

Music and Worship Committee Minutes
December 02, 2014, 5:30-7:00

Present: Daniel Jantos, Diane Mellinger, Hugh Belton, Carol Egbert, Jenny Gelfan,
Jessica Horak, Anne Macksoud, Judith Taylor, Hope Yeager

Absent: Kathy Astemborski, Brenda Johnson, John Steinle

Hope opened the meeting with a Mary Oliver Poem. She also took notes –
Thank you, Hope.

Rev. Telos Whitfield is a minister who will be filling in for Daniel on

1. Jan. 11
2. Jan. 25
3. Feb.15
4. Feb. 22

Daniel will meet with **Telos** to discuss the details. If she wants to have service coordinators for her Sunday visits, John Steinle and Hugh Belton have offered to do that job.

- **John Steinle** on Jan. 11th and Feb 15th
- **Hugh Belton** on January 25th and Feb.22nd.

Judith Taylor suggested that there might be a time in December when Telos might want to attend a service here.

Ben Fox has accepted the invitation to give a reflection on February 1st.
Jessica Horak will be Service Coordinator.

Steve Swayne and **Mike Bachman** have agreed to do a service in honor of Martin Luther King on January 18th. Steve has written a hymn to MLK that he will present on that day. **Anne Macksoud** will be Service Coordinator if Steve and Mike want to have one. If not, Mike and Steve can share the job of being each other's service coordinators.

Since **Daniel** will not return from Australia until March 3rd, we will need to find a reflector for Sunday March 1st. We will ask **John Steinle** to invite Deanna Jones (Executive Director of the Thompson Senior Center) to give a reflection.

Richard Schramm and the "Art of Aging" Elder Circle that he organized are also being invited to participate in the service.

The Committee reviewed **Jess Horak's** ideas for themes for future services. We will be working with these ideas and new ones that other member will submit. Either Daniel will use some of these ideas or we will "save them" for July and August when we may be responsible for 8 services before the interim minister arrives. **Carol Egbert** added the themes of Forgiveness and Compassion. In light of the success of the November service dedicated to those who have lost loved ones, Carol also suggested that we do a service like that each year on the last Sunday of November.

Judith Taylor reported on her conversation with **Alan Keitt** related to Alan's connection to **Thích Nhất Hạnh**. Judith suggested a possible service topic could be based on Spiritual Teachers/mentors, i.e. people skilled in helping other people to figure out their own spirituality. **Jenny Gelfan** mentioned Tenzin _____? (based in Boston) who is one of the Dalai Lama's translators. Jenny offered to explore the possibility that he might like to come to Vermont and give a reflection. **Daniel** endorsed this idea enthusiastically, thinking Tenzin _____ might come for a retreat as well.

Hugh Belton suggested the theme of Mentoring. Hugh mentors (they do woodworking) a young man who is getting a lot from the relationship. Anne mentioned that **John Steinle** has also had a good experience with the mentoring program. Perhaps Hugh and John will speak further about this to see if a service could be built around mentoring – perhaps including the young people.

Daniel talked about a report from the UUA (Commission on Appraisal Report) which he thinks is excellent and he suggested that we read it as a group for the next few months. **Anne** said that she would order 10 copies of the report for each committee member. This might help us to benefit from the thinking that goes into the UUA reports rather than trying to reinvent things that have already been tried and appraised.

There was a suggestion to reinstate the "8 sentences" just before the offering. The point (beyond whatever might be the content of the sentences) is to invite more and more participation in the services. It was suggested that we try the theme that elicited a lot of good material when it was used at a planning meeting of young (20s, 30s, 40s) people in October. The participants were asked to share a person or a writer who was important to you in shaping your sense of your own spirituality. Jenny Gelfan said that she would coordinate this effort for a few months and will keep in touch with **Geraldine** who will put something in the service booklet each week. The 8 sentences will start the second Sunday in January (January 11th.)

Daniel will be available to do most the services from March 4th – June 21st (not including June 14th – Dartmouth Commencement).