

# One and One



## *One Action and One Tool from the UUA Ministries and Faith Development Staff Group*

One and One is produced by the UUA Ministries and Faith Development Staff Group. In this simple weekly brief, busy Unitarian Universalist Professionals will find one exciting thing going on at the UUA, and one useful tool. Please submit content ideas or feedback to [one-and-one@uua.org](mailto:one-and-one@uua.org).

### *One Thing Going On*

#### *Lifting Up a Great Model for Staff Team Development*

In the Central Mid-West District, district staff have been meeting for the last seven years with staff teams from the ten largest congregations in the district. Twice a year, Ian Evison and Dori Davenport Thexton convene the professional staff teams (ministers, administrators, religious educators, membership directors, and some music directors). They arrange for guest speakers, based on what the group decides is of interest. This takes up the morning. During lunch and about an hour following, attendees meet in small groups according to their profession. Typically 35-45 people attend these events. It is an extraordinary group that is committed to these gatherings.

Speakers have included Stefan Jonasson (UUA Director of Growth Strategies and Large Congregation Development), who has addressed various aspects of life in a large congregation; Scott Tayler (Co-Minister at First Unitarian Church of Rochester), who spoke about theme-based ministry; and Susan Beaumont (Alban Institute Consultant), on staff teams. Wayne Arnason and Kathleen Rolenz (Co-Ministers of West Shore UU Church in Cleveland) will speak this coming spring on the topic of creating and holding a spiritual center as a staff group.

For more information, contact [Dori Thexton](#)

### *One Useful Tool*

#### *“Rapportive” - Connecting through Social Media*

**Rapportive** is a free extension for Gmail that acts as a streamlined form of social media connecting. When you install Rapportive, a social networking bubble appears to the right of your inbox displaying the most recent Tweets, Facebook updates, LinkedIn information, recent check-ins, and phone numbers associated with a person’s email address.

Kristin Dore, Curriculum Development Director at the New Organizing Institute, explains it use:

*“When I receive or compose an email, the first thing I do is look at the Rapportive box to get clues about how to best connect with a person, which tone might be most appropriate, or if they are nearby for a coffee meet up. For example, if I’m reaching out to someone at a partner org about an upcoming meeting, I’ll look to Rapportive to see what they posted. When you can see what a person is thinking about in the moment you’re contacting them, it can really help you break through the noise and make a real connection. Rapportive is a great tool to help you get the inside scoop.”*



### *About One and One*

One and One is published weekly by the Ministries & Faith Development Staff Group at the Unitarian Universalist Association, 25 Beacon Street, Boston MA 02108. [Subscribe/Unsubscribe](#)

