

Since my last report, I officiated at the celebration of life for member **Jean Ayre** on January 18, 2018. From March 9-12 I will be attending the UUMOC gathering in BC.

There's a few key areas I wish to report on with some thoroughness as opposed to a superficial (and unhelpful) overview of many different areas.

Christmas Eve: Sunday Services got constructive feedback about this year's Christmas Eve service. It was suggested and we agreed that our attendance on this particular holiday has reached the point where we need to have two services: an intentionally all-ages service in the late afternoon, and a contemplative-style service in the later evening. Both would include the candlelighting and silent night, but the rest of the liturgies are to be decided later by the worship leaders. We also discovered that having the cushions out for the kids for a service in which they are present for the whole time (as opposed to recessing after 15-20 minutes) is not a good idea. This applies to Sunday services as well that may be multigenerational, so for such services in the future the cushions will remain put away and children should stay with their parents/guardians.

Our experiment with projecting lyrics was also informative. We used the back wall because the current placement of the screen interferes with the choir. However, when folks are standing, much of the projection onto the back wall cannot be seen. As a congregation that wishes to be relevant in our modern age and innovative in worship, we will have to have a discussion at some point about moving the screen and where it can/should go.

Pastoral Care: I continue to balance having one-on-one meetings, and making phone calls and visits with the need to rebuild the associates team. Due to my travel delays, I was unable to make the meeting with the folks who have been doing much of the visiting the last few years, but they had an excellent discussion with Bonnie Thiessen (our Pastoral Care Coordinator) and I believe we are putting an excellent foundation into place. Starting this fall, I will be offering a yearly class on deep listening and caring presence which anyone can attend. We will recruit new pastoral care associates each year from the participants in this class; given the delicate nature of pastoral care, the team needs to be by invitation only.

Bonnie has set us up with the Winnipeg police department for doing vulnerable sector checks on all team members. She is also including the cost of these checks in the pastoral care budget so no team member will have to pay out of pocket in order to serve the congregation in caring for others.

Institute Report: If you haven't already, I would suggest you read my report on my week at the UUMA Institute learning about "Spiritual Leadership for Stewardship and Fundraising". In the absence of a mission and vision for this specific congregation, my immediate recommendation for the pledge drive and any other resource asks, including volunteers, is to emphasize our seven principles and how specific asks are fulfilling us living into those principles. Another option to consider is the CUC's five aspirations:

- **Deeply Connected:** We strive to foster healthy relationships amongst and within UU communities, with the broader world and with all life.

Minister's report to the Board of Directors, First UU Winnipeg

Respectfully submitted by the Rev. Meghann Roborn on February 18, 2018

- Radically Inclusive: We strive to create hospitable, diverse, multi- generational communities.
- Actively Engaged: We strive to work joyfully for a just and compassionate society, experimenting with new forms of community.
- Theologically Alive: We seek to be ever-evolving in our understanding, open to new knowledge.
- Spiritually Grounded: We seek transformation through personal spiritual experiences and shared ritual.