

Board of Trustees Proposal for UU Nashua Priorities
June 2013 through May 2015

Creating a Church Community that Includes People of All Ages

Building Congregational Relationships

All-Church Social Justice Focus

Full Text of Board of Trustees Proposal for UU Nashua Priorities, June 2013 through May 2015

Creating a Church Community that Includes People of All Ages (Previous: Retain Youth & Attract Young Adults)

Preamble: Children, youth, and young adults are our church's future. It is vital that our programs and activities are inclusive of and meaningful for people of all ages. It is vital that our programs and activities promote connections between people of different ages.

Vision: Young people feel welcomed into our church community. Children who grow up in our church share an enduring sense of acceptance and belonging to this church. Young individuals and families with young children are attracted to our church and smoothly integrated into our church family.

Measures of Success: Attendance and participation of children, youth, and young adults in the broad range of church programs and activities has increased.

Responsible Parties: The minister (as our Chief Executive Officer), the Director of Religious Education, the R.E. Committee, all other committees as pertinent, and all of us.

Building Congregational Relationships (Previous: Improved Communication Project)

Preamble: Establishing clear and effective two-way communication is a critical component in the development of healthy or "right" relationships between individuals and groups. When we are in right relationship, we relate to one another with honor, respect, love, and care.

Vision: All church committees, groups, leaders, and laypeople take responsibility for widely communicating information about their activities, both in reporting what they have done and inviting others to participate in future events. At the same time, all church committees, groups, leaders, and laypeople take responsibility for keeping up with church communications coming their way.

Measures of Success:

- Over the next year, the congregation will have developed and adopted a covenant of right relationships that describes how we all agree to work and be together in community. There will be an increase in the number of members of the congregation who are included in e-mail distribution lists and active on the church's Facebook page.

Responsible Parties: The minister (as our Chief Executive Officer), the Public Relations Committee, all other committees as pertinent, and all of us

- All church policies will be reviewed and clarified.

Responsible Party: The Board of Trustees

All-Church Social Justice Focus (Previous: All-Church Social Justice Project)

Preamble: Developing awareness of and working to address social justice issues is a meaningful part of our individual searches for truth and meaning. It is vital that our church encourages its members and friends, including children, to do so. As a focus for social justice work, our church has chosen to work toward ending hunger and homelessness in our local area. Since a well-organized network of organizations (both the Nashua Continuum of Care and GSOP) is already working on these issues, it is vital that our programs and activities encourage engagement in these local efforts, both for individuals and the church as a whole.

Vision: Our entire congregation recognizes that social justice work promotes compassion and caring in all human relations and is a means to spiritual growth. The congregation is known for our social justice work in the local community, especially our work on ending hunger and homelessness.

Measures of Success:

- **Education:** Within the next 2 years we have made at least 6 major efforts that will serve to educate our church members and friends, as well as the wider community, about our social justice focus. This education will include information about how individuals can become involved in solving the problems that contribute to hunger and homelessness.
- **Service & Advocacy:** All members of the congregation will engage in a "service project" and donate time, talent and energy in the area of ending hunger and homelessness; this includes an increase in the number of members volunteering at Community Dinner, and active participation from every RE classroom.
- **Financial Support:** The congregation will raise and donate at least \$15,000 to associated organizations that are focused on hunger and homelessness issues.

Responsible Parties: The minister (as our Chief Executive Officer), the Director of Religious Education, "Council of Committee Chairs," all other committees as pertinent, and all of us.