

**JUSTICE ACTION MINISTRIES (“JAM”)
ESTABLISHING A JAM
Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Appleton, WI**

Do you want to create a team to address a social injustice and make the world a better place? Great! We call those teams Justice Action Ministries, or JAMs! Our dedicated JAM Facilitators are a team of people who are committed to helping JAMs (both new and long-running) by coordinating, supporting, and mentoring each JAM.

Meet Your 2018-19 JAM Facilitators:

Chair – Penny Robinson

Startup JAM Mentor – Doug Middleton – *contact Doug if you want to start a new JAM!*

Facilitator Communications – Connie Raether

External Communications “Justice Hub” Editor – Connie Kanitz

JAM Social Media Administrator – Angie Miller

JAM Financial Coordinator – Doug Dorn

JAM Mentorship Coordinator – Cathy Thompson

Ministry Team Liaisons – Rev. Christina Leone-Tracy, Rev. Jim Coakley

So you want to create a new JAM?

- The **FIRST STEP** is to contact Doug Middleton, our Startup JAM Mentor, by emailing him at StartupJAM@fvuuf.org.
- Doug will help you schedule your first two interest sessions, which will help you determine if there is enough interest by other Fellowship members and/or friends to make an official JAM.
- After the two interest sessions, Doug will help you complete your JAM application, which encourages discernment about involvement, as well as your goals and strategies.
- The JAM Facilitators will approve the JAM application at their next monthly meeting, assuming they have no other questions or concerns, and you will then be an official JAM!
- After your first couple months as an official JAM, Doug will pass you along to a new mentor who will be your primary contact with the JAM Facilitators from that point on.

JAM Resources: What the Fellowship will provide each approved JAM

- **Use of the building**—The primary contact member of all approved JAMs can coordinate with our Fellowship secretary, Cyndi (cyndi@fvuuf.org) to arrange use of Fellowship space for meetings and approved events.
- **Use of the Fellowship logo**—work with your JAM mentor on proper logo usage.
- **Use of funds from quarterly collection**—We have a process of requesting and reimbursing JAM expenses. Questions? Contact JAMfinancial@fvuuf.org.

- **“Justice Hub” communication mechanism** – work with your JAM mentor to offer announcements and ways to get connected to your JAM’s work, through our monthly Fellowship email focused solely on justice and outreach, the “Justice Hub.” To submit something to Justice Hub, complete the online form or email JusticeHub@fvuuf.org .
- **Strategy support** – work with your JAM mentor to diversify and improve your strategies for justice making. See below for details on various strategies.

JAM Responsibilities: What the Fellowship will expect from each JAM

- Engagement and involvement – JAMs provide ways for Fellowship members and friends of the Fellowship to engage in social justice based upon our UU principles and Fellowship ends statements.
- Monthly reports – The JAM Facilitators expect monthly reports from each JAM, either verbally or in written/emailed format so that they can best support and coordinate all of the JAMs and the Fellowship staff.
- Education and connection – Most JAMs will be asked to provide one Sunday of R.E. for children/youth and a Connection Saturday time once per year. These opportunities help connect our Fellowship children, youth, and adults to justice-making opportunities.

Justice Strategies: Ways JAMs can meet their objectives

The JAM Facilitators encourage each JAM to use a range of strategies to engage people with different interests, learning styles, and approaches, and to create depth in the justice-making work. We find that using a range of strategies is also the best way to make meaningful change in the world. The JAM Facilitators are available to help give ideas and support for how to apply various strategies. **Talk to your JAM mentor about how we can help!**

The strategies come from the *Five Modes of Social Justice Work* from Richard S. Gilbert

- **Advocacy**—working on changing policies and policy makers to effect whole systems (letter writing or calling legislators, legislative advocacy, petitions, etc. Any of the following can also be done to support systemic change).
- **Community Organizing** – Mobilizing community leaders in a given community to address a social issue or problem. Allying directly with folks already in the work, or being directly affected by the issue.
- **Witnessing**—making known to the community a position on issues for the sake of being heard or seen (letters to the editor, rallies, vigils)
- **Direct Service**—Hands-on service work from person-to-person (tutoring, providing meals, rides, etc.)
- **Education**—The process of studying issues and becoming more knowledgeable about the issue and its complexities.

Unitarian Universalist connection:

Each JAM is asked to consider the connections of their work to our faith tradition and how our congregation might bring added value to the work already being done on the issue. JAMs are asked to make connections to our seven UU principles, and/or the ends statements of the Fox Valley UU Fellowship:

UU 7 Principles:

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

The inherent worth and dignity of every person;

Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;

Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;

A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;

The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;

The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;

Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Fox Valley UU Fellowship Ends Statements —These are five-year goals (“ends”) set forth by our governing board to guide the operations of the Fellowship from July 2018 through June 2023:

Rooted in our Unitarian Universalist identity, the people of the Fellowship embrace our collective responsibility to live our values within and beyond our walls. Across the lifespan, we:

Love each other in times of joy, sorrow, and transition

Live a life of purpose, rooted in spiritual practice, service, and wonder

Create a culture of radical hospitality and compassion

Form deep and authentic relationships across differences

Are a visible presence and resource, courageously challenging injustice and inequity

Work to end discrimination and systemic racism within ourselves, our congregation, and the world around us

Generously share our time, talent, and treasure, in a spirit of joy and abundance