

**THE 2014 ANNUAL MEETING**



**THE SOCIETY OF KING'S CHAPEL**

**SUNDAY APRIL 6, 2014**

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# The Society of King's Chapel

## NOTICE

2014 ANNUAL MEETING – April 6, 2014  
preceded by HEARING – March 23, 2014

### Annual Meeting Hearing March 23, 2014

A hearing prior to the Annual Meeting will take place on Sunday, March 23, 2014 at 12:30 p.m. at the Parish House following Morning Prayer. A light lunch will be served. Please call the church office at (617) 227-2155 or email: [administrator@kings-chapel.org](mailto:administrator@kings-chapel.org) to reserve your place

The purpose of the Hearing is to discuss agenda items, ask questions, air and resolve confusions or problems with matters which will come before the Annual Meeting.

There will be brief committee report presentations from each of the standing committees. All reports that have been received are included in this report. The proposed 2014 budget will be distributed prior to the hearing. Please bring your own print-out with you, if you need it for reference. Only limited hard copies will be available.

### ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, April 6, 12:30 p.m. Following a short break after Morning Prayer, we will meet back in the sanctuary.

Meeting Agenda

Opening Prayer

Approval of Minutes The Minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting, held on April 28, 2013. Their formal acceptance requires a vote by the Society.

Reports Brief Reports (distributed by email before the meeting):  
Senior Warden; Trustees; Treasurer; Fiscal Affairs (presentation of the proposed 2014 Budget);  
Senior Minister

Budget – VOTE

Elections – VOTE Elect slate presented by the Nominating Committee, with other nominations from the floor if any for: Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, new members of the Vestry, Chair of Parish Council, chairs of standing committees.

New Resolutions Any Member intending to bring New Business before the Society at the Annual Meeting, please provide an advance written copy to the Wardens and, via the office, to the Parliamentarian at the latest on the Friday before the hearing (deadline March 21).

Adjourn

Quorum Required We must have a quorum of fifty members for elections. Please make every effort to attend. Please bring the materials in the enclosed packet with you. Our green consciousness policy suggests we make very few additional copies.

**The Society of King's Chapel – 64 Beacon Street**  
Minutes of the Annual Meeting  
April 28, 2012  
*The 327th Year of King's Chapel*

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 by the Senior Warden, Dean Denniston, following Morning Prayer.

**II. Approval of the Minutes of the 2012 Meeting**

**Vote:** Accepted unanimously

**III. Senior Warden's Report**

Dean Denniston presented the Senior Warden's report.

Dean gave special thanks to the congregational members for their continuing support. He especially thanked the search committee to the applause of the congregation for their persistence that has led us to our new minister. He thanked the Vestry for keeping us on track. He thanked the chairs of the standing committees, especially Sally Kahn and Elizabeth Thomson who are stepping down. Elizabeth was given applause, and she in turn thanked Heinrich and her committee. Finally, Dean thanked the Rev. Dianne Arakawa, who knew the difference between a sprint and a marathon.

We have struggled during the past few years with declining membership, annual appeal and attendance, but we have a wonderful new minister and we should expect a lot of ourselves moving forward.

**IV. Trustee's Report**

Sam Perry presented the Trustees report.

On 12/31/2011, General PL Fund was \$14,153,889 million with a 7.2% return for calendar 2012. Currently, 91% of the portfolio is invested in equities.

He noted that the unrestricted portion of the trust funds has dropped from 72% before instituting the draw to 47% today. He noted that this cannot continue indefinitely. He also noted that, by increasing the equity allocation, we are experiencing both growth and increased income, which has grown from around \$320K to \$400K over the past year.

He encouraged the Society increase its annual giving to a level that will cover the operating expenses, leaving the Trusts primarily for maintaining the buildings

## **V. Treasurer's Report**

Richard Weeks presented the Treasurer's report, which was passed out at the meeting.

## **VI. Budget**

William Sears presented the budget, which was created by the Wardens in lieu of a Fiscal Affairs committee which did not have a chair last year. The budget was based on last years actual spending, with selective increases to cover the cost of an assistant minister and raises for key employees.

**Vote: Accepted unanimously**

## **VII. Nominating Committee**

Mary Sears presented the nominating committee report. For brevity, she listed those who were new for the year. The complete list is included in the packet.

New Vestry Members: Amy Meyer and Todd Lee

Fiscal Affairs: Cliff Allen.

Nominating: Beth Chapin and Allen Speight.

Music Committee Chair: Mary Sears

Parish Council Members at Large: Judy Luca and Kim Northrup

**Vote: The slate was unanimously approved by the Society.**

A vote to confirm the nominating Committee for next year was tabled because the committee has not been fully formed. An alternative motion was made to confirm Mary Sears as the head of the Nominating committee.

**Vote: The slate was approved as presented.**

A vote to adjourn passed by acclamation at 12:41 PM.

Attendance: *Allen, Cliff; Appley, Marriane; Bassett, Joseph; Bergeron, Michael; Bergeron, Pamela; Bowman, John; Chadwick, Howard; Chapin, Beth; Chapin, Walter; Christensen, Heinrich; Clark, Richard; Crews, Denton; Dalton, Karen C.; Denniston, Dean; Fay, Barbara; Genovesse, Carol; Glenn, Lee; Gulick, Robert S; Hardin, Ray; Herrmann, Elsie; Hill, Crael; Hude, Julie, D.; Johnson, Leo; Kahn, Sally; Kemp, Carol P.; Kutner, Bill; Lee, Todd; Luca, Paul; Lykins, Betty S.; Meyer, Amy; Muscat, Stefanie; Muscat, Ty; Perry, Charles; Perry, Sam D; Price, Cathy; Scovel, Faith; Sears, Mary; Sears, William; Sichko, Medb Mahony; Soderburg, Sylvia; Speight, Allen; Thomson, Elizabeth; Wells, Marie; Wheeler, David; Zinzer, Cornelia P.*

## KING'S CHAPEL WARDENS AND VESTRY

Annual Report

March 2014

The past church year has been one of excitement, high energy, change, adjustment, and joy. In January of 2013, following a long and arduous search process, we called Joy K. Fallon to be our new settled minister, and the sixteenth minister in our church's three hundred and twenty seven year history.

Rev. Fallon began with us at the end of March and hit the ground sprinting as she began her duties at the beginning of Holy Week. Talk about baptism under fire!

In September of 2013 the Wardens had the very pleasant task of conducting the service which installed Rev. Fallon as our sixteenth settled minister, and Kings Chapel's first female senior minister.

During the past year, we as a church have been learning and adjusting to the style, leadership, energy, and enthusiasm of our new minister. In turn, Rev. Fallon has spent a great deal of her time getting to know us as individuals, familiarizing herself with our history and traditions, learning our quirks, and asking us to share with her our hopes and dreams. She has also begun to share her own ideas and dreams for our church as she becomes more settled in as our senior minister.

The past year has also shown a revitalization of energy and interest in the life and activities of our church. Worship service attendance has steadily increased. In October of 2013 the Society welcomed seven new members-including the minister and her husband, into our family. Additional services during the holidays were added, church activities and ARE classes have been well attended, and there is an atmosphere and attitude within the congregation of working together towards a positive future.

This past year saw the Vestry continuing its very able stewardship over the governance of our church. Issues related to our financial needs, securing an assistant minister, revitalizing our church school, and overseeing our buildings were just a few of the topics discussed. The Vestry voted to allocate funds from the Society's reserves towards much needed work on the parsonage. These funds were also matched by a similar allocation from the trust by the trustees, whose support of the church's leadership, and whose cordial working relationship has greatly added to the atmosphere of collegiality and cooperation.

