

Gifts of Self: The People Make a Church

Do you remember the child's hand play that starts with fisted fingers intertwined? "This is the church." Index fingers are then raised to a point. "This is the steeple." Thumbs swing back and intertwined fingers are inverted (and wiggled vigorously). "Open the doors and see all the people."

Not every church has to have a steeple, just as not every church has to adhere to a single creed, but, every church depends on its people to make a living organism from what would else be a hollow shell.

We are sharing our appreciation for all the people who've brought the congregation alive with their "gifts of self" this year. Their activities serve dozens of different purposes. Some are the committees that extend the goals of the church. Others reach outside the church to extend Unitarian Universalist caring in our community. Still others bring members and friends together for learning, conversation, and just-plain-enjoyment in each other's presence.

You will see some names more than once, but, there are more than 140 people who've given of their time and talents to make this past church year interesting and varied. There's always room for more people to become involved in creating an ever stronger community.

Buildings and Grounds: Maintenance and Improvement

The tasks associated with maintaining the building and grounds at UUCT are many and varied. The list below includes people who came to work days and enjoyed companionship as they accomplished many tasks. It also includes people who undertook major projects singly or in pairs, and people who have made a personal commitment to provide focused care.

Len Adams
Will Adkins
Ev Anderson
AJ Abellera
Don Berger
Kathleen Blizzard
Maggie Bowden
Les Campbell, Co-Chair
Brendan Cavano, Co-Chair
Shukree Cha Jua

Dan Damerville
Bob Deyle
Amy Doyle
Matt Doyle
Susan Fleming
Hans Gregersen
Charlotte Hand
June Hiatt
Lee Hiatt
Ken Kent

Joe Lama
Tonya Mantay
Ed Oaksford
Rod Oldenberg
Caroline Pardue
Howard Pardue
Josh Pasqua
William Riedell
Heike Sanford
Lloyd Schnell

Caring Comes Naturally

The acts of caring people offer each other at UUCT might be as simple as giving a ride to a treatment or appointment, it can include bringing meals to new parents or post-surgery patients. It also includes hours of personal support, visits, and listening with empathy in times of trouble.

Will Adkins
Connie Adams
Len Adams
Sally Anderson
Marty Beech
Maggie Bowden
Mary Braunagel
Bethany Cavano
Kay Cleary
Angel DeArmendi
Trudy Deyle
Amy Doyle
Matt Doyle

Carolyn Dubard
Susan Fleming
Deborah Holt
Mimi Jones
Joe Lama
Dick Leinberry
Brian Lee
Peggy Lentz
Tonya Mantay
Kathy McDevitt
Tom Moore
Ed Oaksford
Linda Oaksford

Carolyn Pardue
Joan Patterson
Annette Pearce
Leanne Rhodes
Kim Roche
Kim Ross
Jeanne Ryder
Casey Strickland
Joanne Taylor
Steve Urse
Amy Weiss
Mary Wolfgang, Caring Coordinator



Choirs and Musicians

The choirs provide support of Sunday services, welcoming everyone with open arms, committing to this ministry with generosity of heart.

Len Adams
Sally Andersen
Natalie Binder
Steve Carter
Jennifer Carver
Maggie Cass
Bethany Cavano
Brendan Cavano
Parker Collins
Omie Coyne
Amanda Crossley
Paul Hanna

Lee Hiatt
Debbie Holt
Nicholas Mazzilli
John McDevitt
Kathy McDevitt
Ray Montalvo
Thomas R Moore
Ed Oaksford
Marcelle Praetorius
Kim Roche
Casey Strickland
Jackie Wild
Tracy Yacobellis

Instrumentalists

Siddhartha Kamath
Nick Mazzilli
Jordan Morrison
Paul Hanna

Guest Musicians

Greg Sauer
Marie Smithwick

Committees: More than Meetings

Committees play an important role in the life of the congregation. Without the commitment of these volunteers the church would not be able to meet its important goals.

Committee on the Ministry members are appointed by agreement of the Board and the Minister; they take the larger view of the congregation providing annual reports of the “state of the church” to the Board. They also are available to help individuals and groups live fully into the Covenant of Right Relations.

