

UUAA COMMUNITY OF WRITERS 2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted by Mary Lund, Co-facilitator

The UUAA Community of Writers are completing our fifth year of regular monthly meetings. Also, in July and December of 2019, we presented our semi-annual formal readings with the congregation invited. In October, we participated in the Open House initiated by the Social Justice and Pastoral Care Department, as a Sunday Social Hour for Adult Education Groups to present their goals and activities. With 2020 came the pandemic. The Writers group replaced in-person meetings with online exchanging of our writings.

Our Summer meetings of 2019 were highlighted by our July formal reading with the congregation invited. Ten of our members read their writings of poetry, fiction, and memoir, followed by coffee and conversation. The Fall season began in September with a session on poetry of protest led by a Writers member and including readings of members' writings of protest. In October the Writers group participated in the Open House Social Hour with handouts created by members and a booklet of sample writings by thirteen members to inform others interested in a creative writing group. In December, we held our formal reading and also invited three of our ministers as guest readers. Reverends Lindasusan Ulrich and theresa rohlck read their fiction and poetry. Because of illness, Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout regretfully declined.

January and February of 2020, generated new ideas to enrich our writing in addition to reading our writings for supportive feedback. As our nation faced the pandemic, we followed the state and church resolution to cancel all programs, and suspended our March and April in-person meetings, by exchanging our writings and responses by email. At this difficult time, we have found our sharing an encouragement. We are planning our online May exchange, and welcome adults seeking a writing community. Contact: Mary Lund at mlund@mi.rr.com .