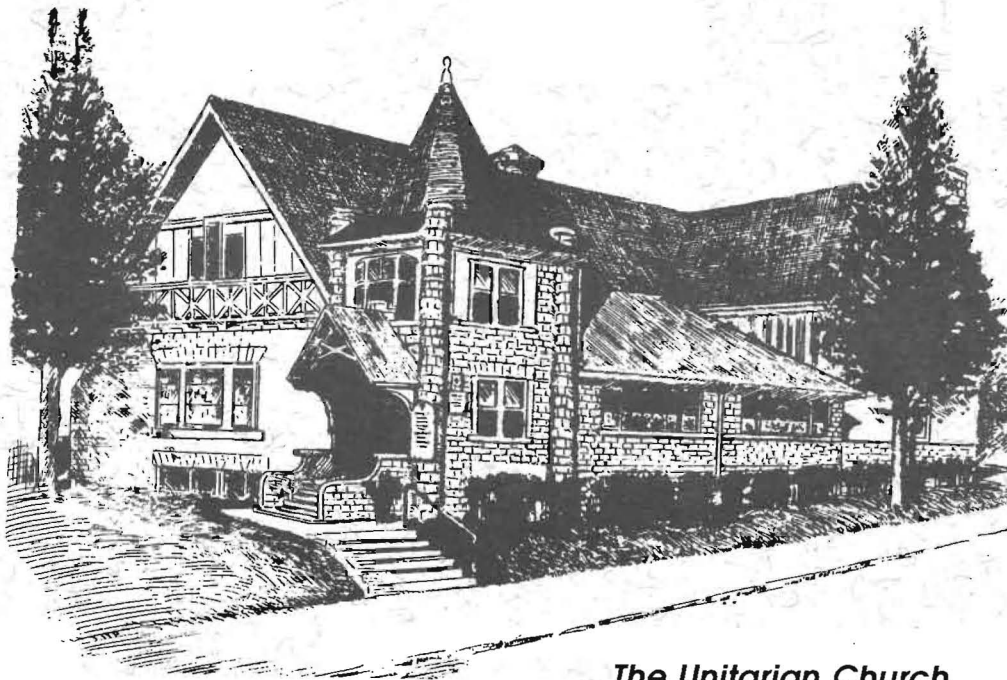


# BEYOND THE CENTENNIAL YEAR



*The Unitarian Church  
Quincy, Illinois*

**A History of the Quincy Unitarian Church  
From 1939 to 1989**

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BEYOND THE CENTENNIAL YEAR

A HISTORY OF THE QUINCY UNITARIAN CHURCH

FROM 1939 to 1989

A Record of Fifty Years of Activity

Compiled by

Frieda V. Marshall

1996

*Frieda V. Marshall*

## INTRODUCTION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Unitarian Church of Quincy, Illinois, celebrated its centennial in 1939. A souvenir booklet, written by Dr. E. B. Montgomery, included church history and photographs of ministers and prominent leaders of the church.

This continuation of church history was inspired by reading the material being sorted for archival storage. After two years of researching and writing, I submit this to the membership as a "modest preparation for a limited readership."

The years herein reported are the years of my membership and active participation in the church life. A very small part reflects my personal memory. Most of the material has already been shared with the membership through newsletter issues, minutes of meetings (approved as read), treasurer's reports (accepted and filed for audit), and local newspaper items.

I appreciate the permission given by Joe Conover, editor of The Quincy Herald-Whig, to use some photographs and accompanying materials that have appeared in the newspaper. Special admiration must be noted for those ministers and members who wrote the original news articles and minutes of meetings. Some parts seemed so "delicious" that I felt they should be shared with the members before being assigned to fireproof vaults.

My sincere gratitude is given to those who offered encouragement, support and editorial advice: Floyd W. Marshall, Janice Marshall-Miller, Mary Belle Coffman, and Caroline Sexauer.

My motivation is to give credit to those who were leaders in church life, to recognize what we did well, what we did falteringly, and what we may not yet have accomplished. It is meant to be an incentive to more devotion to the continuing presence of the Unitarian Church in Quincy, Illinois.

Frieda V. Marshall

## BEYOND THE CENTENNIAL YEAR

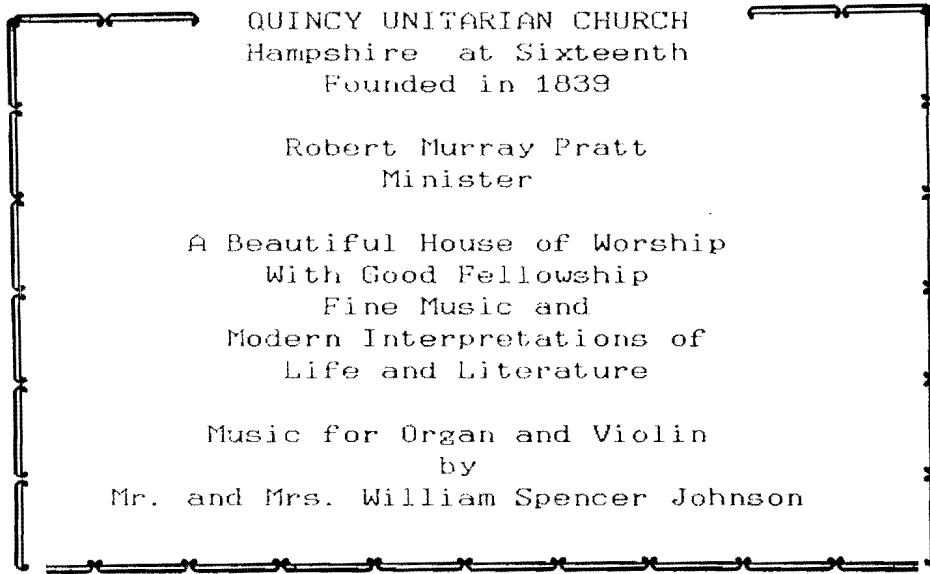
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## BEYOND THE CENTENNIAL YEAR

REV. ROBERT MURRAY PRATT  
1938 - 1946



In 1939 a 5 x 6 1/2 inch folder served as introduction to the church and stated:

"This is our centennial year and large congregations will mark its observance. The Sunday morning service begins promptly at eleven and closes at twelve-fifteen."

Listed are all the sermon topics from September 11 through December 25 with main headings of: Masters of Interpretation, Problems of Belief, Vistas of History and The Human Scene.

Organizations for Fellowship and Culture were listed: The Industrial Alliance of Unitarian Women, The King's Daughters, The Six O'Clock Club, The Evening Hour Alliance, and The Young Liberals Forum.

"A modern graded Sunday School meets every Sunday morning at ten o'clock under the direction of Edward C. Hess."

The celebration of Centennial Week of the Quincy Unitarian Church, which dates its founding from a meeting held on April 8, 1839, began with the Easter Service. The auditorium was filled to capacity. There was a recognition ceremony of nineteen new members and christening of five children.

In the month before Easter the church auditorium had been newly painted, there was new carpeting in the aisles and other improvements had been made. The celebration continued with a Tuesday Afternoon Tea, and on Wednesday evening an installation service for Dr. Pratt. The Thursday program was a "progressive open house" for 25 young people of the church and their guests, being welcomed into the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Vasen, 2017 Jersey; Mrs. G. R. Hess, 1257 Maine; and Dr. and Mrs. Harold Swanberg, 1680 Maine.

A 20-page souvenir booklet was prepared by the church historian, Dr. E. B. Montgomery, with a complete history of the church and photographs of the founder, Dr. W. G. Eliot, some ministers who had served, and early members of the congregation (men and women). Illustrations included the Second Meeting House, the Third Meeting House and the leaded glass windows of the present church.

At a banquet, held in the Hotel Lincoln-Douglas on Friday evening, 125 members and friends attended. The speaker was Dr. Frederick May Eliot of Boston, president of the American Unitarian Association and grandson of Dr. William G. Eliot of St. Louis, who had preached the first sermon at a meeting of Unitarians in Quincy one hundred years before.

An incidental note of interest: Mr. Pratt said, "The chancel of the Quincy church had a fixed pulpit, which was an error on the part of the architect or the building committee. At the time of the centennial observance in 1939, the pulpit was separated from the floor of the chancel, steps being constructed the full width between the chancel rails. This made a true chancel, with a pulpit that could be placed in the center, or to one side, according to the requirements of any particular service. This has made the church more serviceable for weddings for which it makes a beautiful setting."

Glowing reports of annual meetings were regularly submitted to The Herald-Whig. At the annual meeting of the congregation in June, 1940, reports were given by the various committees and organizations.

The Women's Industrial Alliance, oldest society of the church, held monthly meetings in members' homes. There were then twelve members. These officers were named: Mrs. Calot Baker, president-emeritus; Mrs. John Schoeneman, president; Mrs. Lyman McCarl, vice president; Mrs. Charles Lane, treasurer, and Mrs. Anna B. Eberhardt, secretary.

The King's Daughters' officers in 1940 were: Mrs. Richard Harris, president; Mrs. A. L. McMurtry, vice-president; Miss Clara Kespohl, treasurer; Mrs. Philip Schlagenhauf, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. R. M. Pratt, recording secretary.

The Women's Industrial Alliance contributed \$70 to the church from receipts of membership fees, rummage sale (\$26.12) and an apron sale (\$14.20).

The King's Daughters contributed \$400 to the church budget, having held a card party (\$60.39), a Christmas dinner and bazaar (\$101.50), and luncheons (\$126.70). They also fined their members for being late at meetings. They sponsored a dance and card party (\$111.50) and an art lecture by Fritz Morrison (\$85.75).

The Six O'Clock Club had made a centennial pledge. This group was organized in 1938 and held monthly meetings with supper and a program. Activities included 29 couples, and their officers were: Everette Wood, president; Alfred McMurtry, vice-president, and Mrs. George Curry, secretary and treasurer.

At this 1940 annual meeting Mr. Pratt asserted that progress had been made, but church attendance could be better. It was as good or as poor as in recent years, but not good enough to insure the building up of the church. Visitors might be enthusiastic about the service, but puzzled to see so few members in attendance.

In 1941 Frank J. Dick served as president of the Board. Lloyd Harris was commended for his long record of faithful service as treasurer. In reports given by various groups, all reported successful years' work.

"All obligations have been met and there is a balance in their treasuries."

Christmas and Easter services had printed programs with announcement of sermon topics for the coming weeks. Mr. Pratt spoke of the work of the Unitarian Service Committee, which was engaged in refugee work in Marsielles and Lisbon and carrying on morale building agencies at army camps and at Great Lakes Naval Training station. He mentioned that during his five years of Quincy ministry, the membership had increased 45 percent. In 1941 ten new members were added to the church role, making a total of 40 for the five-year period. Mr. Pratt had served eighteen months as guest minister, holding vesper services, and two years, eighteen months as resident minister.

He said on June 13, 1941, "The meetings of the Board of Trustees are above the average, I am sure, in regularity and speedy, efficient transaction of business. I am still perplexed about the size of the Sunday morning congregation. I know by the comparison of statistics that in proportion to our membership, the average attendance is higher than in the larger churches of our city. But that is not enough. A congregation that fills the seating capacity of the church gives the church prestige in the eyes of visitors. This is more important in the small church than in the larger one. If our total membership and the non-member friends of the church attended three out of four services, our seating capacity would be so taken that a new inspiration would come to the minister and to those who look in once in a while to see what we are doing.

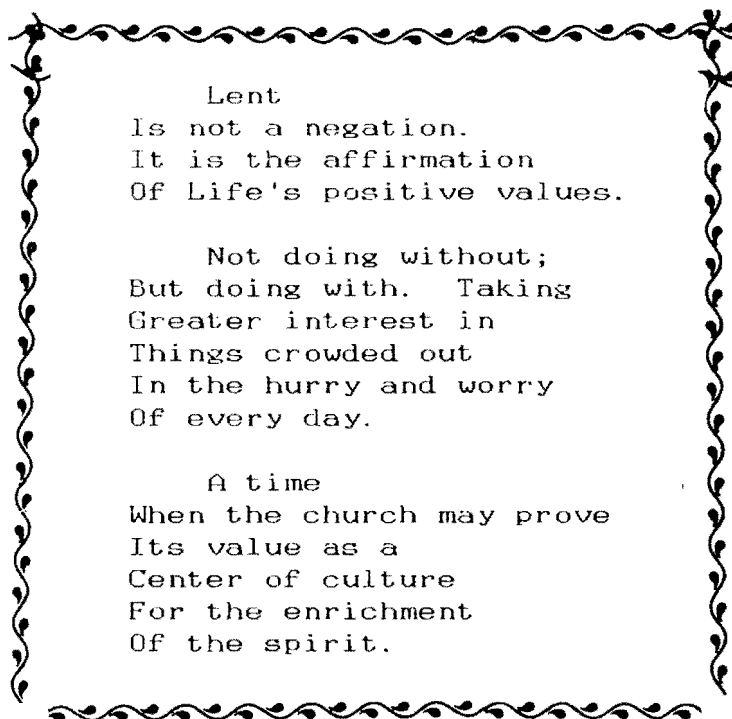
"The interest of the children and young people, the high attendance and the excellent deportment indicate that the establishment of the Junior Church method has been justified. This is the second year since the experiment was made to create something more effective than the Sunday School."

There were 34 regularly enrolled in four groups. The worship service was like a church service with a sermonette. Mr. Pratt led the senior group, studying foundations of life. The junior group with Mrs. William Black considered "Child of the Sun." Clara Lily Dege taught the primary group and Frieda Dege led the kindergarten. A collection was taken each Sunday

morning in the Junior Church. The expenses were \$11.66 for texts and materials, \$8.22 for picnics and Christmas party, and a donation of \$10 to the Unitarian Service Committee for work with refugee children.

During his ministry Mr. Pratt was president of the Quincy Garden Club and spoke at a meeting on "Philosophy of Nature - The Tree is my Brother." (The Garden Club folder of 1944 mentions the city tree: *Cornus Florida Rubra*--pink flowering dog wood.) He was chairman of the Christmas Seal sale campaign. Having been a representative of a British Trading company, he had lived four years of early manhood in Nigeria, Senegal and Sierra Leone. He related his experiences to several local groups.

Each Saturday evening at 5:30 during March 1944 Mr. Pratt spoke on radio. A Lenten Program was featured in the seven weeks preceding Easter. Mr. Pratt's poem was printed on the Lenten folder for several years:



The Evening Hour Alliance sponsored a Lenten Tea following an "inspirational and artistic" Lenten program in the church.

In the annual meeting report of the minister, June 19, 1942, Mr. Pratt said: "Again the community of Quincy has recognized your minister. I have given 11 addresses before various groups, other churches, luncheon groups, American Legion Auxiliary, D.A.R. and P.T.As. I have given 18 addresses over the local radio station, and the response to those assures me that in the radio is our great opportunity to reach the unchurched people of the city.

"In association with the special work now being done in the Junior High School, in which the State Welfare Board and the local Board of Education cooperate, I have been able to carry further the work I have been doing for three years with delinquent boys. This work has been recognized by the judge of the juvenile court. During the summer I will have 29 boys under my supervision, most of whom have been through the courts.

"On Easter Sunday thirteen new members were added to the roster, making a total of 48 since 1938 when I became resident minister."

Mr. and Mrs. Pratt lived at 1630 York Street. The Pratt's sons and daughter were grown and there were grandchildren who visited occasionally.



## THE JUNIOR CHURCH or SUNDAY SCHOOL

An annual meeting report of 1942 stated:

"The Junior Church has had the best year in every respect since it replaced the church school in 1939. Loyal and effective service has been given by Mrs. Ann Williams Black, Miss Elizabeth Kuhlo, Miss Frieda Dege, Miss Clara Lily Dege, and Mrs. Frank Cohen (organist). Mrs. Pratt led the kindergarten group and there was need for nursery care during church services. Betty Jean and Margaret Corcoran alternated in this service. There were 30 children enrolled."

A Nursery Roll was established with Mrs. Everette Wood in charge. This called for the registration of babies in the homes of members and friends of the church with literature of interest to parents presented to them monthly.

The Junior Church was a miniature church with a sermonette, followed by "group study in the modern spirit. We will not teach your children anything they will have to unlearn in later days."

A new hymnal "The Beacon Song Book" was very much needed and dedicated on Easter Sunday, 1942, when the Junior Church chorus sang the processional. Its members were: Nancy Winters, Ann Whitaker, Janet Howard, Patsy Rose Dege, Betty Lou Taylor, Margaret Corcoran, Patti Tuffli, Patty Ann Taylor, Emily Winters, Phyllis Albright, Nancy Swanberg, Ian Morrison, Donald Duesdieker, Charles Duesdieker, Tom Stephany, Steven Tuffli, Charles Terrell and Ted Morrison. Alice Morrison was organist; Bob Rittler, soloist; and James Gordon Johnson, reader.

The cost of the song books was \$23.45. Gifts for the new hymnals came to \$5, and \$15 was borrowed to pay the bill.

The Quincy Unitarian Youth group was organized April 28, 1946, to meet on Sunday evenings twice a month and study the books of the Bible. There were seven to nine participants meeting with Mr. Pratt, including Patsy Rose Dege, Charles Duesdieker, Earl Sloan, Janet Howard, Donald Reich, Margaret Corcoran, and Nancy Winters.

## THE WOMEN'S GROUPS

The Women's Industrial Alliance had these members in 1942:

Mrs. Calot Baker	Mrs. John Schoeneman
Mrs. Lyman McCarl	Mrs. Charles Lane
Mrs. Frank Dick	Mrs. Robert M. Pratt
Mrs. J. W. Westerman	Mrs. Charles Wisdom
Miss Emily Rouse	Mrs. Meline Dickhoener
Mrs. A. J. Eberhardt	

HERALD-WHIG, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1948.

### They Carry on Tradition of Unitarian Industrial Alliance



A group of eight women of the Unitarian church carries on the unselfish traditions of the Women's Industrial alliance which had its beginnings in October, 1867. One of the early women's organizations of the community, it boasted 40 members when formed "to work together in a glorious cause." Pictured here are six of the members at their last meeting in the home of Mrs. Lyman McCarl, including (upper row, left to right) Mrs. J. W. Westerman (secretary), Mrs. John M. Schoeneman (president) and Mrs. McCarl, and (lower row, left to right) Mrs. Frank Dick, Miss Emily Rouse and Mrs. M. Dickhoener. Not present when the picture was taken were Mrs. Charles E. Lane, the treasurer, and Mrs. Charles Wisdom.



In 1867 the Women's Industrial Alliance had 40 members. Their motto: "To work together in a glorious cause -- to be known by our works as well as our faith."

The King's Daughters officers were:

In 1942-43	In 1943-44
Mrs. Frank Cohen (P)	Mrs. Russell Williams (P)
Mrs. Dorothy Gage (VP)	Mrs. Fred Suchland (VP)
Mrs. Fred Suchland (S)	Mrs. C. A. McMullen (S)
Mrs. P. Schlagenhauf (CS)	Mrs. P. Schlagenhauf (CS)
Miss Clara Kespohl (T)	Miss Clara Kespohl (T)

The King's Daughters met monthly in members' homes for luncheon and program. The group made a pledge to the church budget of \$300 annually. They regularly sponsored a Christmas dinner and bazaar, inviting other groups to take part. In 1942 they sponsored the sixth annual spring dance held at the Quincy Country Club, and the activity continued through 1945. That year they met a larger pledge to the church of \$400 and \$50 for the Easter offering.

The members were helping with the Red Cross Mobile Blood Donor unit, making an afghan for the Red Cross, and collecting clothing for people in war-torn Europe. When a member noticed the following ad in the Alliance World: "Lost. Woman's left shoe, size 5 1/2, black oxford, round patch on left side. Ample reward for return to No. 112 Alexander Street, Belgrade," she said, "I realized what the clothing we sent to those people must have meant to them."

Officers: 1944-45

Officers 1945-46

Mrs. Spencer Vasen (P)	Mrs. Walter Whitaker (P)
Mrs. George Curry (VP)	Mrs. A. S. Armstrong (VP)
Mrs. Richard Harris (S)	Mrs. Kenneth Homberger (S)
Mrs. P. Schlagenhauf (CS)	Mrs. P. Schlagenhauf (CS)
Miss Clara Kespohl (T)	Miss Clara Kespohl (T)

The Evening Hour Alliance officers were:

In 1941-42	In 1942-43
Mrs. Bertha Danhaus (P)	Mrs. Everette Wood (P)
Miss Ruth Achelpohl (VP)	Mrs. Donald Lenane (VP)
Clara Lily Dege (S)	Mrs. Eugene Schreiber (S)
Mrs. Verna Lenane (T)	Miss Jeanne Westerman (T)

Other members were: Caroline Schlagenhauf, Frieda Dege, Evelyn Flynn, and Ethel Altmix. Mrs. Vera Pratt was the advisor. At this time new Evening Alliances were being formed throughout the country, encouraged by the General Alliance. The Chairman of Evening Alliances was Dr. Margaret M. Poole of Dighton, Massachusetts.

Portrait of

Robert M. Pratt

Back row:

Vera Ann Pratt

Ethel Altmix

Dorothy Gochicoa

Hazel Wood

Front row:

Letha Schreiber

Caroline Schlagenhauf

Verna Lenane

Clara Lily Dege

Evening Hour Alliance  
1945



The Evening Hour Alliance held meetings every other Thursday in members' homes until 1943 after which they met monthly. The group in 1942 had sponsored the Lenten Tea and had a candy booth at the Christmas Bazaar. In 1945 they sold bazaar items for \$60 and contributed \$75 to the church.

Among their activities was an annual fund-raising event: The Pie Supper, according to newspaper promotion, was "an affair which promises much pleasure." The first November event was called "Old-Fashioned Pie Supper," and the next was produced with a Mexican theme.

An All-American theme was featured in 1941. The menu, red, white and blue striped, with stars, listed apple, mince, pumpkin, lemon, cherry, and chocolate pie choices. Table decorations and waitresses' outfits extended the theme. Guests were served from 7 to 8 and the evening included a program. Naomi Watson, noted vocalist, and Wallace Gordon, monologist, presented this program. (Wallace Gordon was chauffeur for the Mohrenstecher family. His repertoire included Shakespearean passages.)

Naomi Watson operated the elevator in the old Mercantile Bank Building. She was graduated from Quincy College of Music in 1934, and moved to Chicago in 1942. She made her concert debut at Kimball Hall in Chicago in 1943. A concert in November, 1944, subscribed by over a hundred friends and organizations of Quincy, presented Naomi Watson, contralto, under management of Claire McMurtry (a Unitarian church member). A New York debut in Town Hall occurred in 1945. Later Naomi Watson had a voice studio in Chicago for twenty to thirty years, and she was well regarded as vocal teacher and performer. (She died in Quincy January 10, 1988.)

The annual pie supper was canceled in 1942 as rationing of sugar allowed no generosity in donating pies. The members assessed themselves \$1.25 each in lieu of holding the pie supper.

Another Evening Hour Alliance activity was the annual May breakfast in the park. The first was called a sunrise breakfast at 6:30 in South Park by the Eighth Street bridge. Each year the hour for the breakfast was set a little later and the menu was more inclusive. For several years the location was the Horseshoe Point in South Park, and later the group (now including husbands and children) met at Reservoir Park near the playground equipment.

The Alliance members made a layette and presented it to the Cheerful Home of Quincy and sewed over one hundred articles for the hospitals. In 1943 the group

contributed \$80 to the church and ended the year with a balance of \$6.44.

For several years the group made holiday tray favors for the 31 patients at Hillcrest (TB) Sanatorium. A newspaper story called this group of nine young women "one of the most philanthropic of Quincy's smaller organizations." The members made and mended items for layettes for Europe's unfortunate children, and they purchased new articles and provided soft, cuddly toys for the children. Box after box of clothing, totaling 500 pounds, was sent to the Unitarian Service Commission in New York City for shipment to Europe, a cooperative effort of the several women's groups.

In 1946 they sponsored a Strawberry Social in cooperation with the Chancel Guild members.

As the Pratts were going to Santa Catalina, California, in October, 1946, the Evening Hour Alliance minutes carried this tribute:

"Since Mrs. Pratt has helped and guided us into womanhood and many of us into motherhood, she has left a mark that will endear her to us all our lives."



Evening Hour Alliance members and friends  
at early morning breakfast by the  
South Eighth Street bridge.

## THE WAR YEARS - 1943-1945

In February, 1943, Mr. Pratt was asked to head the War Garden Project and he requested permission to use the north yard of the church for a garden. The request was granted. The Victory Garden in 1944 marked the second year of this activity.

The treasurer reported in the annual meeting of June, 1943, that all bills were paid and the church had no debt. A payment was made in July, 1943, to the Collector of Internal Revenue: Victory Tax - \$33.44. Mr. Pratt's salary was \$278 monthly in 1943, and \$311 monthly in 1944, \$2,800 annually in 1946..

Having preached his first sermon on August 27, 1903, Mr. Pratt planned an observance of 40 years of preaching and church ministry in 1943. His background was in the Congregational Church. He reported 13 new members during 1943 and said that fifty percent of the present members had joined the church during the Pratt ministry. Standing Committees were: Finance, Publicity, Music and Worship, Building and Grounds, Community Service, and Religious Education.

Board member Sherman Bond made a motion, seconded by Dr. Clare Miller, that Mr. Pratt clear out all worthless books from the church library and add them to the 1944 paper drive. The motion carried.

During these years the church was heated with coal. The November, 1943, bill was \$55.40. Gas conversion was suggested, but this was not possible because of wartime priorities. The payments to CIPS were: 7/43- \$4.12, 8/43- \$2.80; 9/43- \$2.00; 12/43- \$6.08; 1/44 \$11.90.

In June, 1945, the question of using gas heat for the basement rooms rather than the large heating plant was discussed at the annual meeting. It was thought that this gas equipment could be secured for about \$160 to \$175, and that a good saving could be made on the coal bill and janitor service. The matter was referred to trustees with power to act.

In his annual report Mr. Pratt said, "My commission to establish a mission church in Hannibal under the Extension Department of the American Unitarian Association has not produced the results that seemed to be

possible two years ago. The exigencies of wartime with the removal from the city of 18 families that were considered good prospects for the nucleus of a church organization has postponed for the duration any definite action."

He was pleased to point out that "from a nominal \$15, the irreducible minimum to keep in good standing with the larger fellowship, the church last year gave \$98 and this year \$112 to the United Appeal."

A letter of April, 1944, from Dana McLean Greeley of the Committee on Postwar Responsibilities of the churches encouraged creation of means for integrating returning servicemen and war workers into the life of the church and the community.

Mr. Pratt responded: "The Board of Trustees unanimously approves the spirit and purpose of your request. Our membership is conspicuous in its representation on boards and committees engaged in civic and wartime activities. You will be interested to know that our minister's wife is the special worker for the local chapter of the Red Cross, visiting the homes of families who have received bad news concerning their loved ones, and assisting them in the adjustment necessary."

Printed programs for Easter or Christmas gave an honor role of those in the armed services, naming 24 individuals. On ordinary Sundays there was no Order of Service; the hymnal numbers were announced on a slotted board at the front of the church. There was no newsletter; pledge cards were sent out. The minister often mentioned his appreciation of the quality music in the church and the friendship and social support of the members. In 1944 there were three christenings, seven weddings, and thirteen funerals. Eight new members joined, two died, and nine moved to other locations.

An Usher's Club was formed in 1945 with men who would give ushering service and facilitate the smooth running of the service. They would seat people as they entered, not allowing entry during readings or prayers.

A Minister's Advisory Committee was to be formed consisting of the President of the Board, the Superintendent of the Junior Church and the presidents of each of the women's groups.

Sunday morning attendance increased 25 percent in the 1944-1945 year. The Every-Member Canvass reported 57 pledges amounting to \$2,080.50.

#### BUILDING CONCERNS

A constant cause of concern for the women of the church was the condition of the kitchen. In September, 1944, a letter was addressed to the trustees:

Gentlemen

We should like to call your attention to the need for some improvement in the condition of the kitchen. The plaster of the east wall is crumbling badly. In fact, the mortar of the brick walls there is undesirable for it falls off onto the table -- a bad condition where food is being prepared.

Would it be possible to have some such covering as beaverboard or plywood applied to the kitchen? We suggest that a committee be appointed to look into the matter of improving the condition of the kitchen as early as possible.

Mrs. Paul E. Morrison  
Mrs. Charles Bunting  
Mrs. Don Carley

The Six O'Clock Club, then in its eighth year, donated \$20 toward the painting of the kitchen. The members of the Evening Hour Alliance redecorated the tower room for the Junior Church class taught by Clara Lily Dege in September, 1945.

Ted Morrison earned \$1.95 cutting the grass.

Mrs. Calot Baker

The morning service of April 21, 1944, recognized the 98th birthday of Mrs. Calot Baker (nee Isabella Brown) a long-time member and probably the oldest living native of Quincy. She was not present although reported to be well and living with her niece, Nettie Wisdom, at 628 Spring where she was born and lived all her life. Mrs. Baker had served as president of the Industrial Alliance for many years, and her leadership was noted in a history of the Alliance written by Mrs. Eberhardt. Mrs. Baker had been active up to the last years and had driven her electric car when she was 90 years old.

## THE CHANCEL GUILD

The minister spoke of the possible formation of The Chancel Guild during the 1944 annual meeting. He said, "From experience I know the penalty of the over-organized church and hesitate long before making suggestion of further organization. I find that there are members of our church who should have closer identification with our work. While in Boston I checked the purpose and method of what is called "The Chancel Guild." I believe it very definitely has a place with us. It would add to the effectiveness of our morning service and be a real help to the minister."

From the minutes of the meeting we learn that on September 1, 1944, a group of women met at the home of Mrs. Harold Doughty in response to the invitation of Mr. Pratt to consider the organization of a new group. Mr. Pratt explained The Chancel Guild and stated there was a need for another group in the church.

The expressed goal was for the women to arrange memorial flowers for the church and to assist in planning the Christmas Eve Candlelight service. The group would take care of candles for the altar as soon as there would be sufficient funds in the treasury. They would supply palms for the Easter service and "meet to polish the candelabra."

Seven women attended the organizational meeting: Mrs. Doughty, Mrs. Victor Winters, Miss Dorothy Dickhoener, Mrs. Charles Duesdieker, Mrs. H. Brooks Terrell, Mrs. Reva Howard and Mrs. Ruth Corcoran. They considered a typed list of names of 63 people who might be interested. Later they were joined by Miss Lorene Glass, Miss Evangeline Dickhoener, and Mrs. George Drallmeier.

Tea was served by the hostess. The members agreed to pay 25 cents dues at each meeting and have a table at the annual bazaar. In 1946 they joined the Evening Hour Alliance members in sponsoring a Strawberry Festival. By that time they had decided to meet every other month instead of each month. Their treasury stood at about \$23.20 or \$14.06. Mrs. Pratt suggested that the Chancel Guild should be recognized as part of the General Alliance of Unitarian Women. The members followed this suggestion and each contributed 35 cents annual dues.



## REV. PRATT'S MINISTRY ENDS

At the annual meeting held on June 14, 1946, Mr. Pratt read a report on his ten years of service in Quincy, mentioning the activities of the various societies. He mentioned particularly that the attendance at the Easter service was the best in ten years.

The Industrial Alliance had eight active members and two inactive members. Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Westerman, who had celebrated a 60th anniversary event hosted by one of the groups, contributed \$100 for the Junior Church program.

Lloyd Harris and Sherman Bond showed a large-scale table of the figures on receipts and disbursements of 1945-46. These figures showed a deficit and it was necessary to pay some of the current expenses from a special gift from the Helm estate, which was not intended for that purpose. The new budget amounted to \$4205, including:

Minister	\$2800
Radio publicity	195
Music	220
Custodian	300
Light and gas	100
Postage, printing	110
Heating	140
Maintenance	200
Insurance	92
Telephone	35
Water	9
Tax on Lot	4

During the summer of 1946 Mr. and Mrs. Pratt visited their son in Redlands, California. While they were there, Mr. Pratt was a guest speaker at the Community Church of Avalon on Santa Catalina Island. A call asking him to come as pastor came as a surprise to him, but it seemed advisable to move to a more congenial climate.

Mr. Pratt tendered his resignation to the Board in September and shared letters he had written to Randall Hilton of the Western Unitarian Conference in Chicago and to Dr. Dan Huntington Fenn of Boston. The Board accepted the resignation with regrets. A farewell dinner was organized by the King's Daughters group. Members of the congregation contributed toward a gift of travelers' checks.

The newspaper report of the resignation reflected Mr. Pratt's success in a 60 percent increase in membership, in placing of the church on a sound business basis with all debts paid, and the changing of the Sunday School into a Junior Church.

His activities with the Adams County T.B. Association, the Garden Club, and work concerning juvenile problems and family rehabilitation were mentioned, along with his sponsorship of a stamp club for boys of junior high age.

Mrs. Pratt was recognized for her work with girl scouts, sponsorship of the Evening Hour Alliance, work with young people of the church, and membership in the Women's City Club and Friends in Council. The flavor of Mrs. Pratt's personality is shown in her 1946 report of the Industrial Alliance activities:

"The Ladies Industrial Alliance has met each month of the church year. There were two luncheon meetings, one at Christmas time and the other was our final meeting this year.

"There are eight active and two inactive members. Of this number four are in their eighties, four in their seventies; yet they carry on faithfully. Much credit is due to our beloved president who has served nearly ten years. Many times she urges us to replace her, but we can't give her up.

"It is a most ambitious undertaking for these few loyal women to carry on their annual rummage sale, and it is almost with fear and trembling that I watch them make their plans, hoping it will not over-tax their precious strength. But to see them close shop at the end of the day with their pockets full of money and a song or a joke, it truly makes one realize of what timber our church was built.

"They have given \$115 to the church and have been generous in giving to other agencies. ....Again let me repeat from past year's report -- we have the smallest number, have attained the greatest age level, make the most noise, and have the most fun of any group in the church. We are looking forward to resuming activities in the fall."

Vera Ann Pratt, Recording Secretary

### THE REV. B. REX AMAN

1947 - 1952

Edward C. Hess was president of the Board of Trustees in September, 1946, when Mr. Pratt resigned. He was assigned leadership of the Junior Church "until someone else can be secured." He also suggested to the Board that it was their responsibility to select a new minister. Mr. Paul Morrison and Mr. J. W. Keys agreed that candidates for pulpits were scarce. Two local ministers, The Rev. A. K. Byrns, a retired Methodist minister, and The Rev. Conrad Rheiner filled the pulpit several times, each receiving \$45 for services.

In December, 1946 and January, 1947 The Rev. Howard G. Matson served as interim minister, receiving \$150 and \$165 a month payment. He stated, however, that he would settle in the Southwest and would need to go to Albuquerque several times. Mr. R. S. Hilton, secretary of Western Unitarian Conference, came to Quincy to preach on January 26, 1947.

Rex Aman substituted for Mr. Matson on March 2, and "as Mr. Matson had an irregular schedule, the Board released him and arranged for Rex Aman to be in Quincy four or five days each week, to be paid regular compensation and to conduct the Sunday services."

Benjamin Rex Aman was born in Cambridge, Nebraska, in 1913, and was graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1940. He completed graduate work in the field of religion at the Garrett Biblical Institute in Evanston and Chicago Theological Seminary at the University of Chicago. He had served as pastor of Methodist churches from 1942 to 1946 and was associated with the Chicago Ethical Society. His hobbies were fishing and collecting antique glassware and old furniture.



THE REV. B. R. AMAN

In the spring of 1947 Mr. Aman accepted the pastorate and moved to Quincy with his wife Agnes and their children Frances Louise, 5, and Jimmy (James Rex), 3. A special meeting of the congregation was called for April 23, 1947, and a housing committee was named: Spencer Vasen, Al Mc Murtry, and Maurice Vasen. The salary stated was \$3200 yearly to be paid on a 12-month basis. The budget total was \$5688.

An installation and ordination service occurred on June 8, 1947. Randall S. Hilton, secretary of the Western Unitarian Conference, gave the charge to the congregation and the minister. Dr. A. Eustace Haydon, professor emeritus of the University of Chicago and leader of the Chicago Ethical Society gave the installation address, "The History of Religions."

As no adequate housing had been found, the Aman family arranged living quarters in the church building. Mr. Aman did odd jobs in building maintenance and to balance that activity, the Board allowed that he would pay no part of the light and gas bill. Later they agreed that he would pay \$25 a month.

The custom then was to send out postcards every week to let the members and friends know the topic of the next Sunday's service. Mr. Aman pleaded that the church needed a typewriter and mimeograph equipment to facilitate the printing and mailing of a newsletter and other printed material. A committee was appointed. The Board discussed the possibility of getting members to subscribe to a newsletter on a yearly basis. No decision was reached.

The church owned a lot at 18th and Washington which had been given to the church in December, 1915, by Mrs. E. D. Schermerhorn, and the church had been paying taxes on the lot each year. Mr. Vasen was given authority to dispose of it and the lot was sold in September, 1948, to Willa E. Clow and Maudie Fay McKenzie for \$300. The sale of the lot was ratified by the church membership in February, 1949 (after the fact), and the proceeds were to have been put in a special fund and not used except by approval of the Board.

The Board gave approval for the purchase of a typewriter and mimeograph equipment and the withdrawal of adequate funds from the \$300 reserve fund set aside from

the sale of the 18th and Washington lot. In February, 1949, the office equipment fund was still in need of financial aid.

The Board discussed the need of painting the church exterior as early as the fall meetings. No money was available so a special drive was undertaken, and by December 14, 1948, \$690 had been contributed.

The minister requested the use of the term "Church Council" instead of "Minister's Advisory Committee." A recommendation was made that a special committee should be appointed to gather all historical documents pertaining to the church and arrange them in chronological order and keep them up to date.

The Junior Church met every Sunday at 10 o'clock in assembly and classes. The staff included Mrs. Charles Duesdieker, pre-school; Miss Clara Lily Dege, primary; Miss Betty Corcoran, junior high, and Miss Caroline Schlagenhauf, high school youth. Mrs. Paul Morrison served as organist. The minister was in charge of co-operation with the R.E. committee: Mrs. Victor Winters, Mrs. Paul Morrison, and J. W. Keys.

A trial meeting of a men's group similar to the Layman's League was held on October 5, 1947. Meetings continued on Sunday evenings in the church. At one meeting William Sexauer introduced the topic of "Semantics," and discussion and refreshments followed. On March 28, 1948, the men's group sponsored a chili supper. No information about officers or procedures is available. Tom Moore stated in 1949 that the best meetings of the year were those to which the ladies had been invited.

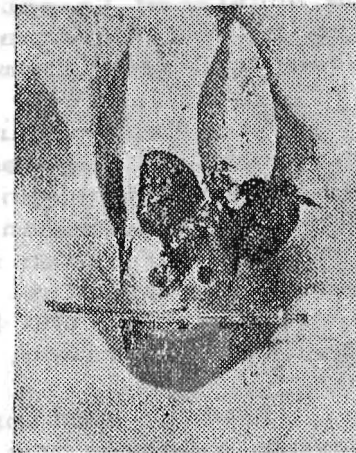
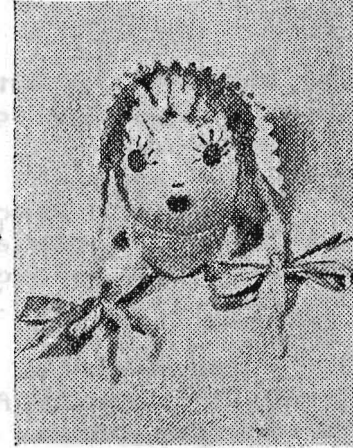
The Six O'Clock Club had membership of fifteen couples. They pledged \$10 each to sponsor the purchase of an Economy Deluxe Two-oven Cafe range for the church kitchen. With tax the item cost \$244.60, and there was a \$12.82 charge for transporting it from Comstock Castle Stove Company to the church and a \$12.78 charge for installation by Luthin Plumbers.

The Evening Hour Alliance members purchased six chairs for the Sunday School at \$2 a chair. Their current project was to sell cleverly decorated Easter eggs, by order, to the church members: 3 for 25 cents

# Creating Easter Egg Personalities Becomes Art



Members of the Chancel Evening alliance of the Unitarian church mix good deeds with sociability in decorating Easter eggs which they sold on Saturday to increase the alliance treasury. This work meeting, held in the home of Mrs. Floyd Marshall, was attended 100 per cent by the alliance members but only a few faced the camera. Pictured are (left to right) Miss Dorothy Dickhoener, Miss Caroline Schlagenhauf, Mrs. Verna Lenane, Mrs. Rex Aman, wife of the church pastor, and Miss Betty Corcoran. Samples of the finished art are to be seen in the accompanying pictures of Mr. Peter Rabbit, the Dutch Doll and the Clown.



The Chancel Evening alliance composed of young women of the First Unitarian church has an annual Easter project which the members find as fascinating as do their patrons for they fashion the most intriguing of decorated Easter eggs and sell them to increase the alliance treasury. The eggs, under their clever fingers, become personalities one can see from the accompanying photographs. They sell them upon special orders and this year, made about 200 which were eagerly purchased for fortu-

nate youngsters or used in the decorative effects of Easter dinner tables.

The alliance members began fashioning these special eggs about three years ago at the Easter season when they made favors for the trays of patients at Hillcrest sanatorium. (Each season of the year, the members concoct gay favors for tuberculosis patients' trays.) The eggs were so clever and made such a hit that the group decided to make it an annual project.

And though it is a merry task and a fascinating one, don't think that it doesn't require a certain amount of manual dexterity and a lot of originality in execution. And the preparations are quite elaborate, too, as many materials must be in order before the actual work can begin.

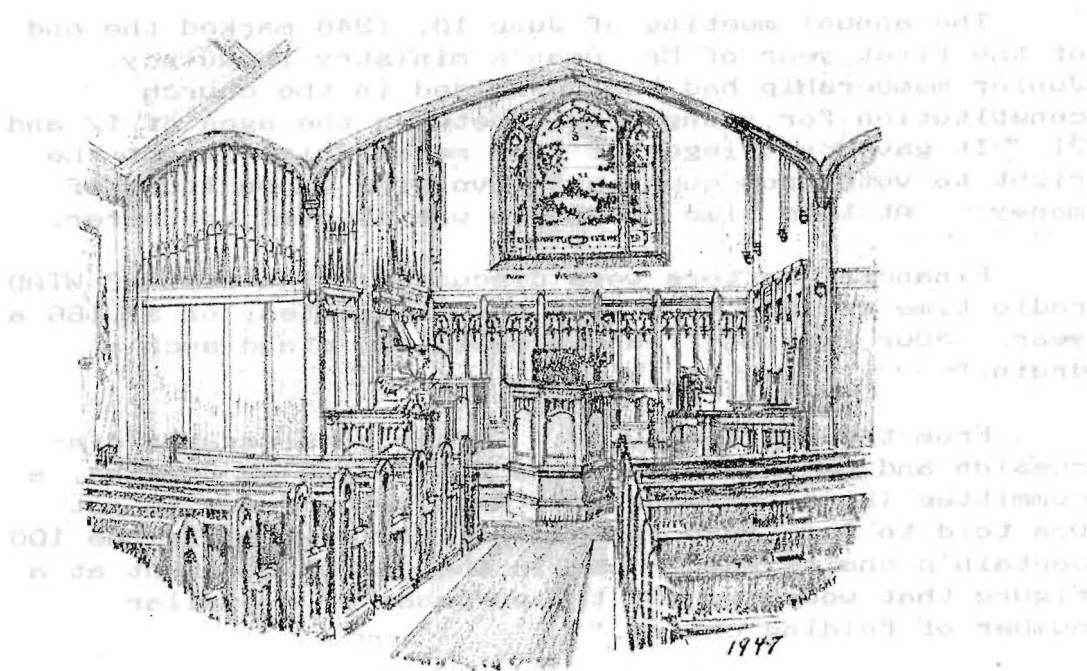
This year, Mrs. Everett Wood served as chairman of the project and had everything ready ahead of time for the work meeting in the home of Mrs. Floyd Marshall, 1660 Kentucky. She and Mrs. Wood and also the alliance president, Mrs. Sloan, are in this group as are other alliance members including Mrs. Charles Duesdieker,

Mrs. Ray White, Mrs. Ruth Corcoran, Mrs. Leo Altmix and Mrs. Tom Moore, Miss Nona Miller attended as a guest.



or 10 cents each. There were four designs artistically created by Hazel Wood. This activity was featured in a Herald-Whig story with photograph of the members at work.

Another 1947 project offered greeting cards for sale to the church members. The design was an etching produced from a photograph of the church chancel, supplied by Clara Lily Dege. The cards were produced by company in Pennsylvania at a cost of 50 cents a box. The Alliance members ordered 50 boxes and sold them at \$1 a box. In 1950 Clara Lily Dege supplied a photo of the twin pines at Indian Mounds park -- the scene of the church Founders' Window. Cards were made from that photograph.



Two of the women's groups had small membership. On October 1, 1947, the two groups met separately in neighboring members' homes. A suggestion was made that a merger of the Evening Hour Alliance and the Chancel Guild into a new organization would be a strength for the church. Formal action resulted in the organization of the Chancel Evening Alliance. The purposeful program of each group would be incorporated in the plan of the new organization. The Alliance had been concerned with social work and the Guild with providing flowers and enhancing the church setting.

Mrs. Agnes Aman was a visitor to this meeting. Mrs. Everette Wood (formerly president of the Evening Hour Alliance) was chosen as president of the new group with Mrs. Charles Duesdieker, vice-president; Mrs. Donald Lenane, secretary and Mrs. Reva Howard, treasurer. Their meetings were set for every two weeks on Thursday evenings.

The annual pie supper in March 1948 had a St. Patrick's theme. The program was provided by Norma Nelson with marimba selections and by Doloris Hase with a clever chalk talk in which she sketched the pies, the setting and various personalities "in her inimitable style."

The annual meeting of June 18, 1948 marked the end of the first year of Mr. Aman's ministry in Quincy. Junior membership had been provided in the church constitution for young people between the ages of 12 and 21. It gave privileges of full membership, except the right to vote upon questions involving expenditure of money. At this time Tom Moore was elected treasurer.