Len Adams (Chair)
Parker Collins
Annette Pearce
Joanne Taylor

Communications Committee provides what may be the first contact anyone has with UUCT. An overwhelming majority of first time visitors find us because they searched the internet.

The recently revised and updated website is more than a colorful and lively introduction to UUCT, it also provides valuable information for people all across the spectrum of membership. Need to know when an event is scheduled? It's there in the constantly updated calendar. Wondering what the Manual of Policies and Procedures covers? It's available in the resources section. Thinking you'd like to know what's happening next Sunday? Check out the Sunday services page. Missed the last issue of the newsletter when it dropped into your mailbox - thanks to a Communication Committee volunteer? You can find it posted on the website. This committee also oversees the Facebook pages and groups that encourage sharing. And, now a volunteer is capturing the sermon from the Sunday morning video and making it available through the website.

Trudy Deyle, Convener
Bonnie Abellera
Warren Brackmann
Lee Chipps-Walton
Pat Curtis
Dan D'arcangelis
Elizabeth Richey
Melinda Stuart-Tilley
Libby Watson

Community Connections Committee volunteers organize a number of coffeehouse events for the enjoyment of members and friends.

Will Adkins, Chair
Ev Anderson
Don Berger
Warren Brackmann
Kate Blizzard

Mary Braunagle
Dick Leinberry
Rosa Morgan
Howard Pardue

Carolyn Pardue
Marilyn Price
Amy Weiss

EqUUal Access is helping the congregation to assess it's readiness to accept and involve people who may have temporary or permanent needs for accessibility assistance. They will help the congregation to consider present and future needs, as well as present and future responses.

Warren Brackmann
Mary Braunagel
Jennifer Carver, Chair
Rand Metcalf

Marcell Praetorius
Joan Patterson
Leane Rhodes

Joanne Taylor
Rebecca Telesco
Linda Wright

Harmony Camp depends on volunteers to organize and run a week-long summer camp open to UUCT children and members of the larger community. Up to 50 children enjoy a full week of fun... and learning.

June Hiatt, Facilitator
Ashley Hopkins
Claudia Montague
Melinda Stuart-Tilley

Membership Committee cares for visitors by helping them to make connections and to understand Unitarian Universalism as they come in contact with it for the first time. They also seek to offer every member and friend an opportunities to make new friends, with Greeters and Dinners For Eight.

Trudy Deyle, Chair
Barbara Sterling
Tiffany Lee

Dinners for Eight bring people together to create new friendships over a meal.

Jennifer Carver
Susan Fleming

Greeters help everyone entering the doors on Sunday morning whether its their first or five-hundredth time crossing the threshold.

Georgia Ackerman
Len Adams
Marty Beech
Jennifer Carver
Kenneth Carver
Shukree Cha Jua

Mariann D'Arcangelis
Carolyn DuBard
Charlotte Hand
Sid Kamath
Barbara Sterling

Phyllis Thomson
Rod Oldenberg
Lawrence Tobe
Steve Urse

Memorial Garden Committee cares for the garden on the north side of the Sanctuary, creating an island of calm where members can be remembered. Plaques and bricks inscribed with names help to keep memories alive.


Kay Cleary
Del DeTar

Nominating Committee members recruit people to fill the important elected leadership positions that guide our policies between Annual Meetings.

Sid Kamath, Chair
Rod Oldenburg

Personnel Committee responsibilities include: monitoring and communicating the personnel policies at UUCT. They also review and propose staff salaries, as well as the Minister's Covenant and Working Agreement.

Bob Deyle, Chair
Abby Turner
Gwendolyn Waldorf



Financial Matters: Careful Oversight

The annual cycle for money management at UUCT may begin with the pledge campaign, but, it continues year round as expenditures are monitored.

The **Canvass Committee** worked as equals to create a successful campaign. Brochures, budgets, and even skits reached members of the congregation with good news about accomplishments in the year past. The campaign made it possible for the congregation to move into next year with the promise of sufficient funds to meet its needs.

