

UUAA ANNUAL REPORT, COMMUNITY OF WRITERS, 2017-2018

In the 2017-2018 UUAA Church year, the Community of Writers was honored to participate in the Worship Service of July 16, 2017, featuring prose and poetry writings by selected members of the Community of Writers. The UUAA Worship Team, led by Theresa Rohlck and Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout, designed a Worship Service on creative writing to illustrate the July theme of creativity. Five members read their original poems, essays, and memoirs with musical interludes for reflection. In conclusion, the congregation was guided through the surprise writing of a poem.

The following August meeting, we devoted to tributes to those we consider heroes. We first refreshed our uses of the key narrative methods, "Show and/or Tell". Then we wrote impromptus portraying heroes we admire. These character studies stirred such interest, we decided to develop the writings further for the September meeting. The Writers completed the fall season with a December reading of eleven members' writings to which the congregation was invited. This holiday event, held in Fahs Chapel on Sunday, December 10th, presented poetry, memoir, and personal essay.

The New Year 2018 was launched by a marvelous presentation on Mysticism by Joanna Courteau. Supplemented by preparatory historical material, the lecture offered an extraordinary discussion of mysticism and several mystic poets. Joanna then suggested an impromptu to write in the manner of one of these poets. Everyone enjoyed this thought-provoking exploration of mysticism. The 2018 spring monthly meetings have alternated between prepared writings read in an open mic or impromptus written and read during our meetings. Of our twenty-five members, ten to fifteen participate actively.

The Community of Writers meets each second Sunday, monthly, and offers a congenial group of fellow writers who appreciate and encourage each other's writings.

Mary Lund

UUAA Community of Writers