

Ministerial Intern Report

This is the second and final year of my part-time internship. I am grateful to members and friends of this congregation for the learning and growth I experienced while serving as Ministerial Intern. During the sabbatical of Rev. Allison Palm from Aug-Nov 2022, I paused the internship to serve in the position of half-time Sabbatical Minister.

The internship satisfied the requirement of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) for preparation of ministers. In April, I transitioned from Candidate status to Preliminary Fellowship as a Unitarian Universalist Minister, following an interview with the UUA's Ministerial Fellowship Committee and fulfilling final requirements. I will be recognized for this achievement during the Service of the Living Tradition at the General Assembly in June. UU Nashua, and my home congregation, The First Parish in Portland, Maine UU, will co-ordain me as a minister in a ceremony on June 17, 2023. I look forward to serving as a congregational minister in the greater Boston area in the coming church year.

Some highlights of my activities in the 2022-23 Church Year:

- Sabbatical Ministry
 - Led or co-led worship 3 Sundays a month from August-November
 - Facilitated Worship Team and Pastoral Care Team meetings
 - Acting Executive Team member (with DFF and Office Administrator)
 - Co-planned and co-led Name and Pronoun Affirmation Ceremony with Renewal of Welcoming team
 - Met regularly with Board of Trustees and Building Our Vision team
 - Led New to UU Classes
 - Led participation in public witness in Aug 2022 in response to hate group
- Internship
 - Planned and led 4 worship service, co-led Christmas Eve Services
 - Practiced extemporaneous preaching
 - Prepared worship on history and polity topics
 - Led Leadership Summit on “Your UU Elevator Speech”
 - Active in 603 Equality, new group for LGBTQ+ Legislative Advocacy - led community organizing to establish a Nashua chapter
 - Celebrated achievement of Renewal of Welcoming status in Dec 2023, a designation of the UUA indicating UUCN supports and advocates for LGBTQ+ community within and beyond the congregation
 - Trained in Our Whole Lives sexuality and relationship education program from grades K-1 and 4-6, co-facilitated grades 5-6 group at UU Nashua
 - Active as Pastoral Care Associate
 - Attended UU Ministers Association monthly meetings and Spring Retreat
 - Served on UU Action NH Leadership Team

These activities relate to goals I set with my internship committee and supervisor in the Internship Learning and Service Agreement. There are seven areas of focus during the internship: Worship and Rites of Passage, Pastoral Care and Presence, Spiritual Development for Self and Others, Social Justice in the Public Square, Administration, Service to the Larger Unitarian Universalist Faith, Leading the Faith into the Future.

I offer my thanks to the Internship Committee and the entire Staff Team for their support of my ministry with UU Nashua, particularly to Pat Ladew, Internship Committee Chair, and Rev. Allison Palm, Internship Supervisor. Thank you to this congregation for supporting the future of ministry in the UUA by acting as a Teaching Congregation for Ministerial Interns. I offer a fond farewell to this congregation, with joy and gladness for the challenges and celebrations we shared together.

Respectfully submitted,
Caro Barschow, MDiv