

# **Internship Committee\* Annual Report**

## **Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashua**

### **June 2022**

#### **Committee Members:**

Patricia Ladew (chair)  
Rev. Steve Edington  
Karen Campbell  
Ruth Cannava  
Kathy Fletcher

Caro Barschow began their part-time, two-year, ministerial internship at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashua in August of 2021. They came to UUCN with a wealth of experience that included being a summer minister for First Parish Portland Unitarian Universalist Church in Portland, Maine, and a chaplaincy intern at Brigham and Women's Hospital in 2020, and a program development intern at Springfield Unitarian Universalist Meetinghouse, in Springfield, Vt., in 2020-2021. They earned a Master of Divinity degree from Boston University's School of Theology in May of 2022.

The internship committee has been meeting with Caro once a month since October 2021. To date, our meetings have all been on Zoom. Our primary goal, according to the UUA's Internship Manual, is "to help the intern develop and hone the personal and professional skills of ministry."

Toward that end, we observe Caro in action as they minister to our congregation – assisting Rev. Allison during worship services, leading worship services and preaching from the pulpit, interacting with the children, attending a number of committee and team meetings, and taking on various leadership roles (in addition to many other activities). One example of a leadership role that Caro has undertaken is organizing a LGBTQ+ team that is now actively working on renewing UUCN's status as a Welcoming Congregation in addition to other efforts.

During our monthly meetings, the internship committee provides feedback on the activities mentioned above, spending a good portion of our time with Caro sharing what we have observed, asking questions, offering encouragement and support, and sometimes, making suggestions. As UUCN has transitioned from exclusively online services to multiplatform services, some of us have been able to observe Caro's participation in worship services in person.

In addition to providing feedback, the internship committee also acts as a sounding board for Caro, providing a safe place for them to ask questions, express concerns, and brainstorm ideas.

The UUA's Ministerial Fellowship Committee requires the internship committee to submit two formal written evaluations during an internship. We are currently working on Caro's midterm

evaluation and very much appreciate the input we requested and received from a number of members of the congregation regarding Caro's accomplishments. With that said, we encourage everyone to share any compliments or critiques regarding Caro's ministry directly with them. You may share your opinions of the internship program in general with Rev. Allison.

We have enjoyed getting to know Caro this year and look forward to working with them in the coming year as they take on an even larger ministerial role during Rev. Allison's sabbatical.

\*We are called a committee rather than a team to match the standard language of Boston University and the UUA.