

President's Report 2020-2021
June 2021

Dear UUCSC,

As you will see from the committee work in this 2020-2021 Annual Report, the UUCSC is a congregation that rises to the occasion and works through problems. 2021 has been another challenging year, but our congregation is strong and will continue to offer a welcoming home for spiritual growth and social action. As I write this, we are saying goodbye to Rev. DL and recognizing the challenges ahead. We need to be ready for this difficult and demanding work by remembering that we are all in this together. I am thankful that Elizabeth Donovan has come forward to serve as our president and we will work together for a smooth transition as I finish my term.

We are grateful to Rev. DL and our staff for serving the UUCSC in so many ways. Lee Cowan our DRE has persevered and found creative ways to offer religious exploration to our youth and families with young children. Michael Galib continues to work his magic and our worship services are filled with beautiful choir pieces and rich music. We are fortunate to also have the expertise of Sue Rogala, our financial assistant, who has supported us in preparing our budget and maintaining our financial records. I will so miss the inspiring and thought-provoking sermons of Rev. DL. Our worship committee and Rev. DL have supported us through a year of hardship, loss and fear. We are grateful for all of this.

The Board of Directors, Vice President, Rosemary Galiani, Treasurer, Mary Alice Kimball, and our clerk, Elizabeth Donovan, along with directors Bill Rodriguez, Nancy Dean and Charlie Donnelley, have met monthly to oversee the work of the congregation and listen to the concerns of our members, friends, and the larger community. I feel fortunate to have worked with such a talented and dedicated group. As I have mentioned in the past, we are looking to grow our leadership. Please consider what you can offer to the UUCSC in time and talent. Even though so much of our congregational life has changed, I am confident that we will continue to meet the needs of our community. May the lessons learned during this pandemic make us stronger, wiser and kinder. The amount of work being

done by all of the UUCSC committees is incredible. Please take time to read the reports of all that has been accomplished during this turbulent year.

The BOD worked on several important initiatives to support the work of the congregation. In April, we called an all-congregation meeting to affirm our adoption of the 8th principle. There is still much work to be done to combat racism, but this was an important step. We worked closely with our Treasurer, Mary Alice Kimball and the Finance Committee on balancing our budget and planning for the future. This is difficult but necessary work. I am grateful to all who contributed in these efforts. This is a very generous congregation, and all of your contributions are used wisely. Our building has been updated and maintained by the efforts of our facilities committee and we look forward to a time when we can meet again in person.

I don't know what the future will look like, but I do know that if we continue to work together and summon a sense of solidarity, our future will be bright.

Thank You,

Natalie Herbermann
UUCSC President 2019-2021