

## **SIMPLE GIFTS COFFEE HOUSE**

**SIMPLE GIFTS COFFEE HOUSE HAD A WONDERFUL SEASON OF  
EXCEPTIONAL MUSIC  
WE HOSTED 8 SHOWS:**

### **2015 - 2016 Season**

**October 3, 2015 – Squeezebox Stompers**

**November 2015 – Boxcar Lilies**

**December 2015 – Bill Stains**

**January 9, 2016 – Paul Rishell, Annie Raines, and friends**

**February , 2016 - Co-bill Jim Trick and Rose Polenzani**

**March 2016 – Cricket Tell the Weather**

**April , 2016 – Victoria Vox**

**May 14, 2016 – Scott Ainslie**

Simple Gifts Coffee House: vision and mission - to host amazing musicians, create great musical experiences, and offer shows with an affordable ticket price. Though some shows did not have the required audience to meet the guarantee made to the visiting performer we did not suffer a loss. We have been able to meet most contracts and, at times, do a little better than the promised guarantee.

We are recognizing a group of "regulars" attending the Coffee House. Attendance seems to be consistent with numbers ranging between 50 - 90 for most shows. Media coverage through the Nashua Telegraph was consistent with articles and photos for each show and we are thankful to them for their support this past season. We do purchase an ad in Encore, the entertainment section, and this year we were offered a special rate that greatly helped our budget.

Guests are welcome to bring beer and wine to our concerts. We haven't experienced any problems thus far. On average 20% bring adult beverages.

The audience remains mindful and respectful of our venue's mission: to provide a true listening room for the artists invited to play.

Our Outreach Raffle has been dedicated to "ENDING 68 HOURS OF HUNGER". All monies collected will go to this organization.

We started a monthly Open Mic series and have been pleased with community support. Our host Bob Pope does a great job in drawing people to play.

Attendance has been regular, ranging from 9 up to 23 musicians showing up to play. All monies collected from this event are designated as our financial donation to the church for its continued support. It would be great to see more of our congregants there, we resume the series in September on the third Thursday of the month.

Our financial report is currently incomplete; details will be provided when the report is completed.

**Thanks go out to a special group of people: BAKERS!!!! Thanks for bringing your delicious offerings for our guests.**

**If you attended a show, brought some friends with you, talked about what we do ---- we thank you for your support! We look forward to seeing you during our upcoming season!**

ONGOING GOALS: 1. to see more of our congregation support our efforts by attending shows. It is evident that we are a congregation of music loving people. We estimate that if members of this church were to attend at least one show each per season, our attendance would increase by at least 25%, if not more. Right now we average about 15% of audience being members of this church.

**Hosting coffee houses is a great part of tradition in UU churches; we make great efforts to keep ours going and with your help we can continue the experience!**

2. to find help with grant writing. Simple Gifts Coffee House could benefit greatly with some financial help. This would reduce the stress involved in promised guarantees versus money coming in from ticket sales. We would be able to expand our offerings of artists if we knew we could afford them.

**3. to initiate stewardship of the Coffee House Team with new members.** This is crucial to the future of the coffee house. We are hoping to pass it on in the next few years. We are currently in need of someone to work with PR and Media notification. New Team members will learn the different positions required to run the coffee house. Various responsibilities

include: treasurer, stage management, sound and lighting, schedule coordination, booking and contract writing, hospitality.....

**If you are reading this and can be of help we would love to hear from you.**

4. to create better communication with our Church bakers. They have been very helpful, though inconsistent. At times ample donations are received, and at others, 2 or 3 items received. We could better prepare if we could determine what we would be receiving for our dessert table. We wish to provide ample and delicious home baked options to our guests and prefer not to offer store bought goods if we can help it. Perhaps we need another volunteer to coordinate???

TEAM MEMBERS:	ANYA ZAKIEWICZ	COORDINATOR/ BOOKING/PR AND MEDIA NOTIFICATION
	GEOF GOODELL	STAGE MANAGER
	BERNICE FALLON	TREASURER
	DAN MURPHY	WEBSITE CONSULTANT
	MIKE BALLENTINE	WEBSITE
MAINTENANCE	DICK WIDHU	VOLUNTEER - HOSPITALITY, SET UP AND BREAK
DOWN	GLENN ROY	SOUND ENGINEER
	JONAH WAGNER	SOUND ENGINEER/
APPRENTICE	SCOTT ABBOTT	LIGHTING
	TECHNICIAN, SET UP AND BREAK DOWN OF STAGE EQUIPMENT	
(PAID FOR SERVICES RENDERED)	TALIA GIANNELLI	KITCHEN DUTIES/ HOSPITALITY

**We have an amazing line up started for next season, Fall is booked and Spring is in the works! We look forward to seeing many of you there!**