This year we say good-bye and thank you to Vestry members Patricia Bass, Anne Sexton, and Ty Muscat, whose terms will end in April. Your participation and contributions to the work of the Vestry and also to Kings Chapel are gratefully acknowledged and sincerely appreciated.

Looking ahead, it appears that we as a church are at another pivotal point along our journey. We are at another "new beginning" as we chart a new and challenging course with a very talented and dedicated minister. As we begin this part of our journey, we will need to free ourselves from that inertia which sometimes prevents us from letting go of old and familiar ways of doing things. We will need to be willing to be open to what God has in store for us-even if the way is not always clear. Fortunately, God has given us the tools to make this journey and to do it successfully. If we will continue to trust and support each other as a community of faith, and if we listen to God's voice in its many manifestations with our hearts and our faith as well as with our ears, our future as a growing, vibrant and loving community will be healthy and bright.

On a personal note, the Annual Meeting brings to a close my term as your Senior Warden. These past four years have been filled with a variety of activities and events which have run the gamut from challenging to quite fulfilling. I was fortunate to be able to get to know and work with so many of you in my role as Senior Warden. That was the true blessing and greatest reward of the job-and let no one mislead you; the position of Senior Warden truly is a job!

What impressed me most was the love for, and commitment to the health and well-being of our church, which was the strongest and most consistent motivation underpinning so many of the ideas, discussions, initiatives, activities, and conversations in which I participated during my tenure. Your love for your church, your hopes for its future, and your willingness to work towards creating that future are some of the strongest impressions I will take with me as I end my term.

Finally, if I were to thank by name everyone who contributed to the continued life and operations of King's Chapel, and also to me personally during my tenure as Senior Warden, this report would continue for more pages than I can imagine- and I would still probably leave out more than one deserving individual. I cannot, however, end my report without expressing my very sincere and grateful thanks to my Junior Warden, Bill Sears. These past four years would have been much more difficult for me without the wise and patient counsel I received from many, many conversations with Bill. His institutional memory, his love for King's Chapel, and his extraordinary patience with me enabled me to grow into the position. Bill will be staying on as Junior Warden and will be a solid anchor to the next Senior Warden. Thank you Bill.

Again, thanks to all of you for your trust, your support, and for your commitment to King's Chapel.

Dean K. Denniston, Jr.  
*Senior Warden*

## **Getting to Know You: Worship, Attendance, Traditional Events**

I have had the privilege of serving King's Chapel for one year. I began with you on March 18, 2013, and was installed as your 16th Senior Minister on September 22nd.

My goal during this initial year has been to live with you through the full liturgical year, learning your ways and listening to your hopes. I have met with many of you for one to one conversations, and look forward to those talks with others. You have taught me about your beautiful Prayerbook liturgies, your traditions, past hardships and future dreams. Thank you.

Over the course of 2013, I preached 42 sermons at the church for Sunday's Morning Prayer services or for major special services, such as Holy Week and Thanksgiving; 24 sermons at Wednesday 12:15 services; and 9 sermons at the Family Service in the Little Chapel. From January 1- March 9, I have preached an additional 14 times. My Sunday sermons are now posted on the website. I am gratified that the number of people attending services has increased, and that our Annual Appeal was able to raise more funds than in the recent past.

The traditional events at the Parish House, such as our Welcome Home Sunday on September 29, our Milk Punch Christmas party, and our New Year's Eve Evensong and Dinner, were full and fun. At my installation, you filled the balconies and floor pews, and the services we offered during Holy Week, on Thanksgiving, and for Christmas were meaningful. The remarkable music and liturgy offered at King's Chapel blesses many, including me. It is a pleasure to collaborate with Heinrich Christensen, our gifted Music Director and Organist. I am honored to become part of your long tradition.

This year we also hosted two special services immediately after the Marathon Bombings. Because of our location on the Freedom Trail, many hundreds of visitors came through our sanctuary the day after the bombings, including many runners and their families. We held special services at 12:15 and 6 p.m., and offered a quiet space for reflection and prayer. Members with expertise in social work and trauma joined me, so that we could be present to any who sought comfort.

During Lent in 2014, we are offering six Taize services in the Little Chapel at the Parish House, 64 Beacon St. These are short, candle lit services modeled on the ecumenical Taize community in France, and feature meditative sung chants and scripture readings. Several newcomers joined us on Ash Wednesday, having learned about the service on our website. I hope that is a harbinger of things to come.

## **Welcome and Transparency**

During the fall, I focused on our being a Welcoming Community – welcoming in new comers, and welcoming back old members who have been away. We all know that to thrive we must grow; we also know that an open, inclusive spirit flows from our historic values centered in Christian worship, and Unitarian tolerance and reason. As I greet you at every service, “No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here at King's Chapel.”

This deep commitment to welcome and inclusion has led me to offer you two orders of worship each Sunday – the old, shortened version of the Order, for those well familiar with the liturgy, and an expanded Order of Worship, which includes printed out within it all the elements from our Prayerbook and hymnal, so the service can be more easily followed by newcomers. A central part of my vision for our growth is that we “widen the welcome,” warmly greeting all seekers. Many hunger for what we have to offer, but can be easily discouraged by perceived barriers, often because of their past experiences with church or religion. Our call is to be a beacon of liberal theology and warmth.

For this reason, I also instituted a more detailed weekly e-mail update to all members (“Between Sundays”). Newcomers can be added to this distribution free of charge, and learn about our activities. It also has been a mechanism for sharing more information about one another: for example, we offered short bios each week of tour guide staff and choir members. Generally, I hope in the upcoming year to further increase our visibility to the community through social media, our website, news coverage and other means.

To make the workings of our church finances more transparent to the entire church, and to encourage active input by members and staff into the crafting of our priorities, we began a new Narrative Budget process this fall. My thanks go to the chairs of Fiscal Affairs and Annual Appeal for so ably leading us in the initial steps of this process.

## **Building Beloved Community**

With the New Year, we began a season for “Building the Beloved Community.” This phrase, taken from the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., reflects more of our core religious values: each of us is God’s beloved, precious and to be honored, and together we can build a community where all are treated this way. But it’s intentional, hard work. We set about building this community through many events that brought us together, in various settings, reflecting key themes of our church life together.

In an effort to bring together more closely those who support the Choir Concert series with members of King’s Chapel, we sponsored a light dinner after the January 29th concert. We also hosted composer Bob Sirota, who offered the sermon on February 23, prior to that evening’s debut of his new piece for organ and strings, Apparitions. Music is a key draw for King’s Chapel.

To educate ourselves more deeply about our Partner Church relationship, across geography and time, during the week of February 2nd we hosted a guest from Koloszar, Romania; held Transylvanian communion; and offered tours of the church that included Unitarian European history. Peter Sexton will be leading a group to Transylvania for a Habitat build this summer.

On February 9th, we honored our new partners at the neighboring New England Center for Homeless Veterans, at our service and at the Parish House luncheon that followed. As you know, social justice concerns have been central in my past professional life. My sense is that we will grow stronger in this area hand in hand with our growth; younger members often are attracted to a church at least in part because of its justice programs, and likely will lead us into even more projects. The Community Action Committee and I look forward to this.

On February 14-16, the parish hosted a retreat at Glastonbury Abbey led by Ciel Hills. The work of the Adult Religious Education Committee is another high priority of mine; I offered book groups during the summer (interfaith); in the fall (on prayer); after Christmas (on Luke and Matthew’s birth narratives); and during Lent (six group gatherings reflecting on Martin Smith’s daily Lenten devotional, A Season for the Spirit). With the addition of a new assistant minister in the upcoming year, and as we build cooperative programs with other organizations and churches in the area, I think our adult offerings will grow.

