

**Two Rivers Unitarian Universalist  
Minister's Board Report - October 2011  
Submitted by Gretchen Haley**

We are off to a very strong start to the church year in all of our key focus areas.

*Worship:* Our ingathering service on August 28<sup>th</sup> saw about 60 adults and 10 children/youth in attendance, which was only outdone by our September 11<sup>th</sup> service with the Peace Corps where we had 65+. The Worship Committee is growing in confidence and capacity as it was significantly involved in both of these services. Also their coordination of the September 18<sup>th</sup> service left them with many lessons, which have already been incorporated into processes for the future.

*Community Events/Outreach:* Plans for Blessing of the Animals are being finalized and that looks to be a great community event. Plans for a Solstice celebration in coordination with 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Center are also moving along well.

*Leadership and Organizational Development:* I have been working with Cathy Schermer as the LDC Chair, and we have seen a great deal of progress in filling out our lay leadership roles and clarifying roles and Committee functions. Especially of note, we are excited about our forming Pastoral Care Team, overseen by Sean Jeung. Also, we are working on a new charter for our Membership Committee (with a proposed new title, Committee on Lifespan Membership and Ministry, to explicitly note an intent to create a meaningful experience at TRUU for people of all ages), as well as the start to the Committee itself. We will recognize our lay leadership for this church year in the service on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

*Denominational Connections:* Our connections with our the wider Unitarian Universalist community continue to grow as two of our members will represent us as delegates to the MDD Annual Meeting on October 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> in Colorado Springs. I will also be there as a representative of TRUU.

*Religious Exploration:* The first round of Bright and Spirited Path begins this Sunday. I am working with Heather on increasing our UU materials for the children/youth as well as considering how we can strengthen our overall programming and welcome for families with young children. I am especially thinking how we can make regular attendance more possible/smooth for these families, as it seems a family will come once or twice and then not return for sometimes a number of months.

*Pastoral Care:* I have been meeting in one-on-one meetings with 3-4 people each time I am in the area, and as a results connections and ministry is deepening across the community.

*Other:* I have been contacted by the Board at High Country UU Fellowship as they would like to come and spend a weekend with you, the Board, and me the minister of TRUU. They have a number of questions for us, and so we need to discuss this and also send them possible dates if we are interested in talking with them.

Now that I have been granted Preliminary Fellowship, the next thing to look towards is ordination. I hope that TRUU will take an active part in the ordination. The Board at UUCB meets this month to talk about it, but I ask that you tentatively schedule an ordination date for January 29, 2011. I hope you all can be there.