



**THE QUINCY UNITARIAN CHURCH**

**IN THE 90s**

**A SEQUEL TO**

**“BEYOND THE CENTENNIAL YEAR”**

**Compiled by**

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## INTRODUCTION

The 200+ page history of the Quincy Unitarian Church (from 1939 to 1989) was completed and distributed to the membership in May, 1996. It seemed appropriate after an interval to have information regarding the following years available especially to board members and leaders of the church.

Thus, the sequel has been prepared, printed in limited quantity, and intended as a reference for board members and others who may wonder ---

When did the church----?

What was the cost of ----?

Who served as ---- ?

The material is a condensation of board minutes, newsletter reports, committee actions and routine data, presenting a quick study of the 1990s. There is an index. The limited number of copies are meant to be respected as the on-going property of the church.

**THE REV. LYNN SMITH-ROBERTS**  
**1989 - 1995**

The congregation had been without a minister for two years. In June a favorable vote extended the invitation to the Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts to serve the shared ministry of the Quincy Unitarian Church and the Macomb Fellowship. Her introductory sermon "Ready, Set, Go" was given on September 17, 1989.

Born in Hawaii, Lynn Smith-Roberts descended from Congregational missionaries of the 1820s. She was graduated from the University of Redlands (Calif.) earning a degree in English with a minor in theater. She received a master's of library science degree from the University of California (Los Angeles) and had a 12-year career as librarian at the University of California-Riverside. She entered Starr-King School for the Ministry at Berkeley in 1983. Her first ministry was at Bismark-Mandan Unitarian Universalist Fellowship and Church in North Dakota, where she was ordained in November 1986. She and James Roberts were married in December 1985 in Sacramento. They secured housing in Macomb.

In the Bismark area Rev. Smith-Roberts had been active in ACLU, the Conference of Churches, the Peace Coalition and community theater. She ministered to the spiritual needs of persons living with AIDS and the patients in the Hospice Program.

At this time Nike' Mendenhall was President of the Board of the Quincy congregation. Guest speakers presented topics on alternate Sundays when the minister was in Macomb. Among these were members of the congregation: Dr. Carolyn Kane "The Gospel According to Star Trek" - Dienna Drew "Our Four Churches - How in our 150 years in Quincy we have built and outgrown churches, enjoyed the work of dedicated members and ministers, and celebrated anniversaries." - Dr. Carol Fisher Mathieson "Early American Character as Reflected in Church Music."

Janice Miller resigned as chair of the R. E. committee because of her husband's illness. A Culver-Stockton College student, James Archambeau, assisted in R. E. with rotating parent assistants. Frieda Marshall continued preparation of orders of service and newsletters on a voluntary basis. A light switch at the bottom of the stairway leading to the minister's office and a bulletin board in the back entry hall were requested. A broken elbow in the drain line at the southwest corner of the church building was replaced.

After conversations with leadership of the Health Department, the minister in November asked permission of the Board to allow her to form a support group for AIDS survivors. The Board, with motion from Lisa Wigoda and second by Nayer Attai, voted in favor. The Heritage Room was used for their meetings. Rev. Smith-Roberts pursued connection with the minister of the Metropolitan Community Church group.

The church received a certificate from the UUA in recognition of contributions to the Annual Program Fund. The Quincy church was one of 662 societies giving at least \$20 per member to support the work of the association. In December, 1989, material was received encouraging members to become Chalice Lighters. That is, they would commit themselves to help with specific needs of churches in the Central Midwest District. Such specific needs might be: fire destruction of a church, building repair emergency, expansion of professional leadership, or funds to help the growth of a developing society. Contributions would be tax deductible.

In January 1990 Mark Belletini, chair of the Hymnbook Resources Commission, wrote: "We're halfway through our task of developing a new hymnbook for the denomination. Music has been chosen, including familiar hymns, folk tunes, spirituals, and new music. We are making a strong effort to include hymns used by UUs around the world in England, India, Transylvania, Czechoslovakia, Nigeria and the Phillipines. Congregations have submitted their favorite hymns. Our guiding philosophy is that the hymnbook should be as inclusive as possible, containing male, female and neuter pronouns, both when speaking of humanity and when speaking of God. There will be theistic and non-theistic hymns. Some will speak of transcendence, others will center on the intimately human. We aim for a hymnbook that will be a central resource for congregational worship." In the Quincy church, supplementary books were being used for hymns and for responsive readings. As an indication of the obsolescence of the Spirit of Life hymnbooks, the minister presented different hymns, which were printed and made available in a blue folder.

The Church Board unanimously agreed to begin the Church Covenant and Mission Process, recommended by the minister. A committee was formed including Tom House, Nike Mendenhall, Kay Merrick, Nona Miller and John Schnauffer. During the spring meetings were held in various homes, presided over by Rev. Smith-Roberts. Floyd Marshall resigned as church administrator, a volunteer position that he had expected would last a few months, but which had extended into more than two years.

Having served since 1961, Bertha Danhaus resigned as chair of the Memorial Committee. A report from the April newsletter follows: "If you were not present on March 18, 1990, you missed a wonderful ceremony in honor of Bertha Danhaus, who has given so much to the church -- particularly with her work on the Memorial Committee. The lovely new pewter chalice was presented to the church in her honor, and an engraved plaque was presented to Bertha."

Explanatory folders of the Memorial Committee and the Capital Trust Fund were inserted in the February 1990 newsletter. According to proper constitutional procedure, an amendment to the church constitution was presented to the membership and unanimously approved on March 18, 1990. This more clearly defined the duties of the Memorial Fund and added the duties for operating the Capital Trust Fund, creating an exception to the treasurer's duties.

The Women's Alliance members voted to support the project of preserving papers and records of the church by paying costs of acid-free papers and file folders. Sherryl Lang, experienced in the preservation of papers, was working on this with Nona Miller and Anna Louise Brigham. Individual Alliance members donated \$15.50 for the archives work. In May, 1990, Ms. Lang accepted a teaching position and was not able to assist further on this archival project. The Alliance programs were based on Anthony Perrino's book, "Holy Quest - The Search for Wholeness."

An event of April 29, 1990, was the installation of the Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts as the minister of the Quincy Unitarian Church and the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Macomb. Lisa Wigoda represented the Quincy group and Lawrence V. Welch represented the Macomb group. The principal speaker was the Rev. Carol C. Hilton, co-minister of UU Society of Black Hawk County at Cedar Falls, Iowa. Nine visiting ministers participated in the program giving greetings from the denomination, the district, the local community, and leading the act of installation. A combined Quincy/Macomb choir was directed by Carol Fisher Mathieson. Following the service, a carry-in supper was hosted by the members of the two congregations.

Ted Morrison reported for the Building and Grounds committee that a pole lamp had been installed at the front steps, and a light switch installed at the top of the stairway to the ministers' office. The minister requested a handicap ramp and a stair elevator. Lawn mowing was assigned to six members taking turns during the season. "Picnics in the Park" allowed social contact of members during the summer months.

In July John-Paul Buzzard, an organ craftsman from Urbana, Illinois, came to inspect the organ and give his recommendations for repair. He declared the organ to be a "marvelous" instrument, that some things should be repaired immediately and others could be completed at a later time. An estimate of costs was requested. Initial costs for his consultation, travel, examination, report writing, etc. came to 19 hours @ \$30 per hour = \$570. This amount was paid on September 12, 1990.

The September newsletter announced publication of A Holy Curiosity by the Rev. Bruce T. Marshall. It is a collection of personal "stories of a liberal religious faith" collected by Bruce from workshops and other contacts with people of our faith. The title reflects an Albert Einstein quote, "Never lose a holy curiosity." The publication was sponsored by the Huntington (N.Y.) Unitarian Universalist Fellowship where Bruce served as minister. He is the son of Frieda and Floyd Marshall and a former member of the Quincy Unitarian Church.

Greeters were announced in the newsletter each month. They also took responsibility for providing ushers. Anna Louise Brigham and Frieda Marshall produced a telephone tree, as a method for improving communications among church members regarding church functions and activities. The Board members responded to an evaluation form for renewal of Preliminary Fellowship for the minister. This was sent to the Ministerial Fellowship Committee of the UUA in September, 1990.

Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts attended the General Assembly of the UUA in June in Milwaukee. The fall season opened with a water communion. In late October there was a service of "All Saints and All Souls" celebrating those who had died during the year. In December the minister and her husband hosted the second annual Christmas Open House in Macomb. The first "Hanging of the Greens" occurred on December 10 at 6:30 p.m. A soup supper was available, and then members decorated the church and the Christmas tree.

A December service included a special celebration honoring the exemplary lives of members in the 80-and-over age bracket. These included Bertha Danhaus, Lloyd Harris, Tom Moore, Fritz and John Morrison, Eve Norton, Bill Sexauer, T. L. Stebbins and Charlotte Winters. The minister declared, "These are our saints."

The Board of Trustees had been considering several improvements to the building: 1.) A separate heating system for the Heritage Room, expected to cost about \$500 for electric baseboard heaters, thermostat and installation. 2.) An upgrade of the basement lighting system and new copper wiring where needed in the entire building, approximately \$1,600. The board recommended inclusion of expected costs in the budget for 1991-1992, and request for congregational approval at the annual meeting, January 13, 1991.

## 1 9 9 1

An early action of the Board of Trustees was to request a second opinion on the organ restoration bid of \$50,000. On a motion of John Sperry an ad hoc committee was named to consider and make recommendations for restoring the church organ. The committee: Robert Merrick, Tom Moore, Alice Mays, Michael Flanagan. In another action the board requested that a copy of the current budget, showing how much is spent and the remaining balances, be presented at every board meeting. Regarding the maintenance reserve fund, the board stated that: "When the proposed project costs more than 5% of the annual budget, the membership must approve the project at a membership meeting or an annual meeting. Such funds are not to be used for operating expenses, but for special projects, i.e. painting the church."

Concern over the Persian Gulf War led to a Peace Vesper Service that was held in the church. This was followed by a candlelight march to Quincy University where a public forum was conducted. \*\* The ministerial contract had been prepared and given to earlier presidents of the Quincy and Macomb congregations. Those agreements, unsigned, seemed to have been misplaced. In March, 1991, the presidents Ted Morrison in Quincy and Robert Rippey in Macomb signed the formal ministerial contract with Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts. \*\* The Quincy Ministerial Association hesitated in welcoming Rev. Smith-Roberts as "she is not an acclaimed Christian." \*\* The minister arranged through the UUA to create a sister-church relationship with a church in Sindulesti, Romania. \*\* The Central Midwest District Executive, Rev. Denise Tracy, met with board members and presented the Easter Service on March 31, 1991.

The basement lighting project was completed and electric baseboard heaters were installed in the Heritage Room. The Royalty Electric Company was paid \$1,419 from memorial funds. The building and grounds committee named items that cluttered the church and should be disposed of. There was also a proposal to place a utility building on the driveway at the northwest corner of the church. This was estimated at \$800 which would come from the treasury reserve account. The R. E. committee requested arrangements to provide a more attractive setting for the Sunday School classes. Other suggestions focused on improvements to the Library, Heritage Room and the kitchen.

Tom House, chair of the membership committee, reported 76 members (active and inactive). The minister compiled a packet for new members including a membership directory, constitution, name badge, etc.

An ad hoc growth committee ( Mike Allkins, Breck Brown, Martha Disseler, Geoffrey Mendenhall and Bob Merrick) concentrated on actions to increase membership. A standard UUA evaluation questionnaire was supplied to members. The responses were summed up as: 1. The congregation needs a mission statement and long-range plan. 2. A strong religious education program is a must. 3. The church needs leadership, professional and lay. 4. The building and grounds need to be made more attractive. 5. There is a need for more activities for church members. 6. The church needs more financial support from members to accomplish these goals.

Activities commenced as a cooperative effort of the ad hoc, religious education, and building and grounds committees. A janitorial service was contracted with First Class Janitorial Service, Mary Snyder, manager. The R. E. committee (Gail Starkey, Kay Merrick and Sandra Morrison) combed the church for discarding things no longer useful, and presented a detailed listing of needs. The basement area was scoured: draperies destroyed, equipment discarded. The board voted that the profits of the October Book/Bake/Flea Market event would be given to the R. E. committee to produce a brighter, more efficient space for the Sunday School classes.

Meeting in September, 1991, the congregation developed a financial plan to cover the expenses, expected to be \$5,000. The tower room was returned to classroom space, and a storage shed was erected on the northwest corner of the driveway (November 1991 - \$1,000) Folding doors (creating a division from the nursery area and the fellowship hall) were removed. In the fellowship hall plaster was repaired and the walls repainted -\$1,040. Additional curriculum materials were secured; and a four-drawer file cabinet provided for R. E. records. The fall sale netted \$1,231, which diminished the amount of \$5,000 voted to be used from reserve funds.

Joe Jenkins bought two church pews (smaller size) that had been removed from the front of the sanctuary). \*\* Nayer Attai volunteered to underwrite the cost of an attached light at the pulpit. \*\* John Sperry gave the American flag to the church from his (soldier) father's casket.

## 1992

Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts had led a memorial service on National AIDS Awareness Day. She had begun a peer support group for HIV/AIDS patients in 1990 and was recognized by the Adams County AIDS Education Committee. This group nominated her for a "World AIDS Day Award" which was intended to honor a caregiver who had shown extraordinary capacity to provide emotional and physical support to people living with HIV or AIDS. She had served over 25 people and provided the only HIV support service within 110 miles of Quincy.

After several months of discussion regarding the vocabulary of a mission statement which excluded certain local clergy, the Quincy Area Ministerial Association abandoned the restrictions and welcomed the Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts as a member. The group had a meeting in the Unitarian Church and "they especially enjoyed the Founders' Window and the wayside pulpit messages."

The minister voiced some concerns: the lower case "t" did not print on the daisy-wheel typewriter. The Board permitted her to select a new machine, a Brother Typewriter for \$200. She said, "Currently the important records of the church are in chaos - in boxes piled in the outer office and cannot be accessed properly. We must have a fire-proof file cabinet." and "Pews need attention. The backs are splitting. They are hard for the elderly to sit upon." A report from the Building and Grounds Committee stated that 1.) seat cushions could cost an estimated \$200 a pew. 2.) A chairlift elevator for the back stairway would cost approximately \$5,000. 3.) An elevator would possibly cost \$30,000. 4.) Stair treads might cost \$400. The "To Do" list included "clean and repaint the perimeter heating system covers in the basement."

A schedule was produced for Mission Covenant Carry-in Dinners, and eleven meetings were held, hosted by various church members. The committee: Tom House, Nike Mendenhall, Kay Merrick, Nona Miller and John Schnauffer presented a summation:

As Unitarian Universalists, we embrace the integrity of the individual and the sacredness of life. We gather together in the spirit of love --

- \* to seek truth through freedom of expression within the diversity of human endeavors
- \* to explore the mystery of life with reverence
- \* to celebrate with awe the beauty of life and the world
- \* to promote global justice and preservation of the planet
- \* to nurture spiritual growth through fellowship, action, service and worship
- \* to seek peace within ourselves and peace in our world through acceptance, patience and compassion
- \* to enhance our search for meaning by uniting in the free quest of high values in religion and life.

As members of the Unitarian Church of Quincy, we covenant with one another to dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.

Other ideas from the brain-storming sessions reflected long-range, but more specific, ambitions. These included organ restoration, handicapped accessibility, membership growth, more activities, acquisition of a piano and R. E. up-grade.

The R. E. program had received encouragement with new orderliness of the premises, new equipment of good quality and new curricula. A Youth Group under leadership of Rev. John Brigham was exploring a unit called "Search for Unitarian Universalist Meaning and Values." The minister planned a class entitled "Parents as Resident Theologians." The committee (Gail Starkey, Sandy Morrison, Kay Merrick) expressed excitement about the new direction and possibilities for the future of a good, sound UU educational program.

Folders explaining the Memorial Fund and the Endowment and Trust program were included as part of the newsletters. These gave information of how to participate in memorial activity in the church. The Endowment and Trust program will perpetuate a permanent, segregated fund of which the principal will grow and only the interest income may be spent. Additional folders were available on the leaflet rack in the church entry. Committee: Frieda Marshall, Caroline Sexauer, Ted Morrison.

For a time the newsletters included a brief recap of the previous month's services. Volunteers assisted in this endeavor to communicate with the house-bound and those who may have missed attending the morning service. The annual membership directories and the up-dated telephone tree were prepared by Frieda Marshall. The official count of membership in early 1992 was 68 members, representing 44 units, and 18 friends. The final pledges reported by Treasurer Janice Marshall-Miller totaled \$19,263. Special recognition was given to Georgia House who had resigned as treasurer because of family responsibilities.

Permission was granted to a non-smoking AA group to hold weekly meetings in the church.

Jean G. Kapuscik, UUA and CMD trustee, was a guest speaker in March. Her topic was "What Does Belonging to the UUA mean to the Local Congregation?" She made the announcement that Dr. Helen Bishop had been selected to be the CMD Administrator, a position formerly held by Rev. Denise Tracy.

The Quincy Chapter of the American Guild of Organists performed a recital on May 10, with proceeds to benefit the fund to restore the organ. This concert celebrated the 100th anniversary of the dedication of this organ, and \$400 was added to the organ restoration fund. During these years there were regular concerts of the Sunday Music Series, featuring Carol Fisher Mathieson and guest artists regularly including Leonora Suppan-Gehrich, Brian Gehrich, Colleen Gehrich, Robert Ames, Joe Dieker and others. Usually set for the first Sunday afternoon of the new year, the musical programs offered vocal and instrumental selections. A "Mostly Mozart" program commemorated the 200th anniversary of the composer's death and a celebration of his work.

A fantastic Mother's Day Brunch was single-handedly provided by Jim Drew who organized a celebration with food and flowers. \*\* The Alliance purchased a microwave for the church kitchen.

A bequest from Marjorie Ballow, widow of Olin Ballow (former treasurer of the church), sponsored the installation of new flooring in the church entry. A new wayside pulpit replaced one which had seen many years of service. This was constructed from UUA plans at a cost of \$550. Ted Morrison re-painted the furniture in the Sunday School room with bright primary colors. New lighting was installed in the stage area. The east wall of the kitchen was resurfaced by effort of Dan Kelly, Kevin Barton and Alan Starkey. Baseboard heating panels were repainted. The R. E. area had a brightly colored carpet by the fireplace. The long-range planning committee was reassigned to John Sperry, Nike' Mendenhall, and John Schnauffer to work with the minister and the board president, Nona Miller.

Meetings of the AIDS support group continued monthly or bi-weekly at the church. The minister visited PWA's in the hospital, consulted with families, and she conducted several graveside memorial services for men who died of AIDS.

Attendance ranged from eight to fifteen at the Summer Discussion Program. The mornings focused on both serious and casual subjects. Carol Nichols shared her knowledge of calligraphy, Jeannie Brown and Jane Holt inspired appreciation of music with an explanation and recital of oboe and bassoon. There was discussion of the poets of the 20th Century. An impromptu carry-in was enjoyed by those who came to visit with former members: Madan, Lynn and Kamini Joshi, and Allen Shriver.

In the fall the R. E. curricula concentrated on customs and traditions relating to the holiday season and on the "Church Across the Street" program. A registration packet included a family cooperation form, the R. E. calendar and listing of activities. A new brochure was prepared and made available on the literature rack. The committee (Gail Starkey, Leann Flanagan and Sandy Morrison) planned an "Open House" and coffee hour for the congregation.

In anticipation of the new hymnal, requests were made for sponsorship at the pre-publication cost of \$25 each. These could be "given by" members or "in memory of" persons of the donor's choice. A need for 76 hymnals was stated, and funds were soon available to purchase 63 new hymnals.

A Fall Bazaar was scheduled for November 7 with monies going to benefit the Organ Restoration Fund. The Flea Market, Bazaar and Bake sale netted \$699.61.

During the year "Skip-a-Meal" benefits had helped the Sister Church in Sindulesti, Romania; the Frederick Ball Day Care Center, Quanada Shelter, Salvation Army and the CROP Program of Church World Services.