Financial matters were discussed. The cost of WTAD radio time was \$22.44 a week for 15 minutes, or \$1,166 a year. "Our limited finances could not stand such a drain."

From the Board minutes: "After considerable discussion and on motion by Moore and second by Jenkins, a committee (Lane, P. Morrison, Aman) with power to act was told to look into the possibility of selling the 100 captain's chairs now in use in the church basement at a figure that would permit the purchase of a similar number of folding chairs."

During the past year a Christmas letter urged attendance and proposed a special collection, mentioning the klingelbeutel--collection bags at the ends of long poles. Now Mr. Aman suggested dispensing with taking a collection every Sunday morning. For a trial period only (C. Schlagenhauf said in the Board meeting), the Board would agree to place a suitable box in the lobby for the purpose of accepting contributions and payments on pledges.

In September 1948 (the first Sunday of the season) the treasurer reported receiving \$182 from eight



contributors. The next week again eight contributors. In January on an icy day there were 12 present, and \$34.92 received from five contributors. But on Easter Sunday --a fine day, very good attendance, about 90 present, all pews taken except the first two--the offering was \$227.76 from 31 contributors.

The church exterior was painted in May, 1949. The job was given to Lester J. Algiers, and by May 10 most of the painting was finished. He was paid \$450 with the balance to be paid on completion of the work.

In an October sermon Rex Aman declared that no person, regardless of color of skin, should ever be barred from becoming a Unitarian or from visiting in the Unitarian Church.

A newslettter, "The Quincy Unitarian," was prepared. The heading included the Covenant: "We unite in the free quest of the high values in religion and life. Organized in 1839; for 110 years the fellowship of liberal religion in the community."

For the record, the minutes of April 12, 1949, stated:

"On January 7, 1920, the Second Congregational Church of Quincy changed its name to the Unitarian Church of Quincy, and that has been the legal name since then."

## THE PARSONAGE - 1435 HAMPSHIRE STREET

For about a year and a half the Aman family had lived in the church building. (A son John Franklin Aman was born August 13, 1948.) Early in January, 1949, the Board requested serious thought to the matter of housing for the minister. The house west of the church was available for sale. A letter was sent to Randall Hilton in Chicago to inquire if there would be any financial assistance from AUA toward the purchase of a parsonage. The reply indicated very little hope of any financial aid from AUA.

The Board considered a "Thrift Home" - a pre-fab house to be put on the north lot. The difficulty was that the lot was scarcely large enough for the house. This was in May 1949.

Mr. Aman stated that if the church intended to maintain any prestige in the community, it would have to do something soon about adequate housing for the minister. It was a well known fact locally, he said, "that there is plenty of money within the membership of the church to make suitable living quarters for the minister and his family possible."

Mrs. Kate Wells Lockwood in a legally signed document on July 16, 1949, contributed \$3,000 as a gift "toward construction of a new parsonage on the present church property or for such other purposes as the church may deem advisable. This gift is made with the understanding that the balance of the money... (for the parsonage)... will be furnished by the rest of the congregation or by others".

A special congregational meeting was called for August 5, 1949. Paul Morrison, presided and recognized efforts of the committee on housing. He announced the "very generous offer of \$3,000 by Mrs. Lockwood toward the building or purchase of a parsonage." Bill Halbach, chairman of the housing committee, outlined the progress that had been made and said that the committee favored the building of a new home on the lot north of the church. Maurice Vasen explained financing and stated that Quincy People's Building and Loan would be willing and able to finance the church property on the same basis as private property.

He suggested that a church seal be purchased to expedite these actions of a legal nature. Tom Moore was authorized to do this. The membership, after discussion, came to a consensus that a new 6-room, two-story stucco home with a basement, to be built on the north lot would be the best solution.

A letter to the membership on September 25, 1949, announced that an option had been taken on a house at 1435 Hampshire. It was described as a good design and site, but lacking some modern facilities, such as heat. The cost for the house and lot was \$8,050 with necessary repairs and improvements expected to cost another \$5,000 to \$6,000. The official church membership approved without a dissenting vote, authorizing the Board to carry the project to completion when \$8,000 would be subscribed. This project was to be financed in the clear, "over and above and apart" from the current expense budget. Mrs. Scott Armstrong reported that the committee had received pledges of out-right gifts totaling approximately \$5,000 and loans totaling approximately \$3,000 toward the purchase of a parsonage.

In this letter Paul Morrison urged generosity to meet the challenge given by Mrs. Lockwood. He said, "We consider this project a necessary step in strengthening our church. Without suitable housing we cannot secure or retain a minister." Committee member Mrs. Armstrong added, "It is a sound investment and a valuable piece of property. Pledges are to be as generous as possible and payment, tax deductible, may be extended over a period of one to five years."

Action by the Board gave the committee on housing authority to award contracts for necessary repairs and renovation. Recognizing the amount of work necessary on this property, the members were asked to volunteer services and report to the minister, Rex Aman. There was attention to matters of plumbing, remodeling permit, heating, insulation, roofing, sheet metal work, gas, painting, cornice repair, electrical work, concrete and insurance.

Paul Morrison was authorized to secure a loan of \$5,500 from the Mercantile Trust and Savings Bank to cover the mortgage on the property at 1435 Hampshire.

Randall Hilton in Chicago expressed pleasure on hearing that the church would acquire a parsonage. Mrs. Armstrong reported on November 11, 1949, that cash gifts and deferred pledges amounted to \$10,353.49, and that of this amount, \$6,416.49 had already been received, leaving a balance of \$3,937 unpaid. Cash loans amounted to \$3,000. Julius Kespohl had made a gift of \$500 toward the parsonage fund.

The balance of the current expense fund was \$30. Tom Moore, treasurer, reported "no funds and a number of bills coming in."

An Open House at the parsonage -- Unitarian House -- was held on Sunday afternoon, June 18, 1950.

## ALLIANCE ACTIVITIES

The Chancel Evening Alliance had a membership of 13: two were members of the Board of Trustees and two were on the Junior Church staff. Their projects for the year 1949-1950 continued earlier activities: sales of Christmas cards, decorated Easter eggs, May Bazaar, sales of hand-made articles at the Christmas season, and making tray favors for patients at Hillcrest Sanatorium.

The minister's wife, Agnes Aman, had an extensive collection of antique glassware. She presented a program on this subject following a dinner that the Alliance served to the Women's Business Club in January, 1949. On another occasion the program was repeated at a St. Patrick tea, sponsored by the King's Daughters and the Chancel Evening Alliance.

The Alliance sponsored the visit in Quincy and presentation by Mrs. George Pieksen, National Alliance president, and cooperated with the King's Daughters on the afternoon meeting and tea. Packages of food and other needed articles were sent to two families in Germany as another Unitarian project.

### Officers in 1949-50

Mrs. Earl Sloan (P)  
Caroline Schlagenhauf (VP)  
Verna Lenane (S)  
Ethel Altmix (T)

### In 1950-51

Caroline Schlagenhauf (P)  
Ruth Corcoran (VP)  
Violet Moore (S)  
Frieda Marshall (T)

The minutes state: "We should like to take credit for inaugurating the coffee hour in the Quincy church. We have sponsored two (monthly coffee) hours and feel they were successful.

Hazel Wood had a clever idea of making Christmas gift tags from old Christmas greeting cards. They were packaged and sold to the membership for 10 cents a package.

Miss Lois McCulloch, program consultant from General Alliance, Boston, visited the women's groups in May, 1951.

## Exhibits Beautiful Collection of American Pattern Glass



The collection of American pattern glass of Mrs. Rex Aman (right, standing) created a great deal of interest last week when she addressed the St. Patrick tea gathering in the Unitarian church under the auspices of the King's Daughters and the Chancel Evening alliance. Mrs. Floyd Marshall, president of the alliance, holds a beautiful apple green pitcher in block and star pattern. Seated at right is Mrs. Paul E. Morrison, of the King's Daughters, who presided as hostess for the delightful affair. On the table and on the buffet and cupboard in the background are many pieces from Mrs. Aman's collection, including sprig, tree of life, moon and star, panel forget-me not, Minera (made in 1870 and quite rare now) and other exquisite patterns. The lamps seen in the background are a shield lamp (at left) and a Sandwich fleur de lis and bullseye pattern lamp, which is tall and slim (at right).

## UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST FEDERAL UNION

Early in 1950 a congregational meeting was held to discuss a proposed Unitarian-Universalist federal union. Mr. Aman explained the reasons and advantages of this proposed union. He mentioned the similarity of view points and various projects that have been jointly undertaken by the Unitarians and Universalists at which these two groups had worked harmoniously. A vote at this time was considered a preliminary vote of attitude.

Locally, matters of financial concern were discussed in Board meetings. The treasurer, Tom Moore, reported that the parsonage fund was in a fairly healthy condition. However, receipts for the general church budget were insufficient to meet current operating costs. He drew attention to the fact that Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, organist and violinist, had not been paid for a long time and the amount due them was considerably over \$200. The treasury balance was \$222.00. His report also mentioned that the advertising fund was completely depleted, after which several members made contributions toward this fund.

At the annual meeting in June, a motion was made to forego the formality of adopting a budget, but all were urged to try to increase pledges sufficiently to meet the figure of \$4,645. They could not raise the salary for the minister, so they would allow him to use the parsonage rent-free for a trial period. There were 70 contributing units. A \$5,000 budget would equal an average contribution of \$70 per unit. The minister's salary was \$3,200.

The Finance Committee in September introduced the Every-Member Canvass, thusly:

"We are entering a promising year in the life of our church. The past year has been one of wonderful accomplishment. We are especially proud of our new parsonage. We have a fine house worth at least \$20,000 which is considerably more than we have invested in it. This is a real gain in establishing the church as an effective force in the community."

By November Harold Doughty, finance committee chairman, reported \$3,257 had been pledged, representing 50 pledges, but the finance drive fell short of its goal.

A sincere appreciation of the Unitarian House was shown in this message of February, 1951

"Now that the House has been occupied for several months, many have asked how we like it. It's wonderful! After three years of church dwelling, it is a pleasant contrast in comfort and cheerfulness for all the family.

"The heating system could not be improved, the plumbing is flawless, the wiring outlets are a joy, and many windows afford ample light.

"We think it will prove to be satisfactory over a long period of years for many ministers and their families."

The Aman Family

Something different in a Sunday morning service was organized in April. A panel of six members (Harold Doughty, Mrs. A. S. Armstrong, Mrs. Thomas Marro, Mrs. Victor Winters, Henry Koenker, and Tom Moore) addressed the theme of Our Church. What are the chief assets of our church? Why do we like our church? Why aren't we able to accomplish more - faster?

What we liked included: sense of togetherness, dignified services, not being scared into believing anything, freedom of individual action in the name of religion, comradeship between pulpit and pew. The problems were: limited finances, indifference to church activities, and "we cannot depend on just a few people."

The discussion ended on a positive note, aiming to put the Unitarian Five Principles into action.

#### ANNUAL MEETING 1951

"Next Sunday will complete the 112th year of the life of this church. Organized in 1839, the Unitarian Church in Quincy has been the center of liberal religion for over a century. Since religion is changing with advancing knowledge and cultural upheaval, it is time for Unitarians to recommend their religion which does have contemporary significance. The simple, but omitted, recommendation is 'being in church on Sunday morning.' This could spell the difference between advance and defeat for our liberal church in the present years. Without attendance on Sunday, the fellowship of belonging is simply lacking. Adults know what needs to be done. Imitate the Junior Church attendance which is almost 100% for the year, in all kinds of weather!"



The Junior Church staff included Rev. Rex Aman, Mrs. Victor Winters, Mrs. Tom Moore, Mrs. Everette Wood. Mrs. Paul Morrison was organist. Board members recorded a consensus that "If a colored child should choose to attend the Sunday School, the situation should be accepted casually and no issue made of it."

Robert W. Halbach, Jr., president, remarked that the 1951 year had been a good one, characterized by improved financial condition and addition of new members. He thanked the Board of Trustees for their continued co-operation and expressed his appreciation for the year's inspiring sermons by the minister, Rex Aman.

Mr. Aman suggested amendments to the constitution reflecting the church year, annual meeting time, every-member canvass, and membership requirements. The Board considered that those who had not attended services nor made contributions for two years would be listed as inactive members.

The treasurer reported a balance of \$297 and all bills of current expense paid. The parsonage fund showed \$513.54 still due on pledges, a bank loan of \$3,500, and personal loans of \$700. The proposed budget of \$5,910 was reduced to \$5,510, omitting an increase in the minister's salary and allowing rent-free use of the parsonage. The Church would pay the gas, light, phone and water bills.

Mr. Aman recommended a salary increase based on advice from the Western Unitarian Conference: \$4,000 for a town of 40,000 population. (The minister's salary was \$3,600.) He also recommended increase in insurance for the church and the parsonage, setting up trust funds and endowments to build reserve funds, increasing publicity and producing a weekly newsletter, increased pulpit exchanges, and a creation of a social-action group and a study group. Advertising in the local paper would cost \$140. The minister reported three exchange sermons (with Burlington, Iowa; Davenport, Iowa; and Lynchburg, Virginia). There had been five funerals, two weddings, four christenings, six new members and two withdrawals. Average Sunday morning church attendance was 31, and there had been 41 visitors during the year. Mr. Aman gave five broadcasts over WTAD.

The Aman family would be away during the summer, camping in Grand Marais, Minnesota.

In the fall of 1951 there were often Board meetings at which a quorum did not appear. By January, 1952, it was evident that "the financial situation is urgent."

Miss Ella Rogers died on February 22, 1952. Her will stipulated that the trustees of the Unitarian Church would receive \$1,000 which "is to be used to have the name of Anna Nance Rogers, her mother, inscribed in a position similar to that of her aunt Genevra Nance Berrian. Any funds left over may be used for the general expenses of the church."

A public-address system was installed by Earl Sloan who donated a loud speaker, microphone and amplifier. This was much needed and appreciated. To pay for installing it, money was used from Miss Rogers' bequest.

About this time Frances Morrison moved that the United Unitarian Appeal be included with the pledges of current expenses in one unified budget. The motion carried. (Previously the Christmas collection and/or the Easter collection was designated for the UUA.)

There were some pulpit exchanges. Dr. Joseph Liberles, spiritual leader of B'nai Sholom temple, spoke at a Sunday service and forty members of the temple attended the service. Mr. Aman then addressed the temple service on Friday evening. He spoke on the subject, "The Test of Modern Religion." A representative group of Unitarian members attended this service.

The Rev. Lewis A. McGee, minister of the Free Religious Fellowship in Chicago, formerly pastor in Keokuk, spoke on "The Challenge of the Dawn." At an evening meeting he spoke about recent developments on the inter-racial front in Chicago. His Chicago church, organized in 1948, was an inter-racial church.

Charlotte Winters wrote a short sketch telling the history of the Quincy Unitarian Church.

THE SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION LETTER  
APRIL 1952

Rev. Rex Aman feared a Roman Catholic control and take-over of the public school system. In his news-letter he wrote harshly about two candidates for school board that he felt were not qualified to serve. His objections were based partly on grounds of Catholic association or not having children enrolled in the school system. He signed the letter "Rex Aman for the Unitarians who are concerned."

This was an election of greater than usual interest and this letter, made public by some who had received it, drew new and heated interest. City-wide discussion followed. A news reporter attended the church services and asked for a statement. As all Board members were present, a meeting was called. They said, "No comment."

Candidates approved by Mr. Aman said they had no prior knowledge of the letter or its contents. Sherman Bond, a candidate, said he thought the letter was going to offer transportation to the polls.

On a later date the Board went on record as supporting the action and purpose of Mr. Aman's letter. In the election over 8000 voted; the previous total was about 1800. The candidates approved of in Mr. Aman's letter were elected by more than a two to one ratio.

## ACTIVITIES OF 1952

At an open meeting of the Board of Trustees, a budget of \$6,000 was adopted. It was regarded as a minimum budget. Questions arose about the United Unitarian Appeal. After pros and cons were discussed, it was voted to send \$300.

The financial chairman, Paul Morrison, said that of the 51 families in the church, 27 had responded to the pledge campaign, making pledges to meet one-third of the approved budget.

Treasurer Tom Moore reported that Mrs. W. R. Lockwood had given the sum of \$1,500 to pay off the mortgage on the parsonage. Mrs. Lockwood said it would make her happy to know that the parsonage was free of all bills. Tom displayed the paid mortgage abstract and title for all to see. He was appointed custodian of the abstract and instructed to rent a safe deposit box to keep all valuable papers in safety.

During this year the average attendance was 33. There were five deaths, and one christening.

Plans were being made for the Quincy church to host the Abraham Lincoln Area Conference in October. Harold Doughty was appointed chair of the steering committee, and Frieda Marshall chair of the program committee. (The Board minutes include: "Frieda will have much to do in making necessary arrangements; but as everyone knows, she is such an enthusiastic worker and so efficient that with her help it is sure to be done well and be a huge success." Mr. Aman said he'd like it for the record that MRS. AMAN said, "Mrs. Marshall is the most capable and competent person she has ever met, and any task she is asked to do you can be sure it will be done well.") (Minutes written by Dorothe Owen.)

The steering committee met in Bloomington to set up rules and by-laws. Each participating congregation was then to approve participation, which meant accepting a share of conference expenses to be an assessment apportioned to church budget or membership.

At the September Board meeting Mr. Bond mentioned that the parsonage financial statement had not been prepared, but there were some pledges that should be

paid in order that loans made by R. A. Harris and Lloyd Harris could be erased. There was cash in the bank (\$311.75), bills to be paid (113.90) giving a balance of \$197.85. The reserve account amounted to \$364.49.

In advance of the Abraham Lincoln Conference, Henry Koenker, Building and Grounds Chairman, reported that the church basement had been washed clean during the summer. Generous gifts made it possible to accomplish this without touching the repair fund. Frances Morrison supervised the work and paid \$55 of the \$90 bill. A friend donated \$10, and Mr. Koenker supplied the \$25 balance. He wistfully said it was so simple. He wished all special work could be financed in this way.

Looking toward the future he brought attention to the need for new lighting in the church basement. He recommended that the present fixtures be replaced with fluorescent lights flat to the ceiling. There was a motion to investigate this and suggest how to finance the project. He reported a few weeks later that new lighting would probably necessitate removal of heating pipes from the ceiling. No action was taken.

The Abraham Lincoln Area Unitarian Conference was held in Quincy on October 17 and 18. This was the third attempt to form an area conference. Dr. Charles H. Lyttle was the keynote speaker, and on Friday evening spoke on "Strong Churches for Free Religion." Home hospitality was offered. On Saturday there was a program of workshops followed by a luncheon. Mr. Ed Darling of Boston, sales manager of Beacon Press, spoke at a workshop.

Churches represented were: Alton, Bloomington, Urbana, Quincy, Rockford, Shelbyville, St. Louis, Geneseo, Moline and Springfield. It was stated that this was the first time that the Quincy church had hosted a conference since 1863.

The bequest from Ella Rogers had been received and placed in the reserve account. A bronze casting of the name of Anna Nance Rogers, mother of Ella Rogers, was to be prepared as stipulated in Ella Rogers' will.

The program themes of the Chancel Evening Alliance were "Safeguarding Our Public Schools" and "The United Nations." Frieda Marshall served as president.

The Rev. Rex Aman extended his resignation on December 2, 1952 -- to be effective in three months, as per agreement. He had received an invitation to serve the Unitarian Church in Ft. Worth, Texas. The resignation was formally accepted with regret. Mr. Aman had had nearly six years of ministry in Quincy.

The Board of Trustees was designated by the church rules as the pulpit committee, and the members met with Randall Hilton, regional director of the Western Unitarian Conference, Chicago.



Mr. Aman suggested that the Quincy congregation make the trip to Burlington, our nearest Unitarian neighbor, to express our goodwill, concern and fellowship. This would be an opportunity to visit the Unitarian Meeting House of the Burlington Fellowship which had been dedicated on December 14, 1952.

Ruth Harris reported in February, 1953, that the church had a total membership of 143, with 82 active members. This compared with 1947 when the membership was 129. She called this an average yearly gain of 2.3 and an average yearly loss of 3.5. "So we have not gained more members than we have lost; however, we have more active members."

## QUINCY IS LIKE THIS ....

In a summation sermon, given on December 7, 1952, The Rev. Rex Aman reflected on the history of the church and on its future. He had had five years and nine months' association with the Quincy congregation. He said, "My work here is finished except as counselor and friend." Excerpts from his sermon follow:

In the 113 years of this church's life, a high standard of religious liberty has been set for all the community to see and respect. The church has become so much a part of the community as to be almost lost in the conservative character of Quincy. It is almost too respectable. The zest of Unitarian freedom with its courage, willingness to venture, and tough-minded loyalty to ethical principle has been diluted by indifference or dullness. In either case the heritage is endangered.

As an inheritance of Earl Cook (1919-1923), you now have a philosophy of religion that is naturalistic: some choose to use the old terms of theism; most prefer the effort toward accurate description which is humanism. You have clarified your values. You have moved toward present concerns of religion.

There is a core group in the church today. You are good, live, interesting, intellectually fine persons.. but you are not yet a team. You are too busy. You have ideas galore, but little time to experiment creatively with them. You sense that liberal religion needs more embodiment and a larger voice, but you have not yet concluded that the body and the voice must be yours, together. You will discover this necessity or you will fail to satisfy yourselves.

There are positive assets. (1) The property that you hold as a congregation is worth at least \$90,000. It is debt-free except for \$700. Without any further effort, you now have property which new Unitarian churches must struggle hard to equal. You ought to be aware of this property.

(2) During my ministry the successful effort to buy and remodel 1435 Hampshire was underwritten by you, and the parsonage was added to your assets. Randall Hilton says it is one of the best in the Western Conference. This becomes an additional offer to your

next minister-prospect. I think you know how much hard work I put into the parsonage. I can only leave it as a part of myself given to solve a difficult problem here.

(3) People as assets. You now have a group of dependable people in the membership. Some are old members and some new to Unitarianism. If the active core members stay or become dynamic, there is no problem here that you cannot successfully solve. Some of these people are finely generous with talent, effort, loyalty, and money. These are the steadying hope of this church. You should value each other more fully. This is a place and an opportunity for a rare kind of fellowship.

(4) The long heritage. There is an old past and a new past. Do not rely on the accomplishment of the ancestors. You are compelled to choose your past and interpret it to the present prospects for Unitarian membership as an incentive to join the church.

Let me turn to some problem areas: (1) People. It is perhaps inevitable that a church membership gathered over more than a century should have in it some great souls and a few heels. The average membership will be high enough in intelligence, humanheartedness and courage to carry this church into its future. But the very principle of free association -- of minister with membership, member with membership, and member with minister -- will result in some dissociation. Any Unitarian who has to be dragged, kicking and screaming into the twentieth century is not apt to help our cause.

(2) The nature of the Quincy community. It is not accidental that Quincy is extremely conservative in economics, human relations (race), politics and religion. This reaction has been deliberately sponsored by individuals and special group interests. The assumption behind it is that they know what is good for this community no matter what the rest of the world is learning and doing. Habits of long decades will not quickly surrender to our efforts to get freedom of discussion about all phases of communal welfare.

To be effective here, you will have to achieve hard, persistent thought. Here you wait for the right opportunity and time your actions to express your philosophy and your values. Quincy is not only conservative to a degree of reaction. It is also over-



organized beyond a point of benefit to the most involved persons. This situation is illustrated by the manner of solving conflicts in time schedules. If the church meeting date conflicts with a bridge club, the church activity is shifted. I suggest that no liberal church can afford to be secondary to anything less than the general welfare!

The highly organized condition of Quincy is reflected also in disregard for attendance at Sunday morning meetings of this church. The solution is simple. If all persons who attend on any one of five Sundays would all come EVERY Sunday, the attendance would be about tripled. Haphazard, random, by chance or mood pattern of attendance here is no tribute to your own loyalty or good sense in religion. Attendance is a manifestation of group dynamic. It is a necessary prerequisite to inspired churchmanship.

(3) Another problem may be called the Backward Look. Mrs. Lockwood, who can remember 90 years of this church's life, recently said to me, "The church must not go back, Mr. Aman, and at times it has!" My judgment is that unless the Unitarian Church in Quincy is genuinely liberal, it will not deserve nor will it get support. There is no need for just another church. You must add difference to your distinction!

(4) The fourth problem is separation from each other. It is less of a problem now than it was in 1947. Now you talk to each other and have helped to raze the invisible walls of separation which were standing for years within the church.

(5) Church finances. My salary has been paid promptly with only a couple of exceptions during these years. The treasurer has often worried over the shortness of money. Never in any one of the years I have known you have you pledged enough to underwrite the annual budget you have adopted. Each year more money has been raised. You have come to appreciate the purpose of the United Unitarian Appeal. The Service Committee has been neglected.

You have let a few carry the entire load of the financial canvass and do all the worrying about money for the church. Too often the treasurer has to accept ten dollars in cash from a person who thereupon demands

twenty dollars worth of satisfaction in griping about matters small or great. It is true that those who pay most generously and sacrificially do the least in destructive criticism and get the most satisfaction from their genuine sharing. Actually, you could double your budget if you all wanted to do it, and no one would miss a meal.

The aim of a pulpit committee in our kind of church is not to look around for the cheapest man available. Unitarians are acclimated to quality in all areas of life; you only defraud yourselves when you buy poor goods. When you have a matter of law to be taken care of, you go to the best qualified lawyer you know; he does what is needed, you pay his charge and you accomplish your case, at least to the best point of law according to the facts. The real problem is not the matter of the lowest possible salary to be paid to your Unitarian minister. The real matter is to find a man you will enjoy as friend and counselor, as minister and community leader, as interpreter of culture and history, as concerned as you about the ethical heart of religion.

These thoughts are offered to you only for what you find in them of worth. It seemed right to share, and perhaps some ideas will be given rootage in your minds, be encouraged to grow, and prove largely useful.

Rex Aman

QUINCY UNITARIAN CHURCH  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Lloyd E. Harris, Treasurer (1940-1947)

Tom Moore, Treasurer, (1948-1953)

(P)=President; (R)=Replaced by

Term expired 1940  
Mrs. Victor Winters  
Tom Moore  
Lloyd Harris

Term expired 1948  
H. Brooks Terrell  
Charles E. Lane  
Spencer E. Vasen

Term expired 1941  
Roy Keller  
Julius Kespohl (P)  
Edward C. Hess

Term expired 1949  
John W. Keys  
Dr. Walter Whitaker  
(R) Fred G. Suchland  
(R) Tom Moore

Term expired 1942  
Charles E. Lane  
Dr. Harold Swanberg  
Maurice E. Vasen

Harold Doughty  
(R) Dr. Richard Harris

Term expired 1943  
Frank Dick (P)  
Alfred McMurtry  
Harold Doughty

Term expired 1950  
Paul E. Morrison (P)  
Edward C. Herman  
Earl Jenkins

Term expired 1944  
Paul E. Morrison (P)  
Dr. Walter Whitaker  
(R) Charles Bunting  
Mrs. Charles P. Eldred

Term expired 1951  
R. W. Halbach, Jr (P)  
Mrs. A. Scott Armstrong  
Caroline Sexauer

Term expired 1945  
Lloyd Harris  
Mrs. Dorothy Gage  
George Curry

Term expired 1952  
Verna Lenane  
(R) Mrs. Everette Wood  
Dr. Richard Harris  
Tom Moore

Term expired 1946  
Dr. Clare Miller  
Olin B. Ballow  
Wm. Spencer Johnson

Term expired 1953  
Harold Doughty (P)  
Henry Koenker  
Sherman Bond

Term expired 1947  
Edward C. Hess (P)  
V. Sherman Bond  
Charles Bunting

Term expired 1954  
Mrs. Paul Morrison  
Mrs. Lyle Owen  
(R) Mrs. R. A. Harris  
Dr. John Feldman  
(R) Edward C. Herman

QUINCY UNITARIAN CHURCH  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

(P)=President (R)=Replaced by

Term expired 1955	Term expired 1964
Frieda Marshall	Bertha Danhaus
Charlotte Winters	Ted Morrison (P)
John Morrison	William Sexauer
(R) Dr. T. L. Stebbins (P)	
	Term expired 1965
Term expired 1956	Tom Moore (P)
Ray White (P)	Gordon Liddle
Olin Ballow	(R) Charlotte Winters
Herman E. Dege	Ted Stebbins
Term expired 1957	Term expired 1966
Ruth Harris	R. W. Halbach, Jr.
Ed Herman	Harold Doughty
John Morrison (P)	(R) John Roam
	Phillip Fleming
Term expired 1958	
Gordon Liddle	Term expired 1967
Mrs. William S. Black	Caroline Sexauer
A. Scott Armstrong	Enid Ireland
	Robert Campbell (P)
Term expired 1959	
Paul Morrison (P)	Term expired 1968
Mrs. Ted Stebbins	Frieda Marshall
R. W. Halbach, Jr. (P)	John Morrison
	(R) Don Busbey, Jr.
Term expired 1960	Charles Seger
Harold Doughty	(R) Mary Belle Halbach
Florence Williams	
Enid Ireland	Term expired 1969
	Ed Herman
Term expired 1961	Sherman Bond
Jane Shair	John Sperry
Betty Albsmeyer	
Harold Hutchinson (P)	Term expired 1970
	Elizabeth Stebbins (P)
Term expired 1962	Charlotte Winters
Rolland Wagner	Sandra Morrison
Caroline Eldin	
Olin Ballow	Term expired 1971
	Don Busbey, Jr
Term expired 1963	Mary Belle Halbach
Sherman Bond (P)	Harold Hutchinson (P)
Lyle Owen	
John Sperry	

QUINCY UNITARIAN CHURCH  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
(P)=President; (R)=Replaced by

Term expired 1972  
Lyle Owens  
Bertha Danhaus  
(R) M. B. Halbach  
Fred Stephan (P)

Term expired 1973  
John Arthur  
(R) T. L. Stebbins  
Jane Shair  
Robert Daines  
(R) Ted Morrison

Term expired 1974  
Enid Ireland  
Frieda Marshall  
V. Sherman Bond (P)

Term expired 1975  
Gladys Cassidy  
Doris Koch  
Allen Shriver (P)

Term expired 1976  
Nona Miller  
Peter Stoecklin  
(R) Sherman Bond  
Jann Schaub  
(R) Linda Buechting

Term expired 1977  
Jim Drew  
John Sperry (P)  
Nancy Winters

Term expired 1978  
Janice Marshall  
Margarett Moore  
(R) Tom Moore  
Bob Mathieson (P)

Term expired 1979  
Caroline Sexauer  
Geoffrey Mendenhall  
(R) Nona Miller  
Lloyd Harris

Term expired 1980  
Mary (Kelly) Heincy  
(R) Martha Disseler  
Nona Miller  
Dolores Jenkins

Term expired 1981  
Elizabeth Stebbins (P)  
Madan Joshi  
(R) Eve Norton  
Greg Weiher  
(R) Cecil Williamson

Term expired 1982  
Mary Belle Coffman  
Allen Shriver  
(R) Sherman Bond  
Gale Colby  
(R) Michael Flanagan

Term expired 1983  
Nona Miller (P)  
Martha Disseler  
John Morrison

Term expired 1984  
John Sperry (P)  
Marcia Loellbach  
(R) Nancy Winters  
Cecil Williamson

Term expired 1985  
John Nielsen (P)  
Michael Flanagan  
Frieda Marshall

QUINCY UNITARIAN CHURCH  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
(P)=President; (R)=Replaced by

Term expired 1986

Linda Buechting

Ray Urban

(R) Peggy Ellis

Brad Bohlen

Term expired 1990

Alan Starkey

John Brigham

(R) Mary Weber

(R) Nona Miller

Lisa Wigoda (P)

Term expired 1987

Nancy Winters (P)

Esther Jones

(R) Nike Mendenhall

Barbara Crowe

(R) Dienna Drew (P)

Term expired 1991

Ted Morrison (P))

Nayer Attai

Maria Petzoldt

(R) John Schnaufer

Term expired 1988

(+ 8 months to 12/88)

Sherman Bond

Bob Mathieson (P)

(R) Janice Miller

Dan Kelly (P)

Term expired 1992

Kevin Barton

Tom House

Michael Flanagan

Term expired 1989

Georgia House

David Quarles

(R) Kevin Barton

Elizabeth Stebbins

(R) Nike Mendenhall (P)

QUINCY UNITARIAN CHURCH  
BUDGETS  
1940-41 -- 1957-58

1940-41	\$3880	Treasurer Lloyd Harris
1941-42		" "
1942-43	\$3611	" "
1943-44	\$3564	" "
1944-45	\$3897	" "
1945-46	\$3982 (largest expenses: minister, coal, and insurance)	" "
1946-47	\$4205	" "
1947-48	\$5688	" "
1948-49	\$5634	Tom Moore
1949-50	\$4820 . (absolute minimum) (average pledge was \$40 per unit)	" "
1950-51	\$5000	" "
1951-52	\$5910 (reduced to \$5510 allowing rent-free use of parsonage)	" "
1952-53	\$6000	" "
1953-54		T.L. Stebbins
1954-55	\$6,088	" "
1955-56	\$6,535	John Morrison
1956-57		Olin Ballow
1957-58	\$7,497	" "

BUDGETS  
1958-59 --- 1977-78

		Treasurer
1958-59	\$8,284	Olin Ballow
1959-60	\$8,932	" "
1960-61		" "
1961-62		" "
1962-63		" "
1963-64	\$8,700 (spent \$9,195)	" "
1964-65	\$8,410 (spent \$8,605)	Ted Morrison
1965-66	\$9,235	" "
1966-67	\$9,320	" "
1967-68	\$7,511	" "
1968-69	\$6,950	" "
1969-70	\$9,802 (or 8,452) (deficit \$3,625)	" "
1970-71	\$9,374	" "
1971-72	\$14,975	Fred Stephan
1972-73	\$16,510	" "
1973-74	\$16,050	" "
1974-75	\$16,950	Jim Drew
1975-76	\$17,350	" "
1976-77	\$16,375	" "
1977-78	\$17,325	" "



BUDGETS  
1978 -- 1988

		Treasurer
1978-79	\$17,275	Jim Drew
1979-80	\$17,475	" "
1980-81	\$17,175	" "
1981-82	\$17,030	" "
1982-83	\$18,650	" "
1983-84	\$18,375 (\$2,400 from reserves)	" "
1984-85	\$21,475	" "
1985-86	\$23,300	Sherman Bond
1986-87		" "
1987-88	\$24,250	Georgia House
5/88-12/88	\$17,025 (no minister)	" "
1989		

THE REV. THOMAS J. MALONEY  
1953 - 1955

With the departure of Rex Aman the Board grappled with several problems: whether to rent the parsonage, necessity of clearing rubbish from parsonage back yard, need for janitorial help in the church, etc.

There were broken furnace grates. The question was whether to repair the grates or install a gas or oil conversion burner. Member Henry Koenker, of Koenker Plumbing and Heating, would investigate and was given authority to make installation of conversion burner if the cost would be considered reasonable. Baseboard heating was suggested as a logical step. This would call for tearing out the downstairs flooring, pouring a concrete foundation and re-laying the floor. It was expected that this program would be carried out over a period of years.

Thirty-nine members attended the annual meeting, May 1, 1953. The treasurer noted an operating deficit of \$44.83 for the year. The reserve account totaled \$1140.71 due to the \$1,000 bequest of Miss Ella Rogers. Paul Morrison pointed to a successful canvass by mail which brought pledges to underwrite \$4,921 of the proposed \$6,000 budget.

A graph by Frieda Marshall showed the first 15 pledges totaled \$2,627 and showed an increase over last year's pledges of \$676. The next 14 pledges raised the total to \$3,948 and an increase of \$244. Members consistently raised the amount of their pledges. The campaign was \$52 short of \$4,000 or \$2,052 short of \$6,000. Approximately thirty families had pledged almost \$4,000. "Since there are approximately twenty additional families in the church membership, may we expect to reach the goal of \$6,000?" she asked.

Dr. John Feldman listed the church assets: the church building and parsonage, liberal people and vital people, but not enough people. Randall Hilton would be told that the salary offer for a new minister would be \$4,000 plus the parsonage.

Ministerial candidates were considered. The church committee received regrets from several candidates.

## New Unitarian Minister



The Rev. Thomas J. Maloney, new minister of the Unitarian church, will give his first sermon at the church this morning. He is pictured here with his wife and daughters, Susan, 4, Greta, 2, and Elizabeth, five months. The Maloneys came here from Davenport, Ia.

In July, 1953, a meeting was held; the vote was 37 in favor and one opposed to the ministry of The Rev. Thomas J. Maloney. Mr. Maloney was 31 years old and had served one year in the Davenport Unitarian Church. He and his wife Betty had three daughters.

Born and reared in an Irish Catholic family in a suburb of Boston, Mr. Maloney had prepared to become a chemical engineer. After WWII service in the army and marine corps, he continued his studies, having been awarded a fellowship at the University of Colorado at Boulder for the purpose of studying for a Ph.D. degree in physical chemistry. At Boulder he became president of the Unitarian Fellowship. In 1949 he gave up his engineering career and entered Harvard Divinity School, largely working his way through the schooling. He was ordained at Whitman Unitarian Church in 1952.

A (Davenport, Iowa) news article described Mr. Maloney's aim. "He wanted to make the church a leader in the community--a liberal platform for promoting freedom of thought, equality of opportunity, and the use of reason and justice in solving problems." But he is quoted as having said, "Older members don't want to be bothered with problems of the world -- just go to church for the social life and to be comforted."

The Maloney family moved into the parsonage. An event of September, 1953, was reported in the church newsletter. Headline: The Parsonage Overflowed, The Minister Ran out of Chairs, and G. B. Shaw Scored Another Triumph in our Playing of his Play "Don Juan in Hell." Article: Shaw's strong plea for faith in man and belief in his perfectibility, mixed with the humor that only Shaw can concoct, namely the play "Don Juan in Hell" was heard on records by 16 quiet, thoughtful, appreciative Unitarians and friends at the Parsonage Wednesday night. This was through the general sponsorship of the Chancel Evening Alliance and the cooperation of many, including the owners of the records, Dr. and Mrs. R. A. Harris.

Both the Chancel Evening Alliance and the King's Daughters reported that they would discontinue the Christmas dinner and bazaar. They would devote their time to "study of our religious heritage." The Alliance would continue its work for the Hillcrest Sanatorium.

The Alliance members discussed the drab appearance of the downstairs church parlors. Rejuvenation was proposed as another likely project for this group. Caroline Sexauer and Frieda Marshall served on the committee. Betty (Corcoran) Albsmeyer offered bleached feed bags for making curtains. The members arranged to

meet at the church to work on the curtains. Rods of the correct size were finally secured. Hemming and hanging tasks began in January, 1955, and continued in April 1955.

The collection bags used for a long time on Sunday mornings, needed repairing. Ruth Harris offered blue velvet. C. Sexauer, C. L. White and Ruth Corcoran met to construct and assemble the "klingelboetel." These two "klingelboetel" were retired later in favor of another offering collection method.

Member Henry Koenker reported three estimates for installing gas and oil, or city gas and bottled gas burners to heat the church. Estimates ranged from \$851 to \$876, plus labor costs of \$335. On the other hand, grates could be repaired for about \$38 and the furnace could be cleaned. The Board decided on repairing and cleaning. However, eventually it would be an advantage to heat with gas. There was a promotion of a definite program of providing a fund for conversion of the heating plant. The church planned to apply for a permit to heat with city gas exclusively in the event that such permits would be issued in the future.

Rev. Maloney spoke to the Board in October, 1953, of publicity, the publication of a newsletter, and the possibility of having a "Wayside Preacher"--(an announcement sign on the front lawn.) The mimeograph machine had been cleaned and repaired at a cost of \$20. He proposed a new format for the Unitarian newsletter. He wished to include on the mailing list out-of-town friends and to ask for contributions to offset the cost of the weekly mailing. He reported on the cost of materials necessary to install an ear-phone system and record player with amplifier in the church. Mr. Dege made the motion that this installation be made and paid with funds from the Ella Rogers bequest. The expected cost was \$350.

Other programs received attention. There was a discussion of the possibility of opening the church hall for youth group meetings to help combat juvenile delinquency in Quincy.

Someone said, "Now, if we are to have public gatherings in the church, it is necessary that the auditorium be brightened. We will need the use of scaffolding so

that our members can paint the ceiling and the walls." This was regarded as an ambitious project that met with approval. Mr. Maloney offered to paint the study if the church would supply the paint.

He had also examined the floor of the church basement and found that it had a concrete base. (The wooden flooring had buckled at the northwest corner.) Further investigation was to be made into the possibility of removing the bump in the flooring, sanding and refinishing the floor.

An auxiliary fund-raising effort was introduced by the Board president Dr. T. L. Stebbins. The Good Samaritan Home Association, a nursing home facility to be built at 21st and Harrison, was supported by many protestant churches. Unitarian member Edward Hess also served on the Board of the Good Samaritan Home Association, and he supervised a team of solicitors. Even though the Board recognized that Unitarian members would be solicited several times through various memberships, it was felt that there was a need for Unitarian cooperation. They voted to participate, but set no quota.

The annual meeting report indicated that church members pledged \$4,300 to G.S.H.A. In view of this, the Home held in reserve the memorial of Fellowship Room Number 2. (A Fellowship Room was listed at \$5,000, but there was no pressure on the members to reach \$5,000.) "Unitarian participation in this program has evoked a high esteem from the protestant churches of Quincy."

#### INSTALLATION FOR THE REV. THOMAS MALONEY

The installation ceremony for The Rev. Thomas J. Maloney occurred on January 31, 1954. Mr. Edwin Buehrer, president of the Western Unitarian Conference, delivered the sermon, "The Most Splendid Tradition." Rev. Randall Hilton, regional director of the Western Unitarian Conference participated. First Presbyterian Church minister, Rev. David Kinnard, extended a welcome.

In May, 1954, Mr. Maloney gave a report in summary of his first eight months in the Quincy ministry. There was a gain of four members, good church attendance, good newspaper publicity, one pulpit exchange and one service by a lay member, and social activity of four suppers at the church. The cooperation of the congregation, he said, made these things possible.

A hearing aid system and hi-fidelity record playing system were installed in the church with funds from the Ella Rogers bequest. The hi-fidelity system had been used for several record sessions and more concerts were planned for the future.

Equipment purchased included an Addressograph file. Mr. Maloney requested purchase of another file cabinet (\$30), a typist's chair (\$40), and a folding machine (\$150). A bookcase to house the library was also desired as well as some new volumes from Beacon Press for the library.

The Quincy Unitarian newsletter announced the next Sunday's sermon title, promoted other activities, and concluded with excerpts of the past sermon or quotes from other publications. This effort brought favorable comments. Financial contributions to support this endeavor would be in order, and secretarial help would be most welcome as this work had fallen on the minister and his wife.

The every-member canvass, started in April, brought pledges of \$5,161. An additional \$700 could be expected from Sunday collections and contributions from organizations. Finance Chairman Sherman Bond believed that the difference of \$227 would yet be received. Dr. T. L. Stebbins served as Chairman of the Board and as temporary treasurer. The amount collected for the United Appeal was \$313.38. The reserve account had a balance of \$871.51.

John Morrison moved that in the future a budget be submitted for consideration of the active membership in advance of the annual meeting and then adoption could be voted at the annual meeting.

There was objection to having the Sunday offering during Mrs. Johnson's violin solo and a suggestion that the taking of collections be eliminated. This was referred to the Board for decision. In the next meeting the Board decided to retain the present custom but to ask the ushers to function more effectively.

Organist William Spencer Johnson mentioned an estimate of \$18,500 for the cost of rebuilding the organ, but he said repairs were necessary and would not cost as much as rebuilding the organ.

The minister painted the study. Five strong men (John Morrison, Russell Johnson, Bill Sexauer, Ed Herman and the slave-driving minister, Tom Maloney) spent half a day on the rough job of cleaning all the stonework in the auditorium. Volunteers were needed to clean the walls and ceiling preliminary to painting. Within months the church auditorium was partially painted by volunteers and this cost the church only \$25 for the paint. Completion of this decoration project was an ambition for the next year.

Mr. Maloney had to take on the janitorial services many times in addition to his ministerial responsibilities.

In discussion of the heating system, Henry Koenker told of the advantages of installing gas heat, the installation of which would cost approximately \$1,200. He recommended that the matter be referred to the Board for further investigation.

Mrs. Oliver Williams volunteered to assume the expense of having the upper part of the auditorium painted. The Board voted to accept this generosity and authorized paying for the paint. In September, 1954, a letter of appreciation was addressed to Mrs. Oliver Williams, Mrs. Otto Mohrenstecher, and Mrs. Rolland Wagner who had generously assumed the labor cost of painting the church auditorium and adjoining hallways. The auditorium was cream color and the chancel a light blue, to create an effective contrast.

Painting of the downstairs hall and other work was to be done by members organized by Paul Morrison. The committee recommended a sunlight yellow paint. The Alliance members had made curtains for the downstairs windows, but they were not hung because of hoping that there would be some action in cleaning the basement rooms. There was still discussion about replacing the hand-fed coal furnace with a gas heating system. The form necessary for a permit was in hand, but the work was not begun immediately because plaster needed to be repaired in the boiler room.

The church insurance was held with Olin Ballow (\$4,000) and with Victor Winters (\$8,000). Mr. Ballow suggested raising the insurance to \$24,000 and dividing it equally between the two agents. No action was taken.



## CONTINUING PROGRESS IN 1954

At a special congregational meeting in June, 1954, Henry Koenker reported about the conversion to gas for heating the church. It would give more even heat and lessen the janitorial service needs. Dr. Harris moved that the Board use church funds, not exceeding \$1,200, with the type of installation dependent upon the permit to be issued by CIPS. The procurement of funds was left to the discretion of the Board.

Dr. Stebbins continued to serve as Board President and John Morrison became treasurer. Lloyd Harris and R. A. Harris still held notes for loans on the parsonage. It was moved that \$200 be paid to L. Harris at this time and the \$500 owed to Dr. Harris be retired as soon as possible.

