



Annual Report for 2015

North Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Presented to the March 20, 2016 meeting

President's Report

To the members and friends of the NUUC, it has been a very exciting and rewarding year. Our Board accomplished the challenge of restating our mission and vision for the future of our church. Not just rewriting the "statement" but working from the ground up and reinvisioning the direction of our church for the future. Along with the help of your board: Eileen Watters, Steve Conley, Barb Lubberger, Rick Gentry, and Judy Johnson; we came together with mini retreats, positive brainstorming sessions and energetic Board meetings to accomplish our goal. As illustrated by our word cloud:

We are a congregation of inviting, welcoming, creative and nurturing individuals: crossing borders ~ providing generosity, service, compassion, and celebration to those in our church and our community.

I would really like to thank the Board for working so hard with me on completing our task. We started the year with some hurdles to overcome, but with positive discussions we worked as a team and came up with a clear vision for the future here at the NUUC.

Several other areas of positive change are: Leaders Council meetings have turned into brainstorming sessions about "The Next Big Thing." In planning programs to include and expand our mission not just on Sunday but throughout the week and into the local community itself. The Religious Education theme of the month is now tied into all areas of our church to bring a sense of continuity for our children and adults.

I feel an excitement building and expanding into the future here at the NUUC, with continued Music and Arts programs not just with our own members, but in the community. And the Board feels there is a strong need to prepare our church for future growth and development in Lewis Center. We envision improvement to our physical facilities, in an effort to convey our values through not only the interior but exterior of our church. We want to create a building that is welcoming to our members, visitors and our community and that reflects our mission.

Minister's Report

The Fourth of July this year felt like a true turning point for me, both personally and in the life of the congregation. That was the day of our Free Sex Weddings in celebration of the arrival of marriage equality, and on that day we made legal eight weddings, offered loving witness, not to mention a party. A number of things came together that day. First, it was so nice to be offering something of meaning to people that fit so naturally within our mission, and which so clearly was ours to offer from the depths of

our faith tradition. Second, I love that we served a larger community on that day—people who looked to us for the spiritual service, and yet who were not and not likely to become members of the regular congregation. And last but certainly not least, I loved how joyously and naturally everyone pitched in to do what need doing (thanks to Erin Fisher Kenny’s leadership). There wasn’t a frantic, overworked committee at the heart of it all—there were just all of us, working together. And we did a whole lot, but it was fun, and meaningful.

We’ve tried to keep that model of church alive. Be sure to check out VP Eileen Watter’s report on Leadership Council, which details how we are trying, wherever possible, to move away from a model of committees managing maintenance tasks in silos to mobs plotting for fun and enrichment together. And your board has spent the whole year focusing on mission work. Not on writing a mission statement, but in undertaking serious long range planning with a sharp eye on our purpose, and how to fulfill it. I’m very excited by the energy that this has generated.

My most sincere thanks in acknowledging this to Lauren Richards, who completes her term as President this month. Her gut instinct for seeking out positive energy, her embrace of the creative powers, and her clear and concise stands (not to mention her sense of humor) have made her an outstanding President for these times. Also my deepest gratitude to Judy Johnson, who completes her service on the board. We will all miss her on the board, and we will miss her on Sunday morning—Judy does the best board announcements, ever, period.

An unexpected blessing this year has been working with Kate Kuntz-Wineland as Student Minister. Her deep grounding in theology and the life of the church, her wiliness to learn, her gifts for ministry have enriched my life and the life of the congregation this year. I am so very glad that she remains a member once she completes her student ministry this spring!

At this, the close of my nineteen year of service to this congregation, I couldn’t be more grateful to be among this amazing, talented, and loving human beings.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Susan Ritchie

Adult Religious Education and Enrichment Committee

Purpose: Adult Enrichment strives to educate our members about Unitarian Universalist history and principles, at the same time providing opportunities for thought and spiritual growth. In addition, Adult Enrichment programs promote tolerance and respect, and encourage action to effect justice locally and worldwide.

Adult Enrichment is more an “alliance” than a typical committee, with myself, Marty Keith, as the chairperson. My function is not only to initiate programs and classes but also to be aware of and to support projects that anyone else in our organization undertakes to enhance adult education and spirituality.

