



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF ARLINGTON VIRGINIA

A Place to Connect, Grow and Serve

January 16, 2019 – Connections newsletter

“Possibilities”

“And now let us welcome the new year, full of things that have never been.”

--Rainer Maria Rilke



Our Soul Matters theme this month is “Possibilities”. If ever this theme had special meaning for our congregation, now is that time. This is my first year serving on the Board of Trustees. We are going through a period when the existing structures and ways of doing things seem to be primed for change. After a career doing strategic planning and governance work for hospitals, I’ve gotten very comfortable with uncertainty and ambiguity. That is when I’m most interested in getting involved, when the feeling is that there must be a better way, when something new is called forth, when we make the most of the Possibilities we face. This requires our best creativity, teamwork, trust in each other, and the faith that we can find our way together.

We are embarking on a number of efforts that pitch us into waters with lots of unknowns and with recent experiences that make us kind of gun-shy. Our Ministerial Search work, our Eighth Principle work and our Governance Task Force all challenge us to step up and make something new happen. We are pregnant with Possibilities and, as I remember feeling during my pregnancies, there’s no going back. We are called to go forward in hope, as Walter Clark encouraged us. And as we trust each other’s intentions and listen closely to each other’s ideas we will build piece by piece a future out of our Possibilities. We are focusing on what worked well in our history, learning from other congregations, and trying to make the most of our strengths. And we have an abundance of strengths, just look around! I offer my optimism and I call on yours as well as the wisdom of your experience. Watch these efforts, get involved, share your voice--help us find our way through all the possible futures we face.

In faith,

Linda Battaglini, Board of Trustees Member