

## Rabbi Report to Board May, 2018

Dear friends –

I am offering a different format and focus for my report this month. I welcome your questions about specific activities and priorities of the last month. This month, I would like to explore a Network for Good insight on “How to Determine Your Nonprofit’s Unique Value.” Their worksheet is attached. **These are my reflections and not meant to be prescriptive, just a beginning of dialogue.**

### **The 5 H’s and a W**

- **Who are our constituents?**

The constituents of UUCGT are our members, friends, staff and members of the broader community. Our stakeholders are curious about seeking meaning, experiencing new learning, a sense of belonging, and working for social justice.

- **What is our issue area?**

We create a welcoming, creative space in which philosophy and spirituality from across a wide spectrum undergird a generosity of spirit and commitment to action for justice. We are especially committed to creating a safe space for historically marginalized groups. We do not demand obedience to a single creed but ask for respectful exploration of our many points of view. We are a community built on a covenantal relationships with each other. We are here to help people learn about themselves and learn how to live admirably with those whose perspective, philosophy or religious beliefs differ from their own.

- **When do they need us?**

Our stakeholders need us when they have joys or sorrows to share, life cycle events to honor, when they are in need of pastoral (congregational) care and when they need to feel inspired or energized. They need us to support the spiritual growth of (our) their children. They need us to be a center of inspiration and creativity for their individual and familial journeys.

- **Where are our constituents located? How are we different?**

Our primary constituency is located in the greater Grand Traverse region – primarily from Benzie, Leelanau, Grand Traverse and Antrim counties, with additional folk drawn from Charlevoix and Wexford County. We have a large geographic catchment area

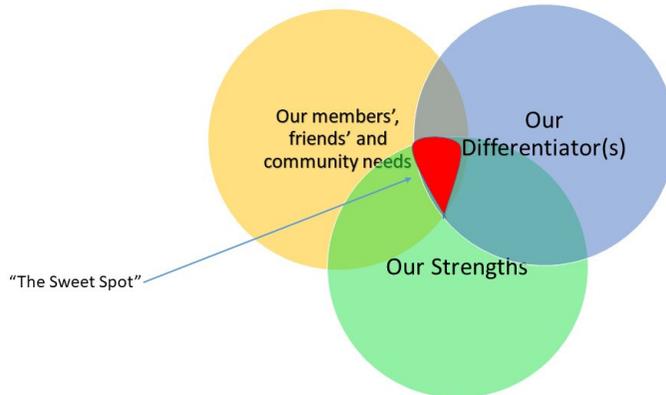
### **Call a Volunteer**

Network for Good suggests calling a volunteer to ask why s/he/they are involved with UUCGT and what they think sets us apart. **To this end I am beginning to visualize a summit of Gamble Award winners to explore these questions.**

## Complete This Phrase

“Our congregation is the only \_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_.”

This gets to the core, says N4G, of why UUCGT exists. Who are we serving that no one else does and how are we doing it differently?



What is important to our stakeholders?

What are we doing that no one else is doing?

What does UUCGT do best?

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*“Great things happen when these intersect.”*

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### For board consideration/preparation for May meeting:

I am asking each board to give a try at completing this sentence, that we might use them as our co-created closing words:

“Our congregation is the only \_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_.” (Please bring in writing and include your name.)