## 1993

The annual meeting of January 17, 1993, began with a prayer by the Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts for compassion and cooperation to set the tone of the meeting. Copies of various reports were in the hands of all who attended. There was no report from the Long Range Planning Committee. Ted Morrison presented the proposed budget. He expressed appreciation for the clarity of the treasurer's report during Janice Marshall- Miller's first year of responsibility. The UUA was listed in the budget to receive 5% of the pledged income, and John Brigham proposed that an assigned 2 1/2% of pledged income be included for the Central Midwest District. This motion carried.

At the February board meeting there was some consideration to reducing the number of Board members from 9 to 7, but no action was taken. A suggestion of committee consolidation was to be reviewed by an ad hoc group from the board. Two recommendations were to establish a Denominational Affairs Committee and to assign a facilitator for the Sunday Services (a sub-committee of the Worship Committee). The board agreed in favor of acquiring a piano although no funds were allotted for it. A project for funding for the summer discussion series was outlined by Susan Holliday. A rental of videos loaned by members could be maintained by the high school R. E. class.

The R. E. Department hosted a "Celebrate Spring!" event on March 21 with a luncheon and a report of R. E. activities. The pre-school group had considered "Growing Times" and other groups studied "Timeless Themes: stories from Hebrew and Christian Bibles." The Jr. and Sr. High group visited the Union United Methodist church, Bethel AME church, the Mormon Mission and St. John's Episcopal church, with leadership from Linda Kuenzli. Dawn Jobe Hobbs had been hired to teach the middle class, supervised by Sandy Morrison. Brandy Mast was hired to assist in child care for infants, under supervision of Leann Flanagan and the R. E. committee. The R. E. leaders, Gail Starkey, Sandy Morrison, Leann Flanagan, and Linda Kuenzli, recognized many others who had given guidance, contributed food, and expended time and energy toward this program and throughout the year.

A matter of concern was the cost of heating the church. The treasurer reported that the bills from CIPS for the recent three months totaled \$2,198.44. (The offering of the nine Sundays of this year averaged \$584.90). A committee was formed to get estimates on furnace replacement. The present equipment had been in the church since 1914 and had been converted from coal, to oil and gas, to gas and to automatic control. It was deemed 50% efficient.

Several members of the Quincy and Macomb congregations attended a Leadership Conference to learn about long-range planning and how to improve dialog with the congregation. From Quincy: Lynn Smith-Roberts, Susan Holliday, Dan Kelly and Linda Kuenzli. A suggestion was to prepare a board member poster to be displayed in the church entrance with photographs, so people would know who serves on the Board.

The Board voted to join the Central Illinois Area Council of U-U Churches as the Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts had been elected president. Linda Kuenzli was appointed delegate to the CIAC. \*\* Two classes on Unitarianism were taught by the minister at John Wood Community College in a Philosophy of Religion Course and a Comparative Religions Course. \*\* A young women's Spirituality Group was meeting regularly at the church. Discussion centered on Circle of Stones. \*\* A picnic of combined Macomb and Quincy members was held at Argyle State park near Colchester. The fellowship committee arranged a brunch at Johnson Park in Quincy in July.

A musical program was performed in the church on June 6 by the Early Music Consort in advance of their tour of Europe. Gerard Wagner, Mecki Kosin, Joe Messina and Lavern Wagner, wearing authentic Renaissance costumes, played recorders, krummerhorns, kortholts and cornamuses to create a Middle Ages event. \*\* A concert of the Sunday Music Series was presented at the church by Bassoon 4 on July 11. The musicians were: Jane Holt, Jerry Leeper, Cathy McGuire and Karen Strohmeyer.

The Mississippi River flooded over both Missouri and Illinois banks near Quincy in July, creating a sudden seven-mile wide expanse of water. The church season opened in September with the traditional water communion. Also scheduled was a Skip-a-Meal collection, with the recipient being the American Red Cross for flood relief. Many calls were received from other Unitarian churches offering to help Quincy after the flood.

Dr. Robert Manning, assistant professor of religious studies and philosophy at Quincy University was a guest speaker at the Unitarian Church on September 19, 1993.

The R.E. committee prepared a packet of information for the congregation. It mentioned the curriculum, including "Growing Times" - "Timeless Themes" - "Stepping Stone Years" and "The Church Across the Street." Children were encouraged to be with parents for the first part of the morning worship. There was an opportunity for members to offer special skills in music, art, dance, etc., and planning for occasional field trips.

The Board of Trustees called a congregational meeting for September 26 to consider the proposed building and grounds expenditures and fund-raising options for replacing the heating system. It was pointed out that the boiler was 80 years old, first installed as a coal-fired unit and later converted to gas. It operated at about a 50% efficiency and consumed an estimated \$750 to \$1,000 more in fuel each year than a new, properly sized boiler would use. The fuel cost for the previous 12 months was \$3,527. The building and grounds committee suggested payment from reserves and a three-year pledge program to raise the \$8,000 to \$10,000 for a new boiler system, installed and with new controls. By a membership vote of 20 to 1 the building and grounds committee was authorized to proceed with the purchase and installation of a new boiler. The expected savings would be approximately 25% of the present heating bills. The members also voted 18 to 2 to have the church exterior painted in the spring at an estimated cost of \$5,000. They voted unanimously to finance the project with a \$15,000 three-year capital fund drive.

The 1993 Fantastic Fall Sale occurred on October 30. Linda Kuenzli chaired the Flea Market, Alan Starkey organized the Book Sale and Martha Disseler supervised the Bake Sale. The receipts amounted to \$760.

The contract for replacing the boiler was awarded to E. A. Wand Plumbing Company (Dick Bratton) and installation began in late October. Pledges for the capital fund drive reached \$7,500. The bill for the new heating system was \$8,789. It is a three-series, hot-water boiler system and was declared to be working well. (Someone nicknamed the three stages: Larry, Curly and Moe.)

The Memorial Committee authorized the \$300 purchase of twelve new hymnals. Several were dedicated to former members who had specified the endowment fund in their wills. They are: Harriet Wells Eldred, Frances Gale Colby, Frances Eldred Morrison, Edna Welch and Marjorie Ballow.

A memorial service was conducted December 1 in the church by the Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts in recognition of World AIDS Day. Families and friends whose lives have been touched by AIDS were invited to attend. The service was co-sponsored by the Adams County AIDS Task Force and the Adams County HIV+ Peer Support Group, which was facilitated by Smith-Roberts.

The treasurer's December report included a statement from the CIPS representative indicating that church gas usage from mid-November to Mid-December was 324 therms. This compared to 963 therms for the same period of a year before. Comparison December figures were: 1991- \$503.45; 1992 - \$604.96; 1993 - \$233.17. Though December, 1993, was mild, the figures indicated that the new heating system was working as well as or better than had been hoped. Two radiators at the southwest corner of the sanctuary are disconnected from the heating system because of leakage problems. To repair would cost about \$1,000. This was not being considered at this time.

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Information was received by the Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts that the UUA Ministerial Fellowship Committee had voted to grant her Final Fellowship for the Parish Ministry based on service at the Quincy and Macomb congregations. The Final Certificate would be presented at the Service of the Living Tradition at General Assembly in Fort Worth, Texas, in June, 1994. (A congratulatory reception was held at the home of Kaz and Nayer Attai on January 14, 1995.)

The annual meeting held on January 16, 1994, had an attendance of 22 members out of a membership of 73. Printed reports of the work of committees were distributed at the meeting. Fund building for the organ restoration was in progress. The congregation had purchased 63 new hymnals, "Singing the Living Tradition." All had bookmarks,

prepared in calligraphy by Carol Nichols, identifying the donors. Permission was given to the minister to present three copies of Hymns for the Celebration of Life to local funeral homes.

The proposed budget was approved with 40 pledging units responding. Pledges were about \$3,000 short although 8 units remained to pledge. Carol Nichols asked for an ad hoc group to examine the long-term investments so that maximum advantage would be gained from investments. An investment counselor would be consulted.

John Sperry stated for the record that Janice Miller and the members of the finance committee "have done an excellent job of getting out pledge and contribution statements for 1993. Janice's work shows an efficiency and attentiveness to new tax regulations which makes things easier for the membership." The board concurred and expressed its thanks to Janice and the committee. The treasurer's report showed a January heating bill of \$233.17 which was 1/3 of the last January bill.

At the suggestion of the Memorial Committee and the church board president, a memorial fund was established in honor of Jean Smith, mother of the Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts. The members felt this could be an appropriate way of showing concern. Mrs. Smith had died in Hawaii only short months after illness had been diagnosed.

Along with scheduling guest speakers, the worship committee also took responsibility for floral decorations. During several months the particular arrangement was presented to an individual. These tributes were included in the newsletter: "In February the lovely pink azalea plant was dedicated to Frieda Marshall for her many years of church work (35 years that I know of personally). If you ever need information about the church, Frieda has kept statistics and news articles in albums about our people and events. The newsletters and the Sunday Orders of Service are faithfully typed, edited, duplicated, etc. -- thanks to Frieda." (Jean Sperry)

In March tulips were given to Gail Starkey, "...with appreciation for the loving care she gives to our future, the children of the church. She is involving many adult members also with our young people through interesting and innovative programs. The vitality of our church is a reflection of her enthusiasm." (The Worship Committee) R.E. activities in March included a fund-raising brunch and children's program. The arm chair in the nursery area was improved by re-upholstering.

Exploration into incorporation status for the church was begun in March. (The January, 1991, Board minutes state that the church incorporation had been "grand-fathered" in 1935.) Attorney and member, J. William Holliday, had prior experience in "helping churches incorporate for the sole purpose of limited liability." He saw no negatives to incorporating as a not-for-profit corporation. The positive would be that individual members would "escape liability in the event of a law suit because of injury at the church or something of that type."

At the April Board meeting, after telephoning two members to make a quorum, all six members voted in favor of presenting this matter to the congregation.

A congregational meeting, conducted by Alan Starkey, president, was held May 15, 1994. Twenty-five voting members were present constituting 40% of the active membership. Articles of Incorporation under the General Not For Profit Corporation Act were exhibited, signed by Board members Alan Starkey, Dan Kelly, Caroline Sexauer, John Sperry and Carol Nichols. A two-part motion was made and seconded. Part I moved that the Board of the Unitarian Church of Quincy, Illinois, take the proper steps to file for incorporation as a religious, not-for-profit organization within the laws of the State of Illinois. Part II required that the Board review the wording of the incorporation such that no wording in this process conflicts with or contradicts the intent and philosophy of the congregation. Discussion followed. In the voting 20 supported the motion, one opposed and four abstained. The motion carried.

The Memorial Committee proposed that funds be used to purchase a new/used photo copier. In June the purchase was made of a Ricoh copier (used) from the Business Centre for \$714.50. The Board voted to give the "old" copier to the minister.

At an earlier Board meeting, the Building and Grounds Committee reported that to finish the front steps of the church with acrylic glaze would cost \$300 and last about eight years. To replace with new stone steps would cost approximately \$2,200. (Rupp) In consideration of the historic status of the church, Board member Dan Kelly requested that a bid be secured from a stone mason to re-do the steps authentically. A contractor who was consulted in June considered that the steps were not in bad shape. It would be his suggestion that any repair work wait until the sidewalk to the steps would need to be repaired/replaced.

The church exterior was painted in July, 1994, at a cost of \$4,518. This was funded by the combined boiler replacement/exterior painting project. It had been eight years since the church had been painted. Contractor Paul Womack recommended that the building be inspected every three years and painted where need be. Such a system might cost several hundred dollars every three years instead of four to five thousand every seven or eight years. The Building and Ground Committee recommended this policy.

Alan Starkey inquired about the possibility of having city help in improving the brick sidewalk in front of the church. Stair treads were installed on the back entry stairs, going up and down.

A camera of good quality with flash attachment was donated to the church (value about \$180) for use on the premises on special occasions.

The Metropolitan Community Church, a fundamentalist religious group, asked to use the church on Sunday evenings and Monday and Wednesday nights at a rental rate of \$120 per month. Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts had shown the church to the MCC minister and said, "They loved the building and offered the use of a sound system and a piano." She also said that the Peoria and Springfield UU churches had favorable experience with sharing their facility with the MCC group. The Board discussed problems of interference with other services, the religious and political inclination of the members of the group, and whether there would be a definite time limit. Action by the Board follows: A motion was presented to suggest a trial basis arrangement for six months, and that all stipulations and restrictions for building use would be drawn up legally by Bill Holliday for the board consideration. The motion passed, 7 in favor, none opposed.

However, after the board meeting, a determination was made that in the best interests of congregational polity, a congregational meeting should be called. This was announced in the newsletter and set for August 28, 1994. Alan Starkey, board president, opened the meeting and outlined a carefully planned agenda encouraging civility and respect for all. Issues of rental liability, conflicting interests, and image of the Unitarian Church in the community were addressed by a panel of five members and the minister. Responses from members of the congregation followed. At the September board meeting, a motion to rescind the previous motion to rent to the MCC was passed with five in favor and one abstaining. A letter was composed to the MCC group explaining this action, and a notice of building-use policy accompanied the letter.

A two-person committee had been commissioned to look into preservation of historical documents. During the summer the board meeting agenda had listed "Progress on historical preservation (if any)." For several months Frieda Marshall had been sorting and consolidating church papers. The control of such materials had progressed to a point of decision regarding space requirements. She recommended purchasing a four-drawer, fire-proof file cabinet for archival storage.

The Religious Education Department embarked on the "Year of the Man" (YOM) and invited male volunteers to share quality time and ideas of interest and expertise with the children and young adults. The men served as resource persons supported by the R.E. committee members as class supervisors. At the close of the church year, the following were honored for their cooperation in fostering communication and rapport between adults and young people: John Sperry, Alan Starkey, Floyd Marshall, John Schnaufer, Dan Kelly, Gerry Wagner, John Brigham, Mike Flanagan, Jim Hayashi, Jim Drew and others.

With cooperation from the Central Midwest District, a Board retreat was held in September, 1994, with Clarice Jefferson, a consultant from CMD, as facilitator. As a result a new Long Range Planning Committee was formed, consisting of Susan Holliday, John Schnaufer, Lynn Mercurio and Ted Morrison. Their task was to involve the entire congregation in identifying the needs and long- and short-term goals of the Church, and to identify definite steps to meet these needs and goals.

A Fantastic Fall Sale was held in October with leadership of Martha Disseler (Bakery), Linda Kuenzli (Flea Market), and Alan Starkey (Books). Despite rainy weather, the sale had an income of \$905. \*\* About this time a city crew planted a young swamp white oak tree on the Hampshire Street parkway to replace a tree that had crashed during a spring storm. \*\* The city alderman responded to the church request for a new corner curbing at 16th and Hampshire. This was scheduled for the coming spring.

The ad hoc/Long-Range Planning Committee planned a Sunday morning service on November 6 to have a facilitator assist the congregation in discussing issues and decisions being faced by the church. Among the concerns were: ministerial time and residence in Quincy, church accessibility and facilities, social issues, need for communication, and activity in organ renovation. Members received information by newsletter and by a reminder notice. Mr. Lanse Tomlinson, a skilled mediator, outlined Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats as compiled by the ad hoc committee from membership responses. Goals and action steps were developed under a heading of "Welcoming the Millennium."

Items explored included: Staffing: minister and administrative/secretarial position; Physical plant changes: handicapped accessibility, bathroom renovation, organ restoration; Communications and Public Relations: lecture opportunities, summer discussion series, involvement with the sick and home-bound; the Church as a forum for community and social action concerns, and more efficient canvassing of members.

The Board invited the CMD administrator, Dr. Helen Bishop, to visit the Quincy congregation. Because Dr. Bishop had mobility problems, the meeting was held in an accessible place ("which, as you know, our church is not." L.S/R in newsletter). The meeting was a carry-in on November 16, 1994, at the Senior Citizens Center. Dr. Bishop urged stronger connections to the CMD and told of the "directions the UUA is going."

Quincy Preserves had invited participation of the church among six buildings included in a Candlelight Tour. This was approved by the Board earlier in the year and many members assisted in the preparations. An estimated seven hundred visitors were welcomed into the church: the candlelit sanctuary "bedazzlingly beautiful with greenery and gold ribbons," the stairway a mass of poinsettias, and the mantle decorated with a miniature village. Carol Nichols, chair, inspired a Heritage Room display of "candle and fire" with five cultural indications of the season's celebration. Included were the Unitarian chalice, a menorah, and Iranian candle display, and a Kwanzaa candle arrangement.

During the evening members of the American Guild of Organists and carolers from the Quincy Symphony Chorus performed. In the Fellowship Hall downstairs people could visit and enjoy holiday refreshments. Debonair Teddy Bears gave a cheerful reflection in the room. As an added attraction there were specially prepared notecards available. A packet of eight held four designs: two church scenes prepared as engravings from 1947 photos by Clara Lily Dege and two inspiring thoughts set in calligraphy by Carol Nichols (one from Rev. John Brigham and the other from Barbara Pescan).

End-of-the-year reports reflected that the minister had led twenty services, conducted two member funerals, two outside funerals, and two outside weddings. She had arranged a Board retreat, attended district meetings and the General Assembly as a church representative. At the General Assembly in Fort Worth, Texas, she was awarded final fellowship during the Service of the Living Tradition. She had worked with Habitat for Humanity, as an outreach to persons with AIDS (four funerals, grief work, etc.), and worked with the Adams County AIDS Task Force and its Education Subcommittee. She delivered two guest lectures on AIDS.

The congregation had continued the Skip-a-Meal program, giving assistance to the Quincy Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity, UU Service Committee, CROP Walk, Madonna House, the NAACP, and victims of the Los Angeles earthquake. The members participated in The Herald-Whig Good News Campaign during the Christmas season.

On occasion the Sunday morning talks were presented by members and friends. Among these were: Nike Mendenhall, John Sperry, John Brigham, Carolyn Kane, Sharon Buzzard, Carol Nichols, Robert Mathieson, Carol Mathieson and Hilliard Shair. Attendance figures for the year ranged from low 20s to low 50s, with an average of 36.

## 1995

President of the Board Alan Starkey conducted the annual meeting on January 22. Committee reports were approved, and new members replaced retiring members of the Board. The first annual individual member recognition award was presented to Frieda Marshall for "her outstanding and tireless effort for the congregation of the Quincy Unitarian Church." This was previously expressed as "for our almost-full-time-but-not-paid administrative facilitator."

The ad hoc S.W.O.T. committee detailed goals and actions steps as follows:

1. Staffing Development
  - A two-thirds to three-quarters-time resident minister
  - A part-time secretarial/administrative assistant.
2. Changes in Physical Plant
  - Church organ restoration
  - Bathroom renovation and accessibility
  - General accessibility to building
3. Communications and Public Relations
  - Improved avenues of communication to and from the pulpit
  - Clarification of duties of Board and committees
  - Communication of church philosophy to the community
4. Use of Church as forum and for social action
  - Development of policy for building use
  - Availability of church for lectures, etc.
  - As a facilitator for social problem presentations and ethical debate.
5. Canvassing the Congregation
  - Anticipation of need for funds
  - Improved pledge drive
  - Regular audits

Letters had been sent to the Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts, to the Macomb Fellowship and to Dr. Helen Bishop, executive of the Central Midwest district, giving information of pending staff changes. Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts tendered her resignation, asking an ending date of June 30 and a two-month paid vacation. She also requested permission to continue the sister-church relationship with the church in Sindulesti, Romania, while she would be devoting her efforts in the Macomb Fellowship. The Rev. Will Saunders of Urbana was named as available for consultation, and the UUA Guidelines for ministerial interactions recommended for consideration. The resignation was accepted (3-6-95), and the Board on behalf of the membership expressed appreciation for past years' service and best wishes for success in professional and personal endeavors.

Jim Drew addressed the Board in February, speaking for Bertha Danhaus who had offered matching funds to purchase a concert-quality piano for the church sanctuary. Caroline Sexauer, a member of the Memorial Committee, which had approved paying \$1,500, moved that the Board accept this offer. The motion carried.

