

Significant Moments from the Last Month:

- Pastoral Care (now Congregational Care) Team retreat
- Welcomed a new colleague to the area
- Hiring of a music director
- Vigil for Victims in Orlando
- Welcoming five new members to UUCGT

How Has My View of the Future Changed?

- 1) It feels to me that the **overall “vibe” of the congregation is healing and more positive**, although we have a way to go in exploring the systems that underlie our conflicts. I have committed to participation in a two day training in July for more work in systems theory in order to better support and assist with congregational health. I feel more hopeful and am appreciative of the many members who have expressed happiness that I “have stayed.”
- 2) It remains my goal to **explore other funding sources** for the congregation in the year ahead: grants, paid programming and other creative stewardship opportunities.
- 3) In July it will be my task, working with the Committee on Ministry and John Hoffman, to commit to reducing the work of my position by 22%, I seek assistance to **help set priorities on these core deliverables**:
 - a. Sunday Services – how many per month going forward lead by me?
 - b. Pastoral/Spiritual Care – limiting hours of one on one care and perhaps creating a monthly group opportunity? (Spiritual Care open office hours?)
 - c. Life Cycles – child dedications, weddings, end of life planning
 - d. Small Group Ministries – book group, weekly meditation, 9 AM Sundays
 - e. Community Programming – Area Council on Religious Diversity, rebirthing the GT Ministers’ Association, Christmas Eve, Social Witness, public speaking, Safe Harbor
 - f. Membership – rabbi role going forward?
 - g. Denomination activities – ministry days, Western Cluster meeting, GA, RA, webinars, volunteerism
 - h. Communications – Beacon, Flash, reports, email
 - i. Committee Work – Sunday services, Pastoral Care, etc.
 - j. Operations/Staff/Staff Resources
 - k. Self care/rabbi-ing
- 4) As you know I will begin a doctoral program in late August. I will be working toward a doctorate in ecumenical ministry with a focus on interfaith dialogue. For the first semester (September to December), I will not be available on Tuesdays (through the evening) and will need to adjust my schedule and meetings, including the board of trustees meeting, accordingly.

5) I am seriously troubled by the divestment proposal that is coming before the General Assembly next week. See pp. 99 – 101: http://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/2016_ga_program_final.pdf

Board Action Item Requests

➔ Support and affirm the nomination of the awesome Solveig Gustafson to serve on the Committee on Ministry.

Consider from a board perspective priorities for my time for the coming year.

Name a liaison to Safe Congregation Response Team and to the Staff Resources Committee.

Closing Thought

From Margaret Marcuson, *Leaders Who Last: Sustaining Yourself and Your Ministry*

“Position yourself as a researcher in the congregation, an archaeologist who is unearthing the layers. You will gain more neutrality about the intense issues in the present and the past, which will help you think more clearly about possibilities and pitfalls for the future. Your role in this process is to tease out the history, initially for yourself. You will be a calmer leader if you have access to this broader perspective. Over time you can be thoughtful about how to share the perspective you gain.”