

Director of Faith Formation Search Team, 2016-2017

The 2016-2017 UUCN Director of Faith Formation (DFF) Search Team was formed in the spring of 2016, and introduced to the congregation at the 2016 Annual Meeting. The members of the team were:

Erica Agnew, Cecile Bonvouloir, Peggy Cardone, Dan Early, Kathy Fletcher, Pat Ladew, and Rev. Allison Palm.

The Team met regularly from September 2016 through April 2017, accomplishing the following:

- We solicited input from all members of the UUCN congregation regarding their expectations, hopes, and dreams for our new DFF by:
 - Inserting questions in the Order of Service every week during the month of October;
 - Creating an online congregational survey and using all available modes of communication to encourage participation; and
 - Holding two after-church cottage meetings in November.

- We publicized the position in a number of ways:
 - Creating a card announcing the search and providing basic information about the position and about UUCN. This card was distributed at the UUA's 2016 General Assembly. We also mailed it out to nearly 500 individuals on the LREDA (Liberal Religious Educators Association) mailing list in January 2017.
 - Posting the position on the UUCN website and on the LREDA and New England UUA websites as well.
 - Creating a special [DFF website](#) that candidates could access to obtain more information about the position and about UUCN.

- In collaboration with the UUCN Personnel Team, we wrote a job description and letter of employment agreement, which we posted on the UUCN DFF website.

By February 20, 2017 (our deadline for applications), we had 10 viable candidates for the position. We narrowed that number to five, and began reference checks and conducting preliminary interviews (via Skype) in March. By the end of March, we had two final candidates. We conducted in-person interviews with these candidates on two consecutive Saturdays in April, spending several hours with each one, asking and answering questions, participating in an "Children's Chapel" experience, having lunch, and giving them a tour of the church.

Although we conducted a national search, we found the ideal candidate – Sadie Kahn-Greene – very close to home. A lifelong Unitarian Universalist and Credentialed Religious Educator, Sadie lives in Chelmsford, Mass. She has more than a decade of experience working with UU congregations as a Religious Educator. The Team was very impressed with Sadie's energy and passion, as well as the depth of her commitment to UU Faith Formation. To learn more about Sadie, visit the UUCN website at <http://uunashua.org/introducing-new-director-faith-formation/>

Our decision to offer her the Position of Director of Faith Formation at UUCN was unanimous. Sadie will begin her work with us on July 24th, which will enable her to spend a week with our Interim Director of Faith Formation, Sandra Greenfield, before Sandra completes her time at UUCN.

Thank you to all the members of the DFF Search Team for their time, energy, and commitment to this congregation.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Ladew, Chair
May 25, 2017