



# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

CONGREGATION OF FREDERICK  
Spirituality · Community · Justice

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

JUNE 4, 2023

In April I gave my “Reflections from the Board” at the Stewardship Meeting and I pretty much spelled out the majority of the things that the Board is doing, so in case you were not present for that meeting, I will give you the highlights of that and add a few additional things.

Last August, the Board met for our annual retreat which means we got together on a Saturday morning to eat donuts and talk about what we see as our goals and objectives for the coming year.

We started with some quotes from the adrienne marie brown's book *Emergent Strategy* which gave us some things to think about as we began to embark on the coming year. Some of these include:

- Small is good (meaning that we don't have to build the Titanic to cross the Potomac River. Sometimes small changes can still make a big difference)
- Change is constant (Covid certainly showed us that)
- Always enough time for the right work (Spinning wheels just makes you dizzy, so instead, take the time to do it right...)
- Never a failure, always a lesson (When things don't turn out the way you wanted, it's not wrong, it's an opportunity for learning something new)
- Trust the people (empowerment leads to efficiency and quality)
- What you pay attention to, GROWS! (Just like a plant, neglect it and it withers. Water it and it pays you back 10-fold in beauty!)

At the retreat we listed our three goals for the year:

- Digital
- Diversity
- Presence (formerly known as Outreach)

Digitally, we are working on an updated version of our UUCF website which will more conform with the UUA's suggested congregational web page format and should make it easier to find

things and be more user friendly to new users. It's still in-process but getting near completion. We may see a Fall kickoff of the new changes.

Additionally, we are loving our new A/V system which allows us to better serve the livestream portion of our congregation. Bill Bromfield, Jude Oyler, and their team of "techies" are doing a great job for both the zoom and in-person Sunday services.

With diversity, we are continuing our chronological checklist under the umbrella of the UUA's Widening the Circle of Concern to become a more multicultural beloved community. You will hear more about the work we have done in Year 3 in a minute, so I won't go into any more detail here.

In terms of Presence, we continue to support local organizations that share our principles for social justice both through our monthly split-plate giving as well as our physical presence at social justice events and rallies.

We as UU's live our principles through the work we do for to support the worth and dignity of all living beings with our hands and our hearts, in both time and treasure. It's what we do.

In a few minutes you will be hearing from our Treasurer about how we are doing from a financial standpoint, so I won't steal any of his thunder...

Finally, I just want to thank both Bobbi Mead and Gary Magnuson for their service to the Board over the past few years. We will miss them both very much but at the same time, excited to find out who will be serving with us over the next fiscal year.

Thank you all for your support...

Respectfully,  
Cheryl O'Brien