

UCE Article 2 Conversations

November 2023 through May 2024

Living our UU Values. Where are you on the Journey?

Join Revs Eileen and Susan, and members of the Denominational Affairs Team for conversation about the transformation of our principles and sources to values and inspirations.

Sessions are either in-person at UCE or via zoom.

<https://zoom.us/j/93206683482?pwd=bW0xNEpCeXBURFg3bk1PY1dhR05JUT09>

Meeting ID: 932 0668 3482. Passcode: 370088

The Proposed Revisions to UUA Bylaws Article II with 2023 General Assembly (GA) Amendments are included in this document. Links below link to related content in the proposed revisions section.

Tuesday, November 14th at 6:30 pm via zoom

Join members of the Denominational Affairs Committee for conversation about the history of our Principles and Sources, and the transformational journey to our newly drafted [Values](#). Also to be discussed is the value of [Generosity](#) and the [Purposes](#) of our faith movement. How are we living-into generosity? How can generosity and radical welcoming expand our beloved community?

Wednesday, January 17th at 6:30 pm

Join members of the Denominational Affairs Committee for conversation about our grounding in [Love](#) and [Inclusion](#). What does centering love mean? How does the power of inclusion support our leaning into love?

Tuesday, February 13th at 6:30 pm

Join members of the Denominational Affairs Committee for conversation about the values of [Justice](#) and [Equity](#). How are they different? How do they work together to make the world whole?

Monday, April 8th via zoom at 6:30 pm

Join members of the Denominational Affairs Committee for conversation about [Transformation](#) and [Interdependence](#), and [Inspirations](#). Why is change important to our faith? How does the interconnectedness of all things make change so challenging? Where do you see interdependencies within the UCE community and the world at large? How does that impact our transformation to a truly beloved community?

Sunday, May 5th in-person in Room 2 at 12:00 pm

Join Rev Susan and Denominational Affairs Committee members and delegates to the 2024 UUA General Assembly for conversation about [Pluralism](#) and [Freedom of Belief](#).

Proposed Revisions to UUA Bylaws Article II with 2023 General Assembly (GA) Amendments

(**Bold underlining indicates insertion** between 2023 pre-GA draft and 2023 post-GA draft.
Deleted language from previous draft does not appear.)

Section C-2.1. Purposes

The Unitarian Universalist Association will devote its resources to and use its organizational powers for religious, educational, and humanitarian purposes. Its primary purposes are to assist congregations in their vital ministries, support and train leaders both lay and professional, to foster lifelong faith formation **and spiritual development**, to heal historic injustices, **to support and encourage the creation of new Unitarian Universalist communities**, and to advance our Unitarian Universalist values in the world.

The purpose of the Unitarian Universalist Association is to actively engage its members in the transformation of the world through liberating Love.

Section C-2.2. Values and Covenant

As Unitarian Universalists, we covenant, congregation-to-congregation and through our association, to support and assist one another in our ministries. We draw from our heritages of freedom, reason, hope, and courage, building on the foundation of love.

Love is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our shared values. We are accountable to one another for doing the work of living our shared values through the spiritual discipline of Love.

Inseparable from one another, these shared values are:

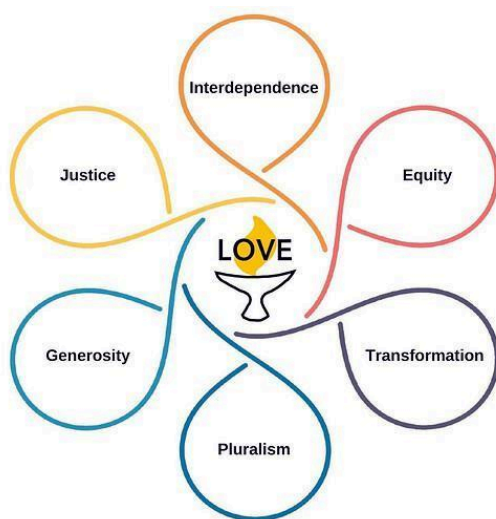


Image Description: This image is of a chalice with an overlay of the word love over the flame, with six outstretched arms that create a circle around each of the core values and form a six petal flower shape.

Each arm is a different color and clockwise they are: Interdependence (Orange), Equity (Red), Transformation (Purple), Pluralism (Dark Blue), Generosity (Teal), and Justice (Yellow).

Interdependence

We honor the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. With humility and reverence, we covenant to protect Earth and all beings from exploitation, creating and nurturing sustainable relationships of repair, mutuality, and justice.

Pluralism

We celebrate that we are all sacred beings diverse in culture, experience, and theology. We covenant to learn from one another in our free and responsible search for truth and meaning. We embrace our differences and commonalities with Love, curiosity, and respect.

Justice

We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities where all thrive. We covenant to dismantle racism and all forms of systemic oppression. We support the use of inclusive democratic processes to make decisions within our congregations and the society at large.

Transformation

We adapt to the changing world. We covenant to collectively transform and grow spiritually and ethically. Openness to change is fundamental to our Unitarian and Universalist heritages, never complete and never perfect.

Generosity

We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope. We covenant to freely and compassionately share our faith, presence, and resources. Our generosity connects us to one another in relationships of interdependence and mutuality.

Equity

We declare that every person has the right to flourish with inherent dignity and worthiness. We covenant to use our time, wisdom, attention, and money to build and sustain fully accessible and inclusive communities.

Section C-2.3. Inspiration

As Unitarian Universalists, we proclaim that direct experiences of transcending mystery and wonder are a primary source of inspiration. These experiences open our hearts, renew our spirits, and transform our lives. We draw upon, and are inspired by, sacred, secular, and scientific understandings that help us make meaning and live into our values. We respect the histories, contexts, and cultures in which these understandings were created and are currently practiced. These sources ground us and sustain us in ordinary, difficult, and

joyous times. Grateful for the **experiences that move us, aware of the** religious ancestries we inherit, and **enlivened by** the diversity which enriches our faith, we are called to ever deepen and expand our wisdom.

Section C-2.4. Inclusion”

Systems of power, privilege, and oppression have traditionally created barriers for persons and groups with particular identities, ages, abilities, and histories. We pledge to replace such barriers with ever-widening circles of solidarity and mutual respect. We strive to be an association of congregations that truly welcome all persons who share our values. We commit to being an association of congregations that empowers and enhances everyone’s participation, especially those with historically marginalized identities.

Section C-2.5. Freedom of belief

Congregational freedom and the individual’s right of conscience are central to our Unitarian Universalist heritage. Congregations may establish statements of purpose, covenants, and bonds of union so long as they do not require that members adhere to a particular creed.