The piano was already in the church, having been used for the Sunday Music Series concert, and it was declared suitable by the Music Committee. The Kawai piano (two years old) from Mick's Music Company had a ten-year warranty, a new bench and initial tuning. The retail cost of this model was stated to be \$5,600. A plaque affixed to the piano reads: "Given by the Quincy Unitarian Church Memorial Fund and Bertha Dege Danhaus in loving memory of Herman E. and Anna B. Dege." Mr. and Mrs. Dege and Bertha had joined the church in 1931.

By recommendation of the Memorial Committee and approval by the Board of Trustees, a new Magic Chef refrigerator was purchased and installed in the church kitchen in February. Memorial Funds supported this purchase.

#### CHARLOTTE McCARL WINTERS DIED

A life-long member and descendant of founders of the church, Charlotte McCarl Winters died on February 28, 1995. Her grandparents were Judge and Mrs. B. F. Berrian, and her parents were Judge Lyman McCarl and Hannah Berrian McCarl. A teacher in the public school system, Mrs. Winters was active in many Quincy social action organizations. Her daughter Nancy and grand-daughter Jesse Winters are current members of the church.

Members of the Great River Chapter of the American Guild of Organists presented a benefit concert in March as a fund raiser for the restoration of the Steere organ. Selections chosen by the organists demonstrated the versatility of the organ. Built in 1891, this organ is the oldest organ in active use in Quincy. Refreshments were "classic cakes" or "ritzy desserts" provided by church members. The concert added \$665 to the organ fund. At a cost of \$1,000 three bids were received during 1995, ranging from \$44,000 to \$58,000. The committee continued a connection with Dobson Organ Builders of Iowa. The organ reserve fund stood at \$2,880.

Alan Starkey and Patrick Hotle presented a request by the Buddhist organization to use the church early on Sunday mornings. On May 6 the church was used for a day-long retreat, "Introduction to Buddhist Meditation," led by Budapalita. A proposal was then submitted to the Board by Larry Hoard for a non-denominational group to hold weekly meditations in the tower room, 9 to 10 a.m. Lynn Mercurio moved a temporary use be granted, second by Susan Holiday. Motion passed.

Rental usage of the church at that time included a monthly day and evening by the Warm Hearth Food Co-op, a weekly evening use by an AA group, occasional piano recitals, and weddings of non-members. The church was offered without charge to the Sunday Music Series for an annual January program.

Recognizing additional responsibilities of the Worship Committee upon resignation of the minister, Jean Sperry reflected the need of securing speakers for forty Sundays of the church season. She outlined the details of the responsibilities and suggested raising the stipend for any speaker, saying that this had been static for about eight years.

On Mother's Day, May 14, the guest speaker was the Rev. Bruce T. Marshall, senior minister of the Unitarian Church of Cleveland and son of Floyd and Frieda Marshall. His topic was "Secrets of Strong Families." The service was followed by a carry-in luncheon with recognition given to two high school graduates, Shannon Starkey and Monica Holliday, in a "Rites of Passage" ceremony. Several members offered congratulations and words of wisdom for the girls. Special recognition was also given to the men who had participated in the year's program, "Year of the Men."

Through the courtesy of Ted Morrison and John Brigham, over twenty persons attending the Elderhostel program at Quincy University enjoyed an evening visit at the church. Representing varied religious backgrounds and arriving from many different states, they were interested in learning about Unitarianism and of the historical significance of the present building. They expressed their appreciation by making a contribution to the Organ Restoration Fund.

A farewell reception honoring Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts was held in the church on June 1, with planning leadership from Sandy Morrison and Lynn Mercurio. Many church members and friends from the larger community attended. Lynn received a gift of a mantel clock from the congregation. She responded with a message of gratitude.

In the June Board meeting, temporary permission was granted to Lynn Smith-Roberts regarding her request for the AIDS support group to continue meeting in the church. Responsibilities of the ad hoc sub-committees were detailed and progress reported:

Building and Grounds: The committee presented a review of a policy for building use. A floor plan of the church sanctuary was supplied by Susan and Bill Holliday to have it available in the church and to prompt ideas for future improvement and expansion of the physical plant. Attention was being given to renovation ideas to achieve handicapped accessibility.

Organ Restoration: Three bids had been received. After consultation with members of the Organists' guild, the committee recommended further connection with Dobson Organ Builders, and this was approved by the Board. Dobson indicated a date of 1997 to begin the project. Grant requests were planned.

Public Relations: Proposals were made for a new church brochure and a newspaper advertising campaign. The Board voted to support the activity of designing and decorating a tree for the Symphony of Trees event at Christmas.

Ministerial/Associate Search: Having received information from the CMD executive that the UUA would be willing to help only if the minister's salary would exceed \$38,000, the committee concentrated on guidance in the Manual on Interim Ministeries. Dr. Rob Manning had expressed interest in providing pulpit service on a part-time basis. The Board acted to increase the honorarium for an alternate Sunday speaker to \$100. The committee was empowered to proceed with preparing a job description for an administrative assistant and to take steps toward employing such a person.

A new social group was organized by Anna Louise Brigham. The Lunch Bunch encouraged members and friends to meet in a private room of a restaurant once a month and enjoy companionship. This would allow newcomers to become better acquainted with those of long-time association in the church. A table-topic for discussion was usually suggested.

The treasurer's note in the July newsletter stated that "An insurance bill for \$1,772 and diminishing pledge payments, because regular Sunday services have stopped, caused a shortage of \$2,426 in June. Please think of the church during the summer and send in a check." A thank-you message followed in July. The deficit had been reduced to \$305.

A July CLEANUPALOOZA brought a team of seventeen cooperative individuals who worked happily indoors and outdoors to do the jobs that the regular cleaning and yard service people are not asked to do. "Some things, you see, require decision making." The Building and Grounds Committee responded with THANKS-A-HEAP-A-LOOZA! Refreshments were served and the crew gathered on the front steps with smiles for the cameraman.

As the fall season began, the R. E. committee outlined the "Year of the Family." Families were asked to be responsible for one month of lessons and activities. The primary class had the largest enrollment. Nursery care was provided by Brandy Mast (a paid position.) The Junior High group continued a study of the "Church Across the Street." Several intergenerational events were planned: a visit to the Governor John Wood Mansion, adoption of a family through the Salvation Army, and Christmas tree trimming. Exploratory ideas were given to space use: re-location of the office to the Resource Room and use of the upper room and landing for young adult and adult discussion. A Women's Spirituality class was offered by Nike Mendenhall.

Dr. Rob Manning, assistant professor of philosophy and theology at Quincy University, was invited to present talks on a bi-weekly basis. This afforded the congregation some consistency along with "provocative and stimulating presentations." Dr. Manning had joined the Quincy University staff in 1990 and had previously taught at DePaul University, Roosevelt University, the University of Chicago and Daley College in Chicago. He had received a bachelor of arts degree from the College of Wooster, Ohio, and master of arts and doctor of philosophy degrees from the University of Chicago. The minister emeritus and other members were also willing speakers. A guest speaker in October was Susan Morrison Hebble, daughter of Ted and Sandy, who told of her experiences while living in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, with her husband and daughter.

A chartered bus trip on October 29 brought together thirty-seven Quincy Unitarian adults and children for a visit to the First Unitarian Church of St. Louis. They attended the service led by the Rev. Earl Holt, III, had lunch and a tour of the Art Museum and visited the Jewel Box in Forest Park. Alan Starkey had made the arrangements, which everyone appreciated. Annual excursions were considered desirable.

In the fall a committee was formed to explore the possibility of employing a part-time church secretary. Duties were outlined, and resumes were received. The lack of space and equipment (no computer), no plan for supervision, and a concern about congregational approval for added expense caused a delay in implementing the suggestions. The committee planned a more complete job description. \*\* Liza Hayashi volunteered as co-editor to assist Frieda Marshall in preparing the monthly newsletters.

The Fantastic Fall sale - Flea market, Book sale and Bake sale - occurred on November 4 under direction of Martha Disseler, Linda Kuenzli, and Alan Starkey. The event was regarded as a huge success, and appreciation was addressed in the December newsletter to all who had given assistance.

A festival of designer Christmas trees was organized by the Quincy Symphony Orchestra Association Enchore! group held in the Oakley-Lindsay Civic Center. Susan Holliday, as co-chair of the 1995 event, invited the church to develop an entry. With leadership of Susan, Carol Nichols and Libby Haggard, the Unitarian entry was called the tree of Religio Humanitatis and represented old and new faiths which contribute to the Winter Solstice and to the Christmas season. Artist members and friends who contributed were: Al Beck, Linda Buechting, Sarah McUmbler-House, Nike Mendenhall, Fritzi Morrison, Carol Nichols, Jane Shair, Jean Sperry, Alan Starkey and Kim Starkey.

#### OTHERS HAVE SAID .....

We hold the turning of the year as a promise,  
and the renewing of life is our solid hope.  
The time of the new year is known, and we  
ready our houses for the celebration.  
Now the sun will again climb the heavens,  
and henceforth the darkness will be pushed  
back each day.

Kenneth Patton

## 1996

The previous year's activities were summed up at the annual meeting held on January 21 with a quorum of 26 members attending. Awards for outstanding service were presented to Jean and John Sperry. These were accepted for the Sperrys in their absence by Bob Mathieson. Jean had faithfully chaired the Worship Committee for many years. John was a frequent Sunday speaker, especially on "high holy days" - Easter and Sundays attendant to Christmas. John also had conducted a memorial service for Gladys Cassidy in 1993.

The financial report showed that, having no minister during the year, there were no funds taken from reserves. The total receipts were at 105% of the budgeted amount and the disbursements at 80% of budget. The proposed budget of \$25,300 was presented, allowing \$1,000 for minister search, \$600 for special projects such as forums, and raising the amounts for guests speakers and for the organist. The worship committee realized the increased responsibility in scheduling guest speakers for all Sundays.

John Brigham moved that \$3,000 be taken from the surplus of the 1995 fund and added to the organ reserve fund. Carol Nichols reported on the organ restoration activities and indicated that the earliest possible service could come in 1997. Both the motion and the revised budget passed. This brought the organ reserve fund to \$6,380.

Committee reports were available in printed form. Acknowledgments were made of memorials received in recognition of Charlotte Winters, Beulah Herman, and the Rev. George P. Crist (minister in 1960-1968). An endowment was received from the Charlotte Winters' estate. Total memorial receipts were \$3,729 and total disbursements (including piano and refrigerator) were \$3,654. The Plant Sale income was \$2,544, and the Fall Sale brought \$1,031.

The report of the building and grounds committee stated that the bulding was basically in good shape, excepting the handicapped accessibility problem. It was suggested that the problem could not be resolved without an addition to the church which would include an entry-way ramp, restrooms and other rooms for meetings and R. E., storage and a kitchen. The cost was estimated at \$100,000.

The SWOT report had been written under guidance of the long-range planning committee. Capital improvement areas included the organ restoration, building renovation, and accessibility (including restroom changes.) Staff changes recommended a resident minister, part- to full-time, and an employee to help with secretarial work and to keep the church open on a part-time basis.

As the newly elected Board of Trustees organized under leadership of President Sandy Morrison, Mary Belle Coffman was designated liaison for Chalice Lighters. This program receives funds from Central Midwest District members and will distribute grants to member churches. The participating members agree to commit themselves to a donation of \$30 a year.

Frieda Marshall described and presented a manuscript of a history of the church she had prepared, covering the years 1939 to 1989. It is over 200 pages and includes photo reproductions and a nine-page index. She proposed to print 50 to 100 copies using the Ricoh photo-copy equipment in the church and estimated the total cost of \$500 for photo reproduction, paper, toner, cover and binding. The board approved expenditure of memorial funds for production of the book.

The minister search committee arranged for Barbara Hoag, a fourth-year student at Meadville/Lombard Theological School, to speak on March 24. Meetings were planned for the committee and for the board to become acquainted with her and to review her resume. In the meantime, the committee members explored the possibility of increasing the role in the church of Rob Manning and increased the honorarium for his presentations. The treasurer reported an increase in Sunday offerings, indicating visitors to the church services.

The building and grounds committee planned to present estimates for renovating the library and office, redecorating the sanctuary, Heritage Room and both back and front entry areas. The board was told by Alderman Rick Smith that 16th street would be resurfaced. Carol Nichols was authorized to have a commercial printer prepare the membership directory at a cost of less than \$100. The Board authorized expenditure of \$300 from the Memorial Fund for purchase of additional hymnals.

Following the week-end visit and sermon by Barbara Hoag, the board voted (having checked references and clarified responsibilities) to recommend to the congregation a nine-month internship to Barbara Hoag. She had had experience as intern in a large church in Virginia and was interested in working with a smaller church. She described herself as a theist who had experiences in churches where humanism was the predominant philosophy. A congregational meeting was held on April 14 and the offer was conveyed to the candidate. However, Barbara Hoag declined as she had accepted a position in Michigan. The minister search committee requested advice from CMD and UUA regarding training requirements and steps toward ordination for a minister. Dr. Neil Shadle of Chicago responded that "each church has authority to ordain an individual chosen by the congregation and that failure to choose someone trained through UUA could adversely affect the minister in the future but not the church."

The organ restoration fund was awarded \$750 each from WGEM and The Quincy Herald-Whig. Acknowledgment of these funds was requested from the donors in any upcoming programs or promotional materials.

## BEYOND THE CENTENNIAL YEAR A 50-year History of the Quincy Unitarian Church

The church history book by Frieda Marshall, under preparation for two years, was presented to the congregation following an explanatory talk on May 12. The material, compiled from church records, news articles, newsletters and bulletins, has illustrations and a complete index. There is documentation of members of the Board of Trustees and of the budgets. With the support of the memorial committee and the approval of the board, copies were produced using the church photo-copying equipment; and the books were bound by Modern Printing of Quincy. The board recommended a minimum donation of \$10 for each copy.

At a Mother's Day Brunch, sponsored by the R. E. committee - Gail Starkey, Leann Flanagan and Sandy Morrison - there was recognition of the growth in R. E. and a call for more adults to assist with the classes.

The Board called a congregational meeting for June 2, 1996, to consider the following items:

1. The calling of Rob Manning as a part-time minister
2. The financing of the organ restoration project
3. The painting of the interior of the church

Copies of the proposed Letter of Agreement had been available for three weeks prior to the meeting. The minister search committee, represented by board liaison Liza Hayashi, provided members with copies of the candidate's resume and his statement that he considered the congregation's ordaining him to be a necessary part of such service. The congregation discussed its authority as a member church of the UUA to ordain a minister and the advisability of this course in view of Dr. Manning's superior academic standing although with incomplete ministerial training. The motion to hire Dr. Manning was made, seconded and passed by a vote of 34 yes, 1 no, 1 abstention.

The organ restoration committee, represented by Carol Nichols, provided cost considerations and reflected about \$7,800 in the restoration fund. The motion was made to proceed with the first stage - estimated to cost \$12,700, to continue fundraising efforts, and to make a commitment to have the work start in the summer of 1997.

Ted Morrison of the building and grounds committee presented cost information for re-painting the church interior. A bid of \$5,984 from contractor Paul Womack included two-coat painting of sanctuary, Heritage Room, library, front and back entries, minister's office and upper level. This included cleaning and conditioning of the sanctuary woodwork and a touch-up in the basement where necessary. The treasurer indicated that reserve funds were available to cover this work. The resulting vote was in favor of this painting project.

At this mid-year congregational meeting, Sandy and Ted Morrison were pleasantly surprised to receive appreciation plaques for their steadfast service and loyalty through the years. The members recognized Sandy's leadership for many years in the religious education program, service on other committees, as a member of the Women's Alliance and in her current position of president of the Board of Trustees. Ted had previously served as board president, and as church treasurer. He was currently chair of the finance committee and the building and grounds committee and served on the memorial committee.

The end-of-year annual picnic was held at a recreation area at Mark Twain Lake in Missouri. Sailboat rides were offered by the Starkeys and Mendenhalls. There was a mid-summer visit and picnic at Al Beck's Rocky Hollow Art Farm with a tour of the Pyrapod Gallery. The Lunch Bunch group traveled to Sawyer's Creek in Hannibal for a meeting at the Riverside Cafe. Families with children enjoyed this special event.

Copies of "Beyond the Centennial" were available at the day of presentation and throughout the summer. The board approved the memorial fund expenditure of \$415 for production costs. Donations, amounting to \$450, offset the production costs. Complimentary copies were distributed to the Quincy Public Library, The Quincy Herald-Whig, the Historical Society of Quincy and Adams County, the Illinois State Historical Library, the Unitarian Universalist Association, the Meadville Library and the Harvard University Library. Copies were also given to the U-U Fellowships of Macomb, Illinois, and Burlington, Iowa.

The city had received a request for repair of the 16th and Hampshire Street corner brick sidewalk which had deteriorated. In early summer the street was resurfaced and the city crew, on their own initiative, replaced with concrete the entire brick sidewalk on Hampshire Street and on North 16th Street. Although this action was deplored by Quincy preservation activist, George Irwin, church members recalled the bricks as being slippery when wet and dangerous when icy. Two large trees in state of decay on the Sixteenth Street parkway were removed by city crews. These Moraine (honey locust trees without large seed pods) had been planted in 1958 and had been frequently trimmed away from electric wires. The tulip tree north of the driveway dates from this year also.

With the help of Jim Drew and Ted Morrison a used four-drawer, fireproof file (in good condition) was located at the Illinois School Supply. The board approved the purchase from memorial funds, and the bill for \$475 was paid in August, 1996. The file is placed in the niche to the east of the downstairs fireplace. Frieda Marshall explained that the lower drawer contains 1839 to 1920 record books and minutes of organizations. The third drawer has large-size folders with loose materials of that time. The upper two drawers continue this pattern to the year 1972. Materials of more recent years are stored in a brown file in the minister's office: orders of service, newsletters, and literature pertaining to ministries of Calvin Knapp, John Brigham, and Eric Haugan. Another file has material relating to the ministry of Lynn Smith-Roberts. Scrapbooks, guest registers, treasurers' records, etc. are in the upper landing cabinets.

The summer Sunday morning discussion series invited members, friends and newcomers to a variety of programs and topics. The planning committee of John Brigham, Carol Nichols, Ted Morrison and Mike Flanagan considered the round table forum format a casual and effective way to meet the desire for Sunday morning activity during the summer months.

A book, *Historic Quincy Architecture* by Richard Payne, was produced as a cooperative community project. The book includes a 13-1/2 x 12-1/2 inch photograph of the Unitarian Church. A copy of the photograph was available for \$67 and the Board authorized the purchase. Caroline Sexauer offered to have the photograph matted and framed as a memorial to her mother and grandmother who were members of the church. It hangs over the Heritage Room fireplace.

There was much activity during the summer. The entire church interior (sanctuary, two entries, library, Heritage Room, minister's office and upper landing area) was painted a light color. The exact shade was result of a mix produced by artistic Carol Nichols and Susan Holliday. The painter, Paul Womack, called it "Unitarian Cream." Two small cabinets in the library also were painted. The woodwork was cleaned and polished. New carpets were purchased (\$546) for the library and the Heritage Room. Curtain fabric was chosen for the minister's office and the library (\$235) and panels were sewn by Carol Nichols. A large dining table, donated many years before by Florence Williams and used in the Heritage Room, was offered for bids. An appraisal established that much restoration work would be necessary. The highest bid was from Liza and James Hayashi.

In July a CLEANUPALOOZA group had made it possible for the painters to go ahead with interior painting. So early in September helping hands were needed again to move things back into their right places. Many improvements were made in the R.E. classroom space as well as throughout the church. New R.E. materials had been ordered and made available for preview in a Sunday morning Get-It-Together session. An announcement of a paid position for Sunday School leader appeared in the September newsletter. Within a month Allen Peyton had accepted the position, and details were being set regarding responsibilities and compensation.

The ministerial contract was signed July 17 by Board Chair Sandy Morrison and on August 1 by Rob Manning. Planning was going forward for the ordination and installation ceremony and a date of November 17 was established. The committee arranged for invitations to be printed, accepted the offer of the Women's Alliance to host the reception, sent invitations to participants and gave attention to ancillary activities.

