

**FLORIDA DISTRICT
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION**

1901 E. Robinson St. Suite 18 • Orlando, FL 32803
Phone: (407) 894-2119 Fax: (407) 894-9564
E-mail: UUAFLDIST@AOL.COM

August 26, 1998

Dear Search Committee Members,

It is with pleasure and confidence that I commend the Reverend Samuel Trumbore to you as you search for a new settled minister. I have known Sam in various capacities during my two years as the District Executive in the Florida District. He served most cheerfully and ably as the Secretary to the Board of Directors of the district during that time. His enthusiasm, positive attitude, curiosity and skill have contributed to a time of real growth and vision in our district. Sam agrees to serve the larger movement whenever asked if it does not interfere with his primary relationship with his congregation. He has served on the Florida District Lifespan Religious Education Committee as well as helping bring us into the electronic age through use of the Internet.

I find Sam to be thoughtful, caring, intelligent and open to new ideas and change as part of his basic personality. It will be my pleasure to talk further with members of your committee concerning Sam and his ministry should questions arise in the course of your work together.

Good luck in your search.

Yours in Faith,


Rev. Mary Chulak Higgins

Reverend Mary Chulak Higgins, District Executive



VALLEY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

1700 West Warner Road, Chandler, Arizona 85224 Telephone (602) 899-4249 Internet www.arastar.net/org/vuu

19 August 1998

To whom it may concern:

I've known the Reverend Samuel Trumbore for about a decade now. We've been students together during seminary. And, I've watched his ministerial career as it has been unfolding. Most recently, we've worked together as Board members of the Unitarian Universalist Buddhist Fellowship.

If you are reading this letter, it is because you're considering Sam as a possible minister for your congregation.


Let me tell you, he will be a good catch! He is competent and caring. And, I genuinely believe, he was wisdom about him. Sam works hard, and he works smart. Our UUBF owes him a great debt for his insight and just plain roll up the sleeves, hard intelligent work.

For instance, when he took over as editor of the "UU Sangha," the fellowship's newsletter, he not only completely redesigned it, Sam gave it such editorial substance that I think it may become a significant journal of theological opinion within our denomination. Sam has reorganized our mailing list, he has taken leadership in presenting meditation opportunities as General Assembly, he created a "list serve," and is now redesigning the UUBF homepage.

Without reservation I recommend Sam Trumbore as a fine, compassionate, and smart minister who can get things done.

If you have any questions, I would be happy to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,



James Ishmael Ford

James Ishmael Ford, Minister • Scotty Meek, Joyce Smith Affiliate Ministers

Roger Smith Administrator • Debbyjo Elliott Director of Religious Growth and Learning • Larry Visotsky Sexton
Kellie Walker Vocal Music Director • Lorraine Rice Instrumental Music Director

Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations



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(617) 742-2100

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<http://www.uua.org>

The Rev. Sam Trumbore

UU Fellowship of Charlotte County

P.O.Box 2324

Port Charlotte, FL 33949

Dear Sam,

I write to you on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Association with appreciation for your service as chair of the Electronics Communications Committee, and further, for your thoughtful and useful comments in our recent telephone conversation, which will inform our work in the future. Your leadership in the groundbreaking work of this committee, which has provided us with countless hours of support and advice, has meant more to the UUA than we can easily realize! Your time, energy, and care have been greatly appreciated.

We hope that you will want to serve again, perhaps on another denominational committee. I would be glad to know your thoughts on that possibility, as time goes by.

With appreciation and high regard,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Phyllis".

Phyllis Daniel

4329 Dina Court

Cypress, CA 90630

Phyllisdan@aol.com



StarrKingSchool
FOR THE MINISTRY

December 29, 1992

To the Search Committee:

It gives me a good deal of pleasure to write a letter in support of Sam Trumbore, a former student at the Starr King School for the Ministry and commend him to you. He is a superbly qualified man who combines deep spiritual practice and a generous perspective of social action.

I have known Mr. Trumbore for a number of years. His presence in the school was fundamentally positive, making substantial contributions to the sense of community among us and providing wit and wisdom with equal skill. His classmates enjoyed having him around, recognizing his leadership and respecting the integrity of his spirituality. Sam participated in two classes I instructed and I found his contribution to be intellectually sound and often creative. He studied two women philosophers, Arendt and Weil, in a class entitled "Two for Peace;" his probing of text regarding the persistence of violence in the modern world proved critically insightful. The other class examined American religious culture and polity, studying such luminaries as James Luther Adams and Robert Bellah, among others. Again, Sam's work proved to be excellent. He has a steady perspective but is adaptive and ever curious.

Although Sam has been living on the East Coast for a number of years, we stay in touch and I have been impressed with his internship work and the way in which he undertook community outreach in his community. His is a large vision of the ministry.

