

# **NORTH UNIVERSALIST CHAPEL SOCIETY**

## **2011 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Annual Meeting  
January 29, 2012**



**7 Church Street  
Woodstock, Vermont 05091  
(802) 457-2557  
wdstkuu@sover.net  
www.nucs.org**

*Affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist Association*

# NUCS Board of Trustees Annual Report 2010

2011 will forever be known as the year of Irene - in our history and in our hearts. Our lives, communities, church, and beloved state have been forever changed by the waters. And we, we begin anew as 2012 rushes in, and, as we know from experience, rushes by.

When I think of the North Chapel, the first word that always comes to mind is gratitude. Gratitude that you are part of the goodness of this place; that you give--of your time, your spirit, and your resources, as you are able. Gratitude that we have Daniel as our minister, and a fine, beautiful building full of history, that shelters us. Gratitude that we are supported by a wonderful, caring staff of people, who are more like family than employees. Gratitude that so many of you willingly and lovingly do the work of this church, as volunteers and committee members. Gratitude for the musicians, poets, and artists among us, sharing your talents with hearts wide open. We, each one of us, are blessed by your presence in this community.

A note of love and thanks to former Chairwoman, Peggy Kannenstine, who left the Board unexpectedly at the beginning of the year so that she could concentrate on being healthy. Her dedication to and support of the North Chapel over the years is a model for all - thank you dear Peggy. I believe that Peggy would be proud of the current Board of Trustees and the incredibly hard work we have done to become a visioning, thoughtful Board; one that allows the Committees of our Church to work unencumbered, but also supports them as needed. We have learned a lot about one another and how we function as a group during 2011, and with a Retreat planned in mid-February, I think it is fair to say that our introspection will come full circle, as we assess how we are working together.

Last year the Growth Committee told us that your concerns around our community were mostly, but not all, about governance, welcoming, and communication. While discussing these topics on the Board level throughout the year, many of the outcomes are in the making. We have tried to understand the Board's role in governance during the past year, and we now plan to meet with all active committee chairs and any interested members to be sure that all who take part in the work of this Church understand their importance in the big picture and to figure out where improvement is needed. Our Membership Committee brainstorms regularly to give us ideas on how to be more welcoming, and the simple truth is, that it falls on all of our shoulders to reach out, invite in, and include, every new person who walks through our front doors. Like welcoming, communication is forever work – please, please never hesitate to approach a Board member with a question or concern...it is what we are here for as we strive to be transparent in all things and available to you as needed.

As this year begins, we are fresh from a wonderful, new dialogue about the need for a contemplative space. We will be looking to you for your voice in this process, surely an important one, as we consider the future of the North Chapel and how we appeal to the spiritual needs of all people. The board also plans to examine, in depth, how we “do” social justice, with visioning sessions, your input, and an Ad Hoc Committee who will report back to us. 2012 will challenge us monetarily, but I trust your generosity will see us through.

I end where I began then, with gratitude, for you, this circle we form together, and all the good things this New Year has in store for us.

May 2012 bless you, and yours, and our North Chapel.

With love,  
Mary Jeanne Taylor  
Co-Chair, Board of Trustees

## **North Universalist Chapel Society -- Woodstock, Vermont Annual Meeting Minutes -- January 23, 2011**

The 2011 Annual Meeting began at 11:53 a.m. following a pot luck lunch. About 60 members and friends of the congregation were in attendance.

**WELCOME:** Peggy Kannenstine, President of the Board of Trustees, welcomed and thanked everyone for participating. Peggy read a heartwarming message from Edie Crocker as an example of how NUCS touches lives.

**ELECTION OF MODERATOR:** Representing the Nominating Committee, Barbara Abraham MOVED to elect Kevin Geiger as Moderator for the year 2011. Passed unanimously.

