TOGETHER IN A SACRED SPACE

Lorelei Greenwood-Jones

Leader: In this sacred place, we need not be alone. We seek a listening ear, a warm heart, open arms.

Congregation: In this sacred place, we join together against the waves of negativity and oppression in our world.

L: We are a community of individual beings, living our own lives, yet coming together now and then in joyous celebration of Spirit and one another.

C: Our differences do not divide us; rather, they are a source of interest and discovery. We need not think alike to love alike.

L: Here, joys are shared, and sorrows comforted. We are Seen and Heard and Believed.

C: My compassion overflows; our hearts reach for others.

L: We are a gathering of like-hearted people, and here are our hearts filled. We hear the wisdom and counsel of our ministers and that of one another.

C: We have much to learn from each other, so many different colors of truth and ways and methods.

L: In this sacred place, may we find what our spirits desire, and what our spirits need. May we be grounded in love and sharing.

C: In this sacred place, may we find acceptance and consideration. May our actions and words echo what we learn here.

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Linda Marquis headed a presentation on Welcoming Congregation Renewal and advised the Board that members of Interweave are working as an ad hoc committee to renew UUSG's status as a Welcoming Congregation. There are new UUA requirements for renewal. Linda said Interweave would like to involve the whole church in the renewal process, rather than a few people just going through the UUA checklist and process.

The Board appointed the final two members of the Nominating Committee, Rachel Harbold and Tracey McFadden.

The Board handled the issue of applying the 2018-19 operating surplus of \$13,522 to the Memorial Capital Endowment Fund or to other purposes in a two-part manner. First, there was a majority vote to apply the \$13,522 surplus to the Memorial Capital Endowment Fund. Second, after much discussion by board members and other members present, the Board voted 6-2 to authorize the Interim Ministers and Personnel Committee to hire a part-time Director of Religious Education, with total annual compensation not to exceed \$17,500, working approximately 15 hours per week, at \$19.00 per hour. The cost in excess of \$5,000 already budgeted will be paid by a budget amendment. A starting date will be about October 1, 2019.

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