

Minister's Report

SUBMITTED: NOVEMBER 12, 2017

LIST OF REGULAR MEETINGS AND EVENTS ATTENDED

- ☪ Monthly Board Meeting
- ☪ Monthly Executive Committee
- ☪ 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
- ☪ Weekly Supervision with DRE
- ☪ Weekly Staff Meeting
- ☪ Weekly Check-In with White Plains Minister
- ☪ Weekly Community Coffee

IRREGULAR MEETINGS, TRAININGS, CONSULTATIONS AND RITES OF PASSAGE

- ☪ Adult Religious Education Class: The Shared Pulpit
- ☪ Congregational Consultation
- ☪ Two Weddings
- ☪ Adaptive Leadership Processing Session

WORSHIP

Sunday, October 15: All Lifted Hearts
Sunday, October 22: Pulpit Exchange (Environmental Racism)
Sunday, October 29: Love and Death
Sunday, November 5: William in Pulpit
Sunday, November 12: Right Mind

October Theme: Death
November Theme: Mindfulness
December Theme: Embodiment

INSIDE THE CONGREGATION

As is the norm in November, requests for pastoral care have increased. It's a little early for the number of requests, so it's possible this season will be busy.

The Committee on Ministry is hoping to support a Growth Committee. Greg has agreed to convene it after the Discussion Circles have ended.

I continue to spend an inappropriate amount of time on administrative tasks. I see two solutions. The first is that we get a qualified Facilities Manager who can take care of our building. The second is that we hire an administrator who is in the building at least 10 hours a week. Not having someone in the building to oversee the myriad of tiny tasks has become unmanageable.

I have a concern about the handyman we've hired. It might have less to do with him and more to do with the position for which he was hired which is not the same as the position we imagined and approved. I had a conversation with him and confirmed it with him to be sure I understood him correctly. Here are some of my concerns:

- Marc is expecting to make \$50 an hour. His expectation is \$300 a month for which he's willing to offer 6 hours.

- He is planning to charge us for “projects”. This includes things like reworking the garbage bins which I would have assumed was the job for which he was hired, not something extra.
- He had ideas for projects (for which he’d charge us) like bringing us in compliance with fire code and he had a list of things that he’d need to do. I have a serious concern about this since we are absolutely in compliance, recognizing that we are inspected by the Fire Department and New York State every fall.
- He is not willing to do things he thinks someone else can do. For instance, when asked about the back door, he said we need a new one, but he wasn’t willing to get it or make that happen. He said we need to figure out what kind of door it is and call the manufacturer to reorder it and hire them to install.
- He’s willing to set up for the Friday Women’s Lunch, but not break down. When I said we need him to break down the tables after the lunch, he told me I’m asking too much.

Rather than a Facilities Manager, we’ve put a handyman on retainer. This is different from what we need.

One of the ideas about not having an administrator on site was that we’d do away with the Sunday program. Instead, what’s happened is that William and I are making our own each week. Like so many other things, it’s not a huge task, but it’s one of too many small tasks that have fallen on us. The original idea was that we’d project the order of service on Sunday mornings. I tried to do that, but the projector we have has to sit in front of the room with a computer sitting on the cart, blocking some seats and otherwise looking very bad. The way other congregations use screens during worship is to use a wireless projector (one that is not wired to a computer) that is attached to the ceiling. It can then seamlessly project important information like hymn numbers or the chalice lighting/extinguishing as well as announcements at the end of the service or images to enhance the experience of worship. The total cost would be \$1000, by my estimate. I’d like us to consider using money from Facilities to make this happen.

There is a program called Active Shooter Training to help church leaders create a plan in the event of an active shooter on the premises. The least expensive way to do this is to ask our local police to come work with us to create a plan. I’m wondering if this is something we want to do.

UPCOMING DATES

<i>Community Coffee:</i>	<i>Every Tuesday at 3:00</i>
<i>The Shared Pulpit:</i>	<i>November 15</i>
<i>Thanksgiving Service:</i>	<i>November 19</i>
<i>First Program Group:</i>	<i>November 26</i>
<i>CommonGround Fundraiser:</i>	<i>December 2</i>
<i>Path to Membership Class:</i>	<i>December 3</i>
<i>New Member Service:</i>	<i>December 17</i>
<i>Christmas Eve Service:</i>	<i>December 24</i>