

## Board Notes January 2018

To All our Members and Friends at UUFM:

Here are a few quick updates on things happening at UUFM:

### **MIDYEAR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2018**

Please consider attending our MidYear meeting this Sunday, from noon to 1pm, right after the luncheon.

#### **CHILD CARE WILL BE PROVIDED!**

(We'd love to see some younger families attend!)

#### **TABLE TOPICS ON A NEW NAME FOR UUFM**

We had many people participate this last Sunday on discussions about why a new name for our church might be a good idea, or not, and starting to brainstorm on possible new names. Some people wondered why we were discussing this: isn't our current name fine? Others appeared to think that a new name would be a good idea: our current name was described as "old and stuffy" or that "fellowship" gives the idea of a small, closed group, secret society, or a club. Others like the word Fellowship in our name. People talked about the words "church" or "society" or "congregation." Others said a new name might draw in younger people or roll off the tongue more easily if it was shorter. Others suggested that we are known in our community as UUFM. If we used the term "UU" in a new name, it might lead to conversations about what that means.

A new name would require a lot of work to change on: letterheads, bank accounts, signs, policies etc.

Brainstorming resulted in many possible new names: All Souls UU, Mankato UU, Rainbow UU, River Bluff UU or UU on the Bluff, UU with a subtitle, MN River Valley UU (I think there might be a congregation with that name in Bloomington?), Whole Life Unitarian, Ultimate Unitarian Universalists or U3, Traverse de Sioux UU, Rivers' Edge UU.

The board will continue this conversation about a new name in a Listening Circle, which has moved from March to April. Next month, on February 25<sup>th</sup>, we will have a discussion about the UUWorld article on the UU history on race: "The Black Hole in the White UU Psyche." Please join us for that Listening Circle.

Linda Ganske and Carrie Rice, as staff, along with 3 other members, will be attending a Violent Intruder training offered by Mankato Public Safety in February.

In Gratitude,  
Nancy Cramblit, Your Board President