire for 6 weeks before performing his debut.

The church is filled with talented people who want to make a difference. Cynthia Csabay took that a step further and created a Sunday program around a movie classic "White Christmas". What a joy to hear the songs of the season, all from the movie, performed as the days got shorter and Christmas loomed on the holiday horizon. Her splendid work was recognized by many and her contribution to the music program is worthy of note; she has just joined the church and will hopefully be a big part of the direction that the music program takes in the year to come.

The instruments at the church are maintained beautifully by Boaz Kirchenbaum, who is a real pro and a fine musician. The new protocol has been adopted, and as I see it, it works better for the Music Director to identify when the instrument needs maintenance, then calling the Office Administrator, who in turn calls the tuner (Boaz). We'll see how that works. If there is a problem, my advice would be to get back on a monthly visit from the tuner to identify any problems.

The position of Music Director has required an advanced knowledge of musical repertoire, an ability to lead a choir without exclusion of people who may not have the same level of music knowledge as the person next to them, an advanced knowledge of hymns, a level of skill to play accompaniment and song leading, and a dedication to the church which is evidenced by weekly attendance to rehearsals and services. It required me to be able to communicate well with the choir as its director and accompanist. It required me to be able to lead a committee to develop ideas for fundraising and rally a core of people to help implement the plan. The Thursdays @5 Summer Concert series and the Open Rehearsal series were extra duties that I was happy to perform with the help of a willing, competent and dedicated Committee. It required a collaborative spirit to bring out the best in

the participants of the program, the soloists involved, and the members of the congregation who attended the performances.

Many thanks to our stalwart regulars who year round provide the core of our choir; without them, we wouldn't have been able to build the sound that has filled the sanctuary and Hendrix Hall with music for the last year. These people are Cynthia Csabay, Al Fuller, Karin Gockel, Val Hall, Bob Lehman, Debby Merritt, Chris Lohmann, Polly Miller, Grace Noyes, Nancy Rappaport, Linda Spery and Craig Spery. On occasion, we've been joined by voices that add so much to our group that it's always sad to see them go. We look forward to their contributions whenever they can join us. They are: Meg Hunter, Haziell Jackson, Trish Jarrell, Jessie Lambrecht, Pam Murphy, Jim Sulzer, Nancy Tobias, and Kathy Tyrer.

Thanks to everyone for keeping the music program alive, and thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve the church and the congregation.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Towle Lehman

Religious Exploration Committee - 2013

At the annual Board of Trustees retreat in early 2013 the suggestion was made to call the program Religious Exploration instead of Religious Education and this idea was quickly approved by the RE Committee. In March we bid farewell to RE Committee member and co-chair Anne Sutherland who moved to the mainland. Anne's organizational skills were instrumental to the success and growth of the committee during its first full year of leading a program staffed entirely by volunteers. In November another long time member of the Committee, Sissy Girard, moved off-island as well. Sissy's energy and hard-work were invaluable to the RE program. And finally, Casey Boukus decided to step off the Committee. In a time of transition to an all-volunteer RE program, Casey's ideas and creativity were essential to the program's success. We are extremely grateful to these three dedicated congregation members who volunteered endless hours in the RE program.

We also welcomed three new members to our Committee this year - Jen Dunbar, Saralyn Rice, and Linda Spery. Last year Jen was hired as our childcare provider for the younger RE children. At the end of 2013, we offered Jen the position of lead RE teacher for our group and happily, she accepted. Jen brings a wealth of experience and skill to her new role as Lead Teacher. Saralyn, as a new member to our UU congregation, brings new energy and eyes to our committee as well as her experience in the education field. And finally we welcome Linda Spery, a proven dedicated congregation member and leader, who brings a passionate enthusiasm for working with children. Our new settled minister, Linda Simmons has been a regular participant of the RE committee and has made invaluable contributions already. The 2014 Religious Exploration Committee is ready to move forward as a new year begins.

Notes of interest from 2013:

- From January through June we continued with the UUA Tapestry of Faith curriculum, "Creating Home", as our focus in our RE classes. Throughout the year class size ranges from 3-

20 with the average being 6-8 children per class. The classes are multi-aged, with children ranging in age from 2-10 years old.

