

# 2023 Goals at First Universalist Church

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Members:** Sarah Witte, Joanna Landsman, Debbie Starkel, Christy Hayashida, Dale Shields, Nancy Dix, Stew Guernsey, Andrew Tonks

**Minister:** Rev. Hillary

### Board Goals:

- Center, promote and uplift **UU Values** in all our work.
- Coordinate with Rev. Hillary and DREC Gwen in shared ministry for all
- Develop strong working relationships with all councils and committees through information, support, liaisons and collaborative projects.
- Design and implement Annual Campaign and other internal fundraisers as planned by the Budget for the Fiscal Year.
- Update the 5 year Strategic Plan with emphasis on congregation health, growth, and diverse interests.
- Respond to new information, opportunities, or concerns with consistently careful decisions.

## WORSHIP COUNCIL

**Members:** Joanna Landsman, Sarah Witte, Anne Turner, Kate Connelly

**Minister/Staff:** Rev. Hillary and Gwen Matthews

### WC Goals:

- Promote and uplift **UU Values** during services.
- Create spiritually enriching Sunday services for all ages. Include hybrid worship options.
- Draw upon UUA and Soul Matters resources to strengthen, inspire, and diversify our programming and approaches.
- Make space for a diversity of voices and wider participation from our community and beyond.

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

**Members:** Tom Carlisle, Joanna Landsman, Leslie Livingston, and Lisa Patterson

### LDC Goals:

- Center **UU Values** in our work.
- Assist Board, Councils and Committees with new member recruitment.
- Identify and present slate of Board of Trustees to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. Maintain and update the Board of Trustees Resource Binder
- Provide HR support as needed
- Provide/facilitate training when needed.
- Identify regional or national programs and opportunities for congregation engagement.

## **CONGREGATION CONNECTIONS COMMITTEE**

**Members:** Sarah Witte, Cindy Guernsey, Sandra Stark, Janice Tooker, Ryan McKisson, Lisa Williams, Martha Hutchinson, and Brenda McKee

**Minister/Staff:** Rev. Hillary and Gwen Matthews

### **CCC Goals:**

- Hold our **UU Values** at heart
- Keep people connected to the church and each other
- Increase visibility and accessibility of our church
- Continue to grow the church membership
- Develop the Congregation Connections Committee and encourage greater participation

## **RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION COUNCIL**

**Members of the RE Council:** Christy Hayashida

**Staff:** Gwen Matthews

**Members of the Adult RE Council:** Cathy McKenna, Anne Turner, and Peter Fromuth

**Minister/Staff:** Rev. Hillary and Gwen Matthews

### ***Children & Youth RE Goals:***

- Center **UU values** in all of our programming
- Focus on acts of justice or community service for winter/spring 2023
- Offer more OWL programs for various age levels
- Offer whole family opportunities through things like multi-gen services and other events
- Collaborate with other churches (UU and interfaith)
- Invite more participation from congregants in the RE Council

### ***Adult RE Goals:***

- Center **UU values** in all of our programming
- Rebuild and strengthen connections among the congregation through Adult RE opportunities
- Offer increased adult learning opportunities
- Partner with other community members or organizations to offer Adult RE programming
- Invite more participation from congregants in the Adult RE Council

## **STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

**Members:** Marge Titcomb, Debbie Starkel, Jen Civiello, Joe Dreher, Cindy Guernsey, Phyllis Jones, Frank Read, and Tom Settlemire

### **Stewardship Goals:**

- Center **UU values** in all of our work.
- Annual Campaign. The big annual ‘ask’ in collaboration with the Board.
- Keep finances on track, prepare monthly reports for the board, and recommend solutions if surprises hit us.
- Fundraising events. Some for Justice – such as the Maine Farm Suppers where ALL sales are given to a local non-profit; some support our operating costs such as this year’s Holiday Fair.
- Preliminary planning towards a Capital Campaign: scope, purpose, timeline
- New 5-year plan: Stewardship Committee will participate in creating the plan!

## **FAITH IN ACTION**

**Members:** Marge Titcomb, Sue Ellen Bordwell, Jane Makela, Cathy McKenna, Dale Shields, Steve Thomas, and Pete Titcomb

**Minister:** Rev. Hillary

### **FIA Goals:**

- Center **UU values** in all of our work.
- Continue to organize Half-Plate Giving: Sunday Offering; Justice Events (e.g. Maine Farm Supper), providing over \$9000 annually to about 15 organizations, several who support asylum seekers and immigrant-led and youth-led organizations.
- Facilitate educational opportunities such as Guided Walks; Documentaries and Discussions (e.g. 3D).
- Promote awareness and engagement in “Radical Acts” such as upcoming Pizza Party for kids staying at the Best Western in Freeport; support legislation on issues pertaining to Climate Change, Voting access, Indigenous rights, Housing, and Asylum Seekers.
- Seek input from the congregation on what it values as First U justice focus.
- Ground our work in specific Climate and Racial Justice projects/actions with local impact that align with our UU values.
- Consider the direction of our Gyepes partnership.
- Collaborate with other groups on particular events that come up (for example, the community meetings/dinners in February that the CoM and Congregation Connections could run together)?

## **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

**Members:** Ben Tupper, Debbie Starkel, Charles Herman, Joe Dreher, John Auble, John Vogt, Jon Bogner-Williams, and Pete Titcomb

### **B&G Goals:**

- Center **UU Values** in our role as stewards of the property.
- Oversee the work done by the Property Maintenance Contractor for janitorial and grounds maintenance.
- Respond to needs for increased security with improvements such as panic buttons, video cameras, deadbolts on classrooms and meeting spaces.
- Address deferred maintenance on property such as hazard trees, barbed wire, and storm water management.
- Digitization of maintenance documentation system.
- Organize work parties to attend to volunteer-sized projects.
- Advise the Board on long-range needs and expenses, towards the creation of a Strategic Plan and preliminary scheme for a Capital Campaign in the coming years.