

THIS WEEK AT PEACE

April 15, 2021

MODERATOR'S NOTES

Hello again after a week off. Bonnie and I celebrated our wedding anniversary with a trip down the coast, a hot air balloon ride, kayaking in Morro Bay, good food and more. A very pleasant sort of vacation but not quite stay at home.

This is an exciting time at Peace UCC as we are poised to begin several new initiatives. Reverend Pattee is organizing "Stories of Peace" and the Moderator's Group has determined to sponsor and support the project in every way possible. It is part of the interim work we never undertook as we had intended with Reverend Lake. I feel our Church Community is still somewhat traumatized by the conjunction of pandemic lockdowns and extended instability in our pulpit. I have several stories to share and we have been here only a relatively period. I know there others of our community with greater tenure, experience, and familiarity; I look forward to hearing those stories.

I have been collecting stories of the past few years and was informed that the "Hard Truths" I wrote of several weeks ago were the same truths recognized in 2016 by the "Sustainability" team and the three solutions: Housing project, Capital Campaign, and Campus Renovation. Now five years on, we face the same challenges. Perhaps we'll be able to change the trajectory and our resultant condition.

I am optimistic this Church community, filled with talent and intelligence, can work out a path to financial stability; but to do so, I believe we will have to again rely upon rental income to cover the gap between our base expenses and our pledge giving. We have a good deal of planning and guessing as to what the coming year may hold for us. I look forward to gathering as much information input as the Congregation can supply. As I learn more, I'll share out what new discoveries you propose.

Bob Lange, Moderator

April 14, 2021