



Minister's Report
April 5, 2020

Opening Words: Rosemary Bray McNatt

Overall:				
	Ministerial Observations	Ministerial Wonderings	Ministerial Flags	Ministerial Celebrations
Governance and Leadership	The Nominating committee is still working on board and treasurer recruitment.	Board leadership next year; Janet as chair; to choose co-chair?	We need to make a decision soon about annual meeting.	FPB Covid-19 Response Team was pulled together quickly and has been hugely helpful in decision-making.
Staff	<p>Staff have looked at their budget lines to see what cost efficiencies they could offer for the balance of the 2020 fiscal year.</p> <p>Staff is working on redundancy planning. In the event</p>	Alisa has become overwhelmed with requests that all seem "urgent" right now; she and Lisa will "triage" these regularly.	<p>Laci is back at work full time, working remotely, staying in close contact with RE Comm, Jud and families, plus offering daily video story time.</p> <p>Lisa is going into building 1x week to check on things, pick up mail and send bills to Alisa.</p>	Staff have worked tirelessly to adjust to remote communications, video messages and start new initiatives.
Worship, Ritual and Ceremony	<p>Worship committee is beginning to consider summer services – how will we plan for them and prepare people for virtual delivery, if needed.</p> <p>We are considering whether to have guest preachers during this time, as it seems important to have consistent ministerial</p>	Worship committee will discuss whether to try to involve a limited number of worship associates in virtual worship or keep the worship team small. The technology learning curve is steep for some of us.	Digital ministry team will meet on Friday, 4/3, to consider tech for worship, changes to website and other issues.	Virtual worship has been greatly appreciated, in spite of some glitches.

	leadership. If rescheduled, we can pay them now, as needed.			
Congregational Life and Spiritual Development	<p>A Pastoral care workshop on active listening and caregiving skills is scheduled for April 4th. PCA team is keeping a list of people with pastoral care needs and assigning outreach, as needed.</p> <p>Small groups are continuing to meet online; small group leaders meet bi-monthly for brainstorm and support.</p>	<p>Welcoming committee is figuring out ways to welcome visitors to our services and follow up on their needs.</p> <p>New online groups/events have been initiated (e.g. prayer circle, TGIF) and others are being considered (e.g. Coffee with staff/minister; new "generic" small groups.)</p>	<p>The pastoral care team has been expanded to include chairs of committees, RRUULL members, and small group leaders, in order to make sure we are checking in regularly with our members.</p>	<p>New virtual events, like TGIFirst Parish have been well-received!</p> <p>Staff video messages have received much appreciation.</p>
Community Engagement and Social Justice	<p>IJC and RJAC have been moved to continue social justice work, fulfilling requests for funding from community partners, through Cedar Tree fund grant monies.</p> <p>#UUtheVote work continues to move forward.</p>	<p>Question of using church for 14-day temporary emergency housing for detainees released from Bristol ICE.</p>	<p>Weekly phone banking for justice initiated by new FPB congregant seems to be very successful.</p>	<p>IJC was able to arrange for housing in our community for an immigrant in need, by a series of members, for up to a year.</p>
Finance and Administration	<p>Discretionary fund monies may be needed for parishioners; we need to be sure our people know that they are available.</p>	<p>Fin Comm has done more research into UUA investments, as well as funds like Ujima.</p> <p>Consider UUA email re support for non-profits...</p>	<p>Adam and Lisa are working on projected 2021 budget with 10%/20% cost savings.</p>	<p>Canvass is well underway. Returns appear to be slow, but steady.</p> <p>Text giving has worked well!</p>