

BRUU 2025 Congregational Survey

BRUU 2025 Congregational Survey

BRUU has operated with both lay-led and professional leadership. Since May 2024, we have been a lay-led organization without a regular minister to offer Sunday Services, Pastoral Care, staff leadership, and other functions.

Before considering any form of search for new professional leadership, the Board - which is elected by the congregation - seeks feedback on several specific questions. These will lead to a series of discussions in the first half of 2025, and then whatever actions are considered appropriate after that discussion.

We are gathering perspectives and ideas now, not trying to conduct a statistically valid opinion survey. We encourage you to add comments in the comments section. Tell us what you think and feel, in addition to checking a box.

If you would like more background or context, feel free to contact Dianne Lane or Charlie Grymes at survey@bruu.org

You may answer all, or just some of the questions below. If you run out of space, more-complete answers can be submitted to survey@bruu.org

BRUU 2025 Congregational Survey

1. Who is filling out this survey?

- I have been coming to BRUU just since May, 2024 and known only lay leadership
- I have known only one minister in the time I have been coming to BRUU
- I have known two ministers at BRUU
- I have known 3 or more ministers at BRUU

2. I attended another UU congregation long enough to have some exposure to ministerial leadership there

- Yes
- No

3. Without a regular minister, what is missing at BRUU that you would like to see us offer?

4. Regarding Sunday Services

- I prefer worship services led by a professional minister
- I prefer worship services led by guest speakers who are not part of the congregation
- I prefer worship services led by members of BRUU
- I don't care who leads the Sunday Services, I probably will come to BRUU most Sunday's anyway

Additional Comments

5. Regarding Pastoral Care (counseling/referrals):

- it is important to me to have a regular minister with whom I can talk confidentially
- it is important to me to have a trained professional on BRUU's staff to who I can talk confidentially, but I am OK with that person not being a regular minister
- I am comfortable talking confidentially with other members of BRUU

Additional Comments

6. Regarding Pastoral Care (support)

- It is important to me to have a professional minister provide personal support when I am sick or in need of comfort
- it is important to me to have a trained professional on BRUU's staff to provide personal support when I am sick or in need of comfort, but I am OK with that person not being a regular minister
- I am comfortable getting personal support when I am sick or in need of comfort from other members of BRUU

Additional Comments

7. Regarding BRUU administration

- It is important to me to have a professional minister lead the BRUU staff, guide the Board, and facilitate decision making within the congregation
- it is important to me to have a trained professional on BRUU's staff to lead the BRUU staff, guide the Board, and facilitate decision making within the congregation, but I am OK with that person not being a regular minister
- I am comfortable with BRUU Board members leading the BRUU staff and facilitating decision making within the congregation
- I am comfortable having an operations manager or office manager coordinate staff and provide logistical and budget data to the Board.

Additional Comments

8. Regarding community outreach

- It is important to me to have a professional minister represent BRUU officially to the general public within the Manassas-area community
- I am comfortable with BRUU members representing BRUU officially to the general public within the Manassas-area community

Additional Comments

9. I think a professional minister would make BRUU a more-attractive organization for people to join, and expand membership significantly more than a lay-led congregation

- Yes
- No
- Other

10. If BRUU decides to seek new ministerial leadership, it should be

- A full-time job for whomever we hire
- A part-time minister is OK with me

Additional Comments

11. What other professional leadership needs do you see at BRUU other than a minister? How would that improve things, in your opinion?