

Report to the Board of the First Unitarian Church of South Bend, Indiana  
Rev. Chip Roush - 08 February 2023

## **INFORMATION**

My Sabbatical month was very good; I feel more grounded than I have in a long time.

GA will be in Pittsburgh, PA, June 21-25, 2023. Let's get a group to attend!

## **SCHEDULE**

In February, I will take a long weekend of study leave, Friday through Monday, February 24-27.

In March, I will take a similar weekend of study leave: Friday through Monday, March 17-20.

## **PERPETUAL CALENDAR**

February

Calls for Endowment grants

Nominating committee begins forming slate for May elections

March

Quarterly update on Endowment disbursements

April

Board determines slate for new Nominating Committee to be elected at congregational meeting

Bi-Annually in odd-numbered years File Indiana Business Entity Report. Available at [www.in.gov/sos/business/2426.htm](http://www.in.gov/sos/business/2426.htm) Deadline April 30 (odd years)

## **QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MONTH**

Please consider appointing Emily Flanery our church Librarian, and giving her a code for the door.

## **ACTIVITIES**

I was on Sabbatical in January.

## **PROGRESS ON GOALS (as set on October 12, 2021):**

**Take a class in communication / conflict / ambiguity / attuned listening this church year.**

I have applied for a group facilitation class, from the Good Grief Network.

I'm also looking for other potential courses, and I welcome your suggestions!

**Offer at least one Book Group that explores the above skills and/or tools.**

I bought *Transforming Conflict: The Blessings of Congregational Turmoil*. and *On Repentance and Repair: Making Amends in an Unapologetic World*, which feels like it's at least adjacent to the topic.

I welcome other suggestions for book group discussions or sermons.

**Preach at least three times about these skills/tools.**

The services on 11/20 and 12/4 touched on some of these topics.

**Explore incorporating skills/tools practice in the majority of the services I lead.**

I've tried live feedback during the service, and that seems to produce more anxiety than appreciation. Maybe continuing it will normalize it, and produce better results. Maybe another approach would be better.

I had several conversations about this while on Sabbatical

**Co-lead (with Board and/or Committee on Ministry members) a "Fireside Chat" / Q&A session to demonstrate transparency and accountability, approximately quarterly.**

We held a Town Hall on Sunday afternoon, December 18.

**PASTORAL CARE**

We have approximately twenty-four thousand dollars in the Ministerial Discretionary Fund.

**MEDITATION**

Breathe. Move. Drink water. Rest. Eat a bite. Tell someone how much they mean to you. Make or appreciate art (visual or music).

Repeat.

And as Max Ehrmann reminds us, "beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself."

So may we be,  
Chip