**ELECTION OF CLERK:** Representing the Nominating Committee, Barbara Abraham MOVED to elect Donna Van Fleet as Clerk for the year 2011. Moderator Kevin Geiger called for any other nominations from the floor. There were none. Neil Marinello MOVED to close nominations; Deb Hawthorn seconded. Election of Donna Van Fleet as Clerk passed unanimously.

**ELECTION OF TREASURER:** Representing the Nominating Committee, Barbara Abraham MOVED to elect Ann Wynia as Treasurer for 2011. Moderator Kevin Geiger called for any other nominations from the floor. There were none. Neil Marinello MOVED to close nominations. Election of Ann Wynia as Treasurer passed unanimously.

**ACCEPTANCE OF ANNUAL REPORT:** Kevin Geiger invited any questions about the Annual Report. In response to a request from Susan Inui-Kelley, minister Daniel Jantos gave background and clarification about the possible additions to Religious Education programming for 12 - 14 year olds and 11th and 12th graders. Norwood Long MOVED to accept the Annual Report; David Doolittle seconded. Passed unanimously.

**DEPARTING TRUSTEE AWARDS:** President Peggy Kannenstine and Vice President Lynn Peterson expressed gratitude to trustees whose terms have ended:

1. Neil Marinello for offering insights that kept the board focused and especially for his sense of humor.
2. David Doolittle for his skill in infusing a new sense of life into the Building and Grounds work.

**ELECTIONS TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** Representing the Nominating Committee, Susan Inui-Kelley presented the following individuals for election to the Board of Trustees:

1. Lynn Peterson for a second, 3-year term. Passed unanimously.
2. Carol Egbert for a first, 3-year term. Passed unanimously.

To seek nominations for the remaining open board seat, Susan Inui-Kelley solicited nominations from the floor. Neil Marinello nominated Anne Marinello for a first, 3-year term. Anne asked for more time to consider the unanticipated nomination. President Peggy Kannenstine recommended that interested candidates work through the Nominating Committee to give due consideration to what trusteeship entails. Jennifer Donaldson nominated Bob Williamson. Ann Wynia noted that because Bob is not a registered member of the North Universalist Chapel Society, he is not eligible to serve as trustee. Moderator Kevin Geiger requested an exception to the election process as stated in the by-laws to allow Anne and any others who are interested in trusteeship to work through the Nominating Committee and have the Nominating Committee bring forward a recommendation to fill the open trustee position.

**TRUSTEES OF FUNDS:** Representing the Nominating Committee, Susan Inui-Kelley nominated Chris Lloyd for reelection to the position of Trustee of Funds. Passed unanimously.

**WELCOME TO NEW TRUSTEES:** President Peggy Kannenstine requested that all trustees stand together at the front of the meeting to both raise their visibility to the membership and welcome Carol Egbert to the Board. The trustees collectively read aloud their Trustee Covenant.

**UNSUNG HERO RECOGNITION:** The board annually awards the “Unsung Hero” commendation to an individual or group who makes a significant contribution to the work of the church in a quiet way. In recognition of the extraordinary generosity of financial support provided by the membership, especially notable in this challenging economic environment, President Peggy Kannenstine announced that the entire membership was being collectively honored as “Unsung Heroes” for their remarkable financial stewardship of the work of NUCS both in the local community and worldwide.

**ELECTION OF MEMBER OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** Representing the Board of Trustees, Lynn Peterson MOVED that Joan Haley be elected to membership on the Nominating Committee. Passed unanimously.

**BUDGET FOR 2011:** Treasurer Ann Wynia reviewed the proposed 2011 budget, noting the inclusion of the following on the expense side:

1. Salary increase for the administrative staff
2. Funding for a new office computer
3. Funding for web site support
4. Payment of fair-share dues to the national and district UU organizations
5. Salary increase for the minister (greeted by applause from the members)
6. Restoration of the sabbatical savings fund to make up for the prior three years when it was not funded (Susan Inui-Kelley expressed gratitude for the restoration)
7. Salary increase for music director and funds to cover substitute music providers when music director is away
8. Funding for leadership development.
9. Daniel Jantos reported that there was a reduction in funding for Religious Education based on learning that previously increased funding did not produce the desired expansion

On the income side:

1. Ann Wynia noted the unusually high surplus of \$24,874 being carried forward from last year.
2. Lynn Peterson recognized Vassie Sinopoulos for the selling of the piano and wedding tent.
3. Sherry Belisle recognized Donna Van Fleet for “making giving fun” in her coordination of the Pledge Drive.

