

Annual Report 2018-2019

Chalice Singers

Director of Worship and Music Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout leads the music ministries at UUAA, and serves as the director of the Chalice Singers, who rehearse weekly from Sept. through May. A highlight of this year was the 5th annual BIG sing held on March 9-10, 2019. The Chalice Singers hosted close to 90 guests from around the state and Canada, who gathered to form a choir of almost 150 voices. The BIG sing 2019 culminated in a concert and hymn sing program created live by the attendees and musicians, who were invited to improvise an hour of sung prayer, led by the Dr. Rideout and the BIG choir. The BIG sing provides an experience in music and community that reaches far beyond the walls of sanctuary.

The Chalice Singers are supported by an active team of volunteers from within the ensemble, who assist with score preparation, social events, the BIG sing, sectional rehearsals, and program note writing for the Order of Service. Of note is the work of the congregation's pianist-in-residence, Allison Halerz; Allison is most visible during Sunday worship but plays a vital collaborative role in rehearsals for both the Chalice Singers and the Chalice Sparks.

Music at UUAA continues to grow each year; the Chalice Singers now number over 70 voices. Beyond the choir, the sound of the voices of this congregation singing on any given Sunday is clear evidence of how essential music is to the spiritual well-being of First UUAA.