

Annual Report of the Leadership Development Team 2017-2018

Provided by Pat Ladew, May 2018
Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashua, NH

Leadership Development at the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Nashua is an evolving effort to help members of the congregation learn about our many committees/teams/groups and the opportunities for connection, service, and learning that exist. One of the "desired ends" for Leadership Development, as outlined UUCN's five-year Strategic Plan, is to support active members as they investigate, then take on leadership positions. We are also charged with supporting leaders as they adjust to the responsibilities and challenges of their new positions.

2017-2018 Accomplishments

We were very pleased to have successfully co-hosted two summits this past year. We called them "connections" summits in an effort to get more church members involved and attending.

- 1) On October 21, 2017, in partnership with the Shared Ministry Team. During this summit, Steve Ladew gave a presentation titled "Leading and Feeling Change" that provided an overview of information gleaned from an April 2017 UUA New England Region webinar.
- 2) On March 24, 2018, in partnership with Rev. Allison Palm. This summit featured an informative presentation about generational differences in church life.

These summits have provided UUCN leaders, potential leaders, and interested congregants the opportunity to consider and discuss change and generational differences at UUCN as well as to interact with one another. They have also provided a forum for church staff to update attendees about new policies and procedures.

Other accomplishments included:

- Taking a leadership role when UUCN hosted the UUA's "Spiritual Leadership" workshop on May 12, 2018.
- Creating a "UUCN Group Happenings" newsletter for the March 18th summit that included updates from a number of groups, teams, and committees. This has been posted on the UUCN website.

Considerations for the Future:

Moving forward, UUCN's Leadership Development effort will need to attract more volunteers; two members of our three-member team are completing their terms of service this year. If our church community would like to continue to have semi-annual summits, ad hoc teams of volunteers may need to come together to help organize and oversee these events.

The five-year Strategic Plan linked the desired ends and suggested goals of the Membership and Leadership Teams. Although there has been some talk of merging the two teams, to date, this has not happened.

The Strategic Plan also recommended the creation of a "a fully developed Leadership Development program that is linked to a Faith Formation plan for adults." This, too, remains an unrealized aspiration.

Members of the 2017-2018 Leadership Development Team were:

Pat Ladew, Co-Chair

Karen Murray, Co-Chair

Donna Larue, Member

I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude to team members Karen Murray and Donna Larue for their dedication and hard work.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Ladew

May 16, 2018