Neil Marinello MOVED to accept the budget; David Doolittle seconded. Passed unanimously.

**TRUSTEES OF FUNDS REPORT:** Chris Lloyd reported that the portfolio has increased by 11% in 2010, with a value of \$166,722 as of December 31, 2010. The Trustees of Funds are working with a fund advisor with a goal of building the fund to \$250,000. Trish Compton asked whether consideration has been given to setting aside a specific endowment. Chris responded that since the fund is being drawn down only 5% per year, it is actually operating as an endowment. From the floor there were spontaneous objections to instituting a specific endowment.

**GROWTH COMMITTEE REPORT (a written report was included in the Annual Report):**

Susan Inui-Kelley, co-chairperson of the Growth Committee with Chris Bartlett, presented the history

and background for the work effort, dating to 2005. Susan reported that the work was necessitated by NUCS' growing from a small, pastoral (pastor-centered/driven) church to a larger, program (pastor- and membership-driven) church. Susan reported that the three task forces -- Nimble and Flexible, Engagement, and Spirituality -- which were announced at last year's Annual Meeting fed back their findings and recommendations to the board over the fourth quarter of 2010.

Peter Rousmaniere, chair of the Engagement Task Force, presented the results of the survey that was distributed in the first quarter of last year. Feedback from the 101 responses (65% of the members and active nonmembers) distilled into two findings:

1. NUCS presents a strong spiritual life that meets what members want
2. There are opportunities for improvement/enhancement in
3. Engaging new people,
4. Communicating how the governance of the church works,
5. Offering additional ways to experience spirituality.

Susan Inui-Kelley directed attention to the 14 action items described in the Annual Report, which were proposed by the Growth Committee to the Board.

President Peggy Kannenstine expressed the Board's gratitude to the Growth Committee for gathering the input and solidifying the findings into action items, which she encouraged the members to read in the Annual Report. Peggy reported that:

1. The first step taken was contracting with consultant Anne Peyton to lead the board through the first of many retreats aimed at doing the intensive work that will transform the church in response to what is desired.
2. Deb Hawthorn has accepted the role of project manager to oversee the various pieces of work.
3. A Council of Committee Chairs will be forming to enhance communication.
4. Work on revisiting the Mission and Vision will begin immediately, and the membership is invited to participate in visioning conversations over board-provided breakfast gatherings the next three Saturday mornings.

Deb Hawthorn asked for a round of applause for the Growth Committee.

**MEDITATION BUILDING PROPOSAL:** David Doolittle reported on an emerging idea for a smaller, more intimate space separate from the church sanctuary dedicated to reflection, contemplation, meditation, refuge, silence and retreat. After considering possible locations, sketches for a freestanding building overlooking the river were drawn by Charles Egbert (and posted on the wall at the Annual Meeting). David reported that approval to continue to explore the building project was received from the board and the town of Woodstock in December. It is envisioned that the building, currently named "Riverwatch", would be a resource for both the church and the larger community under the direction of an Oversight Group who would make sure that the spirit and use of the space stays aligned with its vision and purpose, and that fundraising would be done independent of the church budget. David invited participation from any who are interested in working on this "work in process".

