

North Universalist Chapel Society
Board of Trustees Agenda
20 January 2015

~ we are the trustees of the spirit of this church ~

1. Opening Words - Check In 15 minutes

2. Board Work 60 minutes

Officers

Retreat

Telos Luncheon

Committee Cafe, February

Planning Committee

Interim Minister Search Team

MJ's Follow Up

3. Annual Meeting Plan/Budget 45 minutes

4. Consent Agenda, including Committee Reports 10 minutes

Personnel Committee

5. Closing Words

North Chapel Board Meeting December 16, 2014

Present: Ann Wynia, Mary Jeanne Taylor, Anne Macksoud, Daniel Jantos, Susan Inui, Elizabeth Reaves, Hope Yeager, Anne Marinello, Deb Rice

Absent: Denise Lyons

Mary Jeanne opened the meeting with a Christmas reading. Board members checked in.

Daniel's Time

Daniel raised the issue of a one-year or a two-year interim minister. This minister will be looking inward within the church and making sure that the church is taking care of itself. If an interim is here for two years, that will be a long time for North Chapel to withdraw from its role and work out in the larger community. This may have an impact on our ability to raise funds to support the church.

Committee Visit

Don Ransom joined the meeting at 6:37 p.m. as a representative of the Nominating Committee. He reviewed nominees for positions on Resource Committee, Finance Committee and the Board of Trustees. Don spoke about trying to find a balance in the number of men and women on the Board. Anne Mack voiced concern about having just one (token) male on the Board. Is it possible to have at least two and increase the Board back to nine members?

Susan brought up the fact that also the interim search committee and the settled minister search committee will need to be filled. Having a full board means that there will be fewer people to choose from to fill those committees.

Mary Jeanne said she would check if there are any members of Nominating Committee who are due to finish their term. MJ also pointed out that since she is leaving the Board, the Board will need to select a new liaison to the Nominating Committee. Don left the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Return to Daniel's Time

Daniel pointed out that there are a lot of skilled people within the congregation who could do the inward-looking transition of a one year interim within the one-year time frame. However, the transition process would have to begin pretty soon. Daniel stated that a stronger church comes from doing more outward-looking work than inward-looking work.

MJ pointed out that a one-year interim would change the remaining time we have with Daniel. At the very least, the Board would have to plan to create and keep track of the various search committees.

Susan said that she sees the North Chapel needing a two year interim so that we can have time to separate from our connection to Daniel, and so that we don't keep measuring the new settled minister based on who Daniel is to us.

Elizabeth brought up the work of the Planning Committee and how important it is for that work to continue even before the interim minister arrives.

The board discussed the pros and cons of having a one year versus a two year interim minister. Susan recommended that board members who have not yet read [In the Interim](#) to do so. Daniel suggested that the Board could choose a couple of people to begin the work of the settled minister search committee; those people would pull together a packet about our church next fall. Then that packet could sit while the

board and community decide if we are having a one year or a two year interim.

Daniel suggested that the board meet with Telos Whitfield while she is here (giving reflections for four Sundays during January and February) to talk with her about ministry. Anne Marinello suggested inviting Telos to have lunch after church. MJ said she would send Telos an invite to do that.

Interim Search Committee

The Board decided that we would each send MJ three names of "thoughtful, careful" possible interim search committee members by January 10.

Planning Committee Update

MJ reviewed Denise's email update. MJ suggested that Denise be the person to give the Planning Committee update at the Annual Meeting.

Budget considerations

Daniel spoke about needing to fund or consider funding the initiatives that came out of the Planning Committee process. We should have a conversation about naming the things that need funding before the budget is complete. Possible Items that were discussed included:

*Paying for Childcare during circle dinners or other church functions

*Child care budget for each committee for other church events like the canvass dinner, annual meeting, etc.

*A lapel microphone

*An appropriate recording device to record Sunday services (Ann Wynia asked that issues around the sound system go back through Jack Nelson).

*Teaming up with ArtisTree to make use of the children's activities they have organized that could help take care of our needs for child care

Susan suggested saying to the committees at Committee Cafe that they look at the five foci from the Planning Committee recommendations. Then look at implementing those five priorities within their committee and check which initiatives need to be funded in the budget.

MJ said we need to put a notice about Committee Cafe in In Touch, Quest, and the order of service. MJ asked Susan to write up the request to committees to include Planning Committee priorities in the budgeting process and announce that Committee Cafe will meet for dessert at 7 p.m. on January 6.