- Our Spring Family Event was a wonderful Passover Seder which took place in April and was organized by the RE Committee in collaboration with representatives from the Shirat Ha 'Yam congregation. This event was very well attended by members of both congregations and is sure to be repeated in 2014.
- During the summer as we welcomed visiting children to our classes we had a scaled down class structure, beginning each session with our usual chalice lighting and circle time, then opening up interest areas and art projects from which the children could choose.
- From September through December we returned to the UUA Tapestry of Faith Curriculum, using "Warm Welcome" to structure our classes.
- Our Fall Family event was a Spaghetti Dinner in October complete with a Halloween costume preview exhibition.... Lots of fun for all who attended!
- A day-long Religious Exploration Workshop led by Schuyler Vogel was held in the Activities Room on October 5th and attended by members of the RE committee, the UU congregation, and the general Nantucket community.
- The Youth Group, comprised of 6-8 teens ages 14-16 and led by congregant volunteers Christine Sanford, Yve Shevalier, Henry Sanford, along with our Interim Minister David Horst, continued to meet on Thursday evenings from January through June. These meetings included dinner and topical discussions.
- Our Winter Family event was a collaboration with the Artists Association of Nantucket (AAN) to present a "Noon Year's Eve" art project and celebration for children ages 3-9 with family. Art projects and a celebration to toast in 2014 as the UU bell chimed at noon, complete with a parade through town, made for a very successful event.

Once again we thank the volunteers from the congregation who have come forward to help out with our RE program... from donating snack items, to helping out with special events, to being a helping teacher during the RE class.... all assistance is very much appreciated!

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Richards, RE Committee Chair

Membership Committee – 2013

The Membership Committee was reactivated in 2013 with the purpose of welcoming, integrating and recognizing members of the congregation. The committee worked with the Board of Trustees to host a Summer Members' annual dinner at Jack and Mary Beth's house in August. Seasonal Suppers at members' houses were held to support congregational friendships. Rev. Simmons held two orientation sessions at the parsonage for members who have joined since January of 2013. A Membership Sunday service in December featured the "signing of the book" by several new members and the stories of membership experience by long-time members Ruth Chapel Grieder and Debbie

Merritt and recent members Tobias Glidden and Bess Clarke. The committee welcomes others to join them.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Beth Splaine and Lora Stewart

South Church Preservation Fund – 2013

The South Church Preservation Fund continued its important work of maintaining and restoring our historic building and keeping a watchful eye on any new problems that might arise. Some minor weather-related problems in the tower and the roof were repaired before causing further damage; and the unsightly mildew on the exterior white paint in front had to be washed as a temporary measure before selecting a more durable paint for a permanent solution. Window repair and replacement as well as choosing and installing historically more appropriate light fixtures for the main sanctuary continue to be significant projects for the coming year. So is the issuing of a new and expanded edition of the commemorative book published in anticipation of the main restoration in 2009, with the new edition documenting in pictures and text the remarkable success of that effort, the result of many generous contributions in time, effort, and funds. The printing of a newly designed informative brochure about the purpose, function, and accomplishments of SCPF is expected to be completed within the next several weeks. Near the end of the year, the board voted to contribute up to \$10,000—about one third of the total estimated cost—for the planned renovation of Hendrix Hall, an integral part of the building that SCPF has supported in the past.

Two members of the board, Sissy Girard and Reggie Levine, resigned during the year, the former after many years of dedicated service, the latter (due to unexpected health issues) after only a few months. Two new members, Gwen Richter and Gary Langley, joined as new members, bringing enthusiasm, expertise, and new energy to the board. Gwen's expertise in dealing with financial matters made her the ideal person to fill the position of Treasurer. The congregation will vote on officers and possibly any new members at its annual meeting on January 26, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Lohmann, Secretary

Search Committee/Committee on Ministry – 2013

Serving this year and last year on the Search Committee/Committee on Ministry were Abby Slosek, Sissy Girard, Casey Boukus, Barbara Elder, Peter Richards, Yve Shevalier, Nancy Rappaport, and Craig Sperry .

The Unitarian Universalist Association has a highly refined and scripted search process to make it straightforward and fair for both congregations and for ministers seeking positions. The search process, as defined by the UUA, puts a great deal of responsibility on the Search Committee as they

are the designated representatives of the congregation who meet all of the pre-candidates and who select one candidate to present to the congregation to officially be “called.”

The Search Committee worked through the process with the support and guidance of our Ministerial Settlement Representative Reverend Judith Campbell, beginning back in 2012 with the submittal of our Congregational Record providing prospective ministerial candidates with an overview of our church by the October deadline.