This year, the covenant group started by Sue Frederick in March 2014 has continued to thrive. Its members meet on the second Monday of each month to discuss a variety of topics. Also, the “Mindful Writing” group, which I facilitate, meets on third Wednesdays at 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. The size of this group has grown a bit since it began in May 2014, becoming “Mindful Writing II” after we finished a

series of topics and exercises that helped us notice details in our lives. These days we share our written thoughts about significant subjects such as “Beliefs,” “Reconciliation,” and “Friendship.” Members of the Mindful Writing group delivered the Sunday service on December 27, 2015. Each speaker read one or two favorite personal writings and talked about important aspects of our monthly meetings.

John Rodeheffer and Rev. Dr. Susan Ritchie, who offered an educational class for members and prospective members, “Our Congregation,” February 1, 2015. Rev. Dr. Susan Ritchie offered the course again on May 3, 2015, and October 20, 2015.

There was a vegan-vegetarian potluck in April. It was a collaboration between the Social Committee (the potluck was fun!) and Adult Enrichment (we learned about the health benefits of vegan-vegetarian eating and learned some recipes).

This potluck was followed by another on May 31, along with a viewing of the documentary “Cowspiracy” about the ethical and economic pitfalls of the meat production industry. This event was a combined effort of the Social Action Committee and Adult Enrichment, as was the Northwest Earth Institute course last summer and fall, “Hungry for Change: Food, Ethics, and Sustainability.”

In late November, Rev. Dr. Susan Ritchie led a Saturday workshop on “UU Core Beliefs.”

On the four Thursday evenings of January, I led a course, “As We Age,” about the phases, joys, and concerns of growing older in our culture. The classes were well received; attendance was good. Several people would like to see this course offered again, in a warmer season, possibly earlier in the day.

A new class, “Theology and Ethics from the Margins,” facilitated by Katie Kuntz-Wineland, is meeting March 3, 10, and 17 at 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. It covers perspectives from marginalized communities and examines queer theology and the moral wisdom of liberative ethics.

Leaders Council (including myself) is exploring other Adult Enrichment ideas.

Respectfully submitted,
Marty Keith

Building and Grounds Committee Annual Report for 2015

Members of the Building and Grounds Committee include:

Barry Fagan, Bob Keith (Chair), Roger Orwick, John Rodeheffer, Gary Rusk, and
Jerry Schardt

As noted in the Building and Grounds (B&G) Committee's charter established in 2014, the purpose of the B&G Committee is to provide a pleasant and safe environment for worship services, meetings, and other church activities, which aids pursuing our covenant “We gather together in love and fellowship to worship and to foster spiritual growth, to serve humanity, and to understand ourselves and our universe.” We strive to provide appealing facilities that are attractive, functional, safe, and inviting for members, friends, and visitors. In addition, if possible, we try to do needed work ourselves by utilizing our skills and talents in order to reduce financial outlays, which results in more financial resources being available for other church needs. We have been quite successful in this approach, which supports NUUC's Core Value to be

fiscally and administratively responsible so as to not impact other church obligations, programs, and activities. In support of NUUC's Core Value of striving for environmental stewardship, the B&G Committee supports the church's recycling efforts. B&G handles taking the contents of the recycling bins to the recyclers. We also recycle yard waste plus discarded metal parts and building materials.

In 2015, B&G addressed the various repair and maintenance issues that arose and made some progress with improvement projects.

In the spring, we held a successful Spring Spruce-up Day. A good number of people from the congregation came and we got much outdoor and indoor work done, making the church and Nielsen House look much better.

Also in the spring, Bryan Hartzler landscaped the flowerbeds on the front and west side of the church. We extend a big thank you to Bryan for his attractive landscaping. In the previous year, Bryan landscaped the flowerbeds around Nielsen House. With the new landscaping completed for both buildings, we no longer needed to do the Adopt-a-Flowerbed project in which we divided up all the flowerbeds around the church and Nielsen House into 4-foot wide plots, and people selected and planted one or more plots.