Board Work

Future of the Board: looking past January. MJ shared Denise's suggestion that the Board discuss the role of a board chair, co-chair, vice chair, etc. at a Board retreat in February. MJ said she would put out a Doodle poll for continuing Board members to set up dates for a Board retreat.

Requests from Resource Committee

The board reviewed the requests from the Resource Committee. Ann Wynia described how it used to be that members would talk to other members about pledging and giving. The Board discussed ways to give Lynn Peterson more support in his work on the Resource Committee. Board members discussed both the need to increase the pledges as well as maintaining the current North Chapel culture of **(low pressure?)** giving.

Elizabeth suggested beginning one on one fundraising conversations by the Resource Committee which would gather information from members about why people give. Elizabeth said she would be happy to be the liaison to supporting Resource in starting these conversations. MJ proposed that the Board and Resource present a conversation about fundraising at Annual Meeting.

Elizabeth left the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Ann Wynia suggested that Resource come up with how they want to present the conversation at Annual Meeting about fundraising. Deb said she would invite Elizabeth to the next Resource Committee meeting on Jan. 4. Ann Wynia said she would check the list of donors who give over \$2,000. If there is anyone on that list who wants their name to be withheld then she wouldn't reveal their exact donation amount; but for the others on the list she would pass along the donation amounts with their names to Resource.

The board discussed where to direct the Christmas Eve offering. The board decided to give half of the Christmas Eve offering to the Minister's Discretionary Fund and half to the Claremont Food Shelf.

Anne Marinello asked that the re-creation of the Social Justice committee be put on the agenda of the Board retreat. Daniel suggested that perhaps Social Justice needs to end in its current incarnation. Anne Mari said she would send an email to the Social Justice committee members about taking a break for the moment.

The board unanimously voted to approve the consent agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Hope Yeager
Secretary to the Board

North Universalist Chapel Society
December 2014 Financial Report
Ann Wynia, Treasurer

	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD	2014 Budget
RECEIPTS					
1 Loose	1,101.00	1,636.00	1,715.00	14,642.50	16000
2 Pledges	12,591.00	12,263.50	9,189.50	145,878.43	145000
3 Gifts/Donations	3,804.00	0.00	2,692.00	9,068.00	4000
4 Rentals	1,850.00	750.00	525.00	10,750.00	13000
5 Nursery School	0.00	1,250.00	625.00	6,875.00	6750
6 Fund Raising	180.00	1,739.64	3,935.00	12,413.64	16000
7 Reserve Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,000.00	9000
8 Balance forward	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,361.13	1350
9 TOTAL RECEIPTS	19,526.00	17,639.14	18,681.50	209,988.70	211100
EXPENSES					
10 Electric	354.82	369.59	412.77	4,678.67	5400
11 Fuel/Furnace	804.65	1,474.61	1,256.28	11,804.79	9500
12 Grounds	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,924.01	5000
13 Insurance	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,827.00	4340
14 Janitorial	405.18	115.00	113.50	2,497.25	3000
15 Maintenance	150.00	175.00	920.00	4,831.70	5000
16 Water/Sewer	0.00	98.82	0.00	810.86	850
17 TOTAL CHURCH	1,714.65	2,233.02	2,702.55	33,374.28	33090
18 Electric	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
19 Furnace	0.00	177.50	0.00	177.50	225
20 Maintenance	0.00	0.00	0.00	937.26	1000
21 Water/Sewer	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
22 TOTAL PARSONAGE	0.00	177.50	0.00	1,114.76	1225
23 Administrative Ass't	1,479.00	1,428.00	1,534.25	17,786.25	16184
24 Office Supplies	298.11	49.99	0.00	1,419.34	1000
25 Postage/Printing	10.15	-5.25	0.00	131.95	200
26 Telephone	96.15	97.27	91.21	1,099.87	1200
27 Website Host/Upkeep	0.00	0.00	278.40	662.16	600
28 Copier Lease	213.19	459.54	213.19	3,500.13	3500
29 UUA Fair Share	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	8,375.00	8375
30 NNED Dues	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,006.00	3006
31 Miscellaneous(Vanco)	26.55	39.92	30.48	515.24	360
32 TOTAL ADMINISTRAT	5,123.15	2,069.47	2,147.53	36,495.94	34425
33 FICA	736.11	734.66	729.64	8,846.46	8584
34 Medical Ins.	1,075.48	1,104.62	1,162.96	13,821.08	15000
35 Pension	912.00	912.00	918.00	10,950.00	10950
36 Auto Expenses	165.00	165.00	185.00	2,000.00	2000
37 Professional Exp & Dev	0.00	0.00	3,239.50	3,487.97	5475
38 Workers' Comp	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,416.00	1888
39 TOTAL BENEFITS	2,888.59	2,916.28	6,235.10	40,521.51	43897
40 Salary	3,917.00	3,917.00	5,902.03	48,987.03	47000
41 Housing Allowance	2,600.00	2,600.00	2,600.00	31,200.00	31200
42 TOTAL MINISTER	6,517.00	6,517.00	8,502.03	80,187.03	78200

