

Friday, November 3, 2017

Beloved Colleague,

Welcome to the Central East Region! I have the honor of serving the Northeastern Ohio cluster of UU congregations as their “primary contact” with UUA Congregational Life Staff (a “reformatted” version of District Executive).

I have a special relationship with the UU Church of Kent. I have been a member since 1996, and held various leadership positions (including moderator) until my call to ministry in 2004. I was married in the church in 2005 and was ordained by the church in 2010 and have been their affiliated community minister ever since. I became the congregation’s primary contact in January of 2017, with the Rev. Megan Foley as the back-up when I might have a conflict of interest.

This is a congregation that is basically healthy and open to learning. It has been on a growth trajectory toward being a program church, but still has some vestiges of family and pastor-sized churches. This became apparent during the short tenure of the interim minister. But, at the writing of this letter, the congregational leadership has been eager to address these roadblocks to growth. I am at your service to discuss how your gifts might serve this congregation to achieve its goals and dreams to operate as a program-style church.

On a broader note, our regional staff provide a wide variety of resources and specialties. I am one of nine congregational life staff who work as a team to help support our congregations and their leaders. Each of us has 2 or 3 specialties (mine are leadership development, governance, restorative practices and Healthy Congregations®) that we leverage through both web-based on-demand training and in-person workshops. My colleagues’ specialties include Stewardship, Intercultural Competency, Youth, Faith Development, Growth and more. You can find more details at our regional website: <https://www.uua.org/central-east/>

Please feel free to contact me via email or text with any questions or to set up a phone or Zoom meeting as part of your discernment.

In faith and service,



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