

## **Standing Committee News**

Next Meeting: Sunday, March 12, 2017 6:00pm Emerson Room

As the snow fell on Sunday, February 12, 2017, the Standing Committee held an abridged monthly meeting via conference call. During our meeting, we approved the proposed policies for a Legacy Giving Program and the charter for a governance subcommittee. We discussed a forthcoming congregational stewardship survey and reviewed our biennial goals. Next month, we plan to discuss long range plans for staff compensation and review our self-evaluation procedures. We welcome anyone interested to attend our next meeting on Sunday, March 12, 2017 at 6:00pm in the Emerson Room.

### **Visit to UUA Headquarters**

On Wednesday, February 8, 2017 members of the Standing Committee and staff from First Parish in Concord, along with Rev. Júlia Jobbágy, visited the UUA headquarters at 24 Farnsworth St in Boston. This was undertaken in support of our first leadership goal: “Strengthen connections to other UU congregations and to the wider denomination.” We had a tour of the building and then met with Rev. Sue Phillips, the Regional Lead for New England. We had a lively question and answer session about our denomination, and our place in it. Many members left feeling enthusiastic about attending the New England Regional Assembly on April 21-22, 2017 in Woburn.

### **Black Lives Matter Update**

Patty Popov and Kristin Haddad met with Mark Giddings, chair of the Historic Districts Commission, and Chris Whelan, Concord Town Manager, to discuss our “Black Lives Matter” and “Join the Conversation” banners. The mutual respect between the town and our parish was evident. After we shared our own practices for reviewing the banners hanging between our front pillars, we agreed to notify the commission if that process changes.

### **Stewardship Survey**

Stewardship is the term we use to describe how we donate our time, our talent and our money to help First Parish in Concord to thrive. The Finance

Committee has developed a short survey to understand more fully how First Parishioners feel about stewardship. Please complete this survey to help us identify the best ways to cultivate a strong sense of stewardship throughout our congregation. A link to the survey will be shared through FP Announce or a hard copy can be picked up in the office.

### Leadership Workshop

Mark your calendars! With the support of the Standing Committee, Rev. Howard Dana will facilitate a leadership workshop on Thursday, April 27, 2017 at 6:00pm. This will be a chance for committee chairs, as well as parishioners interested in getting more involved in a leadership role, to work together to grow their relationships and leadership skills. More information will be available as the date draws closer.

### We Want to Hear from You!

Standing Committee members are always eager to talk with First Parishioners. Please reach out to any of us at coffee hour, at an event, by phone or by e-mail to discuss your First Parish experiences. You can find the contact information for each Standing Committee member, along with meeting agendas, governing policies, meeting minutes and reports at <http://firstparish.org/wp/connection/committees/standing-committee/>

Best Regards,

Kristin Coffman Haddad, Chair, Standing Committee  
[kristin.haddad@gmail.com](mailto:kristin.haddad@gmail.com) or 978.254.5012