**CLOSING MEDITATION:** Daniel Jantos led the gathering through a closing meditation.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Schultz Van Fleet, Clerk/Secretary

## North Universalist Chapel Society 2011 Financial Report

		Actual	2011 Budget
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
1	Loose	13,954.26	13000
2	Pledges	133,667.00	130000
3	Gifts/Donations	6,255.32	3000
4	Rentals	11,638.00	12000
5	Nursery School	6,250.00	5750
6	Fund Raising	10,716.04	11000
7	Reserve Fund	8,336.00	8336
8	Balance forward	28,251.19	24874
9	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>219,067.81</b>	<b>207960</b>
 <b>EXPENSES</b>			
10	Electric	4,875.41	4800
11	Fuel/Furnace	5,968.23	9000
12	Grounds	4,999.12	5000
13	Insurance	3,176.00	3528
14	Janitorial	3,645.98	2500
15	Maintenance	9,704.25	4000
16	Water/Sewer	767.55	1000
17	<b>TOTAL CHURCH</b>	<b>33,136.54</b>	<b>29828</b>
18	Electric	0.00	0
19	Furnace	99.80	200
20	Maintenance	1,500.38	1330
21	Water/Sewer	0.00	0
22	<b>TOTAL PARSONAGE</b>	<b>1,600.18</b>	<b>1530</b>
23	Administrative Ass't	12,830.83	11843
24	Office Supplies	2,272.42	2500
25	Postage/Printing	162.26	150
26	Telephone	1,398.27	1500
27	Website Host/Upkeep	1,462.40	1860
28	Copier Lease	3,238.13	3500
29	UUA Fair Share	9,408.00	9408
30	NNED Dues	2,856.00	2856
31	Miscellaneous	120.27	100
32	<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>33,748.58</b>	<b>33717</b>
33	FICA	7,705.50	7687
34	Medical Ins.	13,585.50	13816
35	Pension	9,731.00	9731
36	Auto Expenses	2,000.00	2000
37	Professional Exp & Devel	4,866.00	4866
38	Workers' Comp	1,350.00	1533
39	<b>TOTAL BENEFITS</b>	<b>39,238.00</b>	<b>39633</b>
40	Salary	39,509.00	39509
41	Housing Allowance	30,000.00	30000
42	<b>TOTAL MINISTER</b>	<b>69,509.00</b>	<b>69509</b>

	Actual	2011 Budget
43 Sabbatical Savings Account	2550.00	2550
44 Substitutes	250.00	500
45 Supplies	240.72	100
46 Advertising	50.75	100
47 <b>TOTAL WORSHIP</b>	3,091.47	3250
48 Organist/Choir Direct.	15,279.00	15279
49 Special Services	500.00	500
50 Supplies	415.23	500
51 <b>TOTAL MUSIC</b>	16,194.23	16279
52 <b>Coffee</b>	289.60	500
53 <b>Resource Comm</b>	88.00	500
Margaret Lampe Kannenstine Leadership Development		
54 Fund	1462.00	2500
55 Outreach	187.24	150
56 Quest	2096.94	2200
57 <b>TOTAL MEMBERSHIP</b>	3,746.18	4850
58 Staff	4,000.00	4400
59 Supplies	333.53	600
60 RE Training	0.00	500
61 Child Care	1,632.00	1664
62 Junior Youth	0.00	400
63 Senior Youth	0.00	400
64 Adult Education	79.00	200
65 Recognition	246.94	200
66 <b>TOTAL R.E.</b>	6,291.47	8364
67 <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	206,933.25	207,960

Respectfully submitted by Ann Wynia

## Minister's Annual Report 2011

There are some of us who bid 2011 goodbye without too much nostalgia. The year began with solitary numbers, 1/1/11, but ended with our area being inundated and devastated by the record floods and lots of upheaval.

Irene has in many ways dominated the last quarter of 2011. Many of our members have been involved in various ways in helping with the recovery effort, volunteering many hours cleaning up and organizing relief. We continue to have a small fund here that we hope can be used in the effort of relocating one family who has lost their home and land. This is a project being currently called "Building Hope" and it aims to partner with Habitat for Humanity. Building sites or appropriate real estate is currently being explored and soon there will be opportunities for getting involved in working on the project with Habitat for Humanity.