For the mowing season, we again decided not to contract out the mowing in order to save about \$2,900 in the budget. This was the sixth year in which we took care of the mowing ourselves. Our approach was for the B&G Committee to handle the mowing on a rotating basis with some help from the congregation. B&G Committee members mowed 3 weeks of each month, and the 4th week and the sometimes 5th week were handled by different volunteers from the congregation. This approach worked quite well and kept everyone's work commitments reasonable. We would like to thank B&G Committee members Roger Orwick, John Rodeheffer, Jerry Schardt, and Bob Keith for their regular monthly mowing efforts, especially Roger, who mowed more than usual. In addition, we extend a hearty thank you to the following congregational volunteers for their mowing help: Neil Kirby, Michelle Ludsin, and Jeff Turner (2 times). Furthermore, we give a special thank you to Gary Rusk for his weekly mowing of the large field at the rear of our property plus the area west side of the parking lot, which he did for the entire mowing season. We plan to continue our mowing approach in 2016.

A big project for 2015 involved the shed located behind the church. In response to B&G outgrowing the shed and needing more space for both work activities and materials storage, B&G moved out of the shed and into the Nielsen House garage. This change took place after the garage's rental to our neighbors the Dills ended in June. After moving all the many items stored in the shed over to the Nielsen House garage, we then tore down the shed and expanded the parking lot into the shed's footprint. Since the shed's structure was failing and needed other significant repairs, it was torn down to avoid having to expend further funds and time on the deteriorated shed, which had become an appearance issue for many members and a turn-off to visitors. With the removal of the shed, we gained 2 new, choice parking spaces located close to the rear door of the church. We handled the shed demolition ourselves, which saved a lot of money. A big thank you goes to Gary Rusk for using his front end loader to knock down and break up the shed and then loading the large pieces into the nearby dumpster. We also give a big thank you to Roger Orwick and Bob Keith for their help in throwing the remaining shed debris into the dumpster. We used contractors to remove the shed's concrete pad and foundation and Gary Rusk then used his loader to spread stone and extend the parking lot. Thank you, Gary. We also thank the very many people who helped us move the items stored in the shed over to the Nielsen House garage.

Other projects accomplished in 2015 include repairing/restoring the concrete corner of the front porch at Nielsen House (thank you Bob Keith and Roger Orwick), gutter upgrades for some of the church roof sections, and restoration of the Nielsen House iron gate (thank you Bob Keith).

Several unexpected problems arose in 2015 due to the old age of our buildings. We had to replace the front porch roof on Nielsen House along with the underlying supporting beam, which were done by contractors. Also, the floor of the church's annex area in front of the restrooms dropped several inches when a supporting beam lost its foundation support on one end. Contractors quickly raised the floor and installed new supports for the beam.

While we contracted out the snowplowing of the parking lot and driveways, B&G handled clearing the sidewalks of snow and ice. We want to thank John Rodeheffer for shoveling and salting the sidewalks on Sunday mornings. Also, we thank Bob Keith and John Rodeheffer for clearing the walks of snow and ice on the other days of the week.

Among the planned projects for 2016 are replacement of the Nielsen House water heater, replacing the church's kitchen faucet, doing more drainage work at the church, completing the stucco on the church's rear porch, replacing the rear porch roof at Nielsen House, replacing broken sidewalk sections at the church, and painting at Nielsen House the new front porch handrail and picket fence plus the rear porch and handicap ramp along with doing other painting touch-ups.

I would like to thank the B&G Committee members for all their considerable help throughout the year and their willingness to pitch in when something unexpected happens and requires attention.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Keith

Finance Committee

Members: Scot Hardin, Neil Kirby, Scott Grimshaw, Board Member Rick Gentry & Treasurer Jerry Schardt for a portion of the year. The Finance Committee wants to recognize the effort made by Jerry Schardt during his tenure and for putting together a manual for use by the next Treasurer. Dr. Susan Ritchie has stepped in as well as the board until a replacement Treasurer is selected. The Finance Committee also wants to recognize the additional effort made by Mr. Gentry and his communication of Finance Committee issues to the full board. The primary function of the Finance Committee for the year 2015 was to improve transparency in our financial reporting and to alert the board on areas of financial risk. The Finance Committee also reviews receipts and expenses each month for any anomaly or unusual trends. The Finance Committee also works with Susan and the board to formula a budget for the next year. During the year 2015, the Finance Committee continued to support the Board and any efforts for the future growth in the church physical or otherwise. Respectfully submitted March 7th, 2016. Scot Hardin, Chairman

