



30 Year Anniversary
High Street UU Church

*logo design
by
Carole Dixon*



The church building in the 1950s

I remember as a child meeting in The Bank: signing in the book and riding the elevators down to the basement, the hard corporate stackable chairs, the vending machines in the adjacent lunch room, the big safe at the end of the hall, and the RE classes in these square hard-carpet rooms. I remember having to keep everything clean and quiet, because it wasn't ours.

But High Street is ours! We could paint the walls, hang stuff up on the walls and windows (we have windows!!) make noise if we wanted, go outside to the parks... I love my memories of being DRE, teaching the teens, and playing with our 'little bitties'...who are now in their 20s and 30s, hah! But my fondest memory is probably bringing Ishiuan to church, playing piano with her (we have a piano!!) and hearing the music resonate off the beautiful dark wood of the sanctuary, and into our hearts.

Adam Hargrove



Sam Rose and Dennis Wright

At the bank, we would get there early, and Dad and I would take out the white A-frame sign that we painted with the UU Fellowship of Middle Georgia and the chalice on it to put out on the sidewalk before the service. The guard at the door was very nice and I liked using the elevator buttons. After we set up the chairs, my job was to place the blue binders on every other chair - readings and, later on, hymns. We only had the stereo that Charles Kight ran for music, until Dorner's family joined (1985-ish?) and we started singing more.

When Charles started the service - "Let this house be quiet." - sometimes he had to raise his voice and say it twice to get everyone settled so he could proceed with, "Let our minds be quiet."

I still have the entire passage, and our chalice lighting, in my head. Our "tabernacle of silence" was a business-like room, but I would look at the ceiling tiles with the different-sized dots in it, and try to see which far-away one I could see that was visible, imagining that it was my "...out to the farthest star."

Sarah Hargrove



The Rev. William F. Schulz, UUA President

RE was small, and we would go out into what I think was the executive boardroom. There was a long table, and we got to sit in these large leather twirling chairs on wheels. I'm sure the teachers wished we were forced to stay still. We usually had 4-6 kids of all ages - Holidays and Holy Days, and Stepping Stones - and it was usually the parents and the Perkins (who were young adults without children).

One tradition that I loved was the Seder. We would put tables in long rows, with small paper plates out with small tastes of everything. Almost all of us would have a reading, and it was one of the first things I knew about the Jewish faith.

We would have coffee hour in the main area, which was maybe considered a lunch place? There were vending machines along the back with candy, chips, sandwiches, and a coffee machine. I would save my allowance to buy a candy bar every other week. Or get penny gum out of the little machine by the door.

Sarah Hargrove



Charles Kight and Mary Lou Dorough (Ezell)

