

## **Committee Reports – Semi Annual Meeting January, 2024. Quincy Unitarian Church, Quincy IL**

### **Worship Committee Semiannual report 2024**

The Worship Committee updated the script before services began in September. They did one service as a team during the month of September. In October we added a song to the service for the period while the children are leaving for R.E./baby-sitting. We talked to Aaron Arnold, the board president, about updating our audio system. Taylor did the research and presented the quote for the board's approval. The new system was installed in October. Everyone is happy with this improvement. Steve Wiegenstein and Sharon Buzzard spoke for our Christmas Eve service. Natalie Keirn read "The Grinch" for the children's Story for All Ages.

Mary Ann Freeman, 1-2024

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### **Ministers' Report**

#### **Semi-Annual Meeting 2024**

Our second year as lay ministers for the church has gotten off to a good start. Here is a summary of our activities for calendar year 2023:

- We presented a sermon every month, usually connected with whatever the UU Touchstones topic was for the month. The responsibility of presenting an appropriate, thought-provoking, and approachable talk is something we take very seriously, and the preparation of these talks usually takes several days of at-home work time.
- Following up on the "Why Are UU?" workshop we conducted in January 2023, we conducted two more workshops. One was a second version of the "Why Are UU?" workshop, with different discussion questions so that participants in the first workshop could engage in this one without feeling that they were repeating themselves but new participants wouldn't feel excluded. The other was a workshop on the theme of reconciliation and what it means in our personal and church lives. The response to that workshop suggested that a follow-up workshop would be needed, and we are currently looking at March dates.
- We have engaged in personal connection with members and friends in a variety of ways. These connections have occurred at least every week, and usually several times a week. They have been in person and through remote means.
- Sharon conducted a wedding in April, with several pre-event meetings to meet the couple and prepare.
- With a bit more time flexibility than in the first year, we have participated in church life activities as often as possible. These include First Fridays as well as other informal get-togethers. We were very grateful for the use of the house owned by Chris Wiewel and Mike Schlinkmann during the previous year. As that house is now rented, we have focused a little more on day trips rather than overnights to save the church on expenses.

We are grateful for the opportunity to serve the church and look forward to our continued relationship.

Sharon Buzzard

Steve Wiegenstein

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## HR Semi-Annual Meeting Report

HR Committee does not routinely meet. Instead, as Chair, I make sure that all contracted persons are kept paid with appropriate hours claimed and approved for each month. We have a sum totaled of \$28,000 in contracted services per year. This does not include maintenance contractors. HR will be giving individual contractor a 1099-NEC, so that individuals can report their income to the IRS. That should occur before 1/31/2024. Professional processing of those forms and our filing with the State as a 501c-3 will be done through Beers Tax Service of Quincy IL. This firm was discussed and recommended by the Finance Committee and approved by the Board.

All procedures needed for the protection of those who contract with the Church, as well as protection for our members and RE children, has been written, passed by the Board and given as information to said contractors. Protocols and polices are kept on file in the Church office.

When persons are contracted, especially those involved in RE, references are checked, a police check is done and persons are finger printed. This is to hopefully avoid problems, especially where children are involved. Appropriate Church members are called to supervise the settings in which the children participate, and all contracted persons are in communication with Committee chairs relevant to their work, and with other Church members as appropriate.

Persons retained include Tech Support, Music Ministry, Ground Care, Office Assistance, a Cleaning Service and our Lay Ministers. Other 1099-NEC's will be sent to those whose payment by the Church exceeded \$600 in the 2023 Calendar Year, including guest speakers and building and grounds contractors.

Carol Nichols, 1-2024

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