During the summer Mr. Maloney planned to attend classes at the University of Illinois and to preach in Urbana. Regarding the parsonage, he was free to rent it or leave the house vacant. He preferred to have reliable tenants than to leave the house vacant. This was regarded as his decision and responsibility. He could accept the rental income.

The man hired to cut the lawns of the church and the parsonage "was irate in demanding that the church purchase a power mower." As this was considered out of the question, there was an offer to check the lawn mower and take it into the shop for sharpening "if this is needed." Then Paul Morrison took the responsibility for the care of the church and parsonage lawns. The Board voted him a letter of appreciation. From September to the end of the season Ray White promised to use his power mower to do these jobs. The objecting man was dismissed.

## VACATION CRAFT SCHOOL

The Chancel Evening Alliance was contemplating sponsoring a Vacation Craft School during the last two weeks of August. Frieda Marshall volunteered leadership of this project, with Betty Maloney, Charlotte Winters, and Ruth Harris serving on the committee. Other leaders were: Bertha Danhaus and Patsy Rose Dege with assistance from Ginny Liddle, Ruth Corcoran and Francis Morrison.

The basement rooms of the church were cleaned and painted by Paul Morrison and his helpers. (Harold Doughty, Ed Herman, Jim Winters and Emily Winters) in advance of this time and being prodded by this possibility.

In her report of the Vacation Craft School, Mrs. Marshall listed expenses of \$14.80. The days included both instruction and fun for all. At the conclusion a newspaper was produced with articles written by the students themselves. Thirty children had attended regularly and there were eight guests. The project was considered to be a success.



Front: R.W. (Chip) Halbach, Connie Grossarth, John Albsmeyer, Chuck Behrensmeyer, Peter Fisher, David Janes, Janice Marshall, Andrea White, Paul White, Tom Albsmeyer, David Liddle and Ginny Liddle.

Middle: Kay Behrensmeyer, Sally Stebbins, Natalie Fisher, Bruce Marshall, Susanne Traylor, Susan Janes.

Back: Ruth Harris, Dienna Arline Danhaus, Karen Eldin, Pat Eldin, Clare Stebbins, Frieda Marshall.

The Alliance had nine members. Their service projects included collecting, repairing and sending clothing to Navajo Indians in New Mexico, making curtains for the Sunday School rooms, providing flowers for the chancel, sponsoring "listening nights" to hear

recordings (Don Juan in Hell and Macbeth). The group assumed responsibility of the church lending library and Betty Maloney volunteered to catalog and charge out the books.

At this time the church listed 70 members. Four new members had joined during the year, three had died, and one moved from the city. There were no christenings or weddings, but four funerals. The minister's salary was \$3,600 plus the parsonage with \$400 allowance for heat and light.

Mr. Maloney estimated that a loud speaker connected with the hearing-aid system could be installed downstairs at a cost of \$20 for the benefit of mothers who did baby sitting duty. The Board approved and voted funds from the reserve account. The existing sound system was not entirely satisfactory. A better microphone might be needed to improve the hearing-aid system.

Fifty copies of "Pocket Guide to Unitarianism" were ordered for resale to members and as gifts to the Quincy Public Library and to The Quincy Herald-Whig. The cost was 50 cents a copy with a 40 percent discount for 25 or more copies ordered.

In September Mr. Maloney urged the church members to give encouragement to three nearby fellowships: in Columbia, Missouri; Springfield, Illinois, and Burlington, Iowa. The Abraham Lincoln Conference was held in Rockford in October. Mr. Maloney drove "Sweet Betsy" through hail, wind and storm to bring passengers Patsy Rose Dege and Charlotte Winters to the meeting. At the meeting R. W. Halbach of Quincy was elected chairman of the United Unitarian Appeal for downstate Illinois.

The gas heating system was installed and ready for use in October, 1954. A proposal for renting the church listed a charge of \$2.50 per night when there is no heat; \$3.50 when heat would be necessary. An additional charge of \$1.50 would be asked when the kitchen would be used.

## PAMPHLETS OF THOMAS J. MALONEY

Tom Maloney produced printed pamphlets of some of his sermons. "Here We Stand --Liberals and Liberty" spoke of Ralph Waldo Emerson. The ending paragraph gave a challenge: "We have a sacred duty, an honored privilege to stand up for full freedom for all ways of thinking. Shall we be men? Or shall we be comfortably Unitarians in name only? The choice is a free one, it is ours now. There may soon come a day when such freedom does not exist unless we act as free, American Unitarians."

Other topics were: "The Renaissance - The Revival of Doubt and Heresy" speaking of Michael Servetus, Freedom of Conscience, and Censorship. "The Pilgrims of Plymouth, Their Progress and Ours" - in commemoration of Thanksgiving. "Birthday of a Man Who Refused to Conform to the Average" - a Christmas Sunday sermon. "The Re-birth of Integrity" - Looking to a New Year. Then there was a series of sermons on the sacraments of orthodox Christianity. (Baptism, Communion, Confirmation, Forgiveness, The sacraments of Holy Orders, Matrimony. and Extreme Unction, the Last Sacrament).

## DR. E. B. MONTGOMERY DIED

Dr. E. B. Montgomery, who died in December, 1954, at the age of 96, was believed to be the nation's oldest practicing physician. He had served as physician to Governor John Wood, founder of Quincy, in his last illness. Dr. Montgomery served on the Quincy Free Public Library Board of Directors for many years and was active in the Unitarian Layman's League. He wrote the church history at the time of the Centennial (1939).

Early in 1955 the Board met for the purpose of approving a loan to finance the gas heating system. The members considered the gas bill astonishingly high, \$80 for a month of mild weather. They urged checking the building for leakage of heat and for the possibility of insulation. A \$1,000 loan was arranged through the Mercantile Trust and Savings Bank.

Under guidance of Jane Shair, the King's Daughters sponsored a foreign film series, beginning with "Kind Hearts and Coronets" shown on March 29, 1955 at Madison School.

The budget approved at the annual meeting in May was nearly ten percent higher than the previous year, of which \$152 was still due on unpaid pledges. Pledges totaling \$4,850 had been received toward the \$6,535 budget. An estimated \$1300 could yet have been pledged, leaving a need for an additional \$655.

The Board elected Ray White to be chairman. They elected A. Scott Armstrong, a new member, as treasurer and Olin Ballow as secretary without their knowledge and without their being present. In June they elected Olin Ballow as treasurer and Gordon Liddle as secretary.

Tom Maloney expressed his thoughts in the annual meeting report:

"I believe that we are a stronger, more vigorous church than we have been in many years. This is partly due to the efforts of each one and from the invigorating leadership of my predecessor, Rex Aman. A reservoir of lay leadership was built up ... and we are still drawing heavily on these capable people. Our church school has been revitalized under the leadership of Mrs. Winters, and excellent repairs and improvements have been carried out by Mr. Koenker, almost single-handedly. If all our people exercised the initiative of these, we would be even stronger.

"I have done my best to accomplish the weekly sermon, the weekly bulletin, and the administration and coordination of the affairs of the church. I have been in the pulpit every Sunday this past year except for one Sunday when Herman Dege capably took over and I attended the Abraham Lincoln Conference meetings in Rockford. I do not take full credit for the success of our morning meetings, for a great deal of the beauty and inspiration is due to the excellent music by Mr. and Mrs. William Spencer Johnson.

"We must express our gratitude too to the three people who made possible the repainting of the auditorium: Mrs. Otto Mohrenstecher, Mrs. Rolland Wagner and Mrs. Oliver Williams. The basement is bright and pleasant, thanks to work under the direction of Paul Morrison and with curtains provided by the Chancel Evening Alliance. All in all our church building has become an even more pleasant place to meet together. Church attendance, about 30 or more, is about 50 percent of our membership .. and about the same as last year.

"With very few exceptions I have personally composed, printed, folded and mailed to all church members and friends a copy of THE QUINCY UNITARIAN, every Thursday of the church year from September to mid-June. I officiated at one wedding and two funeral services.

"Outside of the church I have been a member of the county Civil Defense Advisory Council and have held an office in the Adams County Mental Health Association. One day a week I journey to St. Louis at my own expense, to continue studies at Washington University, pursuing a master of arts degree in sociology and anthropology. Within a year I will have completed all the requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy degree in the same two areas.

"Some suggestions for the coming year: more participation in work and services is needed from some of our members. Many committees are inactive. Many of the committees have let other people do their work for them. We should not load the work on a few reliable workers who know the work must be done and do it. Another obvious need is for more members. With two moving away, two that died and two new members, this is a net loss of two, which we cannot afford.

"I thank you all for your cooperation in helping to assure the continued service of the Unitarian Church to the community of Quincy and the surrounding area. This really has been one of the best years of my life."

During the summer of 1955 Dr. and Mrs. R. A. Harris and Frieda Marshall were delegates to the Lake Geneva (Wisconsin) Conference.

#### KATE WELLS LOCKWOOD DIED

Kate Wells Lockwood died in her home at 222 South 16th at the age of 98. She had been an active member of the Unitarian church and gave generous support to the purchase of the parsonage in 1949. In accordance with her desires, persons planning to send flowers on the occasion of her death were requested to make contributions to the church, establishing a Kate Lockwood Memorial Fund. Several checks were received; the monies were deposited in the reserve account by the treasurer, John Morrison, who notified the grand niece, Mrs. Lewis Cody.

Ruth Harris and Ann Black were appointed to suggest a suitable memorial for Mrs. Lockwood. A bronze name plate would be made, and money remaining from a \$200 gift would be used to pay off the cost of the furnace.

The Maloney's son, Thomas Jefferson Maloney, was born May 27, 1955. There was discussion of an increase in salary, but no record of action. In September Paul Morrison reported that eleven units had not yet pledged; but that even if they pledged the same amount as last year, the pledges would total \$800 less than last year while the budget was about \$600 higher. A financial crisis was likely before the end of the year.

#### HANNAH BERRIAN MC CARL DIED

Mrs. McCarl, widow of Judge Lyman McCarl and mother of Charlotte Winters, died in November 1955 at the age of 96. She had served as organist for the Unitarian Church and was active in the church from childhood. The family had bought three large tracts of land and later donated the land for Berrian Park at 12th and Cherry and some of the land for South Park.

In November 1955 the north room above the study was painted with some help from the students of the advanced Sunday School class. They chose a cheerful yellow paint with white trim. Generous contributions of church members supplied a rug, drapes and additional furniture for the room. This was an Alliance project under direction of Frieda Marshall, who after attending sessions at the Lake Geneva conference, had accepted responsibility of Sunday School superintendent.

Alliance members had given baby sitting service on Sunday mornings. Since several members were teaching classes, this rotation fell upon the few remaining people who became tired of being called upon. It was decided to do away with the baby sitting service and "leave this matter to be worked out informally by the parents who bring their children to church." However, there was a speaker system for the downstairs area that allowed the sitter to hear the sermon.

The United Unitarian Appeal was regularly a separate collection or promotion for contributions. Only

\$81 had been received in January, 1956, but by April the total was \$353.60. The year before it had been about \$450.

The Unitarian Fellowship of Burlington, Iowa, called the Rev. John W. Brigham, formerly of Sioux City to be its first full-time minister.

In April Mr. Maloney was appointed chairman of events surrounding Mental Health Week, having served as vice-president of the Mental Health Organization in Quincy.

Gordon Liddle, secretary of the Board was asked to look into the cost of a fireproof box to keep important papers secure. Paul Morrison was assigned to see how large a box would be needed for the church records.

Mr. Maloney resigned as minister in May, 1956, having served in Quincy for three years. He took a position with the Atomic Power Division of Westinghouse Electric Corporation in Pittsburgh, Penn. (In 1984 he was a member of the teaching staff of Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville.)

The Alliance members arranged a handkerchief shower for Betty Maloney on May 30, 1956.

The church would be rented to the Seventh Day Adventists and to the Quincy Little Theatre. These groups were to be asked to provide their own janitor service. The rental income was \$216 from the Seventh Day Adventists (Sept. 1956 to May, 1957) and \$143.98 from the Community Little Theatre for summer rehearsals.

R. W. Halbach was elected President of the Board. John Morrison resigned as treasurer.

The Quincy City Council considered one-way traffic (east to west) for Hampshire Street. The minister objected, fearing speeding cars on Hampshire Street.



## THE REV. JOHN M. MORRIS

1956 - 1959

The Board of Trustees met in August, 1956; and after reading Mr. Morris's autobiographical material and sermons, unanimously decided to ask the Rev. John M. Morris to candidate for the Quincy church.

Rev. John M. Morris, born in Helena, Montana, had AB and MS degrees from the University of Michigan and post-graduate studies at the University of California at Berkeley. He was a graduate of Starr King School for the Ministry and had served on the staff of Fellowship Church, San Francisco. He then became assistant minister at San Diego (a church of 385 members), being in charge of the church school program and youth groups, and preaching occasionally. Following the resignation of the minister, he became acting minister assuming complete charge of the church program. Membership grew during this interim ministry.



His wife, Phyllis Sutton Morris, was born in Quincy at the time her father, John G. Sutton, was with the Department of Agriculture. Their son Billy was 2 years old and a daughter, Katherine Jill, was born July 27, 1957, during their stay in Quincy.

Congregational meeting minutes of September 16, 1956, were written by Gordon Liddle:

"There were approximately 40 adult members present and only 3 or 4 had to leave before the vote was taken. Mr. Halbach explained the terms of our proposed contract with Mr. Morris. There was considerable discussion. Everyone who spoke seemed to feel that Mr. Morris was the man for this job, and most of the comments revolved around the need to maintain our interest, support and attendance not only when the minister is new, but over the years. By secret ballot the congregation voted 33 to 3 to ask Mr. Morris. To my knowledge there were no abstentions."

The contract agreement was to pay John Morris \$3600 a year, plus a \$400 utility allowance and the use of the parsonage, plus 3% of the minister's salary for participation in a ministers' pension plan. Moving expenses up to \$500 would be paid for the move from California. His salary would be paid monthly, 12 months a year, at the end of the month. The Quincy church listed 65 members.

Mr. Morris's candidating sermon was described by a member as "exciting, provocative, informative and delivered in more dramatic style than we were recently accustomed to." One of Mr. Morris's later sermons was entitled, "Lead Us Not Into Penn Station." During his years in Quincy John Morris sometimes took part in performances of the Quincy Little Theatre.

The Alliance members, being charged with child care, suggested the installation of accordion doors to separate the nursery area from the main downstairs room. Board approval was sought. (Prices quoted ranged from \$122 to \$203.) There were 7 members of the Chancel Evening Alliance. One of their duties was to provide planters for the chancel rail. Minutes of the monthly meetings sometimes described the dessert: one member served a "heavenly dessert of blueberry cloud pie." Betty Albsmeyer served pumpkin pie made from Mamie Eisenhower's favorite recipe. "We ate it without prejudice," said the minutes.

Ruth Harris served as a director of the General Alliance. She attended meetings in Chicago and visited other Alliances in the Chicago area.

In September, 1956, Elizabeth Stebbins was the president of the King's Daughters. The group met monthly at a member's home who served a luncheon with help of a co-hostess. Later they simplified this to serving only dessert. The group regularly pledged \$300 to the church budget. This September they sponsored a rummage sale and netted \$133.98. The King's Daughters took turns with the Alliance in hosting the coffee hour after the church service. They requested that this be financed by the Church Board and they would prefer to serve on the Sunday after the King's Daughters' meeting.

By October Mr. Morris had called on twenty member families and had met with the publicity and music committees. Arrangements for the installation service were

being made. The committee consisted of Frieda Marshall, Gordon Liddle and Ray White. Mr. Ellsworth Smith would conduct the installation in a regular Sunday morning service.

Minutes of the Board meetings prepared by Gordon Liddle were often half a page of typewriting. For January 15, 1957, he reported the meeting in only six sentences.... A front yard free-standing sign announcing the church and the minister was procured for \$64.... There were plaster repairs made to the church kitchen.... On-going matters concerned parsonage repairing and maintenance. Mr. and Mrs. Morris painted rooms. The porch was painted and repairs were made to pipes, and gutters, etc.... Should there be a gas heater installed in the tower Sunday School room? Does the entire heating system of the church need to be investigated?

The Foreign Film Series seems to have originated as a fund-raising project of the King's Daughters. Jane Shair, chairman, reported that the first year's offerings attracted so much interest that it warranted continuing the project. The films had English narration or sub-titles. Tickets were \$3 for a series of four films, shown at the Adams School auditorium. In the winter season of 1957 the films were: Annapurna, Miss Julie, Gigi, and Samuri.

Commendation was given to Jane Shair and Ray White for their contributions toward the promotion of the Foreign Film Series with a recommendation to continue this activity. In 1957 the receipts were \$780.50 allowing a clear profit of \$429.84. A proposed project for the two women's groups was the purchase of a \$200 motion picture projector for the showing of foreign films or for the Sunday School use.

In its third year, the Foreign Film Series was released by the King's Daughters and taken over by the Church Board. Ray White served as projectionist at Adams School. The films selected were: La Strada, The Last Bridge, Barber of Seville, and Pickwick Papers (which was also shown to high school English classes.)

The Board accepted the Alliance offer of evergreen plantings to flank the new church sign board. Caroline Sexauer requested advice from William Spencer Johnson.

He donated some plants from his yard and suggested a mimosa tree for beauty, and forsythia bushes to camouflage the oil tank fence at the rear of the church. (The church was heated by gas and oil at this time.) Mr. Johnson also recommended a Golden Rain Tree for shade on the rear lawn. These plantings were completed by a volunteer committee in March, 1957.

The church kitchen had been repaired. Paul Morrison painted the walls and would probably paint the floor also. Henry Koenker replaced pipes and donated a mixer faucet. Mrs. Arthur Reich and Mrs. Beulah Herman made new kitchen curtains.... Mr. Morris gave a March sermon on "Mount Sinai and Our Mixed-Up World."

The Rev. John M. Morris was installed as the 27th minister of the Quincy Unitarian Church during a Sunday morning service on March 31, 1957. The sermon was given by the Rev. Ellsworth M. Smith, executive secretary of the Western Unitarian Conference. His sermon title was "Together, Free!" Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Johnson provided organ and violin music. Mr. Morris mimeographed the installation program. Mr. R. W. Halbach, Jr., was installing president of the Board.

In April emergency repairs to the organ were authorized and soon reported accomplished. Cost: \$300. An investigation had been made of the cost of replacing the present keyboards and connectors with an electrical system, and other changes so that the organ would operate more easily, quietly and reliably. The estimated amount of \$18,000 could come only through a bequest or through an intensive fund-raising campaign. It was noted that most musicians prefer a pipe organ. "They can get violent on this subject."

From the annual meeting minutes we learn that: "Mr. Johnson reported that the organ has been repaired. He can now press almost any key and expect to hear a note."

Notice this also from the Annual meeting of May 10, 1957: "Dr. Stebbins reported for the Finance Committee. Dr. Harris moved that the proposed budget be accepted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong and passed without dissent." A budget of \$7,497 was proposed, including \$3,800 for minister's salary, \$228 pension, \$615 parsonage expenses, and \$2,054 church expenses.

The Sunday School report was given by Frieda Marshall, superintendent. There were four classes with a total of 18 children. Charlotte Winters led the worship service with Leslie Stebbins as organist. Frances Morrison was pianist for the combined two younger groups. Leadership was given by Ruth Harris, Caroline Eldin, Elizabeth Stebbins, Ginny Liddle, Dorothe Owen, Beulah Herman and Gordon Liddle.

The church exterior needed painting. Expected cost \$500.... A contribution of \$140 was sent to the University of Illinois Unitarian Church for student work... Individual church members contributed \$395 to the United Unitarian Appeal.... There were 71 members.... Rev. Morris was complimented for his excellent work on the bulletins.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson announced their retirement from the music committee in June, 1957. An appreciation service was planned. Mr. Morris's sermon was "The Affirmation of Life." A luncheon, prepared by caterer Hilda Parsons, was arranged by Elizabeth Stebbins.

In the summer the downstairs hall was again rented to the Quincy Little Theatre. The July 21-24 presentation on the outdoor stage by the Quincy Art Center was "The Remarkable Mr. Pennypacker." The cast included four church members: Dr. T. L. Stebbins, Mrs. R. W. Halbach, Mrs. John Morrison, the Rev. John Morris, and two children: Clare and Sally Stebbins.

#### ROBERT MURRAY PRATT DIED

The Rev. R. M. Pratt died December 24, 1958, in Mountain View, California, at the age of 80. While serving the Unitarian Church of Keokuk, Iowa, he began vesper (late afternoon) services in Quincy and in 1938 moved to full-time ministry in Quincy where he served for almost ten years.

He was born in Manchester, England, and as a young man did research work on the Gold Coast of Africa. In Quincy he served as director of the Adams County TB Association and was Chair of the 1942-43 Christmas Seal Sale. He was president of the Quincy Garden Club and sponsor of a Junior High Boys' Stamp Club.

After he left Quincy, he served churches in Avalon and Long Beach, California.

## FINAL FELLOWSHIP FOR JOHN M. MORRIS

The Rev. John M. Morris received notification of final fellowship in the A.U.A. in October, 1957. Mr. Morris spoke of the good, active membership, but said that we must have more members if we hope to have a minister in the future. "There are 100 churches needing ministers and there are only ten ministers available."

The church received an offer from George Irwin to plant new trees on the 16th Street parkway. The offer was accepted with thanks. With the approval of William Spencer Johnson this planting was completed in February, 1958: a Moraine locust (honey locust without large seed pods), a tulip tree (with large blossoms in the spring) and (further north from Hampshire Street) a red maple tree.

Rev. John Morris produced a monthly two- or four-page newsletter, mailed to 91 members and friends, giving a calendar for the coming weeks. The schedule named: nursery school 9:30; junior church and adult discussion 10:00; service 11:00; social hour 12:15 -- a time for talk, with refreshments provided by the Fellowship Committee.

A sample sermon announcement follows:  
"Persistent Problems of Religion: The Idea of God" -- an understanding of some ways in which religious liberals have dealt with the idea of God will set the stage for future discussions of such topics as immortality, righteousness, the Bible. Within the Unitarian Church, there are three major responses to the question of God -- theism, deism and humanism. We have no interest in selling one of these answers as the One True Faith. But we do feel that each person must come to some answer, even the most tentative." (Mr. Morris's sermon on Zen Buddhism was mailed by the AUA to over 2,000 members of the Unitarian Church of the Larger Fellowship.)

It was voted to table the idea of adding permanent name scrolls in the foyer. The Board indicated that if the family of a person would contribute \$500, then the name would be made. Later Herman Dege was asked to make wood carvings for bronze scrolls to replace two cardboard scrolls (one for Kate Wells Lockwood). The foundry foreman commented particularly on the fine workmanship of Mr. Dege.

The King's Daughters sponsored a Harvest Fair in November, 1957, consisting of a chili supper, bake sale and a silent auction of donated items. Profit \$104. Members planned to save S & H green stamps for needed kitchen items.

The church school had an enrollment of 26 with 23 being the best attendance. Eight adults were involved. There was a spirit-duplicated news sheet called "The Church School Scoop."

The church needed new tables and chairs. Someone suggested that perhaps the captain's chairs could be sanded and painted yellow to match the downstairs curtains. Old tables could be sold for lumber. An investigation would be made regarding aluminum tables.

Mr. Morris planned a Hall of Fame and "washed the grime from the faces of some of the former ministers of this church." The next step would be to identify the people and hang their portraits in the second floor hall. This could recall some of the glorious history of this church and inspire present members to even greater effort. He also hoped to have an attractive cabinet in which to store the historical records of the church.

Dr. Frederick May Eliot, who had served as the president of the American Unitarian Association since 1937, died on February 17, 1958, at the age of 68. He was the grandson of William G. Eliot who (in 1839) had inspired the establishment of the Unitarian Church in Quincy.

Now the Quincy church produced weekly newspaper ads, a different message each week, beginning with: "Do you know...?" or "Is it true..?" In March the Board contracted with the Herald-Whig for another 13 weeks of newspaper ads. The membership list named 73 members and 18 friends of the church. During the 57-58 season John Morris prepared and delivered 38 sermons, 2 of them in Davenport, Iowa, and in Ann Arbor, Michigan. One title: "Might Have Beens and Also Rans."

John and Phyllis Morris were delegates to a March, 1958, meeting in Washington, D. C. John Morris planned to attend the annual meeting in Boston in May.

The United Unitarian Appeal was included in the budget at a figure of 10% of the total -- instead of having a separate fund drive for this.

The Seventh Day Adventists had rented the church for six months. Dr. R. A. Harris moved that they be asked to find another place to meet as they seemed to have no plan for establishing their own building. The Board raised the rent from \$6 to \$10 a week, and the motion to ask them to leave was defeated.

A garden was proposed for the north lawn. Jane Shair suggested an international garden. Someone said, "A friendship garden or a quiet place of retreat." Mr. W. S. Johnson said peonies and pine trees would be appropriate. Mrs. Shair moved that the Board allocate \$15 for pine trees at the north of the church. Three pine trees and a birch tree were planted on the north lawn, a cooperative effort of the Waechters (neighbors), the Church Board and Dr. and Mrs. Stebbins. Jane Shair gave a pink dogwood tree.

Mr. Morris expressed a heartfelt plea: "If we are going to do something -- a dinner, bazaar, or a play -- do it well and in a manner of which we could all be proud."

Several attended the Lake Geneva conference in 1958: John and Phyllis Morris and family, Dr. and Mrs. R.A. Harris, Jane Shair, and Harold and Carlene Doughty.

In September Mr. Morris spoke on "High Ideals and the Husks of Arguments" based upon the liberal attitude toward creed and dogma. He asked, "Why is it that down through the past four centuries Unitarians have resisted, with ever-increasing clarity and emphasis, every attempt to bind them to any creed or doctrine?"

The Junior Church School had a prospectus, naming departments and curriculum.... Phyllis Morris produced "The Alliance News" telling of activities of both the King's Daughters and the Chancel Evening Alliance... Mrs. Morris was also a volunteer teacher leading a class in creative dance at the Y. W. C. A. "Creative dance," she said, "has no set forms or routines, but is created to express the mood of the music and of the dancer."



The Board authorized the Chancel Evening Alliance to provide a new stage curtain. This replaced the "almost unbelievably old black roll curtain which had long been torn, dirty and almost impossible to raise or lower." A stage curtain hung on Kirsch custom-made, double-duty ball-bearing traverse rod with floor pulley was installed by Klene Venetian Blinds and Draperies. Completed in September 1958, this cost \$91.17.

The Fellowship Committee planned one church dinner each month, alternating with a carry-in and one catered by Hilda Parsons.

New tables were being sponsored at \$30 each; the first ten would have nameplates of:

Henrietta Wells  
Harriet Eldred  
Mr/Mrs. Olin Ballow  
Mr/Mrs A. Scott Armstrong  
Mr/Mrs Paul Morrison  
Dr/Mrs. T. L. Stebbins  
Dr/Mrs R. A. Harris  
Florence Williams & Dorothy Gage  
Mrs. Otto Mohrenstecher & Mr/Mrs. John Morrison  
Margarethe Williams and Ada Wagner

The order requested ten tables and a table truck, 6 dozen chairs @ 3.90, a folding-chair truck. With freight costs and name plates, the total was \$575.50. There still remained 20 of the old chairs, "in good condition, to be refinished for porch or cottage use. Antique shops charge up to \$50 for captain's chairs. We are letting these go for \$2 each. All contributions will go to the banquet table fund."

John Morris's sermon on October 19, 1958, was "Living in an Aging Population" and on October 22 he spoke on "What if Lincoln and Douglas Came Back to Quincy?" -- commemorating the centennial celebration of the Lincoln-Douglas Debates.

The King's Daughters concluded that it did not seem feasible at this time to hold dinners as fund-raising events. Each member was assessed \$3 to help meet the financial need for the year.

## DR. RICHARD A. HARRIS DIED

Dr. Richard A. Harris, anesthetist, a Quincy native, died on October 6, 1959. He had served as a church trustee and was delegate to Midwest Unitarian Conferences for several years. He had loaned money to the church for the purchase and restoration of the parsonage. His wife was Ruth Westerman Harris, a second-generation Quincy Unitarian.

The City Council having given permission, two-way metal direction signs were erected at 16th and Maine Streets and 16th and Broadway, announcing the location of the Unitarian Church. The motion to secure the signs was made by Harold Doughty ("provided the treasurer thinks we can afford it.") Cost \$40.

The King's Daughters felt deeply the loss of their member, Mrs. Rolland Wagner. The suggestion was made that some furnishings for the church would be a fitting memorial. Each member contributed individually. A firescreen was purchased and would be engraved as a memorial to Ada Kespohl Wagner. Harriet Eldred and her mother, Mrs. Wells, donated a set of andirons to complete the fireplace furnishings.

A Committee was then chosen to draw up plans for furnishing the church parlor. Committee members were: Elizabeth Stebbins, Mary Belle Halbach, Charlotte Carrott, Jane Shair and Frances Morrison. An oak table with matching six chairs was purchased from Roy Bennett Furniture Company at a cost of \$250. Mr. Bennett (as was his custom) donated \$50. Later two more chairs were added to the set.

Elizabeth Stebbins produced an artistic sketch of the church Founder's Window for notepaper printing. These were printed and packaged with matching envelopes. A package cost \$2. The printing bill was \$52.

Mr. Morris discussed with the Board the merger of the Unitarian and Universalist groups. A newspaper headline reported "National Merger Plan Favored by Quincy Unitarians."

The outstanding event of the 1958-59 Church School year was the visit of Mrs. Vincent Silliman, a field

representative. She consulted with staff and parents, observed the classes in session and reported her impressions. As a result of this self-study, classes were reorganized to allow an equalization of enrollment. There were 28 children in four class divisions and 6 adult leaders. Nine children attended choir rehearsals weekly on Wednesday after school. They learned the hymns, enjoyed a May pole dance and a tree-planting ceremony (a honey locust on the front parsonage lawn).

Gordon Liddle led the young adults group (YAK), meeting the third Sunday evening in the month. There was also an adult discussion group on Sunday mornings under the direction of Mr. Liddle.

Church attendance ranged from 44 at the beginning service in September, 29 on Sunday after Thanksgiving, 41 on Sunday after Christmas. On a day of 4 degrees the attendance was 21, but on the following Sunday 50 people attended. The high attendance for the season was 59.

At the annual meeting in May, Board President John Morrison expressed for the Board great satisfaction with the growth of the church both in membership and Sunday attendance. He recognized that this "is primarily due to the leadership and inspiring sermons of our minister, the Rev. John Morris."

In December 1959 John Morris informed the trustees of his intention to resign his pastorate and move to All Souls Unitarian Church of Colorado Springs, Colorado. He said, "As you know our Unitarian movement has been growing rapidly during the past several years. It has the highest rate of growth of any religious movement in America. As a result there has been a great need for experienced leaders. In response to this need, I have decided to leave -- in the hope that I might be able to aid our liberal movement." His resignation was very regretfully received; however, "we extend our very best wishes for a happy, successful future in his new location."

The Herald-Whig reported: "During his three years in Quincy, Rev. Morris served a term as secretary-treasurer of the Quincy Ministerial Association and as representative to the Quincy Youth Development Commission Board. He has also held a number of regional and national offices in the Unitarian denomination, and he serves as a member of the editorial board of the

Humanist magazine. The Unitarian church has grown in membership during his ministry here and has added a number of new projects, including a series of foreign motion pictures, an adult discussion group and a young adult group."

Rev. Morris's last sermon was "Trees We Have Planted Together," and it was a happy mixture of seriousness and encouragement. Members felt some sadness to see the Morrises leave Quincy.

#### THE 1960 INTERVAL

With the resignation of Mr. Morris, the Board appointed a pulpit committee, consisting of Gordon Liddle, Elizabeth Stebbins, Jane Shair, Ruth Harris, Frieda Marshall, Sherman Bond and Harold Hutchinson.

Activities continued: William Sexauer and Charles Seger put in new concrete steps at the parsonage. The estimated cost was \$100.

It was suggested that funds given in memory of any deceased church members be kept in a special fund. Another suggestion was that all guest speakers be paid \$25 or \$25 plus expenses if they come from out of town.

The Chancel Evening Alliance provided flower arrangements for the church. The members also continued the service project of making "sickroom dressings" for a nursing home. Ruth Harris, a former nurse, had suggested that these would be useful, and she demonstrated their construction using newspaper and old sheets.

The King's Daughters sponsored a festive Valentine Day dinner with Florence Williams in charge. This project was responsible for raising the money to pay the balance of \$160 due on the new table and chair set in the church parlor.

In February Mr. Cook, a member of the Western Unitarian Association, came to Quincy and talked to the Board about increasing the church budget. Board minutes record this meeting: "He spoke at great length, giving concrete methods on how to improve our financial condition. He emphasized the fact that face-to-face canvassing was absolutely necessary to achieve good

results. At the close of Mr. Cook's talk, Mr. Doughty said that these suggestions would be turned over to the finance committee."

On March 22 a motion was made that a letter be composed and sent to all church members, calling their attention to the financial condition of the church.

#### THE VOTE FOR THE MERGER

The congregation voted as a unit to support the national merger of the Unitarian and Universalist churches, the new organization to be called the Unitarian Universalist Church.

At the annual meeting in May, outgoing President Harold Hutchinson suggested that the Board repair the walls and ceilings of the parsonage and that members assist in painting. Sherman Bond was elected new president of the Board. By September Mr. Bond reported that five rooms had been painted by members and a good clean-up was completed. Walls in one bathroom still needed repairs.

The Sunday School had 26 children enrolled and a staff of six adults.... The church hall was rented to the Little Theatre for their rehearsals during the summer for \$5 each night, the total bill coming to \$150. ....The King's Daughters had 26 members at this time.

A motion had been made that the \$121.38 balance owed on the movie screen be paid out of the church treasury. The money was to be raised by a church dinner held on the night of the annual meeting.

Ground was broken for a new Seventh Day Adventist Church at 2815 Oak Street. The church, to be built mostly by members, was expected to cost \$75,000. Their former building at 14th and Lind Streets had burned in 1945.

THE REV. GEORGE P. CRIST, JR.  
1960-1968

The pulpit committee submitted material about the candidacy of the Rev. George P. Crist, Jr. The congregation moved to establish a majority of 75 percent in the election of a minister. At a congregational meeting on June 5, 1960, there was discussion concerning the salary for Mr. Crist and a consideration of how much time he would have for church duties since he was employed full time at the Quincy Herald-Whig.

By a vote of 40 to 2 it was decided to engage Mr. Crist as an interim minister for a period of one year, at a salary of \$4,200 plus the use of the parsonage. Mr. Crist's letter of acceptance was read at the Board meeting of September 7, 1960.

The Rev. George Crist was well known in Quincy since he had joined the staff of The Quincy Herald-Whig four and a half years before. For the past four years he had also served as pastor of the Bluff Hall Congregational Church from which he resigned on September 1.

His father was a native of Quincy, but he, now 36 years old, was born in Chicago. He was a graduate of Carthage College and earned a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Northwestern Theological Seminary in Minneapolis. Additional graduate work in philosophy had been completed at Iowa State University.

George Crist was a veteran of two years in the Navy during WW II and had served Lutheran churches in Wisconsin from 1949 to mid-1955. His employment with The Quincy Herald-Whig required constructive reporting on community activities, including city government and city hall news.

Mr. Crist, his wife Evelyn, and three children: Suzanne 14, Cynthia 9, and Eric 7, moved into the parsonage.

To welcome the Crist family, a Russian goulash dinner was sponsored by the King's Daughters with John Morrison as featured speaker. The dinner cleared \$55. But before the dinner could be organized, "the kitchen-cleaning volunteers were again called into action."

Other details: A suggestion was made that someone donate a rug for the chancel area behind the pulpit.... The tower classroom was painted by two teachers, Sandra Morrison and Frieda Marshall.... A bulletin-board/screen was built and installed on the stage (classroom) to enclose the organ mechanism. This was a project of the Chancel Evening Alliance. The cost was \$50.

The Board and committee chairs met on December 3, 1960. The treasurer reported all bills paid and a balance in the bank. The clerk was instructed to check memorial funds and capital improvements. Are acknowledgments sent when memorials are received? When such receipts are designated to be used for memorials, are the funds kept separate from operating funds?

Fritzi Morrison donated a painting in honor of Mr. and Mrs. A. Scott Armstrong and Mr. and Mrs. Herman E. Dege to be hung over the parlor fireplace. After discussion regarding the loss of heat through the two drafty fireplaces, it was recommended that the opening of the downstairs fireplace be blocked off completely and the parlor fireplace be fitted with a radiant type gas heater (purchased wholesale through Mr. Suchland's business). This would give more heat than a gas log and would be utilitarian and more efficient than a log fire.

It was suggested that some particular person be named to take responsibility for controlling the switch-over from natural gas to butane as the temperature warranted. Or an investigation would be made regarding installing automatic controls. The cost of controls was expected to be offset in savings of the gas bill, as the cost of bottled-gas was twice the cost of natural gas.

John Sperry spoke of the Unitarian Historical Society and inquired whether there was historical material available about the Quincy Unitarian Church. He suggested micro-filming of material to be sent to the Unitarian Historical Society. The Board encouraged Mr. Sperry and offered financial help for supplies.

Mr. Sperry also suggested a general cleanup of the church by volunteers, but it was the opinion of the Board to defer this. The Board approved the rental of the church hall for \$150 to the Community Little Theatre for rehearsals during the summer.

At the January, 1961, King's Daughters meeting Mr. Crist told "the whole story of his heresy trial and dismissal from the Lutheran Church -- an account so absorbing and dramatic that it defies a brief description. (Minutes by M. B. Halbach)

The 1961 international film series sponsored by the Quincy Unitarian Church (January - April) offered these films: Genevieve, The Threepenny Opera, One Summer of Happiness and The Sheep has Five Legs. These were shown in the Quincy Senior High School auditorium, 30th and Maine Streets. The committee included: Ginny Liddle, chair, Elizabeth Stebbins, Ruth Harris, Caroline Eldin, Ray White and Jane Shair.

The brochure explained that: The purpose of this annual film series is to make available to the Quincy area audience the best in international films, most of which are not shown by local commercial theaters. Although critical acclaim is not the sole standard used to select films, it generally outweighs considerations which would sacrifice excellence, honesty or realism.

In June the film committee reported receipts of \$933.50 and expenses of \$645.33. Auditorium rental was \$168. The goal of 200 paid admissions had been met. (Church sponsorship of international films continued through 1972.)

There were problems regarding the heating of the church. A report of February 1961 reflected about \$100 a month for Uregas and \$48 to CIPS. Two solutions were offered regarding the fireplace: (1) sliding doors to shut off cold air, (2) gas heater which Fred Suchland would supply as a gift. There would still be the cost of installing the fixture and blocking off the chimney. Decision deferred until cost figures would be obtained.

In February the committee in charge of decorating the parlor decided against sealing up the fireplace and in favor of installing a gas heater. In April Harold Hutchinson moved, seconded by Mr. Sperry, that we accept the gas log gift. The Board would pay \$25 to \$50 for installation. The committee would decide on the type to be installed.

The King's Daughters held a rummage sale and realized \$178.71 profit. They then decided to donate



items to the St. John Episcopal Church Thrift Shop which would sell on a 50 percent basis and that would realize some income for the King's Daughters. As a King's Daughters fund-raiser, Fritzi Morrison presented a lecture and program at a Travel Tea at the Art Barn and featured paintings from her European trip of the past summer. Tickets were \$1.

Ruth Harris reported on a conference in Chicago and said, "We won't become acquainted with other Unitarians until we drink tea together and wash dishes together."

Pauline Bond suggested that the King's Daughters do something to revive the church basement, and a committee was appointed. There was some discussion concerning a rug for the church parlor. Frances Morrison was authorized to purchase material and rods for new curtains for the basement. By October, however, nothing was done regarding curtains because "probably the basement should be painted first and we should ask the men to handle that job."

Instead of sending flowers upon the death of Mrs. Otto Mohrenstecher, the King's Daughters would start a memorial fund and use the money to improve the church parlor. The fund began with \$20.

In 1961 a church memorial committee was established with memorials amounting to \$28. A committee consisting of Bertha Danhaus, Ted Morrison and Tom Moore was named.

George Crist spoke to the King's Daughters about the "High Cost of Dying," saying that the average cost of a funeral/burial was \$900 with embalming, cosmetology, casket, etc. This custom, he said, exists only in the United States. A Memorial Society would be an answer to the problem, and he would investigate the possibility of forming a Memorial Association in Quincy.

Several reports were given at the annual meeting. Mr. Ballow said he had increased the fire insurance coverage to \$50,000 and he would research liability insurance. Ed Herman reported for the Building and Grounds committee that automatic equipment had been installed in the heating system. This would take care of changing from natural to bottled gas in extreme weather. New locks were installed for front and rear doors. A single key would fit both doors.

#### INSTALLATION OF THE REV. GEORGE P. CRIST, JR.

In the annual meeting of 1961 a motion was made by Rolland Wagner and seconded by A. Scott Armstrong that George Crist, Jr. become the regular minister of the Quincy Unitarian Church. Upon unanimous agreement, Jane Shair was appointed to lead the installation committee.

An installation service for The Rev. George P. Crist, Jr. was held on October 1 at 7 p.m. The Rev. David Cole of Urbana spoke on "Our World-Wide Movement." An informal reception followed.

Mr. Crist began a series of sermons on the background and nature of liberal religion. One title: "Toward a Meaningful Religion." He sometimes referred to the possibility of a Quincy Unitarian University.

There were weekly newspaper ads, one column, 3 inches, suggesting the message of George Crist's next sermon. For instance: "Who Manages the News?" -- Government and media -- do they conspire to withhold items? What are the moral implications?

#### THE ELIOT BOOK SHOP

In November an announcement was made that Mrs. George Crist (Evelyn) and Jane Shair would maintain a bookshop in the church study. The Eliot Book Shop, sponsored by the Unitarian Church, would offer quality art prints and good literature not presently available locally. A full line of Beacon Press publications and Penguin paperbacks would be available. This was in the first-floor room, formerly used as minister's office. By December the room had been redecorated for use of the book shop, which would be open every afternoon, 1 to 5, Monday through Saturday. Members donated volumes for a mammoth used-book sale to obtain a little start-up capital.

The Chancel Evening Alliance held a regular meeting on the premises of the Eliot Bookshop. Some members volunteered to staff the book shop. The Alliance adjusted its meeting time to once a month instead of every two weeks. The group purchased a permanent record book for use by the Memorial Committee.

The Alliance announced a special guest meeting, and Mrs. R. M. Pratt was the guest of honor. Many former members of the group attended as a special surprise for Mrs. Pratt who had founded the original Evening Hour Alliance in about 1937, coaxing young women to develop an interest in quilting. At this October, 1961, meeting a history of the Alliance, compiled and read by Frieda Marshall, was of interest and amusement to the guests.

At the King's Daughters meeting Mary Belle Halbach showed a sample of deep red carpeting from Bennett Furniture to carpet the entry, back and center aisles, chancel and steps and the parlor. Estimated cost \$670 to \$760. Shirley Johnson then suggested that providing a garbage disposal might be a more realistic project, and such item was certainly needed.

At a Board meeting the treasurer reported a balance of \$241.18. The Finance Committee decided to wait until the need was more urgent before starting a drive for funds. The next month, with a winter heating bill of \$203.97, there was discussion regarding the serious financial situation. Then the Finance Committee made a request for funds.

#### A LETTER FROM ALBERT SCHWEITZER

This material was shared by the national office:

On November 24, 1961, Aibert Schweitzer wrote the following letter from West Equatorial Africa to the Rev. George Marshall, minister of the Church of the Larger Fellowship:

Dear Reverend George Marshall:

"Please excuse my delay in replying to your very friendly letter of the 27th of April. Because of the large amount of work which I have to do from day to day in Lambarene, I am unable to take care of my correspondence as I would like to.

"I thank you cordially for your offer to make me an honored member of the Unitarian Church. I accept with pleasure. Even as a student I worked on the problem and history of the Unitarian Church and developed sympathy for your affirmation of Christian freedom at a time when it resulted in persecution.

"Gradually I established closer contact with Unitarian communities and became familiar with their faith-in-action. Therefore, I thank you that through you I have been made an honored member of this church.

"With my best thoughts,

Sincerely yours,"  
Albert Schweitzer

#### THE SPRING OF 1962

During the spring of 1962 lovely displays of Japanese flower arrangements were appreciated by church members. These were prepared by Ruth Harris, who had attended Sogetsu Flower Arranging School in California. She had received two certificates. The third certificate would earn a degree and qualify her for teaching.

In the summer the Chancel Evening Alliance organized gatherings in members' yards, gardens or porches and invited all women of the congregation and guests to have Ikebana lessons from Ruth Harris. This resulted in eleven very pleasant Sunday morning gatherings. In all 16 individuals participated and some gained confidence enough to provide flower arrangements in the church in the fall. The Alliance purchased appropriate containers and equipment for this activity, and chancel decorations took on a new and interesting quality.

There were 22 members of the King's Daughters and their theme was "American Woman - the Changing Image." But the women said that the church "kitchen was very dirty and cannot be used without a good cleaning up." The suggestion was made that a meeting be held in the church after which the clean up would occur. "This was received as a good idea, but no definite plan was made." Perhaps they would employ help to do the job and pay for it from their treasury which had a balance of \$76.50.

The problem of humidity in the church basement had not been addressed although a request for purchase of a dehumidifier had been made in September, 1961; deferred in October, 1961 (until spring); discussed in May, 1962. In September, 1962, the recommendation was made that a dealer inspect the basement to advise whether the \$62 or the \$72 model would be best. His recommendation would be acted upon in the coming spring.

Bids were received on necessary improvement to the basement wooden flooring that was very uneven. One bid offered removing the wooden floor and pouring a new concrete base: \$992. Asphalt tile laid on the concrete would add \$486. This bidder did not recommend repairing because of the cost of labor and being concerned that the flooring would not last many years. Another bidder quoted \$768.22 to tear out the old floor and pour a concrete base.

In October the Eliot Book Shop staff arranged a book fair during National Education Week. It offered books for preschool, elementary and high school readers, which were displayed in the church basement. Some were award-winning books.

