

9837 Bluebird Street NW
Coon Rapids, MN 55433
November 8, 2012

Ms. Gini Courter
Moderator
Unitarian Universalist Association
25 Beacon Street
Boston, MA

Dear Gini:

As you know, it is anticipated that in April 2013 the Prairie Star, Central Midwest and Heartland districts will vote at their annual meetings to dissolve these districts and form the MidAmerica region. In anticipation of these votes, the Presidents of these three districts request that the Board of the UUA place the following changes to the UUA bylaws on the agenda for General Assembly 2013 in Louisville KY. These changes have been reviewed by Kay Montgomery, Thomas Bean, Dan Brody and others, to insure that they are written in acceptable bylaw language.

These changes are the first step in a two-year process that will be completed with further bylaw and rule changes to be presented at General Assembly 2014 in Providence, RI. The two-year approach is dictated by the process required to change non-article II "C" bylaws. Thus, the only change that will be effective immediately after GA 2013 is the change to the Rule below. Accordingly, during the transition year of 2013-14, the MidAmerica district will be recognized in the UUA bylaws and rules as a new district replacing the three existing districts. The bylaws changes presented in 2014 will clarify the role and rights of a region as a new type of unit within the Association's governance structure.

We are proposing changes to four non-Article II "C" bylaws and to one Rule. The proposed changes to the four bylaws and rule are reflected in the red-lined versions below. (See proposed amendments following this letter).

At the recommendation of Tom Bean, we are also proposing to convert three "C" bylaws into non-"C" bylaws to afford the Association greater flexibility on Districts and Regions in the future.

In the event that the vote to form a regional organization should fail, we will request that the proposed amendment relating to the MidAmerica region be withdrawn. We will know by April 27, 2013 if the proposal to create a regional entity has been successful.

Rev. Bill Sasso (Central Midwest District), Amy Taylor (Heartland District), our Trustees (Rev. Eric David Carlson, David Jackoway, or Graham Kreicker) or I will be happy to answer any questions you or the members of the Board of Trustees might have.

We are excited by the possibilities our regional organization offers our congregations and the wider UUA.

In faith,

Kathy Burek, President
Prairie Star District UUA

Cc: Rev. Bill Sasso, Central Midwest District President
Amy Taylor, Heartland District President
Rev. Erik David Carlson, Central Midwest District Trustee
David Jackoway, Heartland District Trustee
Graham Kreicker, Prairie Star District Trustee
Kay Montgomery, Executive Vice President, UUA