Leader's Council

The Leader's Council is an organization formed several years ago, which is currently "led" by the Board Vice-President. In years past, there have been events that elicited the cooperation of several committees. More recently, this trend has increased. With that in mind, the Leader's Council was formed with the hope that various committees could "communicate" with each other and coordinate

events. Almost spontaneously, the meetings became an opportunity to share ideas, and to allow committees to “join” into project planning groups for various activities.

This year, the Leader’s Council has taken on the goal of planning activities and events for the year, using the monthly themes chosen by our Minister, Susan Ritchie, and our RE Director, Jen Aultman. The impetus to move towards a more project-based system, rather than a committee-based system was the result of the enormous success achieved this past summer, when several committee members collaborated on the July 4 Wedding Open House held here at NUUC.

Currently, the Leader’s Council provides an opportunity for the collaboration of various committees who regularly participate in these bi-monthly meetings. This has reduced the overload that was often faced by the Social committee, the Ways & Means committee and the RE committee.

Thanks to the foresight of the Membership Committee, we now have Hospitality Teams, which, on a quarterly basis, take on the task of greeting before service and coordinating our after-service social hour. This new system has been met with positive comments from all. “I love meeting new people at the door,” remarked one Hospitality Team member recently. Those team members who volunteer for social hour are given the choice of bringing a snack, or using the large amount of “stored” snacks available, which have been donated by other hospitality team members. This reduces the cost to those who volunteer to manage coffee hour.

Major events such as the Service Auction have become more of collaboration in the past year.

The enthusiasm and energy level at many of the Leader’s Council meetings has been encouraging, but more involvement can only add to the meeting of minds and imaginations and organizational skills. It is hoped that the members of NUUC will take time to attend a meeting and share some of the ideas they have, so that we can continue this collaboration.

In the upcoming year, the Leader’s Council can assist the process of selecting monthly themes, by allowing the collaboration of RE, Worship, Music and others to take place within the framework of the meetings.

Highlights of the jointly planned events and activities in 2015 include:

Free Same Sex Wedding Day -- Interdependence Day (July 4, 2016)

Cookie Walk/Sale

UU Core Beliefs Adult Course

Boo by the Bonfire Halloween party

Green Friday Craft/Repurposing/Social event

Winter Solstice Worship service

Respectfully submitted,

S. Eileen Watters, NUUC Board Vice-President

Nominating Committee:

The Nominating Committee is pleased to nominate Dee Burlison and Jeff Turner to the position of Board of Trustees; and Aaron Sailing, Rod Myers, and Erin Fisher Kenny to the three open positions on the Nominating Committee.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dee Burlison

Dolores (Dee) Burlison first attended NUUC in 2009, shortly after relocating to Ohio from Southern California. Dee has been a member of NUUC since 2011 and has been assisting regularly in the RE program since that time. Dee currently works as a substitute elementary school teacher and lives in Powell with her husband and two sons, Jason, 14 and Alex, 12. Dee has an MA in Counseling Psychology and prior to her move to Ohio, she worked for 14 years in various non-profit agencies providing service to children and families. When she isn't volunteering in RE, Dee enjoys attending Sunday service and participating in social events at church. She also served on the Threshold Congregation Committee last year. Dee is honored and excited to become even more involved in the NUUC community through service on its Board.

