

December 1, 2018

Dear Potential Candidate,

As Chair of the Search Committee at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Milford, New Hampshire, I write with that sense of welcome and anticipation that our congregation feels, but also with a long familiarity with our district. I know the ways we are typical of UU churches in our area and why we are uniquely ourselves.

We have a history of long ministries. The last two settled ministers served for 25 and 15 years respectively. We tend to be a congregation that bonds with our minister.

Our members stay with us, too. Of those now active in the congregation 50% have been members for at least 15 years. We invest our time, our service and our dedication to the continuity of community. We are able to talk to each other on many levels and everyone feels free to express ideas and opinions. We are a congregation that commits.

Our building is 130 years old and has never been home to anything other than a Unitarian or a Unitarian-Universalist congregation. It is a granite building in the English Chapel style with many gables. We care for it and have been able to expand the original facility in a major way three times in the past 25 years. We serve community suppers in it and support many groups who need space to do the work of healing and spiritual growth. We have a will to match our enthusiasm.

Our religious education programs have been quite vibrant and effective until the last few years. Like many UU churches we are attracting fewer young families, but we want to grow back our children's programming very much. We include our children in church life, enjoying them in worship, social activities, and in our social responsibility efforts. We want to be multigenerational.

We are a congregation that loves to sing and play together, and we look after each other. We feed each other and our greater community, literally and figuratively. We want to grow in numbers and in our sense of who we are and can be.

You will look at many congregational packets over the next several weeks. We've been honest about our history and our hopes, so we hope you will take the time to consider our potential and your possibilities with us.

Sincerely,

Nancy T. Baker  
Ministerial Search Committee Chair

