

Minister's Notes
December 18, 2019

I had a lovely Thanksgiving break with my mother and family in South Carolina, and hit the road running when I returned.

I've had five individual meetings with congregants, pastoral and re: church history.

I participated in a Right Relations conference call with UUMA colleagues as we discern new UUMA ethical guidelines for ministers.

Glennnda and I participated in a Vanco webinar to learn about online pledging and "text to give."

Meetings:

Board President
Christmas Eve Planning Committee
Gun Policy group
Membership Committee
Stewardship Committee
Healthy Congregations
Nominating Committee
Sunday Services Committee
Congregational Care

Jolynn to brainstorm and strategize new website, marketing tools
Cathy Green from Benzie Group/mentoring

There will be two Small Group Facilitator Training Webinars offered by Soul Matters Sharing Circle in January, and seven people have registered including the Healthy Congregation team. I hope to have more people participate.

We will begin using the Soul Matters Themes (including sacred words project) in January.

The remaining themes through June:

Jan (Integrity)	Feb (Resilience)	March (Wisdom)
April (Liberation)	May (Thresholds)	June (Play)

The Transition Team invites the congregation to a lunch meeting following the service on January 19th. The purpose of the gathering is to educate, update and answer questions regarding interim/search process. The Nominating Committee plans to attend and scatter themselves at each table in order to listen as people discuss the following questions regarding who they might want to represent them on the Search Committee.

- Each household should be engaged in a conversation around these questions: What are the good qualities needed for someone to serve on a Ministerial Search Committee?
- Who in the congregation works well with others? Who can represent and serve the whole congregation well (including looking out for the needs of children) and not just a piece or “faction” of the congregation? Who would have no “axe to grind?”
- Who knows (or can learn) the history and culture of the congregation, whether a member of long standing or relatively new? Who can use this history proactively instead of reactively on behalf of the congregation?
- Who has been and/or is active in the congregation and has demonstrated both responsible participation and responsible leadership?
- After a high salary, the most attractive quality a congregation can have is self- awareness – awareness of strengths and weaknesses, what the congregation is like at its best and at its worst, as well as on an average day. Who would be able to know and relate all this to potential candidates?
- After thinking about all of these questions, who would you trust to serve on the Search Committee on behalf of the congregation?

Four session Starting Points UU class for newcomers and old-timers begins on January 26th following the service.

Small Groups signup begins on Feb 16th following the Sunday Service where the concept will be presented in the service. The small groups will serve the purpose of deepening relationships in the congregation, integrating newcomers who participated in Starting Points, and with Healthy Congregation Team as facilitators there will be an element of healthy communication modeled.

The Stewardship Campaign kickoff is planned for February 9th with an all-church lunch following the service. The campaign will culminate on March 15th with Celebration Sunday. The theme is “Circle ‘Round”. This logo was designed by Jan Zerbel. I will be using this logo to create postcard to announce the campaign.



