



Application for UUC Project or Group

Date last modified: 12/08/14

1. Name of Project or Group _____
2. Primary Contact Person _____
3. Strategic Plan area (see reverse) _____
4. Describe in brief the project and its goals.
5. How will this project help us meet the goals of the Strategic Plan area? For social justice projects, please also describe how this fits within our current social justice statements of focus (see page 3).
6. What is the timeline (that is, when do you expect it to start and end)?
From: _____ To: _____
7. Please describe the next immediate steps you plan to take toward your project goals.
8. Please list five UUC members who will be working on the project. (For an Exploratory or Rapid Response social justice group, only two co-leads are required.)

9. What amount do you anticipate requesting from the annual operating budget? (Please include additional detail as appropriate.) \$ _____

UUC STRATEGIC PLAN AREAS

After the Year of Discernment in 2011-2012, the congregation of UUC agreed on its new mission and vision. The work of the congregation to make this vision real falls into the following five areas:

Connected Community

In response to high expectations for active involvement, UUC participants experience the church as a deeply-connected, multigenerational community.

Awakened Spirit

Individuals of all ages feel awakened and deepened spiritually as a result of their UUC experiences.

Faithful Action

All people and groups at UUC are called on and empowered to engage in justice work as a responsibility of their UU faith.

Visionary Growth

We embrace the growth that has come to us, and are committed to serve well a growing congregation of up to 800 Sunday worshippers.

Liberating Stewardship

UUC will have physical and financial assets that empower us to joyfully live our mission and vision.

TEN QUESTIONS FOR DISCERNMENT

The questions that follow were first published in a church newsletter in an article entitled "Do You Have Enough Time?" They were written by the Rev. Lynn Ungar.

You can ask yourself these questions when you are considering whether or not you have time to take on a new assignment or volunteer opportunity. If you answer 'yes' to most of these questions, it's clear! You should do it!

1. Is there a chance I will finish this different than I started?
2. Will doing this express my values, the things I say are important to me?
3. Will this put me with people I want to know better?
4. Will doing this help me know myself better?
5. Do I like to think of myself as a person who would do this?
6. Do I have a special gift to share here?
7. When I look back in a year or ten years, will I remember doing this?
8. Will this make me feel more connected or more disjointed?
9. What will I have to say no to if I say yes to this?
10. Will it be fun?

Social Justice Pillars and Areas of Focus, September 2014

We stand for care of the Earth.

We will focus on protecting the natural systems that sustain life, and mitigating the impacts of unsustainable behavior. Our faith's longstanding spiritual call to stewardship of the Earth has truly become a moral imperative, part of our covenant with future generations. Our current consumption patterns require the land and water of 1.5 Earths, which means our planet can't regenerate the resources that sustain life. Climate change caused by fossil fuel consumption is already doing irreversible damage. Many environmental problems disproportionately affect people of color and those who are vulnerable, and increasing resource scarcity is a historical source of societal violence.

We stand for economic justice.

We will focus on restoring the dignity and economic viability of work, and equity in how society meets basic human needs and pays for the common good. Research shows that everyone is worse off in societies with high economic inequality and low social mobility. Yet economic inequality has grown, wages from work have stagnated, and wealth and income have become intensely concentrated. When they distort political participation and power, these extreme economic disparities undermine healthy democracy. Disparities are greater and more entrenched for people of color. Critical safety nets have been dramatically cut despite historically low tax rates on wealth and commerce.

We stand for racial and gender justice.

We will focus on dismantling structures that perpetuate inequity based on race and gender. Racism and gender bias alienate us from one another, perpetuate systemic inequities, and touch the well-being of all. Today, people of color are criminalized and dehumanized through racial profiling, unequal prosecution and sentencing, mass incarceration, exploitation of immigrants, and legalized discrimination against people with felony convictions. Disenfranchisement limits communities' ability to challenge policies through political processes. Gender justice addresses inequities experienced by women, girls, and LGBTQ people, often in a racialized context. Equal rights in marriage and reproductive choice are longstanding Unitarian Universalist priorities.

We stand for peace and reconciliation.

We will focus on reducing violence and building healing community. A peaceful society must be able to make decisions and resolve problems respectfully and compassionately. Today, our civil discourse and political processes are plagued by intense polarization, while violence and war are leaving scars at home and abroad. To deepen both our spiritual and social justice work, we want to become more compassionate, and more adept at resolving conflict and fostering restorative justice.

We stand with our neighbors.

As we work to change the underlying systems that create and sustain injustice, there's always a need to care for the hurts of the world. We contribute to efforts that address pressing human needs, through collaborative efforts in our community and our denomination.