

Dear Board,

I keep wondering, “what’s next”?

What shall we do next year that helps heal the world, that broadens our vision, that deepens our spirit?

Underneath that question, I know, are all sort of assumptions:

- We have the congregational health to take on new, larger, initiatives.
- We trust each other.
- Our basis is stable – from financial to pastoral, care is evident.
- Leadership is active, and growing, within the congregations
- The programs are vibrant.
- The staff team is functioning well.

I don’t know that I would have affirmed all those assumptions when I arrived here three years ago. We’ve worked hard, dug deep, at times strongly disagreed but stayed in conversation, and now find ourselves here, ready for more. There has been substantial growth and change, both within ourselves and the congregation.

I credit you, your willingness to test out new ideas and approaches, your love for this faith and this congregation that sustains us during more challenging moments, and your countless hours of volunteer labor on behalf of our greater good.

So, what’s next?

That’s what I’ll be pondering during my study leave. What will serve us and Unitarian Universalism? It is work toward a singular initiative, courses that deepen our understanding of this faith, or something else altogether.

I’ll return in late August with ideas, rested and ready to collaborate for another wonderful year in shared ministry.

As always, grateful to be your minister,
Rev. DL

Yes, I know we all need a summer break first!