

## **President's Message:**

Welcome to our new Board! At our annual meeting, we elected: Penny Herickhoff, President; Bob Finley, Vice-President; Todd Schweim, Secretary; Cheiron McMahill and Kathryn Vanderharr, both as at-large members. John Knox continues as Treasurer and Tom Little as the third at-large member. Tony Filipovitch will move to a non-voting post on the Board as Past President.

And kudos to all of us! At the annual meeting, we learned that our Operating Fund Drive for next year met its goal--\$135,000 in pledges from about 75% of our members. In this time of economic uncertainty, this is an extraordinary commitment and vote of confidence in what we are and will be in our community as we live out our 7 Principles. In these times, we all need the support of our principles of the inherent worth and dignity of every person; justice, equity and compassion in human relations; and the interdependent web of all existence.

Even though some of the restraints of social distancing are being eased, and some churches are now holding indoor services, we will continue to follow the advice of the UUA and the State's guidelines and continue to meet virtually. We simply do not have the facilities and the staffing to provide safe, clean spaces with appropriate distancing. But keep your eyes and ears open for innovative ways to do this—while Zoom breakout rooms are better than nothing, we do miss being in each other's presence and the pleasure (as it now seems) of talking over each other in excited chatter. Not to mention the spiritual pleasure of worshiping in each other's presence, and the significance of that act to the community of which we are a part.