

Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane

A Litany of Separation

June 26, 2011



Greeting

Linda: Our church is constantly changing. People come and go. Babies are born. Children grow up. People commit themselves to one another. Loved ones and friends among us come to the end of their lives. Individuals move into our community and church life. Others leave us, moving away to new places, new experiences, and new opportunities.

Mary Lou: It is important and right that we recognize these times of passage, of endings and beginnings. Today we share a time of farewell with a friend who is leaving.

Ending an Authorized Ministry

Linda: On October 1, 2009, this church contracted with Hollis Bredeweg as a consulting minister focusing on lay leadership, stewardship and finance, conflict transformation, and ministerial transition. On July 1, 2010 Hollis became our interim minister.

Hollis: I thank the Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane, its members and friends, for the love, kindness and support shown me these last 21 months. I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made. I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

Congregation: We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness, and accept that your journey will continue in ways separate from ours. We express our gratitude for your time among us. We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes. Your influence on our lives and church will not leave us at your departure.

Hollis: I forgive you and accept your gratitude, trusting that both our time together and our time of parting are as they should be.

Mary Lou: Do you, the members and friends of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane release Hollis Bredeweg from his duties as interim minister?

UUCS: We do.

Mary Lou: Do you offer Hollis your encouragement and support as he resumes his life and work apart from UUCS?

Congregation: We do.

Linda: Do you, Hollis, release this church from turning to you and depending on you?

Hollis: I do.

Linda: Do you offer your encouragement for the continued ministry here and for the relationship of the church with Todd Eklof as he begins his ministry among us.

Hollis: I do.

ALL: We are thankful for the time we have shared together in the life and ministry of this community. We are thankful for our laughter and tears, our hopes and disappointments. We endeavor to hold onto our cherished memories even as we move in new directions and forge strong new relationships. Amen. Blessed Be. Shalom.



Rev. Hollis Bredeweg
UUCS Interim Minister
July 1, 2010 — June 30, 2011