On March 1st, we concluded Epiphany Season with a Mardi Gras party at the Parsonage; 30 people attended, and many participated in the Talent Show. My hope is that events like this will provide access to our community for newcomers, as well as solidify relationships within the congregation. I am aware that there is more we can do to more systematically follow up with those who visit us and express interest in our church; that is a goal I’d like to work on when an assistant minister is hired.

## **Church School**

I have attended every service we hold for children and their families at the Little Chapel, on the first and third Sunday of each month; I preach at the majority. Working with the Church School Director Kimberly Luck and parents, we crafted

a new Christmas Eve pageant, and established a curriculum that covers the basic stories of Jesus' life, over the course of the year. I also experienced the many traditional activities that our children treasure, including the Pet Blessing with Heifer International, Advent Crafts, and this year a renewed Shrove Sunday pancake meal before Lent.

We all know that our church school is small, but the initial demographic figures I've seen suggest that we could reach far more families in the immediate area, if we were to have a vibrant program. I've grown very aware of how little time we see the children – for only 18 Sundays a year, many of which are special events. This leaves us little teaching time, to share the stories that ground our faith and can carry children through the many challenges they face these days. It also is harder to foster a sense of deep friendship and community that brings children and their parents back year after year. We need to have a consistently higher number of participants so that when newcomers arrive, they see an exciting program they wish to join. I anticipate that that will require additional investment of staff resources in this area.

Our parents and children are carrying great burdens, with school, work and many outside activities. With the current families, I hope to develop our program in a way that ultimately better supports both parents and children.

## **Staff**

Finally, I've now had a year to work alongside the staff of the church – from the talented members of our choir and guide staff, to the hardworking core staff with offices at the parish house: our music director and organist; the parish administrator; our book keeper and our front desk assistant. Other than Heinrich and myself, all staff are part-time, including our contracted custodial support. It is hard to keep the current program going with the present staff; increases in programming will necessitate some modicum of increased staff support.

## **Looking Ahead**

I remain convinced that we at King's Chapel have great potential for making a difference in the city, and in individual lives. The current core of active members is engaged and working hard. But we are too few, and many of our lay leaders are worn thin by many responsibilities over many years. This year, we welcomed 10 new members (7 in September, and 3 in March); I presided over two weddings and Rev. Arakawa conducted four. Between us, she and I presided at three funerals. I baptized one baby.

We are at a crucial pivot point. We must grow, but the hard work of bringing in new people and setting forth some new initiatives requires energy. Newcomers will only join a church that feels alive, whose members find value in participating actively, and who worship together as often as they can. I have asked the leadership of the church to invest in me and some small amount of additional staff time, so that we can jump-start our growth. We will continue to discuss this in the weeks ahead.

To most effectively plan our way forward, I have asked a few lay leaders to gather information in the next three months in two areas:

- 1) the worship services and programs of churches in our immediate area and/or in thriving churches in the Boston metropolitan area. Who goes? What are the services like? What attracts you and attracts those who attend?
- 2) new populations we could bring in. What are the current and projected demographics of our geographic area? What segments could we seek to attract who we are not now reaching? How can we best share with those populations about our church?

Both of these ad hoc task forces will gather a wide swath of information, on many different options. They are short-term task forces, not permanent committees. But the data they gather will be food for thought, as we prepare for our next program year, beginning in the fall of 2014. For example, the better our focus on the demographics that we wish to

serve, as best we understand God's call to us, the better we can tailor our programming and communication strategies to reach this group/these groups. I look forward to sharing with you what we learn.

### **Thanks to the Retiring Senior Warden**

Finally, I cannot express deeply enough my many thanks to our retiring Senior Warden, Dean Denniston. Dean graciously agreed to extend his term one additional year, in order to support my transition. We meet weekly, sharing ideas, exchanging information, and praying. Dean has been a remarkable, wise, steady and faithful partner to me as I have navigated my first months at King's Chapel. He has been consistently supportive and respectful, while also deftly urging me to consider options and paths he discerns are in the best interest of the church. Dean is always a gentleman – not only kind but witty, intelligent and courageous. There is much that has gone smoothly during his tenure because of his judicious approach and caring manner. Dean is a true leader and man of God, with whom I have been blessed to work.

Many thanks for calling me to work alongside you. Together, with God's help, we will keep growing closer to the One who gives us all we need -- strength, courage and love beyond our imagining.

Amen.

--Joy Fallon, *Senior Minister*

**King's Chapel Trust Funds  
Annual Report for 2013**

On December 31, 2013, the King's Chapel General Pooled Fund had a market value of \$17,136,359 as compared with \$14,153,889 at the end of 2012. Equities representing 91.0% of the portfolio at year-end appreciated 28.1% during 2013 versus an increase of 32.4% for the Standard & Poor's 500 Index. Bonds representing 1.3% of the portfolio at year end returned 2.7% in 2013. Cash including bonds maturing within twelve months represented 7.7% of the General Pooled Fund. Overall, the portfolio's total return was 25.3% in 2013 reflecting optimism for continuing economic growth.

In summary, the General Pooled Fund's asset-class balances at year-end 2013 were as follows:

<b>Asset Class</b>	<b>Market Value</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$1,320,592	7.7%
Fixed Income	\$223,066	1.3%
Equity	<u>\$15,592,701</u>	<u>91.0%</u>
Total	\$17,136,359	100.0%

The General Pooled Fund generated \$389,510 in dividend and interest income during 2013. Disbursements to the Society from the General Pooled Fund were \$342,477. In addition, the General Pooled Fund paid the premium for annual property and liability insurance of \$64,662 and investment management fees of \$73,806. Other disbursements included painting, carpentry and appliance expenses at the Parsonage of \$62,954 and legal expenses of \$12,960 related to the lawsuit to enforce property rights in the alley adjacent to the Parish House. Overall, expenditures exceeded receipts by \$167,319 which was funded by transfers from principal.

In addition to the General Pooled Fund, the Trustees oversee the Society's General Reserve Fund which had a market value on December 31, 2013 of \$472,704 versus \$394,243 at year-end 2012.

The Trustees continue in our longstanding relationship with Fiduciary Trust Company as investment advisor/custodian of the General Pooled and the Society's General Reserve Funds.

The Trustees meet periodically with the Wardens and Treasurer to discuss the General Pooled Fund and its ongoing support of building maintenance and Society activities. Total disbursements continue to exceed dividend and interest income. As a result of this spending policy and renovations to 63 and 64 Beacon Street, unrestricted assets have fallen from 72% of the General Pooled Fund in 1995 to 46% at present. Ideally, Annual Appeal contributions will continue to increase in support of the Society's operating programs so that Trust income can be adequately directed towards the maintenance of the properties.

Respectfully submitted by the Trustees,  
Eugene H. Clapp  
William W. Park  
Samuel D. Perry

March 1, 2014

# 2014 ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES AND GROUPS OF KING'S CHAPEL

## A. ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**Members** of the Committee: Carol Genovese, Emanuel Genovese, Medb Sichko, Betsy Peterson, and Ciel Hills (chair 2012-2014).

### Program

#### SUMMER July and August Interfaith Summer Reading Discussion Group

In pursuit of interfaith understanding, we read *The Faith Club* by Ranya Idliby, Priscilla Warner, Suzanne Oliver which. The book is a collection of dialogues between a Muslim, Jewish, and Christian woman, sharing the essence of their respective faiths. We had a meeting in July, led by Joy and one in August, facilitated by Carol Genovese. About 20 people participated.

