From the President of the Unitarian Universalist Minister Association, Metro New York Chapter

November 2014

Dear Colleague,

It is my pleasure to give you an introduction the UUMA Chapter in the NY Metro. We are an active and supportive group of colleagues with four Chapter gatherings per year. Smaller geographical areas have more frequent Cluster gatherings for collegial support and continuing education. The Northern Cluster meets in Danbury, CT on the second Tuesday of the month, September through May. Peggy Clarke is the facilitator, <u>pclarke@uuma.org</u>

Our initial gathering in the program year is the first Wednesday in October, a time that includes worship, a brief business meeting and a program.

We have a Winter Holiday Party, often just a little after the holidays when the pressure has subsided. Traditionally the party has centered in Manhattan, however the Executive Board of the Chapter is investigating loosening the Big Apple's hold on the post holiday revels.

We have Professional Days in February for reflection, education, fellowship and even a bit of fun. The event usually begins on a Monday afternoon and concludes after lunch on Wednesday.

Finally we meet just before the District Annual Meeting in the spring. Traditionally we gather on the Thursday evening before the Annual Meeting for fellowship and the sharing of an Odyssey from a senior member of the chapter. Friday is joint worship with the LREDA chapter, UUMA business meeting and then a joint program with the LREDA folks. The District Annual Meeting begins Friday evening.

We also support each other's milestones. Chapter members, who can, travel to ordinations and installations of colleagues. Therefore, should you and the congregation choose to minister together, it is important for you to check the District calendar before finalizing the date for your installation/ordination. We want to be there with you and your congregation to celebrate. It is also customary for a member of the Chapter Exec to bring greetings from the colleagues and we will gladly serve in other aspects of the service. Just ask.

The members of our Chapter Exec are: Jef Gamblee, President jefg@aol.com Kim Wildszewski, VP & Programs kim@ucsummit.org Carol Huston, Secretary <u>revcarol@earthlink.net</u> Ned Wight, Treasurer <u>ned@veatch.org</u>

Speaking for the Exec and the Membership of the NY Metro Chapter of the UUMA, best to you in your search.

In faith,

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Rev. Jeffrey B. Gamblee, President Metro NY UUMA Chapter