Building on the successful experience of the last October trip to St. Louis, about 30 members and friends boarded the luxurious tour bus on September 29 for a visit to the Eliot Unitarian Chapel in Kirkwood. The experience of a Unitarian service led by the Rev. John Robinson served to broaden horizons, and the group was warmly welcomed. The day-long trip created community among participants as they had lunch and toured the Missouri Botanical Garden.

Having been inspired by the music at the Eliot Chapel service, several members urged the formation of a church choir. The first attention would be leading the singing of some hymns in the new hymnal and later including other musical selections. Anne Stupavsky served on the music committee and urged participation.

The organ committee had received from Dobson Organ Builder a contract for \$13,950 for the first two phases of organ restoration. The contract was being reviewed before being reported to the congregation. \*\* Steve Wiegenstein had submitted a revised brochure telling of the church, its history and programs. The Board enthusiastically accepted his first draft material. \*\* Rob Manning announced regular church office hours and would accept messages at his home or at his University office. He was speaking from the pulpit every second or third week. \*\* With these concentrations of efforts from the members, the decision was made to forego a fall sale this year.

Children and young adults began to take a more active role in the order of service, children attending with parents for the introductory moments. Allen Peyton, as superintendent, was to lead an R.E. group, recruit and coordinate volunteers, create programs and give a story for the children at dismissal from the sanctuary. The mornings often included a children's song led by Suzanne Cohen. Brandy Mast was employed to provide nursery care. Leadership activities were shared by the R. E. Committee and parents: Gloria Carpenter with the middle school group and Janice Miller leading the Junior High class. The Junior High people organized a children's Christmas store with donated gifts from members made available (no charge) to the younger children for their parents.

#### ORDINATION SERVICE FOR DR. ROBERT J. S. MANNING

Many members cooperated to make the ordination/installation service a special event. On Sunday morning, November 17, Dr. Rob Manning chose a topic of "Uprooted or Transplanted." He spoke of his "roots" in Pennsylvania, his seven years in Quincy, and his discovery of the Quincy Unitarian Church. A large crowd attended including Dr. Manning's parents, an aunt, two brothers and their wives.

The four o'clock ceremony began with a processional of invited guests, marshaled by Dr. Carolyn Kane. Bertha Danhaus represented the oldest member (She carried a portrait of Lloyd Harris), and Daniel Hayashi was the youngest Unitarian, being carried by his mother, Liza. A choir of eight women wore red stoles, air-brushed with chalice design by Carol Nichols and especially made for the occasion. Dr. Carol Fisher Mathieson provided organ accompaniment. The welcome was given by Sandra Morrison, President of the Board of Trustees, and an opening invocation was by Dr. Joseph Messina and Dr. Mary Ann Klein of the Quincy University faculty.

Reflections on ordination were spoken by the Rev. William Burton, OFM, of Quincy University. Dr. Helen Hughes, of the Meadville-Lombard Divinity School, gave thoughts on installation. Sandra Morrison led the acts of ordination and installation, followed by the minister's response. Musicians Kristina Mathieson, Kimberly Starkey, and Aja Nichols presented selections. Closing words were by Dr. Kerry Manning, brother of Rob Manning. Special flowers were in memory of Rob's family members: James and Estella Sheffler, grandparents; Ethelwyn Jobe, great aunt; and Marcia Manning Christian, Rob's sister.

A reception followed in the Fellowship Hall, hosted by the Women's Alliance with assistance from many others. A chalice-designed stole created by Carol Nichols and Libby Haggard was a gift to the minister as well as an enlarged and framed invitation of the event. The December newsletter listed the many members who had given assistance: those who offered hospitality, provided food, decorated the church, provided publicity, presented musical selections, and gave inspiration. A video of the event was produced by Geoffrey Mendenhall.

Dr. Manning's statement on ordination: "I have desired to be ordained to the ministry since junior high school. By the time I was a senior in high school, I felt called more strongly to be a theologian and philosopher in an academic environment. Ideally, even at that time, I felt that the perfect life for me would be to be a professor full time and connected to a church in some ministerial/preaching capacity part time"

He responded after the ordination and installation event, expressing his appreciation for the honor paid him. He wrote, "I have become firmly convinced of the vital role our church plays within the greater Quincy community in helping anyone who comes through the door deepen his or her intellectual and spiritual life. I think we as a church can play an even more active role in doing this for anyone who is interested ... and I look forward to planning and participating in future services and conversations."

## 1997

As the new year began, reports of the 1996 year were given at the January 19, 1997, annual meeting. Janice Marshall-Miller presented the treasurer's report. It recorded receipts of \$32,767, which included \$2,519 in interest earnings and nothing taken from reserves. The disbursements totaled \$20,793 and \$11,974 was added to reserves. The organ reserve fund stood at \$10,559. The proposed budget for 1997 was for \$27,915, anticipating \$20,000 in pledges.

A contract for services of Dobson Organ Company was being made ready. The initial restoration would cover two main areas: 1. the wind system and pedal action and 2. the installation of a new blower. This work was slated for the fall of 1997 at a cost of approximately \$21,000. A fund-raising plan was in progress.

Ted Morrison reported for the building and grounds committee that several projects had been completed:

- the painting of the church interior by Paul Womack, contractor - \$6,415,
- new carpets in the east room and the library - \$546.26,
- new table and chairs for the library - \$434.95,
- new curtains for the library and minister's office - \$235.19,
- repair of front steps railing - \$94.70,
- tree trimming on north lot - \$120.
- new church locks and keys - \$131.20 (There had been a long interval since church keys had been changed. Numbered keys were distributed to members and service providers.)
- new sidewalks on Hampshire Street and North 16th Street, installed by city crew by instruction of Alderman Rick Smith - no charge to the church.

R.E. Director Gail Starkey submitted the R.E. report for the committee which continued to plan, supervise and coordinate the R.E. classes for children and adults, and would give guidance and support to the R.E. coordinator, Allen Peyton. Suzanne Cohen gave leadership to the musical activities of the children, Janice Miller developed and supervised the junior high group, Gail Starkey worked with the senior high group, and Brandy Mast was employed to give nursery care. Others who assisted were Leann Flanagan and Sandy Morrison. Intergenerational activities included the "Christmas Store," family tree trimming, adoption of a Salvation Army family, presentation of a Religious Education Sunday, and participation as greeters, coffee hour hosts, and choir members.

The ministerial relations committee had recommended hiring Dr. Rob Manning as a part-time minister and guided the congregation through the voting process, and the ordination/installation activity. The committee, consisting of Liza Hayashi (chair), Sandy Morrison, John Sperry and Lynn Mercurio, continued to meet with the minister in an advisory capacity.

The memorial/capital trust fund committee reported no deaths of Quincy Unitarian Church members during 1996. Memorials were received, however, after the death of former minister, the Rev. George P. Crist who had served from 1960 to 1968. The memorial funds had supported the purchase of a four-drawer, fire-proof file for archival records (\$475), three hymnals (\$90), and supplies for the printing and binding of the church history book - "Beyond the Centennial Year" (\$415). Donations of \$450 had offset this cost.

The membership committee reported that twelve new members had joined the church in 1996. A new-member recognition service was held in May. Brief biographies of new members were included in the church newsletter.

Attendance at the monthly meetings of the Lunch Bunch ranged from 8 to 16, with an average of twelve. The suggested discussion topics reflected various interests of the participants. The luncheon gatherings at a local restaurant provided a social atmosphere for regular members and newcomers to the church. At a July meeting at Sawyer's Creek in Hannibal there were pleasant activities for children, grandchildren and adults.

The worship committee had the responsibility of arranging speakers for the Sunday Services, with strong reliance on Dr. Manning for one-third to one-half of the total. Carol Nichols and Sharon Buzzard invited others from our community to present talks of their particular areas of interest. The Christmas Eve service included participation of several members and friends. The choir often led the hymn singing. The children were present at the beginning of the service and heard a story or sang a selection under direction of Allen Peyton and Suzanne Cohen. Announcement items were released to the newspaper. Liza Hayashi included the speaker's schedule in the newsletter; Frieda Marshall printed the weekly orders of service. Floral decorations were coordinated by Dienna Drew.

The social committee had hosted several carry-in luncheons, arranged for coffee hour hosts and the hanging of the greens in early December. A picnic was held at Mark Twain Lake and a picnic at Al Beck's home and Pypod studio.

At the annual meeting, held January 19, 1997, an award for outstanding service was presented to Carol Nichols. This recognized her leadership on the worship committee, in preparing the Christmas Eve service and activity in the organ restoration procedure. Carol reported that the contract with Mr. Panning of Dobson Organ Builders was almost ready for signing. The entire cost was expected to be \$22,000 of which about \$10,000 was held in reserves. The terms for payment were one-third upon signing the contract, one-third when the work would begin and one-third at the completion of the work. In response to grant applications, \$1,500 was received from WGEM and The Quincy Herald-Whig. John W. Brigham moved that the church continue with the plan, seconded by Geoffrey Mendenhall. The annual meeting initiated a "Kickoff" of the organ restoration fund drive, and an amount of \$4,900 was pledged toward the goal of \$10,000.

A project undertaken by the Junior High group had the co-sponsorship of the Women's Alliance. The young people planned a photo identification of members and friends to be displayed as a bulletin board directory. Another activity of young adults and junior members was a coffee house gathering which occurred on Friday evening, March 7. Under the direction of Rob Manning, Dale McUmbler-House and Allen Peyton there was coffee, music, poetry and discussion to highlight the evening. Twelve to fifteen young people attended.

The building and grounds committee proposed the purchase of 32 light-weight folding chairs (with dolly) (\$669) to extend seating in the sanctuary area for special occasions. Upon approval by the board, the order was submitted to Adirondack Company. The committee also arranged to have a drawing made by an engineering firm, depicting an addition to the present church building. This service was being donated through the support of Bill Holliday in an anticipation of providing handicapped accessibility to the church. At the board meeting Alan Nichols reported, after meeting with an architect, a cost estimate of \$60 per square foot for an addition and a range of cost likely to be \$100,000 to \$200,000.

By this time Michael Flanagan, leading the fund-raising effort, reported that the organ restoration fund had reached \$8,990. \*\* The church brochure, prepared by Steve Weigenstein, had been printed, with an insert of particulars, and was available for distribution. \*\* A Buddhist meditation group was meeting in the tower room at 9 o'clock on Sunday mornings. Contact persons were Alan Starkey, Larry Hoard and Patrick Hotle. \*\* New Wayside Pulpit messages were ordered and received from UUA.

#### JAMES WILLIAM "BILL" HOLLIDAY DIED

James William "Bill" Holliday, a Quincy attorney active in business and civic affairs, died unexpectedly on April 12, 1997, in Augusta, Georgia, while attending the Masters Golf Tournament. The Holliday family, Bill, Susan and daughter Monica, joined the church in 1992 and immediately made an impact. They had contributed time and effort on many projects.

With educational background of graduation from Canton (Missouri) High School, Culver-Stockton College, and a juris doctorate from the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law in 1968, Bill Holliday practiced law in Kahoka, Missouri, until moving to Quincy. While in Quincy he focused on building affordable housing apartment complexes in several states, including Missouri and Illinois.

Memorial services were conducted by Dr. Rob Manning in the First Union Congregational Church to accommodate the attending family and friends. This was Dr. Manning's first such occasion since his ordination, and he consoled and comforted the family, the church members and the friends in this sudden loss.

The family asked that memorials be made to the Memorial Religious Education Wing of the Unitarian Church. A Certificate of Deposit in the amount of \$5,614.58 was the initial memorial investment.

Youth Sunday was an event of April with a service and brunch planned and conducted by the young adults of the high school and junior high school classes. These individuals shared what the Unitarian Church means and has meant to them through their choice of music, hymns, readings and personal accounts of their experiences within the church. Those participating were: Aja Nichols, Kristina Mathieson, Malte Fisher, Kimberly Starkey, Ryan DePauw, Rachel Hallas, Walter House, Elizabeth House, Daniel Nichols, Jesse Miller and Sean Luther, with guidance given by R. E. director Gail Starkey.

The next newsletter contained appreciative comments from members Alan Starkey, Sharon Buzzard, Georgia House and Rob Manning (whose words are quoted here): "Youth Sunday demonstrated not only that our young people are articulate, intellectually oriented and talented, but also that being nourished by our open-minded and liberal religious tradition helped them to be so. The greatest tribute I could pay to the young people is my own deep-felt envy of the professors who are going to have such talented young people in their classes."

In May, 1997, Dr. Rob Manning, associate professor of philosophy and theology, officially received tenure from Quincy University. He and fellow professor, Kenneth Homan, were recipients of the school's first Trustee Award for Scholarly Achievement. Quincy University President James Toal said, "Over the last decade, Dr. Manning has distinguished himself as a scholar among contemporary philosophers and theologians through his many and varied published works."

An up-dated church membership directory was produced by effort of Carol Nichols. This lists names, addresses and phone numbers as well as members of committees and the duties of the committees. \*\*\* Hearing-enhancement sets were established in the second/front row (pulpit side). Thanks to Dale McUmbert-House and Geoffrey Mendenhall for providing this convenience. \*\*\* The organ restoration drive was completed and thanks expressed to all who supported the effort to restore this historic organ. \*\*\* A humidifier was purchased and installed in the Kawai piano.

A mid-year (State of the Church) congregational meeting was held on June 1, 1997, with thirty-five members attending. After discussion of Dr. Manning's excellent performance of ministerial duties this year, Ted Morrison moved the church follow the Board's recommendation to renew Dr. Manning's contract. This included provisions that the contract renew automatically from year to year, while still terminable by either party with or without cause; that Dr. Manning speak two Sundays per month; that he be available during the summer months while church is not in session, when he is in Quincy; that his salary be increased to \$10,000, with 25% being designated as housing and utility allowances. Mike Flanagan seconded the motion; motion passed.

With support of the Memorial Committee, Frieda Marshall requested permission of the Board to clean, mat and frame portraits of past ministers that were stored in boxes. She proposed to arrange a Ministers' Gallery to be hung in the upper-landing area outside the minister's office. Tom House offered help and the Board approved the project.

Also at the mid-year meeting, building addition plans were generally announced and approved. \*\* The financial and memorial/endowment committees were co-operating to propose a long-term investment plan. \*\* Announcement was made of a communion set, possessed by Caroline Sexauer, that she planned present to the church when an appropriate display case would be secured. \*\* An Art Fair was suggested to be held early in the next year. \*\* New posters were secured for the Wayside Pulpit from the UUA. \*\* Dr. Rob Manning would be in Prague during part of the summer. \*\* The Unitarian-Universalist Service Committee expressed appreciation for the members' response of \$383 for flood relief donations to assist in Fargo and Grand Forks, North Dakota. The response surely was influenced by the memories of the '93 flood of the Mississippi at Quincy and surrounding areas.

A riverside picnic at Kessler Park closed the church season. Other social activities of the summer included attending the showing of the film "The Spitfire Grill" at Quincy University and a visit and luncheon at Al Beck's Art Farm and Pyrapod Gallery. \*\* A "Work Sunday" was set for September 7 for R. E. preparations. Allen Peyton asked for congregational support for the R. E. program, stressing that as the church grows, more space would be needed and more volunteers also. A plan was being advanced for the high school class to meet at 10 o'clock on Sundays in the minister's office and an adult forum to meet also at 10 o'clock, continuing the discussion series of the summer.

Building and grounds chairman, Ted Morrison, had secured information about cabinetry for the upper landing area. The committee asked permission to dispose of a desk and a table, clearing the area for refurbishing. Permission was granted, and these items were sold. In August three base cabinets, counter top and counter ends were purchased from Bayview Building Supply Company and installed in the upper landing, providing a more efficient and pleasant work area. The storage cabinets allowed space for church records, scrapbooks and artifacts. Cabinet supplies: \$340 and Installation: \$125. Payment was made from Memorial Funds.

On September 28 members of the congregation boarded a Trailways bus for Springfield, Illinois, to attend services at the Abraham Lincoln UU Congregation. They were welcomed by the Springfield group and the minister, the Rev. Mary Moore. The recently constructed building was of special interest to those attending. A visit to the Dana House, a Frank Lloyd Wright "Prairie Style" home of 1902-04, and the Illinois State Museum completed the day.

Carol Nichols offered to fill the position of church facilitator, devoting about ten hours a week, at \$10-\$12 per hour. The proposal was presented to the Board on October 19. Duties outlined included: organize and do programs for alternate Sundays, follow-up on members (new members and visitors), prepare publicity on a regular basis, serve as communication center for the church community, keep the church directory up to date, co-ordinate organ restoration project, organize the Art Fair, re-affirm commitment to following up on a building addition. The board endorsed the proposal. Carol Nichols was also teaching Calligraphy and Arts/Humanities courses at John Wood Community College.

As the fall season began, Rob Manning was filling the pulpit twice a month. His talks had titles of "Why I go to Eastern/Central Europe," "Walking in Auschwitz," "The Legacy of Marx," "Christianity, Contemporary Society and the Care of the Self."

The committee exploring the possible building addition had made contact with the Central Midwest District. Helen Bishop, executive director, had referred the committee to Rev. Bill Haney, UU minister in Columbia, Missouri, who had an architectural background. He accepted the invitation to address the leaders of the Quincy effort, to look over the physical plant and financial base and to assess the situation. He wrote that the meeting would be essentially informational, and that he would emphasize "a comprehensive approach to growth."

In his letter he wrote: "If you have a long-range plan in effect, it would be most helpful to have the salient issues pertaining to intentional growth presented. The long-range plan is the grounding of any effort toward growth. Otherwise, the programs become non-directive or arbitrary. If the long-range plan establishes a target membership by a certain date in the future, then five areas of church life must be addressed strategically: budget/finances, governance structure, programming, staffing and facility. The first emphasis must be upon financial strength. The second emphasis will be upon congregational ownership of any project undertaken."

The meeting on October 25, 1997, was attended by Ted and Sandy Morrison, Rev. John W. Brigham, Gloria Carpenter, Janice Miller, Alan Nichols, Frieda Marshall, Gail Starkey, Susan and Monica Holliday. After lunch, a core group continued the discussion at the church. An ad hoc re-development committee (Gloria Carpenter, Alan Nichols, Gail Starkey) was formed to collect data about membership, R. E., growth rate, pledging levels, activity level, fund-raising efforts, future needs and handicap needs.

Word was received of the death on October 15 of Agnes Aman, 93, in Fort Worth, Texas. She was the wife of the former minister, the Rev. B. Rex Aman, who had served the Quincy Unitarian Church from 1947 to 1952. The Amans had been married for 58 years and had three children. During their association in Quincy, the congregation purchased the parsonage at 1435 Hampshire. For thirteen years Mrs. Aman had taught at the Dean's School for Learning Disability Children, retiring in 1978.

Carol Nichols officially began her work as facilitator on November 4. Her responsibilities had been outlined and they followed recommendations that arose from the S.W.O.T Action Plan of 1995. Preparation of the orders of service was shared with Frieda Marshall, who also continued the responsibility of newsletter publication with the assistance (since 1995) of co-editor, Liza Hayashi.

An immediate effort was the designing of a Christmas tree to be included in the Symphony of Trees fund-raising event of the Quincy Symphony Orchestra Association. With artistic direction of Carol Nichols and Libby Haggard, the tree was decorated with small handmade books and items related to reading, depicting the theme of "Logos."

After display at the church and then at the Oakley-Lindsay Center, the tree was purchased by Jeanne and Daniel Tang. They donated it to the Walter Hammond Day Care Center, to the complete delight of the staff and children.

The Walter Hammond Day Care Center was the focus of holiday support from the congregation. Dale McUmber-House had met with the director, Lisa Sams, and supplied a list of items that would be helpful, including books, games, puzzles, clothing and other items. Allen Peyton and the R. E. Staff guided the children in making hand-crafted stockings and original wrapping papers and in festively wrapping the donated items. The report mentioned a "respectable quantity and quality of items" accumulated and delivered to the Center.