North Universalist Chapel Society
 December 2014 Financial Report
 Ann Wynia, Treasurer

	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD	Budget
43 Sabbatical Savings Accoi	0.00	0.00	637.50	2550.00	2550
44 Substitutes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500
45 Supplies	0.00	10.95	106.85	117.80	300
46 Advertising	0.00	0.00	108.75	108.75	100
47 TOTAL WORSHIP	0.00	10.95	853.10	2,776.55	3450
48 Organist/Choir Direct.	1,362.00	1,362.00	1,358.00	16,340.00	16340
49 Special Services	0.00	0.00	200.00	650.00	800
50 Supplies	107.49	0.00	52.19	310.17	500
51 TOTAL MUSIC	1,469.49	1,362.00	1,610.19	17,300.17	17640
52 Coffee	0.00	0.00	104.50	370.50	350
53 Resource Comm	393.48	-300.00	0.00	93.48	300
Margaret Lampe Kannenstine					
54 Leadership Developmer	64.25	0.00	0.00	233.28	500
55 Outreach	0.00	41.40	0.00	160.40	150
56 Quest	152.60	236.00	0.00	2259.26	2300
57 TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	216.85	277.40	0.00	2,652.94	2950
58 Staff	550.00	550.00	450.00	4,875.00	4900
59 Supplies	17.00	24.87	0.00	254.63	500
60 Child Care	128.00	160.00	128.00	1,664.00	1670
63 Recognition	0.00	0.00	100.00	480.00	200
65 TOTAL R.E.	695.00	734.87	678.00	7,273.63	7270
66 TOTAL EXPENSES	19,018.21	15,998.49	22,833.00	222,160.79	222,797

North Universalist Chapel Society
December 2014 Financial Report

Ann Wynia, Treasurer
OCT NOV DEC

PEOPLES' UNITED ACCT # 640322721

67 Beginning balance	-10,169.03	-9,661.24	-8,020.59
68 Receipts	19,526.00	17,639.14	18,681.50
69 Expenses	19,018.21	15,998.49	22,833.00
70 Ending balance for operating budget	-9,661.24	-8,020.59	-12,172.09

RESTRICTED FUNDS

71 Withholdings	121.00	242.00	0.00
72 Minister's Fund	1013.01	1013.01	2166.01
Cold Relief	812.50	812.50	512.50
73 Organ Preservation	596.93	596.93	596.93
74 NYE/Cranna	2700.09	2700.09	2700.09
75 Sabbatical Savings	705.83	705.83	1593.33
76 Memorial Gardens	1223.05	1223.05	1223.05
77 Legal Funds LP	762.88	762.88	762.88
77a Pizza Oven	389.95	389.95	389.95
77b VT/Quebec grant	941.27	941.27	941.27
(78) RE Donation	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00
(78a) Classical concert dona	2500.00	1000.00	1000.00
(78b) 2015 Pledges	10529.00	11626.00	18606.00
(78c) Life&Hope		-10.49	24889.85
(78d) Gift to Wells Fargo hole			750.00
79 Spiritual Practice Explor	2940.51	2940.51	2940.51

TOTAL CHECKING ACCOUNT 17,074.78 18,422.94 48,400.28

INVESTMENT - Vermont Community Loan Fund - \$3760.25 at 0% Matures September 2016

Wells Fargo Acc't #3605-39446 Balance 12/31/14 - \$79419.89
Vermont Community Fund

EXPLANATIONS

- (3) Daniel, McCollom, Wannop, Goulding, Jonas, Donations above Christmas flower expenses
- (4) Doolittle-150,10/15 wed - 300, Bird Count - 75
- (6) Painting raffle - 2000, Western Wind - 1935
- (15) Grease trap cleaning - 580, Sewer pump work - 340
- (27) Point in Space
- (40) Salary plus prof. expenses without receipts
- (45) Christmas Eve candles
- (46) VT Standard
- (49) S.Saul, P.Fournier
- (72) Plus 1/2 Christmas Eve Collection 1153, Second half to Claremont Soup Kitchen
- (75) Add 637.50 from operating and 250 from uncashed check 3/14

Ann L. Wynia, Treasurer

Resource Committee Meeting 1/4/2015

For the Board:

1. What are the plans for names of donors and levels of donation?
2. Will some Board members join us in a Retreat in early spring?