Jeff Turner

Jeff and Lisa began attending services in 2013, becoming members of this community in March 2014. Jeff is an OSU alum with degrees in Business Administration and in Agronomy. After 12 years in the insurance industry, he took on a new career as a stay-at-home dad when his children were toddlers. Now his daughter is 22 and is in her first year at Kent States master's program in clinical psychology, and his son, 21, will be graduating from OSU in May and has accepted a job at Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab. In addition to serving his family, Jeff feels it is important to contribute to his community in whatever ways he can, and is honored to be nominated to serve on the board.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Rod Myers

Rod has been a NUUC member since 2006. He's been retired for nearly a year and has used much of his new found freedom to participate in the life of the church. Rod has served on the Social Action Committee; Sunday morning greeting and hosting fellowship team; participating on Katie Kuntz-Wineland's Lay Feedback Committee; and mentoring for the Coming of Age Program. Rod has two adult children along with three beautiful little grandkids. His big baby at home is JR who is his nine year old pit bull.

Erin Fisher Kenny

Erin has been attending NUUC since 2013, and is grateful for the community and inspiration the church has provided her. She has helped to organize the Same-Sex Wedding Day and Boo-by-the-Bonfire events, and has been involved with the Social Action Committee. Erin has a degree in Theatre from Salem State College in Massachusetts and is working on a second bachelor's degree in Nursing. She is currently a

Research Assistant at Nationwide Children's Hospital and lives in Columbus with her husband and three cats.

Aaron Saling

Aaron began attending NUUC in 2005 after his wife, Julianna Nemeth, and Marlene Metz met at a pottery class at the Delaware Arts Castle (where they discussed music and faith amongst other topics of mutual interest). Thanks to the connection with Marlene, Aaron and Julianna quickly joined NUUC and have been active members of the choir since (continuing to celebrate the sacred in music each week). Aaron has an English degree from Wittenberg, which he has successfully parlayed into a career as a member of an analytical consulting team at JPMorgan Chase. Aaron also served six years as a board member and board president of the Liberty Community Center in Delaware (a preschool and community center serving primarily low-income families in Delaware). After a short break from serving non-profit organizations, he's ready to "dip his toes" into serving again, and is pleased to do so at NUUC.

Religious Education

Committee and Volunteers

The Director of Religious Education (DRE), Jen Aultman, and the RE Committee oversee the Religious Education program at NUUC. The RE committee includes Julianna Nemeth, Bryan Hartzler, Roger Johnson, and Eileen Watters (board liaison). Unfortunately, this year the RE committee encountered a number of persistent scheduling conflicts and has been unable to meet since summer 2015. Every effort will be made to reconvene the committee in late spring 2016 to plan for the 2016-17 year.

Several adults have stepped forward as regular guides/teachers for the RE program. Special thanks go to Julianna Nemeth, Chris Aultman, Bryan Hartzler, Dee Burlison, Jan Bourke, Diane Mattox, and Eileen Watters for their regular service in this role. Special thanks also to our occasional workshop leaders, including Bob Keith and Stephanie Henderson. More volunteers are always needed for both roles to adequately staff the program.

Program Overview

Our program follows a theme each month, with activities and stories organized around that theme. The main story of the month kicks off the theme in "First Sunday" worship, which begins with all ages in the main worship. This unifying practice of sharing the story and theme across the congregation has really helped strengthen the program's ties to the rest of NUUC. The themes for the 2015-16 year are:

- September: invitation
- October: revelation and mystery
- November: belief
- December: incarnation
- January: growing up

- February: power
- March: sanctuary
- April: listening
- May: expectations

Four age groups constitute the Religious Education program, as described below. The table below summarizes the age groupings, curricula, and attendance ranges. The NUUC Youth Group comprises both the Seekers and high school/Coming of Age groups.

