|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT** *Community, Spirituality and Social Justice: Building our Future Together* ***“Families, churches, businesses and governments become sick by refusing to face painful realities.  If they allow themselves to become conscious of their painful issues, however, then they can work on organizational healing and grow into joyful maturity.”  M. Scott Peck***Scott Peck's quote, which has influenced my professional life, is now relevant in my current role as Interim Board President. The congregation's collective skills and compassion are notable, and our gatherings reflect optimism for the future. However, ongoing issues remain. Based on feedback I’ve received from Borderlands’ members and friends; several questions have arisen:* What challenges does BUU face in recruiting for key leadership roles such as President, Vice-President, and Treasurer?
* Does BUU’s property location affect its ability to achieve its mission?
* Are new members integrated into major committees as effectively as possible?
* Is our current ability to resolve disagreements satisfactory?

In recent years, our church, nation, and global community have faced considerable challenges. Successfully adapting to change necessitates **flexibility, attentive listening, and collaborative decision-making rooted in mutual trust and respect.** As approximately 40% of our congregation has joined within the past four years, the building of trusting relationships is a critical priority to ensure that we make sound collective decisions. To address this challenge, The Board continues to review the findings from Rev. Samantha Wilson’s work with us and will address plans for strengthening relationships during its September and October meetings.  More to come!As Board President, I would like to affirm the Board’s strong commitment to transparency, accountability, and responsible management of our resources. We regularly evaluate the activities of our committees and manage our property and facilities to ensure they effectively meet member needs and align with our broader mission and vision.  Over the coming months, you will be informed about significant policy updates designed to enhance our collaborative efforts as a community. You will also receive details regarding proposed amendments to our Bylaws, which will be subject to a vote at the Annual Meeting. Opportunities for engagement in discussions concerning these developments will be available, and I encourage your participation to ensure your perspective is represented.Finally, I want to express my deepest gratitude to each of you.  Whether you serve in visible roles or quietly sustain Borderlands with your support in other ways, you are an essential part of our community.  Thank you for your commitment to the values and mission of Borderlands Unitarian Universalist. Onward with Hope & Love,Nancy Murphy,Interim Board President  |

 |

 |

 |