Len Adams
Ev Anderson
Maggie Bowden
Annette Pearce
Jon Sanford
Casey Strickland
Debbie Tipton

The **Finance Committee** keeps the church on an even keel by meeting every month to watch our spending, and to consider requests for fundraising.

Ev Anderson
Marty Beech
Maggie Bowden
Frank Deasy
Del DeTar
Robert Lee
Joan Patterson
Larry Pushor
Abby Turner

The **Endowment Committee** carries the responsibility of overseeing the invested funds on behalf of the congregation.

Trudy Deyle
Charlotte Hand
Joan Patterson
Barney Cook (retired)



Groups

There are a number of small groups in the congregation that foster relationships and offer opportunities for deep thinking and dreaming. The conveners of the each group manage communication, letting people know when the group will meet and any topic that might be addressed. The ongoing groups include informal gatherings like Women's Lunch Bunch where the conversation flows over whatever thoughts people bring, and more structured meetings like those of Freethinkers where presentations and videos challenge and inspire, and Mindfulness Meditation, a Buddhist style meditation group.

Will Adkins
Sally Anderson
Warren Brackmann
Ron Crowe

Trudy Deyle
Rod Oldenburg
Howard Pardue
John Sample
Lloyd Schell

Debbie Tipton
Abby Turner
Gary Whittenberger
Mary Wolfgang

Hospitality

A core of dedicated people have been making **Sunday morning hospitality** happen. You've heard their names at the announcements, and here they are again.

Susan Fleming
Hans Gregersen
Dick Leinberry
Rod Oldenburg
Carolyn Pardue, Coordinator

Second Sunday Potlucks mean opportunities to socialize and to sample the great dishes offered by fellow congregants. Setting up and cleaning up are important tasks on Second Sundays, too.

Connie Sauer Adams
Len Adams
Irmin Allner
Maggie Bowden
Mary Braunagel
Dewayne Carver
Jennifer Carver
Angel de Armendi

Carrie Hamby
Charlotte Hand
Ken Kent
Kay Kuhne
Joe Lama
Dick Leinberry
Lynette Norr
Ed Oaksford

Linda Oaksford
Howard Pardue
Annette Pearce
Leane Rhodes
Casey Strickland
Alan Stuart-Tilley
Melinda Stuart-Tilley
Joanne Taylor
Mary Wolfgang, Coordinator

Winterfest and Chili and Chocolate are two major fundraisers give the kitchen a good workout. Willing helpers make sure good food is available for all bolstering UUCT morale with a benefit for the budget, too.

Will Adkins
Kate Blizzard
Omie Coyne
Bob Deyle
Amy Doyle

Mason Doyle
Matt Doyle
Samantha Ellrich
Susan Fleming
Linlee Franklin
Chris Hannah

Anthony Mantay
Scott Martin
Carolyn Pardue,
Chef & Kitchen Coordinator
Leane Rhodes
Alithea Schoborg
Amy Weiss

Office Volunteers

Provide services in the Office Administrators absence. It is not an easy task to grasp so many different aspects of the position with a few hours of training. The friendly, helpful and professional attitude of volunteers while handling calls, messages, email, mail and the Order of Service makes it possible for the Office Administrator to take a true break while away from work.

Mimi Jones
Linda Oaksford
Phyllis Thomson

Sound and Streaming

The service words and music are amplified to help everyone participate comfortably. In addition, each Sunday the service is streamed to Room L to create an additional area of comfort for people who have trouble sitting for longer periods, or find smaller groups more compatible with their needs. All of that requires dedicated assistance from people willing to master the technical requirements of the job.

Ed Baseheart
Don Berger
Steven Carter

DeWayne Carver
Carrie Hamby
Robert Lee
David Nelson

John Nelzen
Howard Pardue, Coordinator
Jim Stangel

Religious Exploration

There are people you may not see very much on a Sunday morning. The Religious Exploration Guides, youth advisors, OWL facilitators, and other volunteers are really the ones who make our ministry possible.

