

# Minister's Report

SUBMITTED: JANUARY 8, 2018

## LIST OF REGULAR MEETINGS AND EVENTS ATTENDED

- ☪ Monthly Board Meeting
- ☪ Monthly Executive Committee (cancelled in December)
- ☪ Monthly Westchester UU Ministers
- ☪ Monthly UUMA Cluster
- ☪ Monthly Committee on Ministry Meeting
- ☪ Monthly Visit with Mentee
- ☪ Monthly New Minister Discernment Group
- ☪ Weekly Supervision with Intern (except while he's at Meadville)
- ☪ Weekly Supervision with DRE
- ☪ Weekly Staff Meeting
- ☪ Weekly Community Coffee

## IRREGULAR MEETINGS, TRAININGS, CONSULTATIONS AND RITES OF PASSAGE

Memorial Service in Larchmont

## WORSHIP

Sunday, December 17: Winter Solstice  
Sunday, December 24: Christmas Eve  
Sunday, December 31: New Year's Meditation  
Sunday, December 7: Program Group

December Theme: Embodiment  
January Theme: Resilience  
February Theme: Love

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Last week, I sent a report that outlines briefly both the current situation for congregations nationally and my vision for our own future which includes a model for what's sometimes called *Full Week Faith* and also what we call *Church Without Walls*. I intentionally removed a good deal of information from that report to make it more readable. I am hoping it sparks congregational interest and helps us move forward.

Usually the Christmas season is very demanding pastorally. Family conflicts are reignited, depression that lays dormant is awakened and financial instability experienced all year becomes more frightening. Some years we have many congregants in real need during this season. This year, pastoral needs started early, but did not remain at high demand.

Thank you for the Christmas gift. It was very thoughtful. Until the conversation this year about Christmas gifts, it hadn't occurred to me to inform the Board about my own gifting practice. Each year I give gifts to our DRE, Administrator and Intern when we have them, and to our Pianist in Residence and Choir Director who is not otherwise paid. I appreciate the effort to give me a gift, but I would love to see some institutionalization for gifts to some of these folks as an annual practice. Tracy gives gifts using the RE budget to our child care workers which is the most institutionalized form of generosity we practice. I would like to encourage this spirit of generosity rather than a spirit of scarcity from which we usually act. (One additional note: congregants are wonderfully generous with me, gifting me every year with cookies and homemade jams, books and gift cards. There is no need to create additional collections for me. This encouragement is for those part time members of our staff for whom we are very grateful.)

## UPCOMING DATES

*William is away until January 22.*

*My vacation begins January 22.*

*Finance Committee Meeting has been moved to February 21.*