In November the men said they would paint the basement. Drapery fabric had been ordered.

The Alliance collected more than a dozen pairs of glasses to be sent to Eyes for the Needy. They collected nylons for Japanese war widows to weave into articles to sell and thereby add to their income. They produced over one hundred hospital pads and delivered them to nursing homes that cared for sick people and also made hospital gowns from well-laundered men's shirts.

Dorothy Halbach Gage had died earlier. A November 1962 bequest for \$1,000 to the Unitarian Church was listed in the newspaper.

The basement wooden flooring was repaired in January at a cost of \$260 and an additional repair in March for \$25. The church was able to switch to heating the church with natural gas, and the large storage tank behind the church was sold for \$150.

Mr. Crist had been in Boston and reported that he was interviewed on January 30 by the Unitarian examining committee. He had fulfilled all requirements to this point for becoming a Unitarian minister. He used the tower room for his office and needed a desk and a lamp.

## CHURCH OR FELLOWSHIP?

In February 1963 a group of 17 members met with the minister in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Bond to discuss "What is the future of this church?" They spoke of church service format (Dispense with singing? Omit responsive readings?); small number of contributing members (The every-member canvass is regarded as proper approach, but has been omitted for years); organization (Is this a church or a fellowship?); improvements in church school (four leaders including minister and discussion group leader for a small group attending). Appreciation was voiced for the Eliot Bookshop and those who work in this project.

As a conclusion it was stated that a majority of members are receiving the intellectual stimulation they wish from the church service. The church must be serving its people or it would have ceased to function. The membership list named 75 individuals.

A funeral director had inquired about the possibility of purchasing the building. If the present building were sold, and a new inexpensive building constructed, there would be better facilities for informal discussion-type of service. The church building at 16th and Hampshire was appraised in March, 1963, by Poling and Davenport at \$35,000.

Mr. Bratton (of Koenker Plumbing), having examined the furnace, found a crack in the back section of the boiler and put a temporary sealer on it. Replacement could cost \$200 plus labor and should be taken care of before the next winter. (The bill was \$637.64. 10/63)

## PAUL MORRISON DIED

Having been ill for many months and a hospital patient since January, Paul Morrison died on April 19, 1963, at the age of 77. He had retired as director of instrumental music in the Quincy Public Schools in 1951 and had earlier been a teacher of English and history. Although he played cello and piccolo, he had not planned a career in music. When a band was suggested in 1920, he volunteered and organized the first Quincy High School band.

An editorial in The Herald-Whig at the time of his retirement reflected that "He worked for the advancement of music in the schools and developed some of the finest school bands in the country. He demanded the best and was an example of quiet dignity. He built bands and helped build character."

Gordon Liddle reported that four or five professors at Western Illinois University at Macomb were meeting in the basement of a bank and were organizing a Unitarian Sunday School for their children.

Evelyn Crist and Ruth Harris attended the May meetings in Chicago in 1963, traveling by train. The Alliance gave financial support. Ruth Harris moved to California in September. She represented the Alliance at the UU General Assembly in San Francisco in 1964.

An Order of Service of June 2, 1963, announced a discourse (not sermon) "The Pope Speaks; A Liberal Listens: Thoughts on a Papal Encyclical." The name of George Crist did not appear on the bulletin.

Ray White, photographer, produced post cards of the church building which were made available for sale to church members, 20 for \$1.

As Jane Shair would be away during the summer, Bertha Danhaus was put in charge of the Eliot Book Shop to work with the volunteers. Bookshop closed at the church in November, 1963. It had begun with a loan of \$150 from the film committee and \$500 from Jane Shair. The total receipts were \$10,555 and the net profit realized for the church was \$2,775 during the 23 months it was in business. Appreciation was expressed to all who had contributed time and effort to the success of the Eliot Book Shop. Jane Shair purchased the stock and re-opened the Book Stall at 4th and Maine Streets where it operated for several years.

The Eliot Book Shop continued for a while on a limited basis. Alliance members were charged with the responsibility of selling Beacon Press books, maintaining a church library, and serving coffee in the book shop room after services each Sunday. After a while Evelyn Crist was carrying the coffee responsibility alone. She pleaded for help.

In May, 1964, Dr. Ted Stebbins retired as Board president; Olin Ballow retired as treasurer, Tom Moore was elected president.... The Board endorsed a Freedom Walk of Dignity, and members participated in the associated events to open dialogue between the races, to bring about Judeo-Christian commitment to justice and dignity for all persons.... Dr. and Mrs. Hilliard Shair spoke at an International Dinner about their trip to Israel and surrounding lands.... The responsibility of the Memorial Committee was expanded to include wills and bequests. The assets in 1964 were \$1,518.59.

Under the direction of the Board of Trustees the remodeling of the kitchen had been completed. "Our big, old, rusty stove was sold for \$25." Charles Seger installed new sinks, wall and floor cupboards on the west and north walls and floor cupboards on the east wall. Memorial funds paid \$841.26 for this project.

There was plaster patching repair of the ceiling of the east room (parlor), and the entire ceiling was repainted at a cost of \$290. (October, 1964)

The Alliance members washed walls and applied first-coat painting to the women's rest room. George Crist, Ted Morrison and Phil Fleming assisted in this project. Betty Albsmeyer made a crewel embroidery wall hanging of flowers on a burlap background. She was invited to enter it in the county or state fair. Then it hung in the women's rest room area for many years.

Coffee hours "caught on" and the suggestion was made that a simple coffee hour be held every Sunday. Members of the women's groups were asked to volunteer. A container was set out to receive donations toward the purchase of coffee.

The Bell & Howell movie projector, which had been leased to Quincy College by Quincy Photo Supply, had been offered to the church for \$450. The film committee had \$200 toward the purchase price. Charlotte Winters moved that the church loan \$250 to the film committee, payable in two years. In 1964 the films were shown in the newly acquired Community Little Theatre building, 13th and Payson Avenue. The net income was \$180. The 1964 films were: Roses for the Prosecutor (German), The Love Game, (French), Wee Gordie (Scotch), and Mexican Bus Ride.



## "HYMNS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF LIFE"

The UUA issued new hymnals called "Hymns for the Celebration of Life" (blue covers). Members ordered 34 copies, all but one to be given to the church as a gift or memorial. It was estimated that 50 to 75 copies would be needed. Ten copies would be paid for with church funds. Mr. Crist sent an order for 52 copies.

The older hymnals "Hymns of the Spirit" (red cover) were to be offered to some fellowship that did not have funds to purchase the new issue. The hymnals would be sent upon receipt of payment for shipping costs. They were sent to The Unitarian Fellowship of San Bernardino, California, a church that Ruth Harris was then attending.

## 125th ANNIVERSARY

This year marked the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Quincy Unitarian Church. Tom Moore was Board president and Ted Morrison was the treasurer.

In the 1964-65 fiscal year, there were 45 contributing units, averaging \$141.50 - a total of \$6,368. A break-down revealed that 23 gave less than \$100, 14 from \$100 to \$199, and 8 from \$200 to \$750. An increase of 30% was projected as needed to meet a budget of \$8,335.54.

Committee assignments included these headings: Education, Social Action, Films, Art and Music, Fellowship, Buildings and Grounds, Publicity, Finance, Membership and Ushering. Committees had from four to fourteen individuals listed, with Education having the fourteen.

Frieda Marshall and Dorothe Owen were guests at a King's Daughters meeting where they described the Church School program. King's Daughters' members, Sandra Morrison and Florence Williams, were serving as Church School teachers. The minutes reported, "It was most enlightening to hear of the thoughtful guidance the young Unitarians get during one hour of the week."

The Church School membership list named 9 children in Pre-school, 8 in a class of 1,2,3 grade; 5 in a class of 4,5,6,7; and 6 in a Jr. and Sr. High class. Sandra Morrison became the Church School superintendent.

At a King's Daughters meeting Mrs. Lee Haspl was welcomed as a member. Her husband's grandfather was Karel Capek who founded the Unitarian church in Czechoslovakia in 1921 and originated the Unitarian flower communion.... "Mrs. Crist announced that the Sunday morning coffee pot was empty and it was felt that it was the Board's turn to perk up a donation." (MBH)

In April a tile floor was laid in the foyer. Memorial funds paid \$103. It was reported at the 1965 annual meeting that newspaper advertising was costing \$16.73 for an ad once a month. Mr. Crist wrote all the ads. The publicity committee had not met. There was no report from the music committee.

The film committee still owed the church \$250, taken from reserves. The 1965 films were: The Virgin Spring (Swedish), The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner (British), A Nous, La Liberte (French), and The Swindle (Italian).

The Eliot Book Shop balance was \$36.14 with yearly receipts of \$71.60. Mostly UU books and some pamphlets were available. The Chancel Evening Alliance had been responsible for operating the bookshop.

About this time the first mention was made of the Alliance contribution to the Clara Barton Camp for Diabetic Girls at North Oxford, Massachusetts.

Six new members in the church brought the total membership to 80. Robert Campbell was elected president, and Ted Morrison was treasurer. There was talk of bonding the treasurer. The budget called for \$9,000 and the pledges totaled \$4,000. Rev. George Crist recommended that the passing of the collection plant be eliminated. "Sunday morning collections will be discontinued in the fall and members are encouraged to make monthly payments to the treasurer."

Cyndy Crist was given the responsibility for child care during the Sunday services and was paid \$1 a week. Mrs. Evelyn Crist was hired as the church secretary.

In October the King's Daughters considered a fund-raising project. Should it be a rummage sale, or a special movie, or a presentation by John and/or Fritz Morrison? "The good old rummage sale won again and the

date was set for October 22-23." Held in the church basement, it brought \$146. Thank-you notes were sent to Mr. Schimmel for use of hotel racks and to Mr. Riutzel of the White Star Cleaners for transporting the racks and donating some clothing.

Among the new members were Mr. and Mrs. Lee (Sandy) Haspl. His mother, Mrs. Bahd Haspl, was the guest speaker on October 17, 1965. She was a Unitarian Minister from Prague, Czechoslovakia, and a graduate of Starr-King Theological Seminary in California.

Quality Builders (Charles Seger) installed folding doors to separate the nursery area from the main hall of the downstairs room. The bill for \$370.90 was paid from memorial funds.

The Alliance planned a kitchen clean-up and then they would list some wanted items. At their Christmas party, husbands and friends were invited. "The gift exchange asked the clever spouses to guess what was in the packages. They were items for the church kitchen, but each package held a nice surprise for the recipient to take home."

In January 1966 The Rev. George Crist was admitted to membership in the UUA and was eligible for pension benefits.

Harold Hutchinson spoke of the possibility of a new building rather than extensive repairs to the present building. Action on this matter was deferred to a later date. Based upon a report made by the Building and Grounds Committee, the Advisory Committee felt there were three items to consider:

- 1) major repairs to the church building
- 2) feasibility of a new building
- 3) major remodeling of the present building
- 4) marketability of the church property

Mrs. Marshall moved that the church property be appraised. The motion seconded by Mrs. Sexauer passed. Mr. Bond was told to keep the cost of appraisal to about \$25. In February 1966 a decision was made to postpone the discussion of basement flooring improvement.

Dr. Hutchinson presented some building maintenance items in March: both the church and parsonage should be painted soon, costing \$600 and \$500 respectively. The second item was repair or replacement of the church basement floor, cost: \$1,500. The discussion then led to the feasibility of a new church building or possibly an educational building on the lot north of the church.

The discussion that followed included construction of a carport with driveway for the parsonage, lighting, room dividers, and selling both church properties. The appraiser wrote that the fair market value of the church property would be \$35,000 (the same as in 1963). Mr. Bond suggested a special drive, not to exceed \$6,000, to be raised over a period of three years. His motion carried. The treasurer reported a bank balance of \$1,027.66.

The King's Daughters met in March and decided to devote the year's program "to discussion of possible changes in our church. Most present voiced favor of keeping the name 'church' instead of 'society.' In discussing the covenant there turned out to be different opinions on the words 'church,' 'faith,' and 'quest.' Nothing was settled, but we had faith that the quest would be continued at church on Sunday." (MBH)

When Mr. Bond presented a tentative budget in April, 1966, he stated that from pledges already received and the funds on hand, "Our income lags behind our expenditures and there is little room for further cutting." He mentioned \$8,000 as a conservative estimate for the next year's operating budget.

This situation was discussed further when Robert Reed, representing the Central Midwest Board of the UUA, met with the congregation at a dinner at the Lincoln-Douglas Inn. Thirty members were present on April 2, 1966. Mr. Bond spoke of the loss of income due to members leaving the city, resulting in the number of contributing units dropping from 45 to 36. An increase of 50% from each member was suggested to meet the budget. Mention was made of withdrawing contributions to UUA, but Paul Kurtz urged retaining denominational identity. There was some consideration of the status of Fellowship vs Church. At a dinner at the Travelodge on April 3 an "enthusiastic presentation of the financial program for 1966-67" occurred.

At the May, 1966, annual meeting Sandra Morrison reported 32 children in the church school and urged that an item be included in the annual church budget for church school expenses, furniture and maintenance.

The film committee reported income of \$568 and expenses of \$617. Some beginning balance helped overcome this difference.

For the social action committee: "There being no action the past year, there was no report."

For the music committee: Karen Byrne, Alice Mays and Frances Morrison alternated to provide music. The monthly coffee hour alternated between members of the King's Daughters and the Chancel Evening Alliance.

Publicity: Mr. Crist said no report; ads continue.  
Membership: No report  
Ushering: No report  
Memorial: Balance of \$661.06

Building and Grounds committee anticipated that improvements for the next year, to include painting lights in basement, new basement floor, and carpet in the chancel could cost \$6,126.00.

Dr. Hutchinson moved to undertake the Building Improvement Program at once, totaling \$6,126. It was moved by Mr. Bond, and seconded, that the following resolution be adopted: "Resolved that in order to finance the proposed building improvement program, the Board of Directors be authorized to negotiate a loan, not to exceed 133% of total pledges (payable in three years or less) received prior to September 1, 1966, the period of said loan not to exceed three years." The motion carried.

#### MINISTER'S ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Crist presented his report: "An effort this past year to piece together the history of this group, to talk about the 125th birthday and as an aid in constitutional reform, impressed me with the value of written records. We have the handwritten sermon preached on the 5th anniversary and a number of written reports by officers and ministers in the first 75 years. Since 1900, however, record-keeping has been sporadic

and maddingly inadequate. My own record keeping has not been adequate. This is my first written annual report after six years of serving this congregation. I hope someone will be found to serve as historian, keeper of archives, etc.

"We have been reviewing the constitution and by-laws, the committee meeting six times. A final version was mailed to all members and a study meeting was held. The first article would have changed the name from Unitarian Church to Unitarian Society. Objections were heard to the first three articles. There was a special sermon on the topic, responses from members, more discussion, and nothing after all changed.

"We have approximately 50 families with 80 individuals. Membership has remained constant for several years. We lose a few and gain a few, but we do not grow. We do not keep up with population growth, so in relative terms, we actually decline.

"A majority of our members attend Sunday morning meetings and are active in the few extra-curricular activities in which we engage. There are also others who have been inactive and out of sympathy with what we do, although they may give financial support. A few who oppose the changes are active members. With this in mind, the proposed amendments are not being submitted."

#### THE 1966 REFURBISHING PROGRAM

After all the discussion, a three-year building improvement program was established. A total of \$5,849 had been pledged by members. The treasurer was authorized to borrow \$4,000 from Mercantile Trust and Savings Bank, payable in three years or less. The improvement of the church building commenced.

Henry Koenker supervised the installation of a booster pump on the boiler and 49 feet of baseboard hot-water heating equipment in the downstairs hall. (\$639.58) Hummel Brothers removed the wooden (buckled) flooring and installed a concrete base. (\$827) Jerry Ginster installed 2,112 square feet of Kentile vinyl asbestos floor tile, purchased from Dealers Supply for \$533.74. (\$170)

Durk Brothers had the contract for exterior painting of the church (\$660) and the parsonage (\$570). Roy Bennett laid carpeting in the center aisle and the front and rear of the auditorium. The charge for carpeting, underlay and labor was \$472.50.

These improvements were completed by the September beginning of a new church season. There was postponement of improving the lighting in the basement and the repair of the fireplace. At this time the work on pouring a slab for car port at the parsonage, estimated at \$259, was deferred (But "don't forget about it.")

The Housekeeping Committee (Frieda Marshall and Frances Morrison) organized a church clean up.

The Quincy Unitarian (newsletter) "published occasionally" by Mr. Crist was a single 8-1/2 x 11 sheet with space on the reverse for the return address and for addressing by metal plate machine. It was closed at the fold with a bent-over 4-cent stamp.

A temporary arrangement for Sunday services was approved. The church school and the adult service would be held at 10:30 and last approximately an hour. The remaining half hour until noon would be devoted to discussion of the morning's topic (or another topic) with or without coffee. One reason for this was a shortage of church school leaders.

However, on September 14, 1966, a letter from the minister announced a reluctant closing of the Sunday School until further notice. He wrote: "One of the few stouthearted teachers on our dwindling staff finds she cannot teach. A second teacher will be unable to teach after a few months at most. This leaves us with one regular teacher. We had hoped to find substitute teachers to enable our regular teachers to attend the meeting at least once a month. We have not been able to find enough leaders."

Family sessions were planned with activities for children and discussion for adults. Babysitting service on Sunday mornings was available. "This will not be a class, although we hope to have at least one adult in charge."

## SHIRLEY JOHNSON DIED

Shirley Tompkins Johnson died on October 17, 1966, at the age of 76. For more than 25 years she had played the violin at church services, accompanied by her husband, William Spencer Johnson, who was church organist.

The King's Daughters made a \$25 donation to the memorial fund in remembrance of Shirley Johnson. The group also continued a subscription to the Register Leader for the Quincy Public Library.

Thirty-five member families of the church had pledged \$5,986. The budget total was \$9,235. The finance committee would call on the 9 or 10 families that had not pledged. About 7 families had moved from the city. "No immediate crisis is seen, however, as the income is expected to meet expenses until mid-November."

In November Mr. Crist stated that he was still listed as minister under a fellowship status. The Board felt he should have the ranking of a full-time minister and consulted with the Central Midwest District executive about this.

Mrs. Marshall reported that Mr. Junior Tarr had applied for the position of custodian and that he had come to the Board meeting to apply in person. The Board interviewed him and found him satisfactory. He was employed at \$10 a week. (2 to 3 hours a week). Later his daughter assumed that responsibility, and she was paid \$10 every two weeks.

The King's Daughters held a rummage sale on November 8 and 9 at 326 South 8th -- a place that many organizations rented at \$7 or \$10 for their sales.

The Alliance held a progressive dinner for their Christmas party. There were appetizers served at the Marshall home, salad at Danhauses, beef stroganoff at Morrisons, and dessert at Campbells. Others assisting were the Whites, Crists, and Sexauers. "We wound up the festivities, replete and jovial."



## WILLIAM SPENCER JOHNSON DIED

The Herald-Whig obituary read: "William Spencer Johnson, musician, composer, teacher, and lover of parks" died October 24, 1967, at the age of 83. He was a music professor at Culver-Stockton College and also taught at Quincy Conservatory of Music. For 25 years he served as organist at the Unitarian Church, having previously served as organist at St. Francis Catholic Church and the Episcopal Church.

In recognition of his 35 years of service as the Director of plantings and as Secretary-Treasurer of the Quincy Park District, a city park at 18th and Harrison was named William Spencer Johnson Park in January, 1967. Mr. Johnson developed a park system nursery to provide plantings for the parks and catalogued over 275 species of trees and shrubs in the city parks.

Evelyn Crist suggested that the Alliance pay for installation of a garbage disposal in the church kitchen. Ray and Clara Lily White offered a disposal to the church. In February the group voted to pay for the installation. In March the Board thanked them for the offer and said they would arrange to have this done.

A building rental plan was formulated and made available to local organizations. It differentiated between charitable, not-for-profit, or for-profit entities, and offered costs for 1) auditorium, 2) educational room, and 3) kitchen (or a combination of these.)

Rev. Crist's sermon title on April 23, 1967, was "Fear of Freedom and Freedom from Fear." The congregation was considering the matter of being a church or a fellowship. There was an awareness that first steps had been taken to organize a Fellowship in Kirksville, Mo. A public meeting there was attended by 35 persons and 22 signed as interested in membership, including three Quincy members. A similar effort in Jacksonville, Ill. was not successful. Their meeting was attended by 16 and only 7 signed as interested.

A printed message from Mr. Crist follows: "The modern equivalent of the passed hat is the box on the window sill, which those interested in sharing the cost

of maintaining a liberal religious organization in this community will find on the rear window sill. And those interested in shouldering a full share of responsibility and in reaping a full share of the rewards will find the membership book in the study-library, and the minister happy to assist."

In May Evelyn Crist suggested that the photographs of former ministers and other items stored in the upper tower room be sorted and put in order. The Alliance members planned to begin this in their June meeting.

The congregation was urged to seriously consider the situation of the Sunday School. There had been a delay in getting started because of replacing the basement flooring. Family nights were held until October 16. There were 17 children enrolled. No offering was taken, but each child was assessed \$2. The proposal was to have two groups: one for pre-school children and another for older children. Caroline Sexauer donated some furniture: (a kidney shape table and eight molded plastic, stackable chairs) in memory of her mother, Mrs. Philip (Cora Janes) Schlagenhauf.

At the annual meeting there was no social action committee report, no music committee report. The international film series had been canceled due to competition and continuous and unavoidable conflicts in dates. There were plans to resume the films the next year.

The proposed budget was \$7,511 and included the minister's salary at \$4,400. Items that were not budgeted were: clerical, conferences, religious education. Frieda Marshall was volunteering some typing and duplicating services, but Mr. Crist prepared the newsletters.

The Report of the Committee on Goals of the UUA provided guidance to a local special committee which made recommendations to the congregation in August, 1967. This committee recommended that the Quincy church support the goals regarding 1) The free church, 2) Development of Professional Leadership-- "establishment by 1970 of a single denominationally-oriented Professional Graduate School for Liberal Religion to be located in a major metropolitan center and affiliated with a major university," 3) Experimental Metropolitan Centers, 4) Effective Communication, a) Journal of

religious thought, b) development of worship materials, c) religious education, etc. 5) Publicity and Advertising, 6) Finances 7) Membership 8) Property Management. The focus of these suggestions was concentrated on applications to the local church.

By September 1967 a complete Sunday School program had been compiled under direction of Sandra Morrison. There were 13 to 16 children in the combined group - (elementary through senior high). Celia Hutchinson led a pre-school class of five children. The Sunday School and the adult forum began at 9:30 and the morning meeting began at 10:45. Jeanine White was providing child care during the Sunday morning services at \$1 a week. (She continued this service through 1969.)

The social action committee suggested a project of behind-the-scenes work on the commission for equal opportunities in the area of open housing. That is, to be a go-between and learn who wants to buy property and who is willing to sell on the open market. Mr. Crist prepared a draft resolution of a basic endorsement of the church for a fair housing ordinance. This matter was being considered by the City Council and was also supported by other church groups in Quincy.

Rolland Wagner had died on August 2, 1967, and his will indicated \$1,000 given to the Quincy Unitarian Church.

The Alliance members planned in October that they would meet at the church and begin the sorting and putting into order scrapbooks, photographs, historical articles and records of the church and various church groups. "It was expected that this would become the project for the year and there would be a continuing interest and more work than could be completed in an evening or two."

The G.E. disposal donated by the Whites was installed in November and the bill for \$28.72 paid to Koenker Plumbing for the work.

The November treasurer's report showed a balance of \$53.65. This brought discussion on the need of funds and "whether the box on the sill efficiently replaced the collection plate or the bag on a stick." The printed announcement urged: "The little box on the rear

window sill is the most important item in the room, for without the financial contributions which are put into it, the organization and its program could not exist. Your contributions are invited, and your regular support will guarantee the continuance of our program." George P. Crist, Minister.

A special congregational meeting was held to consider and vote on two proposals: 1) A resolution supporting a Fair Housing ordinance being studied by the Quincy City Council and urging its adoption, and 2) a proposal that the Quincy Unitarian Church sponsor a Fair Housing Listing Service, bringing together property owners willing to sell on the open market and persons having trouble finding property on the not-so-open market. On Part 1 the vote was 32 in favor, none opposing. On Part 2 the vote was 28 in favor, 0 against.

The Alliance held another Christmas progressive dinner party with white elephant gift exchange. Some gifts were given with gleeful "malice aforethought."

#### MR. CRIST'S RESIGNATION

Rev. Crist read a letter to the Board on March 4, 1968, indicating that he was seeking other employment and would, if the opportunity presented itself, wish to be at liberty to accept. The letter was not a formal resignation, but rather a courtesy to the Board. John Sperry, after discussion, moved that the Board receive the letter with "sympathy and understanding and with appreciation of the services given; that the Board be at liberty to enter into other contractual arrangements with Mr. Crist should the occasion arise; and that the Board meet more frequently this spring to consider alternatives to the situation."

Mr. Crist explained that his responsibilities with The Quincy Herald-Whig had become heavier recently and that he had been holding two jobs for nearly 12 years. That is, with The Herald-Whig and Bluff Hall Congregational Church for four years and with The Herald-Whig and the Unitarian Church for almost eight years. In April George Crist accepted a position as editorial writer of Bay City Times, Bay City, Michigan.

The trustees at the next Board meeting surveyed the financial situation: the bank balance was less than enough for the minister's next month's salary. The bank loan for the refurbishing stood at \$1,500. A pledge of \$200 had been made to the UUA, but only \$50 had been paid so far.

The Unitarian Universalist Association reported that ministers' salaries averaged \$8,041 (not including rental allowance, travel or utilities, etc.). The question was whether to maintain status as a church, organize immediately as a fellowship, or become an interim fellowship. Don Busbey moved that the church become an interim fellowship and search for a minister. The salary to be offered was \$5,000 with a parsonage (paid for) and a church in good condition and without debt. A packet would be prepared to send to any prospective minister. The proposed budget for 1966-67 was \$9,220. The pulpit committee consisted of Robert Campbell, R. W. Halbach, Jr., Sherman Bond, Caroline Eldin and Don Busbey, Jr. A program committee was appointed to direct activities during the interim.

The Quincy Unitarian (published rarely by the Quincy Unitarian Church) carried a farewell from George Crist: "I take this opportunity to thank you and say goodbye. We haven't grown numerically and we haven't had the kind of liberal impact on the community which many of us yearn to have. But we have grown in other ways and we have represented in some way the values and principles of what may be called a responsible humanism.

"The main reason for the move is to get out from under the burden of moonlighting -- 12 years of a seven-day-a-week, two-job existence. We have enjoyed friendships and many a pleasant evening, and we leave these with considerable reluctance. It has been mostly pleasure - Thanks. George Crist."

A farewell reception for the Crist family was held on May 18, 1968. They left Quincy in June. The parsonage was rented on a temporary basis.

By suggestion of Carlene Doughty and in memory of her late husband Harold Doughty, the Memorial Committee arranged for Bergman Nursery to plant a sweet gum tree on the church front lawn. Cost: \$67.50

A summer program of the Alliance planned to invite artists to demonstrate techniques at garden meetings held on Sunday mornings. Fritz Morrison was the guest artist at the home of Frieda Marshall on June 16. A continuing project of the Alliance was the preservation of church records and historical documents.

Church lawn mowing was done by Allen Dietrich at a cost of \$3.75 each week.

Bruce Marshall, church member and a student at Earlham College, presented a request to use the church address for disseminating material about the draft and about conscientious objectors. There were various delays for more discussion or for parliamentary procedure. No action was taken.

#### QUINCY PAGEANT OF CHURCHES

In September, 1968, Caroline Sexauer served as chair of a committee to arrange a booth at the Quincy Pageant of Churches. This was held in a vacant building at 810 Maine Street building to recognize the Illinois Sesquicentennial, and it proved to be a cooperative effort of about 50 local churches of all faiths. A special collection from members was suggested to finance this display of Unitarianism. The treasurer, Ted Morrison, paid \$50 toward this project and hoped that the members would contribute enough to make this up.

The Unitarian Universalist Association in Boston reflected that a salary of \$5,000 plus parsonage would give only a slight chance for securing a full-time minister. The church still held a note with the Mercantile Bank for \$2,000. A letter was sent to the church members explaining the financial situation, but very few responses had been received by the next Board meeting.

The Sunday School did not begin until October, 1968, as there was a shortage of volunteer leaders. Frances Morrison was serving as organist. An information bulletin, prepared by Board president Elizabeth Stebbins and Board Secretary Sandra Morrison, was mailed to the members.

THE REV. LESTER MONDALE 1968 - 1969  
INTERIM MINISTRY

The services of an interim minister were secured, however, to be in Quincy for five months during the winter of 1968-69. The congregation relied on members and guest speakers for the Sunday services during the fall months.

The interim minister was the Rev. Lester Mondale, who gave his first service on November 3, 1968. Fifty-two members and friends attended. A welcoming reception was held at the church on that Sunday evening with Pauline Bond as chairman.

After graduation from Harvard Divinity School, Lester Mondale had served Unitarian churches from 1929 to 1962. Following retirement he served interims in 1962, 1965, 1966, before coming to Quincy. He had written several books: The Missouri Still Runs Wild, four books published by Beacon Press, and The New Man of Religious Humanism. He was then serving as national president of the Fellowship of Religious Humanists and in January attended a meeting of the International Humanist and Ethical Union in New York City.

Lester Mondale was a brother of Senator "Fritz" Mondale of Minnesota who was later known as U. S. Vice-president Walter Mondale, serving with President Jimmy Carter in 1976-1980. Rev. Lester Mondale and his wife Rosemary moved into the parsonage in November.

The second Sunday of Mr. Mondale's service in Quincy coincided with a Dege family reunion. The visiting "Deges" and those who lived in Quincy filled 2-1/2 rows of pew space. Mr. Mondale said he was "heartened by this family reunion." The family consisted of Herman and Anna B. Dege, Frieda Marshall, Bruce Marshall, Janice Marshall, Bertha and Russell Danhaus, Anna Louise Brigham, Patsy Rose Hoshiko, Ray and Clara Lily White, Andrea White, and Wesley White.

THE QUINCY UNITARIAN newssheet was mailed weekly to announce the coming sermon topic. The minister stated his office hours: Mornings (ordinarily) Monday through Saturday. The Order of Service cover carried a continuing message: Neither to Convert, Nor to Controvert, But to Share. There was also the message: Your

attention is called to the receptacle at the rear of the auditorium, placed there to receive your freewill offering....Appreciation was expressed to Mrs. Paul (Frances) Morrison who was donating her services as organist. Frieda Marshall was typing the Orders of Service, newsletters, and promotion for the foreign film series, using duplicating equipment at Gem City College.

The Sunday School was "reconstituted" under the direction of Sandra Morrison, Al Beck, Gladys Cassidy, Harriet Dege, Celia and Harold Hutchinson, Ray and Clara Lily White. There were three groups: pre-school, middle, and Jr. high, accommodating 13 individuals. A "grand opening" date of December 1 named a Sunday School hour at 10:00, adult discussion also at 10:00 and the morning service at 11:00. This would enable the Sunday School teachers to attend the morning service. Child care would be available during the morning service.

Mr. Mondale said that attendance had ranged from 42 to 59 on Sunday mornings. He had made calls on non--attending members. The newspaper had cooperated on using material he had supplied. He mentioned his availability to speak to service organizations on "Humanism."

A Christmas supper, catered by Mr. Joe Turner on December 10, was sponsored by King's Daughters. There was group singing of Christmas carols. The Vesper Christmas Service on Sunday, December 22, included participation by several young people: Chrissie Berggren and Jeanine White gave readings, Janice Marshall was soloist, John Halbach and Wesley White were ushers. Mr. Mondale spoke on "The Hercules Myth and the Christ Ideal."

In January, 1969, Mr. Mondale began a series of Sunday sermons on Unitarianism. The newsletter carried a headline: WE WERE CHEERED SUNDAY...In spite of the bitter cold and the snow the night before and the icy streets, children turned out for Sunday School and 43 adults came for the service. Paul Kurtz drove 80 miles from La Plata, Missouri!

Sunday morning discussions were being held following an abbreviated coffee hour. Members served as the leaders on topics that centered on vital Unitarian issues.



Three foreign films were shown in February, 1969: (L'Avventura) (Sparrows Can't Sing) (Smiles of a Summer Night) and in March: (Shoot the Piano Player). Ticket sales had diminished. Quincy College began its own foreign film series. The bank balance stood at \$90.08, and the church owed \$80 for rental of the Little Theatre. The Little Theater paid the church \$90 rental fee for their rehearsals in the downstairs hall.

During his time in Quincy Mr. Mondale was featured in a story of The Herald-Whig about the "minister (at the age of 65) who realizes his dream by buying a motorcycle." Thirty years before, he said, young people at a church camp dared him to ride a motorcycle. It was his first experience "and I went down the gravel road and came back intact." This motorcycle would not be for hot-rodding, but more for touring the trails of the Ozark forests. Rev. and Mrs. Mondale lived in a log house that Mr. Mondale constructed "with help, in part, of the neighboring hill people" on Copperhead Cliff near Frederickton, Missouri, in the Ozarks.

A farewell reception was given on March 30 for Rev. Mondale and Rosemary Mondale. The membership has held a continuing affection for this couple. Mr. Mondale's approach was kind and friendly and he gave encouragement for the growth and continuance of the Quincy Unitarian Church.

In the spring and summer of 1969 there was no minister for the church. The bank loan that was made to finance the building program had been paid. At the annual spring meeting Ed Herman, Building and Grounds, cautioned that roof repair would be essential in the near future. Ted Morrison showed samples of shingles.

At the July Board meeting it was noted that the Memorial Funds had a balance of \$2,560.69. Bids were received for the re-roofing of the church. Hoskins-Maxwell did the job and the Memorial Fund paid the cost of \$1,738.

**THE REV. ROBERT S. HOAGLAND  
1969-1970 INTERIM MINISTRY**

The Rev. Robert S. Hoagland of Madison, Wisconsin, became the interim minister in the fall of 1969. He had served as interim leader of the St. Louis Ethical Society from 1966-1967. A graduate of Meadville Theological School, he studied philosophy at the University of Marburg in Germany, including three months' study at Heidelberg, and under professors Tillich and Buber in Frankfurt. He was present when they were fired by the Nazis. He had heard both Hitler and Mussolini twice, and was jailed in Rome and in Romania for his views.

His travels allowed him to visit Unitarian churches in Romania and in Hungary. He had also studied six months in Italy and in the Vatican Library. He returned to Europe in 1938, worked to assist the Jews, and crossed the German frontiers 16 times.

He had served churches in New York, New Hampshire, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin; and he had worked for General Motors, in journalism and in lumbering.

Mr. Hoagland had "one of the best collections of slides of Unitarian churches," he said. He admitted that he had strongly held views. He was "fanatic" about beginning the service on time. He said, "The church is a lay church and the minister should never take prerogatives in this field from the congregation." He liked variety in the service.

The parsonage was rented to Mr. and Mrs. Larry Loethen and their two children. Mrs. Loethen (Susan) is the grand-daughter of Florence Williams. Mr. Hoagland occupied a room at the Quincy Hotel.

The Church School, under leadership of Caroline Sexauer, had teachers for three groups: primary, secondary, and Jr. and Sr. High. Their program began at 10:00 and the morning service began at 10:45.

The church anticipated a good year with a full-time, full-year minister for the first time in many years. Dr. Harold Hutchinson was Board President. Mr. Hoagland's salary was \$6,000. "Within a year," Mr. Hoagland said, "I hope the Quincy church will be able to secure a full-time, experienced minister." and "The

church should grow to 200 families in five years." and "Tell me the routine for mimeographing the Sunday programs? To whom do I give material and when?" Frieda Marshall continued to provide these services, using Gem City College duplicating equipment.

Frances Morrison volunteered as organist. Coffee hour followed the Sunday morning services. The Order of Service concluded with: "A container for contributions is at the rear of the church. Visitors are urged to speak with the minister as well as with the members."

"Parson" Hoagland wrote a letter: "To two hard-working members: Mrs. Theodore Morrison and Mrs. Floyd Marshall--I continue to think the Trustees must communicate with the people for the building of a healthy church. (and) There should be more frequent communications of various types - but they would be expensive as well as burdensome to you two?"

So a monthly, one-page newsletter called INTERIM was initiated. In November it bewailed the continued lack of communication and announced sermon topics:

"Time's Arrow, or, On Staying Young

"They Cried Peace"

"Primerizing our Religion"

(including a Quaker prayer:

"God, make bad people good,

but good people easier to live with.")

"Radicals, Liberals and Conservatives"

"On Being Liberal"

Mr. Hoagland visited the King's Daughters meeting and suggested that their meetings be held in the church, to give more visibility to the church. He also urged changing the name. A committee was appointed which made a suggestion of "Unitarian Women's Alliance." This was accepted by the group.

At another meeting he outlined how the group could help the church by taking a larger part in the life of the church. He said, "The church has run down. We should do everything we can to invigorate the church." He even said, "You may have to pay more." He had ideas about the group's becoming more aggressive: taking on matters of re-decoration, religious education, visual aids, etc. He said all the junk would be moved out of the office, and "books that are not worth keeping should

be thrown away. The old mimeograph does not work; an addressograph is needed."

At the Board meeting Parson Hoagland said that we have three alternatives: 1) growing, 2) dying, or 3) dragging on. "After some discussion Fred Stephan moved and Don Busbey seconded that we move in the direction of growing and trying to rebuild."

Nona Miller, on behalf of "The Unitarian Women's Alliance," cleaned the kitchen cabinets and labeled the drawers and doors so things could be found easily by those using the kitchen at meetings and for coffee hour.

The INTERIM newsletter of December 1, 1969, announced a special congregational meeting. The Board had had several meetings with Mr. Hoagland who offered some constructive criticism. The advice and consent of the congregation was sought. One improvement already agreed upon was the erection of a "Wayside Pulpit" at the corner of 16th and Hampshire. In this way information about the church and words of Unitarian wisdom furnished by UUA, Beacon Street, Boston, would be noticed.... Protective glass was suggested for the leaded glass windows facing 16th Street. In June, Hoener Glass applied 1/4" polished plate glass on six east and three south windows at a cost of \$335.

For many weeks the Order of Service quoted Emerson: "I like the quiet church before the service begins, better than any sermon." The suggestion that congregants enter the church and remain silent before the service was largely disregarded. Then: "The minister suggests again and again that quiet in this air-space is more attractive to visitors and creative religious meditation than social conversation."

A family Christmas service was held on December 21 during the regular church hour. A Christmas dinner was held at 5 p.m. with a dramatization by the young people. "It's Spring, Charlie Brown" had a cast of fourteen children.

The Foreign Film Series presented: The Red Desert, Playboy of the Western World, The 400 Blows, and The Shop on Main Street.

## HERMAN E. DEGE DIED

Herman Dege died on February 25, 1970, at the age of 85. His association with the Quincy Unitarian Church began in 1930 when he became a member and immediately accepted responsibility of Sunday School superintendent. Five daughters of the family assisted as choir leader, teacher, baby-sitter, etc. Mr. Dege, owner of The Artisan Furniture Shop, was a well known craftsman. He designed and made the chancel candelabra table and the small matching table that first served as a stand for Mrs. Johnson's violin. These were donated at the 1939 centennial of the church. He also served as Board trustee and on the Building and Grounds committee. The five daughters continued in Unitarian Church work; one (Anna Louise) married the Rev. John W. Brigham. Two grandsons (Jeremy Brigham and Bruce Marshall) became Unitarian ministers.

An appraisal of the parsonage at 1435 Hampshire by Carnes and Voth indicated: land and improvements thereon: \$18,000. An offer to purchase was accepted by President Harold D. Hutchinson and Treasurer Frederick P. Stephan. The original title to the parsonage ownership could not be found. In March, 1970, the parsonage was sold to Marjorie and Eugene Johnson for \$18,500. Any furniture not reclaimed by donors was sold and \$90 was added to the treasury. An amount of \$10,000 was put in treasury bonds at 5% interest.

A "No Parking" sign was erected at the 16th Street entry sidewalk. Mr. Hoagland assisted in this project. Pipe, concrete and lettering cost \$11.31. There were weekly notices in The Quincy Herald-Whig announcing the sermon topics. The monthly rate was about \$14.

The 1969-70 membership list included 67 families or individuals. The budget was \$9,349 with a deficit of \$3,625.39.

Through the connection of church member John Arthur, director of the Quincy Art Club, an art exhibit, Kaleidoscope for Kids, was held at the church and was open to the public. This motivational and studio art workshop program for children was developed by Hallmark Cards, Inc. It was locally sponsored by the Quincy Art Club, which contributed \$50 for rental of the building.

John Arthur was asked to make recommendations for repainting the basement of the church. He suggested using bright colors: sunflower yellow for side walls, red and Washington blue for beams and pipes, with a white ceiling. It was suggested that church members do the painting, and a picnic lunch was arranged as an added attraction. Bonnie Daines offered to be in charge of dyeing the curtains.

Redecorating projects were anticipated and a cost of \$3,500 was mentioned.

Church office equipment was improved. Mr. Hoagland traded in a SCM electric portable typewriter in favor of an SCM Electra 120. The purchase price, minus trade-in, was \$110.

Parson Hoagland (as he called himself) completed the interim ministry in Quincy in June, 1970.

(Rev. Robert S. Hoagland died May 9, 1993, in Madison, Wisconsin, at the age of 87.)

Activities continued while a ministerial search was begun. The members of the Unitarian Women's Alliance invited Chancel Evening Alliance members to join them in their meetings. They experimented with some evening and some afternoon meetings, and gradually became one group with Saturday afternoon meetings.

Charlotte Winters was asked to assemble material for a series of articles in The Quincy Herald-Whig about the Quincy church, history of Unitarianism, and beliefs of Unitarians.

The interior of the church (sanctuary) was painted for \$748 by Karl Bauman of Warsaw, Illinois. The study was moved upstairs. A sink and faucet were installed in the north room at a cost of \$302.99. Several Kovacs lamps with white and orange plastic construction were purchased from the Jane Shair Gallery and installed in the north room and the north entryway.

## NO MINISTER - 1970-1971

The Foreign Films were shown in the Unitarian Church. They were: The Caretaker (British), Grand Illusion (French), Ballad of a Soldier (Russian), and Juliette of the Spirits (Italian). An Italian dinner preceded the Italian film, a cooperative activity of the Film Committee and the Alliance. Ticket receipts for the films were \$477.33, but not much profit.

At the 132nd annual meeting held in May, a few phone calls were made before a quorum of 20 appeared. Fred Stephan, ending a term as Board President, thanked the congregation for the opportunity of serving and added that he had had "an interesting and frustrating time as president." Sandra Morrison moved that we thank President Stephan for a "good year in a bad time."

Sherman Bond was elected president. Assuming we could have a minister, he presented a budget including the minister's salary and \$700 for R. E. leadership. Jane Shair recommended hiring a secretary (one morning a week) and adding \$400 to the budget for 40 weeks' work. A deduction from the UUA contribution was made to cover this.

Ted Morrison, treasurer, reported contributions of \$3,352.17 and pointed out that this decline in contributions resulted in less than half of the income of the year before. It had been necessary to use \$1,000 of reserve funds for running expenses and \$2,500 for re-decorating. The budget was discussed and revised to include more for Religious Education "to be derived from reserve funds."

The drop in contributions was attributed to fewer activities in the church "and because money was not sought after." The minutes reported, "It was also agreed that for our poor salary, only someone who was forced into it would be available as a minister." There were 40 or 50 member units. The Church School numbered 20 children from pre-school through high school age.

A budget of \$12,185 was adopted. This was altered to a budget of \$14,925 with \$6,000 taken from reserves. Expected expenses were for minister, religious education and church redecoration (\$1,500) among other items.

Some speakers came from Washington University in St. Louis. On other Sundays members presented topics. There was no service on Easter. The Search Committee was reconstituted to include Elizabeth (Biz) Stebbins, Fred Stephan, Frieda Marshall, and Ted Morrison.

The UUA sent information. Candidates sent packets. Each one, upon receiving information about Quincy, politely declined further communication. One would have come with the proviso that his time could be spent in writing. He then declined. The salary was the "sticky" point. One person said, "I don't think that our local church will come alive again."

The church had been without a minister for about a year. Robert Hoagland tried to help. Lester Mondale tried to help. James Wilkes, minister of the Unitarian Church of Peoria, came to meet with the Board and the Search Committee. He mentioned the name of Rev. Calvin Knapp, former minister of Melrose Chapel in Quincy, who had left a year before to take an administrative position in ecumenical work in Peoria. The position had not met his expectations, and he might be interested in being our minister. In September Mr. Knapp met with eleven members of the Board and Search Committee.



REV. CALVIN KNAPP



## CHURCH REDECORATION IDEAS 1969-1970-1971

A church redecoration committee called in decorators and architects to suggest adjustments to the church building. Some ideas of merit were followed. There were conflicting proposals that may be of interest to us today. Ideas from members and experts follow:

### FROM MEMBERS

1. Re-wire with sufficient capacity for modern day needs.
2. Paint all interior walls sunlight gold.
3. Bleach and re-varnish the woodwork.
4. Install indirect lighting.
5. Lay wool rug in parlor: install modern furniture.
6. Dispose of "junk" on stage and renovate flooring.
7. Paint basement walls apricot or turquoise with window curtains to match.
8. Brighten and refurbish restrooms and halls.
9. Provide religious symbols and names of prominent Unitarians in the main room. Quotations in calligraphy on side-ceiling panels of sanctuary.
10. Move minister's office to north upper room and equip with bookshelves, suitable furniture and, of course, heating.
11. Equip auditorium chandeliers so that they may be lowered for bulb replacement.
12. Remove gas log from fireplace.
13. Painting now hanging above fireplace should be hung in main floor north room.
14. Hold extensive remodeling until a larger congregation can participate.

### FROM EXPERTS

1. Stain front door black on the outside and leave it the same on the inside.
2. Auditorium carpeted throughout.
3. Insulation material at base of organ pipes to muffle downstairs noise.
4. False organ pipes should be painted.
5. It would be a good idea to panel the masonry or stain it a dark, rich blue. (yellow walls)
6. Thoroughly clean stain glass windows.

