**President’s Report
December 2024**

I would like to thank all those who stepped up and guided the church through the rather choppy waters of the past month. In particular: Anne Perron for addressing some hard and difficult moments, and John Spruill for ensuring stability and continuity in our worship life.

I do want to acknowledge Reverend Terry’s departure. His medical issues are serious enough that he does not feel he could continue as our minister. Terry has served Unitarian Universalism for over fifty years and has played a significant role in its growth and development. I for one think it pretty cool that the First Universalist Church is a part of his journey. We wish him a full recovery and good health.

The worship schedule for the remainder of the church year will feature services led by guest ministers and by our own worship associates. We have the resources to engage as many guest ministers as needed.

We are a strong and resourceful congregation that creates a vibrant church life. The Gingerbread Fair and Sunday’s inspired celebration of Esther Tucker (and by extension, the First Universalist Church) are ample testimony to our strength.

That strength will stand us in good stead as we start to search for a new minister. Our updated application will incorporate the successes of the past year. Three searches in three years – déjà vu all over again -- but not unusual in this post-Covid world. Stay tuned for further search news. In the meantime, as Reverend Hewitt reminded us on Sunday: avoid false fights.

Yours in faith,
David