

Shared Ministry Team  
ANNUAL MEETING REPORT  
June 4, 2017

As Rev. Allison Palm concludes her second year with the UUCN, the Shared Ministry Team (SMT) is also completing a second year since its' inception in the fall of 2015. The team meets monthly to discuss ways to support the minister in the overall spiritual health of the congregation, as well to complete the UUA Parish Ministry Evaluation. The members include: Rev. Allison Palm, Cecile Bonvouloir, Carol Houde, Steve Ladew and Brenna Woods.

During our second year, we engaged in a variety of different activities to help explore our understanding of the church covenant, to expand our thinking on what a healthy congregation looks like, and to gain insight into leading and feeling change. A look at these areas below may shed light on our efforts.

The SMT facilitated four PercUulate Sessions during the months of February, March, April and May. We divided the covenant into four sections and then asked the same set of questions at each session as a way to create continuity in obtaining feedback and input from our congregants. We are pleased to report there was a turnout of 12-18 participants per session. The conversation was rich with perspectives and insight, while at times searching for clarity.

Next, the SMT read the book, "Healthy Congregations: A Systems Approach", by Peter L. Steinke, and incorporated discussions in our monthly meetings. While the book offered a vantage from a Christian lead denomination, it was adaptable to any church exploring their emotional system in order to build a loving, supportive, inclusive community.

Finally, the SMT opted to partake in the Webinar, "Leading – and Feeling – Change in Congregations", after hearing from our leadership team how enlightening this training was and listening to Rev. Palm's Sermon earlier this month. It provided an opportunity to explore where people may fall on the bell curve when it comes to change and how congregants vary!

As we roll into our third and final year, Steve Ladew is our newly elected Chair. Also joining our team this fall is Sadie Kahn Greene, our newly selected Director of Faith Formation, as we continue our efforts in shared ministry. We welcome your questions, comments or concerns regarding the path of ministry in the church. However, given the sensitivity of some of the topics and the covenant of the team, the meetings are confidential.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cecile Bonvouloir,  
Chairperson  
Shared Ministry Team