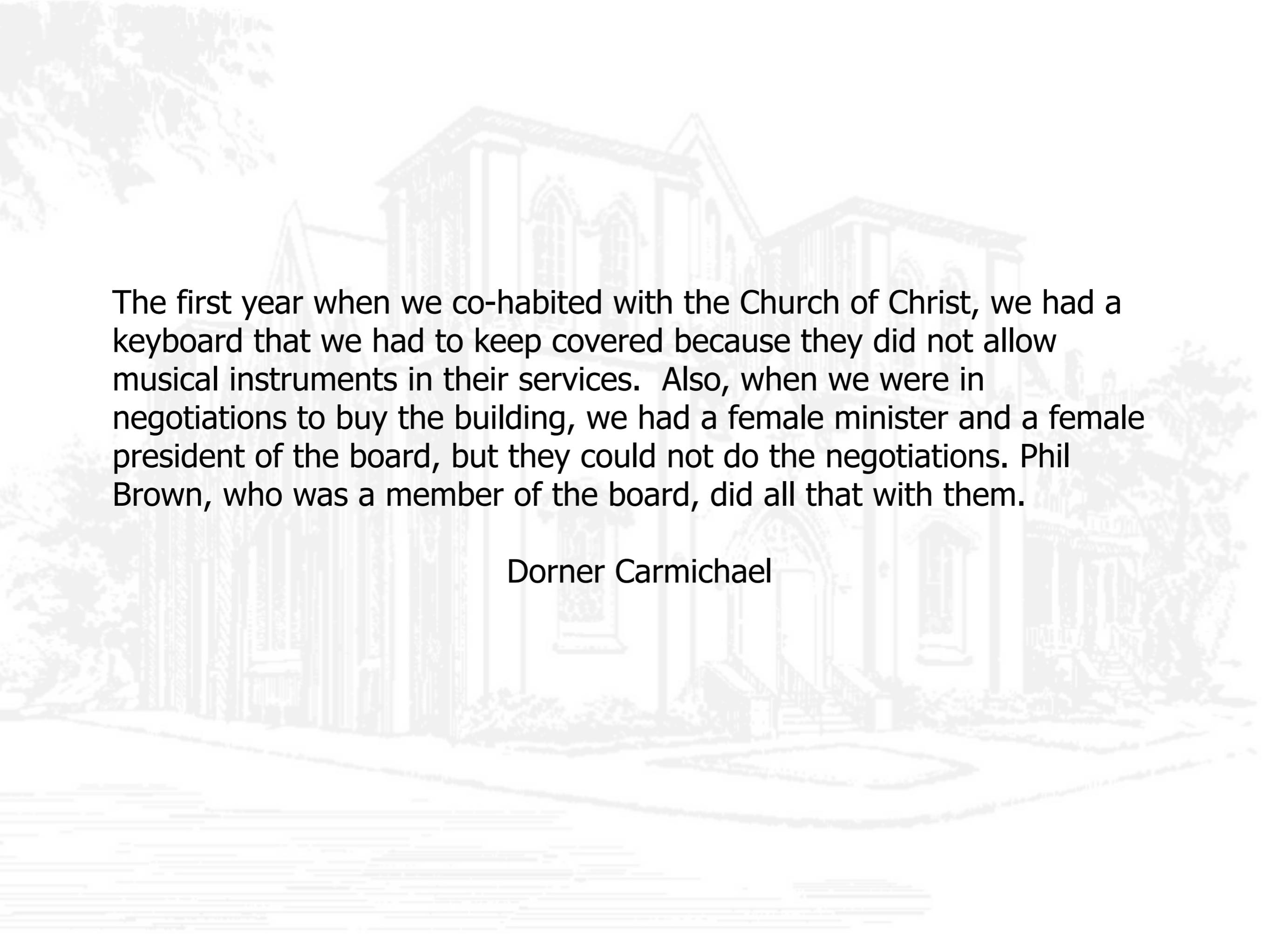


Pat Gibson



Roger Cowan, UUCA

John Rakestraw



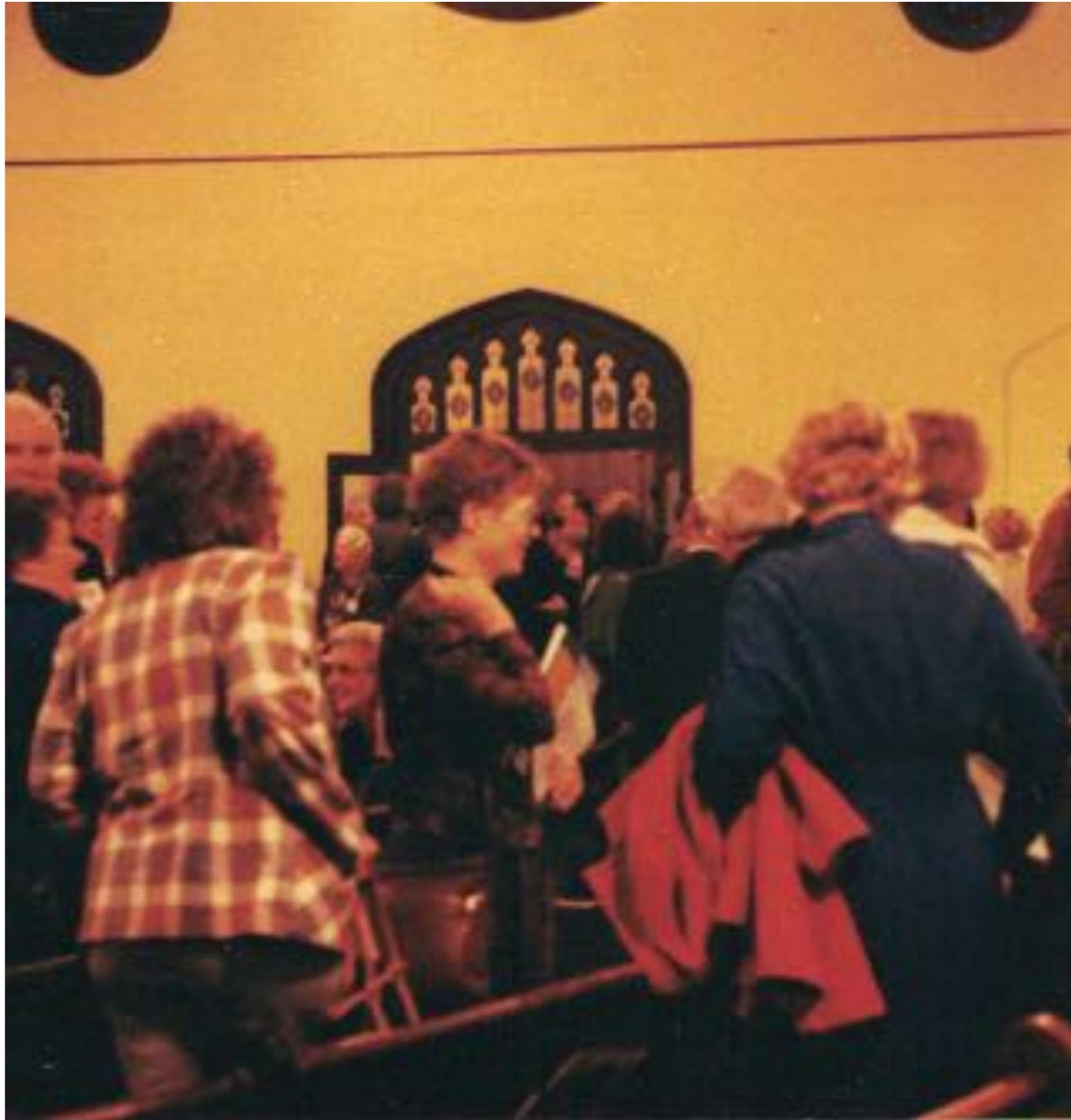
The first year when we co-habited with the Church of Christ, we had a keyboard that we had to keep covered because they did not allow musical instruments in their services. Also, when we were in negotiations to buy the building, we had a female minister and a female president of the board, but they could not do the negotiations. Phil Brown, who was a member of the board, did all that with them.