- Travelers:
 - Ages: Pre-kindergarten-2nd grade
 - Curriculum: Modified Spirit Play (Montessori based UU) curriculum
 - Attendance range: 2-9 children
 - Typical attendance: 5-7 children
- Explorers:
 - Ages: 3rd-5th grade
 - Curriculum: Workshop rotation (workshops on theme, with special effort to engage congregation members as workshop leaders—ex. Bob Keith’s electricity workshop and Stephanie Henderson’s yoga power workshop)
 - Attendance range: 3-9 children
 - Typical attendance: 5-7 children
- Seekers
 - Ages: 6th grade and up (most attendees 6th-9th grade)
 - Curriculum: Workshop rotation (see Explorers, above). Also attend full worship service and “Pizza with Rev. Susan” on First Sundays as part of NUUC Youth Group.
 - Attendance range: 1-6 youth
 - Typical attendance: 2-4 youth
- Coming of Age
 - Ages: High school (offered to all high school but all enrolled are 9-10th grade)
 - Curriculum/program: Semester long program adapted from Coming of Age Handbook.
 - Personnel: Advisors are Melinda Rosenberg and Nancy Gamso. Dick Leavy consults on Credo writing. Katie Kuntz-Weinland, Rev. Susan Ritchie, and Jen Aultman also lead on occasion. Includes a day retreat in Yellow Springs led by Rev. Susan.
 - Enrollment: 4 youths

NUUC Youth Group

- Attend worship service together and “Pizza with Rev. Susan” on First Sundays. Have not scheduled other outings as Seekers and Coming of Age have been rather intensive. Look forward to reviving a social Youth Group in 2016-17.

Summer Religious Education

In summer 2015 we offered a “one room schoolhouse” type RE for all ages. We used a Harry Potter based UU curriculum called “Creating Hogwarts” for part of the summer. The children and middle school youth seemed to very much enjoy this curriculum.

Conclusion

We have seen growth in the lower elementary Travelers RE this year with the addition of at least two, and occasionally three or four, new regular participants. The Explorers group has held strong in both numbers and social cohesion. We are working hard to maintain cohesion of the middle school age group so they have a strong connection that will carry them into high school programming. It is exciting to offer Coming of Age once again after a long hiatus. Looking forward, we are excited to be planning Junior High Our Whole Lives next year, and possibly High School OWL if demand exists. We are hoping to have another 1-2 adults trained in Junior/Senior High OWL, and are also hoping to have 1-2 adults trained in Elementary OWL soon so we can add that material to the program next year.

2015-16 has been a wonderful year with some growth in the number of kids attending, such that we are sometimes actually quite tight on space in Nielsen House on Sunday mornings. We are looking forward to further growth and increasing program offerings next year!

Respectfully submitted,

Jen Aultman

Director of Religious Education

Social Action Committee

Committee Members: Pam Patsch (chairperson), Chuck Lynd, Sheila Fox, Rod Myers, Erin Fisher-Kenny, Marty Keith (Guest at Your Table), Tracy Steinbrenner (Empty Bowls, Loose Change), Erika Shell Castro (Holiday Family), Becky Mullis (School Supply Drive)

The Social Action Committee’s primary goal is to provide information and raise awareness of important social justice issues that affect our communities, state, country, and world. The committee chooses its focus based on the UUA, UUSC, OMD, SAC, and members of the congregation’s recommendations. Any member of the congregation can also come to the SAC and ask for support concerning an issue that is important to them. It will be up to that member to take the lead role, and the SAC will provide the format and support. We will not favor one issue over another. It is not our role to determine which issues we support (or not) but rather to provide support and education so each member of the congregation can make their own informed decisions.

The NUUC Social Action Committee (SAC) was involved in numerous projects during 2015 to raise awareness of social injustices, encourage participation in social justice actions, and provide assistance to address the needs caused by these injustices. Several of our activities supported organizations that assist those who struggle to meet their basic needs for housing, food, clothing, and other necessities or who suffer the effects of discrimination and human rights violations. Our congregation supported UUSC's Guest at Your Table program, held an Empty Bowls luncheon to raise money for the Mid-Ohio Foodbank, and collected school supplies and donations to benefit students served by the Delaware County Juvenile Probation Department. During November, we collected gifts and donations to help make the holidays special for the children at Montana de Luz, a faith based organization in rural Honduras that provides a home for children affected by HIV/AIDS. Each month we donate our Loose Change Offering to an organization that provides educational awareness or support services to those impacted by social injustice. Our monthly Fair Trade sales of coffee, tea, and chocolate support fair wages for farmers. The proceeds from sales are used to sponsor Claudia, one of the children at Montana de Luz. The Social Action Committee also sponsored several donation drives including collecting pet food for Faithful Forgotten Best Friends, donating linens and personal care items to People in Need, and donating proceeds from bake sales to the Barrett Family at Red Lake Nation. Members of NUUC also volunteered to serve meals at the Van Buren Homeless Shelter with others from the Interfaith Association of Central Ohio.