Present: Mary Hawkins, Lynn Peterson, Deb Rice

We reviewed updated information on the Pledge Drive. We are now at ~\$141,000. We had three goal levels for the 2015 Pledge Drive: 1. Essential - \$140,000 we need to meet our basic fiscal needs, 2. Sustaining - \$153,000 would cover our basic needs and, in combination with income from our Reserve Fund, would allow some basic capital expenses like insulation for the sanctuary and repair of driveway and 3. Spectacular - \$160,000 which would cover extra capital expenses without using our Reserve Fund income. Now we need to make some appeals to reach our second, Sustaining goal.

Three lists were reviewed – those pledging >\$2,000 in 2014, 2015 and a complete list of those pledging in 2014 and 2015 (without the amounts). At this point most of the people who have made large pledges in the past have made their 2015 pledge. There are approximately 23 people who pledged in 2014 but not yet in 2015 and another group of 10 who might be willing to pledge for 2015. Lynn will make up a series of lists of these people for Committee members to contact and Mary agreed to make up a scenario that could include an email message with a link to the pledge form.

Preliminary notes from the December Board of Trustees meeting were reviewed. It seems that the Board is reluctant to provide access to the donor list and wants to discuss fund raising at the Annual Meeting. Elizabeth Reaves was unable to attend today's meeting but apparently feels it is appropriate for the Resource Committee to have access to the amounts people donate/pledge. It will be helpful for us to have a Retreat early in the coming year, invite Elizabeth and other Board members to get a clear strategy for 2016 pledge drive tactics.

Daniel Jantos suggested approaching people who were married in the North Chapel for a donation. They may want to contribute to the North Chapel as a unique site for a New England wedding in an historic building and a liberal religious/spiritual context. On the other hand, having paid a fee they may feel they don't owe anything. A middle ground was suggested: sending a message that would include our web site showing the North Chapel as more than weddings but a dynamic religious community providing a variety of social and spiritual needs.

We briefly discussed grant applications for the coming year. We may be able to seek grants for projects that are community-oriented. Mary suggested we might be considered for a grant from the Rotary if it were community oriented. Grants from the Arts Council, the NNED and the UUA will be applied for this year. Other options for smaller grants will be sought.

Respectfully, Lynn Peterson

Membership Committee Meeting – January 6 2015

We ask the Board to consider individuals or couples who might "adopt" new members or frequent visitors. This means simply sitting with them at services, for example or introduce them to others or being sure someone is with them at coffee hour.

Present:

Sherry, Pru and Fran

Greeters for January:

11 Sherry

18 Fran

25 Pru

February 1 Sherry

Pru will now write notes to those who register in the guest book. When the greeter leaves the sanctuary, she should make sure that the guest book is in the drawer on the other side of the entrance.

Since Joanna is frequently traveling, Sherry will ask Martha Leonard if she would like to join our committee.

We made note that the next pictorial directory should not start work in autumn. We also will not be using this company again.

We created a new form that new members will receive when they sign the book. It concerns how the signers would best be served and if they have particular ideas, interests and skills to contribute.

We added \$100 per circle dinner to our budget for possible use with help for babysitters. The way this will be spent will depend upon the responses to Pru's signups for the dinner.

Ann had mentioned that in answer to some questioning, people are put on the "inactive list" when they have not:

attended services, attended any social activities or contributed financially for 2 years.

We do not pay dues nationally or regionally for inactive members to the UUA. For active members, we pay nearly \$10,000 (\$60 per member) to national and \$3,000 to regional.

