

10th Anniversary of Janni Kretlow's employment with us:

Tribute by Marcia Stephenson:

It has always intrigued me to observe how some people who find their way to us by random chance end up as exemplars of our grounding principles. Janni is one of those people, and it's been a joy to collaborate with her in the decade since she's joined our staff. I could tell so many stories illustrating her creativity, organizational wizardry, consummate professionalism and unfailing dedication to NSUC. But mindful of the time, let me sum up her gifts to us in 8 sentences.

First, each person Janni interacts with is greeted warmly in recognition of their inherent worth. Whether the occasion evokes laughter or tears, Janni responds always with compassion. You can always expect encouragement from Janni, whether the lesson of the hour is about mindfulness, a craft project, tech training, or file management. As volunteers come in and volunteers go, we've learned to rely on Janni to be the responsible one, helping us meet deadlines and legal requirements. Janni follows her conscience in deciding when to speak up and when to keep her own council. As conflicts arise, count on Janni's knack for diplomacy to help us find peace. The nexus of our interdependent community might just be Janni's office. In words and deeds, our Church Administrator models inclusion. Thanks for everything, Janni.

Tribute by Leslie Gibbons:

It is a joy for me to be here this morning to recognize the enormous contribution that Janni has made to this community over 10 years. She's the voice on the phone that welcomes each call, the smile in the office that welcomes each person who comes through the door. Janni is a pleasure to work beside, and an organizer supreme. She is a treasure. Without her, I think we would all be in a terrible muddle. Janni has created programs for us, offered her art to us, and trusted us enough to share her life with us in a true, Unitarian way. Thank you, Janni. Thank you for sticking with us through thick and thin. We know it can't have been easy. We both respect and thank and love you for it.