Dorner Carmichael

When I was twelve, Dad became president (of the congregation), and with the help of the members, especially Sam Rose, we looked at buying a building. While I was not directly involved with all the fund-raising, part of my allowance went into the purchase, also.

I remember going into the building and looking at the things that would need to be fixed and supplied. I had a great sense of responsibility, as it was my building, too, with the pews, stained glass windows, and an old tower room that felt like an adventure to get up to.

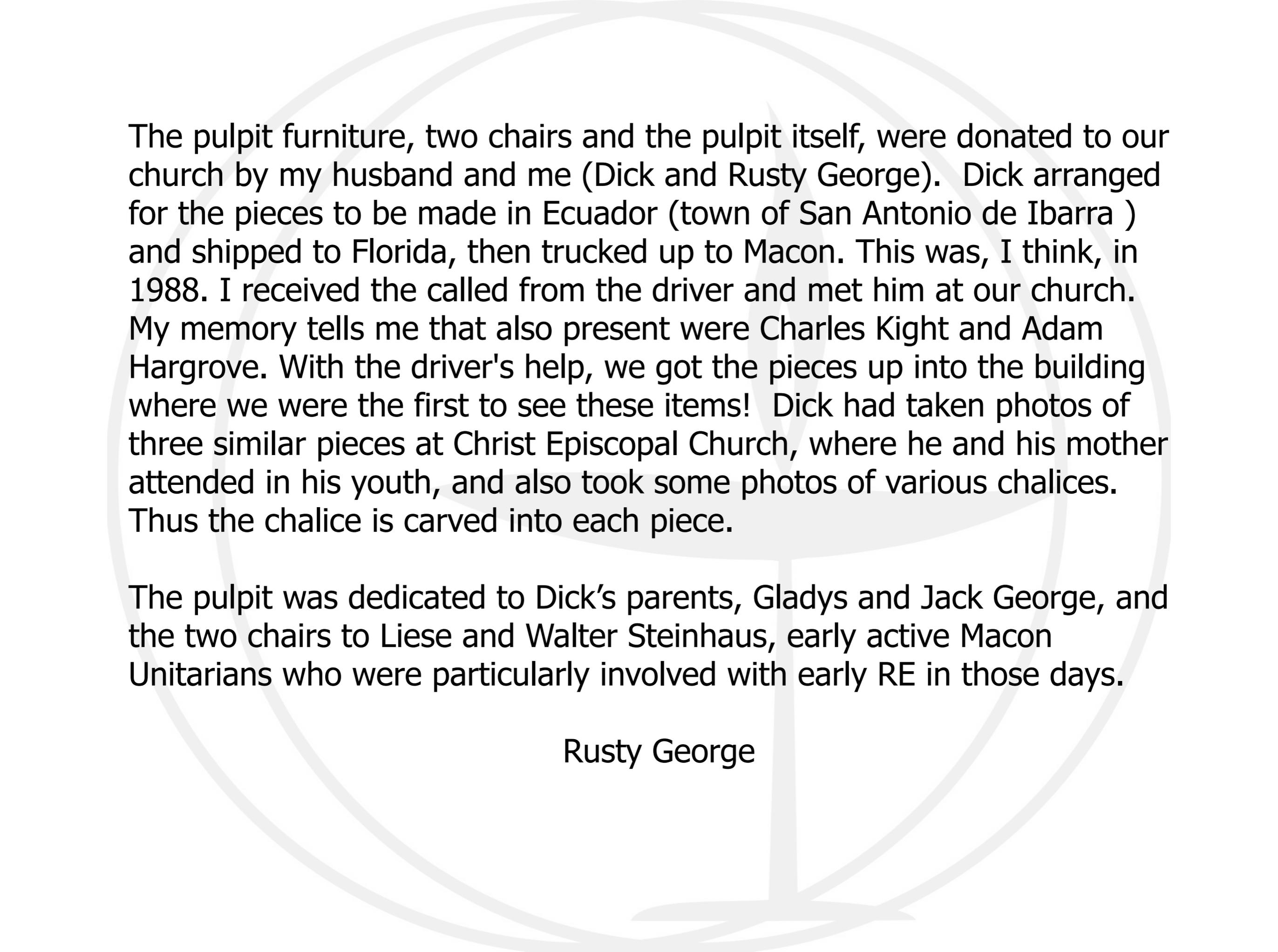
Sarah Hargrove



Betty O'Brien

Lyn Milner

Carol Heggoy

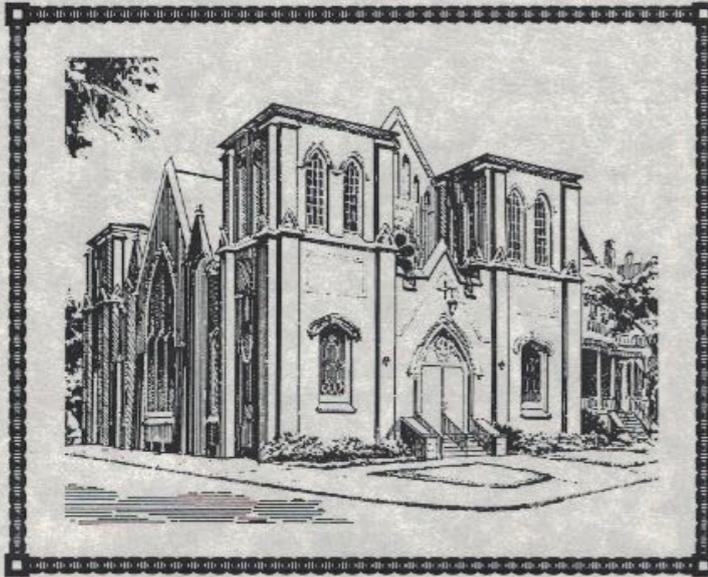


The pulpit furniture, two chairs and the pulpit itself, were donated to our church by my husband and me (Dick and Rusty George). Dick arranged for the pieces to be made in Ecuador (town of San Antonio de Ibarra) and shipped to Florida, then trucked up to Macon. This was, I think, in 1988. I received the call from the driver and met him at our church. My memory tells me that also present were Charles Kight and Adam Hargrove. With the driver's help, we got the pieces up into the building where we were the first to see these items! Dick had taken photos of three similar pieces at Christ Episcopal Church, where he and his mother attended in his youth, and also took some photos of various chalices. Thus the chalice is carved into each piece.

The pulpit was dedicated to Dick's parents, Gladys and Jack George, and the two chairs to Liese and Walter Steinhaus, early active Macon Unitarians who were particularly involved with early RE in those days.

Rusty George

DEDICATION



November 18, 1989
4:00 P.M.

The High Street
Unitarian Universalist Church
1085 High Street
Macon, Georgia 31201

SERVICE OF DEDICATION November 18, 1989

GATHERING

Chalice Lighting

The Rev. Walt Wieder

We light this flame in memory of years past that have brought us to this hour, and to the countless lives, known and unknown, that have made our lives possible.

We light this flame of life in affirmation of the strength that is ours to live this day and the potential we have to create a better tomorrow.

We light this flame of faith that our minds may be enlightened, our love deepened, our path together illumined by understanding and peace.

Prelude

Linda Lane

Etude in C sharp Minor Op. 25, No. 7
Frédéric Chopin

Call to Worship

The Rev. Mary Katherine Morn

Hymn

The Congregation

"Church of the Free Spirit"
John Bacchus Dykes

Bring, O Past, your honor; bring, O Time your harvest,
Golden sheaves of hallowed lives and minds by Truth made free;
Come, you faithful spirits, builders of this temple:
"To Holiness, to Love, and Liberty."

Ring, in glad thanksgiving, bell of grief and gladness,
Forth to town and prairie let our festal greeting go.
Stand, in years oncoming, sentinel of conscience,
"Praise to the Highest, Peace to all below."

Shrine of frontier courage, Sinai of its vision,
