

Denise Rimes
UUA Vice Moderator
April, 2017
Report to the UUA Board of Trustees

Congregational and other visits

- Completed ministerial search committee coach responsibilities for three congregations, two of whom have found candidates (non-Board work)

Since our meeting in January, I have attended meetings on the following topics:

- General Assembly Planning Committee New Orleans, LA – April 6-8, 2017
- APF Task Force
- Congregational Boundaries
- Generosity Network ongoing efforts
- Executive Committee calls

General Assembly Planning Committee

The Planning Committee accomplished significant work at their most recent in-person meeting. They are fully aware that, not only because this is a Justice GA, but because of recent events and conversations, this will likely be a very emotional year. Scholarship requests are up significantly, and the Committee is reviewing the needs of the Right Relations Team and the Chaplain Team. There are a number of highly recommended pre-GA tracks which are being heavily “advertised.” Undoing Racism (facilitated by the People’s Institute and Center for Ethical Living and Social Justice Renewal) is one of the many tracks, and registration is now open [here](#).

Other details:

- Est. attendance at GA this year 4100-4300
- [Several service projects](#) (please encourage people to sign up):
 - [Big Easy / Real Life: An Immersion Experience](#) Participants will work on a rebuilding project that helps families displaced by Hurricane Katrina, or recent tornado, to return home.
 - [Days for Girls](#): Sustainable Menstrual Hygiene Kits fight poverty and isolation. An assembly line of volunteers will package kits to distribute to girls in New Orleans and around the world.
 - [The Red Flame Hunters](#) and the [Flaming Chalice Keepers Create!](#) Members of the unique all-youth Black Mardi Gras Indian Tribe will share the history of their art and celebrations and demonstrate how they create their performances and costumes rich with beadwork and feathers.
 - [Ubuntu Village](#) and [UUs, Embracing Youth Away in Juvenile Detention](#). Ubuntu Village is an organization whose program areas comprise many services for incarcerated and formerly incarcerated youth and their families. After an orientation, UUs will assemble care packages for the 48 youth currently in pretrial detention in the City of New Orleans.

- **CLF/FFLIC:** Families and Friends of Louisiana's Incarcerated Children (FFLIC) is partnering with CLF in this communications project. Participants will send postcards and personal messages in other formats to incarcerated children and incarcerated members of Church of the Larger Fellowship in Louisiana and around the country.
- There are 350 scholarship requests (v. 150 last year). GAPC is allocating a portion of funding available for approximately 90 people of color who are not affiliated with a congregation (and therefore unable to request a grant from their congregations).
- 2017-2018 GAPC leadership for next year be Ila Klion as Chair, Tuli Patel as Vice Chair, and Debra Boyd as Secretary.

APF Task Force

Significant analysis is being conducted to determine how best to build a fair and equitable method for Annual Program Fund pledges and contributions. The Task Force will meet again on April 24 in Boston to sketch out preliminary recommendations.

Congregational Boundaries

The Advisory Group met in March to introduce two new members and review its charter and purpose. The next meeting is scheduled for early May. Staff continues its work on training/education, and continues to be in conversation with the Ministerial Fellowship Committee on processes and procedures.

New Motions

As the leadership team changes with Harlan Limpert's resignation, there is a requirement that we change the official board "clerk," a position which Harlan has held since 2013. The following motions will be introduced:

MOVED: To thank Harlan Limpert for him for his years of service as Clerk of the Association, and to remove him from that position, at his request, effective at midnight on April 20, 2017.

MOVED: To appoint Sarah Lammert to the non-salaried position of Clerk of the Association Effective 12:01 a.m. April 21, 2017, to serve until his successor shall be duly chosen and qualified, with the following duties: the Clerk shall keep an accurate record of all meetings of the Association and the Board of Trustees, shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board, and shall perform the duties of a Clerk under Massachusetts law.

Conclusion

With leadership resignations and appointments, some priorities have shifted to meet the present requirements surrounding these changes. I have had the opportunity to support Moderator Key and other members of the board by helping to craft motions, responses, and agendas for the many meetings and correspondence that have occurred. As we view our work through new and different lenses, the work will continue to evolve. I add my gratitude to that of Moderator Key to all who have stepped up, either formally or informally, during this time of change.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Rimes