

Dear Ones,

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as the interim minister for the Unitarian Church of Edmonton. You are a consistent source of inspiration and a model of courage!

Despite the pandemic related limitations placed upon us, UCE has risen to the challenge in so many ways -- not the least of which is your commitment to make the most of your journey through the wilderness of this interim period.

Some interim work is best done by a small group of people focused on a detailed review of specific aspects of congregational life. At present there are three ITT task forces. One is focused on good governance, one is focused on best financial practices, and one is focused on best practices for volunteer management and support. Their work is ongoing and will likely continue after my departure. Their recommendations will be shared with you in due time.

Some interim work is best done by the congregation as a whole. To date, you have answered five important self-reflective questions:

- What do we stand for?
- What brought you to UCE?
- What keeps you here?
- What is missing for you at UCE?
- What is standing in the way of UCE becoming UCE?

I thank you for your thoughtful and sincere answers to the questions posed. The ITT has been compiling and sharing with you the answers to these questions, which form the basis of our understanding of what makes UCE unique.

In addition to the formal interim work being done by the ITT and its task teams, other members of the congregation are focusing on other areas of congregational life -- such as caring connections and leadership development. And, thanks to Janet Polkovsky's dedication to the task, this year UCE's communications have greatly improved in form and content.

This gives UCE much to celebrate and much to be proud of! As promised, I will provide a more detailed interim ministry report to you as my time at UCE comes to an end. For now, know that UCE is well on the journey of reflection and renewal that is the hallmark of an interim period.

May you be peaceful and at ease,

Rev. Lee Anne