7. The center scenes of both the front and back windows should be scraped so the outside could be seen by those in the auditorium. Passersby could see PEOPLE in the church (and would come in).
  8. Do away with altar table and place candelabra on top of paneling under Founder's window. (Light candles by using ladder)
  9. Improve lighting system over pulpit.
  10. Replace chairs on the rostrum.
  11. Build canopy over back door.
  12. Use folding chairs in room next to auditorium.
  13. Remove bulletin board.
  14. Carpet this room. (Parlor)
  15. Paint basement yellow and pipes in bright colors.
  16. Similar bright colors for downstairs cabinets.
  17. Make north corner room into a library.
  18. Change lighting system in downstairs hall.
  19. Men's lavatory and toilet should be enclosed.
  20. Change the color of the cupola.
  21. Plant a garden in front of the church, shielded from the street by a hedge.
  22. Pulpit should not be on a raised platform.
  23. Replace (front, left) false organ pipes with louvres.
  24. Remove chancel paneling and create a glass doorway under the Founders' Window.
  25. Oval arrangement of pews and new speakers' position at northwest section of auditorium.
  26. Make chancel floor even with auditorium.
  27. Change heating system: anticipate air-conditioning.
  28. Insulate basement ceiling w/ acoustical tile.
  29. Restore fireplace to wood-burning.
  30. Cluster comfortable furniture at fireplace.
  31. Clean stone of the assembly room.
  32. New lighting fixture in entry.
- And other suggestions.

Remember that this was a time of no ministerial leadership. Aesop said:

"When the cat's away, the mice will play."

and

"It is easy to propose impossible remedies."

We were also cautioned more recently that "at least once a year we are presented with some destructive or 'crack pot' ideas that waste our time before being discarded."

THE REV. CALVIN KNAPP  
1971-1976

The Rev. Calvin Knapp, former pastor of Melrose Chapel United Methodist Church (1966-1970), accepted the call to the Quincy Unitarian Church in September, 1971. A graduate of DePauw University and Garrett Theological Seminary, he was ordained June, 1966, in the United Methodist Church. During 1970 he had worked as director of the Urban Work Commission of Metro-Peoria Council of Churches. Earlier in his life he had been in business in the East St. Louis area. His family owned farms in Southern Illinois and raised cattle.

Friendship with Unitarian ministers, The Rev. Thaddeus Clark of St. Louis and the Rev. James Wilkes of Peoria, drew him closer to Unitarianism. While he lived in Peoria, he occasionally spoke in the Peoria Unitarian-Universalist church. Mr. Knapp promised his entire effort for the church and described himself as a "man with extraordinary energy."

The Quincy church listed 52 active members and included in the mailing list 30 "friends." At a meeting in September, 1971, with 31 members attending, a unanimous vote was received to invite Mr. Knapp to be the minister. The salary was \$10,000 a year, plus moving and travel expenses, \$500 each. Insurance and pension to be worked out. The agreement included \$1,000 a year for secretarial expenses.

Mr. Bond thanked Frieda Marshall for doing all the communications and orders of service, but said it was time that "we hired a secretary." Frieda said, "Fine." She would continue to be of help when asked.

The mimeograph machine at the church was unusable and the typewriter was no good.

A cleaning crew of members worked to make the church look nice for the first Sunday, September 10. Mr. Knapp greeted people as they came in the church. About 70 attended to hear the sermon, "The Personality of a Community." The Order of Service carried this message: "Your financial support is needed and appreciated. Gifts may be deposited in the container located on the window sill at the rear of the center aisle."

The installation service was set for the evening of November 7, 1971. The Rev., James Wilkes of the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Peoria was the keynote speaker, and the Rev. Jonathan B. Story of the First Union Congregational Church of Quincy gave the welcoming message. Frieda Marshall set the type for the program on the Gem City College Composer and the printing was done by Modern Printing (charge for printing: \$20). This program had the first use of the pen drawing of the church which was borrowed from Caroline Sexauer. Her uncle, Guido D. Janes, had produced this many years before. This art work was then used with the UU chalice on the Orders of Service and as the heading on the newsletters.

Quite a few visitors from Mr. Knapp's former church attended the installation service. Mr. Wilkes spoke on "The Minister as Gadfly." Mr. Knapp immediately made arrangements to meet with various committees. He was considering the formation of a Sunday evening discussion group. He said he had been "riding on an exhilarating 84-day crest" since assuming his duties.

Jane Shair made drapes for the minister's office, and carpeting was installed. A purchase of 12 to 15 additional hymnals was recommended. The Board authorized purchase of a typewriter.

In November Floyd Marshall offered a good Remington electric typewriter to the church for \$75. Ruth Knapp tried it and said it was great! She would do the secretarial work for a salary of \$125 monthly. Then she typed programs and brought them to Frieda at Gem City College for printing. The church paid GCC for supplies and copies made.

Bill Sexauer began an extensive overhaul of wiring throughout the church:

1. Electrical service increased to 200 amp capacity.
2. Three separate lines to service the kitchen
3. Wall sockets to be installed: one along the north baseboard of the chancel area, one along the south wall of Heritage Hall near the fireplace, two in the mimeograph room, and one at east wall of minister's office.

Mr. Knapp suggested a "talk back" to be incorporated in the coffee hour and asked for opinions from the Women's Alliance members. In December the Alliance members met at the church for a "bring your own sandwich" luncheon. They discussed drapes for the basement windows. The guest speaker was Erna Fast of the YWCA who spoke of an effort to establish Planned Parenthood in Quincy.

A Kaleidoscope of Religion was instituted as an intergenerational religious education program. It was called "new and experimental" to provide religious education through creative encounter. The program used specific topics for discussion in a "Freedom Forum." There was a review of early Unitarian affirmations, young people made posters, children learned songs and dances. On the first Sunday Al Beck entertained with guitar and songs. The sermon that day was "Desiderata." There were new people coming, described by some as "hippies," and led by Steve Walz. Mr. Knapp saw them as "representing a totally new dimension for responsible activity in our congregation."

In a December 19 service, Jim Winters presented special Christmas music (violin). This was called an "Appreciation Service." Members and friends were invited to an Open House at the Knapp Family home, 44 Lakeshore Hills. Something very special occurred for the Christmas Eve service. There was only candlelight from tapers on posts at the ends of the pews. Evergreen and red velvet enhanced the decorations. Don Hatch, french horn artist, presented a Christmas concert, "Red Velvet and Candlelight," at 7 p.m. Francis Morrison was organ accompanist. The program lasted one hour.

The candle-holder posts have been used ever since. We believe they originated for the wedding of Sherman and Pauline Bond's daughter, Judy, and had been stored in the church. After the Christmas Eve service on Saturday night, there were few who attended the December 26 Sunday morning service. Nine people were related to the Deges, and there were eleven others including four from the Knapp family. Only two children came.

Bruce Marshall, a ministerial student then serving the Decatur Unitarian Fellowship, visited with Calvin Knapp. He said, "I like Mr. Knapp. He is a good man for the church."

In January the Chancel Evening Alliance closed its bank account and transferred \$44.59 to the treasury of the Unitarian Women's Alliance. The Alliance program was presented by Mrs. Scotty McLemore, area director of Planned Parenthood in Southeast Iowa. She told what the church society could do to help establish Family Planning in Quincy. Ruth Knapp and her daughter Jane attended a meeting of the representatives of child and family service organizations in the area. Mr. Kip Wilson, head of Family Service in Quincy, spoke. Dr. DuPuy, on behalf of doctors, offered medical co-operation. In Ruth's opinion the best procedure would be for our group to watch what happens, and if nothing, to consider combining our efforts with the public affairs committee of the YWCA.

Mr. Knapp suggested setting aside a week-end for cleaning the church. He said we needed tablecloths for the dining hall as there could be an arrangement of serving suppers to coordinate with the theme of the foreign films. Cloths could be yellow, orange and blue to go with the downstairs color scheme. (Someone suggested dyeing the tablecloths.) Cal bought orange and yellow Indianhead lengths, and they served a long time.

Fred Stephan had built a Wayside Pulpit and it was ready for installation except for posts or stone base. Mr. Knapp offered to secure an estimate for a stone base that would match the stone of the church. A "wish list" for the church included extension of the green carpeting of the aisles into the chancel area and the Heritage Hall area. Also desired were drapes in the basement, storage cabinets, nursery equipment, etc. No action was taken at this time.

#### Klingelbeutel

The January 16, 1972 Order of Service carried this message: "This morning we are re-establishing an old tradition and at the same time inaugurating something new. The ushers will pass a Klingelbeutel among the congregation. The people are invited to use these, not only as a receptacle in which to put your monetary gifts for support of our church's programs, but also as a means for transmitting ideas, requests and recommendations to the leadership of our church. Please use the pink slips of paper that are provided in the pew racks for these communications."

The church purchased an A. B. Dick 515E mimeograph machine from Fisher Business Company for \$687 and received \$62 for trading in A. B. Dick 77. The bill for \$625 was paid from Memorial Funds.

The February 4, 1972, Kaleidoscope program included showing the "best propagational film on contemporary Unitarian ideology, The Nature of Unitarian Universalism." It featured an interview with UUA President Robert West. Quincy formed a Propagation Committee. The downstairs area was being referred to as the Kaleidoscope Room. The programs became more and more adult centered. The concept was not appealing to children, and "parents showed a lack of loyalty."

The Newsletters prepared by Mr. and Mrs. Knapp were four-page issues complete with reports of Board actions, treasurer's reports, activities, planned events, and Unitarian background information.

The Foreign Film series, with season tickets at \$5, presented "The Gospel According to St. Matthew," "The Cranes are Flying," "The Bad Sleep Well", and a Night of Experimental Film (which was disastrous). These were shown in the church sanctuary. A large screen was set in front of the chancel and a projectionist booth was built at the south end of the aisle. This was engineered by Fred Stephan and operated by his son David.

The Young Adults group prepared and served an Italian supper, preliminary to the Italian film. This effort netted about \$30. No film series was anticipated for the 1972-73 season. It was felt that the project had served the community and was no longer needed.

Sally Stephan provided nursery care at \$2.50 a week until December 1972.... Ted Morrison volunteered to cut the grass during the coming summer.... Reflector shades were removed from the basement lights and decorator light bulbs, purchased by Jane Shair, were installed.... Frieda Marshall painted the children's chairs.... A bequest of \$750 from the estate of Julius Kespohl was received in March, 1972.... Church income was better than anticipated, "primarily due to having a full-time active church with a full-time active and creative minister."

Sunday evening programs in March were planned by the Young Adults group. The "Far-Far-Outers" of this segment wished "to present their unique views concerning life styles that they personally accept. The group members think of themselves as wishing to be in utter harmony with Mother Earth and natural laws." Programs to follow addressed the teachings of Dr. Buckminster Fuller (who was to speak at Quincy College in May), Earth Day, and Mundialization.

In April four outstanding Unitarian-Universalist denominational leaders accepted the invitation to come to Quincy. They were: Dr. Max Gaebler, minister of the First Unitarian Society of Madison, Wisconsin (seventy attended); Rev. W. Edward Harris, minister of the UU Church of Urbana-Champaign (50 attended); Dr. John Hayward of Southern Illinois University (35 attended); and Rev. William R. Jacobsen, minister of the Bloomington Unitarian Church. This activity was underwritten by \$75 from our Board of Trustees, \$200 from the Central Illinois Area Council of the UUA.

A two-sentence paragraph from the newsletter read: "Almost every gardener sows too many seeds in the spring. Let's have a 'plant sale' or 'plant exchange' day!"

On Wednesday mornings in April Jane Shair presented art appreciation lectures. Those who enrolled paid \$20 and the treasury netted \$160.

Bruce Marshall, son of Frieda and Floyd Marshall, was the guest speaker on April 23, 1972. He spoke on "After Belief and After Disbelief." Bruce was a graduate of Earlham College, received his MA from Meadville School of Theology, and was a doctoral candidate at Chicago Theological School. He was the student minister serving the Unitarian Fellowship of Decatur, Illinois.

In April the Board approved Mr. Knapp's request to allow the Good Earth Committee of Adams County to continue using the facilities of the church as a meeting place without charge temporarily. This committee grew out of concern regarding environmental problems of Quincy and Adams County. Jr. High and Sr. High students were encouraging others to organize ecology task groups. A need was recognized to establish recycling facilities in the greater Quincy community.



Because of church finances, Mr. Knapp suggested that the Board not send him to the Dallas General Assembly meeting. However, he would plan to attend the next year. A goal challenge was: We intend to have 100 active members by April 30, 1973! Mrs. Morrison asked to be relieved of regular duties as organist next year. The Board voted to discontinue collecting monetary offerings at the Sunday morning meetings. A basket was located in the church foyer, however, where "those persons who are willing to financially support the programs of the church may place contributions."

The Kaleidoscope of Religion #3 schedule follows:

Pre-schoolers	Leadership shared by volunteers.
Grades 1-2	Leadership to be determined.
Grades 3-4	"Festivals, Myths and Legends" Charlotte Winters, teacher
Grades 5-6	"Jesus, the Carpenter's Son"
Grades 7-8	"The Drama of Ancient Israel" Frieda Marshall, teacher
Grades 9-10-11-12	To be determined by persons in that age bracket.
Adults of all ages	To meet together and determine their own courses of study. The minister will assist volunteer leaders if desired.

The annual meeting was held on May 12, 1972. There were 75 active members of the church and 11 new members during this year. An amendment to the constitution read: "Young people between the ages of 12 and 18 may become Junior Members, which entitles them to all privileges of full membership except the right to vote upon questions involving the expenditure of money."

The Finance Committee indicated that the pledges would not meet the budget of \$16,510. There would be a shortfall of about \$700. Mr. Knapp outlined a plan to raise \$700 to \$1,000 quickly in the form of an "Attic Auction." And a date was set for September 23, 1972.

## CANDELABRA INSCRIPTION

For those who are interested in details, we can tell you that the Hebrew inscription on the multi-branched candelabra we use on Sunday mornings was translated by Rabbi Morton Spar. It says "To Light the Candles of the Sabbath."

The Unitarian Fellowship of Burlington, Iowa, ordained the Rev. Raymond L. Rohrbaugh as their minister on May 21, 1972.

The League of Women Voters asked to meet in the church on a regular basis, 3rd and 4th Thursdays from 1:30 to 3:15 p.m.

The captain's chairs were stored in Jane Shair's garage. She offered to store them until such time as they might become worth \$25 each.

Someone furnished a new window air-conditioner for the minister's office. It was greatly needed and much appreciated.

The Good Earth Committee of Adams County held a basic information meeting at the church. Philip Chanen spoke on "Don't Waste the Waste." Recycling of solid waste materials in the Greater Quincy Community was the focus of the meeting.

## WHAT IS AN ATTIC AUCTION?

What is an Attic Auction? The Board was seriously considering this fund raising event. Members were asked to clean out about 5% of the treasures they had stored in attics, garages, basements and contribute them to the church. The total accumulations would then be sold at public auction. Net proceeds would be credited to the general fund.

Fred Stephan, as treasurer, categorized all line items. There were codes: (IR2), (IR6) (UR1) for deposits; (A1) (A2) (B1) etc. (C1) etc, (D1) etc. for the separate expenditures. The Finance Chair, Ted Morrison, recognized that approximately eight families had not yet pledged. Assuming that they ultimately would pledge the same as the previous year, there would still be a deficiency of \$700.

A church school prospectus and calendar was distributed. A short session in the church auditorium would be led by the minister, providing an opportunity to share special thoughts, poems, to sing and make announcements. Students then were to attend their respective classes, dismissing at 10:30.

Children from infancy to 2 years of age were to be cared for in the Toddler's Tower Room, also used for nursery care during the morning service. Five other age-grouped classes were under direction of Karen Bockewitz (Grades 1 & 2 in southwest corner of the basement), Nancy Winters (Grades 3 & 4 on the stage area), Sara Stoecklin (Grades 5 & 6 in Resource Room), Allen Shriver (Grades 7 & 8, Heritage Hall), and Peter Stoecklin (High School in Minister's office). Continuing educational opportunities also were offered to all adults. There was also an adult forum meeting on Sunday nights at 7. Many of the guest speakers were politically motivated.

Charlie Creech scrubbed down the back hallway steps, stained and varnished them. He suggested the organization of a "grocery co-op." Gentry Koch installed a window ventilator in the furnace room. The intent was to overcome a down draft and assure that the fireplace would not emit smoke in the room. A call was issued for someone to build a box with lid to be a receptacle on the back window sill to receive packages and films.

Attic Auction plans were expanded to include a bake sale, also a refreshment area. Payson auctioneer Bill (Miserly) Baker was willing to "call" the sale on Saturday, October 28. Items were requested, a listing was prepared, and 2,000 flyers were printed and distributed. Committees were formed to cover advertising and promotion, auction items collection, telephone, canteen, and Yum Yum Pantry (bake sale). In addition, David Stephan delivered about 150 flyers on his paper-route.

The event was declared a fantastic success with a profit of \$901.79. Auction items: \$753.50, Mayflower Bakery: \$119.60, Pilgrim Kitchen and postcard sales: \$28.69.

To accommodate showing of films in the downstairs hall, darkening shades were procured for the windows from Merkels. \$52.43.

## WORLD CITIZENSHIP DECLARATION

At the same time another event was in the planning stages. Larry Byrnes was chair of the World Citizenship Declaration committee. A resolution submitted to the Board on October 12, 1972, was approved, and the members met to sign a proclamation of World Citizenship. The document was based on the premise that "The common interests of man can only be met through world cooperation. We pledge our efforts as world citizens to the establishment of permanent peace, based on just world law and to the use of world resources in the service of man and not for his destruction."

Ronald J. Glossop, professor at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, who had earlier introduced the subject of mundialization to the congregation, was guest speaker for the ceremony on Friday evening, November 17. Tom Moore wrote the document in script. The general public was invited to attend the signing ceremonies, but only members of the congregation were permitted to sign this particular document. This was to encourage other groups to generate a world citizen group within their organizations and congregations. Forty-five members signed the World Citizenship Declaration, about 63% of the 75 active members. The committee included: Larry Byrnes, Nona Miller, Frieda Marshall, Bertha Danhaus, Doris and Gentry Koch and Sherman Bond. Two flag standards at the church date from this event.

The Social Action Committee had chosen to explore the matter of pre-planned funerals and memorial services. Miss Erna Fast, Director of the Quincy YWCA, made a presentation to the Adult Forum, telling of her experience in Oakland, California, and of her disappointment in learning there was no similar organization in Quincy. As an outcome of this meeting The Funeral and Memorial Society of Quincy continued to meet regularly in the church. The Board gave approval for use of the church address and telephone as center for information.

The Christmas Eve program, "Red Velvet and Candlelight," was presented by Alice Mays, cellist, and her mother, Frances Morrison, organist. Alice Morrison Mays was a member of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, and planned to present a broad spectrum of Christmas music. The church was decorated with evergreen, white birch trees, red velvet and white Christmas candles.

The congregation "adopted" a Christmas Family and delivered household items, clothing, and money on Christmas Eve. Coordinating committee: Nona Miller, Sherman Bond, Steve Walz and Steven and Calvin Knapp.

Mr. Knapp announced a five-session study course on the Old Testament, Monday evenings at 7:30, in the Resource Room of the church. Seminary reference books were to be used in this course. He urged more regular attendance on Sunday mornings and requested responsible greeters. Ted Morrison, Frieda Marshall and Nona Miller were the greeters for the rest of the season.

The Board of Trustees agreed in January to let the minister promote the possibility of having a Spring Plant Sale. The idea came from Cal Knapp's experience in Wisconsin, and he carefully explained "annuals," "cuttings," "perennials," "leaf cuttings," and so on. If there were ten or a dozen people interested, the project could have a successful start. An ad hoc committee was formed. "Make way for petunias!"

Mr. Knapp was seeking permanent membership in the Unitarian Universalist Ministerial Association. Letters of recommendation were requested in the January 1973 newsletter. The offertory basket was back on the window sill.

A Special Projects Committee was considering a "Gay Nineties Review" with direction of Jann Schaub.... A Family Fellowship Supper brought fifty reservations for a carry-in supper and program in February.... The Good Earth Committee met on Wednesday evening.... The Old Testament Study-Discussion group of ten individuals continued meeting... The minister was invited to address the Quincy Mangement Club on "Morality in Industry." He was scheduled to address the Quincy Chapter of AAUW on "Ecological Achievements in Quincy." He planned to read twenty books before appearing before the UUMA Committee in Chicago in April.

Vi Moore said "basement" should be correctly termed "Fellowship Hall."... Scott Knapp was engaged as church custodian... Calvin Knapp planned to trim the privet hedge at the east of the church. He added to the Order of Service, "Robins are due to arrive in Quincy on February 21. On some occasions they arrive wearing snowshoes."

Sermon topics reflected Mr. Knapp's reading. He announced sermons regarding John Locke, Hosea Ballou, William Ellery Channing, Theodore Parker and John Haynes Holmes.

On the lighter side there was the Gay Nineties Gala -- a "heart-rending night, lavish with sentiment you will never forget." Jann Schaub, assistant professor of speech and drama at Culver-Stockton College directed. (She also had been a member of the church Board and taught Sunday School class.) Committees were announced: Publicity and Promotion, Finances, Ticket Sales --\$1 admission (Frances Morrison will fend off the scalpers.) Music, Props (John Sperry will build a lady-sized buzz saw.), Decorations, etc. Enid Ireland provided music.

Members and local performers participated in the olio of eleven numbers preceding the four-act melodrama, "Only An Orphan Girl." Superlatives abounded: "Men and women in the AUDIENCE will kindly refrain from cracking peanuts during the PERFORMANCE. Gentlemen and ladies do not need to be thus cautioned. Boisterous and rowdy conduct will not be TOLERATED by the Management." There were refreshments: pretzels and root beer. The evening ended with a square-dancing demonstration. "Surely no fewer than 200 people crowded into the hall for this performance."

"And now, from the same folks who brought you this fine and splendid entertainment...

"An Evening in London Town" - English dinner and Film--  
"Kind Hearts and Coronets."

Spring Luncheon and Plant Sale --- May 12."

The Women's Alliance was the sponsoring organization for the Gay 90's Gala (which had a profit of \$268) and for the English dinner and film. In this way the group was able to contribute the amount pledged to the church budget plus an amount over the \$300. Some funds were used to supply needed kitchen equipment.

But the women asked to be relieved of the responsibility of making money to meet the pledge. They asked, "Are we a supportive arm of the church or are we a study group?" The 1973-74 church budget was written without expectation of \$300 from the Alliance.

## MAY DAYS PLANT SALE

The May Days Plant Sale and Luncheon was called "A Swinging Success." In addition to the plants, there was a spring luncheon and a slide show in color of exquisite flowers and garden scenes. Members donated an extensive variety of plants and everyone felt it was worthwhile -- not perfect, but okay. The first report named a profit of \$167. Did anyone expect that it would become an annual event?

A joint meeting of Macomb and Quincy Unitarians occurred on Sunday, May 20, 1973. About 24 adults and children from the Macomb Fellowship came to Quincy for the morning service. There was a luncheon and a skit, "The Subtleties of Freedom," performed by the Macomb members. Discussion followed concerning differences and similarities of churches and fellowships.

At the 134th annual meeting held on May 4, 1973, twenty-eight members attended. The reports showed that contributions were under what was expected; and although expenses were also under the amount allowed, it was necessary to withdraw about \$850 from reserves every month. The total taken from reserves was \$6,177, leaving a balance in reserve funds of \$5,758. Of 35 contributing units, old active members gave 55%, inactive members gave 26%, new members gave 11% and non-members gave 3%.

A suggestion was made that a semi-annual meeting be held in February, 1974. Charlotte Winters added to her Fellowship Committee report: "It is hoped that next year some serious money-making dinners can be held in order to equip our sadly inadequate kitchen."

It was pointed out that "One Cause Members" (whether it be peace groups, black empowerment, women's lib, gay liberation, or anti-religionists) may be a source of friction in congregations.

Action was delayed at this time on widening the driveway. A bid of \$170 had been received. The Wayside Pulpit needed to be set and wiring put in place for floodlight. Plantings were requested near the Wayside Pulpit. Several contributed to this effort and the Memorial Fund paid \$36.52 for lumber and electrical materials, and \$22 for two yew bushes.

THE REV. CALVIN KNAPP APPROVED BY UUA

After nearly one and a half years of study, attending meetings, interviews and the ultimate endorsement of Unitarian laity and clergy, The Rev. Calvin Knapp was approved and accepted into the Ministry of the UUA. The active membership of the Quincy Unitarian Church listed 78 individuals.

In June, 1973, the Quincy church was host to the Central Illinois Area Extension and Growth Workshop. Resource persons were: Rev. V. Emil Gudmundson, Inter-District Representative; Margaret Odell, UUA Board member and Religious Education specialist; Barbara J. Weathers, R.E. director, Springfield, Illinois; and Harry S. Nachman, CMD representative to the UUA.

The Friday evening social hour was followed by a supper in Kaleidoscope Hall, two discussion sessions and a fellowship time, with adjournment at 10:30. Home hospitality was offered by Quincy members. The Saturday sessions began at 9 a.m. with two presentations before luncheon and two sessions before the summation and adjournment at 4:15.

The Knapp family spent considerable time on the farm in Southern Illinois during the summer. Members received a June and a July newsletter. Committee chairmen were announced and were given responsibility of recruiting additional committee members:

Education: Peter Stoecklin; Social Action: Elizabeth Stebbins; Cultural Affairs: Jann Schaub; Fellowship: Pauline Bond; Public Relations: Enid Ireland; Building & Grounds: Gentry Koch; Membership: Robert Campbell; Music: Frances Morrison; Special Projects: Frieda Marshall; Flowers and Decorations: Dienna Drew. A repeat Attic Auction was scheduled for the fall.

Ted Morrison mowed the church lawn all summer and fall. The minister urged that this service not be taken for granted.

Advertising in The Herald-Whig cost \$6.69 a week. Ruth Knapp was paid \$125 monthly for secretarial services. On September 16 she joined the staff of the YWCA as program director.



The first sermon in September was "The Validities of Prayer," and the evening program was a colored slide presentation by Mr. Knapp of their Wild Rose Farms of Southern Illinois.... The membership book was re-bound under direction of Caroline Sexauer and with payment of \$17 from the Memorial Fund.... The "Wayside Pulpit" was finally installed and lighted from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.... It was church clean-up time again and one duty was to remove chimney swifts' nests from fireplace flue. In a box located on the sill next to the back door geraniums were blooming profusely. A neighbor had volunteered to water the plants all summer.

Bertha Danhaus worked with the Finance Committee, and a true every-member canvass was conducted. Canvas-sers were: Sherman Bond, Bob Campbell, Gladys Cassidy, Jim Drew, Doris Koch, Ted Morrison, Jann Schaub, Sara Stoecklin. The budget called for \$16,050, and the pledges and special projects income was estimated at \$11,552. So an additional \$4,498 was still needed.

The Attic Auction, held on September 29, included a new item: Ye Olde Book Shoppe. Members and friends donated books which were not sold at auction but were arranged on a display table and individually priced. Richard Mosley volunteered his services as auctioneer. The auction, bake sale, canteen, and book table brought an income of \$786.

The Women's Alliance had twenty-three members. At the October 6, 1973, meeting they adopted Rules and Procedures:

1. The purpose of this Alliance is: a. to enrich relationships between persons. b. to stimulate the initiative of individuals. c. to provide fellowship, service and study opportunities. d. to encourage participation in activities of our church. e. to offer a broad perspective through liaison with the District and Continental UUWF.
2. The officers are to be: a president, a vice-president, a secretary and a treasurer.
3. Our monthly meetings will usually occur on the first Saturday of each month at 12:30 p.m. October through May.
4. Membership is open to all women of the church and to other liberal, religious-minded women of the community.

5. The dues will be \$13 per member, payable early in the season.
6. The Alliance holds membership in the Central Midwest District and the Unitarian-Universalist Women's Federation.

Elizabeth Stebbins reported that the YWCA had given the Family Planning committee a room for an office and volunteers were lined up to man it, including Ruth Knapp, Charlotte Winters and Gladys Cassidy. The Alliance sent \$25 to the Family Planning, Inc. Mr. Knapp suggested "inviting other church groups to meet with us so that our liberal attitude can help reinforce their beginnings." Mr. Knapp was elected president of the Central Illinois Area Council.

In November there was a "Supper and a Movie" night. The menu included frankfurters, baked beans, cole slaw and cornbread, home-made pie and beverage. \$1.50. For \$1 more: 80 minutes of film clips of the hilarious comedians of yesteryear (Laurel & Hardy, Will Rogers, Jean Harlow and Carole Lombard, etc.).

A December event for the church was a carry-in supper and the presentation of a two-act drama, "The Patriotic Teddy Bear." Almost all the church school children participated. Sara Stoecklin directed and made the costumes. The "Red Velvet and Candlelight" Christmas Eve service presented Mrs. Gregory Behrens, organist, with special music, and brief and appropriate readings. The birch tree decor remained.

Two needy families were helped with donations of household items, clothing and Christmas checks totaling \$141.53....The hearing aids were repaired and the sound system improved by effort of Geoffrey Mendenhall.

The Steering Committee of a proposed Pre-Planned Funeral and Memorial Organization held several meetings in the church. The matter had been studied for over a year. Since 50 families would not be enough to support the activity, the group could only give information at no charge. The records were stored at the church with "no intention that the proposed organization become directly affiliated with the Unitarian denomination."

The financial situation had improved. During the first eight months of the current fiscal year there was income amounting to 61 percent of the total budget, and

only 57 percent had been spent. There was \$806 in the checking account, \$4,794 in the savings account and \$2,157 in the Memorial Fund.

In February the Religious Education Foundations Study group held Session V on Sunday at 1:00. A soup and sandwich luncheon was served immediately after the morning service. During the next month there were travelogs shown on Sundays at 7:00. Topics: The Appalachian Trail, Scenic New England, Heritage of Dead Sea Lands, and the CBS documentary film, "The Great American Funeral."

A May Market Craft Show was shaping up under direction of Nancy Winters. Members were urged to be creative and area exhibitors were sought.

Twinning with a Unitarian Congregation in Scotland presented an opportunity that grew out of the "Declaration of World Citizenship." Nona Miller assimilated messages from members to be sent abroad.

Those who attended all events at the church could find themselves running constantly. Had Cal Knapp promised that he was a man of extraordinary energy? "The Great Depression" film was shown for an admission price of 75 cents on March 30. The Spring Garden Show and Sale occurred on April 27 (Profit \$300). The annual congregational meeting was to be on May 10 and the Arts and Crafts Exhibition and Sale was set for May 18.

The Board took a stand in support of the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling on abortion. Petitions were made available to members. Mr. Bond received a response from Connecticut Senator Abe Ribicoff. This information was shared with members in the next newsletter.

With spring approaching, Mr. Knapp asked for advice regarding disposition of the white birch trees that had occupied space in the chancel area for about 15 months. At this time, their beauty having been absorbed, the trees "were allowed to go the ways of all dead trees" The fire-hazard concern was overcome.

The Women's Alliance unanimously approved (in a formal statement) extending an invitation to an ad hoc committee to use the church without charge for a two-week period "to promote information pertaining to the

ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment by the Legislature of the State of Illinois."

Dr. and Mrs. Walter Stevenson donated carpeting. It was considered appropriate for use in the tower room. The laying of the carpet was arranged by Frieda and Floyd Marshall without any expense to the congregation.

The Arts and Crafts exhibition and sale was deemed an exciting success. Several of the artists and craftsmen had their first opportunity to display their creations to the public. The 16 exhibitors sold \$592 worth of ceramics, gemstones, macrame, lapidary, pottery, etc. There was also a luncheon and a bake sale and a booth for Unitarian members' contributions. Some said it could become an annual service offered to the community.

In May a pulpit exchange brought Bruce Marshall to Quincy while Cal Knapp addressed the congregation in Decatur, Illinois. In a follow-up letter Bruce wrote: (in part)

Dear Cal,

Thank you for exchanging pulpits with me last Sunday. I had a marvelous time in Quincy and I hear that you were very well received here.

I would like to compliment you and the people of the Quincy church on what you have done in the past few years. To me, it is a little short of amazing that a Unitarian Church continues to exist in Quincy. And to have one that is active and growing and solvent is an added bonus. ....

Now you have somewhere around 80 members. That's very, very good. I think that before you came, the UUA had just about given up on Quincy. The people of the church appear to have proven them wrong.

I realize that you want to keep on growing - that the future is far from certain and this is no time to rest. But I think you and the people of the Quincy church should sit back occasionally and be very proud of what has been accomplished.

Bruce

## THE 1974 ANNUAL MEETING

Those who attended the annual meeting received a twelve-page copy of the annual report. This included agenda, treasurer's reports and budget (comparing years since 1972), and (reviewing the reserve fund withdrawals: \$1,031 in 1971; \$6,287 in 1972; and \$6,177 in 1973). There was a six-page outline of duties for the various committees. Included was a new committee: "Historical and Artifacts" to be led by a volunteer member (and later assigned to a committee of seven members). The church listed 83 active members.

The Central Midwest District Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation Annual Allerton Institute was held in June, 1974, with a theme: "Close the Circuit! Communicate!" Ruth Knapp and Frieda Marshall were delegates to the meeting at Robert Allerton Park near Monticello, Illinois. This covered a mid-week sequence of workshops, worship, nature walks and meetings.

The 1974-75 season began before the September opening. Allen Shriver served as President of the Board and Jim Drew became treasurer. Frances Morrison served as organist. A list of committees was prepared and published. All members received assignments. A failure of Board members to contact individuals for their acceptance, led to misunderstandings and dis-appointment. The summer had brought little income, so \$1,800 had to be withdrawn from the Reserve Account. A completion date of September 1 was set for the Pledge Committee to report.

The Board had accepted an offer by Frieda and Floyd Marshall to purchase more emerald green carpet and pay for installation on the chancel steps and throughout the chancel area. This would match the carpeting that was across the back of the church and down the center aisle. The Board discussed the possibility of raising \$600 to \$700 to have matching carpet in the Heritage Room, but decided against this project at this time. The next wistful thought was, "Could we afford to have the chancel chairs re-upholstered?"

The Jim Dandeas Square Dance Group received approval of renting the church basement on Wednesday evenings in the fall for \$10 a night.

Bertha Danhaus was leading the pre-school children on Sunday mornings with the help of Julie and Sara Berggren. No teachers had yet been assigned to additional classes. Therefore, children, youth and adults were to meet at 9:30 in the Kaleidoscope Hall. The sand-or-soybean table came into the church at about this time.

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 28 1974

## Unitarian Church

1479 HAMPSHIRE STREET  
QUINCY, ILLINOIS 62301

AUCTIONEERS:  
BILL BAKER  
RICHARD MOSLEY



# ATTIC AUCTION

A SAMPLING OF ITEMS TO BE SOLD

### SOMETHING OLD ----

Victorian Fireplace screen  
(Hand-painted)  
"Old Red and White" tablecloth  
(excellent condition)  
Antique footstool - needlepoint  
Fireplace implement set  
Heirloom photo albums  
(One with photos)  
Carnival glass bowl  
Cut glass toothpick holder  
Antique ink wells  
Antique lace cuffs  
Antique linens, silks, and laces  
Hiawatha glove box  
Pr. Victorian arm chairs  
Leather-covered desk chair  
Grand Piano leg  
3 Floor lamps

AND  
MUCH

100 feet of Ornamental  
Iron Fencing & Gates



### SOMETHING NEW ----

MANY FAMILY TREASURES WILL BE PUT BACK INTO CIRCULATION AS WE CATCH THE RECYCLING FEVER. What an extravaganza is in store for you! Keepsakes and treasures will be offered. These have been kept in attic safe storage. Now we are willing to part with them. Come early to get in on all the fun.

Attic Auction events will begin at 11 a.m. when the "Mayflower Bakery" will be open, featuring home-baked specialties. Soup, sandwiches, and pie will be served in the Pilgrim Kitchen at 11:30. The Auction will begin at 12:30 p.m.

Luxurious Pastel-striped  
Lady's Caftan  
Garden Trellis  
Carved-back, Cane-seat chair  
4-Leg, standing wash tub

The Attic Auction was organized again and held on September 28, 1974. The several dimensions included: Attic Auction, Mayflower Bake Shoppe, Pilgrims' Pantry Luncheon and Quality Books and Phonograph Record Exchange. To review the progress, these figures were cited: in 1972 the auction brought \$900, in 1973 it brought \$800. What would be possible in 1974?

A listing was prepared of items already promised:

- Antique ink wells, lace cuffs, linens and silks.
- Antique footstool, needlepoint covered.
- 100 feet of ornamental iron fencing and gates.  
(from old rural home on South 36th street, in good condition but with a few uprights bent by an escaped circus elephant.)
- A new "Baby Alive" doll
- Terracotta stovetop grill
- Mixing bowl set, cannister set, glassware set
- Two matching overstuffed chairs, planter cart
- A collection of 16 old and beautiful hand fans
- 2 swing seats and chains, and much, much more.

This third annual event was the primary fund-raising project of the year. It was also promoted as a community service and an adventure in fun. With the several very special items donated by Harriet Eldred (the fans, etc.), Florence Williams (Victorian furniture) and Dorothe and Lyle Owen (the iron fencing) (purchased by John and Fritz Morrison) the sale brought about \$2,000 to the church.

Some new members joined the church, including Linda and Daryl Buechting and probably the first black member. She was a student in Jewelry Store Management at Gem City College. These brought the active membership list to 93 persons. Other positives were noted: better attendance, cleaner building, better fellowship conversations, fewer tired out people, but.. but... but... need for more improvement.

Cal Knapp and Allen Shriver planned to attend the Central Illinois Area Council in Springfield, and the Central Midwest District annual meeting in Madison, Wisconsin. Ruth and Cal Knapp would be in Boston for a week of denominational orientation. The cost would be borne by the UUA's central administrative offices. New Wayside Pulpit posters were ordered: (14 for \$20.)

Sunday morning services, led by Cal Knapp, brought guest personalities under the theme: "Celebration of the Creativity of Man" They were: Dr. Randall McClelland (sculptor), Thom Ritter George (composer), Jann Schaub (dramatist), Todd Booth (actor), Dr. Leonard Biallis (theologian), Rabbi Abraham Rose (Temple B'nai Sholom), and Rev. Berkley Moore, (Unitarian).

At the Alliance meeting the executive committee proposed a project of replacing the draperies in Kaleidoscope Hall. This was a serious consideration because the members planned to construct the draperies and it would require 50 yards of material. Samples were shown. The committee consisted of Frieda Marshall, Ruth Knapp, Caroline Sexauer and Pauline Bond.

The two delegates to the Allerton Conference encouraged others to attend in the future. They spoke of Fu-Dogs and the inspiring statue, "The Sun Singer," pleasant hospitality, and very good food.

A Tuesday evening discussion group was called "Knights of Konversation." Two families were helped again, described as Mrs. Christmas Red and Mrs. Christmas Green. The holiday decorations featured Musical Instruments of Joy and Celebration and the "billowy arch of red pine boughs over the chancel arch." Jim and Dienna Drew and Linda and Daryl Buechting headed the decoration committee.

A most unusual and impressive Christmas Eve program was presented by the Pamela Bedford Dance Theatre, a semi-professional company with dancers ranging in age from 13 to 28. The newsletter explained: "The service will begin with the dancers entering the auditorium from many directions and interpreting the gala mood of 'Deck the Halls.' The drama of Christmas will gradually unfold as the dancers interpret the familiar carols of the nativity, and the ancient festival of the return of the Winter Sun (solstice), and the secular music that is beloved by children throughout the world."

The floor boards creaked, but the timbers held as the S.R.O. crowd attentively appreciated the event. No offering was requested.. a big mistake. Ever reluctant to ask for money, the regular Sunday Order of Service announced: "You will find the offertory receptacle on a table at the north end of our Heritage Hall."



Jane Shair suggested that the name "Heritage Hall" was too grand, so later references were made to the "Heritage Room." Jane Shair and Hilliard Shair donated a Tiffany lamp for the Heritage Room table and later designated it in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Spencer Johnson and their son Russell Johnson. (3/21/76)

In January, 1975, there were exploratory conversations and correspondence (from Rev. John W. Brigham of Burlington to Calvin Knapp) about the possibility of radio talks for the Mississippi Valley area. The question was whether we could buy time every Sunday morning on the radio stations to project informative talks dealing with essential principles of liberal religion. The cost of such a project was estimated at \$1,654. Perhaps the Prairie Star District of the UUA would allow \$1,000 support.

A pulpit exchange of Rev. Brigham and Rev. Knapp occurred on January 26. Mr. Brigham spoke on "Focusing our Little Liberal Light," and Mr. Knapp spoke in Burlington on "Pre-Planning for Death, Funerals and Burials."

The general topic for the church school was "Unitarian Universalist Heritage." John Sperry was teacher-leader of the older children and youth class. The adult R.E. class planned a discussion of Unitarian writings relating to such questions as: a) What can we believe about God? b) What can we believe about Jesus? c) The efficacy of prayer? d) Is death the end? e) What are we here for? f) Are Unitarians Christians? This was a comprehensive study prepared by the Rev. Lon Ray Call.

The Friends Hill Quaker Group conducted a visitation and funeral in the church for William A. Pritchett on January 14. Two shorter front pews were removed (again) at this time. The earlier time of removal was for the Christmas Eve presentation by the Pamela Bedford Theatre group. Now the questions arose: Should they be replaced? Is it too crowded with the pews? Is the open space more desirable? (One of the architects or decorators who toured the church during the redecorating consideration of 1969-71 admired the curved pews with gothic end carvings and said, "They must have cost a fortune!")

The church property was appraised at \$180,000 and insured for \$134,000. Hearing that the windows were appraised at \$14,384, someone said, years later, "I think that is a gross underestimate!" In May, 1975, Oenning Glass Co. installed plexiglass over the east windows. Memorial Funds paid the bill of \$290.

Members of the congregation made contributions to the Kenneth Edelin Defense Fund. A total of \$72.50 was sent to support Dr. Edelin, a physician at Boston City Hospital, in a Massachusetts abortion case.

For more than a year Ruth Knapp had been involved in generating adult programming at the Quincy YWCA. Part of her work involved creating bus tours for adult members of the YWCA. In recognition of her effort, the Jacksonville Bus Company offered a nine-day bus tour of Florida for Ruth and Cal. The Board voted a nine-day leave of absence so Cal could make this trip.

A special service of recognition was held on February 23 to honor long-standing active members. Six who had been members for 50 or more years were: Mrs. Oliver Williams, Mrs. J. R. Williams, Mrs. Paul Morrison, Richard McCarl, Mrs. Victor Winters, and Lloyd Harris. The church also boasted seven who had been members for 40 or more years, eleven for 30 or more years, and eight for 20 or more years.

The Women's Alliance meetings were being held in the church under the premise that if the women would see the church, they would more likely improve the setting. A "Drapery Committee" was working. Pauline Bond showed samples of fabric. A loose-weave, see-through cloth of bittersweet was selected, carrying out the color scheme of red, yellow and orange. Fabric was purchased from Mr. K's for \$237.45. In three work sessions (Saturday, Thursday, and Saturday) the women measured, cut, pinned and sewed with portable machines under direction of Alliance President Frieda Marshall. They washed windows and hung the drapes and were pleasantly surprised that the project was completed in jig time.

The Tri-State Craftsmen's Market was held on March 15. Over a dozen exhibitors offered hand-painted china, pottery, dolls and doll clothing, wood-carved animals and birds, hand-made note paper, and etched metal items among others. Exhibitors found their participation an

excellent means of meeting new buyers, putting this fund-raising event into the category of a community service project. The church profit from crafts, bake sale and lunch was about \$400. This must have been the event of interest for the day as it was featured on the 6 o'clock and the 10 o'clock local news broadcasts.



Frieda Marshall was working on another sewing project. It was an applique rendition of the church building, including the wording of the membership covenant. This banner was her gift to the Unitarian Church of Flint, Michigan, in May, 1975, when her son Bruce was ordained as minister of that organization.

A Good Earth Film Festival was held on March 21 in the church. Several nature and natural law films were shown including: "Sounds of Nature," "Seashore," "Wild River," and "Nature's Half Acre."

The Pamela Bedford Dance Theatre group returned on Sunday evening, April 20, to present "Impressions of Spring." One hundred percent of those who had attended the Christmas Eve program were expected to come again. The themes of "Melting of Winter," "Umbrellas," "Rain," "The Bird," "Bugs," "Awakening," and "Love in Spring" were interpreted through modern dance. Readings and commentary on the dance as religious expression rounded out the program. Again there was no admission charge or collection.

The third annual Plant Sale was called "Thousands of Plants Sale." An adventure in potting petunia seedlings (with fork and spoon) and nurturing them in cold frames on the church driveway took the attention of the minister and some stalwart members. Thanks were given to those who contributed time, energy, and talent in effecting this event. The net income was over \$500.

Organ repair was the focus of attention again with the recognition of our responsibility to maintain "a magnificent musical instrument provided by Unitarians who are no longer with us." Mr. Bill Hansen, organ repair specialist, said that because of the excellent craftsmanship that went into the construction of our pipe organ there is no reason why it shouldn't be a superb instrument 100 years from now.

An appeal was made for raising an additional \$3,500 over the \$17,000 general operations budget to establish an Organ Fund. Mr. Hansen outlined a restoration project that would utilize manual labor of some of our members in removing pipes, carrying them to the basement and assisting in their cleaning and restoration. A Committee was formed. At this moment the Organ Fund had \$350.

#### 150th UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ANNIVERSARY

As the Unitarian Universalist Association celebrated its 150th anniversary in May of 1975, the Quincy church arranged special events. Dr. John Sperry presented a "State of the Church" message on Sunday morning, and Rev. Calvin Knapp interpreted the aspirations of the denomination. He noted that the Quincy Unitarian Church has a history of its members' being actively involved in the support of diverse liberal and aesthetic movements: racial integration, separation of church and state, education by choice, international cooperation, world peace, political involvement by individuals, the creative and performing arts, family planning, simplified funerals and burials, environmental controls and female liberation.