FALL In **October** we had a four-part series on **Prayer**, based on Kate Braestrup's book, *Prayer, Beginner's Grace*. We met on four Thursday evenings at the Parish House. Good participation, usually 9-10 people. Wonderful, thoughtful, supportive gatherings. We discussed meaningful passages in the book and prayed for each other about health concerns, patience and understanding for those who do not agree with us, and safe traveling.

WINTER **December** An Advent Quiet Day was held at the Parish House. There was also an evening gathering, which we called Blue Christmas. Its purpose was to offer an alternative service for those who are struggling with sadness and worry and for whom the Christmas season, without loved ones or peace of mind, is a difficult time.

In **January**, Rev. Fallon led our reading group in a discussion of *The First Christmas*, an interesting book by theologians, Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan, who offer a new interpretation of the Gospels as parable.

In **February** we held the annual Winter Retreat at Glastonbury Abbey. Our theme was "Taking Time and Making Room", or, put another way "Reclaiming your life and spiritual connections." Thirteen of us explored ways to get in touch with the spirit within and highlight what is meaningful in our lives. This combined the examination and discussion of four biblical passages as they illustrated the issues of taking time and making room.

SPRING **March and April** On-going Lenten series on Wednesday Evenings : Taize services of chanting and prayer in Little Chapel, followed by a light supper and optional book discussion of Martin Smith's wonderful *Seasons of the Spirit*. We will meet for 6 consecutive Wednesdays **March 5-April 2**

### Thinking Ahead: Possible Offerings

**Religion and the Arts:** The expression of religious ideas in painting, architecture and literature. We invite friends and members of King's Chapel to communicate your ideas We are looking into exploring Architecture of Sacred Spaces with Todd Lee in May and beginning a study of Dante's Diving Comedy. Poetry: we might revive our summer poetry series "in the garden", meeting occasionally to experience poems by the likes of Gerard Manley Hopkins, T.S. Eliot's *Four Quartets*, and Welsh poet laureate, R.S. Thomas who was both priest and poet.

## **History and Development of Unitarianism and the United Church of Christ.**

The Adult Religious Education committee and Denominational Affairs are hoping to combine forces in a continuation of last Spring's two-part seminar. It was so interesting and well attended that we are thinking of continuing in this direction, this time facilitated by parishioners and some guest speakers. Possibly entitled: **King's Chapel and Unitarian History and Theology.**

**Mentoring Program/Course with Church School Teens** ARE and the Church School may develop a program to engage our young people so that their religious education continues as they mature into adulthood.

**End of Life Concerns and Care** I've been thinking about moving in this direction, bringing in experts in this area to help us understand, discuss issues, and plan.

**Intentional Community** While I'm on the subject, I also wonder if somewhere, somehow, King's Chapel could found an intentional community where some of us who so desire, might continue to live and learn together. Years ago I brought this up with Rev. Carl Scovel who seemed to like the idea. Another practical friend was not averse to it, but wondered how this could be accomplished. I wonder too, but if there is interest, maybe we could explore this idea.

As I told my committee in October, this is my last year as ARE chair. I will be handing over the reins this spring to my capable successor (TBA)

Respectfully submitted,

*Ciael*

Ciael Hills  
Chair, Adult Religious Education Committee, King's Chapel

## **B. ANNUAL APPEAL COMMITTEE**

The Annual Appeal is specifically organized to plan and execute the recurring year-long effort of providing Member- and friends-based financial support for the day-to-day operations of King's Chapel. Funds raised by the Appeal are the single largest source of income in our Budget (2013-22%), after investment contributions (54%). The Appeal share has been steadily rising in our most recent years (2012-17%).

The Annual Appeal Committee numbers approximately fifty, of whom nearly all are Members. They have joined the Appeal to give voice and strength to the task. The group also forms the volunteer nucleus for promoting the Appeal, acknowledging pledges and contributions, for telethons (when needed), getting out mailings, etc. The committee is encouraged to suggest new fund-raising initiatives, and is expected to comment on and support, or modify, the work of the chairs.

### **1. 2013 APPEAL FINANCIAL RESULTS**

\$147,000 (rounded) was the total 2013 contribution to the Annual Appeal from 202 respondents in the King's Chapel community, out of a total solicitation to about 260. The gift was a remarkable gain (16%) over the 2012 result of \$124,000, although still well below the boom times of the 2008 Appeal (over \$200,000). Of course the Annual Appeal total does not include gifts to King's Chapel's separate appeals, other programs, and other designated recipients. Nor does it include bequests, or undesignated contributions, as had been the practice until last year.

\$168,000 was the formal 2013 Annual Appeal goal, approved as a part of the budget at last year's Annual Meeting. The official target was produced by identifying the amount needed to close the budget gap between the expenditure required

to maintain our annual operation as planned, and all the other income expected from non-Appeal sources: distributions from the Trusts, Visitors' Program, other designated fund-raising sources and various projects.

It should be noted that at the time of approval, the 2013 Appeal target was described only the number needed to balance the budget. Annual Appeal goals, of late, have been both "aspirational" – more than we know with certainty that we can raise, yet worth striving for, as well as technical – the "plug" number needed to balance the budget, but also considered as "possible."

88% of the somewhat arbitrary 2013 goal was raised! This is a marked increase from 2012's only 75%. Specific income categories have been added, reducing not insignificantly what traditionally had been counted as Appeal income. The Annual Appeal total now, more accurately, reflects only those gifts specifically designated for it.

\$1,170 was the average 2013 King's Chapel Annual Appeal gift (rounded), calculated by dividing the total received by the number of givers (\$147,000/126), the convention used by most of the churches to whom we compare ourselves. A "contributor" is a household giving as a unit, a single individual, or an institution. Note that if we deduct the Friend category and their gifts, the average Members-only contribution is increased by \$570 to \$1,740.

For context, comparable per unit giving at other neighborhood churches, as previously shown in the graph on page 9 of last fall's Draft Narrative Budget:

- Church of the Advent \$6,500
- Trinity Church 3,500
- Old South Church 2,700
- Park Street Church 1,000 - from 1,500 donors reported (= \$1,500,000).

The numbers speak for themselves. No matter how much we have considered our church, King's Chapel, to be a world apart, as well as blessed by the generosity of our forbearers and their Trusts, it appears that we would do well to revisit our own sense of contemporary stewardship.

## **2. PARALLEL WITH NARRATIVE BUDGET and COMMUNICATIONS**

Last fall, during October and November, the Draft Narrative Budget process was put into place. An essential part of that strategy was to institute a newly emphasized pledging initiative for the beginning of 2014. As we trust you are aware, this was incorporated into the Annual Appeal planning, and has been fully operational since the end of January.

So that there would be no confusion between the new 2014 Pledge Cycle and the completion of the 2013 Annual Appeal year, it was decided last fall not to broadly solicit for the wrap-up of the drive. Hence, during October through December, there were no broadcast letters to our solicitation list, no posters in the vestibule, no telethon or emails reminding potential givers to complete their 2013 pledges and make their year-end gifts.

During the fall of 2013, the Appeal did write "close-out time" and "last chance" articles, which were published prominently in the Newsletter and Between the Sundays. It also should be noted, however, that the Appeal could not forego a few December phone calls to habitual end-of-year contributors.

Nevertheless, we have been told by some long-time contributors that an unintended consequence of the no-mailing strategy was that they failed to make any donation at all for 2013, absent some "triggering" reminder. Their remedy is already bearing fruit in the response to our 2014 pledging, in which some Members are even doubling their intended gift to "makeup."

