

# STUDENT NEWS

by Katie Romano Griffin, Student Minister

At the September 20, 2015 service the Congregation officially welcomed me as an intern and charged the Ministerial Internship Committee with ushering me through this deeply transformational process of becoming a minister. The members of the committee are: Steve Fisher, Colleen North, Bond Perry, Fran Way and Midge Magstadt, the Committee Chair.

As we move into our first official year together, I am bringing a wonderful toolset with me that was honed during my summer chaplaincy internship. Yet, as vast as my previous knowledge and experience is, I still have so much to learn about ministering and being a minister. Each day I will be called to become more than I was the day before. Together with the guidance of Rev. Beard and the Ministerial Internship Committee we will look at my successes, my mistakes and failures. I will learn to shore up my weaknesses and build on my strengths to become the kind of minister that you will all be proud to say launched from this fine congregation.

Now that all sounds great, doesn't it? But you might be wondering what exactly an intern minister does! This year is primarily an observational year for me, but you will still be seeing a lot more of me than last year. Under the direction of Rev. Beard and the committee, I may be at All Faiths most Sundays from 9 to 1 and Mondays and Tuesdays from 10 – 3:30 pm. I will be assisting with sermons and the service, classes, weddings, memorials, hospital visits, and events. You may find me at board meetings, committee meetings, social justice projects and fundraisers. I will also be working with the community to support the congregation's efforts with LIFE and Anti-Racism, Anti-Oppression efforts. In my "spare" time I will serve as a Disaster/Trauma Clergy team member with Lee County, bringing an inclusive voice to those in desperate need of support.

One of my first acts as the congregation's intern is to coordinate All Faiths' efforts at the October 10th Pride Fest at the Alliance for the Arts and I need your help. The festival will run from 11 am - 5 pm on Saturday, October 10th. We are assembling a rainbow team of volunteers from All Faiths to staff our table in 1 or 2 hour shifts. The sign-up sheet is available on the activities table. We also will need LOTS of bottled water in either 8 oz or 16 oz bottles! Last year, one of the greatest acts of service we provided was COLD water for thirsty folks. Water can be delivered to the office during business hours.

I hope that you can make it to Pride Fest and look forward to working with you throughout this year!



Front Row: **Midge Magstadt**, Ministerial Internship Committee Chair, **Katie Romano Griffin**, **The Rev. Margaret L. Beard**, **Steve Fisher**. Back Row: **Bond Perry**, **Fran Way**, **Colleen North**. [Photo by Tom Fortin]

## INFORMATION SESSIONS AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW PEOPLE

Starting in October there will be two types of meetings for people who are new or may consider themselves "fairly new." A "**Getting to Know YoUU Q & A**" session is a brief and informal time with the minister for new people to ask questions about All Faiths and/or UU. It will be held right after the service. The first one will be on **October 18** shortly after the service (11:40) and will be held in the Sanctuary. When we go to two services in November, there will be a session after each service: **November 15** after the early service (10:10) in the Minister's Office and after the second service (12:10) in the Sanctuary and **December 13** after the early service (10:10) in the Minister's Office and after the second service (12:10) in the Sanctuary.

On **November 14** from 9:00-1:00 in the Social Hall we will have a "**UU 101**." This is an orientation session for folks moving toward membership or who have recently joined. It will include UU History, All Faiths history, how we are organized, what being a member means—rights and responsibilities, the process of joining, opportunities for involvement and going deeper. This will be led by the minister, and will involve some board members, and some membership committee representatives. Even if you have been a UU elsewhere, we encourage you to attend to hear more about us and meet other new people.

As new people join we will schedule "**New Member Welcoming Ceremonies**" in our Sunday Services. If you are thinking about joining All Faiths or are interested in more information, please contact someone on the Membership Committee.