

## **Welcome Ministries 2017 Annual Report**

Submitted by Hannah Hotchkiss, Welcome Ministries Coordinator

The mission of Welcome Ministries and Sunday Welcome Teams is to welcome all who enter UUAA, provide information about Unitarian Universalism and this Congregation, and integrate visitors and new members into our spiritual community.

Sunday Welcome Teams and a new offering, First Friday Fun Nights, which are organized by many of our Welcome Team members, strive to uphold our third Core Value, Community, which states the following.

*We create and foster community by providing an intentionally welcoming and safe environment where all feel valued and cared for, and where all are given opportunity to form meaningful connections with one another. We foster a climate of purposeful inclusion of all. We cherish the diversity of gender, age, race, ethnicity, and national origin, range of abilities, sexual orientation, gender identity, financial means, education, and political perspective. We live together in peace, search for truth in love, and help one another.*

Welcome Ministries oversees the coordination and training of the Sunday Welcome Teams, which include greeters, ushers, Involvement Table staff, newcomer welcomers, and the Social Hour Team. In 2016, sixty-five committed welcome team volunteers contributed to provide a positive, welcoming experience for our congregants.

### **Vital Signs 2016 (January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016)**

- Total active membership reported for UUA Certification 2016: 620  
Previous year: 629
- New members in 2016: 24  
Previous year: 35
- Visitor cards in 2016: 188  
Previous year: 202
- Introduction to Our Faith Registrations: 41  
Previous year: 62

### **Accomplishments in 2016**

- Launched Community Culture Event: Social Connections: First Friday Fun Nights  
Average attendance 98
- Expanded roles of Sunday Welcome Team Members

### **Future Opportunities**

- Update emergency training for Sunday Welcome Teams
- Devise more systematic and procedures for comprehensive follow up to new members
- Expand Community Culture to provide more regular multi-generational events: emphasis on seniors
- Expand Social Hour Team