### 3. PARTICIPATION

The overall number of givers increased during 2013. While Members who contributed were down slightly from previous years, reflecting a reduced membership, Friends and non-Members added considerably more gifts than recently. Anecdotally, we have been told that much of this was caused by the arrival of our new minister, who both attracted renewed interest from King's Chapel's circle of friends as well as estranged Members, but who also brought a generous following with her.

The chart below tabulates the gifts (but not names) of all potential contributors to the Annual Appeal – all King's Chapel Members in our current church record, as well as others who did actually make a contribution in 2013. These 126 contributors represent 62% of the all the total Members plus other givers. In total, solicited about 260 potential donors who had contributed in the recent past. But for the current calculations, we have subtracted non-respondents (those “occasional” or one-off non-Members). All Members do continue to be carried on the list, although those who did *not* contribute in 2013 account for 38%.

Please note that the total non-giver numbers are subject to discussion, since the list of church Members is under constant revision. This evaluation is partly to account for those carried in name but who do not entirely meet the By-Law criteria (including financial support) for continuing membership. Hence the 76 non-giver Members shown might be considered a somewhat inflated figure.

The data and analysis shown have not been generated (or perforce shared) before this year. Hence, we offer the table of contributions as a baseline against which we can all measure Annual Appeal progress and effectiveness in the future. The table appeared in a different form on the reverse of the January pledge letter, but the analysis has been further refined here. The surprise then, as now, was how many “zeros” among the Members there are.

We hope that the chart will be as revealing to our Members and friends as it has been to the Appeal Committee and staff itself. There has always been something of a shroud of mystery around the Annual Appeal, with Members having no way to understand where their gifts stand among those of peers. Of course the more important qualifier is what each of us feels we want and can contribute to our church. Critical to each of us is not only the “value proposition” of the Membership obligation, but, far more importantly, what spiritual gain there is from personal stewardship.

King's Chapel		CONTRIBUTIONS by Household **						2013 Annual Appeal			
\$10,000.00	4,350.00	1,900.00	950.00	400.00	150.00 *	80.00 *	\$0	0	0		
10,000.00	4,200.00	1,685.00	900.00	350.00	150.00	75.00	0	0	0		
10,000.00	4,170.00	1,430.00	900.00	310.00	150.00 *	50.00	0	0	0		
5,500.00	3,950.00	1,400.00	800.00	300.00	150.00	50.00 *	0	0	0		
5,100.00	3,500.00	1,300.00	750.00 *	300.00 *	125.00	50.00 *	0	0	0		
5,000.00	3,325.00	1,025.00	700.00	300.00 *	120.00	50.00 *	0	0	0		
5,000.00	3,000.00	1,020.31	600.00 *	300.00 *	115.00 *	50.00 *	0	0	0		
5,000.00	3,000.00	1,000.00	600.00	280.00	100.00 *	50.00 *	0	0	0		
5,000.00	3,000.00	1,000.00	600.00 *	280.00	100.00 *	50.00 *	0	0	0		
	2,500.00	1,000.00	600.00	250.00	100.00	50.00 *	0	0	0		
	2,244.93	1,000.00	550.00	250.00 *	100.00	50.00	0	0	0		
	2,160.00	1,000.00	550.00	250.00	100.00 *	50.00 *	0	0	0		
	2,075.00	1,000.00	510.00	250.00	100.00 *	50.00 *	0	0	0		
	2,000.00	1,000.00	500.00	250.00 *	100.00 *	40.00	0	0	0		
	2,000.00	1,000.00	500.00	250.00 *	100.00 *	30.00 *	0	0	0		
			500.00	250.00	100.00	25.00	0	0	0		
			500.00 *	200.00	100.00 *	25.00 *	0	0	0		
			500.00 *	200.00 *		25.00	0	0	0		
			500.00	200.00		25.00 *	0	0	0		
			500.00 *	200.00		25.00 *	0	0	0		
				200.00 *		25.00 *	0	0	0		
				200.00 *		25.00 *	0	0	0		
				200.00		25.00 *	0	0	0		
				200.00		20.00 *	0	0	0		
						20.00	0	0			
						20.00 *	0	0			
* Non-members shown (*), listed alpha											
** Individuals in households contributing separately = 6 (included above)											
ALL CONTRIBUTORS							NON-CONTRIBUTOR MEMBERS				
9	15	15	20	24	17	26	26	26	24		
			Non-members 6	9	9	18					
Members =		84	67%							76	
Non-Members =		42	33%							0	
<b>Combined = 202</b>		126	<b>62% of all</b>							<b>of all 38%</b>	76

Source: Annual Appeal - 1/27/14

#### 4. THE YEAR'S (2014) ANNUAL APPEAL - SO FAR

We are happy to report that as of this writing (March 10, 2014), we have already received 47 pledges and/or gifts (55% of last year's total number of gifts) for almost \$98,000 – 58% of the current financial goal for the 2014 Appeal. The average 2014 pledge so far is about \$2,100 ( $\$97,795/47 = \$2,081$ ), an increase of 20%! Not a bad start. The total pledge trend is a remarkable change in our long-time, deeply in-grained habit of late-, or no pledging at all. We can all be grateful, as well as joyful. Many thanks.

Respectfully submitted, *Todd Lee and Karen C. C. Dalton, Co- chairs*  
 2014 Annual Appeal Committee

### **C. ARCHIVES COMMITTEE**

Last year's annual report mentioned that a proposal to transfer most pre-Carl Scovel archival materials to the custody of the Massachusetts Historical Society (MHS) had been under consideration for some time. This project was undertaken during 2014, a process that required developing a formal understanding with MHS, memorializing this understanding with a presentation to and vote by the Vestry, identification and review of items designated for transfer by any committee members and clergy, the actual transfer, and preparation and review of a document group receipt for transferred materials.

It should be pointed out that these materials remain the property of King's Chapel and are now in the custody of MHS primarily for safekeeping and use in scholarly research. MHS has indicated that earlier King's Chapel materials that are already in their possession are some of the most requested items in their collection.

The most important piece of archival research undertaken during 2013 was a meeting-by-meeting review of about 20 years of vestry minutes. All references in any context to the alley next to 64 Beacon Street were identified and photocopied. Issues concerning the alley have become topical, and the relevant vestry record is now fully assembled.

Despite the transfer to MHS, the archives are still full of a multitude of interesting items, and all are invited request a visit to the archives. Another invitation from last year that merits repeating if that between the archives and the Sunday morning church history talk, there may be material that can help some of the young people at King's Chapel with a term paper.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Kuttner

### **D. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

The Building and Grounds committee is charged with the stewardship of King's Chapel, the Parish House and Parsonage.

At the Church we updated the senior minister's name in gold leaf on all exterior signage. We have completed some repair on the stair to the bell tower, and will continue some restoration carpentry work in that area. We scraped and painted the iron portions of the Revere Bell assembly, lubricated the bell pivots, oiled the wood supports and bell rocker wheel, and removed deteriorated portions of the plaster ceiling. We replaced the old vestibule carpet with a new one matching the pew carpet. We are slowly replacing fabric on the armrests, doorframes and walls in those pew boxes where it is most deteriorated or torn. With our Parish Administrator providing the coordination, we cleaned out and made orderly the entire Crypt, and installed shelving there for the storage of church merchandise. Upcoming work at the Church will include repair of the exterior plaque that has fallen from the Pierre Monument, the design of a new system for the display of merchandise in the vestibule, and replacement of deteriorated bases at some of the exterior columns.

