

Essay Title: You Are Not Alone

Audio Essay Series: Disc 1, Track 1

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HI. I'M HARLAN LIMPERT. I serve our UU congregations as Director for District Services. I'm delighted you received this audio CD of Drive Time Essays.

Unitarian Universalists from all walks of life—ministers, lay leaders, UUA staff members—were invited to share bits of wisdom about how to lead vital, healthy UU congregations. The result is this CD with 22 essays, each about three minutes long, each addressing some aspect of congregational leadership.

Created with lay leaders in mind, the purpose of these essays is to communicate that “You are not alone.” Anyone who has served a congregation as a lay leader knows it is hard work—satisfying, meaningful, exciting work—but often hard. Smart, committed UU leaders around the continent often struggle with the very real challenges of leading healthy congregations. It's not always easy, but it is satisfying when we discover ways to share our faith and impact the world in important ways. These essays attempt to provide information, wisdom, and perhaps even some inspiration.

We hope you enjoy these essays, and encourage you to seek more information about the topics they cover. Your best single online source of information on how to be an effective lay leader can be found by going to uua.org/layleader. Your best personal source of information is your district staff members – individuals throughout the country who serve as your “first call for help” on matters of congregational leadership. They can direct you to the best source of helpful information whether it's from UUA staff at headquarters, other colleagues in the districts, or other lay leaders who often serve as the best source for help and inspiration.

Enjoy—and drive carefully!

This Audio Essay series was created by the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations, for the purpose of supporting its valued lay leaders. Copying and sharing these essay texts, downloadable audio files, and the companion LayLeader Drive Time Essays compact disc is welcomed and encouraged. • Comments or suggestions? We welcome your ideas about this Audio Essay series and your lay leader questions. Please send them to Don Skinner, the editor of InterConnections, a resource for lay leaders. Email: dskinner@uua.org

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