Home and hearth of common quest for life's
immortal good,
Stand, in years oncoming, sentinel of conscience,
As through the past your stalwart walls have stood.

Church of pure reformers, pioneers undaunted,
Bivouac of comrades sworn to keep our spirits free;
Long o'er life's swift river preach the eternal gospel:
Faith, hope, and love for all humanity.

Welcome

Phil Brown, President

Greetings

Roger Comstock, Mid-South District
The Rev. Frances West, Gwinnett County UU Fellowship
The Rev. J. Ronzell Maness, Holsey Temple CME Church
Rabbi Jay Heyman, Macon Ministerial Alliance

DEDICATION

Responsive Reading

The Rev. Beth Ide

"Beneath Diversities"
W. Waldemar W. Argow

Ancient as the home is the temple;
Ancient as the work-bench is the altar.

Ancient as the sword is the sacrificial flame;
Ancient as the soldier is the priest.

Extinguishing the Flame

The Rev. Walt Weider

Knowing how quickly the flame of truth might be extinguished, how easily the chalice of fellowship broken, let us keep peace in our hearts, and make care for one another the watchword of our lives together. So our light goes out - everywhere into the world.

Benediction

The Rev. William F. Schulz

Participants and Special Guests

Linda Lane
pianist

Walt Wieder
Minister, Dallas North UU Church

Roger Comstock
District Executive, Mid South and Thomas Jefferson Districts

Frances West
Minister, Gwinnett County UU Fellowship

Ronzell Maness
Minister, Holsey Temple CME Church, Macon

Jay Heyman
Rabbi, Temple Beth Israel, Macon

Beth Ide
Retired UU Minister, Boulder, Colorado

Susan Milnor
Co-Minister, First Universalist Church of Minneapolis

William F. Schulz
President, Unitarian Universalist Association, Boston

The High Street Unitarian Universalist Church Board of Trustees

Phil Brown, President
Carol Heggoy, Vice President
Dianna Wright, Secretary
Dorner Tice, Treasurer
Carolyn Hargrove, Coordinator of Religious Education
Bob Hargrove, Past President
Mary Lou Dorrough, Trustee
Dennis Wright, Trustee
Lindsay Holliday, Trustee

Dedication Committee

Mary Lou Dorrough, Chairperson
Betty Cassidy, Reception
Ruby Fowler, Publicity
Pat Gibson, Reception
Carolyn Hargrove, Brunch
Helen Heckman, Brunch and Hospitality
Carol Heggoy, Invitations
Charles Kight, Program
Louise Morgan, Decorations
Katy Sheridan, Worship

Building Preparation

David Akin	Garry Hammontree
David Aldrich	Walt Heckman
Phil Brown	Gary Headden
Phillip Brown, Jr.	Carol Heggoy
Lila Curshman	Lindsay Holliday
Richard Dannenberg	Ben Home
Dick George	Wil Huskey
David Gibson	Bev Keller
Pat Gibson	Mike Mason
Marlin Gilbert, Chairperson	Marcella Mason

Special Acknowledgements

The Congregation of The High Street Unitarian Universalist Church would like to publicly express its appreciation to

Mr. Sam Rose

for his generous contributions to the building fund and for his belief that we could reach our goal. His challenge to us is in part responsible for our achievements. Thanks, Sam, for helping us to believe in ourselves and our dreams.

