

Board Notes November 2016

To All our Members and Friends at UUFM:

I have several things to let you know about:

1. Our application for Developmental Ministry:
2. UUFM Committees and SAGs:
3. Progress on our Long-Range Plan:
4. Social Justice actions available to you at our church and in our community

Our [application](#) for Developmental Ministry was sent in and received on Monday, the 21st. Now we wait to hear about our acceptance into the program. I hope we will hear before the end of this year. We'll let you know!

The board approved the [document listing our committees and SAGs](#) (Special Action Groups) and the board member information. This is a description of our working committees and action groups at this time.

Tony Filipovitch, board Vice-President, met with the CCC (Committee Chair Council) this month and they worked together to document our progress thus far on our [new LRP \(Long-Range Plan\)](#). Thanks to everyone who has had input on these goals and procedures! We are on our way! This plan will continue for the next 2 years with our new Developmental Minister.

In the emotional roller coaster many of us have been experiencing since the election earlier this month, I know I have been going through a grieving period, but am slowly getting ready to ACT! NOT to come together with the forces of hate and bigotry (as Leonard Pitts stated so well in his editorial: "There's no unity to be had here" In last Friday's Free Press). I want to do everything I can to work for justice and equity for all. And as I've been thinking about it, there are several things we can do, right here at UUFM and in our Mankato community:

1: Give to Guest at Your Table. The focus for [Guest at Your Table](#) this year is DEFYING HATE: in solidarity with and in support of the global and collaborative effort to defy Islamophobia, xenophobia and other forms of hate and bigotry from the ground up, while also putting pressure on powers at the top. The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) that organizes Guest at Your Table has a very good reputation for putting our money into ACTION.

2: Educate yourself on white privilege and racism. This is the focus of our EdJ committee efforts this year.

- This spring, we will be having a book discussion on this year's UUA Common Read: The Third Reconstruction: Moral Mondays, Fusion Politics, and the Rise of a New Justice Movement by the Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II.
- Read this article: [White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack](#) by Peggy McIntosh, supplied by our member, Penny Herickhoff.

3: Attend a prayer service at the UUFM this Saturday, the 26th, from 3 to 4pm, organized by Jeremiah Myer. This is to pray with Standing Rock: a global call to action. To the water protectors at Standing Rock, direct action is considered sacred, and prayer can be action.

4: Sign up to “Write on Race to be Right on Race,” the community-wide, 2-year discussion initiative organized by the Greater Mankato Diversity Council. Go to their website to sign up- it’s not too late! Several of us have joined this- and it is an unbelievable experience! This is a very powerful way to help change the institutional racism our country has been built on.

5: Attend our Silent Auction in February. We will be donating 25% of our proceeds to the Greater Mankato Diversity Council to help them continue their important educational work.

In Gratitude,
Nancy Cramblit
Your Board President