During 2015 the Social Action Committee offered several educational programs and events on different social justice topics to provide information to members of our congregation and the surrounding community. These activities not only serve to build community within our congregation, but also provide opportunities to increase awareness of social justice issues and raise the profile of our congregation within the larger community. In January, NUUC members participated in an Interfaith Prayer Walk to address systemic injustice. In March, the Social Action Committee with assistance from children in the RE program, gave a service on Active Hope to raise awareness of the impact of climate change and inspire change as part of the UUA/UUSC Commit2Respond Campaign. Several members visited the Rumpke Recycling Facility in April to help them be better stewards of the Earth. The Active Hope service was also given to members of the Delaware UU Fellowship. In June, the Social Action Committee showed the documentary Cowspiracy in conjunction with a vegetarian/vegan potluck. Following the Supreme Court decision in favor of same sex marriages, members of the congregation went to the Courthouse to offer to perform weddings for couples who had obtained marriage licenses. On July 4th, NUUC provided free weddings for same sex couples including flowers, photos, and refreshments. In addition to educational programs, the Social Action Committee has provided information about social justice issues and opportunities to participate in social justice actions through our lending library, the NUUC monthly newsletter, the Sunday Order of Service, and our bulletin board in Fellowship Hall

Financial Donations in 2015

1. Guest at Your Table - our congregation donated \$870.00. Donations of \$125 or more were eligible for a matching grant from the UU Congregation of Shelter Rock, NY which brought our total contribution to \$1495.00
2. Empty Bowls (Mid-Ohio Foodbank) – \$524.56

3. Loose Change Offering for 2015:

See Treasurer's Report for totals and beneficiaries.

The Social Action Committee would like to thank our congregation and board for all the support they have given us throughout the year.

Report prepared by Pam Patsch, SAC Chairperson

Note: In September 2015, NUUC began transitioning into whole congregation, theme-based programming. Since that time social justice projects have been planned through Leadership Council and the Social Action Committee is no longer a separate committee.

Treasurer's Report

A. 2015 Final Operating Budget Performance

Category	Actual	Budget	Difference
INCOME	180,882	180,098	784
2014 Pledges	500	0	500
Non-Pledge Offering	5066	0	5066
2015 Pledges	154,884	156,800	-1,916
2016 Pledges	2,500	1,700	800
Rental Revenue	1,350	900	450
W & M Fundraising	6,688	8,026	-1,338
DRE fund	9,894	12,672	2778
EXPENSES	173,373	180,035	-6,662
Administrative	2,619	3,061	-442
Bld & Prop Ins	3,680	4,000	-320
Bld Mortgage	7,633	9,300	-1,667
Bld Property Tax	263	270	7
Buidling Utilities	6,990	8,035	-1045
Building R&M	5,773	5,575	198
Committees	1,623	2,990	1,367
Compensation	133,533	134,478	-945
Dues	11,260	11,946	686
Net Difference:	7,509	63	7,446

B. 2015 Donations

\$284.11	January Loose Change	Red Lake Nation Family (\$284.11 passed through church accounts, Donna H reports that the total giving was \$331.91 including some cash given directly to her).
\$157.72	Feb Loose Change	Faithful Forgotten Best Friends (plus 25 bags of dog food, directly given!)
\$251.56	March & April Loose Change	UU Service Committee
\$262.72	May Loose Change	Nepal Relief, UU Service Committee
\$320.00	June Special Project	Run Across Congo Project (Women's Rights)
\$178	June Loose Change	NUUC Same Sex Marriage Day
\$900.00	July & August Loose Change and Special Collections	School Supplies
\$67.64	September Loose Change	UU Justice Ohio
\$148.18	October Loose Change	Lady of Guadalupe Food Pantry
\$415.90	Holiday Family & November Loose Change	Montana de Luz
\$524.56	Special Fall Project	Empty Bowls (City of Columbus, fiscal agent)
\$122.92	December Loose Change	Community Refugee and Immigration Services

An additional donation includes our own going participation in the "Free Trade" Coffee and Chocolate Sales.