At the Parish House we replaced a section of the subfloor and re-tiled that work area in the first floor nursery that was required due to the leaking steam pipe that had caused considerable damage. An additional access hatch was installed under the stair to facilitate future repair work. We have developed plans to improve the security of both the Parish House and the Parsonage with the installation of video monitored door access, and a powered lockable garage door with motion activated security lighting. We have retained a consultant to assist in the replacement of the telephone system that has reached the end of its useful life.

At all three locations we upgraded the fire and security alarm communication devices, and transferred the alarm monitoring responsibility to the American Alarm Company of Arlington.

I would like to recognize the continuing contributions of our committee members Samuel Perry, Oliver Egleston, and Miguel Gomez-Ibanez.

Respectfully submitted,

John Bowman, Chair

#### **E. CHANCEL AND DECORATIONS COMMITTEE**

The Chancel Committee is responsible for providing and maintaining all Chancel items used in every King's Chapel service. The Chancel Committee is also responsible for decorating the church for Christmas and Easter.

This past year we have built a good working relationship with our new Senior Minister, Joy Fallon. We are very thankful for our three vergers Jessica Stewart, Caitlin O'Hara and Carolyn Conley who have been so conscientious about Chancel logistics, it's a pleasure to work with all of them. This year we are also very grateful for the administrative support we have received from Julina Rundberg our new Parish Administrator.

In the coming year we plan on developing a pool of volunteers for Christmas and Easter decorating.

Respectfully submitted by,

Paula Tranter  
Louise Perkins  
*Chancel Committee Co-Chairs*

#### **F. COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE**

##### **Mission**

The mission of the Community Action Committee (CAC) is to support local non-profit community organizations with volunteer time, talent and treasure.

##### **CAC Projects, 2013-14**

CAC operates on a simple project-based structure, with each project proposed and led by a volunteer "champion." We try to provide both volunteer effort and a small grant to each project.

In 2013, Cliff Allen and Amy Meyer served as CAC co-chairs. At the request of Rev. Fallon, we added a new community partner, the New England Center for Homeless Veterans (NECHV, our neighbor at "Court St.") with Amy as champion. CAC projects in fall 2013 included: a Habitat for Humanity (HFH) build in Boston in September, led by champion Peter Sexton; sales of holiday cakes, which raised more than \$1100 for the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless, championed by Cliff Allen; and a KC table of eight at the NECHV annual dinner.

On February 9, 2014, CAC hosted our annual Community Action Sunday lunch, showcasing the NECHV, with its Community Relations director, Steve Cunniff, as guest speaker, raising about \$750. This spring we hope to partner again with the Church School in hosting The Heifer Project (with animals!) at KC's annual Pet Blessing (Amy as

champion); and to field our fifth annual KC team in the Boston Pride parade (led by new champion Gregg Sorensen).

### **Finances**

CAC is funded primarily from contributions raised by our semi-annual solicitations, with some additional support from KC endowment income, and from special holiday collections. CAC is also charged with choosing recipients of the “Second Sunday” plate collections throughout the year.

We did a mail solicitation in November 2013, resulting in over \$4000 in contributions. We also received \$1333 from plate collections at Christmas services. These funds will be awarded as 5-6 grants at the committee’s next meeting.

### **Membership and Meetings**

Founding membership of CAC consisted of Amy Meyer (former C&A chair), Cliff Allen (former SAC chair), Peter Sexton (longtime HFH champion), and Elsie Herrmann, guru. In 2013 we welcomed Carol Genovese and Denton Crews as new committee members.

We are grateful to all who have contributed to CAC’s service to our wider community, and welcome everyone who would like to be more involved in community action.

Respectfully submitted,

**Amy Meyer and Cliff Allen**, *co-chairs*

## **G. CHURCH SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Our Church School currently has ten active families, and about half of the children attend the elementary school age class. All children engage in special events throughout the year including gathering such as Advent Crafts, Pancake Breakfast, Pet Blessing Sunday, Easter Egg Hunt, and Children's Sunday. This year’s Christmas Pageant was well-attended and spectacularly performed by current church school members with a special part when children attending that night could participate.

Shannon Lee departed in the fall after 5 years of dedicated service. Kimberly Luck became the new church school director for the remainder of the year.

Families continue to participate in social action, including raising funds for El Hogar and donating food to the Greater Boston Food Bank. We also have started creating sandwiches for the homeless with blessed bread on Communion Sundays.

Families involved with the Church School have a strong relationship with both the Church School and the larger congregation, as shown in their attendance at both Family Service and Morning Prayer. Children have participated in Morning Prayer throughout the year, in a variety of ways, including serving as lectors, lighting advent candles, and handing out palms.

The theme this year has been the life of Jesus. Kimberly Luck has served as the lead teacher and Annabel Margolis Borgeson, a long-time Church School youth, serving as a classroom aide to earn community service hours. They have used the “All-in-One Bible Fun” curriculum and the Spark Story Bible as inspiration for their lessons. Ingrid Olson is the new teacher for the older class. She has used the Caffeine and Christ curriculum for guiding questions.

We have a dedicated committee who has met throughout the year to discuss current and future church school plans. The group consists of Reverend Joy Fallon, Kim Luck, Mark Tranter, Hallie White Speight, Pei- Chun Lin, Carol Genovese and Tamara Hammer.

I am planning to remain an active part of the church school and will contribute any way that I can.

Thank You,

Mark Tranter

Chair of the King's Chapel Church School Committee

## **H. DENOMINATIONAL AND ECUMENICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (DAC) REPORT**

In 2013-14, the Denomination and Ecumenical Affairs Committee (DEA) has sought to increase congregational participation in denominational affairs (UUA); strengthen the partner church relationship in Transylvania; and promote dialog regarding the church's historic and contemporary theological ties to Unitarianism.

**Denominational Participation.** The most opportune occasion for King's Chapel parishioners to connect to denominational affairs will be this summer when the Unitarian Universalist General Assembly will be held in Providence, Rhode Island. This national event will be June 25-29, and it appears that Friday, June 27 will be a good day to attend as a group. An announcement of the details will be made in the KC newsletter.

**Partner Church Program.** King's Chapel's relationship with its partner church was advanced by the visit to Boston in February of a distinguished lay leader of the First Unitarian Church of Kolozsvár. Emöd Farkas is an active member of their partner church committee and has served as translator and history guide for many who have visited Transylvania. He arrived on a Tuesday evening, toured the UUA headquarters on Wednesday morning, delivered the homily at KC's midweek service despite the snow storm emergency (a copy of his homily is available at the Parish House), and after a luncheon hosted by Joy Fallon he met with the minister and two members of the KC Partner Church Committee to explore potential activities between our churches. Thursday and Friday were filled with touring Boston, Cambridge, and UU churches before Emöd departed for home.

The activities proposed for further exploration between the two partner churches include the following: (1) Participatory Events at First Unitarian Church Kolozsvár – Open Doors project at First Unitarian Church in June and district gathering of Unitarians at Torda Gorge in late summer; (2) programs of First Unitarian Church – daily meals program, nursery school in Hungarian language, mission work in town of Baciú, and youth camp in summer; (3) Exchange Visits between Kolozsvár and Boston – ministerial visits/exchanges, sermon exchange, layperson visits, and KC choir visit; (4) Capital Projects at First Unitarian Church – parish house attic project, church building foundation project, pew replacement project, and commercial facility development project; and (5) Social Action Programs in Transylvania – Habitat for Humanity housing build project and Roşia Montană environmental protection campaign. Further discussion of these topics will be scheduled via teleconference and include the Reverend Norbert Racz, minister of First Unitarian Church.

**Transylvania Sunday.** We celebrated communion in the Transylvania tradition on Sunday, February 2, and afterwards 30-40 persons remained to hear presentations by Denton Crews and Peter Coccoluto. Denton delivered a synopsis of elements of KC's Unitarian heritage from the 16th century and Peter talked about the heritage of the partner church program in the 20th century.

