

**Worship:** October's services suggested widely varied examples of what it means to be a community of healing. I researched, wrote and delivered the sermon "Heart Problems" as a part of the larger Moral Worship Weekend, explaining the interfaith movement that encourages political expression of our moral values as Unitarian Universalists. In this sense, we can be a part of a larger community of healing through social justice work. I worked with Pastoral Friends to create and present a service that explained Pastoral Friends program and its members, and recognized the pastoral nature of all of our relationships. I collaborated with a Pagan member of the congregation for our third Samhain – UU service, which provided rituals for recognition of life passages and honoring our deceased loved ones. I developed sermon descriptions and selected hymns for November services.

**Counseling and Pastoral Care:** Made pastoral care phone calls, emails, conversations and three rehab unit visits. Met with Pastoral Friends, reviewed updates, Bob Camp provided continuing ed session on suicide prevention approaches and referral resources.

**Practical Arts/Administration:**

- Met in person or on the phone with BOT chair weekly or more to go over CUF happenings.
- Met with Office Assistant weekly to review tasks and short and long-term goals.
- Followed up on leads for Choir Director and Accompanist positions, kept Music Committee and Personnel in the loop throughout the process of interview (done with Board chair/Music Committee member and other MC member because both MC co-chairs were unavailable) and hire. Stephanie Reece was hired as Choir Director. Maki Ito Pardieck accepted the Accompanist position. They held the first rehearsal 11/3. Anecdotal reports were from Stephanie and choir members were positive, it seems they are off to a good start. Choir dates have been scheduled through January.
- Met or talked with RE Coordinator weekly (except while I was at the workshop), to discuss current RE program concerns and to debrief her experience at the LREDA conference. She met with Lynn Hunt, RE Consultant at and after the conference to set up a professional development and credentialing plan. Lynn and I have an appointment next week to discuss it.
- Communications Update: Thanks to Rob Gallegly for installing the voice recorder in the pulpit. He will meet with DeSande soon to show her how to download recordings to the web. I look forward to trying it out!
- Attended monthly Committee on Shared Ministry meeting, which focused on the preparations for the Building a Culture of Generosity series of events.

### **Organizational Ministry:**

- Attended the Congregational Meeting on the fiscal health of the Fellowship 10/16. This meeting was gratifying for the good turnout and participation, and much credit is owed to Treasurer Joe Schmit, and CoSM chair Miriam Link-Mullison for their presentations, and for the inclusion of small group discussions to gather more input.
- Attended first Listening Circle, which expanded on the topics introduced at the Congregational Meeting. Again, the turnout and participation was encouraging. [I didn't attend the second LC, but was informed that it also was a fruitful discussion].
- Attended Membership Meeting, reviewed planned activities for newcomers and retaining members.
- Attended one of the How Jesus Became God book discussions led by Bob DeFilippis.
- First monthly meeting with Covenant Group facilitator—it seems that the group is small but dedicated, and I look forward to seeing it develop.
- Because I wasn't responsible for leading the service, I was able to attend Open Minds 11/6, and participated in a series of "whip" rounds of discussion questions.
- Also 11/6 attended Dream Works presentation led by Bob Camp, followed by discussion. This was my first visit to the group, and I was struck by its pastoral nature.
- Wrote newsletter column for November CUF Links.
- Led the 20 minute intro to CUF & UU, with one young adult newcomer attending, along with a Membership Committee rep.
- Attended a Transgender Training Workshop – I have yet to share the information learned with the Welcoming Congregation Renewal team.

**Personal Growth:** exercise, meditation, singing with Choral Union, and have begun practicing mandolin more regularly.

**Professional Growth:** Monthly telephone conversations with Family Systems coach, UUMA mentor, ministry peer group, and Spiritual Director. Attended monthly meeting of Bi-State UU Ministers Society (BUUMS) in Alton, IL.

- Attended three day Leading with Creative Courage: Family Systems for Clergy workshop outside Kingston, TN. I attended the workshop last year and learned a great deal, but this year was even better, as I am now more familiar with some of the concepts and processes involved in analysis and experimentation. I plan to share some of the insights in upcoming sermons, and to continue my work with Family Systems coach to apply what I'm learning to other aspects of my ministry. One thing I'd like to implement is one-on-one meetings with BOT and CoSM members (at least once a year) so I can better develop working relationships with CUF leaders.

**Teaching:** N/A. Unfortunately, the New UU class has been postponed to early 2017, due to lack of people signed up and family responsibilities of one of the leaders. I think we'll need to employ more one-on-one methods to invite folks—email and Bulletin didn't work.

**Denominational Activities:**

- Participated in the Carbondale Interfaith Council's Taste of Faith potluck at St. Francis Xavier.
- Met at SIH with others involved in planning the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Carbondale in Thanksgiving (Nov. 15 at Bethel AME church).

**Prophetic Outreach:**

- Regular attendance at the weekly We Say Enough videoconferences.
- Attended CIC ad-hoc meeting at the Islamic Center exploring sponsoring a Syrian refugee family. Bonnie Cumings reported on the meeting for the November Newsletter.