



**Meeting Notes**  
**First Universalist Church Board**  
**June 10, 2019 6:00 pm**

**Attending:** Rev Frieda, Joanna Landsman, Marge Titcomb, Annie Cook, Nancy Dix, Sarah Witte, Meghan Anderson Nathanson, Joe Dreher, Abby Civiello, Jen Civiello.

**Opening:**

- Light the Chalice
- Reading – Marge “We’re a nation coming apart at the seams...” David Brooks
- Reading – Joanna “Courage is...” David Whyte

**Consent Agenda**

- Minutes from previous meeting approved.

**Discussion Areas:**

**1. SUMMER MEETING:**

Monday August 19<sup>th</sup> 6-8 pm

**2. Fall Leadership Retreat:**

CONTENT: 1. material from UUA Spiritual Leadership and covenant workshops. Leading with your spirit in all that we do, as individuals and as a congregation. Essence of orientation to leadership and mission fulfillment. More beautiful world. A promise. Aspirational. A vow to serve the relationship. Agreement to act in harmony. A covenant of spiritual being vs. behavior. Calling back into our intentional. WHY... from the heart. Centering in gifts etc. 2. Keith Kron 3 hour workshop could be part of the Saturday program. (See below.)

DISCUSSION: Covenant – the word – has a lot of baggage. Synonyms: Compact. Bond. Commitment. Concord.

What is our heart work. What brings us here. Deepening our relationships and trust. Intentional community. Possibly revisit the Unison Affirmation.

NEXT STEPS: Ongoing sub-committee to work on Retreat: Joanna, Frieda, Meghan if possible, Nancy, Joe. Focus on quality of experience. Growth will come from people having their needs met.

Search Committee in the loop.

**3. Beyond Categorical Thinking Course**

Frieda has weekends for Keith Kron.3 Hour workshop, plus worship, plus Search.

Search Team will definitely do it, and the Board. All will be invited. (Note \$400 cost, currently unfunded.)

NEXT STEPS: Joanna will pass to Search Committee.

**4. Special Fall Fundraiser for Search Process:**

Estimate \$10K, to be safe.

EVENT vision: Come celebrate, bring a check. Fancy hors d'oeuvres and desserts. Wine.

DATE: October 5<sup>th</sup>. 6-8 pm

NEXT STEPS: Jen C and Sarah will develop material for p/r.

## **5. Healing Process:**

### **DISCUSSION:**

How do we rebuild trust.

Reframing... our troubles will lead us to strength. Keep moving ahead with life.

We'll always be in a state of learning and growing.

People should not feel intimidated here, like we all have to be unanimous or agree on anything. Votes at church meetings, for example, might use paper ballots.

Open up a discussion of readiness for calling a new settled minister this fall, as we enter second year of transition. What reservations, concerns, issues. What are the topics that are taboos? Normal search process involves this discernment. Fearless moral inventory. Be aware that there are other options. Affirm that we will keep finding the path and the courage to take it step by step.

### **NEXT STEPS:**

1. Time to write letter to UUA. Sarah send draft around. (Get names at UUA. CC: Sarah Lamert, Director of Ministry. Keith Kron, head of department of transitions. Joe Sullivan, District. )
2. Ask UUA if she has not retired.
3. Direct conversation with Joe Sullivan.
4. A sermon about healing out loud. (Possible coord with Rev. Sarah Seigel visit same month)
5. Candles of healing for the church. Out loud.
6. Schedule a Congregational Check-in where we can talk about things openly. No other agenda. Create multiple doorways for people to have ongoing opportunities.
7. Bring healing circle type discussions to other groups such as Choir and Small Groups.

**Next meetings: (TBC)** Monday August 19th. Monday September 9<sup>th</sup>

## **Reflections and Closing**