



Minister's Report October 6, 2019

Opening Words: ** A Mark of Resistance by Adrienne Rich

Overall: The church year has started off with good energy and engagement. All committees have been very active and our more collaborative and inclusive worship has been very much appreciated. Our new staff members have integrated well into the team and the look and cleanliness of the building is much improved. We continue to have many visitors every week, some of whom are already interested in membership. The bylaws discussion has been interesting and the shared leadership meeting should be as well.				
	Ministerial Observations	Ministerial Wonderings	Ministerial Flags	Ministerial Celebrations
Governance and Leadership	Bylaws committee has prepared a draft bylaws change for Fall Congregational Meeting on 11/17. Welcoming Committee is working on a draft "path to membership."	Ministerial MFC evaluation process: MFT, Board and Minister are finalizing their evaluations, to be submitted by 11/1. Timeline for RL to prepare prof dev't plan?	October 8 th Shared leadership meeting notices have gone out; people are registering on sign-up genius.	
Staff	Derrick and the cleaning company are doing an excellent job of keeping the building clean!	Still need to clarify the role of the board personnel consultant/committee.	Laci is now commuting to/from Cincinnati, which has had no effect on her work to date.	Jud Wolfskill was commissioned at the 9/15 service, with his committee and family in attendance.
Worship, Ritual and Ceremony	Worship planning with larger team is going well, requiring lots of clear communication, and resulting in greater inclusivity.	Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray will preach on 11/10. Do board members to be introduced? And might they want to provide extra coffee hour food? We will have a busload of UU guests.	There has been some furniture relocation in the Sanctuary; children now sitting up front for entire service, to better engage them, (on a trial basis.)	Bilingual service on 9/22 was a great collaborative effort and very well-received.
Congregational Life	1. Welcoming Committee and men's group will co-host "Taco Night" Community dinner, Friday, October 18 th .	1. Archives: Laura Walters and Elizabeth Cousins are awaiting the vote of the board on the agreement with Harvard.	1. Shared Leadership planning has prepared board cohort to take the lead on 10/8.	DEEP conversation was well-attended and group was energized by the discussion.

	2.Safety Task Force has reconvened and will meet soon to plan active threat training for greeters and others.	2.Hospitality food sign-up is going well. Since we did not take that line out of the budget it will be used to augment Thanksgiving potluck or other events.	2.Three Small Groups are being planned; recruiting will begin mid-October. 3.Nominating Committee has met and is working on a list of possible moderator candidates.	Teacher training, co-led by Laci and Darnisa, was much appreciated by those who attended.
Community Engagement and Social Justice	Rev. Lisa has been invited to be the co-convenor of the Brookline Interfaith Clergy, with Rev. Kent French.		1.There will be no Thanksgiving pie-making this year; we <i>will</i> have a potluck. All Saints will be making pies that afternoon for Brookline Food Pantry, followed by interfaith worship. 2.IJC will host a detention vigil in January. Jud will take the lead.	
Finance and Administration		Do we want to consider working with a UUA stewardship consultant and/or someone who can moderate good conversations about money?	Fin Comm will consider guidelines for use of minister's discretionary fund.	Positive committee meeting resulted in restored confidence in bookkeeper's abilities.

A Mark of Resistance by Adrienne Rich

Stone by stone I pile
 this cairn of my intention
 with the noon's weight on my back,
 exposed and vulnerable
 across the slanting fields
 which I love but cannot save
 from floods that are to come;
 can only fasten down
 with this work of my hands,

these painfully assembled
stones, in the shape of nothing
that has ever existed before.

A pile of stones: an assertion
that this piece of country matters
for large and simple reasons.

A mark of resistance, a sign.