

Unitarian Universalist Church of Davis

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Dear UUCD Congregation,

As we begin 2022, I have an important message to share with you. On June 30, 2022, I'll be retiring from my ministry at UU Church of Davis. It's a decision made from my love for this congregation, and my own desire to experience a new life path.

When I started my ministry with this congregation in 2000, I knew I wanted a long-term settlement where I would be with people through many stages of life. The tenure at UUCD has been as rewarding as I imagined. We have accomplished so much together, always in the spirit of love. This has been an amazing, long-term settlement.

I've delighted in the development of the music program, and the collaboration with each talented Music Director. It's been rewarding to share worship with the Worship Associates. The development of UUCD as one of the top internship sites, and the campus ministry program have both been highlights. At UUCD, I found a team of social justice advocates whose enthusiasm matched my own commitment. The AB 540 & Undocumented Student Center provided a unique pairing of campus ministry and immigration justice. And how I have loved working with the capable and dedicated staff of this congregation!

My greatest joy has been when we've gathered together, dedicating ourselves to the stewardship of the congregation, or marching for justice in the streets of Sacramento. Rev. Morgan McLean has brought a new level of administration and pastoral presence to UUCD, and her presence as a minister for UUCD has changed my ministry, as well.

Ministry is not as much a learned profession, as a profession of learning. We have been companions learning from each other, and it has been an honor to be the Senior Minister for this congregation

Because I've been the settled minister at UUCD for over 20 years, you may wonder about the next steps in the process. The Unitarian Universalist Association has procedures to help congregations navigate ministerial transitions, and the Board of Trustees will have the support of the Pacific Western Regional staff. In the near future, you'll hear from the Board, and I can give the assurance that you're in good hands.

Until the end of June, I'll continue to be the Senior Minister at UUCD, working with Rev. Morgan, and enthusiastically transitioning our worship and programming to include more in-person options. Through the remaining months, I'll remain fully committed to you, our staff and leadership. In the time ahead, there will be opportunities for celebrating successes remembered, and grieving losses.

When I was called to this congregation, I witnessed a unique spirit of caring and a willingness to choose what was new. That spirit has remained constant throughout the years, My commitment to you, is to support the new future for both of us.

In Faith,
Rev. Beth Banks

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