Once the Congregational Record was posted on the UUA website, the Search Committee began receiving copies of Ministerial Records from interested candidates from all over the country containing the minister's curriculum vitae as well as other information. Based on the Ministerial Record, the Search Committee then conducted phone interviews and reference checks with potential candidates.

In January 2013 the Committee narrowed the field of potential candidates to four pre-candidates and invited each for a visit with the Search Committee. These visits took place in January and February despite some grueling winter weather and difficult travel conditions. Each pre-candidate spent a weekend with the Search Committee, visiting the church and touring the parsonage on island, in addition to conducting a service at a “neutral pulpit” on the Cape.

After the visits, the Search Committee unanimously decided upon the top candidate—Rev. Linda Simmons. The Committee made an offer to Rev. Simmons on March 15th, which she enthusiastically accepted. She and her husband Gary Langley then came to Nantucket for Candidating Week, which took place for nine days in April. She had numerous meetings with congregational members, including the Board of Trustees and church committees, in addition to conducting services on two Sundays. Several dinners were held in honor of Rev. Simmons and Gary, providing all members of the congregation an opportunity to get to know them better. She held meetings with interim minister Rev. David Horst as well as minister emeritus Rev. Ted Anderson. A highlight of the week was participation in the Daffodil Parade.

After the service on the second Sunday, a congregational meeting was held for the purpose of the congregation voting on whether to “call” Rev. Simmons as the new settled minister. Normally the candidate will only accept a call when the approval rate is well above 90%. The vote was unanimous, with Rev. Simmons welcomed back into Hendrix Hall after the vote to voice her acceptance of the call.

After Candidating Week, the Search Committee turned to a negotiating team of Board and congregational members to work out a contract outlining the terms of employment with Rev. Simmons. The next step was for the Search Committee to work with the Board of Trustees on plans for Rev. Simmons’ move to Nantucket following her graduation from Harvard Divinity School and her ordination at First Church Boston, which was attended by a contingent of Board and Search Committee members.

Rev. Simmons began her service on late July 2013 upon the departure of interim minister Rev. David Horst, with her installation taking place in early October with a weekend of celebration. According to

the church by-laws, the Search Committee transitioned into the Committee on Ministry upon Rev. Simmons' commencement of service as settled minister. At the end of six months in January 2014, a new Committee Ministry will be named by the minister and Board of Trustees president to serve in an advisory capacity to Rev. Simmons.

On behalf of the Search Committee, thank you to everyone for your support and acceptance of our choice for our new settled minister. With Rev. Simmons as our minister, we look forward to a bright future and congregational growth.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Spery, Chair

Nominating Committee – 2013

The Nominating Committee of Bob Lehman, Chris Lohmann, and Mary Beth Splaine nominated Jim Sulzer and Jack Weinhold to positions on the Board of Trustees at the 2013 Annual Meeting. They were elected by a vote of the congregation. Peter Richards was nominated in July to serve as Treasurer upon the resignation of Bob Hall. In December, Lora Stewart was nominated to take the seat vacated by Brian Girard upon his move to Florida. They were elected by the Board of Trustees. At the 2014 Annual Meeting, the committee will bring forward two candidates to fill the seats of retiring board members, David Hall and Marina Sutro.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Beth Splaine

**Second Congregational Meeting House Society
Unitarian Universalist Nantucket, Massachusetts 2013
Annual Meeting January 13, 2013**

Minutes taken by Susan Richards, Clerk

Opening: Images 2012 (slide show)

1. Call to order at 12:15pm
2. Quorum established - 9 new members who signed the book this morning were asked to stand and be recognized.

Invocation - Interim Minister David Horst

Approval of Minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting - Review of minutes - Unanimously approved by voice vote

Discussion and approval of Operating Budget (Jack Weinhold) - Treasurer and Leader of discussion.) A lot of work and dedication has gone into putting the finances together - he acknowledged the rest of the committee.. Brian Girard, Craig Spery, Gwen Richter, Bob Hall. Jack explained the budget format:

1. Going into last year.. a lot of unknowns - staff changes (Music and RE) - much less spent in these two areas.

2. Endowment interest fell by about \$10,000 - fortunately we were able to cover this loss.... we only needed to take \$27,000 out of the \$37,500 we could have taken out of endowment - This year we are authorized to take 25,000 out of endowment - we have a one-time expense of \$15,000 new minister transition to cover this year.

