

## Revere the past, but trust the dawning future more...

*This Board Bits is dedicated to the year in review. The Board wishes to thank Rev. Maureen, Rev. Michael, the Eliot staff, and the Congregation for an energetic third year of interim ministry. Here we cite a few highlights for the year, many of which were mentioned at the annual Congregational meeting.*

### Some highlights around Eliot's Five Ends Statements

**1. Members, friends and visitors of Eliot Chapel feel welcomed, safe, respected and cared for.**

We are learning to minister to one another; more care with less staff under direction of Rev. Michael. Care is a shared ministry.

Covenant groups remain strong.

Parking lot is paved.

New members continue to sign the book monthly.

Worship attendance remained strong during a third year of internship.

**2. Across the lifespan, congregants gain experiences, skills, knowledge and practices to grow spiritually, intellectually and emotionally enabling them to experience enriched, encouraged, and inspired lives.**

Attendance and interest in RE remained strong during third year of interim ministry.

29 youth in OWL - a record.

New format for the Christmas Pageant that drew strong attendance and festive potluck.

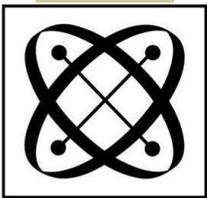
Successful redesign of Madrigal event, to recognize and honor the reality of reduced volunteer energy, yet preserve the spirit of the event.

**3. Our work and resources make positive differences in the lives of those in need. The wider community benefits from and recognizes Eliot Chapel's action and voice toward religious tolerance, human rights, social and economic justice and environmental stewardship.**

Social Justice is blossoming with Nancy Spargo as volunteer staff. One highlight was a trip to Pine Ridge Reservation last summer, with plans to return this summer.

Eliot hosted a Partner Church potluck with ~60 people in attendance.

Rev. Maureen used Eliot's free pulpit to stand on the side of love in speaking in support of the Muslim community.



## The Year in Review

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Comments? Questions?

4. **Those touched by Eliot Chapel experience the awe, wonder, and mystery of the spiritual journey and a reverence for the natural world.**

The Bergfried team continues to work positively toward implementing the Bergfried Task Force Report. Bergfried and administration relationship is strong and collaborative.

Music continues its tradition of excellence.

5. **Through Eliot Chapel's actions and voice, the wider community recognizes and gains understanding of Unitarian Universalist values and principles and of their roles in the betterment of community.**

Successful split plate collection each month, helping various worthy causes.

Generous special aid to a sister UU congregation in need.

Renewed formalized relationship with the Nursery School.

### Accomplishments Supporting All Five Ends

The tireless work of the Ministerial Search Committee, culminating in the calling of Reverend Gadon.

Eliot is becoming an increasingly generous community. This year showed the highest number of pledging units in recent history, despite continued difficult economic times. Canvass team did excellent work (and a lot of it). Eliot had a healthy canvass and is on sound financial footing.

Stewardship team created infrastructure that will lead to effective planned giving in 2014 and beyond.

We have retained a skilled, committed, enthusiastic, and stable staff over this transition.

Board and Board-Minister relations are excellent. The governance environment is built on trust, mutual respect, and collaboration.

The Lead Minister and Administrator developed a full set of interpretations of Board policies, a huge help to our next Lead Minister.

The Lead Minister and Administrator have developed an organizational chart to aid Congregants in "plugging in."



# The Year in Review

## Accomplishments Supporting All Five Ends (cont'd.)

The Lead Minister and Administrator have developed sound, organized and accessible operating policies.

The Board has brought in skilled consultants to help the Board fully implement a governance structure.

The Board has moved into the third phase of policy governance implementation and has begun formal monitoring.

The Board held five linkage events with congregants to discuss vision related to our Ends Statements.

The Board implemented a web site section dedicated to keeping congregants abreast of governance.

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