The Altar Chairs are given in memory of

John Palmer George
and
Gladys Schuyler George

by Mr. and Mrs. Richard S. George

The Pulpit is given in memory of

Dr. Walter E. Steinhaus
and his wife
Liese

who organized this Fellowship's first
Religious Education program in 1959

by Mr. and Mrs. Richard S. George

Cover drawing by Martha H. Tisdale, Macon, Georgia 1989

A Letter to Our Congregation

October 30, 1989

Dear Friends,

When Bob Hill twisted my arm to contribute my "off" weekend once a month for six months to some sleepy fellowship down in mid-Georgia, little did I know I would some day be sending congratulations to The High Street Unitarian Universalist Church with a full-time ministry! None of us suspected the energy and commitment that was waiting to come alive and make Unitarian Universalism a landmark presence in Macon.

I thoroughly enjoyed my weekends with you; and it was a pleasure to share Susan Milnor and have her continue her ministry with you after the official internship ended, and then with the fortunate move to town of Mary Katherine...but that may sound like more credit than ministry deserves. Contrary to what the Bible says, I have found that even the most dedicated and inspired ministry cannot get a rise out of the dead, that when a congregation takes off and grows in a stable and lasting way, it is always mostly due to the sincere efforts and contributions of the members of that congregation. You made yourselves what you are today; that is where the credit belongs. So, as one who had the privilege of sharing my ministry with you, I thank you for the memorable opportunity of sharing the Unitarian Universalist adventure with you, and I charge you with bringing the same dedication and excellence to your tomorrows that you have shown in your recent yesterdays.

My wife, Susan, and I wish we could be there to share the celebration, but even from a distance we share your joy and wish for you continued success in the days to come.

My best,
Rolfe Gerhardt

*Rolfe is currently the Minister of the First Unitarian
Church of Richmond, Virginia.*

Congregational History

Unitarian Universalists in Middle Georgia began meeting together in members' homes in 1949. The place of meeting and the regularity varied greatly for the next twenty years. The group used a variety of facilities including the YWCA, commercial establishments and the United Cerebral Palsy center. In 1979, the Unitarian Universalists began meeting again and requested a new charter from the UUA. For a short time the services were held at the Friendship House until later in 1979 when arrangements were made to use a room at the Trust Company Bank Building on Cherry Street. On April 10, 1988 the congregation had its first meeting at the High Street Church.

Building History

The High Street Church was first dedicated on November 5, 1898 by the congregation of the First Christian Church of Macon. In 1915, the First Christian congregation added the basement to the existing sanctuary. The Central Church of Christ bought the church in 1947 after completion of First Christian's new facility on Vineville Avenue. The Unitarian Universalists bought the church in 1989. In September 1989 the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Middle Georgia voted to change its name to The High Street Unitarian Universalist Church.

We had a lot of fun. Our first canvass in the building was the musical "Les Uniterribles". We had more cast members than audience. It was a big hit. We also had to raise money for the piano off-budget. One of our members, Jim Scarberry, died and left \$5000 to the church and we put it on a down payment for a piano. Linda Lane's mother was a noted pianist in Macon. Mrs. Lane and her best friend, Mrs. Jelks, played on the radio and in New York. Linda knew that Mrs Jelks' piano was just sitting in her son's house. She convinced the family to let us buy it. When we went there to look at it, the cat was sleeping on it and had vomited over a fair amount of it. We decided to hold a recital to raise money, and ask for "love offerings". Mary Katherine played the piano, our string group played, we had a small choral group. We raised about \$6000 and paid off the piano.

Dorner Carmichael



The Rev. Mary Katherine Morn and John Rakestraw

My first memory of mountains was wandering around an old camp in Highlands, NC. We would go as a congregation every fall. David Aldrich would take pictures, most of the kids and families would go to hike and play foosball in the rec hall. It's much nicer now, but I still remember how all the buildings looked before remodeling. Erich and I got married there in 2008, and Natalie is starting to go on our congregation retreats, She's not quite up for Mountain Camp.

Sarah Hargrove

When we started out in the church we had no money for staff of any kind. We took turns cleaning the church, cutting the grass, everything was done by volunteers, Mary Katherine was part-time. We also used volunteers as accompanist. Hymns had to be picked according to who was playing and what they could play. Some volunteers always played too slow, some too fast, some could only play in certain keys. I usually just asked the volunteers which hymns they could play. We did not do a capella because we lacked that critical mass. Mary Katherine had to play at times (she did everything).

When the new gray hymn book came out we poured over it, picking out hymns that would work for us and deliberately building a body of music for congregational singing. In fact, the form of the service had to be built. We were coming from more of a small discussion group to a more traditional service and there was conflict around most of those issues. Everything was up for discussion. It was a deliberate process to build an inclusive service that would help to grow the congregation.

Dorner Carmichael



Dennis Wright

Andrea Tice

Marie Holliday

Bill Tice

Dorner Carmichael

With the responsibility came work, which my parents hauled me to do whenever they needed me. I was sent into window wells to get the leaves out, as the basement windows sometimes leaked. I climbed to the end of our extension ladder almost yearly until high school graduation, painting the plaster behind the pulpit by the stained glass, as it peeled off frequently. (Dad and I would sit in the pews during the service, looking at new spots, planning out next paint job.)