A church group picture was taken that day, and the celebration continued with a fellowship interval and the serving of anniversary cake and punch. The membership was announced as 95; 16 new members during the year and 2 deceased.

Elizabeth Stebbins was delegate to the General Assembly in Minneapolis....In June several attended the Allerton Conference, which had a theme of "The Many Faces of Eve." They were Ruth Knapp, Frieda Marshall, Nona Miller and her mother Charlotte Carrot (who was the oldest delegate at the conference).... A Unitarian picnic was held at Nauvoo State Park for members of the Burlington, Macomb, and Quincy congregations.

Ruth Knapp resigned as executive director of Family Planning, which was still located at the YWCA. She had been director since August, 1974, and also served as part-time YWCA program director. Elizabeth Stebbins was president of Family Planning. Nancy Winters, who had been a volunteer, was appointed director in November, 1975.

An organ restoration committee was formed: Nancy Winters, Jim Drew, Bob Mathieson, Geoffrey Mendenhall. Work began in earnest. In July Bill Hansen, of Hansen Organ in Quincy, removed the organ pipes and set up for cleaning. The Steere organ had been first installed in the third Unitarian Church building on Maine Street between Sixth and Seventh and moved to the present building after 1911. A tracker-action instrument, it is the oldest remaining organ in Quincy in its original form.

The restoration action was long overdue as only repairs and patches had been done in recent years. Now the members assembled to clean (by washing sooty pipes in soapy water) and to shellac the 1,287 pipes, being careful to keep the pipes in rank order. By August Mr. Hansen, Allen Ericksen and the volunteer crew were ready to reassemble and allow Mr. Hansen to tune the organ and complete the finishing details. The cost was expected to be over \$600.

Early in 1975 the Board voted approximately \$300 to have a nationally known appraisal company thoroughly inspect and evaluate the church premises. The summary of the findings are:

Estimated replaceable cost:	\$184,527
Insurance exclusions:	11,071
Estimated insurable replaceable cost:	173,456
Estimated depreciation	
because of its age:	58,975
Estimated actual cash value	
of the building:	134,481

## THE 1975-1976 SEASON

The congregation reconvened on September 14, 1975, to consider a general theme of "The Nature of Belief." The church school met at 9:30 with teacher-leaders for all age groups. The morning service was at 10:45.

Pledges had been received from 41 family units and from friends. Ten members had not yet pledged. The treasurer anticipated a need of withdrawing \$1,800 from the Reserve Account. Special Projects had a goal of \$4,000, and the Attic Auction date was September 17. Frieda Marshall prepared the flyer in the same manner -- 11 x 17 with illustrations and listing of items contributed. Richard Mosely again volunteered his services as auctioneer. A luncheon, book sale and bakery rounded out the day's events.

The Board of Trustees voted to retain the round table, previously owned by Florence Williams. It took the place of the existing discussion table in the center of the Heritage Room. This table has seven leaves and will seat 16 persons. Extra leaves for this table had been made for Mrs. Williams by Herman Dege.

A group of single, young professionals was meeting every other Friday evening at 8:00 in the Heritage Room. Discussion topics were announced that would serve as "mental stimulation through intergroup communication." The group was called "The Singles Thing." One of the leaders was Margaret Moore, the GCC Jewelry student.

A 150th Anniversary Celebration of the American Unitarian Association was being commemorated in St. Louis on October 19. Over 30 members of the Quincy church traveled by charter bus to hear Senator Adlai Stevenson III speak in Graham Chapel on the Washington University campus. Mr. Knapp was invited to give opening words and he received a note of appreciation from The Rev. Earl Holt of the First Unitarian Church of St. Louis, the sponsoring organization.

In December Dr. Robert West, president of the UUA, was the guest speaker at the Burlington, Iowa, Fellowship. Car-pooling brought eight motor coaches of members, whimsically named: the intellectual delegation, the swank delegation, the conservative, the liberal, the western, the activists delegation, etc.

"A Tisket A Tasket - Where's the offertory basket? It used to be on the table in the Heritage Room, now it is located on the sill of the center window at the rear of the auditorium." For a very brief time the two Klingelbeutel were used and then the people voted that they were not to be used. (However, directly after the negative vote, Bob Mathieson used one to campaign for funds to help the Jacksonville Unitarians purchase hymnals. His campaign was successful!)

Funds, estimated at \$757, were still needed to pay for the repairing of the organ. Members were encouraged to raise the money and complete the repairing in advance of an organ concert scheduled for April, 1976. Mr. Herbert L. White, Jr., famous organist of the Chicago area, would present a concert on Good Friday. During this year Frances Morrison served as organist. Mr. Knapp carefully escorted her at the chancel steps every Sunday.

The Alliance members agreed to hold meetings at homes or in the church at the hostess's decision. Nona Miller was president, Elizabeth Stebbins was secretary, and Frieda Marshall printed the yearly program pamphlet. The group declared that men would be welcome at the meetings.

In December The Quincy Herald-Whig carried a feature about the Unitarian Four Churches.

The "Red Velvet and Candlelight" Christmas Eve service presented guest artists: Ann Behrens at the organ, Charlotte Zander, vocalist, and Rowen Zander reading Christmas poetry.

In January John Sperry, Board president, announced that Calvin Knapp would resign, effective April 30. He had served the Quincy Unitarian Church since September, 1971. Mr. Knapp and the Board planned that he would be relieved of approximately half of his ministerial duties during March and April, officiating at three Sunday morning services in both months, but being free of other duties for a total of 15 days a month. He would receive only half of his budgeted salary.

Mr. and Mrs. Knapp would move to their Wild Rose Farms in southeastern Illinois, joining their son Steve in the active management of an integrated farming oper-

ation that included a herd of beef cattle, swine husbandry, grain production, orchards, truck gardening and wilderness preserve area. Mr. Knapp said that management responsibilities had expanded tremendously and had become more complex and demanding. His resignation seemed imperative and he wished to conduct the resignation with both poise and dispatch.

A search committee was formed, consisting of Allen Shriver, Chair; John Sperry, Gladys Cassidy, Sherman Bond, Bob Mathieson, and Janice Marshall. Rev. Gerald Krick, denominational representative in the Central Midwest District, met with Quincy members in January. Too few attended on a winter night. Later a draft of a Quincy-Burlington cooperative ministry was submitted for consideration.

Something was indeed happening about this time. There was a different typist. The Orders of Service were prepared lengthwise (not p. 2 and p. 3) and sometimes on a half sheet. The newsletter in November, 1975, was addressed on the lower portion in Cal's handwriting. Earlier they must have been sent in envelopes. In March the newsletter was printed on the design of the church stationery.

The Third Annual Tri-state Craftsmen's Market was held on March 20. Janice Marshall and Frieda Marshall and Cal Knapp seemed to be organizers. Frieda did the promotional typing and layouts and mimeographed the supplies. The report states: in 1974 nine craftsmen sold \$592; in 1975 eighteen craftsmen sold more than \$3,000. (but the church profit was \$446.64) In 1976, 24 craftsmen were expected. With the bake sale and luncheon, the church gained \$440 in 1976.

A note received by Janice: "Thank you for inviting me to be a part of your Tri-State Craftsmen's Market. It was a lovely experience and I enjoyed every minute of it. Never have I been associated with such cooperative and helpful people. Congratulations on such a wonderful church group."

In March a congregational meeting was called to propose a "shared ministry" with the Burlington Fellowship. The Burlington Board of Trustees was reportedly "unanimously interested" in the plan. This was considered to be a temporary solution to immediate problems



facing both congregations. "Ultimately both congregations would look forward to the day when a full-time ministry would exist for both congregations. Since both congregations have experienced growth over the past few years, this may come fairly soon." (Cal Knapp's newsletter remarks.)

Dr. Brigham and Rev. Knapp arranged a pulpit exchange for March 22, 1976. A conceptual plan for a shared full-time ministry, dated March 13, 1976, was offered to the Quincy congregation by Loren Ratekin, Council chairman of the Unitarian Fellowship of Burlington.

At this point each organization had been relying on Reserve Funds to make up the short-fall between income and expenditures. In December 1975 the Quincy Reserve Fund had gained \$900, and the account balance in April was \$2,446.98. (\$680 withdrawn in that year.) The membership list claimed 75 active members and 47 inactive members and friends.

The re-dedication of the church organ occurred with a concert by Herbert L. White, Jr., of Chicago on April 16, 1976. This recognized the completion of Phase I in organ restoration by Bill Hansen with the cooperation of members who had assisted during the summer.

Another plant sale was conducted successfully on the day before Cal Knapp's last sermon. After the effort of the plant sale and with the beginning of daylight savings time, some people came late to the service. Another event occurred in the afternoon. Fritzi Morrison presented "Life in a Turkish Village" at the Quincy Art Center. John and Fritzi Morrison had spent six weeks in primitive Turkish villages near Alishar, Turkey. The lecture highlighted her water color exhibit of portraits and villages. Mr. Knapp introduced the event which was a fund-raiser for the Alliance and brought a large crowd with \$215 profit.

The 1976-77 budget of \$16,375 was proposed at the annual meeting in May, which also served as a farewell party for Ruth and Cal Knapp. Six new members signed the membership book on that day. The congregation presented Cal with a gift certificate for 20 trees for his orchard. They also gave him five new hymnals for the work he planned to do on the "frontier." He had

said that he would retain ministerial credentials within the UUA and perhaps return to a ministerial vocation in the future. (In May, 1980, Rev. Knapp was installed as minister of the Unitarian Fellowship of Evansville, Indiana.)

A song-parody program highlighted the annual meeting of May 6. Ruth was moved to laughter and tears. Cal was delighted by the addition of new members and by the outpouring of affection. Two of the parodies were favorites:

#### THE BELLS ARE RINGING

The bells are ringing, for Ruthie and Cal,  
We're all here singing, for Ruthie and Cal;  
Everybody's been knowin'  
That from Quincy they're goin'  
And it's sorrow we're showin'  
When we lose our good pals.

The bells are ringing, for Ruthie and Cal,  
While we're here singing sans Ruthie and Cal.  
And some day he's going to weed  
A little patch or two, or three,  
Or four... or more....  
In Roseland.... for Ruthie and Cal.

#### Tune: America

Oh beautiful pe - tu - nias!  
The red, the white, the blue!  
We planted them in little pots  
And sprinkled them with dew.  
The special lights,  
The potting soil,  
So rich and fragrant, too.  
Those little, small pe - tu - nias  
Just grew to bloom for you!

THE REV. JOHN W. BRIGHAM

1976 - 1982

The Herald-Whig announcement of September, 1976, explained that the Rev. John W. Brigham, D.D., would serve two churches: Quincy and Burlington, Iowa. The Quincy church would have a program of alternate Sunday services with guest speakers when Dr. Brigham would be speaking in Burlington. This shared ministry allowed that the minister would spend half time in each place.

John W. Brigham had served the Burlington Unitarian Fellowship since 1974. He had received his AB and STB degrees from Tufts University (Medford, Mass.) and Crane School of Religion of the University in 1938. Meadville Theological School in Chicago conferred the Doctor of Ministry degree in 1966.

During his ministerial career Dr. Brigham had served Unitarian churches in Castine, Maine; Billerica, Massachusetts; Sioux City and Burlington, Iowa. He served as field representative for the UUA Stevens Fellowship Committee for recruitment of ministers and as Associate Director of UUA Department of Ministry from 1959 to 1966. He then served the Universalist Church in Rochester, New York, and returned to the Unitarian Fellowship of Burlington, Iowa.

His wife is the former Anna Louise Dege of Quincy, daughter of Herman and Anna B. Dege. They were married in 1938. There are three sons in their family: Lawrence, Jeremy and Daniel.

The church year began earlier than September, however. On designated Sundays during the summer a faithful crew among the membership painted the outside woodwork of the church. A get-acquainted picnic for the congregations of the two churches was held in Deer Ridge Park near Lewistown, Missouri.

John Brigham spoke the first Sunday of the season on "Old Theologies in New Clothes." The service concluded with the consideration, led by Board President John Sperry, of the task functions of church members through the several committees of the church. The Order of Service stated: "We have no offertory during the service. Your contributions for support of the church will be welcome. A basket is at the rear of the room."

An adult discussion group met at 9:30; the worship service began at 10:45. There were guest organists, and Carol Fisher was named on October 3, 1976. On January 30, 1977, Carol Fisher Mathieson (Mrs. Robert Mathieson) became the church organist.

Newspaper ads were published at \$8.40 each. Dr. Brigham began "The Unitarian Five," a series of radio broadcasts from 9:11 to 9:16 on Sunday mornings. Daryl Buechting assisted as the recording engineer. The cost at \$16.50 each time totaled \$82.50 a month. The Board of the Central Midwest District of the UUA granted matching funds to continue these 5-minute weekly radio talks by Dr. Brigham, which were heard over stations in Burlington, Keokuk, and Mt. Pleasant (Iowa), and in Quincy, Illinois. A pamphlet was prepared of these meaningful and thought-provoking messages.

Cal Knapp returned the next Sunday as guest minister, speaking on "Man in Time: Heritage and Horizons." The third Sunday brought Dr. Brigham with a topic of "Who Speaks for America's Real Religion?" So the alternate pattern began. Bob Mathieson was the next speaker and then two union services were scheduled: one in Burlington and the next in Quincy.

The church office was staffed by Nancy Winters two hours a week. She prepared the weekly Order of Service and the monthly newsletter. Linda Buechting was newsletter editor. Newsletters were mimeographed on plain "granite" paper, carrying the message: "If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please mark 'refused' and place in mailbox. No postage is necessary."

Dr. Brigham rented an apartment at 608 Broadway for the every-other-week periods of his residence in Quincy. He retained his home in Burlington.

The members felt some reluctance to embark on another Attic Auction or Craftsmen's Market, as their attics by now were almost bare, and the craftsmen's market had been picked up by other organizations. So a fall project was a Rummage Sale, Bake Sale and Flea Market, chaired by Linda Buechting. This added approximately \$500 to the church funds. Left-over items were offered to the Salvation Army, Good Samaritan Home, Public Library and the Seventh Day Adventists.

Jean Sperry became the president of the Family Planning Board, succeeding Elizabeth Stebbins. The newsletter stated: "Family Planning began as a project of the Unitarian Church, represented by Ruth Knapp who was the first executive director. The Women's Alliance had provided the initial funds for its operation."

A union Service with the Unitarian Fellowship of Burlington was planned for November 21 in Quincy. A "Thanksgiving Seder" would be followed by a carry-in dinner. Members were invited to "fast" from Saturday noon to Sunday noon as a self-reminder of the World Hunger pangs which grip more than thirty million of the world population. Attendance was recorded as 80 with representatives from Iowa, Illinois, and Missouri.

Sunday morning services were being recorded under direction of Geoff Mendenhall. He also improved the speaker system for the benefit of those with hearing impairment.

A committee had cleaned the church prior to the joint meeting of Quincy and Burlington. Now the suggestion was made that the Alliance assume responsibility for cleaning the church, either physically or financially. A new vacuum was purchased. There was \$7 in the cleaning fund, so the Alliance took up a collection to pay for the vacuum. By March there was a "cleaning lady" engaged by the Alliance committee. When she was sick, the members were expected to come to clean. The Alliance paid \$25 as their share of the cost of cleaning. Individual members made contributions rather than work and others in the church membership also contributed. (By 1979 the Board budgeted an amount for church cleaning.)

#### HARRIET WELLS ELDRED DIED

A member of a family with long association in the Quincy Unitarian church, Harriet Wells Eldred died on November 23, 1976, at the age of 75. Rev. John Brigham conducted the memorial services. "The church and its community held a high place in her devotion. This was her place, as it has been for generations of her family." It was noted that the first inscription in the Memorial Book after the establishment of the Memorial Fund in 1961 was that of Mrs. R. J. Wells, mother of Harriet Eldred.

In March, 1977, a \$3,000 bequest was received from the Harriet Wells Eldred estate. A Capital Trust Fund was established in care of the Memorial Committee. The Capital Trust Fund is intended to perpetuate a permanent, segregated fund from which only the income can be spent. Any amounts over \$1,000 willed to the church go into the Trust Fund.

The development of a church school curriculum was the subject of a meeting led by Janice Marshall and Dr. Brigham on December 10.

On December 26 the Reverend Dr. Bruce Marshall, who was serving the Unitarian Church of Flint, Michigan, conducted the service in Quincy and spoke on the subject, "Freedom of Belief Doesn't Necessarily Mean, 'You Can Believe Anything You Want.'"

Word was received of the unexpected death of Cal Knapp's father, Arthur R. Knapp, Sr. He suffered a paralytic condition suspected of being connected with the swine flu inoculation shots he had been given.

The order of service reminded friends to submit items for the January newsletter to Linda Buechting or Janice Marshall by December 28.

#### MRS. HERMAN E. DEGE DIED

Mrs. Herman E. Dege (Anna B.) suffered a stroke on December 30 and died on January 6 at Blessing Hospital. She had been a member of the Quincy Unitarian Church since 1931. Memorial services were conducted by Dr. Brigham at the church on January 16. The daughters: Bertha Danhaus, Anna Louise Brigham, Frieda Marshall, Clara Lily White and Patsy Rose Hoshiko, suggested, rather than flowers, gifts to the Memorial Fund of the church would be appropriate. (Mrs. Dege's potato salad had been a regular feature of church carry-in dinners.)

Nancy Winters, chair of the Human Issues committee, responded to a concern for handicapped individuals; and twenty-five members of the church signed a letter to the Quincy Plan Commission recommending ramps for wheel-chairs in future plans for street repair.

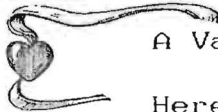
Nona Miller and Allen Shriver expected to work on the church archives, resuming the project started by the Chancel Evening Alliance several years before.

The adult discussion group met each Sunday at 9:30. The participants considered a variety of religious, theological and philosophical views as reflected in the writing of contemporary Unitarian Universalist writers and thinkers. As Tom Moore was prominent in this group, his wife Violet accompanied him to the church and prepared the coffee for the discussion group and served coffee and cookies after the services. A quarter donation for the coffee was suggested. In March there was a call for volunteers to prepare and serve the coffee.

The Herald-Whig featured pioneer women in Quincy. The story included Cora Benneson, attorney of 1880, from a family of Unitarians (and related to Caroline Sexauer) and Dr. Abby Fox Rooney, first Quincy woman licensed to practice medicine. She graduated from medical college in 1847 and was the first woman physician to practice at St. Mary Hospital. She was prominent in the Unitarian church in Quincy and later in California.

An Evening of Drama was presented by the Culver-Stockton Players as an event of the special projects committee. The program was a potpourri of entertainment ranging from a scene from Jean Anouilh's Antigone to Dr. Seuss. Refreshments were served. Admission was \$1.50 for adults and 75 cents for children under 12. The committee: Linda Buechting and Frieda Marshall.

The treasurer received a valentine message:



#### A Valentine to the Unitarian Church

Here's my answer to your entreaty:  
A check from me for twenty-two fifty.  
Plus a little for the stuff  
Some call miscellaneous.  
Your valentine deserves much more  
Than you're really asking for.  
My gas bill, too, has doubled now,  
So I must oblige that sacred cow.  
I hope the coffers will be fed  
To keep our church well out of red.





ANNA LOUISE AND JOHN BRIGHAM

Dr. and Mrs. Brigham purchased the property of the Anna B. Dege estate at 2604 Chestnut Street and began renovations for alternate-week occupancy.

The daughters of Herman and Anna B. Dege made a special contribution to the memorial fund in remembrance of their parents. They then supported the reupholstering of the six pulpit chairs (which had broken springs, cracked leather seats and exposed stuffing under the seats) and the making of cushions for the two fireplace chairs. This work was completed by their cousin, Guenter Dege.



William Spencer Johnson's vast library of his works and collections of rare music were given in March, 1977, by his son James Gordon Johnson to Culver-Stockton College, Quincy Conservatory, and to the Quincy Public Library. Mr. Johnson had taught at Culver-Stockton from 1922 to 1963 and had been a faculty member of the Quincy Conservatory.

A carry-in supper in April was followed by a presentation by Anna Louise Brigham who showed her display of famous Unitarian Universalists as represented on United States postage stamps. She gave the biographical background of the honored individuals and pointed out their connection to a Unitarian or Universalist church.

Weekly notices in The Herald-Whig were billed at \$10.85 each. The radio programs of five minutes were \$16.50 and then \$18.50 for a total actual cost of \$323.75. The next budget included an amount of \$400.

The annual plant sale was on April 23. Linda Buechting was chairperson. Could the members conduct a plant sale without the help of Cal Knapp? Some young people drove to Al Beck's land in Missouri and dug some ferns. Glen Gore provided plants from his florist business. Patsy Rose Hoshiko brought plants from her home in Carbondale. Someone forgot to lock the front door and people came in too early. Some of our members bought their plants before the sale opened. Dienna Drew, Lynn Joshi and Linda Buechting were frying doughnuts. By noon they adjusted to preparing popcorn. There was also a bake sale and a book sale. The profit was \$554.

The Sunday following the plant sale was a time for combined service in Burlington. Several carloads of Quincyans made the trip. At the service the attendance was about half from Burlington and half from Quincy. Dr. Brigham spoke of "Our Cooperative Ministry" and later prepared his presentation in printed form for those who could not attend.

He reflected his first year of "shared time and effort with two congregations separated by seventy-five miles, one large river, and situated in two states", Burlington, Iowa, being a member of the Prairie Star UU district and Quincy, Illinois, being a member of the Central Mid-west district. The Quincy church with a continuous record of 138 years of existence compared with a much younger Burlington Fellowship, now it its

27th year. Both groups recognized the importance of trained ministerial leadership, however, and expressed the desire to welcome others of similar religious philosophy into their congregations.

Dr. Brigham outlined processes for accomplishing this purpose, speaking of worship process, educational methods, and our connections to society. He emphasized a faith in the capacity of human beings to deal with problems and through concerted action to work toward shaping better conditions for people.

The June list of members named 63 active members and 23 who were inactive. The Junior Church roster named 15 children and young people.

As the fall season began in 1977, the committees had been announced. Bob Mathieson served as president of the Board. Members were urged to make this a year of involvement and progress. A questionnaire had been submitted and responded to regarding preferences in alternate Sunday programming. Along with a regular service, 22 selected subjects of ethical moral concerns; 16 chose alternate religions; 15 chose historic or significant Unitarian Universalists; 12 chose local/state public affairs. Individuals could register more than one preference. Eleven approved of musical presentations, and 15 approved of open forum discussions.

Both congregations of the Quincy-Burlington cooperative ministry were notified of their rank as honor societies by the UUA Office of Development. This is a financial recognition that the congregations have met or exceeded the "suggested share" of the UUA Annual Program Fund drive.

"Unitarians Believe in Superman" read the heading in a newsletter article. "There is now a supernatural glow to the floors of the rear entry, Heritage Room, Resource Room and the front of the church auditorium." Praise and a "small golden statue" would have been appropriately given to Jim Drew. Supplies: \$100

The Religious Education Department had two classes beginning at 10:30 and lasting through the church service. Leaders were Janice Marshall, Dienna Drew, Bertha Danhaus, Lynne Joshi, Cecelia Williamson, Jean Cassidy, Julie and Sara Berggren.

An Attic Auction was held on the Friday after Thanksgiving - the day the auctioneer had available. Dienna Drew and Linda Buechting served as co-chairs. While the event was satisfactorily accomplished with a \$600 profit, there was a feeling that this would be the last Attic Auction.

As Christmas Day would be a Sunday, plans were made that Dr. Brigham would present a Christmas Eve Vesper Service in Burlington and a Christmas Day Vesper Service in Quincy. (No morning service on Christmas Day.)

The 8 to 11-year-old's church school class made a German Knusperhaus (Cookie House) and presented it to the congregation with a few lines of a song from "Hansel and Gretel." "Everyone enjoyed nibbling the Christmas goodies though some had to be encouraged to pull off a cookie. As the new year began, we made calendars to remind us of all the reasons there are to celebrate each day of the year. We painted a map of the Fertile Crescent area in connection with our study of the early Hebrews." Teacher: Dienna Drew.

The February Alternate Sunday series concentrated on "Arts and Artists" and presented Randall McClelland, LeRoy B. Schwan, Beth Lieber, and other artists. On February 19 Quincy organist W. Kirby Eber presented a recital in the church. The program featured compositions of the 18th, 19th and 20th century composers.

Mr. Eber, organist at the Vermont Street United Methodist Church said, "The pipes in an organ are ageless and an organ mechanism such as the tracker, is as ageless as the pipes. Since the mechanism is made of wood, it lasts almost forever."

A feature in The Quincy Herald-Whig highlighted old organs. The Unitarian Church organ was described as one of three installed in Quincy in the 1870's.\* "It is a beautiful example of the artistry of the 19th Century craftsmen. The console is butternut, which is the light part of the walnut tree, and never wears out." Some quotes from the article were from John Basinger, organ service consultant, and from William Hansen, who had worked on this organ in 1975.

\*Later research established that the organ was built in 1891 at a cost of \$3,500.

The Building and Grounds Committee was working on a spring project -- landscaping the church grounds in front. A suggested plan now in the hands of Caroline Sexauer was drawn up by Bergman Nurseries. "It has not yet been decided how to finance the landscaping, although consideration is being given to the use of the memorial fund. One contribution has already been made toward the landscaping as a memorial." By April the contributions totaled \$117. The Memorial Fund would match individual gifts up to \$225. The \$450 planting plan would set evergreens, mugho pine and barberry bushes at the two sides of the front entry (removing beds of lily of the valley).

The Plant Sale mailing list had grown to 250 names of devoted customers. The date was set for April 29. The Thousands of Plants Sale would begin at 10 a.m. (No advance sales, Do not ask!) With cooperation of Glen Gore, florist, and with book, bakery and doughnut sales, the profit came to \$782.

The semi-annual Union Service and luncheon with the Burlington Fellowship occurred on the following Sunday. Fireplace doors were installed by Ted Morrison working with Mr. Kunkel, the supplier. Cost \$265.48. Frieda Marshall donated \$50 to purchase a folding machine.

Quincy Preserves planned a tour of ten churches on the afternoon of Sunday, May 21. The tour included a variety of religious architecture, historic American and European organs, and other art objects and furnishings not generally on view. Dolores Jenkins, as the chairperson, asked for several volunteers to welcome visitors to the church from 2 to 6 p.m.

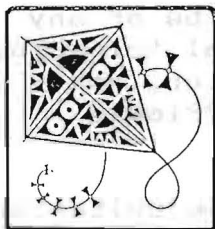
At the annual meeting in May attention was given to the celebration of Founder's Day in April, 1979. The 140th anniversary committee was formed, led by Nona Miller and Greg Weiher.

Elizabeth Stebbins was president of the Board, Jim Drew was treasurer. In 1977 the church added to the Reserve Fund; in 1978-79 there were funds withdrawn from Reserves. As it had been necessary to find replacements for board members unable to serve because of leaving the city or for other reasons, someone suggested reducing the Board terms to two years instead of three years.

The membership list named 58 active members, 4 inactive; 13 active friends, 4 inactive; and 13 inactive, but supportive, members.

The newsletter recognized the devoted service of Julie and Sara Berggren in providing child care during their four high school years. Others who contributed time and talent in the church school were: Bertha Danhaus, Lynn Joshi, Janice Marshall, Dienna Drew, and Cecilia Williamson. "Speak kindly to them for they play a significant role in the life of our congregation."

Summer services were held one Sunday in July and one Sunday in August, beginning at 10 a.m. arranged by the Sunday Program committee.



On a July evening a group of adults and children gathered to "Fly a Kite" over the home of Dr. and Mrs. Luther Markley on the Good Samaritan Home grounds. Dr. Markley, Bob Mathieson and Jim Drew supervised. "Bob's string of nine colorful kites was the star event."

In August Dr. Brigham reviewed the events of the Unitarian-Universalist General Assembly which he had attended as a delegate in Boston in June.

A special event of August was a visit (for those interested) to the Koster farm "dig" near Kampsville, Illinois. This archeological "dig" by a Northwestern University department exposed Horizon 11, a layer dated at 6,500 B.C. It was a rare opportunity to view these wonders as the 35 ft. deep excavation had reached ground waters. The group visited the Kampsville museum, enjoyed dinner at the Inn, and took the ferry boat ride across the river to the Koster Farm.

Members had devoted time during the week before opening to cleaning, dusting, arranging the sanctuary and downstairs area. Some outside work had been done and additional work would require more volunteers.

## THE 1978 - 1979 SEASON

The Sunday morning schedule in the fall began with a 9:30 discussion group, 10:30 church school opening hour, and 10:45 adult worship service. Dr. Brigham and Dr. John Sperry announced topics for September. The newsletters were prepared by Dr. Brigham and Mary Heincy, editor. Mary Heincy donated four hours of each Thursday morning for the typing of newsletters, Sunday programs and other church secretarial work. This work was done at her home, because "the promised 'new' type-writer for the church office has not been forthcoming." Members were asked to submit material to Mary at her home and "to insure accuracy, written copy is preferred."

In October the bulletin noted: "If this office is to perform with any degree of efficiency and be of any value to members, it should serve as a general "clearing house" for all church-related news, information, and announcements. Please utilize it." and "Please communicate... we need to hear from YOU!"

A series of five evening seminars on "The Unitarian Universalist Tradition and Contemporary Meaning" were planned for October Wednesday evenings. Eighteen persons attended the opening seminar which dealt with the early centuries of the Christian era. On some evenings a carry-in supper preceded the discussion time.

The Women's Alliance meetings were announced as "open to the men of the church who wish to attend." An alternate Friday noon or Saturday noon schedule was planned to accommodate those of varying needs and responsibilities.

The Pledge Campaign stood at 95% of the goal. Forty-three pledges had been received and nine more were expected. (Pledge Committee: Frieda Marshall, Ted Morrison and Sherman Bond.) Newspaper advertising was \$20 to \$30 monthly. There was some dissatisfaction with their treatment of the material supplied. They changed the poetry lines, etc.

Mary Tanner of Fleur de Lis Antiques appraised the captain's chairs at \$50 each. The Board decided to keep them for sentimental reasons.

## DR BRIGHAM CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF MINISTRY

A celebration of Dr. Brigham's 40 years of ministry was a part of an evening Forum event in October, 1978. A sermon was entitled "People Anonymous" and Dr. Brigham invited responses, questions, reflections and observations from the congregation. The same format of congregational response occurred when the guest speaker was Police Chief Charles Gruber.

Quincy was host to the Union Thanksgiving Seder Service. Members of Burlington and Macomb Fellowships attended. A noon meal followed, facilitated by Board members and appropriate committees.

Just before Christmas an IBM selectric typewriter was delivered to the church by Frieda and Floyd Marshall who donated \$100 toward the \$150 cost of the machine.

While Dr. Brigham conducted a Christmas Eve service in Burlington, members of the Quincy congregation enjoyed a Vesper program of readings and music. Charlotte Koch Zander was organist, and selections of alto recorder and guitar extended the musical program. Readers were Cecil Williamson, John Tournear, Bruce Meyers (with church school children).

Nike Mendenhall spoke on Sunday, January 7, introducing a six-part series on "Food for Thought" covering aspects of world food problems, control of the oceans, and conservation of world food supply.

A recognition service for eight members was part of the service on January 18. Elizabeth Stebbins, Board President and Charlotte Winters, Membership Chair, welcomed the new members. The blue folder collection of hymn selections was often used in the services.

A Children's Stamp Club was organized by Anna Louise Brigham, who gave information and encouragement to the Sunday School children on alternate Sunday mornings. Members saved their envelopes and post cards for the children's collections. "Stamps are not just pictures of people, places and things; they are windows through which we can see other countries, other peoples and other cultures."

Then came the Chinese Dragon

Children of the church school presented a special celebration in February. In recognition of the Chinese New Year the Church School children produced a dragon as a class project, coloring scales that were attached to a green bedspread. Their leader, Bertha Danhaus, said the whole church school turned into a dragon with 32 feet. Carol Mathieson and Charlotte Zander composed a program participated in by sixteen children of varying ages.

And Mary Heincy said:

"The monthly newsletter is not the sole responsibility of the minister or the editor. It takes time for the minister to compose his contribution, and it takes many hours to type, duplicate, fold, staple, address, stamp, sort and mail. It should not be necessary for either the minister or the editor to be forced to spend additional hours calling in an effort to trace down "rumors" of church suppers, membership news, forum speakers, special events, etc. It is the duty of each person responsible to forward news and information to the person acting as church secretary. The typing is done on THURSDAY MORNINGS. The Newsletter will only be as newsworthy as YOU care to make it."

Appreciation was given to Bill Sexauer for installing a light at the foot of the front stairs. In these "bitter months" the heating costs were about \$120 a week. Board meetings were regularly held at 7 p.m. at the home of Board member, Nona Miller.

A gift from a friend of the church, Amy Stevens, made possible WGEM radio time for forty "half-minute" announcements of the Anniversary Year with succinct statements of our liberal religious position.

This year, 1979, marked the 140th anniversary of the founding of the Unitarian Church in Quincy. Special programs and events were planned, devoted to story, history and significance of the church, its ministers and members in the life of Quincy and of the Unitarian Association of Churches in America.

Nona Miller, Anniversary Committee Chair, conducted the Sunday morning service of April 1, which was a formal introduction of the 140th Anniversary. Her address, "The Unitarian Spirit," gave a review of the Unitarian story in Quincy. The responsive reading from the Easter Service of March 16, 1877 was repeated:



"I have seen the rose in its beauty;  
 I returned, it was dying upon its stalk,  
 And the grace of the form of it was gone.  
 I looked again: It had sprung forth afresh;  
 The stem was crowned with new buds,  
 And the sweetness thereof filled the air....  
 etc."

The Frederick Lucian Hosmer hymns, "Forward  
 Through the Ages" and Oh Light, from Age to Age the  
 Same (written for the 50th Anniversary) were sung.  
 Rev. Hosmer was minister of the Quincy church from 1872  
 to 1877. (This was perhaps his first ministry.)  
 The service concluded with the reading of the Covenant,  
 adopted in April 1883, during the ministry of the ninth  
 minister, James Vila Blake (1877-1883):  
 "WE BELIEVE:

That RELIGION is NATURAL and NEEDFUL to the human  
 soul: That the MANY things of the Universe have their  
 being in ONE Life, Power, Majesty, Righteousness,  
 Mercy and Love; That the UNIVERSE is Beautiful and  
 Beneficent ORDER in which "is no variableness neither  
 showed or turning: That "ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR  
 GOOD:" .....

Nona Miller mentioned hours and hours of studying  
 records of the church. There was discussion of re-  
 producing and binding documents of the church history.  
 "Will there be will be funds for copying, paper, and  
 binding?" It was suggested that historical records be  
 compiled in three sections: general history, Quincy  
 church history, and a list of members from 1839 with  
 brief biographical descriptions. Dr. Brigham suggested  
 preparation of two bound copies to be underwritten by  
 the church. Individual members could pay for whatever  
 copies they might want for personal use.

Dr. Brigham spoke the next Sunday on "The Religious  
 Storm in New England." He explained "How Our Church  
 Began" for the Church School children who attended the  
 opening portion. Susan Drew played Concerto for Violin.

Former minister, Calvin Knapp spoke on April 15,  
 Easter Sunday, on "The Timelessness of our Present  
 Condition." The Church School children sang Easter  
 songs to the guitar accompaniment of Dienna Drew. John  
 Sperry presented "Pre-reformation Antecedents to the  
 Quest of Free Religion" on April 29. Carolyn Kane was

guest soloist. The Rev. Lester Mondale, interim minister during 1968-69, addressed the congregation on May 13 with a sermon title of "The Born Again (and again) Unitarian."

#### THE 1979 THOUSANDS OF PLANTS SALE

When Calvin Knapp was in Quincy to present the Easter service, he donated a selection of plants from his collection for the Plant Sale. Lisa Wigoda took a photo as he pointed out a rare plant, a maple leaf mallow. This photo was the focus of the promotional feature in The Herald-Whig. The 7th annual "Thousands of Plants" sale was held on April 28 with the usual bakery goods, books and magazines, and doughnut sale. More than 300 persons registered for the door prizes. The church treasury gained \$866.81. Members of the organizing committee were: Frieda Marshall, Jim and Dienna Drew, Madan and Lynne Joshi, Caroline Soxauer, Violet Moore, Bertha Danhaus, and John and Anna Louise Brigham.

The Quincy Herald-Whig covered the event, giving an entire Sunday society page to photographs. Young Michael Drew is shown helping his mother (Dienna) in doughnut making by sprinkling the powdered sugar. Happy customers were leaving the church with plants in arms. Frieda Marshall, general chairman, said, "At the start we had 17 tables of plants; at the end we had three." The remainder was turned over to the YWCA for their sale on the following week-end.

The gala Anniversary Birthday Celebration was held on May 6. Carol Mathieson presented the service, telling backgrounds of hymns and the history of church singing. A birthday luncheon followed with ice cream and birthday cake. Members of fellowships and churches of Missouri, Iowa and Illinois were invited.

A headline in the paper stated: Unitarian Church celebrating 140th Anniversary. Where six generations of Quincyans have united in the search and discovery of faith:

in life - its wonder, joy and beauty.  
in truth - the growing body of knowledge and understanding.

in love - the affection and caring concern of shared life.

in persons - the capacity to grow and create a common life of freedom and peace.

# Annual plant sale April 28

The Rev. Calvin R. Knapp, minister of the Quincy Unitarian Church from 1972-76, was in Quincy this past weekend to not only speak at the Easter Sunday services at the church but to deliver his contribution to the church's annual plant sale April 28.

Mr. Knapp, who is farming in Cisne, arrived Saturday morning with plant specimens from his own collection. Unloaded from the trunk of his car were purple passion, pepoperomia and maple leaf mallow, a very rare plant. Mr. Knapp, shown at right, said who ever buys the maple leaf mallow should save the seeds because it is very rare.

Mr. Knapp helped establish the event in 1973 when it was a modest experience of church members and friends sharing and trading their extra perennials, bulbs and seeds. The late Mrs. Ione Vasen was chairman of the first plant sale, assisted by Mrs. Dorothe Owen and Miss Nona Miller.

The church has become known for the springtime activity and the sale has been expanded to include all who are interested.

Called the "Thousands of Plants Sale," the seventh annual event will be held at the church, 16th and Hampshire, from 10 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Saturday, April 28.

The plant sale will feature houseplants, garden plants and greenhouse plants. Glen Gore of the Gore Flower Shop and Greenhouse at 824 Harrison will furnish bedding plants and some vegetable plants.

Among the many varieties offered will be papyrus plants, ferns, lily of the valley, wildflowers, African violets, begonia and herb plants.

A bake sale and a book sale will be held in conjunction with the plant sale. Homemade doughnuts will be served during the morning. Door prizes will be awarded.

Members of the organization committee are Mrs. Frieda Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. James Drew, Mr. and Mrs. Madan Joshi, Mrs. Caroline Sexauer, Mrs. Violet Moore, Mrs. Bertha Danhaus and the Rev. and Mrs. John W. Brigham.



**Calvin Knapp**

H-W Photo by Lisa Wigoda





1979

THOUSANDS  
OF PLANTS  
SALE



Sentences from this time: "Throughout the life of the Unitarian Church, the culmination of individual character, conscience, and morals has been the foundation for progress. The gist of church teaching has been painstaking investigation in the interest of truth and tolerance."

ANNOUNCEMENT: VACANCY in September ...job of editor of newsletter and various church secretarial chores...aspiring candidates should speak to the minister, John Brigham, or the president of the Board, Elizabeth Stebbins.

A questionnaire and check list allowed members to volunteer for committee responsibilities and to express preferences regarding worship services.

The Union Picnic with the Burlington Fellowship was held at Nauvoo State Park. Seventy persons represented 35 from Quincy and 34 from Burlington.

"The final meeting of the 78-79 Alliance year was held in the Heritage Room with Gale Colby and Jean Sperry as hostesses to a small (before the pecan pie) group. The Alliance had donated \$270 to the church treasury this year. Various church matters were discussed in a free and easy manner. All agreed it was good to just "rap" for a while with feelings vented and no action taken." (MBC minutes)

The 1979 spring plant sale was mentioned in the UU WORLD during the summer. "This is our second appearance in recent times in this worthy publication. The last time was a description of our organ restoration project."

The church retained the same committees: Program, Finance, Religious Education, Chancel Decoration, Coordinating Committee, Public Relations, Building and Grounds, Membership, Adult Discussion, Special Projects, Fellowship/Telephone, Historian, Newsletter, Memorial Fund Trustees.

During this time a booklet was prepared (possibly for new members' welcome). It had the church illustration on the cover and included history of the church, constitution, and list of active and inactive members.

Gale Colby volunteered to type and mimeograph the newsletter "if we don't find another volunteer." Cecil Williamson offered to produce a directory. By July, 1979, Nancy Winters arranged to work Thursday evenings from 6 to 8 o'clock at \$4.50 an hour. But by the end of October: "We have immediate need for a typist-secretary to produce the Sunday morning service programs and the monthly newsletter. Nancy Winters who had been doing this for us has resigned to continue her education."

The Board of Trustees met to authorize the purchase of four additional folding tables for use at union services functions, plant sale, etc. They were purchased with Memorial Trust funds and "suitably inscribed." Cost: \$183.29.

The Brighams "closed" the sale of their Burlington residence in October and moved their furnishings to 2604 Chestnut Street, Quincy ("Anna Louise's childhood and girlhood home"). For the alternate weeks they would be in Burlington, they rented a "spacious third-floor apartment adjacent to the Burlington Meeting House."

Circle or Candlelight supper gatherings in members' homes were being planned. A new set of Wayside Pulpit messages were ordered (with generous assistance of several interested members). Cost: \$70 for 48 messages. Bob Mathieson, and then Madan Joshi offered to change messages. The influence of the messages was recognized when the church received a \$50 check from a man who appreciated the Wayside Pulpit thoughts that he noticed as he drove to work on Hampshire Street.

Housekeeping cares were underwritten by the budget. "We have an arrangement with a cleaning person to come for a morning twice a month to do basic cleaning of major public areas: entries, service area, Heritage Room and restrooms. We must take responsibility for areas we use, such as kitchen, resource room. Those who use the building should leave the area as neat as possible."

About the newsletter: Ask Janice Marshall. Ask Linda Buechting. Ask Frieda Marshall (who was teaching full days of classes and a night school class at Gem City College). She and John Brigham composed a new format for the newsletter, using the church illustration and printed "masthead." Frieda volunteered to prepare

the newsletter and the orders of service beginning on November 1, 1979. Janice took responsibility for newspaper advertising and publicity.

The Order of Service still stated: "As a matter of congregational decision we include no offertory in the service. There is a basket for such contribution as you may care to make on the window ledge at the rear of the church."

The church school older class was taught by Jean Sperry and Elizabeth Stebbins. Nursery assistants were Amy Meyers and Susan Drew.

Circle Suppers had been held with hosts: Madan and Lynne Joshi, Floyd and Frieda Marshall, Ray and Pat Urban, Bruce and Carol Meyers, Eve Norton and Henry Dickhoener, her brother. "It is the long-range intent that all members will participate in these evenings, which provide a deepening acquaintance and appreciation of one another and to share a good time."

The Quaker Society of Friends asked the church to take over the work of the Quincy Memorial Society.... Gale Colby suggested that we repair the sidewalks around the church.

Alternate Sunday guest speakers included: Dr. John Sperry, Dr. Faisal Rahman, Dr. Edward Sawyer, Robert Mathieson, Dr. Thomas B. Shrout, Dr. Ron Glossop, Rev. Henry Murray, Elise Cade (Executive Secretary of the Central Midwest District), and Beth Ide (Interdistrict UUA Religious Education field worker).

On February 10 with a sermon theme of "Joy and Exultation," Dr. Brigham offered that laughter, pleasure and happiness belong in our human adventure. This morning brought the return of the children with their Chinese Dragon and a luncheon featuring Chinese cookery.

Following a discussion of church heating costs, Sherman Bond and Dr. Brigham surveyed the open attic above the church ceiling. Insulation material to blanket that area could save in heating costs. This project was explored in anticipation of membership volunteer action before the next heating season. Contractor Jerry Kasparie estimated a cost of \$500 if members would work with the help of a carpenter.

Alliance members planned to meet in the church to assess refurbishing the Resource Room (Library). Two cabinets were moved from the third floor to the west wall in the Resource Room.

The Plant Sale occurred on April 26, chaired by Dienna and Jim Drew and Frieda Marshall. Members were asked to respond with help for the Eighth Great Plant Sale. Patsy-Rose Hoshiko brought a station-wagon full of plants from Carbondale for the third year. Lee Fendrych of Burlington sent a generous supply of succulents, and Ruth Harris sent cactus starts all the way from her home in California. The event produced a net income of \$1,034 which was nearly \$100 above the 1979 sale.

The membership approved the budget of the 1980-81 year, totaling \$17,175. "To meet this budget, pledges of \$13,862 will be necessary. This is a nine percent increase over the 1979-80 pledged amounts received." The minister's salary was shared by the Quincy church and the Burlington Fellowship. The budget included \$750 for the B.I.B. project (Batts in the Belfry)(insulation) Secretarial services were donated by Frieda Marshall. The Harriet Eldred Bequest had accrued to \$3,664. It was at that time the only bequest on record.

The season came to a close with a sermon by Dr. Mason F. McGinnis, of the Meadville-Lombard Theological School, a sermon by Dr. Brigham: "Planning a Religious Yard Sale (What to keep; what to get rid of)", and a return visit and sermon by Dr. Lester Mondale. There was a Quincy-Burlington picnic at Nauvoo State Park.

During the summer, three delegates attended the General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association in Albuquerque. They were Janice Marshall (for whom it was all new and novel) and Dr. and Mrs. John Brigham, who were attending their 40th annual gathering. In July they gave reports at a summer gathering in the park.

A call was issued for someone to volunteer to cut the grass during the summer. Dates were set and duties detailed for concerted effort in "beautifying" the church grounds. However, because of hot and humid weather, the scheduled times were canceled. Work was done at other times by Ed Herman, Jim Drew, Sherman Bond, Frieda Marshall, John and Anna Louise Brigham.



