

Ideas from Congregation re: Goals
Semi-Annual Meeting 2/11/18

Goal #1 - Comprehensive Lifespan R.E.

Yellow

- More spiritual content in our services
- Take organizational maintenance off the ministers so they can concentrate on ministering and not business administration
- Move towards children joining their parents in the sanctuary during worship
- Build a better/stronger RE program; get more hours/full-time for RE Director, people w/ children will come
- End-of-life options; "right to die" support for family members
- Full time DRE
- Developing new services instead of repeating same ones in past (such as water service on opening sunday)
- Reinstall vibrant and active Sunday programs table
- EMPOWER THE THEISTS!
- Adult Programs more support for activities like SGM -Esther McKone
- Full-time DRE
- Expand religious education w/ Islam partnerships
- More hours for DRE
- Drumming circle

Blue

- Life-long leadership development and classes - Diana H.
- More 1 session 2 hour adult courses on cosmology, prayer, care-giving, anything - Marye Gail Harrison

Goal #2 - Relationships Based on Respect, Understanding and Safety

Yellow

- Let the public know that USH and UU is for Justice, Love, Respect, Dignity and Spirit
- Create congregational covenant
- Welcoming of various voices + theologies (including non-UU ones)
- More transparency on how decisions + policies are made - Removal of sign from front - child safety policy
- Commitment + serious anti-racism + anti-oppressive transformation
- Anti racism work

Blue

- Create moving, accessible book carts (i.e. from "old" libraries from our past) possibly large signage of (F), N/F, YA, etc... - Deb Meny
- Create congregational covenant - Martha Bradley

Goal #3 - Innovative & Sustainable Finances

Yellow

- Repaint and tile Fellowship Hall to make it more appealing to rentals
- Ministers Pay from 1 FTE to 1.5 FTE
- Further support of Meeting House Presents (equipment, etc...)
- Fair, living wages + benefits for staff
- Improve lighting
- Protect & grow the Endowment
- Yes on Capital Campaign and Endowment clarity!
- Support administrative staff w/ full time office manager
- Build the Endowment by activating a Planned Giving Committee that provides information for people wanting to leave a legacy gift
- Don't spend "we might raise it" money! Raise the money before you commit to spend it!
- Office Staff - Volunteer Coordinator &/or Membership, Administrative Support, IT Support

Blue

- Full-Time RE Possibly begin with "intern" (part-time?) (name scratched out)

Goal # 4 - Attract & Integrate a Healthy Stream of Visitors

Yellow

- Budget for + hire a Membership Staff Person
- Coordinate a combo plant sale + spring celebration w/ face painting, games, etc. in early May that is open to the public
- Advertising budget for Town Banners, billboards etc.
- Additional office staff
- Advertise more
- Take advantage of our prominent location

Blue

- Vastly enlarge and bring into 21st century "Meeting House" permanent lawn sign and LARGE "quote" signs!! - Deb Meny
- Research costs for and proceed to get funding for dramatically improving outside lighting on our building - Deb & Peter Meny
- I am a proselytizing UU and I enjoy speaking with newcomers - Laurie Kelliher

Goal # 5 - Committed Partners in BUilding Justice

Yellow

- Develop a partnership with an animal rescue group, feral care, or similar local effort
- Expand the Noah Webster tutor program, Devote a service perhaps or at least testimonials (could also expand to other Hartford schools)
- Death with dignity. Empowering people to keep control at the end of their life
- Social Justice to promote constitutional principles in alignment with our programs
- Does this include Educational + Health Justice?
- Greater, focused attention on Latino & Refugee communities

- Regular pulpit visits from SJ Partners
- I want the Greater Hartford area to know our name “oh yeah, that’s USH - they always show up”

Blue

- Facilitate a SGM on race (unsigned)
- Develop a Spiritual/?? Foundation for participation in social “action” activities including justice education - “Being” vs. “Doing” - Rick Tsukada
- Partner with local environment organizations - Larry Lunden
- Integrate book discussions & movies that depict Latino & refugee concerns, issues - Sue Tenorio

Suggestions not otherwise related to the 5 goals:

- The board’s targeted goals really need to be fully grounded, i.e. anyone can assess how well the goal was met and the assessments are such that they are unbiased (?) i.e. “engaging worship” not a universalized concept, because not everyone will agree on “engaging”
- Streamline and update by-laws to reflect the changes in governance model - Hank Murray