

October 17, 2021

Dear Ones,

For thirteen years I have had the pleasure and privilege of serving as the minister at UUFE, and it has been an honor, truly. Our shared ministry has been full of heart and growth and laughter and tears. Being with you for births and weddings and deaths, and all the life in between, has been a blessing to me and my whole family. Sadly, it is time for me to say goodbye and open the door to new chapters for both of us. In the worship service, Sunday, October 17, I made the announcement that I have tendered my resignation to the board and will end my time with you December 31, 2021. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N2N\\_c0XJQHA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N2N_c0XJQHA)

It has been said that an apocalypse shows us who we really are. In the US alone, Covid19, with 700,000 dead, plus the divisions it has caused among humans, is an apocalypse. The Pandemic has given me reflecting time to think of where my life has been and where it might lead. I have re-evaluated my priorities and have assessed where my purpose is best directed.

I have loved serving as the minister of UUFE, with all of the challenges and joys and love we have shared, but we have gone as far together as we can. Serving the needs well of a congregation has proven to be too much for me right now and I need to just not work for awhile.

This means that all of you will have to adjust to a sudden transition, and for that I do apologize; it could not be otherwise. I have faith that you will turn this into a period of transformation and reimagination, while also strengthening the foundation. UUFE is sixty years old this year and Steadfast as a Growing Tree.

Regarding my next steps, I need to lay down the mantle of service in a full-time, permanent position for now. My family has found new directions to grow in while remaining close and I love spending time with them. Mostly I will heal my troubled Pandemic soul. Eventually I may look to serve congregations in an interim capacity, or I may delve further into chaplaincy; time will tell.

In this time we have left together I hope that many of us will get to share personal goodbyes, and I will be happy to schedule phone calls or meet-ups when I return from my vacation on October 27. You are my first settled full time ministry and you are very dear, each of you. It will be good to express what we have meant to each other, or even just share a memory.

The governing board of UUFE has composed a letter of how they might lend support for the congregation during and after this transition. Do not hesitate to reach out. Know that I am still your minister until December 31 and will be available for you.

In peace with love,

Amy

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