Many of our RE Guides teach at least once, and some two or three times a month. Youth advisors meet with our TRYBE youth group most weeks, as well as travel to weekend CONs and planning meetings. OWL facilitators put in lots of extra time to make sure our children and youth have the opportunity to develop a healthy sexuality throughout their whole lives. There are also people helping behind the scenes, entering in attendance figures, planning book fair fundraisers.

Bonny Allen
Sally Andersen
Bethany Buffington
DeWayne Carver
Jennifer Carver
Maggie Cass
Lee Chipps-Walton
Sarah Chipps-Walton
Kristen Coyne
Matt Doyle

Erika Frisby
Mary Kay Gafney
Scott Geraci
Afua Hall
Pam Hoskins
Rose Huskey
Robert Lee
Tiffany Lee
Tonya Mantay
Josh Pascua

Heike Sanford
Dave Telesco
Connie Sauer-Adams
Melinda Stuart-Tilley
Debby Tipton
Aaron Turner
Abby Turner
Gwendolyn Waldorf
Diana Williams
Tracy Yacobellis

Social Justice

Social Justice oversees several outreach programs of the congregation, and takes nominations for the Social Justice Outreach recipients.

Warren Brackmann
Libby Watson

Social Justice also encompasses action, whether it's walking with Crop Walk or making a difference at the Kearney Center in the meals program.

(continued on the next page)

Shelter Meal volunteers cook and serve a dinner one evening a month, and a lunch time meal another day of the month.

Len Adams
Will Adkins
Sally Andersen
Ev Anderson
Ed Baseheart
Donald Berger
Bill Berlow
Dewayne Carver
Shukree Cha-Jua
Parker Collins
Ron Crowe
Dan D'Arcangelis
Greg DeAngelo
Angel de Armendi
Frank Deasy
Bob Deyle

Jim Dincalci
Christopher Ellrich
Susan Fleming
Linlee Franklin
Erika Frisby
Leslie Geller
Hans Gregersen
Lee Hiatt
Sid Kamath
Alan Keith
Bob Kenon
Joe Lama
Dick Leinberry
Jon Lutz
Scott Martin
Terri Martin

Tom Moore
John Nelzen
Howard Pardue
Ron Patrick
Larry Pushor
Kendra Prisk
Elizabeth Richey, Coordinator
William Riedell
John Sample
Laura Schumacher
Jim Stangel
Alan Stuart-Tilley
Gene Stuckey
Fran Sullivan-Fahs
Tom Taylor
Donna Cay Tharpe
Steve Urse
Tracy Yacobellis

Sunday Services

Every Sunday, people come to services expecting an interesting and compelling hour to help them recharge for the week to come. The people on this list have crafted sermons, shared personal stories, and served as readers and leaders for services. They've opened the door on hope and laughter, challenge and caring, so that others might receive from them new possibilities for their lives.

Len Adams
Ev Anderson
Sally Anderson
Kate Blizzard
Rebecca Bramlett
Bethany Buffington
Shukree Cha-Jua
Lee Chipps Walton
Sarah Chipps Walton
Kristen Eliza Coyne
Ron Crowe
Greg DeAngelo
Del de Tar

Bob Deyle,
Program Committee Chair
Trudy Deyle
Matt Doyle
Kristin Dowell
Susan Fleming
Erika Frisby
Hans Gregersen
Charlotte Hand
Carrie Hamby
Mimi Jones
Anthony Mantay
Tonya Mantay

Genevieve Moore
Riley Moore
Sharon Murray
Lynette Norr
Linda Oaksford
Elizabeth Richey
Kim Roche
Laura Schumacher
Alan Stuart-Tilley
Holly Thompson
Abby Turner
Libby Watson
Elizabeth Woodsmall

Thank You to The Executive Board 2015-16

Terri Martin, President

Abby Turner, President Elect

Greg DeAngelo, Past President

Debby Tipton, Secretary

Ev Anderson, VP Finance

Leane Rhodes, VP Community

Warren Brackmann, VP Social Justice

Bob Deyle, VP Worship

Bonnie Abellera, VP Management

DeWayne Carver, VP RE, retired