

from the desk of Gini Courter

September 28, 2009

Friends:

I spent last week in my traditional “start of the church year” meetings: GAMAP, the Grid Meeting, and the GA Planning Committee meeting. What a great way to kick off the fall, to begin celebrating the start of an intense and meaningful new year with the Board of Trustees. I hope you're looking forward with joy, too.

The October meeting in odd years is the longest Board meeting; it includes new member orientation and our bi-annual retreat. Some committees are meeting as early as Tuesday, and we end with the Coordinating Council (CoCo) meeting on Sunday afternoon. (New Board members are especially encouraged to attend the CoCo meeting as part of your board orientation, and join some of us for dinner afterwards.)

Our retreat will be facilitated by the Reverend Susan Smith, District Executive of the Southwestern Conference. I'm delighted and grateful that Susan was willing to invest her time helping us get off to the best possible start. We'll work in retreat mode on Wednesday night and Thursday; Thursday's sessions will be held at 1st Church, which is 0.7 miles (about a 10-15 minute walk each way). Pack accordingly. ☺

Working groups meet Thursday night and Friday morning. Friday afternoon is Governance work and training as well as time with UUMA President Rev. Rob Eller-Isaacs. Friday night we'll have dinner in small groups, but there are no additional activities scheduled after dinner.

The pace within the meeting will be brisk. All reporting slots have been shortened, so folks who are creating or presenting reports should check the times listed in the agenda. As a reminder to all trustees, old and new, make sure you read your board packet ahead of time, as we don't schedule time to read in the meeting.

The October meeting promises to be jam-packed and fun-filled. I look forward to seeing each of you in two weeks.

In faith,

Gini Courter, Moderator, Unitarian Universalist Association