Sarah Hargrove



Jim Crisp

John Rakestraw
and
Mary Katherine Morn

Linda Lane

Suzanne Glennon (Doonan)

June Bryant and
Chet Strunk

Elise and Bob
Gray

Arlen Goff

Dennis and Diana
Wright

Hal Blackmarr

Diane Carr
and
Lynne Shelley

High Street Auction at Theatre Macon

I was nervous about attending my first service at High Street in 1996, since I did not have good experiences with mainstream denominations, but I was directed to the front doors by Jane Darby, and warmly welcomed by Chet Strunk. The service itself was wonderful, and I enjoyed the beautiful stained glass windows and barrel-vaulted ceilings, but what I remember most was listening to the post-meditative music, "Jubilee", by Mary Chapin Carpenter.

"And I can tell by the way you're standing
With your eyes filling with tears
That it's habit alone keeps you turning for home
Even though your home is right here
Where the people who love you are gathered
Under the wise wishing tree
May we all be considered then straight on delivered
Down to the jubilee
Because to people who love you are waiting
And they'll wait just as long as need be
When we look back and say these were halcyon days
We're talking 'bout jubilee"

Tears were running down my face, and I knew I had found my jubilee at High Street.

Kim Lynn



Faira Holliday

Internationally-Themed Canvass Dinner

AYS (About Your Sexuality) was as an influential course for me, making me more interested in medicine, women's rights, and birth control. It changed the way I approached my service in the Peace Corps, and was influential in how I have had my own relationships child, and what I value now.

Sarah Hargrove



Don Lucas and Jose Saavedra-Hodge



LeNelle Boyd directing "Rhythm of Life"

Back Row: L-R John Rakestraw, Caleb Rakestraw-Morn, Bill Tice, ?, Hal Blackmarr, Rick Gilbert

Front Row L-R: Loretta Gilbert, Lisa Hargrove, Lyn Young, ?, Yoko Nogami-Alexander, Katie Sadler, ?, Dorner Carmichael

Pianists: Rev. Mary Katherine Morn, Kim Lynn

More than the work, more than the sense of responsibility, was that this building, this congregation, has been home. When I went to college, I would come home partly to be able to come to the Sunday morning service. I've helped out at the soup kitchen or done any of the other projects if I've been around. During college breaks, I would come home for a week, knowing that I could stand up and say I was in town willing to work for \$10 an hour, and I would have a full schedule before going on to other adventures or jobs I had. I would come home even if my parents weren't in the state.

Sarah Hargrove



Andy Patrick, Bretta Gilbert, Ben Patrick, Bill Tice, Kirsten (Jordan) Gilbert (holding Tora Alexander), Frazier Lively, Amanda Pal, Loretta Gilbert, ?, Kathleen Richards, Nyssa Daniels).

I was raised, and continue to visit, a dynamic group of people who have helped give me my defenses against conservative students and teachers in public schools. There were women who I could talk to as I navigated my teen years when I didn't want to talk to my mom - Dorner, Elise, Mary Katherine.