Next month we will cull the directory once again to check on those who haven't come to services for awhile to see how they are doing and if they have any questions/concerns.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherry Belisle

Music and Worship Committee Meeting 6:00 to 7:00
Tuesday, January 6, 2015

Attending: Anne Macksoud, John Steinle, Hope Yaeger, Jessica Horak, Brenda Johnson, Judith Taylor, Jenny Gelfan, Kathy Astemborski
We Missed: Daniel Jantos, Diane Mellinger, Hugh Belton, Carol Egbert

6:00 - 6:05: Opening Words - Anne

6:05 - 6:15: Check-ins

6:15 - 6:35: Unfinished Business from last month's minutes

We had a lot of conversation around anticipating Daniel's departure. We discussed:

- The Congregation is feeling grief
- While we may be consciously used to the idea, emotionally we may not be ready
- We need to allow for/expect people to be going through the grieving process
- Should we focus on the theme of loss before or after Daniel's departure
- While he is still here - we should continue to celebrate and deal with the grief after he leaves

Our conversation included looking at different, themes, topics, speakers for upcoming services. It is important that if we are going to suggest a theme, we need to follow through on finding a speaker to present that topic. Some of the topics we thought would be interesting:

- One Earth/One Voice coming to Woodstock on a regular basis to maintain connection
- Daniel suggested (from afar) reading "Energizing Our Theological Diversity"
- Going over the 7 Principles of Unitarian Universalism - how can we incorporate this into a service?
- Jenny and Daniel have discussed Tenzin's travels and the retreats he has led all over
 - could he come here? Monastery in South Woodstock as a possible venue for a community retreat? A talk on Friday and retreat on Saturday? **Jenny will pursue looking into the possibility of him coming here/possible events.**

How to involve and invite young families from our community into the congregation continues to be a topic of interest and concern. John recently had a conversation with Naomi Mallet - a young mother who is new in town. He asked her about her experience with the North Chapel. Naomi told John that every young family she has spoken with says if they were going to go to church, the North Chapel would be where they go. It really seems to be a matter of time - families feeling like they don't have time to attend/commit.

We talked about the possibility of pairing new members of the North Chapel with "veterans" for a specified time period (6 months?). We agreed this might be an initiative

the Membership Committee might take on. **John will suggest this to Sherry for follow up.**

We discussed inviting John Elder, a Vermont author and naturalist to come speak with us - maybe on Earth Day? **Jess agreed to reach out and extend an invitation.**

The suggestion was also made to have someone provide a reflection on Addiction, since this is such a pressing issue in Vermont.

The next several weeks we're signing up folks to provide 8 sentences on Inspiration. What inspires you to live the life you do? Who/What are the inspirations in our lives? All are welcome to sign up for a Sunday - this piece will go in the Order of Service right before the collection is taken.

Buildings & Grounds

January 6, 2015

Present: Gina Auriema, Donna Durgin, Vassie Sinopoulos, Jack Nelson,

Gina read the minutes of the December meeting.

Old Items: The main B&G responsibility for the month of December was getting the wreaths made and the sanctuary decorated (tree up) for Christmas. All went well, although Donna mentioned that it's too bad that more folks don't volunteer to help with this. Decided that in the future it would be best to solicit specific folks and put together a team. Next year, with Daniel gone the responsibility of cutting a tree will fall on someone else. We will have to find someone to take that responsibility.

Donna said that she would call Robin Kempson to remind him that he still has to put up the gutter over the ramp in front of Sanctuary. This has been dragging on for months!

Sexton's Report: Agata reported that winter is here! So far thermostats are working well and the room temps are comfortable. There have been a few cases when the driveway wasn't sanded properly or in time for service and/or events. Also this last Sunday the walkway in front of the church was not shoveled or salted in time for the service at 10am Gina will speak to Bruce Shultz (driveway) and JSM Summer & Winter Maintenance (Gerry Murphy 457-2058) (walkways) to remind them of the importance of timing!

Also Agata reported that the sewer pump alarm continues to be set off periodically – usually around heavy bathroom and kitchen use.

New Business: Jack's recommendations for 2015 Capital projects - Remove pine tree, build a storage closet in narthex and insulate attics. Some of us would like some interior painting done, but it was suggested that we not over whelm the budget by asking for too much.

At Lynn Peterson's request we are considering the electrification of the 19th Century clock in the sanctuary. The majority of us feel that we should go ahead with the modernization. Charles Sjobeck the antique clock expert who has serviced this clock in the past could complete the project for \$120. Jack will talk to him and have the work done.

Jack mentioned that Lauren Wilder will not be doing her Hand in Hand dinners this winter because she has fallen on the ice and broken a leg. Also it seems that her kitchen crew has lost energy and several have had to quit.

Change the World Kid's Wednesday's dinner resume this week.

Annual Meeting – January 25th.

