

First Unitarian Church of Philadelphia Board of Trustees January Update

Greetings from the First Unitarian Board of Trustees!

I'm happy to report that at our December meeting the Board of Trustees voted to affiliate with the Rev. Allison Cornish! We are thrilled to formalize this relationship with her! We're also pleased that this process has introduced our church community to the concept of community ministry. Given the work that the Board has done (and continues to do) on documenting the process and updating our policy manual, I believe that we are now well prepared to respond to any future requests for affiliation.

We also heard from our newly formed Working Groups Subcommittee at our December meeting. This group is charged with identifying the support the board needs from working groups and the best structure for these groups. They brought to us the questions they hope to answer in their work together- we look forward to hearing more from them as their work progresses this winter.

In December, the Steering Committee (Minister, Board President, Board Vice-President) met with our Mission and Vision Team. This group is charged with keeping the momentum of implementing our new Mission and Vision statements (LINK) active and identifying challenges and opportunities within our efforts to live our Mission. We had a wonderful first meeting where the group started an exciting conversation about the shape this work could take. They will be sharing more of their plans at our Congregational Meeting on January 27th.

Speaking of which- mark your calendars for our Congregational Meeting after worship on January 27th! At this meeting, in addition to engaging with the Mission and Vision Team, we'll also hear some updates from the newly formed 501c3 Friends of 2125 Chestnut Street as well as updates about our church life. A formal announcement with the agenda is forthcoming.

Finally, the we are looking forward to our 3-day anti-racism workshop February 22-24. With the guidance of professional trainers we will explore what is at stake for white people in racial justice work, listen to the priorities of the people of color within the church, and strengthen the church's commitment to take action within the church and in the larger community. More information from the training planning team will be available later this month.

Yours in faith & service,

Annemarie Vaeni
President, First Unitarian Board of Trustees

PS: The board meets on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30pm on the ground floor of the church. A link to our agenda will be in the e-beacon and posted in the lobby the week before.

