

Minister's Notes - June 17, 2020

Dear Board members,

In spite of the whirlwind of pandemic, UUCGT has not only weathered the storm, she has thrived. Here are a few things to celebrate that have been accomplished through the dedication and love of the members of this congregation (board, committees and volunteers, etc.)

- UUCGT has an AMAZING Search Committee!
- We are on schedule with our interim goals
Acquired a PPP Loan (thanks to due diligence by Karl, Dusty, & Glenda) did I miss anyone?
- You have maintained and supported staff through a pandemic. Bravo!
- We have a wonderful new administrator despite the fact that Susan is irreplaceable 😊
- Sunday Services adapted quickly to the challenges of Virtual Church
- We have done a darn good job of caring for one another during this stressful time: mask-makers, congregational care team, opportunities to connect via Zoom, cards of support, etc.
- Landscaping; the campus is not just beautiful it is peaceful and comforting. Thanks to lots of hard work that is invisible to most of us.
- In the midst of pandemic, small groups, new classes, and creative thinking outside of the box has been a tremendous help to congregants by helping us stay connected.
- UUCGT has responded with compassion and a new awareness of the systemic racism and injustice in our nation. The path forward is still unfolding, but folks are open and willing to do the work of peeling away the layers of unconscious privilege to promote healing and change.

I know there's more. Can you help me complete this list? Bring your thoughts to tonight's meeting.

Since our last meeting, I've been occupied with the usual ministerial tasks, meetings, worship, office hours, Vespers, pastoral care, etc. In addition, there were several good candidates for the admin position to interview and making a decision was so hard that it kept me awake a few nights. We are pleased to welcome Guy William Molnar to our staff! Susan will begin to train Guy tomorrow, June 18th. A retirement party is planned for June 27 at 7 pm. You will receive an email with the details, but rest assured we are following our governor's safety guidelines, and it will be memorable.

I will be attending GA next week, so there will be no office hours or Vespers. UUCGT will join other UU's for the GA Sunday Worship Service on the 28th. A link will be sent out, and a discussion opportunity will be available via Zoom. The service will likely be over an hour and it starts at 10 am ET. I'll be heading to Ludington to begin my vacation, but I'll be close by for emergencies. I'll return to office hours on Wednesday, August 12th.

Rev. Cathy Harrington