



July 31, 2019

Dear Valley UU Congregation Members and Friends,

I write to let you know that, after 28 years of faithful service to our congregation, Minister of Music Kellie Walker Hart has tendered her resignation. Her last day with us will be Sunday, November 24th.

In her resignation letter, Kellie writes that her work among us “has brought me great joy and immense personal and professional fulfillment over the years. Developing music programs into a true ministry here has been the highlight of my professional career and working with you (Rev. Andy) has been a particular joy. This congregation has provided me with so many wonderful and unique opportunities, and I so appreciate the ongoing support of my professional development, musical involvement in the Association of UU Music Ministries, and leadership at General Assembly and district events. I will be forever grateful for these rich experiences and I treasure the numerous close relationships I have developed at Valley UU. This congregation is also where I raised my three children (now grown), and its members provided profound caring and support to me and my family throughout the long illnesses of my late first husband, Russ LoBrutto.

“And it is now time for me to move on. With great affection and gratitude for this congregation, its staff, leaders, and members, I ask that you accept my resignation... My last Sunday at VUU will be the Sunday before Thanksgiving, November 24, 2019...

“I look forward to using the skills I’ve developed over the years to have a wider impact through providing workshops, retreats, and coaching in music and worship design to other congregations and offering the gift of group singing in various community settings. I will miss you all incredibly but look forward to a new phase of my career and hearing about how your future will unfold and how Valley UU Congregation will flourish.”

For my part, I will dearly miss planning and conducting worship services with one of the most creative, caring teammates I have ever worked with. I am grateful Kellie has given us ample time to say a proper goodbye. Though such partings are a part of life in covenant, we do well to part thoughtfully and with intention. We will do just that over the next few months.

We are already forming teams to both thank Kellie for her ministry among us and recruit our next music professional. The congregation’s mission of service, justice, and love go on. Let us begin even now saying thank you to our beloved Kellie, who has done so much to move us toward fulfillment of that mission over the last three decades.

With love,
Rev. Andy