Dear MUUSAN member,

I love the story of Janus, the Roman god of beginnings and transitions. With his two-faced head, he both looks backward and forward, starting new actions that create change. The beginning of our calendar year—January—derives its name from this ancient god, and the common practice of reflecting on the year past at the turn of each year is a nod to Janus as well. It can be an enlightening exercise: when you look back, what actions did you start in 2025 that led to a transition for you?

For MUUSAN, here are a few of the things we started in 2025 that made it a banner transition year for us:

- We left the fiscal oversight of the UU Community Church of Augusta and became an independent nonprofit organization as a 501(c)(3).
- We adopted Google Workspace as an online platform, revolutionizing our ability to manage advocacy on many issues.
- We developed close relationships with state-level partners to inform our advocacy decisions.
- We set up "Take-Action" Google Groups that allowed individuals to stay informed and active on any or all of our nine priority issues. Using hyperlinks, our action alerts provided easy access to the tools needed for advocacy on 23 bills!
- We built a Bill Tracker spreadsheet so everyone could quickly see the progress of our bills throughout the session.

The only thing that feels like it didn't change in 2025 was the loyal support of our growing membership. You showed up at our Network meetings (four total in 2025!) and you showed up with action, amplifying our UU voices in witness and testimony.

Now we are asking you to show up for MUUSAN by increasing your financial support.

DONATE NOW

With independence, our monthly administrative expenses have increased. Our successful use of Google Workspace also comes with a monthly fee. We need every MUUSAN member with the means to do so, to step up with financial support to help us meet these costs.

As the Reverend Dr. Jodi Cohen-Hayashida said at our November meeting, our UU voices are needed now more than ever. We must claim our identity as people of faith in presenting a religious narrative that counters White Christian Nationalism.

Let's make 2026 a year we look back on and see that our progress toward this goal was led by our members who kept our network financially secure with their increased financial commitment. Whether it's your first MUUSAN donation or an increase in a yearly donation you've made in the past, we thank you.

We look forward to seeing many of you in the halls of the State House and at local actions as we bring our UU voices and values into the public arena. The world needs us.

In Gratitude,

Betsy Williams, Co-Chair
For the MUUSAN Board: Michaela Loisel (Co-Chair); Marty Pelham (Treasurer); Beth Allen; Ceilidh Shea; and Mark Worth