



468 Rosedale Avenue
White Plains, New York 10605

phone / 914.946.1660
fax / 914.948.2603
email / admin@cucwp.org

November, 2012

Dear Ministerial Candidates,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I'd like to tell you more about the Community Unitarian Church (CUC) at White Plains and our faith community. CUC is blessed with many great assets, and we are enthusiastic to find our next minister to partner with in heading toward our exciting future. We are making the most of our two year interim experience: using this time productively and positively to reflect on our past and present, examine our strengths and weaknesses, and plan for our growth and development.

In partnership with Interim Rev. Benjamin, the Board has set three strategic goals this year to help move CUC on the transition from a pastoral to a program church. We are holding values workshops and will have a full-day seminar with Rev. Robert Latham in January, and we hope to have a mission statement to present to the congregation at our annual meeting next June. This church year, we will also review our church governance, including committee structure and bylaws. We will consider what changes we want to make this year and which ones will await the arrival of our new minister. Finally, we are hoping to invigorate small group ministry and consider how we can begin to engage the congregation in this important step in our spiritual development.

CUC has a rich history, having celebrated in 2009 our centennial as a congregation and sesquicentennial of our building. Founded in large part to provide liberal religious education to our children, we continue to hold RE as one of our core strengths and foundations. We have over 100 kids and youth enrolled, an active volunteer teaching staff, and vibrant Coming of Age and OWL programs.

CUC has a strong and committed core of lay leaders and a tradition of drawing in young parents as the next generation of leaders. We actively support social service projects, including Midnight Runs to provide food and clothing to the homeless in New York, and adult education classes at a local White Plains homeless shelter. CUC also has a strong music program, with professional staff, including a part-time music director, choir director, and choir accompanist. Our small choir sings at most Sunday services as well as performs in night-time community concerts, and our musical offerings often feature the piano playing of our stellar music director, who has performed around the world and specializes in Spanish composers.

CUC has many great assets and positive attributes, including: a dedicated congregation, a strong RE program, a rich endowment fund, and – perhaps most importantly for this time of transition and beyond – an enthusiasm to grow our church, numerically and spiritually, and expand its impact in the wider world. We are open to this journey, anticipate new insights and revelations, and welcome your participation and interest in our search process. We are so excited about finding our next minister to partner with in our development.

Sincerely,

David Schuler

David BF Schuler

Chair of the Board