

3 July 2016

Dear children and youth of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent,

I am writing you this letter to let you know that my ministry at UUCK is going to come to an end this fall. I told church leaders today that I have accepted a new job. I will be going to work in a new ministry position with the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association. A big part of my new job will involve helping ministers get the support and resources they need to do their very best work. I am excited that I will be getting to help Unitarian Universalism grow by helping ministers grow. And I am happy that this new job will allow me and my family to move closer to some of our family and close friends back in New England.

At the same time, I am very sad that accepting this new position means that I have to say goodbye to you. I have loved being your minister and getting to watch you grow up. I have loved the chances I've had to share stories and worship with you. I have loved meeting with the OWL classes and the Coming of Age classes. I have loved hearing your credos and the pieces you have crafted for youth services. I have loved getting to hear about your lives and your families. I have loved the times we've been able to talk and play together and have loved getting pictures some of you have drawn for me, too. You are all precious and it has been a joy to be your minister.

Over the next few months I hope we will have a chance to say goodbye. And after I move away and you start getting to know a new minister, I hope you will remember that you will always have a very special place in my heart.

Love,

Melissa