

**Congregational Boundaries Working Group
Report to UUA Board of Trustees
January 2017**

Moderator Key and I continue to meet with stakeholders and advisors in our ongoing effort to continue to refine and improve the process of handling clergy misconduct. We have added additional members to our advisory group, which serves to bring additional voices to the table. New members include Board members Dorothy Holmes and Rev. Patrick McLaughlin, and Sara Surface, a young adult from First UU in Richmond, Virginia.

The advisory group will continue to collaborate with the staff in identifying areas of opportunity, but will not make decisions or become involved with specific situations within congregations or with individuals. We will continue to learn from the many sources of information (Berry Street Essay, Dr. Marie Fortune, Deborah Pope-Lance, etc.) Of specific interest is the appeals process. While the work is just beginning and no decisions have been made, it will be important to determine where responsibility lies for appeals and a clear articulation of responsibilities in the decisioning process.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Rimes