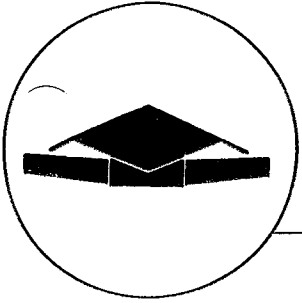
I believe that he will prove to be an able leader in a large or small church, articulate, spiritually inspiring, loving and eager to engage the congregation. You will be fortunate in having him lead you and catalyze your congregation.

Please feel free to telephone me for further comment.

Sincerely,



Clare B. Fischer
Aurelia Reinhardt Professor of
Religion and Culture



unitarian universalist church of amherst

6320 MAIN STREET WILLIAMSVILLE, NEW YORK 14221-5891

December 28 1992

To Whom It May Concern

I am pleased to recommend The Reverend Sam Trumbore as a Unitarian Universalist minister. I first met Sam when he was serving as Intern Minister of the First Unitarian Church in Rochester, N.Y. He was well liked by that congregation, especially for his creative ways of helping many of them in their individual spiritual development.

Since he married Philomena Moriarty, a member of this congregation, he has been an active contributor to the life and programs of this church when he was not serving the Niagra Falls and other Unitarian Universalist congregations in Western New York. He has led adult education programs in meditation and dream work and co-led a marriage enrichment program here. He also was instrumental in starting an inter-generational effort to send food to Russia. All of his work has been deeply appreciated and supported by our members.

I think Sam is a very sensitive, caring, thoughtful and spiritual person who will be an excellent minister in our denomination and any congregation he serves.

The Reverend Carl F. Thitchener

26275 Hickory Blvd., #39
Bonita Springs, FL 33923
February 10, 1996

Rev. Samuel A. Trumbore
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Charlotte County
1532 Forrest Nelson Boulevard
Port Charlotte, FL 33952

Dear Rev. Trumbore:

Hansen
I realize that the SW FL cluster was held two weeks ago, but I also believe that a compliment is untimely! Thus I write to say how much I was stimulated from attending my first-ever cluster meeting. I suspect the excellent organization of the day and the ensemble of provocative and inspiring speakers was due in large part to your efforts. I returned enriched by the comments I heard at the cluster meeting.

I liked very much the format of the topic: the assembling of varied voices for brief remarks, followed by audience participation in questioning the speakers. Then a delicious lunch that enabled us to continue a more in-depth exploration of the topics in small groups. Finally we tied the whole package together with suggestions and conclusions. The all was done in a time frame that was not too tiring.

It was also interesting for me to see the vibrancy of the Port Charlotte fellowship. I am sure your group will continue to grow and prosper.

So I thank you and your wonderful helpers for giving us such a wonderful day full of thought-provoking exchanges.

Sincerely yours,

Margaret W. Ostrom

Margaret Woodward Ostrom
Naples and Media, PA UU

February 4, 1993

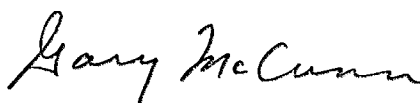
Dear Search Committee:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation for Sam Trumbore. Sam came to the Unitarian-Universalist church of Niagara at a time of great need in that congregation and met those needs with wisdom, compassion and understanding. Sam first preached in the Niagara Falls church during the ministry of Rudy Gelsey in February of 1989, while serving an internship in Rochester New York. In the spring of 1990, after the church became a fellowship, Sam became a more regular guest in our pulpit. It was not surprising, due to the reception his sermons received and the ease with which he fit into the congregation, that when the church was looking for a speaker for the George Cooley Memorial Lecture Series that Sam was selected. He delivered that series in the fall of 1990 and thereafter became a regular contributor to our Sunday morning service.

Sam was never a guest preacher in Niagara Falls. The congregation came to count on his presence and the program committee came to rely on him because reliability is one of his many attributes. Most importantly he became a member of our church family. Sam was married to Philomena and their son Andrew was born during his tenure with us. He openly shared with us glimpses of his life and in doing so helped us to reflect on ours. He helped us to struggle with the conflicts in our congregational life, conflicts that previously we had been unwilling or unable to recognize. I believe he helped lay a foundation not only for survival but for growth.

Although his leaving the Niagara Falls church will leave a void we will not be able to easily fill, I am please that he is seeking a permanent church. His strength, his courage, committment and dedication and his ability deserve a church, and any church will be blessed to have him as a minister.

Sincerely,



Gary McCunn

226 Fairlawn Ave,
Toronto, Ont
M5M 1T1

1991 Feb 17

The Rev Sam Trumbore
c/o St Lawrence District
695 Elmwood Ave
Buffalo NY 14222
USA

Dear Sam,

Re: the BBS

It's been on my mind for some time to write to you about the Bulletin Board. The latest copy of St Lawrence Lines complete with an article on the BBS and a picture of yourself has determined me to sit down and write!

Of course this should be coming to you on the BBS, but I have not got my module and comms software - yet. However, again the article has given me resolve to go out this very week and get them!

