

Lay Pastoral Care Ministry
Annual Report 2017

Task/Purpose: Our mission is to provide an ongoing ministry of hope and caring so that no member/friend of the congregation need struggle alone.

Team Members: Cynthia Luke serves as Facilitator under Rev. Don's guidance. The Associates are: Barbara Taylor, Andrea Kelso, Jane Mahone, Dick Bauman, Matt Pollard, Margo and Chris Walter. Jane had a sabbatical for some of the year. New associates are: Janet Sawyer, Steve Ramirez, and Dave Lievsay. This is a Team of 10.

Goals: Recruit and train new associates. Recruit a new Facilitator from previous Team members.

- Hold a team retreat for training and team building (April)
- Continue training and review Matches and Friendly Visits with Associates; work to build listening skills.
- Continue to market work of team through the bulletin board, UUC website, newsletter article, announcements and in a worship service (Nov.).

Achievements: Rev. Don, Cynthia worked effectively as a facilitating team to serve our team members and the congregation. We communicate twice a month, face to face and by email, benefiting from Don's oversight, experience and wisdom as we establish matches and ongoing service to the UUC community. We stream-lined written confidential team reports to move to paperless system. Many members of the congregation have been served through a Listening Presence Matches session (9) or a Friendly Visit (7). This is the most active the Team has been in it's six years. Positive remarks are made from those served as to what they have experienced from the team members' support. We revised LPCM brochure and distributed it. We had 1 request from the green request form. None were placed in the locked cabinet near Minister's Office.

Future Goals: Hold a team training retreat for old and new members each spring.

- Continue Annual Sunday Service for visibility with the Congregation. Hold monthly Synergy meetings for sharing, skill building, and supporting team members.
- Offer to host a regional training for Lay Pastoral Care programs at other UU congregations. The Blue Ridge Cluster did not see the need for such training. We will revisit it.
- Honor a member as a Sage monthly. Dick Kates was honored this year.
- Call a monthly gathering of UUs at Warm Hearth (potentially 28 people).

Lessons learned: We have realized the importance of more in depth training for our team members so that they are better equipped to be a true listening presence for our congregants. Our monthly meetings have become a valuable way for our team members to be more open and supportive of each other and congregants.

Budget: For the 2015-16 year we requested \$375 and spent \$133.50. This year we requested \$375 and spent \$230 to date.