

October 2022 Minister's Board Report

Dear Board members,

It was a pleasure to share the retreat time with you a couple of weeks ago. It reminded me how precious our time together is, both as a learning opportunity and a chance to build upon the vision of this congregation.

In consideration of the deep reflection work you did there, I wanted to write up the Board goals as they were laid out.

Considering and acting upon our commitment to the 8th Principle and its emphasis on dismantling oppression and promoting racial diversity, the Board articulates the following goals for the 2022-23 congregational year:

- 1. Structure and fully populate (with lay leaders) healthily functioning committees throughout our congregational system.*
- 2. Hire a Religious Education Coordinator (one-year position) soon, and set up the permanent DRE search committee.*
- 3. Recruit, ignite, and support five or more people working in Welcoming & Engagement Ministry (Membership).*
- 4. Schedule and lead a minimum of two Program Council Meetings.*
- 5. Set up and support an 8th Principle Accountability Committee.*

In response to item #3, a Welcoming & Engagement Ministry Re-boot has been set up as a half day workshop on Saturday, Nov. 12. This event will include those people who have asked to be primary stakeholders in the present, or have held key positions in the (fairly) recent past. The goal of the workshop will be to identify the central components of the needs in this area, identify leaders for those areas, and create “next steps.”

Based on the work completed at the retreat, an updated “Committee Heads & Members” sheet is being created. Once the Board members have received that, I encourage you to begin looking at your underpopulated areas and working to shore up those committees. Please make an appointment with me (using my automatic scheduling system) if you need guidance or help in doing this work; I’m very glad to be of assistance.

I’m deeply appreciative that we’ve had this time together to name these goals; they are our guideposts for doing the “birds-eye” work that is needed of the Board this year. Together, we can help to re-empower the congregation after this difficult period.

In gratitude,

Rev. Dr. Jason Cook