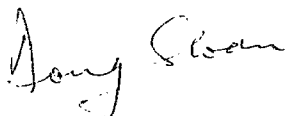
It's clearly been a lot of work; these projects always are. And I suppose the system will need regular upkeep and maintenance. I hope that you are willing to continue guiding us until the office can handle routine tasks.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of St Lawrence District, please accept our sincere thanks for bringing us into the age of bulletin boards! We have no doubt that this system will prove extremely useful to many operations in the District.

I look forward to being in touch with you on the network; by the way, maybe we need a name for "it"?

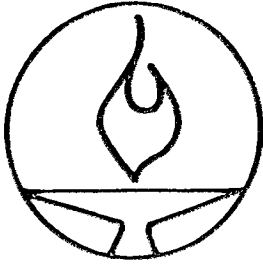
With deep appreciation for your work,

Sincerely,



Doug Sloan
President, St Lawrence District

COPY



The First Universalist Church of Rochester

150 Clinton Avenue South, at Court, Rochester, New York 14604-1897 Tel: 716-546-2826
Member: Unitarian Universalist Association

July 17, 1989

To: The Intern Committee, First Unitarian Church

From: Clara Baldwin, Moderator, First Universalist Church C B

Re: Sam Trumbore

This is an unsolicited letter of appreciation for Sam Trumbore's leadership in services at the First Universalist Church of Rochester. After our ministers, Donna and Mark Morrison-Reed, were called to Toronto, we invited Sam to give two sermons a month from January through June, 1989 at our church.

We have had many enthusiastic comments on his participation. His sermons were carefully prepared, thoughtful and thought provoking, as well as intellectually stimulating. His interpersonal relations were rewarding and warm, and we became very fond of him in a short time.

It has been a real pleasure to have had the opportunity to get to know him and to have him serve us, even so briefly, as we waited for our interim minister to arrive.

c.c. Lou Scott, Chair, Religious Services Committee, First
Universalist Church
Michael Scott, Clerk, First Universalist Church
Sam Trumbore

755 Grand Ave.
Rochester, N.Y. 14609

July 4, 1989

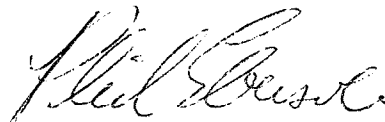
Dear Sam:

I want to tell you how much I enjoyed your sermons this spring, and how pleased I am you were able to preach for us on a regular basis.

I respected your intellectual depth and sophistication and was delighted by your zest and humor. I never had the feeling that what you were going to say about any subject was predictable, nor did I ever feel you equivocated on any issue.

You added much to our program. May you have a long and successful career as a minister, and may the distance between "Clinton" and "Winton" never grow longer.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Phil Ebersole".

Phil Ebersole

December 2, 1997

The Rev. Samuel Trumbore
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Charlotte County
1532 Forrest H. Nelson Boulevard
Port Charlotte, Florida

Dear Sam:

My family wants to thank you for your participation in my Dad's "Celebration." I think it all turned out wonderfully! Someone from the Fellowship told me afterwards it was "a good show"... You did very well with the eulogy even not knowing Ed. There was some information in Mary Williams' writings that I hadn't known, such as my grandfather's efforts to get acceptance for the Finns in his Boston church. We all also thought your putting together bits of comments from the various eulogies for the benediction was very clever.

I was very pleased to see so many members of the Fellowship present, many of whom I had known over the years. One interesting bit of information was that Mrs. Paul had painted a picture of our New Hampshire mountains when she had visited my folks - one that we have always had on display ever since. I had always wondered who the artist was. Evelyn Rapp said she had written a history of the Fellowship in which my parents were mentioned. When it is available, I would like to have a copy of it, or at least see it.

I had asked you if there was a fee for your services and you said not. Nevertheless, we want to express our appreciation in a small amount to go either to you or the Fellowship. The Celebration lasted a long time - from three to eight thirty, which certainly killed your Sunday, and you even dug a hole for the tree! So we would feel remiss in not making a contribution of some sort.

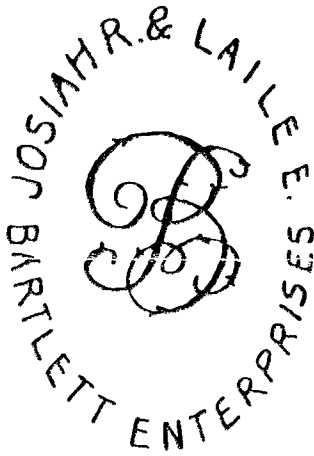
Thanks again. I will be down to Florida a couple more times this year so I may see you then.

Sincerely,



Eleanor Dirrane

Thanksgiving
in Berkeley.



Dear Sam,

I can't tell you
how much I appre-
ciated your caring
words in the service. They
meant so much to me.

Just know
that you dear people will
always be in my Memory
Book and my heart.

Fondly,
Laile

P.S. Jo often wore a robe —
but the gift of a two-ton robe
(of a minister Jo followed after
40 years (!) in Montclair) was
too much for him, sentiment with-
standing, in Florida.