

Worship Associates Annual Report 2015-16

Worship Associates: The Rev. Allison Palm, Music Director, Jed Holland, Sharon Machado, Burns Fisher, Dan Murphy, Laurie Goodman, Roy Goodman, Elizabeth Lewis, and Kathy Fletcher.

The Worship Associates met monthly during 2015-16. It is our job to focus on Sunday morning worship, help plan the services with the Rev. Palm, suggest and review changes and additions to each service. We are fundamentally committed to the UUCN stated mission of fostering personal and spiritual growth of the congregation.

This was an exciting year to be a Worship Associate as we were part of welcoming both the Rev. Allison Palm and Interim Director of Faith Formation, Sandra Greenfield. As part of these “new” relationships, the Associates created and agreed to a new covenant which helped guide our meetings.

This year, our worship services were guided by monthly themes from Soul Matters. The Associates were often called upon to brainstorm on the monthly themes. From brainstormed suggestions, potential worship services were discussed, and Associates volunteered to participate, find readings and chalice lightings, and sometimes even lead the service.

This year we had six services lead by lay leaders:

- Kathy Fletcher and Sharon Machado led, “Who am I now?”
- Roy Goodman led, “Expectations”
- Laurie Goodman and Dan Murphy led a service on “Micro-aggressions”
- Kathy Fletcher and Sharon Machado and Roy Goodman led, “Why do we need creation stories?”
- Sharon Machado and Laurie Goodman led a Mother’s Day service on “Blessings”
- Former Worship Associate, Gary Lerude led a service on, “the Paradoxes of Desire”

We also welcomed two guest ministers, Diana McLean and Liz Weber.

Laurie and Roy Goodman coordinated signing up service leaders for the summer 2016. We think you’ll be delighted with who is coming and what they have planned.

The Worship Associates also agreed that service as a WA should be a term-limited volunteer opportunity. We agreed that others should enjoy the privilege of serving the church this way. At the end of the summer of 2016, Roy Goodman, Burns Fisher, and Kathy Fletcher will be rotating off the Associates.

The Worship Associates remain committed to hearing suggestions about how worship might be made more meaningful for our congregation.

In faith,

Kathy Fletcher for your WAs