

Unitarian Church of Hinsdale
March 2024 Board Report
Rev. Dr. Beth Johnson

Administration

- Office Administrator
 - Gail is doing well. Website training didn't start last month, but will this month, along with Social Media training.
 - Completed staff budget recommendations

LEAD Team

- LEAD team members are following up with their Circles to support their process
- Need a follow up meeting to review the process and next steps

Circles

- **Worship** is planned for the rest of the year
 - Beginning planning for summer
- **Music team** retreat early next month
- **Stewardship** Supporting the pledge and budget process
- **Social Justice**
 - Teams have begun tabling monthly to bring awareness of their group's work
 - We had a very successful service on intersectionality featuring all the social justice team leaders
 - Welcoming Congregation -
 - UCH received its Welcoming Congregation renewal! Hurray!
 - UCH is collaborating with DuPage UU Church in a six session course on Transgender Inclusion. Several members of the congregation are attending. In-person Discussion groups at DuPage UU Church 1:30 – 2:30pm
 - Sundays, March 10, 17, 24, April 7, 14 & 21
 - Online Discussion groups on Zoom 7:00 – 8:00pm
 - Mondays, March 11, 18, 25, April 8, 15 & 22
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- **Home & Garden**
 - New cleaning service: Schedule has been modified to reduce cost.
 - Will be meeting with Thom to discuss the scope of the position and see how it can be managed

- **STRATEGIC GOALS**

- **Improve Anti-oppression and Multicultural Awareness and Engagement** so that the congregation and members can live their values related to anti-racism, anti-oppression and multiculturalism. - ongoing
 - Monthly themes from January - June address Article II
 - This month is the Gift of Transformation
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- **Improve organizational development.**
 - working with Pam on programs for new members, pathway to leadership and leadership development - in process
- **Communication Team**
 - Have begun identifying team members to invite - no progress yet.

Pastoral Care

- Ongoing

Community Involvement - same

- Continue with the Hinsdale South High School Community Action Team. I would like to build support for this team within the congregation.
- Continue with the Illinois Poor People's Campaign Coordinating Committee- did not go to Springfield March 2 as planned
- UUANI - see denominational involvement below
- Speaking at Ramadan Iftar at the Mecc Center 3/21. - **New**

Denominational affairs

- **REMINDER** Article II: The updated draft is ready for review and amendments: The Article II Study Commission completed [the final draft of its proposed revision to Article II](#) in October 2023.
 - The Soul Matters theme this year include the values and covenant statements from Article II. Included "generosity" value in 11/5/23 service
- UUANI Board meeting monthly
- Plan for more denominational involvement
 - Ongoing- currently lifting up Article II in services and will hold an Article II info session this spring

- **Professional Development**

- Continue Transitional Ministry program-per the recommendations of the Transitional Ministry Program and my contract we have not created a transition team for my ministry. Something to look at in the coming months.

UUMA

- Attend the monthly CALM meetings
- Monthly meetings with my mentee

- **Denominational Activities**

- April 19: 9am - 3:30pm MidAmerica Region Professional Day: Deeper Joy
- April 19 6:30 pm - April 20 6pm MidAmerica Regional Assembly and Annual Business Meeting
- June 17-19 UUMA Ministry Days 2024
- June 20-23 UUA General Assembly

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**2023-2024 Leave Time - Six weeks vacation. Two weeks Study Leave**

**Time Taken so far 2023-2024**

**Study Leave**

- August 14-18 Parliament of the World's Religions
- October 2-6, 2023 Study leave - UUA Transitional Ministry Training

**Vacation**

- July 1 -11, 2023
- Vacation - Friday 1/12 Tuesday 1/16 and Wednesday 1/17
- February 10-16, 2024
- Planned: June 23-30

**Bereavement Leave**

- Bereavement leave - 11/27 & 11/28

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Placeholder **For consideration as Priorities Allow:

- Database - UPDATE - I have been recommending a new database, Breeze, but I recently learned that Breeze was bought by a company that promotes right wing religious ideology - so no Breeze. Realm and Planning Center are getting good reviews. I recommend we have a small team take a look at our needs and what is available and make a decision as priorities allow. We have decided to stick with Power Church until summer and Saenvih will have time for the ramp up.
- Phone system - At this time there is no way to check for messages remotely. Although there are very few calls, it is important to pick up any that might come in. The phone system shuts off fairly regularly and must be restarted from a device on the lower level,
- Computer - at some point look at an upgrade