

Board Chair Update, Unitarian Church in Westport September, 2015

I am so looking forward to the homecoming service this weekend and the official beginning of the church year. While I don't really accept the end of summer, particularly easy when the temperatures remain so high, I have such a sense of anticipation for the start of this year and it's a pleasure to get going on our new normal. Bring it on!

Most church work over the summer related to buildings and grounds work, which has been very thoroughly covered in Soundings and other communications so I won't rehash it all. But I know I for one am particularly looking forward to the pothole repair!

I am grateful for the ongoing work of the Stewardship committee, which includes not just the ongoing canvass activity but also the formalization of legacy giving and fundraising subcommittees. Great work, badly needed and richly appreciated!

Later this month we will have our board retreat and reset our goals for this year: a formal kickoff for the board's cohesiveness and alignment, not to mention bonding and appreciation. And this year, we will start a new tradition with the leadership startup weekend; I look forward to learning more about that and to our enthusiastic participation.

I have not received any changes to the proposed board policies that were circulated at the beginning of the summer, so I am hoping we will vote those into formal policy this month, along with the other work you are all doing as it is completed - the more we lay out the outline of how we do our work, the easier it will be to create a common understanding of our processes and how things get done, who makes decisions, etc. Policy governance come to life!

And as we look forward to our homecoming service with our new senior minister:

"As truth be told, homecoming never gets old."
— Hlovate

And...

"When time passes, it's the people who knew you whom you want to see;
they're the ones you can talk to."
- John Irving, The Cider House Rules

And...

“Every traveler has a home of his own, and he learns to appreciate it the more from his wandering.” — Charles Dickens

See you Tuesday!

Thanks,
Michelle