I am very grateful to our congregation and to the Board for letting me be involved in the Woodstock Area Flood Relief Fund through the fall in distributing the funds that have been collected for that purpose. It has been an opportunity to connect our community and reach out to those in need while also better understand our areas housing needs. The work has been very time intensive but meaningful.

We began the year with some visioning sessions that related to imagining the needs and opportunities of the future at NUCS. During some of those meetings an addition to our current space that would allow for another kind of spiritual practice was explored. The flood put on hold any plans we might have been dreaming up close to the river. There has also been throughout the year some ambivalence on the part of some who worried about the cost of such construction at a time like this. There is a need for understanding such spaces and practices as not being competitive to or in any way making obsolete our current spaces and practices but rather enriching and enlarging them. There is an enthusiasm on the part of many to continue to grow not only in numbers but in the diverse paths that our mission speaks about. These are days in which such diverse paths are being sought by younger generations who have deep interests in spiritual questions and quests. In addressing these needs and providing support, we continue in nurturing the spiritual curiosity and tolerance that has always been a hallmark of the North Chapel's presence in the region.

I am so very grateful again at the end of another calendar year to the North Chapel, its members and friends. This is a vital organization and I feel incredibly privileged to be a part of this. There is much that suggests that 2012 will be a significant year politically, ecologically and spiritually. I cannot imagine a better place in which to discern together the challenges and opportunities that present themselves to us as people living mindfully in community. Thank you for your participation and the opportunity to serve as your minister.

Daniel

## **Nominating Committee Annual Report 2011**

In 2011 the Nominating Committee (NC) met on an as-needed basis. Our work includes making nominations for Board Trustees; to the Society for Treasurer, Clerk, Moderator, and Trustees of Funds; recruiting participants for General Assembly (GA) and district workshops; and when requested for additional membership for one or more of North Chapel's standing committees.

For the 2012 Annual Meeting, the NC proposes Kevin Geiger as Moderator and Donna Van Fleet as Clerk.

In accordance with the By-Law of the Society, the Board welcomed Hope Yeager as a Trustee to complete the last year of Peggy Kannenstine's term. For three-year terms on the Board, we propose Mary Jeanne Taylor (2<sup>nd</sup> term), Peter Rousmaniere (2<sup>nd</sup> term), and Hope Yeager (1<sup>st</sup> term).

For Treasurer we nominate Ann Wynia.

Trustees of Funds, Kurt Spann (2013) and Laird Bradley (2014) will continue to serve their terms in compliance with our By-Laws. NC proposes Peter Bohlen to begin a three-year term replacing Chris Lloyd who has completed his full-term as a Trustee of Funds. Thank you, Chris, for your guidance and care these past three years.

Susan Inui-Kelley will retire from the NC as of the Annual Meeting having served her full four-year term. The remaining Committee members look forward to welcoming a new member and their Board liaison after this year's Annual Meeting.

Throughout 2012, we will continue to work toward increasing our participation in GA and in District workshops and to support committees and taskforces to develop leadership transition plans as requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
Polly Forcier (2014) and Joby Thompson (2013), co-chairs  
Joan Haley (2015)  
Susan Inui-Kelley (2012)  
Lynn Peterson, Board Liaison

## Resource Committee Annual Report 2011

Members: Rick Fiske, Lynn Peterson (co-chair), Peter Rousmaniere (co-chair), Neil Stannard and Karen Wolk.

**Pledge Drive** The Committee decided to go for an ambitious goal this year because of needs in staff compensation and building maintenance. While our pledge drives in 2009, 2010 and 2011 were in the \$130,000 range, the Drive in 2008 raised \$142,000 and our needs have reached the point where we felt we should try to raise \$145,000 this year. We decided to have a teamwork approach this year with Rick Fiske organizing the pledge dinner, Lynn working on the mechanics of the drive and Karen organizing the follow-up. Peter and Neil helped in all 3 aspects. As of Jan 10<sup>th</sup> we reached 90% of our goal with 2 ½ weeks to go.