\$23,000 grant explained: For music and the playing of the organ

\$15,000 minister transition expenses explained - search committee traveling to neutral pulpits, bringing the final candidate to the island and moving the new minister to the island.

120 ministers looking for 40 positions nationwide.... we have received 8 applications so far.... 2013 is the last year of the three year pre-authorized endowment withdrawal.. are we moving towards a "Unitarian Fiscal Cliff"? Jack read from his report about this issue:

I am happy to say that with careful planning and the dedicated help of the finance committee we finished 2012 well within budget. We realized a little less revenue than anticipated, but we kept expenses substantially below the projected level. Most importantly we fulfilled the commitment made by the congregation at the summer 2010 meeting to withdraw no more than \$37,500 of endowment principal in order to balance the budget in 2012.

Honoring our commitment to "pay as we go" for ordinary annual church expenses, 2013 will be the last year of endowment assistance for budgeting; this is consistent with the agreement we made to wean ourselves from the use of endowment principal to cover operating expenses. In keeping with

that agreement, a balanced budget for 2013 is being presented which limits our withdrawal of endowment principal this year to \$25,000.

We will be calling a new settled minister in 2013, and that brings extraordinary expenses beyond annual budget items. These include search committee expenses for travel in order to meet with applicants and audition their sermons, and relocation expenses for the new minister. In total \$15,000, \$9500 of which will fit within the budget. The congregation is being asked to authorize the additional \$5,500 be withdrawn from endowment principal to pay for these nonrecurring costs of ministerial transition.

Beginning in 2014 we will fund the annual church operating budget without withdrawals from endowment principal. For the past two years, the Finance Committee's long term planning for this 2014 budget challenge has looked to greater revenue being derived from an increased membership. We believe there is a large community of liberal religious islanders who do not yet know they are Unitarian Universalists looking for a home. Enthusiasm for supporting this increased membership effort is one of the criteria by which the Search Committee is vetting settled-minister applicants.

A larger membership, and the associated increase in revenue, will require a year or more of development before we achieve "pay as we go" funding of the budget. As a congregation we will need to invest financially during that growth period until we reach a congregation size that can sustain our operating costs. That investment will come from some combination of individuals, and/or the congregation's agreement, that our growth effort is a sufficiently important and valid use of endowment funds. Either way, we must clearly demonstrate to our settled-minister applicants that we are committing our time and money to grow into a financially sustainable congregation.

Two votes taken:

1. Vote on taking an additional withdrawal of \$5,500 from Endowment Principal. - Unanimous approval
2. Vote on 2013 Budget - Unanimous approval.

Election of Board of Trustees - (Mary Beth Splaine)

Treasurer: Jack Weinhold stepping down

Bob Hall - approved unanimously by voice vote as Treasurer

Susan Richards - finished up a previous member's term and elected to 3 year term

Jim Sulzer - elected to a 3 year term

Jack Weinhold - elected to a 3 year term

No Nominations from the floor

Election of SCPF board members: Current members: Mary Beth Splaine, Sissy Girard, David Barham Libby Oldham, Chris Lohman, Michael May, Susan Hochwald, Craig Sperry Reggie Levine has accepted

nomination and was voted in unanimously- voice vote Craig Spery, David Barham reelected to second terms unanimously - voice vote

Election of Nominating Committee - Bob Lehman, Chris Lohman, Mary Beth Splaine - voted in unanimously by voice vote

New Business

Donating the Estey Organ (Bob Hall)

Bob described the history of the organ... it was donated by the Willard family... it has a “unique sound” Has not been played for many years. The NCMC cannot fit it into their new building. Bob contacted the Reed Organ Society of Palmer, MA. and they are willing to take the organ. Motion to donate the organ with amendment “as approved by the Board of Trustees” : Voice voted on and approved unanimously.

Amendment to Motion:

1. Amendment to bylaw Article 7 (meetings – notification) - “notification by email” when people have working email addresses: Voted on and approved unanimously

Other Business: Jack Weinhold acknowledged Bob Hall as an excellent record keeper and wonderful president - Bob acknowledged Jack as equally skilled in his position as Treasurer. Jack acknowledged that he and Bob are now “engaged”.

Craig Spery and Bob Hall acknowledged with gratitude the wonderful job that Christine Sanford has done as Vice-President of the Board as did Bob Hall.

Adjournment at 1:10 p.m.

**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.