

DRAFT II LETTER TO POTENTIAL GUEST MINISTERS

Dear _____-,

After what will be seventeen years of ministry to the First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee, Drew Kennedy will be taking a sabbatical from January, 2004 through May, 2004. The congregation is highly supportive of providing this well deserved opportunity for growth and reflection. At the same time, it envisions these months as an equal opportunity for growth and expanded horizons for the congregation.

A part of that planning is to invite a key denominational leader to speak one Sunday a month, and it is my earnest hope that you might be able to consider participating at that level. The church has 2 services, (9:15 and 11:15), each attended by approximately 185 people. In addition, we would ask you to consider speaking a third time on a totally unrelated topic of your choice, either related to a particular passion (could be anything from a public interest issue to poetry to rock climbing) of your own, or simply an in depth workshop/discussion with some members of the congregation. This could occur either on Saturday evening, or Sunday afternoon, based on your preference.

The congregation has had a church in the city since 1842, and been in the current building since 1892. There are 630 adult members, representing a congregation actively involved within the urban community, keenly interested in affairs of the day, and willing to take controversial stands. The theological interest groups range from Buddhist to Christian to Humanist to Wiccans. As is common within the denomination, it is a vibrant and interesting group, and the interaction should be mutually stimulating.

There is a strong music staff, and an excellent choir that normally sings at the 2nd service. You would of course choose the hymns; normally the music directors choose the rest of the music, compatible to the extent possible with your sermon topic. We do not follow the practice of joys and concerns, but do allow approximately 5 minutes for member announcements.

We could offer an honorarium of \$250 for the 2 services, and an additional \$200 for the 3rd session. We would also plan to cover reasonable expenses for transportation and housing.

I realize your own schedule may be complex, and surely demanding, but the entire sabbatical committee hopes you will be able to consider this opportunity. I have also enclosed a brief reply form, so that you can indicate which of the dates might be possible.

If you have questions, I can be reached at -----or by E-mail at _____.
Drew can be reached at the church office (phone) or by E-mail at (e-address).

Sincerely yours,

Joy B., Chair, Sabbatical Committee