

Board Notes December 2016

To All our Members and Friends at UUFM:

I hope you all had a joy-filled, warm Christmas time with family and/or friends. We were pleased that several of you joined the board for soup on Christmas Eve before our service. Thanks to many talented and generous people, I thought our Christmas Eve service was special: Kim Evans, Sue Chambers and Diane Dobitz for their Christmas reflections; Anne Dickau for her lovely singing and guitar playing; Sue Chambers again for her rendition of 'The Grinch'; choir members for singing; and for many members and friends coming to fill up our sanctuary with candle light! And, of course, thanks to Rev. Don for organizing all the moving parts to make the service come together!

At our board meeting this month we discussed a few things I'd like to let you know about:

1. At the time of the board meeting, we had not heard back about our **Developmental Ministry application**. But just this afternoon (Tuesday, the 27th) I heard from Keith Kron, the Transitions person at the UUA. He said that we provided them with "excellent" materials, and that there was no question we would get into the program! Now we look forward to hearing about some excellent ministers who are interested in us! We could hear by February, but it might not be until later in the spring. Again, we'll keep you informed.
2. **PLEASE REFRAIN FROM ASKING LINDA GANSKE, OUR OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR, TO DO TASKS FOR YOU UNTIL AFTER WE HAVE CHURCH AGAIN ON THE 8TH OF JANUARY.** We have had problems with our website, and Linda is working hard to get that back on track. I am not able to explain the technical terms, so I'm not even going to try. But when she's done, our website will be better than ever! Please remember that she needs uninterrupted time to get this done for a couple of weeks.
3. **NEW ART WORK TO COME SOON FOR OUR NEW ENTRY!** An anonymous donor has given the needed funds to pay for at least two pieces of art to beautify our new entry. One will be a flowing fabric piece by Sandra Wahlberg. The other will be colorful flames reaching out into the community by Scott Thiem. Again, we are blessed by our talented and generous members!
4. **NEW STEWARDSHIP DRIVE:** This year's drive, "It Takes the Efforts of All of Us," for our 2017-18 fiscal year will be happening the last part of January. You will be contacted by a Steward to schedule a one-on-one meeting to discuss your hopes and dreams for our congregation.
5. **VOTING ON ESCALATING INEQUALITY:** As part of our annual certification process with the UUA, we have been asked to vote on whether the draft Statement of Conscience entitled "Escalating Inequality" should appear on the Final Agenda of the 2017 General Assembly. We will provide the link to this document here and in each Weekly Update until our MidYear meeting on January 29th. At that meeting, we will vote on this motion. Please take the time to read this important document.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!

In Gratitude,
Nancy Cramblit
Your Board President