

Stockton Unitarian Church Report for NUA meeting 13th February 2018

Once again we say thank you to all who have conducted worship helping us to maintain our patterns of regular Sunday services. Special thanks as usual go to Rev Margaret Kirk and Rev Victor Ball for leading us in worship most months. We also had the following people lead worship since October: Rev Charles VanDenBroeder GA President; Rev Tony McNeile; Jane Tomlin; Mike Tomlin and Rev Michael Unwin

We have had many varied and special services, which include services led the Worship Group: the Tree Dressing and Gift service (gifts of shoe boxes containing many useful items were collected for the South Tees Mission to Seafarers), nine of the children who come to Children's Group took part, Celebrating their own skills and talents (followed by a bring and share tea); a Human Rights service led by Amnesty Teesside; a Community "Sing the Season" service (which was followed by mulled wine and mince pies) – we had 5 visitors after distributing 500 invitation cards to the houses around the church; a Christmas Eve and a New Year's Eve service (bring and share readings etc);

The Knit 'n' Natter group continues fortnightly on a Tuesday lunch-time, usually about nine people. Our Saturday coffee mornings continue each week, but are very poorly attended.

Members of the congregation are still involved in the Northern Unitarian District (NUA) and national events. Hazel Warhurst and Margaret Robinson attended the Unitarian Women's Group Conference at Hucklow in October..

We have a few lettings: Stockton Bi-Polar Support Group meets monthly; Amnesty Teesside meet monthly and the Huntington Disease Group meet occasionally.

The church bi-monthly Calendar is well produced thanks to David Warhurst. The Calendar is uploaded to the Church web site, where it is widely read. The church also has a facebook page with many likes.

The Children's Group meet occasionally on the first Saturday morning with various themes. 4 children and 7 adults went on the Sponsored walk on Saturday 4th November 2017 – 4 mile circular walk from the church via the Barrage and White Water Course – raising money for Hartlepool RNLI – we returned to church for homemade soup and buns.

Margaret Robinson