Next Buildings & Grounds meeting – Tuesday February 3rd.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina Auriema

Social Justice Action Committee January 6, 2015

Revised minutes January 8, 2015

Present Anne Marinello, Bob Williamson, Jackie Fischer, Akankha Perkins, Wendy Smith

Announcements

Bob spoke of "Gunned Down" airing on Vermont PBS 10 PM tonight. It is a Frontline special about the NRA. It should be available online. <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/>

Bob also referenced that a new bill is being introduced to the judiciary committee in Montpelier January 14th on expanded background checks. Gunsense is hoping a lot of folks will contact their reps to support this.

Woodstock public library is having a workshop on how to write letters to state law makers. tel: [\(802\) 457-2295](tel:8024572295) (I was unable to get a date from library. They offered to check and call back)

Jackie spoke of an announcement for the January committee cafe that will run also
In Touch:

Creating Common Good, Trinity Institute 2015's webcast will be at St. James, broadcasting from Trinity Church in New York Jan 22 - 25. The bulk of the conference will be on Friday and Saturday. It is a conference about economic equality featuring prominent speakers. One can register at St. James.

About: <http://www.trinitywallstreet.org/trinity-institute/2015/home>

Jackie also spoke of the "Green" Pizza group. This group spun off of the Climate Change March in New York City. It has people from NUCS and elsewhere in our local community. It initially met around our brick pizza oven on Wednesdays evenings in late summer. It is focused on an ongoing community response.

Jackie also did some preliminary research on climate change. She found the UUA has a great deal of information that can be of help.

New items

Peter Rousmaniere resigned after months of excellent service. He will be missed.

We need to look at our goals and redefine what we are doing.

1. The planning committee found climate change was an issue raised by people responding to our chapel's Planning Survey.

How can we respond to this without losing our umbrella for supporting several issues such as food justice and gun violence? What does our committees scope include?

*The planning committee was clear that climate change is a focus to be included in all

committees not just our social justice group.

*The response is to be measured, over the next 3-4 years of the planning process, not just a quick response.

*During the Committee Cafe it was mentioned that Daniel may provide a major leadership role around climate change during his last four months with us.

2. What are other churches and the synagogue doing in terms of social justice?

- What areas of expertise are there?

 - Bob mentioned Shir Shalom of West Woodstock

- What can we do in the way of coordination?

- We need to coordinate where possible

3. What is the best way for our committee to respond to issues? It needs to be thought through. We need to coordinate, be open to people in our church, provide leadership. The thought is to have an after service meeting open to all during coffee hour. We need someone comfortable leading a dialogue about our scope.

Anne Marinello adds: During the 7 PM meeting with everyone when Denise talked about the big plan for the church...and that the planning committee is going to spend some time thinking about the social justice piece and how to approach it. Given this perspective, SJC should wait until after our annual meeting and connect with Denise and Richard in developing an approach to both climate change and how not to lose other SJ initiatives. We don't have to wait for Daniel to return.

Other thoughts were of doing a beginning of year annual assessment to evaluate how we are doing. Another was to have a yearly report from Sally Miller from Sustainable Woodstock.

Submitted by Wendy A Smith

RE Notes – December 2014 and January 2015

North Chapel Children's RE 12/14/14
Ben & Geraldine Teaching
11 Children attending

With the holiday season upon approaching, the children were active in learning a lovely chant for the upcoming Christmas Eve service through the use of drumming. The children have been practicing active listening and response in their drumming and have started to explore dynamic and basic rhythms. This week they also added movement to their beats.

North Chapel Children's RE 12/21/14
Anthea Teaching
13 Children attending

This Sunday, after sharing Joys and Concerns, we made a quick craft. We used walnut shells and glitter, glue, moss and sequins to create holiday ornaments. We then were invited to participate in a dance, choreographed by Peg Brightman. The performance was fantastic!

No Children's Chapel 12/28

North Chapel Children's RE 1/04/15
Geraldine Teaching
4 Children attending

This Sunday, we had a small group of children. After the busy holiday season the children were looking for some down time so we had a wonderful time sharing our joys and concerns and chalice lighting and then settled in, relaxed with pillows and read a few different stories from the "Buddha at Bedtime" series and discussed the various lessons of each story. The children had a great time and I think the quiet time was needed and enjoyed!

North Chapel Drumming
Children's Drumming Update 1/11/15
9 children attending

The children worked on their drumming skills in the African Djembe drum this week. Working together, they played in sections inspiring their counterparts who were simultaneously expressing the felt rhythms in pastel drawings. There were many great rhythms and pictures for such a cold snowy Sunday.