The Pilot Club, a service club of the area, produced a Christmas tree ornament with the design of the church on it. This was the first in a series that the group planned. The ornaments were available for \$10 each.

Dr. Rob Manning invited members and friends to a festive Holiday Open House on December 13 at his home, 705 South 13th Street. This was the second annual holiday open house he had hosted for the congregation. Coffee and treats with conversation gave pleasure to those who enjoyed this hospitality and admired the special Christmas Tree decorations.

Carol Nichols presented the Christmas Eve Service, "On Logos, Nativity and Literacy." There was participation from the children's choir and from Samantha Walker, Dr. John Sperry and Jean Sperry, Leann Flanagan and Mike Flanagan, and Alan Nichols. Jane Holt was organist.

Dr. John Sperry spoke on the last Sunday of the year, using the topic "On the Time Between Christmas and the New Year."

## 1998

The Sunday Music Series concerts occurred annually on the first Sunday of January. In 1998 "A Little Bit of This and That" presented numbers from Carol Mathieson, Leonora Suppan-Gehrich, Dominic Margaglione, R. Joseph Dieker, Brian Gerich and Aja Nichols.

The annual meeting of January 18, 1998, was called to order by President Sandy Morrison, with a quorum of 34 members in attendance. Reports of committees were available in printed form. The treasurer's report and the proposed budget were presented by Janice Marshall-Miller, showing receipts during 1997 of \$33,069 and disbursements of \$28,210 with a budgeted amount of \$27,915. The proposed budget for \$34,511 was adjusted, after discussion. The amount to be paid to the UUA Program Fund was changed from \$920 to \$1,144, reflecting a past decision to contribute annually 5% of the preceding year's pledges.

The Board of Trustees awarded the individual honor plaque to Janice Marshall-Miller in recognition of her years of devotion and the clarity of the monthly and annual treasurer's reports. They also recognized her efficiency and courtesy in keeping the members apprised of their pledge balances.

An Art Fair had been proposed by several members. This was organized by a committee, led by Carol Nichols and including Nike Mendenhall, Lynn Mercurio, and Liza Hayashi. The purpose was to allow artist members and friends to display their paintings, sculpture, photography, crafts and computer-generated art and offer them for sale. On February 21, objects from Al Beck, Carmen Federowich, Al Starkey, Kim Starkey, Sarah McUumber-House, Fritzi Morrison, Jean Sperry, Linda Buechting, Jane Shair, Suzanne Cohen, Lisa Wigoda, Jean Cook, Nike Mendenhall, Hettie-Marie Andrews, Carol Nichols, Dienna Drew/B.J. Smith, and Rose Camastro-Pritchett were shown in the sanctuary. An original water color of Fritzi Morrison was offered by raffle. The church would receive a 20% commission on art works sold.

Entertainment throughout the evening was by the By-B-Flats, Dale McUumber-House, Samantha Walker, and a jazz combo. Organists Kirby Eber, Jason Stone and Rhonda Basinger provided background melodies as guests considered the art work. Several high school students also performed on organ, guitar, piano and wind instruments. Refreshments of fine desserts, wassail, wine, tea and coffee were provided. The Board president gave appreciation to all who planned and participated. He reflected that "What's important about the Art Fair was not that it raised money...(\$600+) but that it reminded the community that our church is a special place, one that honors and celebrates the visual and performing arts."

Carol Nichols, as facilitator, was on site three days a week, spending several hours each day attending to church mail, telephone calls, and other activities. She also prepared orders of service and news releases. Her salary was \$5,196. A computer, which had been

used by Diagnostic Medical Imaging, P.C., was donated by Dr. Alan Nichols and Dr. Neetin Patel; and the Mendenhall family contributed a dot-matrix printer. The office and staff of the church recognized this as “a giant leap into the next century.”

The order of service for Sunday mornings included a “Children’s Time” when various adults, under arrangement by Mary-Carol Lindbloom, shared a story before dismissal of the children to their classes. There were concerns about the R. E. curriculum, and meetings were scheduled with R.E. Director Gail Starkey, Allen Peyton, R.E. Coordinator, Suzanne Cohen, Music Coordinator, and R.E. committee members: Leann Flanagan, Sherryl Lang, and Sandy Morrison. The R. E. paid staff included Allan Peyton, Suzanne Cohen and Brandy Mast, who provided nursery care. Leadership of R.E. classes was given by church family members and friends.

The ad hoc development committee had invited committee chairs to submit a “wish list” regarding suggested improvements to the physical plant of the church. Requests for responses were included in the weekly bulletin through January and February. A follow-up of house meetings was planned. The Building and Grounds Committee reported receiving an estimate from VonderHaar for \$2,870 to replace the church front steps with comparable stone. A cooperative effort of the R. E. committee and the Women’s Alliance was the purchasing and constructing of “window dressing” for the downstairs area. Libby Haggard sewed the sections and several members assisted in hanging the valances.

A rotating display of the portraits comprising the Ministers’ Gallery was shown on Sunday mornings. Frieda Marshall had done the research and Tom House assisted in framing. These portraits were then hung in the upper-landing area, outside the minister’s office. The earliest ministers included were: Rev. S. S. Hunting (1865-1871), Rev. Frederick L. Hosmer (1872-1877), and Rev. James Vila Blake (1877-1883). The Memorial Fund supported the costs of photography and supplies: \$40.50

In March a new membership directory was available and the committees had been formed. The Board designated two Sundays as “Committee Sundays” and asked the committees to meet before the service time and set goals for the year. Co-chairs for the 26th annual plant sale had been named, and Georgia House and Alan Nichols reminded the congregation that “the church Plant Sale is an established tradition that many local gardeners have come to expect and rely upon.”

There were five endowments that had been held separately since the 1970s when the first one was established. The Memorial/Capital Trust Fund Committee had received Board approval to combine endowment-fund principal amounts from the bequests of Harriet Eldred, Gale Colby, Frances Morrison, Edna Welch and Charlotte Winters. This was to be accomplished gradually as the investments reached maturity. The principal amounts would be kept separate from the interest accrued. The principal (restricted) total was \$9,947 and the accrued interest, \$11,191.

Michael Flanagan offered to investigate the possibility of setting up a Web page for the church. The Board directed him to continue his research. The costs would be \$20 monthly and the purchase of a modem. An exploratory web site was functioning in April. Ted Morrison reported for the building and grounds committee that a handsome new sign, giving the church location, was erected at 16th and Maine Streets.

A sub-committee consisting of Liza Hayashi, Gloria Carpenter and Frieda Marshall was assigned to work with Carol Nichols to devise a formal job description for the position of church facilitator/administrator and to encourage delegating responsibilities to the appropriate committees. Abbreviated summer hours for the facilitator/administrator were agreed upon.

Good Friday services were held at the Luther Memorial Church under sponsorship of the Quincy Area Ministerial Association. Rob Manning was featured in the photograph of The Herald-Whig news story as he delivered one of the seven homilies during the service.

The Lunch Bunch continued monthly meetings, offering a friendly atmosphere for congeniality for members and friends. A discussion topic was usually suggested. Attendance ranged from ten to fourteen in this activity.

The Warm Hearth Food Co-op, which had been organized in the church in 1980 and currently had other leadership, experienced decreased membership. A request was made for monthly rental from \$60 to \$50. The Board voted acceptance of the lower rental rate.

The church tower room was also used by the Great River Sangha Buddhist Meditation group on Sunday mornings. The contact persons were: Alan Starkey and Patrick Hotle. The group requested use of the building for an introduction to Buddhist Meditation Session. This was permitted.

Throughout the years invitations were made for attendance at an Earth-based Spirituality Group activity, under leadership of Paul Miller. The calendar included a January Yule Sabbat Ceremony and Celebration and a Saint Brigit's Jam. In March, a Spring Equinox Sabbat was announced, and in May a Beltane Sabbat, complete with bonfire and maypole. A Lunasa Harvest Celtic celebration was expected in the early fall.

An R. E. Sunday was held on May 10 and the speakers were four graduating high school seniors from the congregation. All were excellent students and were involved in music and theater performances. They were Ryan DePauw, Rachel Hallas, Aaron Lohmeyer and Aja Nichols. They were assisted by younger R.E. members: Dan Nichols, Merideth Mendenhall and Kristina Mathieson. A celebratory brunch followed the service.

The organ restoration work had been scheduled and post-poned until June 1998. The organ parts would first be dismantled, taken to Dobson Organ Builders in Lake City, Iowa, for renovation and would be re-assembled in Quincy two weeks later. Hospitality for the craftsmen was offered by Alan Starkey, and the Morrison, Hayashi and Holliday families. Nayer Attai, Libby Haggard, the Nichols family and others provided food. John Panning headed the restoration team. The payment schedule required \$4,460 upon signing the contract, \$8,920 upon beginning the project, and \$8,920 upon completion of the work, for a total of \$22,300.

The work was completed on June 25, 1998, with the installation of the renovated pedalboard and new blower. Local organ experts, led by Kirby Eber, gathered for a pizza event at the church and gave their approval of the quality of the restoration. A side benefit was the removal of the old blower mechanism from the stage area, an effort of Alan Nichols, which made that area more attractive for R. E. classroom space.

A newly organized ad hoc committee on physical plant changes to the church included Gail Starkey, Libby Haggard, Alan Nichols and Gloria Carpenter. They planned carry-in dinners for small groups to be held in members' homes. Eight hostesses had volunteered for in-house meetings which were scheduled to begin on September 6 and end on October 10. The committee members were to chair the meetings, gather information and share this with the congregation.

The Board requested guidelines for members regarding memorial/funeral arrangements, procedures, costs, etc. "A Member's Identification Sheet" was made available, and a form documenting members' wishes regarding memorial service, funeral, etc., was prepared by the memorial committee. Any that were returned were filed in the minister's office for future reference.

The Illinois Secretary of State informed the board that a corporation cannot act as its own agent when it is a non-profit organization. Tom House was named to act as the agent on behalf of the corporation.

There was a need for replacement of the church copier. With board approval a new Savin copier was purchased from The Business Centre and the cost of \$1,176 was paid from the Memorial Passbook Savings account. This account also paid \$335.50 for carpeting in the upper landing area.

A special congregational meeting was called for September 13, 1998, to address the need to extend the contract of the minister, Rob Manning, for a full calendar year. The previous contract had been set for only half a year because of Dr. Manning's expected sabbatical. As he now would be serving for the full calendar year, a change in the contract and in the budget was necessary. Motions were made to approve these actions, and both motions were approved unanimously by the congregation. Announcement was made of the recent publication by Dr. Rob Manning of two articles on the thought of Emmanuel Levinas, a 20th century philosopher.

The Mulch family, neighbors to the north of the church, expressed unhappiness about possible church plans to erect a building on the north lot. They wished to erect a carport on their driveway up to the property line. The board suggested a survey be done so exact location of the property line would be known. Carol Nichols, as office administrator, had researched the neighborhood, the building code restrictions, mapping, and historical preservation requirements for the church property.

In September the R. E. coordinator and the music coordinator positions were discontinued. A new approach with more involvement and definition was planned. Long-time leaders: Sandy Morrison, Leann Flanagan, and Gail Starkey desired to retire at the end of the year. Sherryl Lang led classes during September and October. Volunteers were needed.

Two bids were received for refinishing the front and back doors of the church. The board moved to accept the \$239 bid from Paul Womack of two coats of varnish on the front door and one coat of varnish on the back door. In the November Board meeting, the treasurer reported that the church was at 75% of budget and ahead in most categories. Only 2% had been drawn from reserves. The treasurer's report was accepted as printed.

Anna Louise and John Brigham celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with a family event attended by the families of siblings, sons, and grandchildren. They were married in Quincy on November 18, 1938. The Rev. John W. Brigham had served several congregations throughout his ministerial career. He had served a shared ministry with the Quincy Unitarian Church and the Burlington (Iowa) Fellowship from 1976 to 1982. The Brighams retired to Anna Louise's childhood home in Quincy and have remained active in the church life.

The ending meeting of the ad hoc sessions to consider the future path of the church was announced for November 29. At this time only one-third of the membership had participated in the meetings.

Christmas activities included new, artistic decorations, designed by Carol Nichols and Judith Troje of silver and gold lacey cutouts, enhanced by candles and ribbon birds.\*\* There was support for the Walter Hammond Day Care Center, with donations of money, gloves, mittens, hats, crayons, pencils, and other items. \*\* The Children's Christmas Store offered the R. E. younger children an opportunity to surprise their parents with gifts. These had been donated from "white elephant" storage places of our members and were available without cost to the children on December 13. The activity was directed by Janice and Jesse Miller and Frieda Marshall, who helped the children with holiday wrappings. \*\* Some members offered holiday messages to the congregation by displaying their cards on the bulletin board in the Heritage Room. \*\* Rob Manning again welcomed friends to an open house at his home on South 13th Street. He also made available to members a PBS Video of Frank Lloyd Wright, architect and Unitarian.

## 1999

The January, 1999, newsletter announced an annual meeting date of January 17. Committees were asked to turn in reports to be duplicated and distributed at the meeting. A newsletter message follows: "Our pledging goal is \$27,000. So far, 21 pledging units have responded with pledges totaling \$11,320. That leaves a balance of \$15,680 with over half the pledging units still to pledge. Please do so before January 15."

At the annual meeting the outgoing president, Steve Wiegenstein, gave a summary of the year's accomplishments: under ministry of Rob Manning successful weekly and monthly pattern of church life, financial stability (no withdrawals from reserves), continuing challenge of the R. E. requirements, the restoration of the church organ, formation of an ad hoc committee dedicated to the goal of thinking through the church building needs. The committee was to present ideas to the board and to the congregation gained from small-group brainstorming meetings that were held during the past summer and fall. He thanked many members and friends of the church who had contributed their time, work and money. He urged looking forward to the new year with renewed enthusiasm.

An appreciation plaque was awarded to Gail and Alan Starkey, members since 1986. Alan had served as board president (1994-5) and Gail had led the religious education program. The award was received graciously. The couple took this occasion to announce the engagement of their daughter Shannon to Jonathan Speak and to invite members to the June wedding.

As the year began, Gloria Carpenter was elected president; Tom House, vice-president; and Gail Starkey, secretary; with Jesse Winters as stand-by. Janice Miller continued as church treasurer. New Board members were: Sandy Walters, Ellen Taylor and Libby Haggard.

Mike Flanagan proposed setting up a permanent e-mail address and Website for the church. This was estimated to cost approximately \$200 a year. The proposal was unanimously approved by the board. The board also voted in favor of including information about the church in the Oakley-Lindsay Visitors' Guide. A two-year inclusion would cost \$125. Rob Manning made arrangements for WQUB (Quincy University public radio station) to announce the time of our service, the topic and speaker. This would be early on Friday mornings and repeated on Friday evening for \$14 a week.

Sherryl Lang, speaking for the R. E. committee, expressed the hope that next year a position of R. E. leader might be filled by a college student. Explorations were being made. The coordinator would follow guidelines established by the R. E. committee.

A connection was being made with the Rev. Davidson Loehr, Unitarian minister of St. Paul, Minnesota, and a member of the Jesus Seminar, to present the Seminar findings to our congregation and to the larger community. This would reflect observations by a group of theologians who had studied the controversy and history of the life of Jesus and

of early Christianity. A suggestion was made to schedule this during the time of Rob Manning's Quincy University sabbatical. The sabbatical, twice delayed, was expected to be for the academic year, September, 1999, through June 2000.

The Ac Hoc Committee of Physical Plant Changes to the church (Gloria Carpenter, Libby Haggard, Alan Nichols, Gail Starkey and staff member Carol Nichols) gave a preliminary report to the board. It listed renovations to be made without a building addition or gave considerations for a building addition. Exploring the financing, and allowing a prudent percentage of the annual budget to be kept in reserve, the report indicated a possible 30-year, \$100,000 mortgage that would be repaid at the rate of \$870 a month.

#### LLOYD E. HARRIS DIED

At the age of 97 Lloyd Harris, the oldest member of the church, died on February 10, 1999. He had joined in 1924 and served as church treasurer from 1928 to 1948. In recent years he had resided at Good Samaritan Home in Quincy. He was an engineer with Dayton-Dowd Company in Quincy and later with Peerless Pump Company in Indianapolis. Services were conducted on February 13 by Dr. Rob Manning at the Duker and Haugh Funeral Home.

A need for a new amplifier system in the sanctuary was evident. The board approved the purchase at \$400, and the supervision and installation were accomplished by Geoffrey Mendenhall, Mike Troje and Ted Morrison.

Pledges were still under the expected amount. Of a possible 50 units, 37 had responded. (\$20,000 vs. \$27,000)

The restoration of the Steere Tracker Organ (Opus No.320) was celebrated by a Rededication Concert on February 21. Organists from the Great River Chapter of the American Guild of Organists performed outstanding music and featured a composition written by William Spencer Johnson, who had been the Unitarian Church organist for many years until 1965. The organists participating were: Kirby Eber, Rhonda Bassinger, Jim Donovan, Jason Stone, David Moore, Rev. Fr. Lewis A. Payne and Phyllis Yates. There were also vocalists and ensemble woodwind players. Gratitude was expressed to the organists and other musicians who made the concert possible. The commemorative program featured an illustration of the organ and the history of the instrument, built in 1891 by J. W. Steere and Sons of Springfield, Massachusetts.

Appreciation was given to the artisans of Dobson Pipe Organ Builders, Ltd., of Lake City, Iowa, who had done the restoration work. Acknowledgment was also given to the members and friends who pledged financial support, allowing the church to complete the project without debt. A generous contribution from the Quincy Herald-Whig and WGEM AM-FM also assisted in this project.

## GAIL BUSHMEYER STARKEY DIED

A tragic accident on an ice-slick highway resulted in the death of a beloved member of our congregation. Gail Bushmeyer Starkey, 47, and her fellow teacher, Traci Dede, died on Tuesday morning, February 23. Both women were teachers at Central Elementary School in Camp Point. Gail was a special education teacher for Community Unit 3 Schools.

The Starkey family came to the Unitarian Church in 1986, and their individual activities were a benefit to all. Only a month earlier Gail and Alan Starkey received the honor award, recognizing their help and devotion to the church. Sympathies were extended to Alan, his son Aaron, their daughters Shannon and Kimberly, to Gail's mother, her sisters and other members of the family. A memorial service was conducted in the church by Dr. Rob J. S. Manning. Liza and Jim Hayashi opened their home for a hospitality time following the memorial service. The Starkey family requested that memorials be given to the church, to be used for helping children with learning disabilities.

The board appointed Jesse Winters to be secretary and selected Nancy Winters to fill the open board position. In a March meeting the board heard from minister-emeritus, the Rev. John W. Brigham, regarding the effort of the Quincy Area Ministerial Association to object to a "Christian Identity" conference. The organization is known to promote racial hatred and anti-semitism. The QAMA arranged an informational seminar open to the public for discussion of this organization's efforts to infiltrate local communities. This Christian Identity conference was ultimately canceled.

A representative of the UUA Program Fund had called, suggesting an additional contribution above the \$1,144 that had been paid by the congregation under guidelines of the constitution.

The Sunday morning speaker for April 18 was Dienna Drew, who had studied the history of the four meeting places of the Quincy Unitarian Church since its founding in 1839. Attention was diverted to the ad hoc report and the various possibilities of changing, adding on, and/or improving the present building. The meeting ended without accord. An immediate action was the setting-up for the annual Plant Sale.

Rob Manning was assured of a sabbatical to extend over the coming academic year. He offered a re-consideration of his ministerial position, but stated that he would continue as a "proud and happy member of the church as long as he would be in Quincy." He had recently purchased a house at 1450 Vermont Street, just around the corner from the church, and had begun extensive remodeling.

Two potential candidates for the R. E. leadership, senior students of Quincy University, had met with the committee. \*\* For three Sundays an additional collection was taken for the International Rescue Committee, an organization assisting Kosovo refugees. This amounted to \$1,858.