Sarah Hargrove



Donna Davis, Elise Creswell, LeNelle Boyd



Steve Lynn, Kim Lynn, and Karen Jackson at the HSUUC Yard Sale



John Donahue at the HSUUC Habitat for Humanity house



Joe Perkins at the HSUUC Habitat for Humanity house



Beth Collins at the HSUUC Habitat for Humanity house



Carl Schmidt at the HSUUC Habitat for Humanity house



Cynthia Alby at the HSUUC Habitat for Humanity house



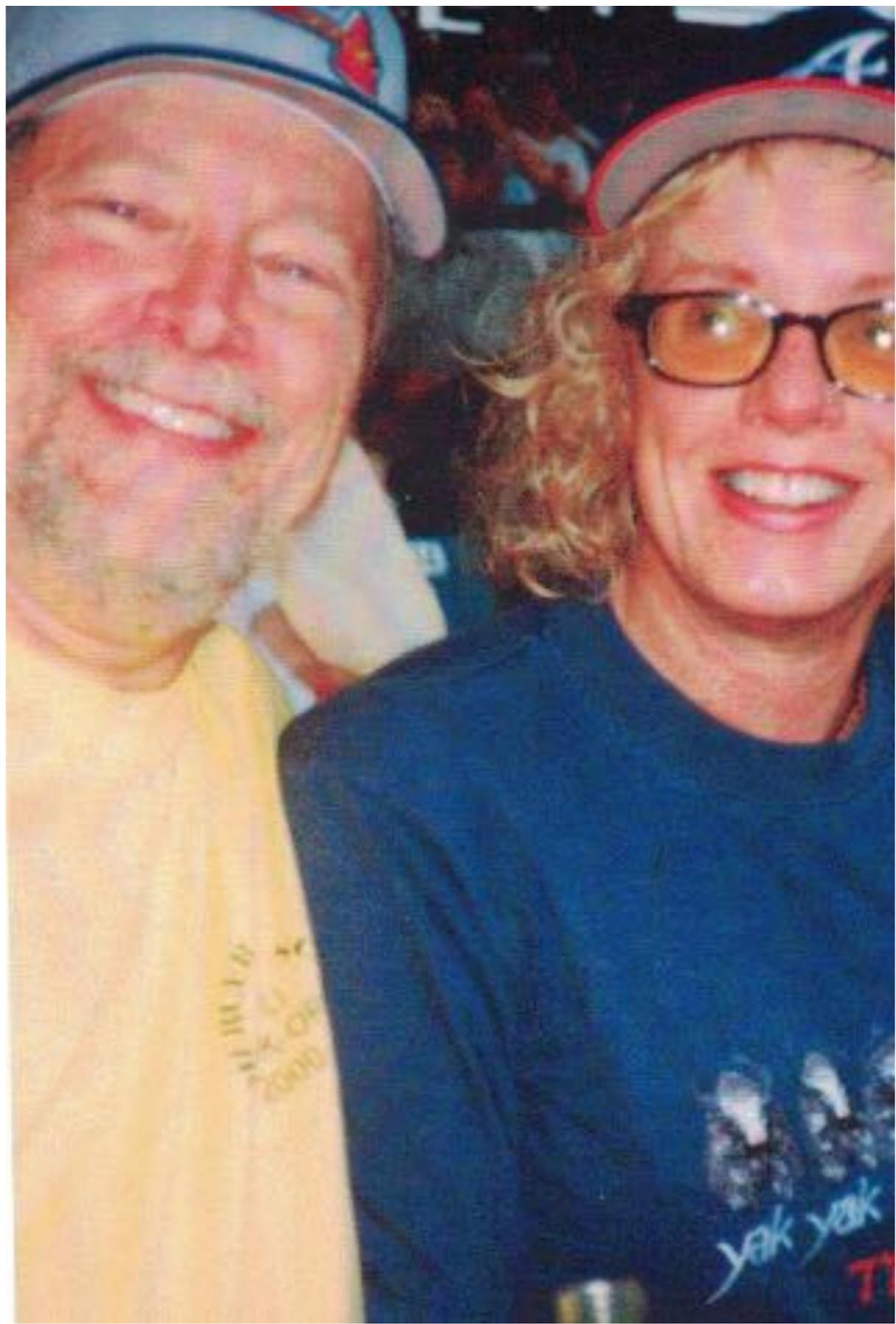
Bob and Cathy Morris



Dorner Carmichael and Arlen Goff



Jane Donahue, John Donahue, Elise Gray, Bob Gray



Dick Creswell and Elise Creswell



Carolyn Hargrove and Bob Hargrove



Bob Gray and Rusty George



Nancy Engel and Frazier Lively



Joe Perkins, Adam Hargrove, Cathy Morris, Ishiuan Hargrove, Earl Daniels



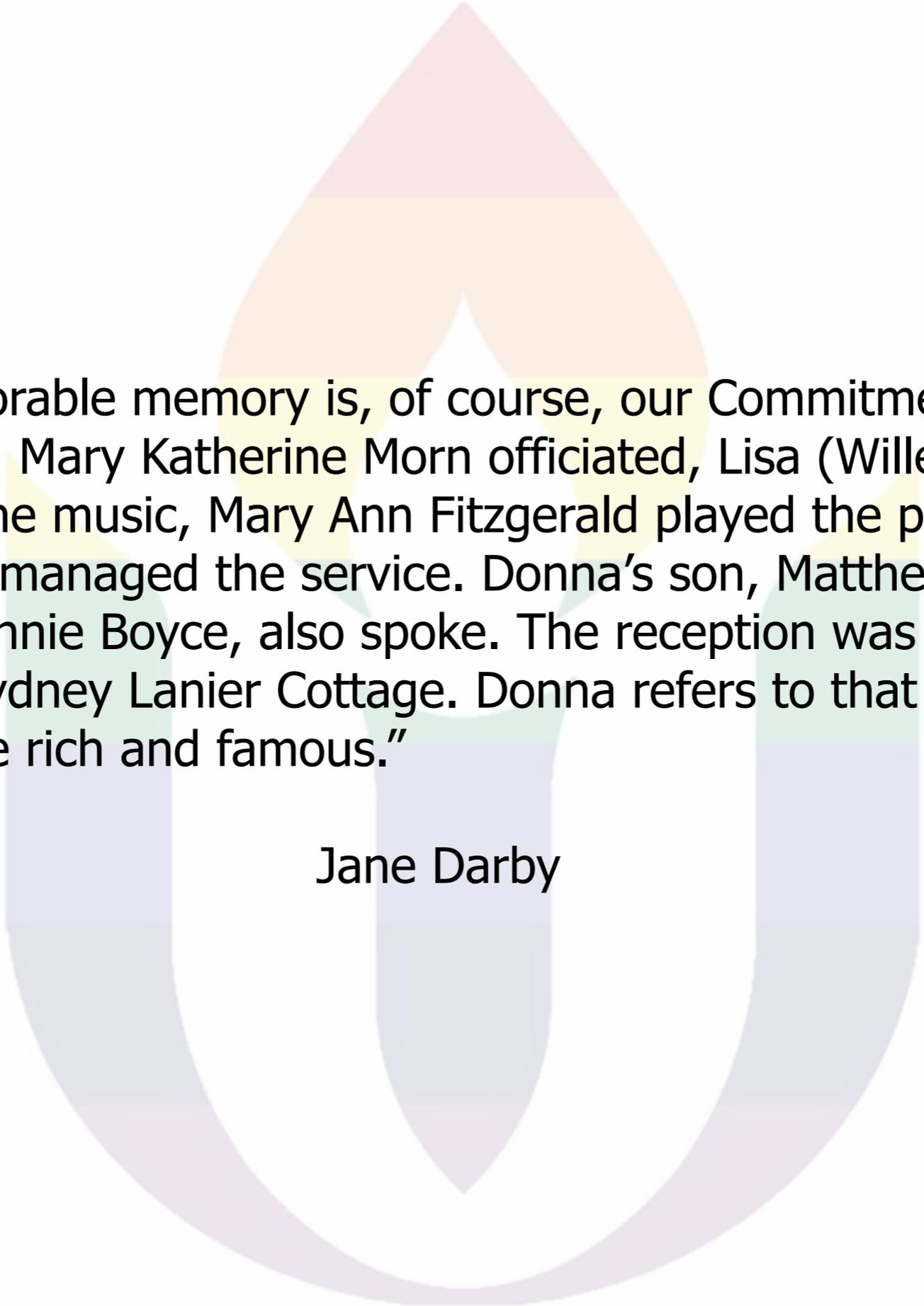
Dorner Carmichael, Linda Lane, Bill Lane



