

Worship and Music Committee Minutes from 3/3/15 Meeting

Attending: Anne Macksoud, John Steinle, Hope Yeager, Jenny Gelfan, Carol Egbert, Judith Taylor, Diane Mellinger, Hugh Belton, Kathy Astemborski, Jess Horak

Absent: Daniel Jantos, Brenda Johnson

Opening Words: Judith

Check-ins

Unfinished Business from 1/6/15 Meeting:

- Jenny followed up on looking at the possibility of a Buddhist Retreat with Venerable Tenzin Priyadarshi. In setting up a possible retreat we would need to connect our goals that would fit with Tenzin's work on social justice. What might a theme be? We need to be clear about our goals before inviting Tenzin. A suggestion was made that planning this event in the weeks after Daniel's departure might be fitting, as well as scheduling when the weather would permit an outside walking meditation. Consideration could be given to holding the retreat in our sanctuary.

Responses to Past Services:

- The committee discussed the reflections of the past several guests and the feedback received by members of the congregation. We discussed extending an invitation to the congregation to bring forward names of acquaintances who would be willing to share a reflection.

Two Guest Reflectors for Future Services:

- Kate Braestrup is a friend of Nancy Randall and is a community minister, law enforcement chaplain and author of a bestselling memoir Here If You Need Me, Marriage and Other Acts of Charity and Beginner's Grace: Bringing Prayer to Life. Kate will be available in July or August to do a service.
- Ryan Harb is suggested by Anne Dean and Sarah Hall and will be here on September 13th. Ryan works directly with businesses, campuses, schools and individuals across New England to help them source more local, fair, just and sustainably-grown foods.

Upcoming Services:

- April 19th Anne Dean will work with Daniel on an Earth Day service. She is applying for a grant through the UUA for the permaculture garden.
- On June 14th the service will be on the theme of mentoring with Jackie Fisher and Barbara , John Steinle, Hugh Belton. Daniel will be at Dartmouth for his graduation on this Sunday!

Discussion on Deepening the Worship and Music Experience for the UU Community:

- Judith and Anne have read the book “Engaging Our Theological Diversity” which was recommended by Daniel for all of the committee to read. Judith provided a summary of the book and identified some of the book’s themes. The question of how do we deepen the church experience for more people is a conversation the committee continues to have. We will report in more detail next month.

A Big, Special and Heartfelt Thank You to John Steinle for the awesome job he’s done as co-chair of this committee. We’ll miss you!

Submitted by Kathy Astemborski