



Greater Philly UU Cluster Annual Report - May 2016
<http://www.greaterphillyuu.org/>

Cluster Member Congregations: BuxMont, Cherry Hill, Delaware County, Dorothea Dix, First U Philly, Germantown, Lower Bucks, Main Line, Pottstown, Restoration, South Jersey Shore, Thomas Paine, Wellsprings, West Chester

Cluster Leadership: Amy Nothelfer (MLUC), chair; Marilyn Huff (UUCDC), treasurer/moderator; Felice Macera (Lower Bucks), web/communications leader; and Pat Infante, CERG primary contact

Cluster Meetings: Representatives from the congregations met in Dec 2015 (UUCDC), Feb 2016 (MLUC), Mar 2016 (Germantown), and May 2016 (Lower Bucks). Marilyn Huff, Amy Nothelfer, and Pat Infante facilitated these meetings.

Cluster Mission: Share our message, Grow our Faith, Strengthen Congregations

Cluster Status: In its third year, the Greater Philly UU Cluster established a new leadership team in December, which proposed a new vision for the Cluster for the remainder of the year. The new vision included three primary goals:

- a) Further develop cohesion of the Cluster congregations
- b) Begin to support Cluster congregations in areas where there is a benefit to working as a group of congregations versus individual, isolated congregations:
 - advertise/spread the word of UUism
 - social justice
 - education/training from CERG
- c) Create a couple of successes to build on

To achieve these goals, the Cluster created four committees: 1) Communications, 2) Community Building, 3) Social Justice, and 4) Education/Training. These committees communicated via video conference calls/emails and then reported back to the larger group at the Cluster meetings.

Cluster Accomplishments: 1) Communications - posted congregations' events on the Cluster Google Calendar and developed a tutorial for posting, sent monthly GPC announcements for the Order of Service and newsletters of each congregation, and redesigned the Cluster website. 2) Community Building - held bi-monthly GPC meetings, started reaching out to Cluster Ministers for support, solicited "cluster representatives" from each congregation, participated in New Hope Pride Parade for third year, encouraged attendance at District Assembly and General Assembly, and began planning an annual cluster event in October 2016. 3) Social Justice - supported two existing social justice projects (Reproductive Justice, Anti-Mass Incarceration) to enhance projects and improve communication of efforts throughout the Cluster, including holding a workshop on Reproductive Justice advocacy. 4) Education/Training - identified two training topics for CERG to present next year: a) leadership development /succession planning and b) social justice/advocacy. Also during the meetings, we discussed regionalization and the growing role of cooperation among the congregations.