

“Affirming and promoting the inherent
worth and dignity of every person”



Greater Philly

Unitarian Universalists

Share our Message | Grow our Faith | Strengthen our Congregations



www.greaterphillyuu.org

Equity Spiritual Growth Love Respect
Acceptance Peace Compassion Justice

July 30, 2016

Agenda

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 9:00 – 9:30 | Meet and Greet w/ light refreshments |
| 9:30 – 9:35 | Chalice Lighting and Opening |
| 9:35 – 9:40 | Review the Covenant |
| 9:40 – 10:00 | Introductions & reflections on DNC events |
| 10:00 – 10:15 | Debrief UUA General Assembly |
| 10:15 – 10:20 | Annual Report |
| 10:20 – 10:55 | Vision for 2016-2017 church year; confirm ministers |
| 10:55 – 11:05 | Calendar for 2016-2017 |
| 11:05 – 11:25 | Activities Updates |
| 11:25 – 11:30 | Closing |

Chalice Lighting and Opening

Connection and Commitment Chalice Lighting

By Cynthia Landrum

As we kindle this flame,
May it spark in each of us
Connection and commitment
To this living tradition
And to each other.

Cluster Steering Committee Covenant

- Be true to UU purposes/principles
- Listening to others with respect and regard
- Be as present as possible
- Share knowledge
- Communicate with congregations
- Step up but step back
- Talk about strengths rather than limitations
- Process others comments thoroughly before responding thoughtfully
- Start/end on time
- Honor commitments
- Be conscious of others styles and limitations
- Open minds and optimism
- Avoid saying, been there, done that, didn't work.

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- Any thoughts about this week's DNC events? |

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- 10:00 – 10:15 **Debrief UUA General Assembly**
 - Any insights from GA that you'd like to share?

Debrief General Assembly

- Many Cluster reps attended as well as Pat (CERG) and Carla (JPD)
- Public Witness: Rev. Dr. William Barber, II
- UUA Presidential Candidates Forum
- Ware Lecture: **Krista Tippett** - Author, Radio Show Host, Journalist
- CSAI 2016-2020: The Corruption of our Democracy



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- 10:15 – 10:20 [Annual Report](#)

Annual Report 2015-2016

- 1) New leadership team; new vision for 2015-2016
- 2) Communications - posted congregations' events on the Cluster Google Calendar, developed a tutorial for posting, sent monthly GPC announcements, and redesigned the Cluster website.
- 3) 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
- 4) Social Justice - supported 2 existing social justice projects (Reproductive Justice, Anti-Mass Incarceration) including holding a workshop on Reproductive Justice advocacy.
- 5) Education/Training - identified 2 training topics for CERG to present next year: a) leadership development /succession planning and b) social justice/advocacy.
- 6) During meetings, we discussed regionalization and the growing role of cooperation among the congregations.

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- 10:20 – 10:55 [Vision for 2016-2017 church year; confirm ministers](#)

Vision for 2016-2017

Goals:

- a) Further develop cohesion of the 14 Cluster congregations
- b) Support efforts in which the Cluster congregations may benefit more from working together than working alone:
 - advertise/spread the word of UUism
 - denominational affairs
 - education/training (provided by CERG)
 - social justice
- c) Create a couple of successes to build on

Vision for 2016-2017

Actions to achieve the goals:

Advertisement

1. Post congregations' events on the Cluster Google calendar
2. Send monthly emails to Cluster congregations with a paragraph for the Order of Service
 - Congregations can also put the paragraph in their newsletters, on website, etc.
3. Further develop information on the Cluster website
4. Encourage ministers to make pulpit announcements to support the Cluster's work
5. Link to Cluster website on congregations' websites
6. Consider Faithify project to support advertisements at SEPTA stations

Vision for 2016-2017

Actions to achieve the goals:

Community Building

1. Revisit our Cluster Covenant
2. Request support of vision from Ministers and Board Presidents (in Fall)
3. Continue bimonthly Cluster Steering Committee meetings of representatives
4. Participate in a Pride Parade (New Hope in May)
5. Consider organizing a fun annual Cluster event in Fall 2017

Vision for 2016-2017

Actions to achieve the goals:

Denominational Affairs

1. Encourage UUA General Assembly attendance (June)
2. Consider setting up a live streaming video session to watch part of General Assembly

Vision for 2016-2017

Actions to achieve the goals:

Education/Training

1. Organize 2 trainings provided by CERG:
 - Social Justice/Advocacy (November)
 - Leadership Dev/Succession Planning (March)
2. Conduct needs assessment of Cluster congregations to identify 2 education/training workshops for CERG to conduct in 2017-2018
3. Encourage participation in UULI courses

Vision for 2016-2017

Actions to achieve the goals:

Social Justice

Support efforts of three key social justice issues to enhance congregations' projects and increase congregations' participation

1. Reproductive Justice (2012-2016 CSAI*)
2. Black Lives Matter/Anti-Mass Incarceration (2014-2018 CSAI)
3. The Corruption of our Democracy (2016-2020 CSAI)

*CSAI = Congregational Study/Action Issues

Future Planning / Parking Lot

Speaker Exchange/Pulpit

Supply database

Advertising

Fundraising

Social Justice – Young

Adults

Webinars (JPD)

MLK Day

Conf call with Delmarva

Multi-site Speaker series

Congregational database

Directory of members'
issues, interests, skills

Promote denominational
growth

Campus ministry

Revival meeting

Facebook page

Bus tour of UU church history

Vision for 2016-2017

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Actions to achieve the goals:

- 1) Advertisement
- 2) Community Building
- 3) Denominational Affairs
- 4) Education/Training
- 5) Social Justice

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Calendar 2016-2017

- All meetings on Saturdays
- All meetings start at 9:00 (greet), 9:30 (mtg)

Sep 17 – meeting: Covenant

Nov 12 – brief mtg + Social Justice Advocacy training

Jan 21 – meeting: TBD

Mar 25 – brief mtg + Leadership Dev training

May 20 – brief mtg + New Hope Pride Parade

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Communications Update

- 1) Sending monthly GPC announcement
- 2) Encourage representatives to add events to the google calendar
- 3) Annual reports are on GPC website
- 4) Added content to GPC website

Community Building Update

1) Amy contacting Ministers and Board Presidents in Fall

2) Congregational representatives:

- Have: Cherry Hill, Delaware Cty, Germantown, Lower Bucks, Restoration, Thomas Paine, West Chester

- Need: Buxmont, Dorothea Dix, First U, MLUC, Pottstown, South Jersey, Well Springs

3) GPC mtg: Zoom video conference in Sept?

Education/Training Update

1) Cluster trainings in 2016-2017 (Fall/Spring)

- Social justice/advocacy (Nov)
- Leadership development /succession planning (March)

2) Encourage participation in UULI (\$30)

- Cluster will cover the cost of anyone who finishes the course and requests reimbursement
- <http://www.uuinstitute.org/fall-2016/>
 - Healthy Leadership 101 is a “must-take” course for leadership
 - All online in the Fall

Social Justice Update

1) Develop a stronger network of info and action within the Cluster on 2 primary projects:

- Reproductive Justice
- Anti Mass Incarceration

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Closing

Coming together is a beginning;
keeping together is progress;
working together is success.

- Henry Ford

Thank you!

Next meeting:

- Sat, Sept 17, 2016 from 9:30 – 11:30 am
- Location: UUCDC
- Covenants

Questions?

Amy Nothelfer, chair – info@greaterphillyuu.org