## ALICE MORRISON MAYS DIED

Alice Morrison Mays, daughter of Paul and Frances Morrison and sister of Ted Morrison, died in Sunset Home on April 23, 1999, her 72nd birthday. She had been associated with the church since childhood. An accomplished cellist, Alice had performed with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra and the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. During her retirement in Quincy, she had continued participation and active support of music organizations. Three sons and a daughter survived. Memorial services were conducted by Dr. Rob Manning.

A Memorial Concert was performed at the church on May 8, honoring the memory of Lloyd Harris, Bill Holliday and Gail Starkey. The concert recognized the grieving of the membership and gave an opportunity to honor and celebrate the lives of these special people. Talented musicians cooperated in the evening's program. They were Carol and Kristina Mathieson, the By-B-Flats, Dale McUmbler-House, Dan Nichols' Band, and the Early Music Consort.

## CAROLINE SCHLAGENHAUF SEXAUER DIED

Our beloved and respected member, Caroline Schlagenhauf Sexauer, died in her home on May 9, 1999, at the age of 85. An active church member since 1935, Caroline had ancestral roots to the family of Robert S. and Electa Ann Benneson, founders of the church in 1839. She was the daughter of Philip and Cora Janes Schlagenhauf. Caroline taught Sunday School classes in her early years, was a member of the Evening Hour Alliance and the Women's Alliance, served on the Memorial Committee and had several terms on the Board of Trustees.

She was head librarian at the Quincy Public Library from 1959 until her retirement in 1976. Under her leadership the library re-located in 1974 from Fourth and Maine Streets to a newly erected building at Sixth and Jersey Streets. An active member of the Historical Society of Quincy and Adams County, she was instrumental in cataloging the society's extensive collection of books and artifacts.

In 1950 Caroline married William Sexauer. He died in 1992. Nieces and cousins survived. Memorial services were conducted in the Hansen-Spear Funeral Home by Dr. Rob J. S. Manning. The Women's Alliance hosted a reception in the church following the memorial service. Memorials were suggested to the Unitarian Church or to the Quincy and Adams County Historical Society.

The treasurer reported that expenses in April exceeded the receipts. A charge of \$609 to rebuild a leaking pump on the furnace was an unexpected expense. Rental fees for the building were increased to \$150 for use of the sanctuary and \$200 for using both the sanctuary and the basement rooms, a \$50 addition in both cases. Dale McUmbler-House arranged for Scott Meyer of River City Restoration to inspect and assess the church building. Thanks to Mike Flanagan, the church Website and e-mail installations were functioning.

The children of the Religious Education program presented an original play based on their own creation myth. Their production followed a Sunday brunch, provided by the R. E. department. During the Easter/Passover/Equinox season, Suzanne Cohen had shared a Jewish passover meal with the R. E. classes. The cultures and traditions of the season became more meaningful to the children.

In June information was received that the church was one of four local organizations designated to receive funds from the estate of Caroline Sexauer. As an endowment, such funds would be invested by the Memorial Committee. Under stipulations of the church constitution, the interest, but not the capital, would be expendable.

A Sunday morning of appreciation occurred on June 6 at which time an honor award was presented to Nike' and Geoffrey Mendenhall, members since the 1970s. Their individual activities in the church were noted. Nike' had served as board president among other representations. Geoffrey had assisted often as speaker-system expert. Because of a business transfer, they and their daughters, Merideth and Halley, were re-locating to Cincinnati, Ohio.

Michael Flanagan was appointed to fill the vacancy on the memorial committee. By suggestion of Nancy Winters, the board appointed a member to be liaison to each standing committee. In this way better communication could result between the committees and the board. The board also considered a review of personnel responsibilities: what should members do; what should committees do; what should the administrator do?

President Gloria Carpenter shared a report from the building and grounds committee. When the church exterior was painted in 1994, the contractor, Paul Womack, had advised a periodic review. After recent inspection he recommended the repainting of the sun-exposed front of the church. His proposal included: painting the front, gables, over-hang, windows, cornice, and battens on stucco -- \$550. A motion to accept this bid was passed by the board.

Another item of the June board meeting was consideration of the purchase of 30 new metal folding chairs to replace those showing rust that had been used for many years. The board approved the purchase for \$441 to be supported by memorial funds, and the chairs were received during the summer. There was also a mention of need for twenty additional light-weight (plastic seat and back) chairs and a storage cart. There was discussion regarding replacing banquet tables, restoring the front steps, and inviting Scott Meyer of River City Restorations to attend the next board meeting.

Nancy Winters raised the question of membership drive and the need to assess the community's potential for new Unitarians before making any major financial commitments to a building renovation and/or addition. Also, the board was encouraged to confer with the UU Service Committee for guidance of social services commitment of support and funding of projects. A recent voluntary collection had resulted in sending \$185 to the International Children's Advocacy Network, Atlanta, Georgia.

At a party of “farewell and best wishes” Rob Manning was given a tribute at the start of his sabbatical. A cake (depicting his house, grounds and pets), many cards and notes, offers of help, and a gift expressed the congregation’s appreciation for his ministry and the hope of his returning to the church after a year’s absence. Rob’s response was that “It is easy to take a sabbatical from being a professor, but being a minister is not something you just put on hold for a while.” He promised regular contact with the church and its members.

Two weddings of church member families had occurred in the church, officiated by Dr. Rob J. S. Manning. Michael Steven Drew and Jennifer Jean Miller were married on May 1. The wedding of Shannon Allyn Starkey and Jonathan D. Speaks was on June 19.

The annual end-of-year picnic was enjoyed at Lumbar Achers, the home of Paul Miller and Samantha Walker, near Hannibal, Missouri.

At the July board meeting Scott Meyer of River City Restoration presented his findings and opinions on the state of the church structure and gave options for remodeling and/or building. His approach was first to examine the existing space because it tends to be most cost effective, and then to look at expansion options. He acknowledged the desire for accessibility, classroom space and restroom improvement and offered to provide a more detailed feasibility study for a cost not to exceed \$2,500. Tom House moved acceptance of this offer, seconded by Ellen Taylor. The Board approved the action.

The Summer Discussion Series continued throughout July and August with a variety of topics. On July 11 the discussion was led by former minister, the Rev. Calvin Knapp, who spoke on “Patriotism” and drew others into his presentation. Twenty-one members and friends attended that morning. Cal responded, “It was a splendid renewal experience for me to see the friends again and to hear the organ.” Cal Knapp served the Quincy Unitarian Church from 1971 to 1976. He had inspired the first plant sale in 1973.

A combined worship/ministerial relations committee was planning the next year’s speaker schedule and ministerial responsibilities. Recognizing that Rob Manning would be away, invitations were to be sent to ministers of area UU churches as well as to fourth-year students from Meadville/Lombard Divinity School in Chicago. Representatives of the Jesus Seminar, The Interfaith Alliance, as well as local members, would be invited to speak.

The original pen and ink drawing, sketched by Guido Janes, uncle of Caroline Sexauer, was given to the church as Caroline had indicated. Since 1972 Caroline had allowed the church to copy this illustration for use on the order of service bulletin and on the newsletter. The three beneficiaries of the Sexauer estate, Margaret Seger, Annabel Higgins and Jacqueline Eversden, also honored Caroline’s intent to display the communion set and they released it to the church. The set has four pieces: a pitcher, a plate and two goblets. The board formally accepted the set. The Women’s Alliance planned to supply a locked display case for the set.

Along with four other properties, the Quincy Preserves Commission nominated the Unitarian Church for local landmark status. The selection in this preliminary step in the designation process was based on criteria set by the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. The designation protects the exterior of buildings by citing architectural features that must remain intact for the building to retain its designation. The church was formally described as: Style - Tudor; Date of construction - 1913; Architect - Harvey Chatten.

The R. E. committee explored the possibility of sponsoring the new Our Whole Lives (OWL) Sexuality Education Project. The program was designed cooperatively by the UUA and the United Church of Christ. The limited focus in our church would be for young people of grades 7 to 9. Two adults, one of each gender, would be the trained co-leaders of the group. A complete description of aims and requirements was given in the September newsletter. In time Michael and Jen Drew volunteered to attend the training sessions and accept responsibility for the leadership of this program.

In other action the R. E. committee interviewed candidates and employed two Quincy University seniors from the theology department to be assistants in the Sunday School. They were Jonathan Sullivan and Bethany Lucas. The Mulch family moved from the house north of the church September 1. Members who toured the house regarded it not suitable for R.E. classes or church extension activities.

A committee of Carol Nichols, Frieda Marshall and Liza Hayashi was appointed to review the by-laws which dated from adoption in 1987 with amendments in 1988 and 1990. The first meeting was held September 21, 1999.

An enhancement to the social life of church people was initiated by Sharon Buzzard and Steve Wiegenstein as they invited friends for a casual time on the "First Friday" of October. This socialization continued throughout the year with various hosts and hostesses inviting members and friends to their homes. The Lunch Bunch continued to meet monthly for friendly discussion of interesting topics. The Women's Alliance also provided outreach and stimulating programs.

Electrical work and plumbing repairs were accomplished at this time and a new carpet was selected and installed in the sanctuary and chancel. (The old green carpeting dated from 1966 for the aisles and 1974 for the chancel.) The carpeting bill for \$1,909.85 was paid to Murry's Floor Covering and Installation from the memorial funds. The commercial-strength Armstrong carpeting of beige tone had bronze metal stripping at the edges. All work was completed shortly before the wedding of Julie Glenn and Dennis Prock, who later contributed \$1,500 toward the cost of this improvement.

A partial payment of \$12,500 from the estate of Caroline Sexauer was received and deposited in the Endowment (principal) account. An account was opened at Everen Securities, allowing access to the best interest rates.

An internship was offered to Hilary Landau-Krivchenia, a fourth-year student of Meadville/Lombard Divinity School, to serve as practicum minister for the remainder of the season. She would present a sermon and meet with the congregation one week-end each month. She was a 1977 graduate of Beloit College with a major in philosophy. Her desire was to be a resource to the church groups. Members offered hospitality during her week-end visits.

Other ministers who spoke during this time of Rob's sabbatical (in 1999): Rev. Bill Burton, OFM, Quincy University; Rev. John Robinson, Eliot Chapel, Kirkwood, Missouri; and Rev. Ron Green, Unitarian Fellowship of Macomb. (in 2000): Dr. Davidson Loehr, Unitarian Church, St. Paul, Minnesota; Rev. Eric Cherry, Unitarian Fellowship of Burlington, Iowa; Rev. Earl Holt, III, First Unitarian Church, St. Louis, Missouri; and Rev. Judith Taylor, Unity Church, Quincy. Mr. Bud Deraps represented the Interfaith Alliance of Greater St. Louis and the American Ethical Union.

Members also presented topics (in 1999): Carol Mathieson, Ellen Taylor, Carolyn Kane, Sharon Buzzard, Paul Miller, Mike Flanagan, Steve Wiegenstein, James Hayashi, and John Sperry. (in 2000): Dave Ripper, Carol Nichols, Al Beck, Sherryl Lang, Mary-Carol Lindbloom, and Elizabeth Stebbins.

A Social Issues activity was a vegetarian dinner prepared by men of the congregation with discussion focusing on the earth's population and world hunger. Teresa Gottman from Family Planning spoke, reminding those present that the local chapter of Family Planning had founding support from Unitarian Church members.

The fall field trip brought a Trailways bus load of members and friends to attend the Unitarian Church service in Columbia, Missouri, on October 31. They found a friendly welcome from the minister, Rev. William Haney, and the members. Of interest was the church facility, expanded recently from smaller quarters. Following a luncheon in a restaurant, members could attend a Buddhist lecture and observe a display in an Art Museum.

The R. E. staff, children and parents enjoyed their "first" Halloween Party at Reservoir Park. It was well attended and the people seemed to have had fun. \*\* A coat rack was placed in an unobtrusive corner of the sanctuary, a gift of Frieda Marshall. \*\* The Web site was installed and functioning. The announcement spots on WQUB were renewed. \*\* Through courtesy of Ted and Sandy Morrison a Canadian red cherry tree was planted on the 16th Street parkway. \*\* A consultant from CMD, Shirley Lundin, planned a meeting with the practicum minister and members of the congregation for December 19.

Carol Nichols indicated her desire to resign from the church administrator position. She reflected a conversation with Rev. William Haney (Columbia, Missouri), who pointed out that "before we can proceed with building plans, we must first know what our goals and vision are. The building issue should be within the context of the bigger picture."

A statement in the November newsletter addressed the planning regarding physical plant changes to the church. This tracked discussions, meetings, and activities of the past several years, reaching back to the S.W.O.T. analysis of 1994. A December message from Board President Gloria Carpenter drew upon advice of the consultant, the Rev. William Haney, that an important step is to have a long-range planning committee. The goals of the committee are to formulate a mission statement and to develop a plan that considers what the congregation sees the future of the church to be. This does not necessarily mean in terms of physical structure, but in programs such as religious education, membership and visibility and service to the community. Steve Ward was appointed chair person for the committee, working with Steve Wiegenstein.

#### JOHN ALEXANDER MORRISON DIED

Dr. John A. Morrison, husband of Frederica "Fritzi" Mohrenstecher Morrison, died on December 6, 1999, at the age of 96. He had been a church member since 1953 and had served as treasurer in 1956 and as board president in 1957. A son Ian and his wife, three grandchildren and one great-grandson survived.

In his career, Dr. Morrison was a university professor of geography and was a scholar of Russian geography, having made three trips to the Soviet Union.

Memorial services were held in the church, conducted by Dr. John A. Sperry.

A sermon "Christmas Whisper" was presented by the visiting minister, Rev. John Robinson, of Eliot Chapel in Kirkwood, Missouri. He had announced his coming retirement from the ministry. On that morning the usual soup lunch, sponsored by the religious education committee, and the "Hanging of the Greens" involved activity from many members. Susan and Monica Holliday hosted an Open House before the Christmas Eve services in the church. The Christmas Eve program included an Illinois Anthology of Christmas as presented by five participants.

The agenda for the January, 2000, annual meeting was prepared and sent to the membership in late December. Alan Nichols had attached to this his personal reconstruction of the church financial responsibilities and re-formation of the by-laws. At the annual meeting these by-laws amendments were not accepted by vote of the congregation. A correctly constituted and enlarged by-laws committee was appointed at the Board's next meeting to examine this issue and report to the congregation. (This report was considered at the May 2000 congregational meeting.)



QUINCY UNITARIAN CHURCH  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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

Term expired 1989  
Georgia House  
David Quarles  
(R) Kevin Barton  
Elizabeth Stebbins  
(R) Nike Mendenhall (P)

Term Expired 1995  
Carol Nichols  
Susan Holliday  
Caroline Sexauer

Term expired 1990  
Alan Starkey  
John Brigham  
(R) Mary Weber  
(R) Nona Miller  
Lisa Wigoda (P)

Term expired 1996  
Lynn Mercurio  
Alan Starkey (P) (1994,1995)  
Anne Stupavsky

Term expired 1991  
Ted Morrison (P)  
Nayer Attai  
Maria Petzoldt  
(R) John Schnauffer

Term expired 1997  
Sandra Morrison (P) (1996,1997)  
Liza Hayashi  
Alan Nichols

Term expired 1992  
Kevin Barton  
Tom House  
Michael Flanagan

Term expired 1998  
Mary Belle Coffman  
Frieda Marshall  
Steve Wiegenstein (P)

Term expired 1993  
Nona Miller (P) 1992  
Nancy Winters  
Linda Kuenzli (P)

Term expired 1999  
Tom House  
Gloria Carpenter (P)  
Dale McUmber-House

Term expired 1994  
John Sperry  
Jeanne Brown  
(Ruth Lohrenz)  
Dan Kelly

Term expired 2000  
Michael Flanagan  
Jesse Winters  
(R) Steve Ward  
Gail Starkey (d. 1999)  
(R) Nancy Winters

**BUDGETS  
1989 - 2000**

		Treasurer
1989	\$24,004	Georgia House
1990	\$26,400	“
1991	\$27,901	“
1992	\$30,375	Janice Marshall-Miller
1993	\$30,047	“
1994	\$29,726	“
1995	\$28,510	“
1996	\$25,300	“
1997	\$27,915	“
1998	\$34,735	“
1999	\$35,760	“
2000	\$37,867	“

## MEMBERS

- |      |  |      |  |
|------|--|------|--|
| 1998 | Linda Kuenzli<br>Kevin Barton<br>John W. Schnauffer<br>Ruth Lohrenz<br>Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts   | 1997 | Kimberly Harvey<br>Sandra Walters<br>Kimberly Starkey (Jr.)<br>Ryan DePauw (Jr.)<br>Mindy Behymer  |
| 1990 | Robert Merrick<br>Kay Merrick<br>Anne Stupavsky<br>Dale McUmber-House  | 1998 | Greg Bohemier<br>Mary-Carol Lindbloom<br>Kristina Mathieson (Jr.)<br>Maureen Hallas<br>Jennifer Minaya   |
| 1991 | Breck Brown<br>Jeannie A. Brown<br>Linda Hirvonen<br>Michael T. Allkins  | 1999 | Michael Drew<br>Jennifer Miller (Drew)<br>Addie Seabarkrob<br>Jeffrey Seabarkrob<br>Sherryl Lang<br>Stephen Ward<br>Leann Flanagan<br>Randy Thompson<br>Cindy Ahrens<br>Rob Ahrens |
| 1992 | J. William Holliday<br>Susan Holliday<br>Alan Nichols<br>Carol Nichols<br>Lynn Mercurio  |      |  |
| 1993 | George Van Ronzelen<br>Mary Van Ronzelen<br>Liza Hayashi   |      |  |
| 1995 | Gloria Carpenter<br>Paula Cornwell (Webster)<br>Scott Webster<br>Jane Holt<br>Larry Hoard  |      |  |
| 1996 | Sharon Buzzard<br>Steve Wiegenstein<br>Suzanne Cohen<br>Robert J. S.Manning<br>Pauline Wessels<br>B. J. Smith<br>Libby Haggard<br>C. Patrick Hotle<br>James Hayashi<br>Kate Luther<br>Douglas Luther<br>Ellen Taylor |      |  |

## D E A T H S

		Service conducted by
Dolores Dickhoener Jenkins	September 29, 1989	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
Robert S. Campbell	November 7, 1989	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
Dorothe E. Owen	March 16, 1990	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
John D. Andrews (Hannibal, MO)	December 19, 1990	Rev. John W. Brigham
Gary Wayne Miller	March 25, 1991	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
George R. Berggren	July 28, 1991	Rev. John W. Brigham
Evangeline Dickhoener Norton	August 7, 1991	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
Marjorie Ballow	November 4, 1991	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
William E. Sexauer	December 19, 1992	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
Gladys S. Cassidy	March 22, 1993	Dr. John A. Sperry
Mary P. Van Ronzelen (Hannibal)	August 8, 1993	----
Anne K. Gray	December 22, 1993	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
Thomas Moore	January 12, 1994	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
Genevieve "Gene" Taylor	September 13, 1994	----
Charlotte McCarl Winters	February 28, 1995	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
Beulah E. Herman	November 21, 1995	Rev. John W. Brigham
Rev. George P. Crist (Michigan)	June 18, 1996	(Former minister)
James William Holliday	April 12, 1997	Dr. Robert J. S. Manning
Agnes F. Aman (Texas)	October 15, 1997	(Wife of former minister)
James Gordon Johnson (Deerfield, IL)	March 20, 1998	(Son of former organist)
Robert L. Fisher	April 17, 1998	Dr. Robert J. S. Manning
Edward C. Herman	July 17, 1998	Rev. John W. Brigham
Ray E. White (Springfield, Illinois)	December 9, 1998	Rev. Mary Moore
Lloyd E. Harris	February 10, 1999	Dr. Robert J. S. Manning
Gail Bushmeyer Starkey	February 23, 1999	Dr. Robert J. S. Manning
Alice Morrison Mays	April 22, 1999	Dr. Robert J. S. Manning
Caroline Schlagenhauf Sexauer	May 9, 1999	Dr. Robert J. S. Manning
Marion Ertel	August 29, 1999	Dr. Robert J. S. Manning
John Alexander Morrison	December 6, 1999	Dr. John A. Sperry

## WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OFFICERS

1989-1990

Pres. Nona Miller  
V.P. Mary Belle Coffman  
Sec. Pauline Johnson  
Treas. Dienna Drew

1990-1991

Pres. Nona Miller  
V.P. Nayer Attai  
Sec. Pauline Johnson  
Treas. Dienna Drew

1991-1992

Pres. Nayer Attai  
V.P. Jean Sperry  
Sec. Pauline Johnson  
Treas. Dienna Drew

1992-1993

Pres. Nayer Attai  
V.P. Jean Sperry  
Sec. Pauline Johnson  
Treas. Dienna Drew

1993-1994

Pres. Jean Sperry  
V.P. Elizabeth Stebbins  
Sec. Pauline Johnson  
Treas. Dienna Drew

1994-1995

Pres. Jean Sperry  
V.P. Frieda Marshall  
Sec. Pauline Johnson  
Treas. Dienna Drew

1995-1996

Pres. Frieda Marshall  
V.P. Pauline Johnson  
Sec. Mary Belle Coffman  
Treas. Dienna Drew

1996-1997

Pres. Frieda Marshall  
V.P. Pauline Johnson  
Sec. Mary Belle Coffman  
Treas. Libby Haggard

1997-1998

Pres. Frieda Marshall  
V.P. Pauline Johnson  
Sec. Judith Troje  
Treas. Libby Haggard

1998-1999

Pres. Nayer Attai  
V.P. Sandy Morrison  
Sec. Judith Troje  
Treas. Libby Haggard

1999-2000

Pres. Sandy Morrison  
V.P. Mary Belle Coffman  
Sec. Pauline Johnson  
Treas. Libby Haggard

## W O M E N ' S   A L L I A N C E

Twenty-one members and friends of the church met monthly in a social setting. In November, 1989, the Alliance spearheaded a collection of clothing and toiletries for Chaddock School and Quanada. The members of the congregation were invited to help. The 1989-1990 programs were from the book "Holy Quest - The Search for Wholeness" by Anthony Perrino, the title based on a John Steinbeck quote "When mankind is one - that is holy." Also some material was used from The First Days Record - a Journal of Liberal Religious Responses.

