



Ruah Spirituality Institute

1773 Beacon Street, Brookline, MA 02445-4214

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Dear friends of RUAH,

We want to share with you some significant and exciting news about RUAH. As you may know, RUAH has been functioning without an Executive Director for the past four years. Even though we have been able to offer many significant programs, it has been difficult to fulfill our mission as we had in the past, to offer the wide range of programming we would like, and to raise the funds necessary for continued growth. Therefore, our board sought to join with a partner organization with a compatible mission and the capacity to provide infrastructure for RUAH's work to thrive, and a partner to which we could offer the strength of our experience and program offerings. After researching a number of options, we are delighted to share with you that we have found such an organization, Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries (CMM).

Founded in 1966, CMM is the greater Boston area's oldest interfaith network, with members in 100 congregations, community agencies, and campus partners across the region. With an office in Newton, Massachusetts, CMM is led by a dynamic director, Alexander Levering Kern, who — with a wonderfully committed Board and core of volunteers — has revitalized CMM's work and programs. CMM's mission is to promote interfaith understanding and cooperation through the work of creating a more just and peaceful society — a mission deeply aligned with RUAH's mission. CMM accomplishes its mission through three major areas: interfaith education, dialogue and spirituality programs; youth leadership and peacemaker training programs; and legislative advocacy and social action on issues of shared concern. We see RUAH joining with CMM as a natural coming together of two venerable interfaith organizations that recognize faith, spiritual practice, and social action as deeply interconnected and necessary for the healing our world. The boards of RUAH and CMM are very excited about this merger knowing that each organization will be stronger.

CMM's executive director and board have generously welcomed RUAH leadership and appreciate the importance of RUAH's work. CMM understands how RUAH's mission and programs have the potential to enhance CMM's on-going efforts with its member congregations and organizations and the wider community. Therefore, "the RUAH Interfaith Spirituality Program of CMM" will be a major and exciting new part of CMM's work.

We deeply appreciate the support you have given to RUAH over the years and hope that you will continue to support RUAH as we join with CMM. Do join us for our Interfaith Arts and Music Festival, Saturday May 15 at First Parish in Cambridge as we celebrate our new life together. Your support and contributions to the RUAH/CMM organization are more important than ever. Please join us on the next steps of this great journey!

Blessings,

Sarah Leinbach
Board Chair

Rev. Dr. David Killian
Founder of RUAH