

## **Worship Associates Report**

The Worship Associates is a “theory and practice” group meets monthly with Steve Edington to both help plan our Sunday Services and do some reflecting on the nature and purpose of worship in a Unitarian Universalist congregation.

Members are: Anya Zakiewicz, Kathy Fletcher, Roy Goodman, Laurie Goodman, Harry Purkhiser, David Robbins, John Sanders, Burns Fisher, Gary Lerude, and Ellen Fisher.

This past year we devoted a portion of our meeting to reading and discussing parts of the book *A Manual of Worship: Insights from Over 50 Years as a Unitarian Universalist Minister* by Rev. Frank Schulman; and how Rev. Schulman’s experience and insights help inform how we conduct our services here.

Members of the group take responsibility for certain parts of our Sunday Services: Words for Reflection, Children’s Story, etc. In collaboration with the Religious Education Committee we moved to having the children and young people in nearly all of our services for the first 15-20 minutes. We feel this has worked well and given our services a more integrated feel.

Steve also collaborates with the Music Committee by keeping them informed a couple of months ahead of time of what the sermon topic or service theme will be so they can plan the choir music accordingly.

A very special thanks here to Anya Zakiewicz for planning our summer services. Last year’s (2010) services were very well received, and it looks like we have a good line up for this summer as well!

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Edington