

**Date, Time:** Tuesday, Jan 4<sup>th</sup>, 4pm

**Attendees:** Rev Will Green, Joanne Sterling, Jan Thomas, Karin Elofson (scribe), Linda Capone-Newton, Mavourneen Thompson, Margaret Bragdon, Margo Mallar

- 1) Call to Order – Rev Will
- 2) Approval of Previous Minutes – NA, first meeting as a team
- 3) Scope of Integration Team
  - a) Karin clarified that this team is tasked with integrating themes and practices from the UCC and the UUA into life at NBC and not just a review of the Sunday liturgy.
  - b) What do we want to say we've accomplished as of Dec 2022?
  - c) Both the UCC and UUA speak to building a beloved community while tending to tradition.
- 4) Unfinished Business
  - a) NA – first meeting
- 5) New Business
  - a) Sermon Topics
    - i) Topics for Jan 9<sup>th</sup> thru Feb 27<sup>th</sup>: Will presented some preliminary ideas for the next few weeks, including chocolate communion on Feb 13<sup>th</sup>. Traditional communion to continue on the first Sunday of each month.
    - ii) Humanism – what is it? This will be topic for an upcoming sermon.
    - iii) For the 7 weeks of Lent, we will pull from *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Team tasked with reading the book by next meeting on Tuesday, Feb 1<sup>st</sup>. Rev Will will add this to our inputs to The Star, due Jan 25<sup>th</sup>.
    - iv) Rev Will shared a calendar from the UUA site that combined important dates from several traditions. <https://www.uua.org/files/2021-06/2021-2022%20Liturgical%20Dates%20%26%20Theme%20Calendar%20-%20Calendar.pdf>
    - v) The WorshipWeb Library on UUA.org was also highlighted as being an excellent resource. <https://www.uua.org/worship>
    - vi) It was suggested that the team could look ahead; as such, planning for April through June will start at the March meeting.
  - b) Educational Resources
    - i) The Braver/Wiser page on UUA.org is another resource offering weekly message of courage and compassion for life as it is, <https://www.uua.org/braverwiser>.
    - ii) It was suggested that a page be created for the website listing such links for the support and education of the congregation.
    - iii) There are general questions about how the UCC is different from the UMC, and how is the UUA different from the UCC. This would be good to review with the congregation.
  - c) Lay Leadership Development
    - i) It was suggested that individuals could participate in services with a short contribution of no more than 5 minutes; this would be coordinated with Rev Will. That may help people grow their skill and comfort at speaking before the congregation.

- ii) Some services may lend themselves to “show and share” segments.
- iii) Mavourneen shared her concern that, while congregant participation is to be encouraged, it should not be weekly. She wants to learn from our teacher pastor!
- iv) Linda suggested that interested parties could stay after the service and discuss the topic of the day, in the tradition of Ralph Waldo Emerson. This could be at an identified table during fellowship.

6) Adjournment, 5:05pm

7) Next Meeting: Tuesday, Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, 4pm by Zoom