

FRIDAY, MARCH 8^{TH} , 2024



Rev. Beth, Rev. Kim, and treasurer Liz Teixeira: \$285,000! photo credit: Kem Morehead

Dearly Beloved,

Well, that was a Covenant Renewal Sunday for the books! Pledging \$285,500 in less than an hour has broken all records! From the bottom of my heart, thank you for your devotion to our beloved spiritual community. You are my pride and joy — and every minister's dream.

Being deeply assured that you will flourish and thrive beyond my retirement is the greatest comfort to me, along with being confident that you will enjoy a wonderful interim minister. Deepest thanks to our Interim Minister Search Team — Alan Kemp, Connie Scanlon, Sandy Dixon, and Tom Anderson! They have prepared this information on the search process for you to review before the open forum they're hosting immediately following the service on Sunday, March 17th. That information is pasted in below, as well.

This Sunday, my sermon is called *We Are Each Other's*. The service opens with the Arlington Street Choir singing Director of Music Mark David Buckles' setting of the Fourth Principle of Unitarian Universalism: *We believe in acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth*. The anthem is David Frazier's *I Need You to Survive*. We'll all sing James Taylor's *Shower the People* and Eric Bogle's *Singing the Spirit Home*:

Courage, my friend, you do not go alone We will, go with you, and sing your spirit home Justice, my friend ...
Freedom, my friend ...
Patience my friend ...

Dignity, my friend ... We will, go as one, and sing your spirit home We will, go as one, and sing your spirit home

and Karisha Longaker's We Shall Be Known:

We shall be known by the company we keep By the ones who circle 'round to tend these fires We shall be known by the ones who sow and reap The seeds of change, alive from deep within the earth

It is time now, it is time now that we thrive
It is time we lead ourselves into the well
It is time now, and what a time to be alive
In this Great Turning, we shall learn to lead in love
In this Great Turning, we shall learn to lead in love

Finally, Mark David (piano) and Bek Zehr (vocals) bring us Ryan O'Neal's *Hope*:

There is hope in our eyes When we truly see each other Like the light of countless stars We are not afraid of the dark

There is hope in our voice When we listen to each other Barriers disappear With every story told.... We are sacred, we are strong We are beautiful, we belong

> We are sacred, we are strong We are beautiful, we belong

Faithfully yours, with love, Kim

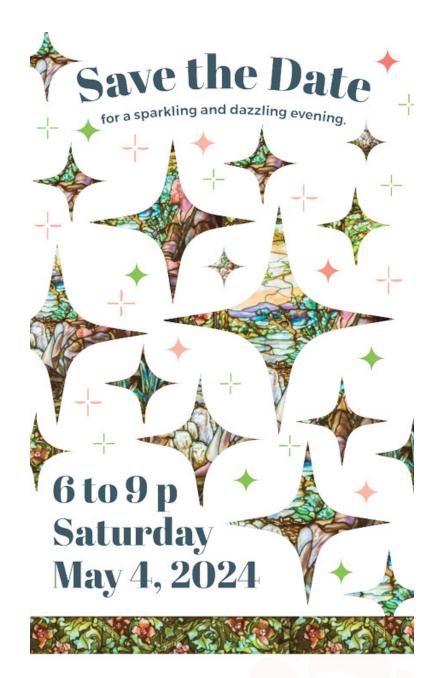
from our Interim Minister Search Team

UUA Interim Minister Search Overview

- * Most interim ministries last 24 months, though occasionally the ministry may be longer or shorter.
- * An interim minister assists the congregation in moving beyond its last ministry and equipping itself for a new, different ministry. This preparation involves helping the congregation look at practices that may or may not be serving them well, assisting through the emotional process of transition, setting sights forward, and connecting the congregation to needed resources.
- * An interim search committee of three to five members is appointed by the Board (Prudential Committee).
- * The interim minister is hired by the Board of Trustees.

- * The search for an interim minister takes place in April and May of each year for an August 1st start.
- * The Interim Search Committee completes a search profile on the Unitarian Universalist Association's Ministry Search System. The search profile is completed by mid-April. The profile includes:
- ~ draft ministerial agreement (approved by the board)
 - ~ a congregational budget
 - ~ a copy of the by-laws
 - ~ covenants or policies around behavior or expectations of congregations
 - ~ a couple of orders of service
 - ~ several newsletters
 - ~ recent board minutes
 - ~ search team bios
- * Interim ministers review all search profiles in the last week of April (4/26/24) and decide where to apply
- * Names of applicants (up to six) will be released to the Search Committee on 4/28/24
- * The Search Committee will conduct interviews in the two-week consideration window
- * Offer date/offers extended by Search Committee to interim ministers on 5/15/24
- * Confidentiality of applicants is essential. This means that only the Search Committee members know who is applying.
- * The Board must trust the team it assembles to make hiring decisions (including ranking applicants and making a verbal offer once matched).
- * Ministers need to be able to trust that their identities will be held in confidence by the search team throughout this process.

Source: Unitarian Universalist Association Transitional Ministry Handbook



mark your calendars for a night of fundraising, celebration, and music.