**Denominational Affairs Budget Allocation.** The budget allocation for denominational and ecumenical affairs was distributed in December as follows: UUA dues – \$2,800; Mass Bay District - \$1,200; and UU Partner Church Council - \$150.

**Plans for 2014-15.** Initiatives proposed for consideration and implementation in the coming year include the following:

- a. Promoting the partner church relationship with sermon and ministerial exchanges;
- b. Supporting the Habitat for Humanity housing build project July 5-20, 2014;

- c. Sponsoring a forum on liberal Christianity and the Unitarian connection; and
- d. Encouraging an organized orientation program for new members to include material on the identification of King's Chapel as a Unitarian church.

Members of the Committee: Denton Crews (chair), Kathe German, Louise Perkins, Charles Perry, Betsy Peterson, and Peter Sexton.

## **I. HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE**

The Hospitality Committee invites fellow parishioners to serve, to engender fellowship, and to welcome visitors and guests in a congenial atmosphere.

Recruiting hosts was a pleasure this season for coffee. In the past it has been challenging to find hosts for Punch on the Bricks throughout the summer. As this summer approaches I am confident that there will be enough support from volunteers to continue this delightful "tradition", weather permitting of course.

In addition to Sunday morning coffee at the Church, Hospitality was also responsible for the Homecoming lunch in September, Milk Punch/Christmas Party in December, a supper following a Sunday concert in January, the Pre-annual meeting in March, and will assist with Changing of Guards Reception in May. All the events held were most successful. During the year, coffee, snacks and a cold beverage are available to those who choose to stay for social hour.

A special thank you should be given to the wonderful volunteers that are gracious enough to host this Sunday morning tradition; Beth Chapin, Kathe German, Betsy Peterson, Cathy Price, Gregg Sorensen, Amy Meyer, Ciel Hill, Carol and Emmanuel Genovese, Miguel Ibanez Gomez, Barbara Fay, Betty Lykins, Ray Harden, Mary Sears, Louise Perkins, Julie Hyde. The vergers, Carolyn Connolly, Jessica Stewart are extremely helpful in providing support to the Sunday host. I offer apologies to any names I may have left off my thank you list

Yours in deep gratitude,  
Hospitality Committee Chair,  
Anne Sexton

## **J. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Over the past year, I have talked several times with our Senior Minister about setting priorities, adopting strategies, and sharing ideas for strengthening the Parish. We have agreed that this is not simply a matter of increasing the number of members. While that is certainly important, we are also focusing on the need to reinvigorate our current membership.

Unless more of us demonstrate renewed commitment to financial stewardship and regular participation in the activities of the Parish, we cannot hope to attract new members and ask for their support. It is up to us to start the momentum.

My overall plan is to focus on integrating the work of our various committees to achieve our common goals. To that end, I have spoken with the chairs of Hospitality, Denominational Affairs, Adult Education, and others about planning joint activities which appeal to more than one aspect of our Parish life.

In the coming year, we will be letting you know about these activities, and asking for your participation. Please feel free to contact me with your ideas and comments.

New Members: Since our last Annual Meeting, we have welcomed the following persons as members of King's Chapel:

*Brendan Daly, Joy K. Fallon, Robert P. Fallon, Tamara Hammer, Mindy Hinkel, Madolyn Wilson, William Wilson*

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Hardin, Chair

#### **K. MINNS COMMITTEE**

No report was submitted this year for the Minns Committee

#### **L. MUSIC COMMITTEE**

The Music Committee has had a busy and productive year, supporting the Kings Chapel Concert Series and related activities. Under the leadership of Music Director Heinrich Christensen, we have presented 5 concerts in the 2013-14 season, so far, with one more scheduled for March 30th. In addition to the concerts, we held a cabaret fundraiser at the Parish House in October, *Alto Extravanza III*. Members of the music committee and other parishioners have volunteered many hours ushering, working on receptions, assembling mailings, proofreading program notes, etc.

Attendance has been strong at concerts this year, averaging about 100 people in the audience. At the first performance on September 29, we welcomed back the New England Spiritual Ensemble, featuring choir members Joei and Dan Perry (attendance 116). Next was our choir with guest organist Ian Watson on October 27 in a program for Benjamin Britten's centennial (attendance 92). The December concert starred our own Heinrich Christensen playing the complete set of Bach's Goldberg Variations (attendance 121). On January 26 we welcomed the new year with an a capella vocal concert of *Americana* (attendance 118). Our latest concert on February 23 celebrated the 50th anniversary of our Fisk organ with works by Robert Sirota, Daniel Pinkham and others (attendance 102).

Receptions after the concerts have varied, including light refreshments in the vestibule, wine and cheese at the Parish House, and a splendid soup and salad dinner at the Parish House in January (attendance 46!). The Hospitality Committee, members of Parish Council, and Music Committee members collaborated on the dinner in January. We are enthusiastic about the social time after concerts, so that audience members can chat with the performers, and KC parishioners can interact with listeners from the larger community.

We are very grateful to our volunteers and to the Guarantors listed in our program. The generosity of our Guarantors has made it possible for us to hire musicians such as the string quartet in February and guest artist Ian Watson in October. We have also hired local graphic designers to assist with our publicity, producing more colorful brochures, postcards and posters this year. The "guarantor's card" of years past has been revived as a "season pass" for those who donate \$250 or more. This year, 17 of our guarantors received a season pass, a testimony to the generosity of our audience.

Heartfelt thanks go to Heinrich, our treasurer Walter Chapin, preceding chair Elizabeth Thomson, the members of the committee and all of you who have volunteered at music events this year. Thanks also to the Rev. Joy Fallon, Julina Rundberg and Jessica Stewart for all of their support. I appreciate your good works and good cheer, as I finish my first year as Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Sears

## M. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

### Proposed Slate of Candidates, Spring 2014

Senior Warden	Clifford Allen
Junior Warden	William Sears
Treasurer	Richard Weeks
Assistant Treasurer	open

Vestry, Class of 2015	Charles Perry (to finish the term of Clifford Allen) Kathe German Cathleen Price Hallie Speight
Vestry, Class of 2016	Amy Meyer Todd Lee
Vestry, Class of 2017	Paul Luca Hugh Scott Mindy Hinkel

#### Standing Committees and Chairs

Adult Religious Education	Betsy Peterson
Annual Appeal	Todd Lee and Karen Dalton
Archives	William Kuttner
Buildings and Grounds	John Bowman
Chancel and Decoration	Louise Perkins , co-chair to be confirmed
Church School	Mark Tranter
Community Action	Amy Meyer
Denominational and Ecumenical Affairs	Denton Crews
Fiscal Affairs	Miguel Gomez-Ibanez
Hospitality	Anne Sexton
Membership	Ray Hardin
Music	Mary Sears
Nominating Committee nomination by Senior Warden	
Personnel and Ministerial	Charles Perry

#### Parish Council

Chair	Carolyn Russ
Member-at-Large	Judy Luca Julie Hyde

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Genovese, Allen Speight, and Beth Chapin

## **N. PERSONNEL AND MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE**

The Personnel and Ministerial Committee is a standing committee responsible for overseeing all personnel and human resource-related matters for the church. As such, it coordinates closely with the Wardens, the Treasurers, the Vestry, and the Fiscal Affairs Committee, as well as with the Senior Minister and the Parish Administrator, on issues related to staff contracts and salaries, fringe benefit policies, performance reviews, hiring and termination procedures, anti-discrimination policies, the creation of a safe work environment, and the handling of any complaints regarding intra-staff or staff-parish relations. As requested by the Wardens and Vestry, the committee will review and recommend adjustments to the overall staffing structure, job descriptions, and salary schedules. In coordination with the Wardens, the committee may also assist in reviewing the work of the Senior Minister and, when applicable, Assistant Minister. .