## THE 1980 - 1981 SEASON

Caroline Sexauer chaired the Alternate Sunday Program Committee with help of Charlotte Winters, Nona Miller, Al Beck and Dr. Brigham. To start the season, guest speakers on alternate weeks were opposing candidates for the Illinois State Senate: George Lewis, attorney, and Mary Lou Kent, State Representative. The general theme was "Survival for the 21st Century." (Note: "In no other church will you find these two opposing candidates speaking from the same pulpit in succession.")

Committees were divided to 1) vital or operating and 2) supportive. The operating committees were: Church School, Finance, Alternate Sunday, Ministerial Relationship, and House and Grounds. Supportive committees were: Fellowship, Membership, Music, Worship, Chancel Decorations, Study Groups, Publicity and Promotion, Special Projects, Memorial, and Community Service.

It was announced that a new UUA hymn book would be ready soon.

Dr. John Sperry received the Fred Helsabeck Prize for Excellence in Teaching at the Culver-Stockton College commencement. "The children of the church school surely approved this honor as they had the enjoyment of John's teaching recently."

In her inaugural address the new President of the Women's Alliance, Mary Belle Coffman, announced her goal would be to increase membership. Along with that our concentration should be on hospitality and fellowship. Also aim to spruce up the church and make the kitchen neat and efficient. (C. Winters minutes)

A new 30-gallon gas hot-water heater was installed by Gibson Plumbing. Floyd and Frieda Marshall were the donors.

By the end of September a dozen exhibitors had reserved space for the coming October Arts and Crafts Market. Ray Urban was named chairman, with Frieda Marshall, Martha Disseler, Lynne Joshi, Jim Drew, Mike Flanagan and Carol Meyers assisting. With the craft market and the bake sale, the church netted \$669.80.

## OFFERING BASKETS APPEAR

On Sunday, October 26, the Order of Service included: Meditation: silent, spoken, and organ interlude. "During the organ interlude, two of our members will circulate among you offering baskets for your contributions supporting this church and its programs. This return to an offertory moment in our service is in response to a considered discussion among members of the Board of Trustees."

November 8 was set for Attic Insulation Day. A crew of four persons would be needed at all times, and there could be shifts in personnel. A day-long effort was anticipated. The cost of materials and machine for blowing cellulose insulation in the the attic areas was \$723.98. This included installing vents to prevent build up of moisture. Payment was made by withdrawal from Reserve Fund. But in the February Board meeting, Mr. Bond moved that the memorial funds assume the cost of insulation as "a capital improvement in memory of Mrs. Charlotte Carrott as requested by her daughter, Nona Miller." M.B.Coffman seconded; motion carried.

The Order of Service noted: The devoted crew that worked on insulating was treated to a sustaining lunch, provided by Pat Urban (with her daughter Nadia). Noble workers were Sherman Bond, Jim Drew, John Brigham, Lloyd Harris, Ed Herman, Ray Urban, John Sperry, John Nielsen and Bob Mathieson. Another crew attended to care of the church grounds.

A LIVING COMMUNITY, Sunday evening gatherings for members and friends, began on November 9 under leadership of Marcia Loellbach, Cecil Williamson, Allen Shriver and John Nielsen. The intent was to provide an opportunity for "exploring the meaning of community and becoming a community of meaning. How deeply do we experience a sense of belonging and how do we learn to trust one another?"

The Coordinating Committee for the Cooperative Ministry with the Burlington Unitarian Fellowship was represented in Quincy by Nona Miller, Caroline Sexauer and Jim Drew.... Coffee Hour hosts and hostesses were needed. "Please sign up for a Sunday's assistance in this helpful fellowship task."

## THE WARM HEARTH FOOD CO-OP

The Warm Hearth Food Co-op was formed in October with about 15 buying units. The distribution was on November 24 at the church. Several hundred pounds of assorted foodstuffs were distributed to buyers. An ordering meeting was held December 4 in the meeting room of the Public Library to welcome new members. Leadership was given by Nike Mendenhall and John Nielsen. By March the group was well established and paid 2% of the monthly gross sales for the use of the church facilities.

Members and friends were encouraged to cooperate with the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee annual appeal for support of its programs in the U. S., Central and South America. GUESTS AT YOUR TABLE contribution boxes were distributed "to be placed on your dining table and returned with your contribution late in December." Contributions totaled \$60 to be forwarded to the Service Committee.

A responsible volunteer was wanted to come to the church on Saturday evening and raise the thermostat in anticipation of need for Sunday morning. The thermostat was kept at 50 degrees during the week and would be increased to 60-64 degrees on Saturday evening and raised to 68 degrees at about ten o'clock on Sunday.

John Sperry presented "Vignettes of Christmas" on December 21 and there was Christmas caroling in the evening. A Christmas Eve service, included carols, readings, trumpet and flute selections, and a Christmas message by Dr. Brigham.

In January the Unitarian Women's Alliance presented to Frances Morrison a Certificate of membership in the Clara Barton Sisterhood of the UUWF. This honored U-U women of 80 years or over, recognizing their contributions to the life and spirit of our denomination.

Dr. Brigham planned four Sunday afternoon meetings to acquaint new members about Unitarian Universalist ideas - theological, philosophical and ethical.... Once again the church building was appraised for insurance consideration. In February, 1981, the actual cash value of the church building was stated as \$166,102. (This compares with \$120,000 in 1974.)



## Plants growing in church tower

Early in March, cuttings were set in the south sunlight of the small tower of the Unitarian Church at 16th and Hampshire. The warm spring sun did its work as those cuttings are now hardy plants waiting to be sold during the Thousands of Plants sale Saturday at the church.

The collection has grown in recent weeks with the many varieties brought from Southern Illinois by former church member, Mrs. Patsy-Rose Hoshiko. Among these is a plant which she believes is called "Tahitian Wedding Veil" and another, similar to aloe vera or Christmas cactus yet neither, has so far defied identification.

The plants at the church will be joined by other houseplants, garden plants and greenhouse plants, including all kinds of bedding and some vegetable plants, during the ninth annual plant sale which begins at 9:30 a.m. and continues until 2 p.m. Additionally, church members will serve homemade doughnuts during the morning and will have a sale of baked items and books.

The plant sale began as a modest experience of church members trading and sharing their extra perennials and seeds and has developed into an annual fundraising endeavor for the church. Mrs. Frieda Marshall has been co-chairman with Jim Drew most of the years.

H-W photo by Lisa Wigoda

The Herald-Whig sent a photographer to cover the promotion for the plant sale. This was Lisa Wigoda (not then associated with the church), and she positioned an angel-wing begonia against the leaded glass of the tower window for a shadow picture. P.R. Hoshiko brought a plant that she identified as "Tahitian Wedding Veil." There were, of course, plants from the greenhouse and plants from the members, in addition to the bakery, doughnuts, and book sales. The news story states: "Frieda Marshall has been co-chairman with Jim Drew for most of the years." This was Plant Sale Number Nine. The church treasury added \$367.60.

The minister had suggested a service with the theme of "Women and Religion," and he put the Alliance members in charge. Elizabeth Stebbins, Mary Belle Coffman and Frieda Marshall cooperated on this service for the day after Plant Sale. Mrs. Coffman opened the service, selected the hymns, and gave the readings. Frieda Marshall presented the address, entitled: "Belle of the Industrials," telling of the Unitarian Belle Dimmick, a member of the Industrial Alliance and a leader in the Quincy Unitarian Church.

From the minutes of the next Alliance meeting: "Mary Belle Coffman's choice of readings and hymns, such as the song "This is What We are" and the reading "I Ain't Ladylike" were appropriate and very clever. Frieda Marshall's address was a masterpiece in bringing alive that wonderful Unitarian and feminist, Belle Dimmick, and giving us vivid glimpses of life in the Quincy Unitarian Church from 1896 to 1910."

The Board, with encouragement from Jane Shair and Mary Belle Coffman, commissioned our member, Carol Meyers, to make a banner with the Unitarian emblem in dominance. Carol's artistry was in machine-quilted cloth applique. Ideas were suggested, and Carol produced an artist's sketch. The design of the symbols of world religions, surrounding the Unitarian Flaming Chalice was approved. The banner, when completed, was hung by a rod at the front of the sanctuary, and the symbols were identified in a framed illustration nearby. The memorial funds and a Stevens/Markley gift shared the cost of \$150.

All seven members who joined the church during this fiscal year attended the annual meeting in May. They were: Marcia Loellbach, John Nielsen, Michael Flanagan, Barbara and Bill Jensen, Harold Mann, and Brad Bohlen.

John Nielsen served on the pledge committee and announced that 45 units had pledged \$14,868. Nine remaining units had not yet pledged. Dr. Brigham noted that the church ended the year with a favorable balance. He stressed the importance of having a fall money-raising project.

Dr. Brigham underwent surgery at Blessing Hospital in June, 1981, and expected to require part of the summer for convalescence. He improved steadily and began the September services, speaking on "Religious Shopping in a Free Market." He was still sharing his ministerial duties with Quincy and Burlington. John Sperry and Nona Miller served on the Alternate Sunday Programming committee. The treasurer reported that summer expenses were offset by pledge income through July and August. The church school was led by Jim and Dienna Drew during September, October, and November.

A number of members had worked during the summer to care for the grounds and building. Frieda Marshall, who handled the newsletter printing and mailing, reported about 100 newsletters sent to members, friends and in exchange with other U-U churches. A group, called "The Independents," announced meeting time and place.

Organ repair work was authorized, and Jim Donovan gave attention to leather work and the clarinet rank of pipes. The memorial fund participated in the payment of \$200 or \$300.

Friends were interested to know that The Rev. Bruce Marshall, having served the Unitarian Church of Flint, Michigan, for seven years, had moved with his wife Patti to Huntington (Long Island) N. Y. The Huntington U U Fellowship of about 300 members had committed itself to a \$500,000 building program, adding a new sanctuary to their present structure.

John Brigham indicated to the Board of Trustees that he planned to retire in the summer of 1982. At this time he would have completed 44 years in the ministry. The Quincy and Burlington congregations

should begin to think of alternatives. David Pohl of the UUA recommended that the shared ministry continue. The Board agreed although some said this was not the only alternative.

The Coordinating Committees (Quincy and Burlington) met to consider steps to be taken. Representing Quincy were John Sperry, Jim Drew and Nona Miller. A tentative agreement on formation of a cooperative ministerial search committee met with general approval. The matter was presented to the Quincy congregation at a meeting on November 15, and a search committee was formed, consisting of John Nielsen, Nona Miller, Elizabeth Stebbins and Robert Mathieson.

Should there be an Arts and Crafts Fair? Brad didn't want to. Mike couldn't. John Brigham said, "Drop it!" No one argued.

The church purchased 60 pamphlets with non-sexist texts. The Alliance President asked if the group wanted to study "The Sexist Language." But it was agreed that it was not worth the time. Elizabeth Stebbins reported on the needs of the Organization for Battered Wives. "Money is needed for a building for these unfortunate women. It is hoped that Unitarians can volunteer in the work of this organization." There followed Alliance programs on Domestic Violence and on the E.R.A.

Dr. Brigham conducted a Vesper Service in Quincy on Christmas Eve, including readings and carols. The "Independents" decided to hold a series of "Holiday Homes" to provide a gathering for Unitarian friends. It was intended that these would not be elaborate affairs, but the hostess should offer coffee and simple refreshments. During Christmas week the hostesses were: Nona Miller, Martha Disseler, Mary Belle Coffman, Faye Townsend and Nancy Winters.

The minister wrote of the feeling of warmth and sharing that resulted from the Christmas preparations and service. The January newsletter enclosed one of the Christmas Eve readings. It was Dr. Bruce Marshall's review, "Have a Unitarian Universalist Christmas," telling of Unitarian contributions to the American cultural tradition. John Brigham said, "This will help you be aware of how 'theologically correct' we are in our celebration."

Dr. Brigham also reflected his experience of welcoming "two young people into the Christmas-decorated sanctuary and hearing their words of wonder and enjoyment upon seeing the lovely lines and gracefulness of our church."

The Warm Hearth Food Cooperative was contributing 2% of its gross as rent for one evening a month. This had recently provided \$25 to \$30 monthly to the church income. As the Cooperative used the church refrigerator for over-night storage on the day before distribution, the Board of Trustees had voted to acquire a more adequate refrigerator for the church kitchen.

Furnace difficulty on a very cold January Sunday sent the members to the home of Frances Morrison (just half a block away) to hear a presentation by guest speaker John Tripp on Reverence For Life. Members carried hymnals, Frances Morrison played at her grand piano and it was a memorable event. Appreciation was voiced for Mrs. Morrison's prompt and generous hospitality. No damage had occurred to the heating system or to the water lines.

All was well the next Sunday when, after John Brigham's sermon, "A Unitarian in a Conservative Land," there was a luncheon and the young people of the Church School presented a play based on the Legend of Sleepy Hollow. A free-will offering was collected to be sent to the UU Service Committee.

A Giant Seed Distribution Event occurred at the Marshall home, 1660 Kentucky, on February 18. Church members and Warm Hearth members participated in a give-away of flower and vegetable seeds. Dan Kelly was instrumental in organizing this event. In March a "plant talk party" was held at Marshall's home, to organize the Tenth Annual Plant Sale.

#### THE MACOMB FELLOWSHIP INSTALLED A MINISTER

On Saturday, March 13, 1982, the members of the Macomb Unitarian Fellowship installed a minister, The Reverend Sylvia Ford, who would be in Macomb one week each month. She also served three weeks a month at the Abraham Lincoln Fellowship of Springfield, Illinois.



The Memorial Fund trustees were Bertha Danhaus, Sherman Bond and Tom Moore. They reported a balance of slightly over \$8,000. "The principal and income are available for use, limited to capital improvement. This fund does not enter into the annual budget."

Geoffrey Mendenhall installed a new audio system. Two speakers were discreetly placed and an immediately noticeable improvement occurred.

The Alliance established a Kitchen Improvement Fund with \$100, with the hope that other church members would make contributions to the fund. A Revere ware tea kettle was provided by the Alliance with redemption of S & H green stamps. A member of the Board bought 3 dozen soup bowls for \$79. As this was not in the budget, a gift was sought to cover this purchase.

In advance of the Tenth Annual Plant Sale the newspaper carried a photo of Anna Louise and John Brigham as they repotted cucumber seedlings. The caption mistakenly wrote "reported cucumber seedlings." However, the sale was a success with the usual "wall to wall" people in the first half hour. The book sale, bake sale, and doughnut making activities kept the crews busy. P. R. Hoshiko (Dege sister of Carbondale) again brought plants and even baked goods for the sale. The monetary benefit to the church was the best yet --- \$1,452.70. At the May Alliance meeting at Drews, members carried home some left-over plants.

#### DR. BRIGHAM DESIGNATED MINISTER-EMERITUS

Dr. Brigham was designated as Minister-emeritus to the Quincy Unitarian Church. At the annual meeting in May, the reports indicated a busy and healthy year for the church. Income was above expenses and put the church in a favorable position for the coming of a new minister.

The Union picnic for Quincy and Burlington congregations was the opportunity for recognition of John Brigham's retirement and service to the two organizations. Gifts, practical, financial, and symbolic, were graciously received by the Brighams. A song-fest provided the joviality appropriate to the occasion.

THE REV. ERIC A. HAUGAN  
1982 - 1987

The Search Committee had recommended a candidate, The Rev. Eric A. Haugan, who came to speak to the Quincy congregation on May 16. His topic was "To Afflict the Comfortable and to Comfort the Afflicted." Open House visiting was arranged so that members could conveniently meet the candidate.

The General Assembly was held this year at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine. The delegates again were Dr. and Mrs. Brigham and Janice Marshall. On this trip the Brighams visited family members in Friendship, Maine; Canaan, Connecticut; and Canandaigua, New York. Janice visited her brother Bruce in Huntington, New York, and they traveled together to the General Assembly.

The Rev. Eric A. Haugan began his ministry with the Quincy Unitarian Church and the Burlington Fellowship congregations in August, 1982. He had studied for the ministry at the University of Chicago and at Meadville/Lombard College, receiving his M.A. in Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degree in 1981. Dr. Haugan had served as an intern minister at All Souls Unitarian Church in Tulsa and completed three months of duty as a chaplain at the California Medical Facility and State Prison at Vacaville, California.

His family attended a Lutheran Church in Minnesota, but Eric found himself turning to Unitarian Universalism while he was in college. He had then joined the Unity-Unitarian Church in St. Paul.

During the summer a number of people had worked at the church to maintain the premises. John Nielsen and Dan Kelly organized "Work Sundays" when a dozen or two willing workers put their hands to whatever job needed to be done. There were masonry strategists, brush wielders, landscape artists, woodworking craftsmen, a tool supplier, a window-well wizard, a candelabrum caretaker, kitchen curtain makers, and other helpers.

The minister titled his column for the newsletter "Minister's Markings" based on Dag Hammarskjöld's journal, Markings. He closed with "Peace, Eric." He announced his office hours as Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday - 10 a.m. to noon and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Committees were

"streamlined" to include: Religious Education, Alternate Sunday Programming, Building and Grounds, Finance, Social/Fellowship/Coffee Hour, Music, Chancel Decorations, Plant Sale, Publicity, Membership, Memorial. John Sperry was Board president and John Nielsen was Secretary. Dan Kelly was employed for 8 hours a week to clean the church, once after Warm Hearth distribution and at another time. Nancy Winters planned to prepare descriptions of the committee responsibilities and names of the committee members.

The Quincy Unitarian Church was sponsoring the local airing of "The Cambridge Forum," a denominational-based radio program on the Quincy College station. This originates from Boston on a weekly basis, dealing with religious, political, social and scientific issues.

In September a call was made to improve the parking behind the church. The Board in October meeting saw no pressing need for this. The downstairs hall was being repainted. A need was raised for storm windows in the entry. Estimates would be procured.

Ray and Pat Orban donated a 220V electric stove which was installed by Ray Orban and Sherman Bond with advice from Bill Sexauer. Bill Sexauer said that an electrician was needed to improve the church electrical system. Lepper Electric later installed circuit wiring and outlet for the range. A new, used refrigerator had been donated and the old one, still usable, was placed in the back lower hall.

Preparations had been under way for the ordination of the Rev. Eric Albert Haugan to the Unitarian Universalist ministry and his installation as minister of the Quincy Unitarian Church. This was set for Saturday afternoon, November 6, at two o'clock. The sermon was given by the Rev. John B. Wolf, senior minister of All Souls Unitarian Church of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Others participating were: Rev. Earl Holt, First Unitarian Church, St. Louis; Rev. John W. Brigham, Minister-emeritus; Rev. Neil Gerdes and Rev. J. Ronald Engel, Meadville Theological School; Meadville students: Kenner Swain, Steven Beall and Linda Hart; John Sperry, Quincy Board president, and Marty Zack, Chair of the Fellowship Council of the Unitarian Society of Burlington, Iowa. A similar ceremony was held in Burlington

on the following day. Music was provided by organist, Carol Fisher Mathieson, assistant professor, Culver-Stockton College. Installation programs were set in Composer type by Frieda Marshall and printed by Modern Printing: 150 copies = \$59.70

The Religious Education Committee planned a special evening for church school families to present the R. E. program. The study of "Beginnings" was under the direction of Bertha Danhaus and Andrea Farthing. Pat Urban was in charge of the nursery and Dan Kelly met with the teen-agers. Susan Drew provided child care. Eric Haugan included in a Sunday service a welcome to the children. Michael Drew was the only child present.

A folder listing members, friends and committees was available. (Give notices of corrections or additions to Frieda Marshall.)... Eric Haugan attended the Prairie Group Ministers' meeting near St. Louis.

Guest speakers reflected an eclectic mix: Dr. John Schleppenbach, Quincy College: "Religion and Folk Lore;" the Reverend Landry Genosky, O.F.M., St. Mary Hosiptal chaplain; Laura Kent, candidate for State Senator; Charles Scholz, Attorney; David Lockhart, M.D.: "Faith and the Healing Process;" Robert Mathieson: "Reticulative Molebators;" Evelyn Sacadat: "Communes, Past and Present."

A meeting at the church was called by Adams County Citizens Concerned about Nuclear War. A special panel discussion of four clergy shared the stands of their denominations on the concern for peace.

A Christmas Eve Candlelight service included carols and readings. Eric Haugan gave the Christmas message, James Donovan was guest organist. Appreciation was expressed for those who assisted in decorating the church.

Reflecting the custom begun the previous year, several "Holiday Homes" were scheduled in the Christmas season. Rev. Eric Haugan hosted at his apartment in Country Club Heights. Frieda and Floyd Marshall, John and Jean Sperry, and Nancy Winters also offered hospitality during Christmas week. In January Rev. Haugan scheduled several "Open House" evenings at his apartment to provide a setting for members and minister to become better acquainted.

The Alliance members recommended that there be a "once a month" collection of food and clothing for the Salvation Army. In December \$95 and six boxes of goods were delivered. and a Sunday each in March and April was designated with separate collections of money for the Salvation Army.

A Sunday morning pattern was set with a discussion group meeting at 9:30 to consider the "Unitarian Universalist Principles and Purposes." The church service and church school was at 10:45. The coffee hour followed the service. Board meetings were held monthly on Sunday afternoons after the coffee hour.

In February there was a special service with members participating, celebrating the birthday of Abraham Lincoln. The service closed with the "Coming of the Dragon" to commemorate the Chinese New Year. A "Bring a Friend" Sunday saw seventy people attending the church service.

A congregational meeting was called for March 20 for the purpose of considering improvements to the electrical system of the church. Three bids had been received. Lepper Electric, the lowest bidder, proposed for \$1,632 to: install proper service to north end of Heritage Room (for coffee making) \$144; install service for the electric range in the kitchen \$217; Install circuit breaker panel to replace old fuse box \$212; install new 150 amp 240 volt meter service in place of old 60 amp service \$1,059.

A pot-luck dinner followed with an informal discussion regarding organ maintenance and UU Principles. Robert Mathieson had inspected the organ with John Basinger, who said the organ was in acceptable condition, but the large bellows were in need of repair. "The church will have to decide at some point whether we desire to restore the organ to its original condition or whether we choose to make it function with new style parts. If we use new style parts, it may compromise the historical integrity of the organ. It may keep us from having it listed on the historical register."

A motion (in Board meeting) was passed to investigate requirements for listing on the historical register and cost for putting the organ in operating condition in alternative ways. John Sperry recommended that we take

an institutional membership in the Society for Historical Organs. This could allow eligibility for modest funds from an endowment that might help in organ restoration. Motion passed. The organization's folder quoted Honore de Balzac: "The Organ is surely some sort of pedestal on which the soul poises for a flight forth into space.."

The American Guild of Organists presented "Our American Heritage" concert at the church on April 14. There was no admission; all were welcome.

Eric Haugan was appointed to the Mayor's Advisory Committee, to be "eyes and ears" to the Mayor and the City Council.... Lepper Electric installed a receptacle for the "old" refrigerator in the basement hall and west receptacles in the kitchen with separate circuit breakers for each. \$127.... Two storm sashes were constructed by Bauhaus-Zwick and installed at the front entry for \$174.40

The Plant Sale, now almost a routine, brought a financial profit of \$1,631. Over 450 people attended. The cooperation of many members helped make this project better than ever before.

Two orientation sessions were announced by the minister for Monday evenings: "Everything You Always Wanted to Know about UU-ism." A new-member recognition service was to follow, coordinated with a Flower Communion Observation and "Bring a Friend" Sunday. That service was on May 1, 1983, a rainy day with warnings of tornado. Some members brought guests. There was a frightening moment when during the service a light bulb exploded, showering glass in the laps of people directly below. Martha Disseler's guest never came again.

The UUA Annual Program Fund request was \$650.... At the annual meeting, May 13, the minister announced seven new members, two deaths and three relocations. He set a goal of 12 to 20 new members for the next year, urged planning of a celebration for the 70th anniversary of the building, and encouraged more lay participation in Alternate Sunday services.

The treasurer, Jim Drew, reported 41 pledges received for \$15,679 with eight more units to contact. The proposed budget (pledges and projects) was \$18,375. The

Annual Meeting recessed at 9 p.m. on May 13 to be re-convened on May 29 after morning worship. The main purpose was to discuss the matter of special financing for the maintenance of the church building.

It was recalled that in 1976 members gathered on some summer Sundays to paint the outside woodwork of the church. This was needed again. Wood repair would also be needed. Brad Bohlen moved that an estimate be obtained from a professional in painting and repair. It was also recommended that a Building Maintenance Reserve Fund be established in anticipation of large expenditures. A separate fund drive was discussed.

At the May 29 meeting the Building and Grounds committee (John Brigham, Brad Bohlen, Cecil Williamson) recommended a building restoration fund drive for not less than \$15,000 with pledges payable over 36 months. Besides the exterior painting needed, there was anticipation of need of a new roof by 1989 and need of cleaning the stucco on the north and west sections. Additional concerns were the condition of electrical wiring and the over-all heating system. John Sperry moved that the Board present to the congregation a fund drive for \$20,000 payable in a 3-year period by pledges.

The last formal service of the year had a sermon by Eric Haugan on the subject: "El Salvador: The Savior." A picnic for the congregations of Quincy and Burlington occurred in Nauvoo State Park.

Jean Sperry and Anna Louise Brigham attended the Allerton UUWF meeting June 7,8,9....The Women's Alliance sponsored a fellowship time in Madison Park, Thursday morning, June 16. Additional "Breakfast in the Park" events were on July 14 and August 18, either at Madison or Wavering Park (near children's playground equipment.) An average of twenty men, women and children enjoyed these gatherings.

An answering machine for the church was procured through the assistance of Linda Buechting for \$49.95. A bid from Dan and Roy VonderHaar was received for sandblasting, water proofing and silicone application to stucco of the upper north and west sections of the church building. Also for repair of the chimney and patch painting the chimney (\$750) or would insurance pay for the chimney repair?

Eric Haugan and Linda Hart (Meadville ministerial student and intern at First Universalist Church in Minneapolis) were married on July 2, 1983, at Cedar Lane Unitarian Church in Bethesda, Maryland. A reception was held in their honor in the Quincy church on July 24. A "money tree" wedding gift was presented. Arrangements were made by the Fellowship Committee: Linda Buechting, Mary Belle Coffman and Cecil Williamson.

#### BUILDING IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

The Building Improvement projects were underway during the summer and in August the following report was submitted by John Brigham, Building and Grounds Chair:

1. All stone masonry and stucco cleaned.
2. All stucco treated with silicone paint for weatherproofing.
3. All exterior woodwork scraped or sanded and painted with two coats of top-quality paint.
4. Main chimney cap and upper masonry repaired and restored.
5. Capstones on seven window wells relaid and all masonry joints of the main building repointed.
6. Bulkhead entrance to the furnace room sandblasted and painted, and new railings installed on the north window well.
7. Rear entry door sanded and varnished with two coats of varnish.

In addition to work completed by contract, interior work had also been accomplished. Dan Kelly had varnished the window frames and sills in the social hall. A "work party" was scheduled for early fall.

Two formal summer services were held. In July Betty Albsmeyer (church member and Reference Librarian of the Quincy Public Library) spoke on "Oral History," In August John Brigham spoke on "A Living Religion for This Spinning Planet."

As the fall season began, John Nielsen was elected president of the Board of Trustess. He expressed appreciation to John Sperry who had served as President for two years, Nona Miller who had chaired the Alternate Sunday committee for two years, and Bob Mathieson who coordinated the introductions of Alternate Sunday speakers.



Orders of Service and Newsletters were prepared by Frieda Marshall and showed an improved appearance after the mimeograph cylinder had been taken out for thorough cleaning. Fisher Business Equipment - \$44.

The September 18 sermon, "Taking Time Seriously" a quote from James Luther Adams, was well prepared "and short. Then we spent too much time listening to people in the congregation." The attendance was not as good as last year. Coffee hour followed and then the monthly Board meeting.

Helen Markley wrote a note: "Under the new minister do you still make your Sunday morning collections in a basket on the window sill? That is a unique practice -- suitable for a Reader's Digest item of interest." (Collection baskets were being used at this time.)

A cause for celebration seemed evident. The congregation included four expectant mothers: Nike Mendenhall, Lisa Wigoda, Jana Warren and Kathy Schaffer. Anna Louise Brigham organized get-togethers. These young women became their own support group and had the interest of the congregation in photo opportunities (before and after) and gift certificates. The four births occurred from September 29 to October 18.

There was advance planning for the 70-year anniversary of the church building to be celebrated in February, 1984. Mr. Haugan mentioned that a non-sexist addition to the hymnal was available. He said that about a dozen people attended the first meeting of the Galesburg Unitarian Fellowship. A tape library of sermons was authorized by the Board.

Payments on building fund pledges had come to \$5,763. Green Insurance Agency paid for repair of the storm-damaged chimney cap. (Remember the lightning strike?) A bid from Wm. Gold for work on radiators and cleaning the furnace was accepted.

Another appraisal of the church (including stained glass windows and the organ): Today's (11/83) market value: \$208,000; Replacement cost: \$330,000. This may be compared with an earlier appraisal: Today's (12/80) market value: \$166,000; Replacement cost: \$264,000.



Jana Warren Lisa Wigoda Nike Mendenhall Kathy Schaffer  
 Anna Louise Brigham  
 September 17, 1983



Jana Warren Lisa Wigoda Nike Mendenhall Kathy Schaffer  
 Hillary Jack Merideth Melina  
 Anna Louise Brigham  
 Adam Schaffer  
 December 9, 1983

A floodlight was requested at the northeast corner of the building as a safety measure for people using the rear entrance at night. About 120 people were coming every month to the Warm Hearth Food Distribution. An improvement of the existing floodlight at the chancel window was suggested. Lepper Electric completed this job in November, 1983: \$112.42.

Dan VonderHaar was asked to give an estimate on work necessary on the women's rest room area, to include plumbing, lavatory in a counter, hot water unit, and wood paneling. The estimate: \$2,386, was received.

The Women's Alliance had 27 members who had paid dues. About 15 attended the meetings. There were male and female visitors at the meetings. After some correspondence with the national group, an affirmative answer was given regarding including men in the group. Jane Shair moved that the name be simply "Alliance" and Nona Miller seconded. The motion carried (with two dissenting votes). Anna Louise Brigham served as President. She announced committee heads who would form an executive committee along with the elected officers. Dienna Drew served as treasurer, and Pauline Johnson was secretary. The theme for the year was "The Independent Spirit in Literature."

Chairmen of ten church committees had been named. Additional church members were asked to volunteer willingness to help on the committees. Guest speakers included: Frank T. Edgar, "Calvin and Servetus - Plowshares into Swords;" Joseph Zimmerman, O.F.M. "Peace Issues in the Catholic Church;" Rev. Neil Gerdes, Meadville/Lombard Theological School, "A U-U For All Times." Al Beck, art professor recently returned from study in Italy, "The Enigmatic Etruscans."

Mr. Haugan made an appeal for better communication-becoming a caring community. "If I don't hear from you, I can't do an effective job as your minister." He led five Tuesday evening sessions of Building Your Own Theology. He and his wife attended the Central Midwest District Meeting in Peoria.... A telephone answering device was installed at the church to give information about coming services when the minister would be in Burlington... The 25 Familiar Hymns Booklet (non-sexist text) was being used along with the standard hymnal.

A member and guest organist, Marcia Loellbach, was moving from Quincy and hoped to find a home for two pet cats. "Qualifications: Unitarian, healthy, gentle, neutered and declawed."

Christmas Eve Service was on Saturday evening, with carols and readings. There was no service on December 25. Christmas greeting letters were received by members from Eric and Linda.... Attention was being given to a study of UU Principles and Purposes.... Esther Jones offered help to the public relations committee in preparing a pamphlet about the church. Five hundred copies were printed in January. \$65.00.... At 50% of the church year, only 30% of payments on pledges had been received. Therefore, \$2,000 had been withdrawn from reserve funds to meet operating costs.

A special service was planned for February 5, to mark the 70th anniversary of the erection of the church building. "The historical significance of this architectural delight is meaningful to all of us." Guest speaker was The Rev. Earl Holt, minister at First Unitarian Church in St. Louis. Two previous ministers: Rev. Calvin Knapp (1971-1976) and Rev. Thomas Maloney (1953-56) gave special greetings. Rev. John Brigham, minister emeritus, led the meditation. The music was selected by Carol Fisher Mathieson, and several members took part in the service.

This factual information was printed on the program:

William G. Eliot, pastor of Messiah Unitarian Church in St. Louis from 1834 to 1872, preached the organizing sermon for a Quincy Unitarian Church on April 8, 1839, in the Court House. The Rev. William P. Huntington came to conduct organizing meetings in James Dehaven's school house on Third Street between Maine and Hampshire. On May 31, 1838, he named the church "The Second Congregational Church of Quincy." He stayed until March 1840. In 1841 the first pledge drive referred to the Second Congregational (Unitarian) Church.

The first church building was built in 1840 on the north side of Maine Street between Third and Fourth Streets. The second church was built during 1850, and it was located on the north side of Jersey Street between Sixth and Seventh Streets. The third church was

built in 1858 on the north side of Maine Street between Sixth and Seventh, where later the Majestic Building stood for many years (presently the First Bank plaza). The fourth and present church building at Sixteenth and Hampshire Streets was dedicated on February 5, 1914.

A film on Central America, "El Salvador, Another Vietnam," was shown at the church by David Quarles, a church member. He had extensive experience working in El Salvador with the Peace Corps and USAID. He later presented a Sunday morning service, "Eye Witness in Central America." Another program was coordinated by the Committee for Central America America Peace Education as part of Nationwide Central America Week.

#### WM. SPENCER JOHNSON MEMORIAL CONCERT

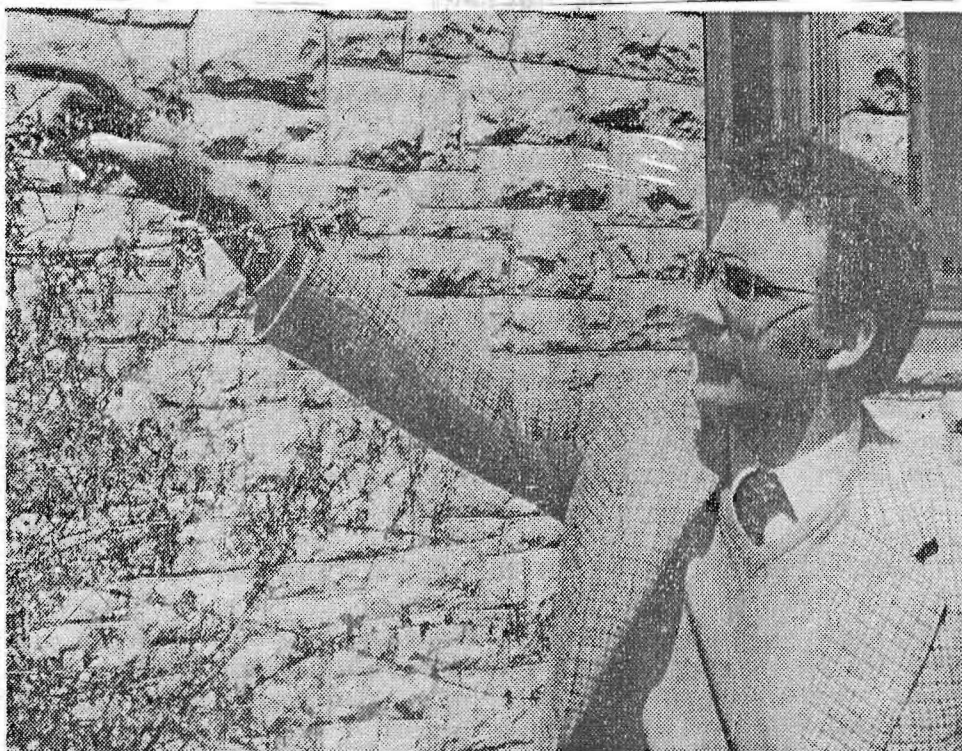
A William Spencer Johnson Memorial Concert was presented by W. Kirby Eber, who played compositions of the former organist of the church. The concert also celebrated appreciation of the organ - the oldest remaining organ in Quincy in its original form. In advance of the concert John Basinger donated time and expertise to condition the organ.

The concert was sponsored by the Women's Alliance, (\$2 donation) with leadership of Dolores Jenkins, Marcia Loellbach and Caroline Sexauer. An afternoon tea completed the concert on April 8. About 75 people attended, and \$135 was contributed to the organ maintenance fund.

In addition to this fund-raising event, the Women's Alliance also had sponsored a soup-sandwich-pie luncheon for members. The funds helped defray costs of delegates to the Allerton Conference. Also the Alliance contributed \$100 to the church budget.

Rev. Bruce Marshall, former member and minister of the Huntington, N. Y. Unitarian Fellowship, appealed for "accounts of personal experiences that have made a difference in the lives of Unitarian Universalists." These were to be gathered in a book articulating the values and common faith shared among today's UU's. (A Holy Curiosity - Stories of a Liberal Religious Faith was published in 1990.)

# Unitarian Church plans plant sale



**Rev. Eric Haugen with forsythia bush**

H-W photo by Joe Liesen

The Annual Plant/Book/Bake Sale was being organized under chairmanship of Dan Kelly. This year the time was changed to 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Over 400 visitors came to the church where "Our personnel in all departments made them feel happy they had come." Dan Kelly expressed his personal thanks to the regular crew and all who helped. "I hope those folks will participate again next year." He also appreciated the guidance of the "Plant Sale Blue Book" (a record of Plant Sale planning through the years). A financial report indicated \$400 commission to the florist, Glen Gore, and a net of \$1,893.72.

The annual meeting report of building improvements mentioned: sandblasting, cleaning, painting the church exterior surfaces; renovation of the ladies' rest room: new lavatory with formica counter, additional hot water unit, wall paneling; new entry to the men's room with louvered door for privacy; electric range installed next to gas range in the church kitchen: outside floodlight with delayed time switch. Three-year pledges amounted to \$14,000. To pay for this work \$2,000 had been withdrawn from Memorial Funds and \$2,000 was borrowed from the Eldred Endowment.

The Church School staff had expended no funds during the year although the budget included \$100. The next budget raised the amount to \$268.

The minister's report named four new members for the year. There were three deaths and three weddings. The 70th anniversary of the building was celebrated. Mr. Haugan had conducted three groups of "Build Your Own Theology" - first in five sessions and then in three sessions. The morning discussion group had met some times and then disbanded. The publicity committee had produced a church brochure.

The church was used by several outside groups: The Warm Hearth Food Coop, World Federalists, Adams County Citizens Concerned about Nuclear War, and an individual who offered counseling services.

Eric Haugan recommended pre-planning for the time the church may call a full-time minister. Toward this end the Inter-district Representative of UUA, The Rev. Sid Peterman, was scheduled to meet with the Board of Trustees in June. He would "discuss growth, our denomination and district, and other matters of concern". At the end of his report, Eric Haugan announced that he and Linda Hart were beginning divorce proceedings.

A Sunday morning service in August allowed members and friends to hear a report of the 1984 UUA General Assembly, held in Columbus, Ohio, from the Quincy participants: The Rev. Eric Haugan and The Rev. and Mrs. John W. Brigham.

A new organization, "Wednesday Group," was suggested by Eric Haugan for morning meetings at the church. Once a month the discussion could center on book reviews and literature.

Another adult group planned a once-a-month carry-in dinner with literary discussion to follow. The organizers were Stillman Taylor and Nancy Winters.

## THE 1984-1985 SEASON

The Church School was led by Nike Mendenhall, Dolores Jenkins and Susan Drew (in charge of child care). Volunteers were needed to present the "St. Paul Curriculum," created by Unity-Unitarian Church of St. Paul, Minnesota. It was divided into three sections: Unitarian-Universalism, World Religions, and Judaism/Christianity. This program was being used in Burlington, Iowa, and in many other congregations.

The Board of Trustees voted to go ahead with plans for a fund-raising event on October 13. This was envisioned as a modest version of the spring Plant Sale. However, the emphasis would be on books, so the first annual "Bookshelf Sale" developed. "Sign up with Linda Buechting (baked goods), Jodi Duesterhaus (bric-a-brac), Nancy Winters (books) and Dan Kelly (plants)." The benefits exceeded all expectations: \$540.

On October 20 a Growth Workshop at the church was led by Mary Beth Stasik, who had been trained by our denomination and was highly recommended. The workshop expected to explore ways to increase membership, improve the quality of ministry to one another, and better promote UUism in Quincy. A small, but vigorous, group attended: John Nielsen, Esther Jones, Linda Buechting, Frieda Marshall, Martha Disseler and Nancy Winters. As a follow-up, Nancy Winters, Board President suggested a retreat for all board members and committee chairs to address the issue of delegating responsibilities.

"If you are the possessor of a church key, please register this fact with Jim Drew (Treasurer) or with Nancy Winters (Board President)." Frieda Marshall produced a membership directory with committee member listings.

Mr. Haugan attended two out-of-town meetings in October: Prairie Star District Annual meeting, Kansas City, Missouri; and National Workshop on Christian-Jewish Relations in St. Louis, Missouri. In November he attended the Prairie Group Ministers' meeting at Pere Marquette State Park, Grafton, Illinois, and the Central Midwest District Annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, at which Denise Tracy was installed as District Representative. He also attended the installation of The Rev. Jeremy Brigham at Peoples Church in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.



A congregational meeting was called to consider a bid by Quimby Organ Company for restoring the bellows of the organ. The congregation voted to use \$6,000 (but no more) of Memorial Fund money to meet the expense of this repair. "Our enthusiasm for the organ is strengthened by the placement on Registry of Organs, and the members voted to preserve the historic character of the organ. Once it has been restored, we can look forward to recitals and master classes that will serve a sizable area of the tri-states."

The Board voted to create a new position. Nona Miller was named the first official historian. She had served as unofficial historian for many years, and the Board expressed appreciation for her devoted work. Caroline Sexauer and Frieda Marshall conducted an inventory of the hymn books.

Rev. Denise Tracy, the new District Executive for the Central Midwest District, UUA, came on November 7 to meet with the Board of Trustees and any other interested persons. Eric Haugan was elected President of Central Illinois Unitarian Universalist Council, connected to the Central Midwest District of the UUA.

Members were invited to the Vermont Street United Methodist Church for a meeting of the Central America Peace Education Committee. Nancy Schulte, a member of "Witness for Peace" from Burlington, Iowa, presented a talk on her experience on the Nicaragua-Honduras border during May of 1984.

A group of carolers visited homes of the "shut-in" members. The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service had the carols, readings, and the customary decorations. The guest organist was Douglas Reeve.

As the new year began, Jim Drew announced that he would retire as treasurer in May.... A second T.G.I.F. was scheduled for 5 to 7 p.m. in the Heritage Room.... Eric Haugan arranged two orientation meetings on Unitarianism for new comers and old-timers.... The Wednesday Morning Group continued with book review and discussion. Sermon topics were "Remembering Albert Schweitzer" and "What's an Epiphany?" and a series on "My Favorite -- Politician, and Poet, and Scientist."

An amount of \$1,200 had been added to the Reserve Fund --- "but expect large heating bills." A contribution to special designated funds permitted the installation of an automatic control of the heating system, programmed on a 7-day cycle.

The Committee for Central America Peace Education met at the church, and a film, "Witness to War," was shown. John Brigham asked the Board to consider with the congregation the possibility of opening the church as a "transition" point in the sanctuary movement for Central American refugees. The purpose of a transition point was to provide overnight shelter. Several members of the congregation were actively involved with the local CCAPE movement. A resolution was presented to the Board on April 20 to be considered by the congregation at a duly-called meeting on a later date.

The Easter service sermon was "Easter, Exodus, and Spring Training" by Eric Haugan. Members and friends from the "sister congregation" - The Burlington Fellowship - joined the celebration. Special music was provided by Dr. Robert Jones, clarinet; Susan Drew, violin; and James Donovan, organist. On the next Sunday Dr. Carolyn Kane spoke on "In Defense of Fantasy."

#### FRANCES GALE COLBY DIED

Gale Colby, a loyal member of many years, died in Blessing Hospital on April 5, 1985, at the age of 74. Memorial services were conducted by Eric Haugan. The family suggested that memorials be made to the Quincy Unitarian Church.

Gale Colby had left an endowment to the church. Her will gave authority to the treasurer to receive and liquidate shares of Life Income Fund and transfer the proceeds to the Mercantile Trust and Savings Bank. A new account was to be created: "The Gale Colby Endowment Fund," and initial proceeds were to be held intact with income being used as the Board of Trustees designated.

The Plant Sale planning was going forward under direction of Jodi Duesterhaus, Jim and Dienna Drew, Frieda Marshall, Dan Kelly, Martha Disseler, Linda Buechting, Anna Louise Brigham and others. The sale netted \$1,617.87.

Jodi Duesterhaus wrote: "As I sat by the door, watching and listening to the people, I was amazed at their anticipation. Some didn't even want to stop to register for a door prize! The plants, baked goods and books are much remembered from year to year. Truly, the Unitarian Church provides a service to the whole community. I hope that our continuing efforts will blossom for years to come. Thanks are due to every member and friend who volunteered time or goods."

At the May annual meeting, 27 people attended. Eric Haugan gave his report, quoting Tom Peters' book, Excellence: "The factors of excellence are 1) leadership, 2) innovation, 3) enthusiasm, 4) paying attention to people. We might keep these elements in mind as we look ahead to next year." He mentioned that in addition to being president of the Central Illinois UU Council and serving on the Central Midwest District Board, he had been elected president of the Prairie Star UU Ministers' Chapter (Burlington's District). He mentioned two deaths, three new members, and three weddings.

Jim Drew resigned as treasurer and was replaced by Sherman Bond. A song of appreciation for Jim Drew's services was set to the tune of "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean."

#### Jim Drew Appreciation Song

Jim Drew said he'd like to retire,  
Jim Drew said, "Ten years is enough!"  
But finding an able replacement  
Might turn out to be rather tough.

Jim Drew, Jim Drew, we all are so grateful to you, to  
you, Jim Drew, Jim Drew, we all are so grateful to you!