The members voted in February, 1990, to support the project of preserving papers and records of the church by paying costs of acid-free papers and file folders. Sherryl Lang, experienced in the preservation of papers, was working with Nona Miller and Anna Louise Brigham on this. Individual members donated \$15.50 for the archives work. An item of special interest found in the archives was an architect's drawing of the Third Unitarian Church which had been on Maine Street between 6th and 7th. Plans to have it mounted and framed with plexiglass protection did not materialize. The item is carefully stored in the archival, fire-proof file. Sherryl Lang had accepted a teaching position in May, but Anna Louise Brigham and Nona Miller planned to continue with this project. Two books by John W. Brigham were presented to Sherryl Lang in appreciation of her helpfulness.

Selections from "First Days Record" - items submitted by Unitarian ministers - constituted the programs for 1990-1991. A Christmas musical program was presented by Shannon and Kim Starkey. In February, 1991, dues paid to the UUWF were \$105 and to the Central Midwest District - \$36.

The programs of the Alliance for the 1991-1992 season concentrated on "Holy Curiosity" by the Rev. Bruce T. Marshall, minister of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Huntington, Long Island, N.Y. and son of Quincy members, Frieda and Floyd Marshall. A Christmas program was presented by Carol Mathieson, explaining Christmas customs and carols with guitar accompaniment. At this meeting Jane Shair moved that the Alliance pay full dues to both the UUFW and the CMD. Elizabeth Stebbins added a note that most members are over the age of 65 and that this was not an action group. The request from UUWF was \$10 for each member and from CMD \$3 for each member, leaving the Quincy group (with \$15 annual dues) only \$2 from each member for projects and other charities. The Clara Barton Camp for Diabetic Girls and the UUUN office had received annual donations. The minister offered to inquire about other UU Alliance dues. She stressed the importance of maintaining strong ties to the national and district offices.

The Heritage Room at the church was the setting for a January 4, 1992, meeting when the Rev. John W. Brigham gave a program about important contributors to the church hymnal. He especially spoke of Frederick May Eliot, A. Powell Davies, and Kenneth Patton.

A quote from Alliance minutes of May, 1992: "A committee had 'looked through' the church silverware, and the Building & Grounds committee was looking at the wall behind the stove. Contractor Dan VonderHaar estimated the kitchen improvements at \$1,500 and the Board decided that handicapped accessibility was more important." Anna Louise Brigham presented a dream: "sell the church and build a new, convenient one." The Alliance sponsored the purchase of a microwave oven for the church kitchen.

The 1992-1993 study topic was "Finding That Which is Worthy." Nancy Winters presented "Finding the worthy in 'other' people." Nayer Attai's topic was "Living in a different culture." A Christmas program of cello selections was given by Alice Morrison Mays. Other presenters were: Rev. John Brigham - "Words interpret the worthy for us," Elizabeth Stebbins - "Art, the visual expression of worth," Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts - "Spiritual Values from the American Indian," and James Roberts - "Worth in the world around us."

Membership dues to the UUWF rose to \$25 for each individual. As the annual dues of the Quincy Alliance were only \$15 for each member, the group decided to enroll the president and the treasurer. The Boston office of UUWF stated that the advantages of membership included action for social justice and informative publications.

Continuing the success of the previous year's program, the Alliance invited other members and friends to present individual topics for the meetings of 1993-1994. In March, 1994, this comment appeared in the newsletter:

The Alliance theme this year of "Opening Doors to Understanding" has provided a way for people to become better acquainted. This has come about through very interesting talks by the guest speakers. They are asked to tell about themselves and their professions. Since October we have learned about teaching in the 90s from Sandy Morrison, the work of a school psychologist from Ruth Lohrenz, the literacy program from Rita Buddemeyer, and art/creative thinking from Linda Buechting.

The luncheon meetings in the homes of Alliance members occur on the first Saturday of the month. Guests are always warmly welcomed. Everyone appreciates the wide range of "table talk" before the meetings begin. If you have a free Saturday from 12:30 to 3, this would be a worthwhile thing to do.

(Janice Marshall-Miller)

The season continued with presentations from Anne Stupavsky - "Insight into an L.D. Child," and Sharon Buzzard - "The New Freshmen Year Experience at Q. U."

The topic for 1994-1995 was "Our Individual Journeys," and members and friends told of their travels. Jane Shair and Caroline Sexauer attended an Elderhostel in Maine, and Jane Shair had traveled to Austria. Elizabeth Stebbins told of her trip to Paris, France. Lynn Mercurio chose a title of "Journeys of My Life and Career," Sandra Morrison had visited her daughter's family in Malaysia, and Carol Nichols had traveled to Germany.

"The Ladies Take on the WORLD" was the theme for the 1995-1996 year. The members related their appreciation or concern or impression of articles from selected issues of THE WORLD, the journal of the Unitarian Universalist Association. Jane Holt presented a program about the Quincy Humane Society and Nike Mendenhall reported on the Women in Religion Conference.

During this year a farewell recognition was given Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts in May; memorials were given to honor deceased members; Sandy Morrison volunteered to be Sunshine Chair and respond to special events of members' lives. The Alliance donated a new coffee maker with engraved donor plaque and purchased an additional three hymnals for the church. The Alliance contributed \$50 to the Clara Barton Diabetes Center in Massachusetts and \$50 to the Unitarian Universalist United Nations office. Individual memberships to the UUWF were \$35. With the local Alliance dues at \$15 for each member, an individual membership was assigned to the President who would share correspondence and publications.

Attention to local agencies was the focus of the 1996-1997 season. With a theme of "Our Concerns About the Welfare System" programs were presented by representatives of the Illinois Department of Public Aid and the U. S. Department of Education - Talent Search. Church members presented several programs: Speaking for the Community Action Agency, Nancy Winters told of the J.T.P.A. program which offers scholarships, assists in homeless outreach, energy assistance, etc.; Lynn Mercurio gave information about Chaddock School and its service to children and B. J. Smith explained her responsibilities in social work in the school system.

The members assisted with the reception for the ordination event of Dr. Rob. J. S. Manning in November. The December meeting was a celebration of a Czech Christmas, hosted by Libby Haggard following her visit to Budapest, Vienna and Prague. Encouragement was given to the Jr. High class in their projects of a photo directory and of a Christmas Store for the younger children. There was continued support for the Clara Barton Center and the UU-UN office. The group provided a new guest book for the welcoming committee and presented a copy of "Gift of a Lifetime" by Barbara Stanford to the Quincy Public Library. Several copies were available in the church library.

"Not only reaching out - but also exploring the inner self" was the announced theme of the Alliance 1997-1998 season. In the spirit of light-heartedness the members and their guests enjoyed programs of participation in the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator testing, conducted by Judith Troje. The minutes reflect "It is always interesting to find out a little more about ourselves." A report of the Quincy Symphony Chorus tour of Europe was shared by Dienna Drew, Nancy Winters and Anne Stupavsky. Other programs were: "American Women on U.S. Postage Stamps" by Anna Louise Brigham, "Jane Austen and the 'Rules' Girls" by Mary Belle Coffman, "Influence of the Media on Young Women" by Pauline Johnson, and "Life Without Fathers" by the Rev. John W. Brigham. A Caring Committee within the Alliance agreed to accept the responsibility for welcoming new babies in the congregational family.

Several men of the congregation graciously presented the stories of their "Individual Journeys" in the season of 1998-1999. Those who shared their experiences were: Dr. Rob Manning (professorship and ministry), Michael Troje (nurturing dahlias), Steve Wiegenstein (communication/journalism), Jim Drew (wild bird habitats), Dale McUmber-House (computer specialities) and Michael Flanagan (barge traffic on mid-western rivers). The mutual benefit came from a better understanding between the members and their guests as the men reflected the demands and satisfactions of their activities.

Accomplishments of the year included a cooperation with the R. E. department to provide window dressing for the downstairs fellowship hall. Libby Haggard offered sewing skills in finishing lacey valances. The Alliance and the R. E. department shared the cost, the Alliance paying \$108. Providing a coat rack was mentioned as an Alliance project. Another suggestion was to provide new tablecloths, replacing orange cloths (Indianhead fabric) that dated to the 1970s. A soft cream-colored cloth was chosen, and ten cloths were purchased from the J. C. Penney catalog. Sandy Morrison donated new glass salt and pepper shakers replacing the plastic orange and green designs.

At an October meeting held in the home of Caroline Sexauer, attention was given to the pen drawing of the church by artist Guido Janes, uncle of Caroline. This drawing, owned by Caroline, has been reproduced and used for more than twenty years on the church order of service and newsletter papers. Caroline also showed a communion set that she planned to present to the church when a suitable display case would be provided.

In April, 1999, the projects of securing a display case for the communion set and of purchasing a coat rack were still unresolved. The sudden death of Caroline in May brought a delay in any action regarding the communion set. An appeal to the executors of the estate, however, prompted the beneficiaries (Margaret Seger, Annabel Higgins, and Jacquelyn Eversden) to donate the set to the church with certain stipulations. (Should the congregation of the Quincy Unitarian Church dissolve, the set would then become the property of the descendants of Susan Caroline Benneson, the grandmother of Caroline Sexauer.) The church also received the black and white, pen and ink drawing of the Quincy Unitarian church by Guido Janes, grandson of Robert S. Benneson.

A consideration, chapter by chapter as presented by various members, of the best-seller "The Art of Happiness" by the Dalai Lama and Howard C. Cutler, MD, was the program choice for the 1999-2000 year.



## PLANT SALE

### BOOK SALE   BAKE SALE

This event began in 1973 when the Rev. Calvin Knapp was the minister. As an experienced horticulturist, he led the church members and friends in a modest experience of sharing their perennials. Over the following years this event developed into an annual fund-raising endeavor, and it gained favorable recognition for the church in the wider community.

Some stalwarts who were there at the beginning continued their devotion to this activity as long as health would permit. The 18th annual sale was set for April 21, 1990, the fourth Saturday in April being the established time. Jim Drew and Georgia House provided leadership. Everyone's help was requested to achieve the budgeted "special projects" goal of \$2,000. People were urged to develop house plants and divide perennials from their gardens. Suggestions were given of plants most desired: lily of the valley, hosta, peony, iris, lilac, daisies, herbs. Also rhubarb plants and raspberry bushes. The florist, Kroners Floral and Gifts, would supply greenhouse tomatoes, peppers, bedding plants, geraniums and others on consignment.

Chair persons were designated: In Plants: Jim Drew, Georgia House and Frieda Marshall; In Books: Ruth Lohrenz and John Schnauffer; In Bake Goods: Martha Disseler, Mary Belle Coffman and Caroline Sexauer. This year the making of doughnuts and serving of hot dogs was omitted, without detriment to the event. The Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts posed for a promotional photograph at the florist's greenhouse. This enhanced the news article about the sale.

Everything fell into place when the front doors opened at 9 a.m. People steadily streamed in for twenty minutes. The regular ones followed their preference and aimed directly for plants, books, or baked goods. Registration tickets promised door prizes and allowed a mailing list for the next year's invitational postcard. Members accepted their responsibilities and the event proceeded smoothly until the crowd dwindled. Tickets for door prizes were drawn at one o'clock and winners were notified.

The clean-up required good helpers to condense remaining plants to several tables, re-pack better books for next year's sale (at this time stored in the tower room), and set aside remaining baked goods for the Sunday coffee hour. The people also scrubbed floors, vacuumed carpets, dusted pews to have everything in "apple pie" order for the coming Sunday morning service. The net income of \$2,448 was gratifying, but the auxilliary benefit was the cooperation and companionship of members working on a common goal.

## **PLANT SALE 1991**

Georgia House and Jim Drew chaired the plant sale on April 20, 1991. The sections named Jim Drew and Frieda Marshall in plants, Martha Disseler and Linda Buechting in bake goods, and Georgia House and John Schnaufer in books. The promotional material suggested hundreds of used books: (hardback and paperback) classic literature, romances, mysteries, non-fiction, children's books, phonograph records and puzzles. The books were priced 25 cents and magazines 10 cents.

Martha Disseler had made personal requests for bake sale items. The plants included African violets and baby tears among others. In all 38 adults and several children gave helping hands in some way. Kroner Floral and Gifts received a commission of \$575. With other expenses for postage and printing, the church netted \$2,259.

## **PLANT SALE 1992**

It was cold and damp on April 25, 1992. Nevertheless, people came to the sale, and the registration tickets numbered 350. Dan Kelly served as Plant Sale Chair. Al Beck made his "premier TV debut" to promote the event. Carol Nichols produced a poster in artistic calligraphy. Jim Drew supervised in Plants, Gail Starkey controlled the Book sale, Martha Disseler guided the Bake sale. Nona Miller was greeter. Many others helped. About 25 members signed up to bring bakery items, 20 would bring books, but only 9 promised to bring plants. The plants included Siberian iris, ginko trees, hydrangea, coin plants, day lilies, asters and others. Former member P. R. Hoshiko donated plants from her garden in Carbondale, Illinois. Greenhouse plants were supplied by Kroner's. The financial report showed: Bake sale - \$556, Books - \$402, Plants l, 873. Greenhouse plants supplied by Kroner's - \$625, Postcard printing - \$36.50 and Postage \$95. For a gain of \$2,075.

## **PLANT SALE 1993**

April 24, 1993. Dan Kelly was Chairman again. Frieda Marshall typed labels and processed the mailing of post cards to 465 "customers" from the past two years. Cards were sent to the media, of course; and Holly Wagner wrote a Herald-Whig feature. Dan Kelly promoted the sale on TV. Kim and Shannon Starkey produced a new sign for the Wayside Pulpit. The set-up activity includes bringing books from storage on the Sunday before the sale, preliminary activity on Thursday evening, and unloading the florist's van on Friday. With eight people on hand, the florist representative said it was the smoothest transition that he remembered.

The minister recognized the event as "a shared understanding, a feeling of togetherness and camaraderie" with the people contributing, helping set up, pricing, cashiering, serving the public, and all the way through to clean up at the end of the sale.

At the end of the sale, remaining plants were reserved for the Frederick Ball Day Care staff to distribute to the children and families. Textbooks were culled from the book sale and were offered FREE along with stacks of magazines. Over 150 people were "first time" attendees. It is said that we "need" the first-time people, so we must advertise. Reasons: the first-time people will come again, and they do not already have the raspberry, rhubarb, coin plants, hosta, iris and so on that we regularly offer from our members' gardens. The financial report showed a net profit of \$2,091.

#### **PLANT SALE 1994**

Dan Kelly again chaired the April 23, 1994, plant-book-bake sale. Most members accepted the same responsibilities. There was no organizational meeting scheduled. On an early April Sunday morning Dan guided the children in digging and potting hosta plants from the front sidewalk edging. Gerry Wagner and Gloria Carpenter helped. Passers-by appeared to buy plants that day. There were additional plants for the sale time.

Among the usual plants supplied by members were 32 containers of baby tears, nurtured in cunning containers (duck, baby bootie, steamboat, sprinkling can) by Bertha Danhaus. Carolyn Kane brought selections of hen-and-chicken. Drews introduced the natural ant repellent - tansy. Jean Sperry brought many plants including exotic herbs. Martha Disseler phoned every possible contributor to the bake sale and distributed about 30 posters to bulletin locations around town. Kroner's sent some new items: holly (sold out immediately) and pencil cactus. In addition to books donated by members and friends, there were some from citizens who offered overflow from their libraries as they moved into other housing or to other cities. About 350 people came to the sale, 100 for the first time. After expenses, \$2,500 was added to the bank account.

#### **PLANT SALE 1995**

This year we might have closed the book on Plant Sale. The commercial supplier, Kroner's, had closed. After 22 years, some of our enthusiasts of the congregation were feeling 22 years older, and younger members had not yet picked up the spirit. Other florists were mostly uninterested. A listing of income figures influenced Holtschlag Florist to co-operate. (Recent years' profits to Kroner's were \$625, \$725, \$750.) The church provided the advertising, the place, the customers and sales staff. The florist's responsibility would be to produce, deliver and reclaim.

Jim Drew made arrangements and appeared on the noon-time TV "coming events" moment. Dan Kelly had made a connection with Nancy Nieman Wood of Monticello, Missouri, who brought flowers, tomatoes and herbs for sale on consignment. Jim and Michael Drew had divided plants as a Sunday School activity several weeks earlier. Al Beck brought his special heirloom tomato plants. Bertha Danhaus at 83 years old said this was her last effort and supplied 35 planters of baby tears, some ferns and African violets.

John Brigham brought Siberian iris, chives and canna roots. Frieda Marshall had potted hosta in the fall, nurtured them over winter and they were just emerging. She dug and potted phlox from the garden of Caroline Sexauer. Gloria Carpenter also brought phlox. Jean Sperry brought lemon balm, daisies, Japanese iris and other plants. John Sperry offered wooden wren houses that he had made. The Drews again had many raspberry bushes, and they had made raspberry jelly for the bake sale.

There was very little "hoop-la" about the April 22 sale among the church members. Martha Disseler said that 23 persons contributed to the bake sale, totaling about \$600. That indicated that some people did quite a bit of baking and jelly making. The treasurer said the church could pay the UUA Annual Program Fund Pledge and the CMD dues since the sale netted \$2,544.

### **PLANT SALE 1996**

There was new enthusiasm in the church group this year. Sandy Morrison as president established committees early. The Plant Sale chairpersons, Martha Disseler and Steve Wiegenstein, set the date of April 27 and began their activity in February. Jim Drew made arrangements with the commercial florists: Holtschlag Florist and John Wood Farms. Helpers were assigned, and people assisted willingly. More members and friends helped than in past years.

It seemed that more plants were available from members, and the books were offered in more careful categories. Dianna Drew established a protected area for purchasers to leave their plant selections while buying more or visiting the book or bake-goods departments. The downstairs was crowded at first, causing a suggestion of erecting a tent on the lawn for some of the plants. A price mark-down of baked goods was criticized, and henceforth this would not be permitted. Nevertheless, this turned out to be the most financially successful sale at \$3,016.

