

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## Key Activities

Compiled PBG and congregation board leadership resources.

#MeToo weekly blurbs for e-Soundings, compiled invitation list for BBL Resolution Discussion, Editing and Review session on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Conversations with congregation presidents and ministers planning to attend GA and participate in TUCW networking session.

Met with Rev. Mary Katherine Morn and UUA President the Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray to discuss future involvement with the Association on the President's Council.

Prep for April BoT meeting – agenda etc.

## Are We Doing Policy-Based Governance Yet?

- Policies essential to the formation and early functioning of the Governing Board have been written and adopted.
- The Board's Governance Policies are active and dynamic, meant to be changed and refined regularly, based on the intent of each section, the values of the Board, and the changing context within which the congregation functions.
- The Constitution has been revised to enable and support a policy board governance. Clarity around elected committees, roles and boundaries is understood among staff and lay leaders.
- The Senior Minister, with the assistance of staff evaluates the ministries of the congregation and reports the results in Monitoring Reports along with recommendations and suggested goals for the coming year.
- The primary relationship of the Board is connection with the moral owners to understand their values, perspectives, priorities. The Board provides continuing connections with the owners and makes decisions on their behalf.
- The board's fiduciary duty incorporates the function of defining direction, assuring that there are long range goals toward sustainable and relevant service to those served. Optimally, the Board looks at the question of why do we exist and what good would come about if we were doing the right job?

What one act of courage  
can we take, as a  
leadership body, for the  
good of our mission?

## Three things Effective Congregations' Boards Do Well\*

1. Clarify Direction  
A church board helps to clarify direction and purpose by defining why the organization exists and what it hopes to achieve. This is done through the development of a **mission, vision and values statement** that steers all decision making.
2. Fiduciary Governance  
Provide oversight but don't run (or staff) the Finance Committee. Fiduciary governance prevents theft, waste or misuse of resources and promotes lawful and ethical behavior through Limitations Policies. Fiduciary Governance is "speaking with one voice" and safeguarding the mission.
3. Support Leadership  
Effective boards support church leadership by helping them do their job – removing obstacles that hinder progress and ensuring the necessary resources are available to support the mission. Church board governance is the backbone and driving force of effective church management, development and growth. Taking the time to train and develop the governing board is one way to help equip them for this important responsibility.

\*From [Smart Church Management](#) 4/25/2018

On May 15<sup>th</sup> I will chair my last meeting as the President of the TUCW Board. Two days later I will get a full set of replacement parts installed in my right shoulder. I am looking forward to both of these transitions.

At our Annual Meeting on June 10<sup>th</sup> we will honor a volunteer with the Very Fine Award, receive the reports from the Endowment Committee and the Committee on Ministries, and vote on this congregation's first ever Resolution brought to the congregation from the #MeToo Task Force.

On June 20<sup>th</sup> I will travel to Kansas City for General Assembly where I have registered to sing in the GA Choir, lead a Networking Session on A Faithful Response to #MeToo, and enjoy time with thousands of UUs in worship, learning, and fellowship. I will share a room (again) with The Rev. Dr. Jan Carlsson-Bull, Minister of our Meriden, CT UU congregation. This November I will be traveling to Vietnam with Jan, UU Rev. Barbara Child and Dr. Edward Tick, Trauma Therapist and author of numerous books on Moral Injury to be part of a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Veterans Day journey of healing and reconciliation.

I wish you all a wonderful summer and a brilliant board year ahead.

In faith,

Lynda