

Thomas Jefferson District Board Meeting
February 5, 2010, Richmond, VA

Our Vision: Grounded in our covenantal tradition, we are a vibrant faith community of healthy congregations who grow through service, connection and right relationships, thereby transforming ourselves and the world.

Since our last Board meeting, I have been working on three major efforts for the District:

1. **Board Policies** – In collaboration with Jim Key and with feedback from the Board of Directors, we have developed a draft of Board Policies that align to our policy governance model. Our next steps will be to share widely through newsletter articles, the TJD website and conference calls the substance of the policies with interested members of our District's congregations. Assuming this or an amended version of the Board Policies is approved (vote at the Annual Meeting in April), the next step will be bylaws revisions to align with our policy governance model.
2. **District Anti-Racism Conference** – I have been serving as the co-chair of the annual conference with Wendy DeGroat of First Unitarian Universalist Church of Richmond, Virginia. Actual planning began in the August timeframe, and Wendy and I, along with our wonderful planning Committee, have worked very hard to build a rich agenda with robust topics and nationally-known speakers. This has been a rewarding and very involved process, and I would like to thank Wendy and the host committee for all of their efforts, particularly since I experienced the loss of my father and the birth of my grandson during the planning period (and wasn't always as on top of things as I might otherwise have been)!
3. **2010 Awards Planning** – In 2009, we announced changes to the annual awards in 2010, and I have been working on making sure all of the elements are properly aligned.

In addition to these primary efforts, I attended the National Equality March with my congregation, and I have been doing some limited consulting work with a couple of congregations.

I continue to love this work and those who work so tirelessly on behalf of our beliefs and principles.

Yours in faith,



Denise M. Rimes
Vice President