

# INTERN MINISTER NEWS

by Katie Romano Griffin, Intern Minister



I had been preparing myself for a “long goodbye.” I thought I had a year to lean into my learning and serve the congregation. A year to say goodbye. Life is full of changes though, and now it’s time to say farewell sooner than anticipated. My last day as the congregation’s intern will be June 19th. That will also be my last service. I am transitioning to my new internship congregation, the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Charlotte County.

In these next few weeks I hope to tell you personally how grateful I am to have served All Faiths, but I know summer travel has already begun and many members are also up north. If I don’t have a chance to see you, I hope this note reaches you and that you feel my gratitude. Thank you for the opportunity to learn at All Faiths. Thank you Reverend Beard, Regina Kilmartin, the Ministerial Internship Committee and the Board of Governors for your support throughout my time as your intern and this transition to my new internship congregation. Thank you to the congregation for being willing to take a chance on a student. Your kind words and support are so very meaningful to me.

You have given me many gifts and I have one final gift of words to share with you as we each prepare to take a new journey.

## **The Labyrinth**

by Rev. Leslie Takahashi

Walk the maze within our heart: guide your steps into its questioning curves.

The labyrinth is your puzzle leading you deeper into your own truths.

Listen in the twists and turns.

Listen in the openness within all the searching.

Listen: a wisdom within you calls to a wisdom beyond you and in that dialogue lies peace.

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## **A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTERIAL INTERNSHIP COMMITTEE**

by Midge Magstadt

As I often do when in need of words of wisdom, I turn to Winnie the Pooh. When asked to write a note to say goodbye to Katie Romano Griffin, these words came to mind from the pen of A.A. Milne. “How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard.”

It has been a joy to be part of Katie’s Ministerial Internship Committee. Every time we gathered, we grew to know her more fully, and had front row seats to her continued evolution into her role as minister.

Having recently gone through the process of her first year evaluation with no idea she would soon be leaving us, there was great excitement and enthusiasm for the promise of the year ahead when she would take an even more prominent role in our services. As she begins her new position in Charlotte County, I know I speak not only for our committee, but for the congregation as a whole in wishing only the best for Katie. We are confident she will continue to grow with each new experience and we look forward to the time when we will learn the direction and destination of her ministerial journey.

We were indeed lucky to have you with us for this one shining year, Katie, but oh it does make saying goodbye so hard.