**Silent Auction at Pledge Drive Dinner** Rick Fiske organized a silent auction at our Pledge Drive dinner and this raised almost \$3,000 and added enormously to the spirit and enjoyment of the dinner.

**Bookstock** The North Chapel partnered with the Norman Williams Library this year to have a single used book sale and tent. This went very well and many participants in the sale enjoyed the camaraderie and contributing to the atmosphere of Bookstock. Each organization earned about \$2,200. We plan to do the same again this year.

**Western Wind** This has been our major fund raiser for several years but this year it suffered because the normal Columbus day date fell on Yom Kippur so it was scheduled for the Labor Day weekend. However it was impossible to hold it that weekend because of tropical storm Irene – there was still a lot of cleanup and hosting an event when the region was severely crippled did not seem prudent. The date was changed to October 21 – 23 with a more limited scope and fewer participants. As a result we only earned about \$1,700 whereas we often reached \$4,000 in past years. It seems likely we will return to the Columbus Day weekend in 2012.

**Classical Music Series** The series of six concerts this year hosted by David Green, Margaret Edwards, and Hazel and Chris Stoddard resulted in approximately \$1,700 of income. The attendance has been excellent and many appreciate the North Chapel venue.

**Red Flannel Hash and Austrian Dinner** The North Chapel tradition of red flannel hash earned approximately \$1,500 this year and was a big success. A new event was an Austrian-styled dinner on the evening of the Vienna Choir Boys concert. This earned \$390 and was very enjoyable.

We received a grant from the Vermont/Quebec Foundation of \$857 so our total for fund raising this year was \$11,320 just a little bit above our target of \$11,000.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn M. Peterson

## **Worship/Music Committee Annual Report 2011**

The Music and Worship Committee continues to focus on the core principle of its mission statement: “to ensure that the preparation and delivery of the Sunday morning services are of the highest available quality, that they connect with both the head and the heart, that they contribute to the spiritual well-being of all people present and that they reflect our church’s values as outlined in our seven principles.”

We continue to look for ways to involve members of our congregation in our church services, both through personal reflections and expanded Joys and Concerns. This ensures a broader perspective, a greater sense of ownership and a deeper connection between members of our church.

Diane Mellinger did an outstanding job once again as music director. Her choice of music and her expert choir directing greatly enhance our Sunday services.

We are hoping to create a greater openness in our committee by encouraging church members to come to our meetings to share new ideas and perspectives and then perhaps join our committee, as we will be looking for several new members in 2012.

The committee at the close of the year in addition to the minister and the music director were Don Ransom, chair, Mary Blanton, co-chair, Jennifer Donaldson, recording secretary, Anne Macksoud, Carol Egbert, board liaison, Joanne Findley, Chris Bartlett.

Polly Forcier resigned from the committee in December for personal reasons and Joanna Long rotated off the committee in June.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Ransom, Chair

## **Membership Committee Annual Report 2011**

The membership committee consists of Sherry Belisle, chair, Susan Boston, secretary, Ginny Christy, Fran Lancaster, Pru Schuler, Karen Chalom, and Ann Wynia, board liaison. Rose Mroszyk will rejoin once she retires in June.

Presently we have a total of 220 members, 172 of whom are involved. We had 13 new members join this last year:

Townsend and Shoshana Belisle, Nicole Boar (who recently moved), Shoshana Boar, Rick and Kathy Fiske, Norman Fogg, Kathy McLiverty, Meghan Oliver, Marian Settle, John Steinle, Bob Williamson, and Ken Woodhead. All new members now receive an interest survey upon signing the book to further engage each person in our church activities and committees. We lost Georgina Williamson in autumn.

Traditionally we are the greeters for the Sunday services and are responsible for altar decorations and hearing devices. We are also responsible for the maintenance of the membership roll book, communicating with visitors by mail, the pamphlet rack, the welcome cards (now updated), scheduling the coffee hour hosts, buying coffee, collection of donations for holiday flowers (Christmas and Easter), the annual membership directory, circle dinners and other social events such as the hike up Mt. Tom. The three New Member classes each Spring and Recognition Sunday in June are also planned and carried out by the committee.

