Executive Summary

This has been a year of significant transitions, learning opportunities, and accomplishments at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of York. We have much to celebrate, much to look forward to, and many questions to address along the way.



We have welcomed and installed our new Senior Minister, Rev. Dr. Gabi Parks, who was called by our congregation last May. Rev. Parks set about right away to help us determine our vision for the future of UUCY, and to establish a covenant to guide her service to and leadership of our congregation.

We have also had the pleasure of getting to know and serving alongside Linda Birmingham, who joined us as Congregational Administrator late last spring.

We are delighted to have seen so many visitors in our services this year, and to have 31 new members join our congregation—including several families with children who are now regulars in our Religious Education program.

Our RE program grew in other ways as well. We offered the Our Whole Lives curriculum to elementary grades for the first time. Middle-grade students experienced our traditional OWL program, while our youth program benefitted from new leadership, energy, and direction. Peacemakers offered a unique educational opportunity to dozens more children last summer and throughout the school year. Our first Boy Scout and Girl Scout programs were established, and have become true partners in helping us expand our programs and activities.

We have many victories to celebrate. We established more family garden plots, raised more funds through our annual auction, increased our pledges to support our operating budget, and established our new Strategic Long-Term Plan steward teams among the leaders serving on our Visioning Board and Program Council. This was the first year of

living our new Strategic Long-Term Plan, and it served us well as a focal point for committing our time, talents, and treasure.

We took intentional steps toward addressing serious questions about our present and future, including how we can keep better track of financial and membership data, what additional revenue streams we might establish to help reduce our deficit, and how our top-level governance bodies should be structured as we grow.

All the while, we enjoyed the many special, life-giving aspects of our community. Our choir and music program filled our spirits. Our outreach and community service programs continued to thrive. Our buildings and grounds remained open and welcoming to community organizations and interest groups.

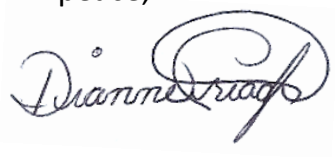
This report contains brief summaries of activities, accomplishments, and future goals from teams and committees who have given of their time, talents, and ideas to nurture and advance every area of congregational life. They are sources of information about goings-on, goals set and met, and our aspirations for the future. Just as importantly, they are testimonies to the many ways that we serve each other, share the responsibilities of our ministry, and reach out to our neighbors and partners.

This is not an exhaustive list of everything that happened this past year, but rather a series of snapshots that, together, create a vivid portrait of UUCY at this time and place.

This is our beloved community.

May we continue to work together as a congregational family to nurture our liberal, religious faith so that it is strong for us today and remains resilient for all of those to come who will, one day, find their spiritual home at UUCY.

In peace,



Dianne Creagh, Chair

UUCY Board of Directors, 2017-2018