He guides every finance committee  
Whose budgets are careful and clear.  
He knows all the nitty and gritty  
For functioning ev-e-ry year.

(Chorus)

The bills for the church are not many,  
The bills for the church are not few.  
He carefully watched every penny  
And paid all the bills that were due.

(Chorus)

Committee reports were given: The Stamp Club had met from September through January, but there were no more meetings in the winter or spring because there was no Sunday School.... Brad Bohlen moved that smoking be banned at Board meetings. Dienna Drew seconded; the motion carried....The Memorial Committee (Bertha Danhaus and Caroline Sexauer) expressed appreciation to Frieda Marshall for "valuable assistance." The families of the deceased had always received reports of memorials. Now there would also be responses sent to each donor. Memorial funds had been released to the church for building improvements and organ repair.

With approval of the Board, two Sunday lunches at the church presented programs dealing with Central American countries and political refugees. Some UU churches had declared themselves to be "sanctuary churches." Others had taken supportive action. In Quincy a special congregational meeting was called to act on a resolution that the church "enter into an arrangement with the sanctuary movement to assist in the travel of Central American political refugees en route to a "Sanctuary" church. Yes votes: 18, 3 no, 3 ab-  
staining. (A member resigned citing this as illegal activity and support of illegal aliens.) The committee was formed: John Brigham, Tom and Georgia House, Lisa Wigoda, David and Regina Quarles, Dan Kelly.

Eric Haugan wrote in the June newslettter: "I am proud of this congregation! On May 19 we voted to become a sanctuary church on a limited basis. As far as I know, we are the first congregation in Quincy to support the sanctuary movement in this way. The movement now involves over 200 congregations of various denominations (Catholic, Lutheran, Jewish, etc.)."

The Sanctuary Committee planned a Benefit Evening for the Medical Mission to El Salvador and the Chicago Religious Task Force Sanctuary program. A Latin American cuisine with salads and dessert was offered. Each family group was to bring either a salad or a dessert.

Mr. Haugan attended the General Assembly meetings in Atlanta, Georgia. The R.E. Committee (Dan Kelly, Dienna Drew, Georgia House, David Quarles, and Nancy Winters) met to plan for the next season.... Summer service dates were announced as July 14 and August 11 with Board meetings to follow.

## THE 1985-1986 SEASON

There is a gap in the minutes of the Board of Trustees from September, 1985, to January, 1986.

During the past summer volunteers: Ed Herman, John Brigham, Jim Drew, Duane Bastean, Brad Bohlen and others did lawn mowing and other work. The Quincy Fire Department inspection crew surveyed the building and, among other improvement details, called for installing lighted exit signs to be placed at strategic points. Lepper Electric did this work promptly for \$600.

A name tag board was installed at the request of the Membership Committee. People were encouraged to wear their name tags. These were Badge-a-Minute identifications with the name imposed on the chalice symbol with double rings and worn by a ribbon around the neck.

Rev. Haugan's sermons had titles of: "Imagine," "Success," "Failure," and "Excellence." The Worship Committee, planning Alternate Sunday services, was led by Nike Mendenhall. Michael Drew provided child care. Frieda Marshall was his regular assistant as she accompanied her grandson, Jesse.

The new treasurer, Sherman Bond, said that bonding the treasurer up to \$25,000 would cost \$120 a year. The Board felt this would be unnecessary, but would discuss it again later. The Board discussed the possibility of increasing the minister's contract to "what we are calling three-quarter time." Action was delayed with recognition of need to coordinate with the Burlington Fellowship Board.

Two participants of the "Witness for Peace" team in Nicaragua were guest speakers at a carry-in dinner and meeting on September 19. Over 40 people attended the event at the church, sponsored by the Committee for Central America Peace Education and the Quincy Unitarian Church Sanctuary Committee. Contributions amounting to \$62 were sent to the Unitarian Service Committee for medical aid to Nicaragua.

The Women's Alliance began meetings on Thursday afternoons. As this did not bring about better attendance, they reverted the next year to meeting on Saturday afternoons.

The Fall Bookshelf Sale on October 26 offered books, baked goods, plants, and flea market items. Nancy Winters was general chair person. A good report followed: The income was about \$700 which was \$150 more than the year before. Appreciation was given to everyone who helped or contributed something toward making this sale a success.

Eric Haugan presented two sermons on the "Unitarian Principles and Purposes." These were later prepared in printed form. The newsletter listed titles of new books that had been added to the church library.

An organ repair expert, Charles Aitken, came from Connecticut in November to repair the bellows of the church organ. (While the news story proclaims a 110-year-old organ, recent research proves this to be incorrect. See page 155) Mr. Aitken was to improve the leatherwork of the bellows, a mattress-shaped box. He indicated that the job would involve more work than he had anticipated. Mr. Aitken, London born, began his trade as apprentice in England at the age of 15. He had come to the U.S. in 1963 to work for a large American organ company. He said that the church organ needed other restoration work in addition to the bellows repair.

On the Sunday when the organ was dismantled, the service was conducted downstairs. The children went out to fly a kite. For various reasons there was disorder in the morning activity.

The organ was functioning again on November 24. Appreciation was given to Bob Mathieson, Dienna, Jim, and Michael Drew, John Nielsen, and Dan Kelly for "tearing out a wall and moving the organ bellows both out and back in." Also assisting were organ friends, Jim Donovan and David Moore. The newsletter promised, "A more complete report on the organ repair will be given soon." The bill for \$3,425 was an unbudgeted expense, so "Memorial Fund money came to the rescue."

Board Chair, Nancy Winters, wrote regarding organ repair: "Restoring the air reservoir is just the beginning, folks. Watch for an announcement of organ cleaning party, fund-raising concert, etc."

As Thanksgiving came late in the month, the Thanksgiving service was scheduled for December 1. A carry-in luncheon followed. "A perfect solution to holiday leftovers!" someone said. Only 18 people came to the lunch.

The Sanctuary Committee presented spokespersons from the Immanuel Lutheran Church of St. Louis (a church providing sanctuary to a Salvadoran couple.) These persons reviewed the decision of that church to become a "Sanctuary Church" and spoke of the legalities involved. The Salvadoran couple (through an interpreter) told of their decision to seek asylum in the United States. Rev. John Brigham conducted the Sunday morning service with the assistance of David Quarles.

The Christmas Eve services were held as usual. Holiday open houses were offered by Eric Haugan, Dolores Jenkins and Nancy Winters (who promised that on New Year's Day she would serve Granny's Famous Hangover Soup.)

In January Mr. Haugan announced a sermon with a long title: "The Gospel According to A Prairie Home Companion or Why Minnesota is the Center of the Universe." This reflected the public radio program of Garrison Keillor. A large newspaper ad misnamed the sermon "A Prairie Horse Companion." Eric Haugan scheduled two sessions on the general topic, "What do you say when they ask: 'What is a Unitarian'?" These sessions were for newcomers, visitors or members who want a "refresher course in Unitarianism."

A group of people in the congregation (led by Al Beck and John Morrison) organized an effort to publish a collection of John Brigham's writings. Donations had been received within \$600 of the goal of \$1,400. The book "Still Sounds the Buoy from the Sea," by Dr. John W. Brigham was available in January. This volume included a variety of materials, sermons, poetry, addresses for special occasions, and radio talks.

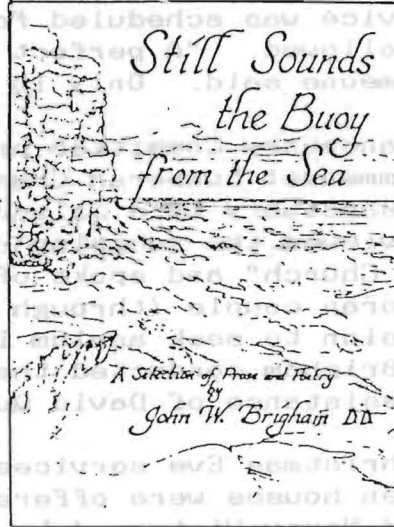
"The 200-page, paper-back book is priced at \$3.95. Persons who contributed to the underwriting of this publication may expect complimentary copies." A presentation ceremony was held when copies were donated to the Quincy Public Library.

# THE QUINCY HERALD-WHIG

Thursday, January 23, 1986

At night the candles' shadow-crosses  
Light the white washed ceiling.  
Soft sounds the buoy from the sea.  
White is the light for mariner's guide.  
Sweet is the chanting of voices  
Lifting in song the hope of tomorrow.

When the sun of morning flashes on the sea,  
I stand alone within the chapel walls.  
Gone are the candles that hung.  
Mute are the voices that sung.  
Still sounds the buoy from the sea.  
"Star Island Reverie,"  
John W. Brigham



Shortly after the Starkey family visited the church for the first time, Alan Starkey was commended for building a useful and great-looking mailbox for the back door of the church. This would efficiently collect the mail and prevent heat-dollars from slipping through the mail slot.

Guest speakers represented Family Planning, Inc.; Right to Life; Spirituality; Suzuki Method of Everyday Living; and Star Wars for Fun and Profit. In March the minister of the Metropolitan Community Church of Quincy spoke on "The Human Side of AIDS," and the church hosted a Society of Friends Meeting. Additional events were sponsored by the Sanctuary Committee and the CCAPE.

"Heritage Sunday" was a service of celebration and commemoration on the 147th Anniversary of the Unitarian Church in Quincy. (Founded May 31, 1839) The call to worship by Eric Haugan used the affirmation written by James Vila Blake, minister in Quincy 1877-1883. John Sperry offered readings from the past history of the Quincy Unitarian Church. Hymns were from Frederick Lucian Hosmer, minister in Quincy 1872-1877: "From Age to Age" and "O Prophet Souls of All The Years." Another hymn was "Hope of Discovery" with words by Rev. John W. Brigham, minister of the Quincy church, 1976-1982, and current minister-emeritus.



This celebration on March 9 brought guest speaker, The Rev. Bruce T. Marshall, minister of the U-U Fellowship in Huntington, New York. Introductory material stated: "Few young ministers may claim to be 'third-generation' Unitarians. Bruce was a child in the Sunday School of this church in the 1950s. He is the first Quincy member to enter the Unitarian ministry." His topic was "Why Do We Need This Place Anyway?"

Bruce Marshall officiated at the dedication ceremony of his nephew, Jesse Thomas Miller, son of Janice and Gary Miller. Bruce is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Floyd W. Marshall.

A congregational survey listed familiar priorities: 1. Congregational growth; 2. Having a full-time minister; 3. Being a social force in the community; 4. Strong Religious Education program; 5. Other concerns (financial stability, greater membership participation, more music, building improvements, intellectual development and spiritual development.) The survey was sent to 77 individuals listed on the church roster. Thirty-three surveys were returned.

Copies of the proposed revisions to the church constitution were available for the members. The Board of Trustees invited responses. The announcement was then made that "Due to the many comments about the first draft, the constitution will not be on the agenda for the annual meeting."

Plans were going forward for the annual Plant Sale with Georgia House as coordinator. Martha Disseler and Linda Buechting supervised the bake sale. Many others helped in books, plants and doughnut making. Georgia exclaimed at the conclusion: "It was exciting... to see the customers standing in line until opening time, the members bustling around with last-minute arrangements, and watching the customers take possession of the books, plants, and baked goods they found most desirable. I enjoyed the whole scene!" Profit this year: \$1,543.

NEEDED: One used gas range for the church kitchen. The Alliance proposed to purchase a NEW gas stove and would pay approximately \$200 from their funds. The members expressed themselves willing to make individual contributions to raise the needed amount.

Sherman Bond moved in Board meeting that a ministerial relations committee be formed. Its objective would be to improve the relationship and continuity between the congregation and the minister. The committee would form its purposes using guidelines in the UU Ministers' Association guidebook. Members were: Brad Bohlen, Mary Belle Coffman, John Nielsen and Robert Mathieson.

The committee renamed itself "Congregational-Ministerial Relations Committee" and planned to meet monthly. Among other concerns they suggested that a member of the congregation would moderate the discussions following the sermons.

At the annual meeting Rev. Haugan announced a membership list of 69. A budget of \$23,300 was adopted. Bob Mathieson was elected President of the Board of Trustees.

Rev. Haugan attended the UU General Assembly in Rochester, New York. Rev. and Mrs. John Brigham were delegates from the Quincy church, which paid their registration fees.

Two summer Sunday services were scheduled. On July 13 John Brigham spoke on "Sanctuary in a Land of Liberty," giving the congregation an up-date and reflecting his association with key persons in this movement that he had met at the General Assembly. On August 3, Eric Haugan spoke on "Take up the Song," reflecting ideas gained from the General Assembly.

Two Summer Sunday brunches were set for July 20 and August 17 in the city parks. "Come at 10 a.m. Bring brunch-type food and juice." Coffee was provided. In July Carol and Bob Mathieson brought their infant son, Andrew David, born July 8.

## THE 1986-1987 SEASON

Work continued on the revision of the Constitution with discussion at every Board meeting, an Article at a time. The Worship Committee to arrange the alternate Sunday services was led by Elizabeth Stebbins. Dienna Drew chaired the Fellowship Committee. John Brigham had resigned as chair of the Building and Grounds committee. Brad Bohlen was named, but he said, "There have been no meetings of the committee and no one wants to be on the committee" and "The basement is wanting some color and atmosphere." The Board was considering selling the 26 captain's chairs. When some were sold, (Jane Shair-13, Mary Belle Coffman-1, Michael Flanagan-4) the proceeds were credited to special projects fund.

The Board explored the idea of securing a tool shed for storing the lawnmower. The Wayside Pulpit was vandalized. The door frame was broken. Jerry Kasparie was hired to repair and repaint it with two coats of paint.

The Heritage Room table had been donated by Mrs. Florence Williams in 1975. Jean Sperry reminded the congregation that an appropriate table and matching chairs had been secured years before to make the Heritage Room look nice. "Why have we used the larger table which dominates the room?" she asked.

The Congregational-Ministerial Relationship Committee was looking into the minister's compensation package. The report was that the Burlington Fellowship had increased their portion and was paying more than the Quincy church.

An account was being maintained for the Pre-planned Funeral Society project. The local society no longer existed, but their constitution provided for extra monies to be given to an organ donor group. Share Our Universal New Donors (S.O.U.N.D.), was named. The account was closed and \$129 given to Blessing Hospital.

The R. E. Department wanted to purchase a video cassette recorder and television set. The Board approved and requested payment of \$450 to \$500 from the Markley-Stevens Fund. There was also a request for a dehumidifier. It was purchased from Sears for \$219.99.

The Bookshelf Sale was set for October 18 to offer books, baked items, flea market, plants, and to include a coffee shop. Nancy Winters was general chairman. The treasurer reported an income of \$480. "Appreciation is expressed to all who contributed goods and services and worked to bring this fund-raising event to a successful conclusion." Someone from the district or national office sent a friendly note: "Did you sell many bookshelves?"

Illness and stress forced Bob Mathieson to resign as President of the Board. Dienna Drew was elected. The newsletter listed chairpersons and complete committees. Three Articles of the constitution were approved. Eric Haugan conducted a Thanksgiving Seder Service for Families on November 16. The year ended with the regular Christmas Eve Service by Mr. Haugan, and on December 28 a participation service of readings and poems, "Ours Be the Poems of All Tongues."

#### ERIC HAUGAN RESIGNED

Rev. Eric Haugan tendered his resignation in January. He had conducted the shared ministry with Quincy and Burlington for four and a half years. He wrote, "The past years have been rewarding, satisfying, and challenging ones for me. I have been asked to help begin a new Unitarian congregation in Eagan, Minnesota, the fastest growing city in Minnesota and near my home town of St. Paul. Thank you all very much for the patience, understanding, and love you have given me in the years I have been here in Quincy."

Mr. Haugan preached his last sermon on February 22: "We Learn by Going Where We Have To Go." He had commissioned a musical composition based on the affirmation as his farewell gift to Quincy and Burlington. This was performed by the composer, Tom Ogden, of Boston and sung by an eight-voice choir. A farewell luncheon followed with speeches of appreciation for Eric's services during the years. Framed photographs of the church and of the banner were presented along with a flaming chalice. On the same afternoon the Sunday Music Series program presented a concert to celebrate the rededication of the organ. Thomas Ogden, organ; and Carol Fisher Mathieson, soprano; were assisted by Brian Gehrich, violin; Leona Suppan-Gehrich, piano; and the Quincy Senior High School Chamber Choir directed by Dan Sherman.

A study group formed, initiated by Alan Starkey, Tom and Georgia House and John Nielsen. Their first subject was "St Paul, the Apostle." Others were invited to participate.... The Board of Trustees named a search committee: John Sperry, Martha Disseler, Frieda Marshall and Lisa Wigoda.... A guest speaker was Rev. Randall Klett, intern minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Peoria. His topic: "Images of the Church."

The Central Midwest District requested \$234 (\$3 per member - 78 members), and the UUA requested \$1,050. The budget included \$1,000 for the UUA and nothing for CMD. The Board authorized the treasurer to pay \$1,000 to the UUA and would review the financial position and pay CMD what could be managed. "It was decided that the 1978-88 budget should include support for both organizations."

On March 22 the American Guild of Organists performed a members' concert at the church. This was one of a series of concerts celebrating the restoration of the church organ. John Basinger, organist, estimated that organ repairs for the next year might be \$500. It was suggested that this amount be included in the 1987-88 church budget.

The April 5 service was "Mr. By-Ends and the Golden Slippers (a religious allegory)" by Rev. John Brigham. At this service there was a special collection for support of the UU Service Committee. The contributions, if totaling more than \$50, would be matched with an equal amount by the North Shore Unitarian Church of Plandome, N.Y, through its Veach Fund. The program stated: The UUSC is engaged in humanitarian projects in eighteen countries, dealing with health, education, crime, poverty, training in skills, etc. Our treasurer reported contributions of \$200.

An Adult Education Program, "Owning Your Religious Past: The Haunting Church," was conducted in five weekly sessions with Tom House as leader. This was described as "an opportunity to connect past religious experiences to present realities and dreams: who we are religiously, what our past religious perspectives and experiences have been, and who we hope to become as Unitarian-Universalists."

## NO MINISTER 1987-1988

With no minister, the Worship Committee supplied guest speakers each Sunday. Among those were Dr. John Sperry, Dr. Hilliard Shair, and John Nielsen. The Easter Service was presented by Dr. John Hallwas of Western Illinois University who spoke on "The Courage of Conviction: Heroes and Human Values in Illinois." A May speaker was Rev. Gary S. James, St. Louis U-U Intern, whose sermon was titled "The Gift of the Ordinary."

About 40 members and friends assisted in the preparations and conduct of the April 25 Plant Sale, chaired by Georgia House. She reported: "What a lovely day the goddess of plants gave us for our sale! The crowd seemed larger than usual... We can measure how much we sold, but we can't measure how much energy we expended to make it: it was a lot. But we were a happy "lot" and had lotsa fun." Georgia's complete newsletter report included members' responses and was typewritten on two 8 1/2 x 14 pages. Profit: approx. \$1,800.

Quincy Preserves! held a reception at the Holiday Inn for the purpose of recognizing some of Quincy's more significant buildings. On this occasion 24 homes and buildings were selected, based on building style, date of construction, or importance of the building or the architect. Members attended, and Dienna Drew, Board President, accepted the plaque for the Unitarian Church.

The pledge drive was being conducted, and advance copies of the proposed constitution of the church were supplied to members before the annual meeting date. Members were encouraged to offer information about their favorite hymns and readings to be included in the new hymnal of the U-U denomination. "The effective life-span of a hymnbook is approximately 25 years. Hymns for the Celebration of Life was published in 1964; it has served us well, but the need for a new hymn book is pressing."

A second volume of John W. Brigham's poems, reflections, musings, meditations, and sermons was printed. It was entitled, "Windows of the Mind."

The executive director of the CMD, the Rev. Denise Tracy, met with the Board and Search committee on May 20 to consider steps toward securing a new minister.

The Search Committee held an informal meeting in the summer with representatives of the Burlington and Macomb Fellowships. There was an indication that the Burlington Fellowship planned to discontinue the shared ministry.

Dan Kelly was elected Board President. He and Lisa Wigoda represented the church at General Assembly in Little Rock, Arkansas, in June 1987. John and Anna Louise Brigham also attended.

The congregation had met on May 31 for the purpose of making decisions about repairing the church roof. "The roof must be repaired. Funds must be approved by the membership." Attention to the re-roofing project continued in July, 1987. Several bids were received. The total cost was expected to be \$14,000. Figures were compiled to show a \$1,534 balance in the Building Maintenance Fund, \$13,199 in the Operational Reserves, and interest accumulation of trust funds amounting to \$4,070. A recommended goal for the fund drive was \$12,500. It was suggested that members' pledges toward the Roof Restoration Drive match each member's annual pledge, with building pledges to be spaced over three years.

The Board produced a formal resolution which was presented at a special meeting, August 9:

"The members of the Quincy Unitarian Church, at a specially called meeting on August 9, 1987, authorize the Board of Trustees to contract with an established roofing company to put a new roof on the church at a cost not to exceed \$14,000. The members further authorize the Finance Committee to conduct a fund drive with three-year pledges to raise \$14,000, said drive to be concluded by September 30, 1987." Martha Disseler moved acceptance, Tom House seconded, the motion carried unanimously with 18 affirmative votes.

Other suggestions were made at the August 9 meeting: The church should secure the services of a Minister of Religious Education. There was a need for a paid executive director or administrator, then later an interim minister could be secured and still later the congregation could focus on settling a minister with religious education enthusiasm.

The contract for re-roofing the church was awarded to Rouse and Brueggeman Lumber Company and the work was begun on August 24. This necessitated removal of many layers of shingles, applying plywood underlayment, and topping with fibre-glass shingles. (25-year warranty) The Pledges for this Fund Drive amounted to \$11,000. The roofing bill of \$13,073 was approved in November.

Dan Kelly, Board Chair, wrote: "In the next two years this church building will have served the Quincy community and surroundings for seventy-five years. Even more, in this same two-year period the Unitarian Church will celebrate its 150th Anniversary in Quincy."

"With the recent 1983 building fund drive (restoring the church exterior), the 1985 air-box renovation of the Steere organ, and this sesquicentennial roofing fund drive, we will be in good shape for our role in the Quincy area community for the next seventy-five years."

With no minister and the Board Chair living away from Quincy, Dan Kelly discussed with Dr. Floyd W. Marshall, a non-member, (President emeritus and consultant of Gem City College) the possibility of serving as volunteer administrator and providing a central point of responsiveness until a regular or interim minister could be secured. He agreed to do this, and office hours were set: 1 to 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. He also accepted telephone calls at his Gem City College office or at his home in the evenings.

During an absence of the treasurer, Dr. Marshall did the banking and writing of checks. He prepared a re-appraisal of rental fees for Warm Hearth Food Co-op and for other renters of the church. When the Search Committee received responses to the congregational questionnaire, he tabulated the results.

The R. E. Committee, comprised of David Quarles, chairman, Lisa Wigoda and Georgia House, scheduled a full year of classes and lessons. There were two divisions to serve the children enrolled: Kindergarten-2nd grade and 5th & 6th grades. The St. Paul curriculum, Images for Our Lives, was being used.

A plan to allow a degree of quietude in the adult coffee hour was developed by Anna Louise Brigham. A "tea-time" for the children with refreshments and



supervised activity was established. Eighteen children were named on the Church School list, and there were birthday cake remembrances throughout the year. Adults and older children helped. At the annual meeting "soup and sandwich" lunch five children were recognized, and there was a procession with five candle-lit birthday cakes.

Members reflected their favorite hymns, hoping they would be retained in the new hymnal. In preference order: The Morning Hangs a Signal, Song of Peace, My Country 'Tis the World, Morning Has Broken, Where is Our Holy Church?, Shalom Havayreem, This is What We are, Once to Every Man and Nation, Parliament of Man, and Light of Ages.

R. E. wanted a copy machine.... A new front-yard sign was constructed to replace one that was cracked and peeling. This presented a dignified announcement and included the double ring and chalice design.

A Sunday morning discussion group formed. The first topic was "What can we do to improve our church?" Needs were mentioned and suggestions made, for instance, 1. modernize or clean up restrooms and kitchen, 2. seek professional help in redecorating, 3. prepare a handbook of family photos for the sesquicentennial celebration, 4. improve the church school, 5. engage in community projects, 6. prepare media messages promoting the church, 7. encourage individual interests and talents.

The next thought was an informal consideration of changing the church fiscal year (May 1 to April 30) to correspond with the calendar year (January 1 to December 31). The suggestion supposed that with the officers and committees assigned for an entire year, there would be a continuity through the summer recess. The Board Chair explained: "When committees are not formed or active at the May 1 beginning of the church year, it is difficult to have a strong start in September."

The Macomb Fellowship operated on the calendar year. Their plan called for the budget planning in September, every-member canvass in October, nominations for officers and assignments to committees in October, November and December. By January (the start of a new year) officers and committees began duties. Macomb also scheduled a semi-annual meeting in the spring.

At this time (December, 1987), \$16,718 had been pledged for the 1987-88 year. The budget requested \$19,500. Of the pledged amount, \$9,950 had been paid; that is, 59.5% of the pledged amount.

The 3-year roof replacement campaign had been completed with \$13,569 pledged and 38% (\$5,272) had been paid. The roofing bill of \$13,073 had been paid. The balance in reserves and checking was \$26,934. The water system had been inspected, some corrective measures were taken, and the bill (\$400) was paid to Koenker Plumbing.

Nona Miller asked permission from the Board to develop a sesquicentennial booklet. Permission was granted on motion by D. Quarles and A. Starkey.

Dr. Brigham led the Christmas Eve service, assisted by John Basinger, organ; Carol Mathieson, guitar; Susan Drew, violin, and Michael Drew, trombone.... The guest speaker for Martin Luther King Sunday was Edward C. Fletcher, chairman of the Redmon-Lee Community Center Board. A special contribution was made for the support of the Redmon-Lee Center.

The Fellowship Committee (Mary Belle Coffman, Anna Louise Brigham, Martha Disseler, Nancy Winters) invited the membership to a "Soup and Sandwich" lunch (NOT a carry-in) to be immediately after the morning service on January 10. A contribution of \$1.50 for adults and 75 cents for children was asked. The theme was "New Year's Resolutions for Our Church." The group numbered 58 at the January lunch.

Some of the New Year's resolutions for the church brought a desire to "keep the momentum of 1987 into the 1988 season." "To have a minister" was the strongest hope. Also, "Increase the membership, Improve the Sunday School, Secure a grand piano, Clean up the church corners, Allow a longer interval in the service for meditation."

An unusual resolution: A Worship Committee member Dienna Drew said: "Every Wednesday evening I will phone Frieda Marshall with information to be typed for the Order of Service." Her husband Jim Drew said, "I will tell Dienna that it is Wednesday evening."

A follow-up Soup and Sandwich event occurred in February with an announced menu of: Salvadoran chicken soup, split pea soup and chicken-barley soup (for special diets), sandwich "fixings" and pies for dessert. The committee recognized volunteers: Polly Johnson, Regina Quarles (who made the Salvadoran soup) Alan Starkey and Georgia House.

During the program recognition was given to unsung heroes and heroines behind every Sunday's service. Each received a delicate paper snowflake. Volunteers were sought for "Soup and Sandwich," "Tea Time," and "Coffee Hour." With Sunday School leader Lisa Wigoda as Noah, the youngest children with head coverings of illustrated paper bags portrayed "Noah and the Ark."

At a congregational meeting in February the proposed fiscal-year amendment to the church constitution was voted on. This matched the church fiscal year with the calendar year. The amendment was approved (17 affirmative, 1 negative) with a proviso that it would go into effect after the current fiscal year, April, 1988. This also altered the budget requirement. The proposed budget for the 8-month period (May 1988 to December, 1988) was \$17,025. Board members and committees would be asked to serve an additional eight months.

#### BENEFIT ORGAN CONCERT

The members recognized a serious concern regarding the health of Robert and Carol Mathieson's one-and-a-half-year old son Andrew, who had been diagnosed with pre-leukemia. It was suggested that an organ concert be sponsored by the church with cooperation of the Great River Heritage Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. The proceeds of the concert were to assist the Mathiesons with expenses of chemotherapy treatments and transportation to St. Louis hospital.

On an evening that began with mist and ended with a sprinkling of snow, an appreciative audience filled the church to show concern for the Mathieson family. The Valentine's Day concert presented organists and several ensembles, including instrumental and vocal artists. The proceeds and additional contributions allowed a \$1,000 gift of sympathetic support to the Mathieson family.

Death came to Andrew David Mathieson on March 8, 1988. Services were conducted in the Davis Funeral Chapel in Canton by the Rev. Edward Sawyer on March 12. A memorial service was held in the Quincy Unitarian Church on Sunday, March 20, with the Rev. John W. Brigham officiating. Deepest sympathy was extended to Carol and Bob Mathieson, their daughter Kristina, and other members of the family.

In the spring Andrew's godparents, John and Jean Sperry had a weeping cherry tree planted in honor of his memory. This is on the east lawn of the church property. On his trips to Quincy John Sperry sustained the tree by spreading ice cubes at the base. During the following extremely dry summer, several people remembered to regularly water the weeping cherry tree.

A new custodian was needed. Don Kerkhoff was employed to do lawn and snow work at \$5 an hour. Joanne Merideth worked ten hours a month doing the interior cleaning. Other building concerns took attention. The minister's study, the ceiling in the Heritage Room, and the ceiling above the front stairs to the tower needed plastering repair. The VonderHaar firm was engaged to do this work at a cost not to exceed \$1,000.

Appreciation notices were given: to the Alliance members for spring cleaning the church kitchen, to Jim Drew for refinishing tops of the dining tables and the chancel tables, to Alan Starkey for repairing the kitchen cupboard drawers, to Kathy Schaffer who substituted as organist during times that Carol Mathieson was unable to be at the church, to the Search Committee which had met regularly since November and was receiving guidance from the settlement coordinator, the Rev. John Robinson of the Unitarian Church of Kirkwood, Missouri.

Nona Miller, chair of the sesquicentennial committee, asked that an item be included in the budget for the coming year to cover expenses of the committee. John Brigham moved that the Board ask the Budget Committee to include \$2,000 as a separate item in the 1989 budget to have a sesquicentennial booklet produced. Alan Starkey seconded.

The annual April Plant Sale came along again with many of the same people in leadership roles. Jim Drew and Georgia House shared chairmanship. "Hardly anyone would have predicted that this year's plant sale would

be better than in past years. By concerted effort of the regular participants and the inclusion of newcomers to the activity, the event went along very smoothly." The income figure of about \$2,100 exceeded the previous high of about \$1,800.

Committee reports were given at the annual meeting on May 22. The Board of Trustees agreed to stay intact for the shortened church year, ending on December 31, 1988. Most of the committee chairs also extended their responsibilities.

The Alliance members proposed a Yard Sale and this met with enthusiastic approval.

#### FRANCES MORRISON DIED

Frances Eldred Morrison, a beloved, life-long member and church organist, died in Blessing Hospital on May 23, at the age of 92. She had attended the Univer-salist-supported Lombard College (then in Galesburg) and received a liberal arts degree with a major in music. She also studied with William Spencer Johnson, former organist of this church. She taught piano to many of Quincy's young students. Her husband, Paul E. Morrison, who died in 1963, founded the Quincy High School band. Their children were Ted Morrison and Alice Morrison Mays. Memorial Services were conducted in the church by Dr. John W. Brigham.

Chris Cassidy was engaged to refinish the front doors of the church....There was a water drainage problem, causing cracks in the north foundation wall. A solution was offered of replacing concrete surfaces on the north and expanding the driveway north of the church. The description was: "establish a gradient away from the church and increase a parking area." The estimate for a 4" concrete surface was between \$3,600 and \$4,000.

The annual meeting report named 64 members on the active list, 15 supportive friends and 4 new members during the year.

The Dine and Opine group continued with six meetings during the year. Among their topics were: The Turn

of the Screw, Madame Bovary, Appointment in Samarra, The Devil's Disciple, and Spoon River Anthology.

The music committee reported that the lower part of the organ still needed repair and restoration. A grand piano in the sanctuary would make the church a much more viable setting for the concerts. Perhaps, with the centennial approaching, a Unitarian poet would offer a composition to be set to music. The congregation was trying out some new hymns as the new denominational hymnal was going to press.

The Worship Committee (Jean Sperry, Dienna Drew, Nayer Attai and Stillman Taylor) had the responsibility of planning all the services of the year. They aimed for an interesting variety of speakers. The report included a list of the speakers and topics for 40 Sundays and a guideline for future Worship Committee members.

## THE EIGHT-MONTH EXTENSION

May 1988 - December 1988

In a June 1988 Board Meeting, John Brigham moved that \$5,000 of the Eldred Endowment and \$4,000 of the Colby Endowment be put into 5-year C.D.'s and the balance of interest put into the maintenance fund. The motion carried. An endowment of \$1,500 was received from the Frances Morrison estate.

John Brigham moved that a lock box be secured for important papers. Church property was appraised at \$180,000 and insured for \$134,000. He requested that an amount of \$500 be added to the annual budget for building maintenance (or let it accumulate if not used.)

The first Church Yard Sale was set for June 18. The Alliance sparked the idea and it became a church-wide, out-side, full-fledged Yard Sale. Tables were set on the lawns: south, east and north. The committee thanked the approximately 25 members and friends who pitched in to help. The profit was \$666, and some church clutter was eliminated!

A June 4 congregational picnic was held at the "Rocky Hollow" home of Al Beck in the hills of Missouri. The Union Picnic with Burlington and Macomb was held in Nauvoo on June 12. In July a "Brunch at the Houses" invited members and friends to picnic and swim in the pool. The invitation was repeated in August.

Georgia House speaking for R. E. pleaded for a copy machine. David Quarles would investigate.... A work party was planned to improve the ladies' rest room before church opening on September 11. Frieda Marshall repainted the ladies' rest room in advance of the work party date. That general clean-up day happened with exceptional results.

During the summer Floyd and Frieda Marshall reset green carpeting from the Frances Morrison home in the nursery, entry, and stage classroom. They also contributed 12x12 and 12x15 matching carpets for the Resource Room and the Heritage Room. They supplied four dozen white "church" cups for coffee hour.

Dan Kelly installed three new phones: in the office, on the main floor and in the nursery.

He urged sponsoring the Cambridge Forum radio broadcast, through Quincy College, an affiliate of National Public Radio. Support for a trial year was approved.

The September season began with Sunday speakers: Rev. John W. Brigham, Dr. Carol Fisher Mathieson, Dr. John A. Sperry, Dr. Leonard J. Biallas and Stillman Taylor. Floyd Marshall continued as administrator. Georgia House was treasurer. Frieda Marshall prepared the weekly orders of service and the monthly newsletter. The Search Committee had met again with the Macomb representatives and was preparing the packet to be sent to ministerial candidates.

The Sesquicentennial Committee included Caroline Sexauer, Nona Miller, Nancy Winters, Gail Starkey, Bob Mathieson and Michael Flanagan. The committee asked for clarification of budget allowance and source of these funds, how elaborate the celebration should be, how to divide responsibility. etc. Ideas to be developed were: a special speaker for April, 1989; a reception; guided tour of the church; previous ministers to return; special music featuring Unitarian composers and W. S. Johnson's compositions. An open meeting for planning the celebration was set for October 16. This date was also the kick-off of the Every-Member Canvass.

In October the Unitarian Fellowship of Burlington installed The Rev. Alan Egly as minister. He had retired from the ministry of the Unitarian Church in Davenport in 1986, and then served as interim in Peoria, 1987-88. Now an administrator of a Quad Cities Trust Fund, he resided in Davenport and would conduct a ministry in Burlington three Sundays each month.

A photo-copier had been secured for \$200 and repaired at Fisher Business Equipment for \$50.... Geoffrey Mendenhall addressed the Board with a concern for lack of a strong children's program. He asked for long-range planning, organization and direction of the church, saying also that we need more aggressive recruitment.

The Search Committee reported six meetings of Quincy and Macomb representatives. The Quincy part of the packet had been completed, but not the Macomb part. The Macomb committee chair resigned; no one else was appointed. John Robinson explained the Low Income



Assistance Program: The church must meet certain qualifications: seek a full-time minister, be honorary members of UUA, unable to offer the minimum full-time minister's salary. John Brigham moved that the Quincy church pay the full fair share to UUA in order to be eligible for a grant. (Only three churches in the USA would receive this help.)

The United Service Committee asked for donations for recovery assistance to those who suffered the Jamaican Hurricane disaster. Lisa Wigoda moved that the Board match up to \$300 that members of this congregation would contribute.

A report of building improvements noted: new light in the organ chamber, ladies' room repainted and new ceiling light installed, ribbed glass windows in basement replaced, all cracked storm windows replaced, torn or broken screens replaced, rewiring set to accommodate Warm Hearth food freezer, protective glass installed over exterior of Founders' Window, curved piece of wood set in arch above the chancel, restoration of front entry doors, new carpeting several places.

The church received a bequest from Edna Welch, a member of 50 years before who had helped in the Sunday School. She died in California. The \$1,000 endowment was invested in a one-year C.D.

The Search Committee had received approval of its packet, combining information about Quincy and Macomb. Four candidate names had been supplied. A main concern of the Boston office was that the Quincy Church and the Macomb Fellowship have a strong monetary support for the shared ministry, a budget that reflects this, and the commitment of the congregations for the continuing financial support for a minister.

The budget expense for ministerial recruitment was \$8,300. To date only \$93 had been used. The church expected \$2,000 for one-time expense of relocating costs of a new minister. The treasurer, Georgia House, reported that pledges fell short of budget by \$1,893. Without a minister, the expenses fell short by \$9,769. By November the treasurer reported that 22 pledging units (of a possible 59 units) had pledged \$8,577. The goal was \$22,000. The legal membership was announced as 62. By December there were 29 pledges totalling \$11,152

Finally, the pledges reached 48 to amount to \$19,304 toward the goal of \$22,000.

Church school children toured some country ground to select the "perfect" Christmas tree and they decorated it with loving care. Members provided funds for poinsettias in the church. Toys, mittens and canned goods were collected for a needy family. Christmas caroling was set for December 21. John Sperry presented the Christmas Eve sermon.

Rev. John Robinson met with the combined Search committee for dinner at the home of Frieda Marshall. The introductory packet was being sent to four ministerial candidates. A copy of the church packet was made available for church members to observe.

#### BEGINNING 1989

The President of the Board, Dan Kelly, set a tone of anticipation for the new year...the sesqui-centennial year. He expressed appreciation for those who served the extra eight months, allowing the church to adjust to a calendar year. The annual meeting was held on January 22, 1989.

Chairs of committees had been asked to prepare reports in written form so that Frieda Marshall could make copies available at the annual meeting. At the start of the annual meeting Nona Miller presented an interesting and comprehensive report on part of the contents of the proposed church history. The booklet committee wanted assurance that funds would be reserved for this project. The budgeted amount (\$2,000) for the sesquicentennial book was approved.

John Schnaufer and Alan Starkey were appointed to conduct a treasury audit. They found the records to be correct. The treasurer reported that \$13,619 had been pledged for the roof restoration project, \$9,675 had been paid and \$3,944 would be due in 1989. The proposed budget was \$28,285 based on income expected of \$24,004, allowing a \$4,281 deficit.

John Brigham said we needed to replace the church driveway.

The Macomb Chair of the Search Committee (Yvonne Scott) had resigned. The responsibility was assigned to Frieda Marshall (Quincy) and Al Korte (Macomb). Two candidates withdrew their availability for this ministry. The committee would meet the first pre-candidate minister soon.

Bertha Danhaus reported for the Memorial Committee: Memorials received amounted to \$1,543. With balance and interest the total fund at the end of 1988 was \$11,948. A motion was presented, recommending that three trustees be appointed to oversee the memorial fund and capital gifts, bequests and legacies. The vote was: 9-yes; 5-no; 5 abstaining.

The Worship Committee Chair, Jean Sperry, requested recommendations from members regarding topics appropriate for the sesqui-centennial year. Committee members: Dienna Drew, John Brigham, Carolyn Kane, Al Beck, John Sperry and others presented Sunday morning addresses.

Carol Mathieson gave the music committee report, mentioning that the historical tracker organ, built by Steere & Sons in 1891, was the subject of a paper prepared for a class at the University of Iowa this past winter. "Rhonda Basinger, dean of the local chapter of the American Guild of Organists, researched the company and procedure which produced this fine instrument. Mr. John Basinger, who had done much of the repair and tuning of the organ, had taken many fine pictures of the organ. Leather bushings still need to be replaced on the organ trackers. The long-term need of the musical life of the church is a piano for the sanctuary. That would allow the excellent acoustics of the sanctuary to enhance concerts of the Sunday Music Series, for example."

In the spring Mrs. Basinger presented a Sunday service: "History of the Steere Organ Company and of the Unitarian Church's Historic Steere Organ." Her material was originally prepared as a project for a class on "The History of Organ Building and Design" at the University of Iowa, where she was working toward a Master of Arts Degree in Organ Performance. Mrs. Basinger was organist at St. John's Episcopal Church in Quincy and a lecturer in organ at Culver-Stockton College.

As the newly-elected Board met, Nike Mendenhall was elected President. She encouraged devotion to the church and enthusiasm for the 150th Anniversary celebration. A banquet was planned for May 6 and the featured speaker, Dr. Charles S. Stephen, Jr. had been secured. He was book reviewer for the UU World.

A special membership meeting was called for March 19 to elect three trustees for the Unitarian Church Memorial and Capital Trust Fund. Those recommended for election were: Bertha Danhaus, Caroline Sexauer and Frieda Marshall.

On March 28, 1989, Nona Miller formally withdrew from the preparation of a sesqui-centennial souvenir book. She mentioned her disappointment and concern over "finances and burden of work and controversy." On April 2 she presented a Sunday morning address: "A History of our Unitarian Spirit."

Only two members of the Building and Grounds Committee (John Brigham and Ted Morrison) and Frieda Marshall appeared for a Saturday morning clean-up time. Frieda and Floyd Marshall supervised the re-upholstering of six dining chairs in the Heritage Room.

The Plant Sale was organized under direction of Jim Drew and Georgia House. The stalwart workers put forth their best efforts again although only 8 or 10 people donated plants. Janice and Jesse Miller and Dienna Drew were making the doughnuts. Former minister, Rev. Calvin Knapp and Ruth Knapp came to participate in the event. The newsletter reported, "When Cal inspired the plant sale 17 years ago, he could not have foretold that this activity would be alive and flourishing at this time." The income figures were: Food \$28; Books, \$353; Bakery \$492; and Plants \$1159. The commission to Kroner Florist was \$450.

Cal Knapp delivered the sermon on the Sunday after the sale, speaking of "The Rewards and Penalties of Conscience." Rev. Knapp had served the Quincy congregation from 1971 to 1976. At this time he was serving three congregations in Indiana: Evansville, Terre Haute and Hutsonville.

Seventeen members participated in the 1989 Parish Poll on UUA resolutions: General Resolutions receiving

majority support were G-5 - Palestinian Human Rights; G-6 - Protecting our Children by Limiting Population Growth; and G-7 - Strengthening the United Nations.

The Sesqui-centennial Banquet was held on Saturday, May 6, at Stipp's Restaurant. The featured speaker was Dr. Charles S. Stephen, Jr., minister of the Unitarian Church of Lincoln, Nebraska, and book reviewer for the UU World. He also addressed the congregation on Sunday morning: "In Defense of the Liberal Spirit."

A special congregational meeting was called for May 21. The agenda: "To act on the unanimous vote of the Board of Trustees to recommend the expenditure of \$4,212 from the Building Maintenance "set aside" in the general funds of the church for repair and restoration of interior and exterior deterioration and to install plexiglass (1/4 inch) covers over the stained glass windows on the west and south walls of the church and a triangle window on the north wall." ("The Building Maintenance "set aside" as of March 31, 1989, was \$5949. The recommended expenditure would leave a balance of \$1737 in the "set aside" for maintenance purposes.")

Nike Mendenhall presided at the meeting. The specific improvements included repairing the stage face and floor, repairing the ceiling units above heating ducts (kitchen and above stairway over men's restroom), paneling exit hallway upstairs, resetting linoleum (in kitchen and by ladies' rest room), new vanity in the minister's study; plexiglass on outer windows (plexiglass will not discolor and it offers protection against vandalism - glass does not), downspout, roof drain lines, etc.

It was understood that interest money from the Eldred and Colby funds had been added to building maintenance at the last annual meeting. Therefore, funds were available. The motion to proceed with this work passed. This action did not include the driveway work.

The Board of Trustees included Nike Mendenhall, President; John Brigham, Ted Morrison, Kevin Barton, Georgia House, Nayer Attai, Lisa Wigoda, Alan Starkey, and Maria Petzoldt (replaced by John Schnaufer). They requested that Floyd Marshall continue to serve as volunteer administrator and as recording secretary.

In June the Board of Trustees authorized contracting with Dan VonderHaar Construction Company for installation of a new concrete driveway to the north of the church. This would be 10' wide (rather than 8') and have a gradual widening west of the church entry to the west boundary line. The \$3,750 cost was paid from the Memorial Fund as requested by the Board and with approval from the Memorial Fund Trustees.

After a two-year search, the Board of Trustees and the Search Committee presented The Rev. Lynn S. Smith-Roberts as the ministerial candidate for the shared ministry of the Quincy Unitarian Church and the Macomb Unitarian Fellowship. Her candidating sermon was "The Vertical Connection; or, god (?) is in His (?) Heaven (?) and All's Right in the World."

Her introduction to the Macomb Fellowship occurred on June 18. The congregational meeting to vote on extending the call to this ministry to Rev. Smith-Roberts was set for June 21. A favorable vote was cast in both the Quincy and Macomb congregations.

Lynn S. Smith-Roberts had received a degree in library science from UCLA. After a 12-year career as a librarian, she had entered Starr King School for the Ministry and received the M. Div. degree in 1983. She was appointed as chaplain in the Sacramento church. During 1986-87 she had served the Bismarck-Mandan Universalist Fellowship and Church in North Dakota.

The minister and her husband James secured housing in Macomb and she began serving the shared ministry with Quincy and Macomb in September, 1989.

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