

## **Assistant Minister's Report to the Board November 2018\**



My sabbatical is 7 weeks away and I am busy preparing things for when I am gone. The holidays are also an extra busy time – December has 6 worship services! UUSS feels very alive right now, active and engaged. And with all the challenges in the world, our Sunday services have taken on a special significance. I am grateful for this congregation and the way that we live our mission.

Here are some highlights of activities in areas where I have the lead.

### **Membership**

We have had quite a few visitors in the past month, and a large group at the October Newcomer Orientation. I plan to lead the session in November. Before I leave, I will schedule leaders for orientation through April. We have a great group of volunteers for this task. Roger and I are planning a special outreach to RE families that have been active but have not as yet joined the congregation.

### **Small Group Ministries**

I want to highlight our Sunday Morning Spiritual Practices. This month I led both the first Sunday (labyrinth) and second Sunday (Qui gong) practices. Turnout is generally small, but often the people are newcomers to the congregation. I hope you can join us one Sunday. If you get a chance please thank the leaders of these programs the next time you see them; First Sunday Labyrinth – Jerry Houseman; Second Sunday Qui Gong- John McMillan; Third Sunday Meditation- team of Maxine Cornwell, Judy Bell and Nancy Gilbert; Fourth Sunday reading and reflecting on Poetry – JoAnn Anglin.

Spiritual Deepening Circles are running well. I plan on writing the curriculum for January – April before I leave. Allison Claire has agreed to convene the facilitators for our monthly meeting and to train them on the curriculum. I am grateful to her for taking on this important task.

### **Social Justice**

Twice a year I convene the leaders of our social justice teams and I hope to do so before I leave. In the meantime, I have been working closely with Christine Bailey and the Interfaith Earth Justice Committee, Susan Lange in Immigrant Justice and Francis Myers and Sally Wilkins with Family Promise. I led a session of the racial justice book group.

### **Worship**

I preach three more times before I leave and will lead the service on Christmas Eve. I worked with the chair of Religious services committee to plan the retreat on December 1.

**Property and Administration**

I am grateful to Krystal Gollaher, Glory Wickund and John McMillan. These three people keeping the church property safe and functional and make my job so much easier. I have been concerned that Krystal is overworked but also know that she will have some quiet time coming up after the holidays. Rental activity has been high, and Krystal and Elaine are constantly juggling space to fit our renters, and all our UUSS activities.

Part of Krystal's workload challenge is dealing with a staff transition. We dismissed one of custodians (Aaron Molina) because of performance issues. While it is a good thing in the long run, the transition has been challenging. We are working with an employment agency, but still have not found the right person to replace him.

Sending love to all,  
Rev Lucy