

Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Vision Statement

Adopted May 20, 2012

The Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is a vibrant, welcoming, caring, and diverse community. We are guided by our Unitarian Universalist principles, which challenge us to grow in mind and spirit and inspire us to build a better world. We reach out to the wider community to be leaders in social justice and to invite those who share our vision to join us. We are a deeply committed community where values and action matter.

Welcoming

In the future the Fellowship will be a congregation that:

- Is open to all those inspired by our Unitarian Universalist principles, where we value the intrinsic worth and dignity of every person.
- Offers an open, friendly, welcoming atmosphere with an energy that is experienced by all those entering our doors.
- Is loving, caring, and inclusive, actively reaching out to disconnected persons.
- Is grounded in direct, honest, caring communication.
- Has great visibility in the community, where people know who we are, understand our principles, and want to participate.
- Understands that growth is not a goal, but rather the outcome of being a welcoming, vital, and diverse religious congregation and that accepts the responsibilities associated with growth.

Spiritual Growth

In the future the Fellowship will be a congregation that:

- Is a strong and vital community where we are connected with each other and are supported in our individual pursuits for truth and meaning.
- Challenges each one of us to grow spiritually.
- Is guided by our UU principles, where we are free to examine diverse spiritual and intellectual ideas and to follow our hearts and consciences in our individual searches for meaning.
- Understands that our spiritual journey becomes richer with greater diversity and where we celebrate and honor people for their diverse beliefs, backgrounds, or identities, knowing that their presence enriches us all.
- Has a strong tradition of interactive worship as living proof that we embrace freedom of thought, diverse beliefs, and individual spiritual journeys.
- Provides a nurturing environment through the warmth and intimacy of small group activities, stimulating programs and educational activities for all ages, and open and engaging religious services.

Social Justice Leadership

In the future the Fellowship will be a congregation that:

- Is a beacon of liberal religion and a recognized leader in the community for social justice, activism, and commitment to building a better world
- Facilitates individuals building circles of intentional relationships with each other and in the wider community, strengthening their ability to engage in social justice work.
- Trains and develops effective spiritual leaders in social justice.

Mutual Commitment

In the future the Fellowship will be a congregation that:

- Is responsible and intentional about actions, both individually and collectively.
- Values participatory decision-making and the democratic process, where individual opinions are respected, and where there is trust in leadership.
- Understands we are all called to be actively, passionately, and responsibly involved in the life of the Fellowship and that it is only through our commitment that our vision will become reality.
- Accepts our mutual responsibility to generously support the Fellowship with our time, talent, and money so that others may experience the love, support, and meaning that we have experienced.
- Contributes financially to support excellence in staffing, programming, and building space to enhance the ongoing life of the Fellowship.
- Respects its heritage, nurtures its virtues and assets, and is not afraid to change.