In early November we joined the Pastoral Care Committee to reach every member by phone just to check in. It proved very successful.

We are a very active committee and always welcome new ideas.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sherry Belisle

## **Buildings and Grounds Committee Annual Report 2011**

2011 turned out to be a busy year for B&G:

January: The Chamber of Commerce proposes renting the social hall for up to 300 people in 3 sittings. Based on parking, toilets, and potential spillover to other parts of the church B&G recommends not taking the booking.

February: We begin exploring window roller blankets, shutters, curtains and honeycomb shades to save half the fuel oil used to heat the sanctuary. Jack Nelson hires an architect to do a fire code review of the church, comes up with a list of potential improvements. The parsonage chimney needs repair, so sexton Zeus has it done.

March: The nursery school proposes all-day hours, is told the rent would double. The ceiling in the administrative office starts to bulge, David Doolittle provides emergency repairs.

April A new nursery school lease is negotiated on enrollment.

May: Spring cleanup day; Chippers donates a pile of chips for the river path, the proposed labyrinth, and the nursery school play yard. New sextons Agata and Radek arrive with their son Kuba. A report is sent to the board on maintenance implications of a possible river room.

June: Woodstock recycling reports tree branches interfere with the dumpster; the sextons take care of.

July: The sewer pumps next to the nursery school fail and are replaced; fuel oil bids are received and Dead River is chosen; estimates are received for insulating the sanctuary; the labyrinth path is completed and planted.

August: Slates fall off the parsonage roof and a heavy rainstorm causes the parsonage kitchen ceiling to collapse; a leak is found around the vent pipe in Daniel's office. Radek fixes both. NE PowerSound proposes a new sound system; a committee is formed to evaluate the options. Tropical storm Irene drops 30 cubic yards of debris and the Santos sculpture, destroys a path light and the nursery playground, and wipes out the labyrinth; a volunteer day brings out 50 volunteers to help clean up.

September: Circulator pumps on the hot water boiler fail and are replaced; concerns about trapped moisture defer insulating the sanctuary until the budget will allow a consultant to be hired. Chippers removes the debris and silt, reseeds the lawn. A plaque commemorating the renovation of 2001 is designed and a paper copy is posted in the Narthex.

October: A meeting on curtains in the sanctuary surfaces concerns about appearance and a request to explore additional options. Fall cleanup restores the river path.

November: A boiler fill valve fails and is replaced; the sound system committee goes to Mass at St. Anthony's in WRJ to hear a sound system similar to the one proposed by NE PowerSound. The wheelchair elevator fails inspection because the batteries were damaged during the storm-caused power outage. Rutland Roofing replaces broken slates, installs a new cap and valleys on the parsonage roof.

December: Since the church is on the Historic House tour we decorate it and install the Christmas tree in time for Wassail Weekend. The elevator batteries are replaced.

Cheryl Brush, David Doolittle, Donna Durgin, Irene Hanslin, Katrin Helgason, Norwood Long, Jack Nelson, Vassie Sinopoulos, sextons Agata and Radek; with heartfelt thanks to the many people who helped with regular and storm cleanup, church decoration, and more.

## **Pastoral Care Committee Annual Report 2011**

Committee Members include: Veronica Delay, Anne Dean, Nancy Peterson, Judy Williamson, and Daniel Jantos.

Ongoing duties of the committee include assisting members and friends of our congregation with meals, visits, and transportation when requested. The committee members also provide emotional support through home and hospital visits, cards and emails to those going through difficult times and transitions, physically and/or emotionally.

Requests and offers of assistance are treated in a confidential manner by committee members and service providers.

The committee has begun a dialogue with other people in the community to explore ways to support youth at risk in our community.

The committee has assisted other members who are supporting those in our congregation who need assistance with making major life choices and transitions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Williamson and Nancy Peterson, co chairs