



**Minister's Report**

**March 4, 2019**

**Worship Theme for March: Commitment**

**Opening Words:** Brene Brown: Anatomy of Trust

**Check in:** What is on your mind that might keep you from being fully present?

<p><b>Overall:</b> February was a month of deeply-felt preaching – Rev. Eric and Mary Margaret – the loss of a beloved parishioner, a powerful focus on mental health and substance abuse, and great celebrations of our ministry together, with an energized Canvass kick-off and a wonderful Installation service.</p>				
	<b>Ministerial Observations</b>	<b>Ministerial Wonderings</b>	<b>Ministerial Flags</b>	<b>Ministerial Celebrations</b>
<b>Governance and Leadership</b>	<p>1) The Start Up Retreat may not have met all expectations, but was very useful for your minister.</p> <p>2) The Board's Canvass leadership is garnering great praise and positive feelings from many.</p>	<p>What is the best process for filling board seats next year?</p>	<p>1) Should we consider a shared leadership retreat for the Fall to consider event planning, adult programming, and any committee issues that could use a shared perspective?</p>	<p>1) .</p> <p>2) Ministerial Formation Committee is working together very well.</p>
<b>Staff</b>	<p>Final review of custodian job description and initiation of hiring is in process.</p>		<p>1) Lisa has submitted UUA application for intern stipend grant. Rev. Martha has tentatively agreed to supervise, pending meeting with the candidate.</p> <p>2) Peter and Aluen have been working well to do cleaning and Sunday set-up. Bob Williamson has</p>	<p>Staff and volunteers have worked well together to address physical space needs in absence of custodian.</p>

			volunteered “over and above” to support custodial work.	
<b>Worship, Ritual and Ceremony</b>	Worship seems to be going well, with logistics running even more smoothly.		1) Memorial service planned for Jessica Alm, 3/15, 5:30pm. Parishioners will provide reception food.  2) March testimonials are planned.	1) Tremendous gratitude to all who planned and participated in our successful Installation event!
<b>Congregational Life</b>	All-Church Dinner planned for Friday, March 8 <sup>th</sup> .	1) Pastoral Care Associates attended training in Providence; two new members have been recruited since start-up retreat.  2)		1. 8 session Meditation group, led by Rev. Lisa, starts this week. 12 people have signed up.  2) New Seasoned Souls 2 group is going well.
<b>Community Engagement and Social Justice</b>	DEEP congregational conversation topics and dates for the Spring are set.	1) IJC considering Level 2 Sanctuary agreement with sanctuary Newton church; is congregation ready to adopt this?  2) Brookline Racial Justice Summit was well-attended; several working groups will continue to meet.		Interfaith Clergy Council is in strong support of Racial Justice Summit, with houses of worship offering meeting space and visible support, as needed.
<b>Finance and Administration</b>		What more do we need to do to support Alice and Steve’s Canvass leadership?	Proposed full-time Custodian position will need budget increase; finance committee has been notified.	