Carole Dixon, Zoe Haywood, Josette MacIsaacs



Annie Pal and Cynthia Alby



My most memorable memory is, of course, our Commitment Service in July of 1997. Mary Katherine Morn officiated, Lisa (Willett) Hargrove led the music, Mary Ann Fitzgerald played the piano, and Jane Donahue managed the service. Donna's son, Matthew, and her best friend, Bonnie Boyce, also spoke. The reception was down the street at the Sydney Lanier Cottage. Donna refers to that time as "when we were rich and famous."

Jane Darby



Donna Davis and Jane Darby



Joe Perkins and Lynn Perkins



Charles Kight



Interim Minister Rev. Larry Smith

For a long time, Chris Marlon and I were the only teens close in age. We would go to Youth Cons together, and I felt connected to the larger group of UU kids in the Mid-South District. It is hard growing up in Macon as a liberal - I didn't want to go to Vineville Baptist, but they went on ski trips! Being involved with the larger organization to our district helped me connect to more (like-minded youth).

Sarah Hargrove



Adam Schaffauer, Ben Patrick, Andy Patrick, Ian Underwood









Neil Pal at the Teen Service

When I wanted to have a voice, my parents told me to do something about it, not just complain. That is how I presented my proposal to the board for lowering the voting member age to 14. As a long-time congregant, I thought I should be allowed a vote just as well as someone older who had only been there a short time (I didn't get the name I wanted - High Street UU Congregation - but at least I got to vote).

I earned money babysitting children who are now lovely adults with interesting lives (I know all the music to The Little Mermaid because Meredith Childs was a young redhead in the early 90s who would not go to sleep unless I sang her the score).

Sarah Hargrove



Fair Holliday at the Teen Service



Jennifer Zimmerman, Katie Newcomer, Ian Underwood, Matthew Newcomer, Andy Patrick, Ben Patrick



Rev. Dr. Fred Howard, Intern Minister at HSUUC

From September 2007 to June 2008 I was granted the special honor and privilege of completing my ministerial training at High Street, serving the congregation as intern minister under Rev. Rhett Baird. And what a year it was! High Street, being deeply engaged in social witness to the local community, gave me opportunities to participate in so many ministries - NAACP functions, a community interfaith Thanksgiving service, a World AIDS Day service, be a part of the youth ministry including their lock-in, start a small group ministry, tutor children at Hartley Elementary School, do senior ministry at Carlyle Place, serve at Loaves and Fishes, be a counselor at Peacemakers Summer Camp, and I'm only getting started. What an immersion in the vital and stimulating life of ministry it was.

And then there was the congregation itself. You not only patiently endured a sermon from me every month, but also immersed me in the unique cultural flavor of the congregation by allowing me to participate in an Absolutely No Rehearsal Christmas Pageant and the high holy days of the April Fool's Service. Experiences like that stay with you and shape you in unexpected ways. 😊

I don't think I would be the kind of minister I am today if it hadn't been for my year at High Street. I will always be grateful for the way you all took me under your wing. Happy thirtieth anniversary!

Rev. Dr. Fred Howard



Meatball the Dog, Julie Mulvihill, Fox, Robert Thorton

High Street Church is a reference point for me. Robert (Thorton) and I look to our time at High Street Church as an experience in understanding purpose and community, reconciling how we live with what we believe. Investing in the High Street community, I taught RE and served on the RE committee, I discovered Peace Camp and the unbelievably awesome no-rehearsal-Christmas Pageant, we hosted a fun dance lesson for members in our yard, we participated in Flower Communion for the first time, and we were married by the amazing Rev Rhett. High Street drew us in and allowed us to make a home in our own way. Robert and I are grateful to and celebrate High Street for the lessons we encountered and the relationships we continue to cherish.

Julie Mulvihill

I am now an active member of the UU Congregation of Asheville, a 3-time OWL (Our Whole Lives) teacher (at this point), and currently working on this year's committee to plan our Mountain retreat in the fall. We have a busy, big congregation, which has more people to carry the load of work.

I am constantly amazed at the time many members devote to the continued work of the congregation in Macon. Working toward social justice, environmental protection, racial justice, and tolerant thoughts is still an important job.

Thank you for letting me continue to be a part of this group.

Sarah Hargrove, DVM, MSc

No, no we are not satisfied and we
will not be satisfied until justice rolls
down like water and righteousness
like a mighty stream.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

OOD
R GUM
HE
LERY



June Bryant