Compared to the two previous years, the current church year has been somewhat quieter on the personnel front. The major development since the last annual meeting was the hiring of Julina Rundberg in May 2013 to serve as King's Chapel's new Parish Administrator, following the departure of our ad hoc administrator, Jennifer Visconti, who left to pursue her legal career. Julina, who had fortuitously worked with our Senior Minister, the Reverend Joy Fallon, in an earlier church setting, has proven to be an exceptionally talented and committed member of the King's Chapel team, and we are lucky to have her. Beyond Julina's hiring, the Personnel and Ministerial Committee coordinated with the Wardens, the Senior Minister, and the Parish Administrator on two other key personnel-related adjustments in October – namely, the hiring of Kimberly Luck as our new Church School Director following Shannon Lee's decision to relinquish that post, and the selection of Carolyn Conley as our new primary Sunday Verger following Geoffrey Michael's decision to resign from that post. This last transition was made all the easier by the fact that Carolyn, together with Jessica Stewart, King's Chapel's part-time Administrative Assistant, and Caitlin O'Hara, King's Chapel guide and Church School verger, had already been trained, at Julina's suggestion, in the Sunday Verger's duties, so as to ensure that the church had a deeper bench of vergers to call upon when needed. Hence, Jessica and Caitlin are available when Carolyn is not for Sundays and other special services requiring verger coverage.

Going forward, the committee will continue to work closely with the Wardens, the Senior Minister, the Parish Administrator, and other church leadership to ensure that King's Chapel maintains the staff support it requires in accordance with church needs and finances, and that the staff, in turn, receives the support it needs to perform to the best of their abilities. This will include updates as required to the King's Chapel Employee Handbook and to other employee-related documentation, along with efforts to review and maintain the most cost-effective personnel benefits programs.

Finally, I would like to thank fellow committee members Lee Glenn, Anne Sexton, and Bill Sears (who, as Junior Warden, participates in an ex officio capacity) for giving so much of their time and energy to finding and maintaining the best possible staff for King's Chapel, and for helping to set in place policies and programs to ensure that the staff is properly supported.

Respectfully,  
Charles Perry, Chair

## **O. PARISH COUNCIL**

The Parish Council has had a productive and lively year. In this year we have continued to prove our usefulness as a conduit of information among the various committees and parts of the parish. Committee chairs have received information on, and discussed, the process used by the Nominating committee, the activities of the Assistant Minister Search Committee, and activities of the Buildings and Grounds committee. All of these make us better informed, and more able to provide accurate information to others in the parish.

Parish Council has served as a sounding board for committee chairs. Members were asked for discussion and input by other members, especially in matters of Annual Appeal, Adult Religious Education activities, and Membership. In

addition, Parish Council has served as a way of (we hope) gaining volunteers for ushering at music programs, helping with social activities and Hospitality Committee responsibilities, and helping the Chancel Committee with holiday decorating. We have advised each other and encouraged each other.

In our role as a support for the programs of the minister, we have reviewed the church year calendar to see where improvements could be made, or where new activities could be added or old ones revived. As a result, the Shrove Tuesday pancake tradition has been brought back (albeit on a Sunday) and the Seder is under discussion.

Parish Council helps committees to connect and work together. The UUA General Assembly in June 2014, to be held in Providence, and how we might participate, is currently under discussion. In addition, the Adult Religious Education and Denominational Affairs Committee have agreed to discuss ARE programming on the history and background of UUism and KCism. This was after a discussion of KC and its relationship with the UUA, which we hope is the start of a longer and wider conversation.

In addition, an ad hoc committee to produce an updated KC Directory and This Year at KC has been formed, with the goal of having this document ready by August 2014.

The following is the roster of members of this year's Parish Council.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn Russ

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>
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<b>Community Action</b>	Amy Meyer Cliff Allen	amymeyerw@comcast.net	617 523-3780
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<b>Nominating</b>	Carol Genovese	Carolg12@verizon.net	617 738-6367
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<b>Ex-Officio Members</b>	Dean Denniston	deandenniston@rcn.com	617 738-1414
	Bill Sears	wlmsears@gmail.com	781 861-6115
	Joy Fallon	joy@kings-chapel.org	617 407-4560
<b>Chair</b>	Carolyn Russ	clynruss@earthlink.net	617 354 2270

## P. VISITOR'S GUIDE PROGRAM

2013 was a productive and positive year for the guide program, and a year of growing along with our new leadership team with The Rev. Joy Fallon and Parish Administrator Julina Rundberg. The guide staff is currently comprised mainly of people who have been with KC for four to eight years, so we have a strong core group who want to continue to help me to build programming and make our program stronger and more visible. We have some ideas in the works about how to do that, detailed below. Our donation and sales numbers continue to be strong, and our Harborfest figures were far higher this past year than in 2012 (on July 4, we saw 2080 visitors and brought in \$2130)! Overall, we saw over 175,000 visitors in 2013.

In 2012, our major concerns were building infrastructure around our ordering/inventory system and group tour system. In 2013, we continued to make our processes more efficient, and also had to have some expenditure for physical improvements to our space (purchasing new bookshelves, purchasing some new display materials, making several large purchases of inventory to fully stock our shelves and storage shelves for the upcoming seasons).

Our major focuses for 2013 were twofold: expanding our historical program and increasing accuracy, and improving the visitor experience. To the first point, we are continuing our project from last year of doing the hard research work needed to revamp out of date or inaccurate signs and to incorporate new, exciting aspects of KC's history into our tours and highlights. To this end, we have been visiting the Massachusetts Historical Society, and also cross referencing the Annals. Due to this effort, we have entirely revamped and streamlined our Bells and Bones tours and our group tour information. To the latter point, the guide staff worked with Joy and Julina to have a more welcoming approach to the times before and after services, when the Chapel is "in transition." This involved some efforts to not fully "shut down" the Chapel in such a way that visitors are discouraged from coming in for services or concerts. As we move into a busier time in the spring and summer, we will need to have continued efforts and conversations to see what works best for staff, parishioners, ministry efforts, and our visitors. In addition, to make the visitor experience more pleasant this year, we regularized the schedule of Bells and Bones tours to make them more predictable, and added an announcement white board in the vestibule with an update on the day's activities (and fun historical facts).

We have several goals for 2014. In terms of programming: We want to introduce some new element at Harborfest this year, either a new tour or a new show. We would also like to start doing some kind of Saturday Tory Story/skit performance in the summers, and would like to add a more focused series of tours around a specific topic, that would be well publicized. I have a lot of staff who are very excited about these possibilities, so will be working on this in the spring and into the summer.

In terms of inventory/processes: We would like to look at new register systems that would better keep track of inventory, if that would be viable. We realize that some things are predicated on getting a wireless system at the Chapel. We also need to find a way to better publicize our hours, and/or to explain our need to be closed at certain times. I will work with Jess to figure out a potential solution to the confusion that there has been.

In terms of outreach: I would still like to find ways for us to become more of a destination for locals, especially school groups. Although it's not my personal strongpoint, I think we could more effectively use social media and networking with other Boston tourism sites. We also would love to spearhead a fundraising event for a specific historical element in the Chapel, like the Benjamin West painting, or something else that needs repair.

Respectfully submitted,  
Theresa Cooney O'Hara, *Head Guide*