C. 2015 Balance Sheet

North Unitarian Universalist Congregation				
Balance Sheet				
ASSETS			LIABILITIES	
Cash:				
DCB Operating Funds		11,147.60		
DCB Non-Operating Funds		1,013.26		
DRE Restricted Funds		-	Current Liabilities	-
DCB Operating Reserves Savings			Long Term Liabilities	
	4,375.26	4,375.26	Mortgage Principle Balance	66,979.77
<i>Total Operating Funds</i>		16,536.12	Total Long Term Liabilities	66,979.77
Vanguard Capital Reserve	23,948.87	23,948.87	Total Liabilities	66,979.77
Property & Buildings	Market Value	Cost Value		
1574 Franklin Church	171,500.00	161,755.50		
Delco property	159,600.00	161,199.50	EQUITY	
1539 Franklin Neilson House	157,600.00	157,900.00		-
Capital Improvements		94,758.78	Equity	549,119.00
Total Property & Buildings	488,700.00	575,613.78	Total Equity	549,119.00
Total Assets		616,098.77	Total Liabilities & Equity	616,098.77
Footnote: the Original Mortgage on Nielsen House was \$134,215.00; the mortgage reaches maturity in 2016				
Footnote: NUUC has two credit cards that each have a credit limit of \$1,500.				

D. Vanguard—Capital Reserve Expenditures Summary

Last Verified Balance on 8/03./2015: \$40,127.32 (by Finance Committee on Jerry Schardt's resignation)

Ending Statement Balance: \$23,948.87

Ending Ledger Balance: \$23,948.87

Transactions Summary:

*Operating Reserve transfer returned to Vanguard in 2016 (not reflected on this statement)

Vorys (Fees to Township and Legal for Nielsen Zoning) 11/18	-\$1295.85
James McCuen (Nielsen House Porch Beam) 12/1	-\$750.00
Interest	+11.26
Transfer for Operating Reserves 9/14	-\$5,000.00*
Basement Guys, 9/17	-\$7,843.86
James McCuen (Nielsen House Fence) 9/17	-\$1300.00

TOTAL:	-\$16,178.45
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Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Ritchie Interim Acting Treasurer

Worship Committee:

Members: Chris Aultman, Teri Cornell, Sue Frederick, Dick Leavy, Rev. Susan Ritchie
 The Worship Committee meets the third Sunday of each month after the worship service.

The goal of this committee is to provide meaningful, spiritual, and worshipful services when Rev. Susan Ritchie is not in the pulpit. In addition we bring the voice of the congregation to our meetings to address feedback that has to do with all aspects of our services. We are open to feedback from the congregation and visitors in our efforts to maintain or improve the quality of our worship experience.

We feel there is an importance of hearing lay voices and a diversity of religious viewpoints. We continue to be grateful and in awe of the talented speakers we have within our own church family who have said yes to our invitation to do a service and or part of a service. We continue to try to make the process of leading a lay service simple and as stress free as possible. We use a Worship Service Guide, created by Chris Aultman. And we continue to look for ways to help nurture the talent and voices of those in our congregation and to encourage them to share their own thoughts and religious viewpoints.

Lay services in 2015 included:

January 18th: Eileen Watters

February 8th: Monday morning Covenant Group

March 8th: Pam Patsch/Social Action group

March 15th: Teri Cornell

April 12th: Allison Fagan

May 10th (Mother's Day): Lauren Richards, assisted by Dee Burlison, Karen Hedden, and Sue Frederick

June 14th: Rev. Chris Jones-Leavy

June 28th: Katie and Beth Kuntz-Wineland

July 26th: John Rodeheffer and Laura Howe

August 16th: Dave Hedden

August 30th: Traci Aquara

September 6th (Labor Day): Chris Aultman

September 27th: Katie Kuntz-Wineland

October 18th: Teri Cornell

November 8th: Katie Kuntz-Wineland

December 27th: Mindful Writing Group

Respectfully Submitted,

Teri Cornell