



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF ARLINGTON VIRGINIA

A Place to Connect, Grow and Serve

Board Update – Week of Apr. 22, 2019

By Al Himes, Board Chair

The Board of Trustees is very pleased to announce the extension of Rev. Dr. Terasa Cooley's contract for the 2019-20 church year. Rev. Terasa will continue to serve us until the Summer of 2020 when we expect to have a new permanent Senior Minister. As our Interim Senior Minister, Rev. Terasa has already exceeded our expectations, helping us strengthen our Pastoral Care team, evaluate our governance, support the numerous small-group ministries within our congregation, provide guidance and advice for the Board and maybe most importantly provide strong leadership and stability for our church staff. We very much look forward for continuing our ministry together for another church year.

Also, at our April meeting, the date for our Annual Meeting was set for Sunday, June 2, 2019 at 11:30 a.m. right after the single service on that Sunday. More information will be announced in the upcoming weeks, however at the meeting we will be presenting our annual awards, approving a budget for the upcoming church year, electing new trustees and officers for the upcoming church year as well as providing a report from our Governance Task Force with their findings from their outreach and research this past year. We hope that all Members will join us for this important meeting and support our use of the 5th Principle “The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;”

Additionally, at our April meeting, the Board added language to our Policy Manual to better reflect our recently adopted 8th Principle “Journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse, multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.” In our Policy Manual we approved the revision of one of our Ends to state “The Church is a force for service, social justice, anti-racism and environmental justice.” (Our “Ends” are the policy statements under our current governance structure which the Board holds the Executive (Senior Minister) accountable to fulfil.)

Lastly, I would like to congratulate Linda Battaglini on her election as the new Board Chair for the church year starting July 1, 2019. Linda has done a tremendous job this year leading the Board's Governance Task Force and I know she will make an outstanding Board Chair. I look forward to assisting her with the transition and working with her next year as we take the Governance Task Force's recommendations and work on revising our policy documents to reflect those recommendations as well as the other on-going work of the Board.