### **PLANT SALE 1997**

For the 25th Annual Plant-Book-Bake Sale on April 26, Steve Wiegenstein carried the chairmanship. Jim Drew devoted time and energy to the Plant Sale area and appeared on two TV Community Calendar spots, Lynn and Joe Mercurio arranged the Bake Sale activities, and Nancy and Jesse Winters supervised the Book Sale. Steve prepared encouraging notices for the newsletter and distributed papers for additional helpers and for donation of items. He ordered 500 invitational post cards which were processed for mailing by Frieda Marshall.

Members helped very well to set-up for the sale and to assist at the event. Janice Miller greeted the early arrivals and distributed the registration tickets to those in line before the nine o'clock opening. There were new plywood planks to support the book displays to replace the old extra-heavy planks, used since 1972. These cost \$105. The commercial florists were Holtschlag's and John Wood Farms.

Crews stayed in action until the sale closing time of one o'clock. Clean-up and book storage duties were accomplished smoothly. The sale added \$2,595 to the church treasury. Chairperson Steve Wiegenstein, expressed his appreciation and said, "The plant sale is truly a collective effort, and it's a delight to see so many people contributing in their own ways." Minister Rob Manning wrote in the newsletter: "The sale is a triumph of community. It is amazing to think how many members and friends contribute in some way." President Sandy Morrison added, "... our congregation showed that as we congregate, it is a class act."

### PLANT SALE 1998

Georgia House and Alan Nichols volunteered to chair the 1998 Plant Sale. The Co-chairs met with Frieda Marshall and explored the "Plant Sale Blue Book." Basically, the same people gave leadership to the various departments. The co-chairs made plans for the promotion of the event. On the Tuesday before the sale there was a color photo on the "City" page of The Herald-Whig, showing Carol Nichols and Jean Sperry at the florist's greenhouse. This was a pre-arranged photo-op. Some members of the Artists' Guild went to Holtschlag's and made small paintings of the flowering plants. These were then mounted and offered for sale through the bakery department. The church realized 20% of each sale. Samantha Walker and Lynn Mercurio appeared on the TV promotional spots. There was also an electronic sign at First Bankers's Trust (33rd and Broadway) several days prior to the sale.

Book Sale people ( Nancy and Jesse Winters, Sandy Morrison, Sandy Walters, Rob Manning and Liza Hayashi) culled the undesirable volumes before the sale. Jim Drew transported some to his business dumpster. Others were offered at the ending of the sale for \$1 each box. Additional culled-for-discard paper-back books were trucked away by Paul Miller.

Plant Sale set-up received attention Thursday and Friday from Jim and Dienna Drew, Al Beck, Frieda and Floyd Marshall, Janice Miller, Sandy and Ted Morrison, Alan Nichols, Don Eldridge, Sharon Buzzard, Steve Wiegenstein, Sherryl Lang, and Jen Miller. When Paul Miller filled his pick-up truck with plants from Marshall's patio, he said "It looks like Hosta Heaven!" Al Beck set up tables for the exotic plants he had nurtured in his greenhouse. Holtschlag's delivered bedding plants, vegetable plants, flowering plants, etc. John Wood Farms supplied flowers and herbs.

Bake sale helpers included: Lynn and Joe Mercurio, Anna Wiegenstein, Caroline Sexauer, Gloria Carpenter, Jane Holt, Sharon Buzzard and Mary Belle Coffman. At the end of the sale only one item remained. No prices were reduced. The area was left clean and neat.

Judith Troje video taped the event. The scenes show many cars parked along the streets, the people entering the building, registering for the door prize, selecting plants, choosing baked goods, and studiously observing the book display. Also shown are the

church members, assisting the people and attending to the responsibilities of their departments. Exit activity shows smiling “customers” with their trays of plants, sacks or arm loads of books, and of course, the delicacies from the bake sale. About 375 registration tickets indicated a standard for attendance through the years. Clean-up crews did their jobs and by 2 p.m. everything was in order for Sunday morning services. Remaining plants and magazines were given on Monday to the Walter Hammond Day Care Center, the arrangements being made by John Brigham.

Accounting for the 1998 Plant Sale: Plants \$3,225.97; Books 427.12; Baked Goods 507.95; Paintings and Candles 171.00. Gross total \$4,332.04.

Expenses and commissions: Holtschlag Florist 917.25; John Wood Farms 249.00; Postage 95.00; Plant Sale Postcards 34.50; Artists’ Consignment 128.80.  
Net profit 2,907.49.

### PLANT SALE 1999

For the second year Georgia House and Alan Nichols volunteered to chair the sale, and they hoped that the usual “movers and shakers” would help. Those who led were: Plant Sale - Jim and Dienna Drew. Books - Jesse and Nancy Winters, Bakery - Lynn Mercurio and Leann Flanagan. Jim Drew made arrangements with Holtschlag Florist. Sam Walker enthusiastically promoted the sale on Channel 7 TV. Sarah McUumber-House designed an attractive poster, copies of which could be displayed in high-volume traffic locations.

Jesse Winters fashioned announcement posts for the History, Biography, Fiction, Language, Art and Music, etc. categories of the Book Sale. Several Quincy families, moving to new locations, donated items from their personal libraries. There was a need for more tables, even with two that had been donated by J. and M. Troje.

Dienna Drew and Jean Sperry manned the “holding area” in the Plant Sale department. This was blocked off by low bookcases and occupied floor space to the east of the fireplace. The florist delivered two more loads of plants during the morning. The bake sale items sold quickly, most being gone by noon.

Rob Manning invited the “proletarians = workers” to have sloppy Joe sandwiches, veggies and chips that he supplied in the church kitchen.

Accounting for the 1999 Plant Sale: Plants - 2,744.50; Books - 757.70; Baked Goods - 609.55. Gross total: \$4,111.75

Expenses: Holtschlag Florist - 1,029.53; Post cards - 34.50; Postage - 100.  
Net Profit: \$2,947.72.

## UNITARIAN CHURCH SPECIAL PROJECTS

Feb. 1991	Fellowship Hall lighting (Memorial Funds) Separate heating system for Heritage Room	\$1,419
Nov. 1991	Fellowship Hall plaster repaired, walls and ceiling painted Folding doors removed.	\$1,040
Nov. 1991	Utility building north of church, F. Zanger	\$1,000
May 1992	Microwave oven (Gift of Women's Alliance)	
July 1992	Seven window screens	\$ 200
Aug. 1992	New Wayside Pulpit	\$ 550
Aug. 1992	Stage Lighting	\$ 266
Sept. 1992	Front Entry Flooring (Memorial Funds)	\$ 441
1993	3-year pledge drive to replace furnace and support exterior painting project	
Sept. 1993	Replacement of furnace - E. W. Wand	\$ 8,789
March 1993	Hymnals "Singing the Living Tradition" (Memorial Funds)	\$300
March 1993	Stair treads	\$ 245
July 1994	Exterior painting - Paul Womack	\$ 4,518
1994	Ricoh Copier (used) (Memorial Funds)	\$ 714
1994	Lamp Shades - Heintz (Memorial Funds)	\$ 70
1995	Magic Chef Refrigerator (Memorial Funds)	\$ 625
March 1995	Kawai Piano (Matching funds from B.Danhaus- \$1,500) (Memorial Funds - \$1,500)	\$3,000
June 1996	Production of Church History (Memorial Funds)	\$ 416
Aug. 1996	Interior Painting, Paul Womack	\$5,984

UNITARIAN CHURCH SPECIAL PROJECTS

Nov. 1996	Table & Chair set, and Carpeting Resource Room/Heritage Room	\$ 600
July 1997	Fire-proof File (Memorial Funds)	\$ 475
1997	Upper-landing Cabinets (Memorial Funds)	\$ 465
1997	3-Year pledge drive for organ restoration ( \$ 22,000)	
June 1998	Organ Restoration Project	\$22,300
Aug. 1998	Upper landing carpeting (Memorial Funds)	\$ 335
Sept. 1998	Savin Photo-copier (new) (Memorial Funds) ((\$200 Ricoh trade-in)	\$1,176
Oct. 1998	Refinishing front and back doors	\$ 239
Feb. 1999	Amplifier System	\$ 400
June 1999	Exterior (Touch-up) Painting	\$ 550
July 1999	Thirty new metal folding chairs (Memorial Funds)	\$ 441
July 1999	River City Restoration Feasibility study	\$1,700
Oct. 1999	Sanctuary Carpeting (Offset by \$1,500 donation)	\$ 1,909

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

Term expired 1989  
Georgia House  
David Quarles  
(R) Kevin Barton  
Elizabeth Stebbins  
(R) Nike Mendenhall (P)

Term expired 1990  
Alan Starkey  
John Brigham  
(R) Mary Weber  
(R) Nona Miller  
Lisa Wigoda (P)

Term expired 1991  
Ted Morrison (P)  
Nayer Attai  
Maria Petzoldt  
(R) John Schnauffer

Term expired 1992  
Kevin Barton  
Tom House  
Michael Flanagan

Term expired 1993  
Nona Miller (P) 1992  
Nancy Winters  
Linda Kuenzli (P)

Term expired 1994  
John Sperry  
Jeanne Brown  
(Ruth Lohrenz)  
Dan Kelly

Term Expired 1995  
Carol Nichols  
Susan Holliday  
Caroline Sexauer

Term expired 1996  
Lynn Mercurio  
Alan Starkey (P) (1994,1995)  
Anne Stupavsky

Term expired 1997  
Sandy Morrison (P)(1996,1997)  
Liza Hayashi  
Alan Nichols

Term expired 1998  
Mary Belle Coffiman  
Frieda Marshall  
Steve Wiegenstein (P)

Term expired 1999  
Thomas House  
Gloria Carpenter (P)  
Dale McUmbur-House

Term expired 2000  
Michael Flanagan  
Jesse Winters  
(R) Steve Ward  
Gail Starkey (d. 1999)  
(R) Nancy Winters

Term expired 2001  
Libby Haggard  
Sandra Walters  
Ellen Taylor (P)

Term expired 2002  
Georgia House  
Addie Seabarkrob  
Cindy Ahrens

*The 2000 Affirmation report  
states that the 2000 report  
was not completed. I suspect  
it was not completed because  
went out in 2000.*

UNITARIAN CHURCH  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Term will expire 2001

Libby Haggard  
Sandra Walters  
Ellen Taylor - *2000-2001*

Term will expire 2002

Georgia House  
Addie Seabarkrob  
Cindy Ahrens

Change to two-year terms, with  
optional two additional years.

Kevin Ballard  
Robert Mathieson  
Steve Ward

## MEMBERS

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1998 Linda Kuenzli<br/>Kevin Barton<br/>John W. Schnaufer<br/>Ruth Lohrenz<br/>Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts</p> <p>1990 Robert Merrick<br/>Kay Merrick<br/>Anne Stupavsky<br/>Dale McUmber-House</p> <p>1991 Breck Brown<br/>Jeannie A. Brown<br/>Linda Hirvonen<br/>Michael T. Allkins</p> <p>1992 J. William Holliday<br/>Susan Holliday<br/>Alan Nichols<br/>Carol Nichols<br/>Lynn Mercurio</p> <p>1993 George Van Ronzelen<br/>Mary Van Ronzelen<br/>Liza Hayashi</p> <p>1995 Gloria Carpenter<br/>Paula Cornwell (Webster)<br/>Scott Webster<br/>Jane Holt<br/>Larry Hoard</p> <p>1996 Sharon Buzzard<br/>Steve Wiegenstein<br/>Suzanne Cohen<br/>Robert J. S.Manning<br/>Pauline Wessels<br/>B. J. Smith<br/>Libby Haggard<br/>C. Patrick Hotle<br/>James Hayashi<br/>Kate Luther<br/>Douglas Luther<br/>Ellen Taylor</p> | <p>1997 Kimberly Harvey<br/>Sandra Walters<br/>Kimberly Starkey (Jr.)<br/>Ryan DePauw (Jr.)<br/>Mindy Behymer</p> <p>1998 Greg Bohemier<br/>Mary-Carol Lindbloom<br/>Kristina Mathieson (Jr.)<br/>Maureen Hallas<br/>Jennifer Minaya</p> <p>1999 Michael Drew<br/>Jennifer Miller (Drew)<br/>Addie Seabarkrob<br/>Jeffrey Seabarkrob<br/>Sherryl Lang<br/>Stephen Ward<br/>Leann Flanagan<br/>Randy Thompson<br/>Cindy Ahrens<br/>Rob Ahrens</p> <p>2000 David Wexler<br/>Kevin Ballard<br/>Peggy Ballard<br/>Dave Ripper<br/>Michelle Ripper<br/>Megan Cahill</p> <p>2001 Phyllis Dopp</p> <p>2002 Judith Crocker<br/>Diana Robison<br/>James Olson<br/>Shirley Crank<br/>Gerald Crank<br/>Claire Myers</p> <p>2003 Carrie Edgar<br/>Mark Edgar<br/>J. Louis DeGonia<br/>Reginald Willis<br/>Alan Harvey<br/>Jennifer Harvey<br/>Celia Lambert<br/>David Cornelius<br/>Kathleen Cornelius</p> |
|--|--|

2004

Jodi Conrad  
Kim Tonozzi  
Antony Wollaston .  
Jill Wollaston  
Robin Taylor  
Ridgely Pierson

## D E A T H S

		Service conducted by
Dolores Dickhoener Jenkins	September 29, 1989	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
Robert S. Campbell	November 7, 1989	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
Dorothe E. Owen	March 16, 1990	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
John D. Andrews (Hannibal, Missouri)	December 19, 1990	Rev. John W. Brigham
Gary Wayne Miller	March 25, 1991	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
George R. Berggren	July 28, 1991	Rev. John W. Brigham
Evangeline Dickhoener Norton	August 7, 1991	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
Marjorie Ballow	November 4, 1991	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
William E. Sexauer	December 19, 1992	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
Gladys S. Cassidy	March 22, 1993	Dr. John A. Sperry
Mary P. Van Ronzelen (Hannibal)	August 8, 1993	----
Anne K. Gray	December 22, 1993	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
Thomas Moore	January 12, 1994	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
Genevieve "Gene" Taylor	September 13, 1994	----
Charlotte McCarl Winters	February 28, 1995	Rev. Lynn Smith-Roberts
Beulah E. Herman	November 21, 1995	Rev. John W. Brigham
Rev. George P. Crist (Michigan)	June 18, 1996	(Former minister)
James William Holliday	April 12, 1997	Dr. Robert J. S. Manning
Agnes F. Aman (Texas)	October 15, 1997	(Wife of former minister)
James Gordon Johnson (Deerfield, IL)	March 20, 1998	(Son of former organist)
Robert L. Fisher	April 17, 1998	Dr. Robert J. S. Manning
Edward C. Herman	July 17, 1998	Rev. John W. Brigham
Ray E. White (Springfield, Illinois)	December 9, 1998	Rev. Mary Moore
Lloyd E. Harris	February 10, 1999	Dr. Robert J. S. Manning
Gail Bushmeyer Starkey	February 23, 1999	Dr. Robert J. S. Manning
Alice Morrison Mays	April 22, 1999	Dr. Robert J. S. Manning
Caroline Schlagenhauf Sexauer	May 9, 1999	Dr. Robert J. S. Manning
Marion Ertel	August 29, 1999	Dr. Robert J. S. Manning
John Alexander Morrison	December 6, 1999	Dr. John A. Sperry
Hettie-Marie Andrews	March 4, 2000	Rev. Judy Taylor
Amy Sundermann Stevens	Sept. 19, 2000	
Hilliard M. Shair	Oct. 10, 2000	Michael Saul
V. Sherman Bond	June 18, 2001	Dr. Robert J. S. Manning
Violet G. Moore	Aug. 7, 2001	Rev. Robert Swikard
Phillip R. Fleming	Sept. 4, 2001	Dr. Rob. J.S. Manning
Mary Belle (Halbach) Coffman	Nov. 11, 2001	Dr. Robert J.S. Manning

## UNITARIAN CHURCH SPECIAL PROJECTS

March, 1983	Congregational meeting approved improvements to electrical service, including 150 amp, 240 volt meter service to replace 60 amp service. Lepper Electric.	\$ 1,632
May, 1983	3-year building restoration fund drive (exterior painting, stone masonry cleaned, sand-blasting stucco of north and west upper section, silicone weatherproofing application, by VonderHaar) (Capstones on seven window wells relaid, and all masonry joints repointed) (Bulkhead entrance to the furnace room sandblasted and painted.) (Rear entry door sanded and varnished.)	\$ 20,000
1984	Renovation of the ladies restroom area, new lavatory with formica counter, hot water unit, wall paneling, new entry to men's restroom, louvered door.	\$ 2,386
	Part of the \$20,000 pledge drive. Three-year pledges amounted to \$14,000. To pay for this work \$2,000 was withdrawn from memorial funds, and \$2,000 was borrowed from the Eldred Endowment.	
Nov. 1985	Repair to the leather work of the organ bellows, Charles Aitken, organ expert of Connecticut. Memorial funds paid the bill.	\$ 3,425
	NO MINISTER - - February 1987 to September 1989	
Aug. 1987	3-year fund drive for re-roofing the church (25 year warranty) Rouse & Bruggeman	\$ 13,073
Aug. 1988	Refinishing front doors - Cris Cassidy	
May 1989	Interior & exterior painting work, stage face and flooring, vanity in minister's office, flex glass on west and south stained glass windows.	\$ 4,212
June, 1989	Expanded driveway (Memorial Funds)	\$ 3,750

UNITARIAN CHURCH SPECIAL PROJECTS

Feb. 1991	Fellowship Hall lighting (Memorial Funds) Separate heating system for Heritage Room	\$1,419
Nov. 1991	Fellowship Hall plaster repaired, walls and ceiling painted Folding doors removed.	\$1,040
Nov. 1991	Utility building north of church, F. Zanger	\$1,000
May 1992	Microwave oven (Gift of Women's Alliance)	
July 1992	Seven window screens	\$ 200
Aug. 1992	New Wayside Pulpit	\$ 550
Aug. 1992	Stage Lighting	\$ 266
Sept. 1992	Front Entry Flooring (Memorial Funds)	\$ 441
1993	3-year pledge drive to replace furnace and support exterior painting project	
Sept. 1993	Replacement of furnace - E. W. Wand	\$ 8,789
March 1993	Hymnals "Singing the Living Tradition" (Memorial Funds)	\$300
March 1993	Stair treads	\$ 245
July 1994	Exterior painting - Paul Womack	\$ 4,518
1994	Ricoh Copier (used) (Memorial Funds)	\$ 714
1994	Lamp Shades - Heintz (Memorial Funds)	\$ 70
1995	Magic Chef Refrigerator (Memorial Funds)	\$ 625
March 1995	Kawai Piano (Matching funds from B.Danhaus- \$1,500) (Memorial Funds - \$1,500)	\$3,000
June 1996	Production of Church History (Memorial Funds)	\$ 416
Aug. 1996	Interior Painting, Paul Womack	\$5,984

UNITARIAN CHURCH SPECIAL PROJECTS

Nov. 1996	Table & Chair set, and Carpeting Resource Room/Heritage Room	\$ 600
July 1997	Fire-proof File (Memorial Funds)	\$ 475
1997	Upper-landing Cabinets (Memorial Funds)	\$ 465
1997	3-Year pledge drive for organ restoration ( \$ 22,000)	
June 1998	Organ Restoration Project	\$22,300
Aug. 1998	Upper landing carpeting (Memorial Funds)	\$ 335
Sept. 1998	Savin Photo-copier (new) (Memorial Funds) ( \$200 Ricoh trade-in)	\$1,176
Oct. 1998	Refinishing front and back doors	\$ 239
Feb. 1999	Amplifier System	\$ 400
June 1999	Exterior (Touch-up) Painting	\$ 550
July 1999	Thirty new metal folding chairs (Memorial Funds)	\$ 441
July 1999	River City Restoration Feasibility study	\$1,700
Oct. 1999	Sanctuary Carpeting (Offset by \$1,500 donation)	\$ 1,909