

CALL TO ACTION “LIVING OUR VISION”

Originally adopted by the Board of Trustees on February 21, 2017

Revised and renewed May 21, 2019

In June, 2016 the membership of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Charlotte adopted a 25-year Vision Statement and accompanying Framework.

To progress toward the realization of this Vision, in February 2017, the Board adopted “Living our Vision,” a call to action defined in a series of initial commitments, with a goal of achieving measurable progress by June 2018. Upon additional reflection and conversations with the staff, we soon realized that we needed more time to fulfill the goal.

In February 2019, the Board met to review the Call to Action. We examined where progress had been made, where there was still room for growth, and where items needed to be added or revised in order to better embody our Ends.

The Board has determined to renew the Call to Action through June 2020, with certain additions or revisions. The original Call is set forth below along with the additions and revisions, which are shown in *blue italics*.

We believe these steps will enable us to become a more outwardly directed faith community working with others who share a vision of a more just and equitable society. We believe that this commitment requires that we seek out opportunities to listen to people and ideas that may challenge long-held assumptions, ways of understanding, commitments and practices and may expand the comfort zones that surround even our worthiest habits and traditions.

The Board commits to:

Engage in Spiritual Transformation by

- Exploring our personal and collective spirituality as a basis for societal and environmental transformation
- Partnering with and following other *community groups* and people of compassion and goodwill from whom we can learn
- *Maintaining connections and staying in right relationship as we respond to the Call to Action*
- *Finding additional ways to nurture loving community*
- *Deepening our understanding and definition of transformation and of intersectional justice*
- *Celebrating our new awareness, understanding and community connections*

Engage in Societal Transformation by

- Creating a wide variety of opportunities to listen to and learn from those who are marginalized by injustice, inequity and discrimination as a means of deepening our understanding of systemic injustice and inequity
- *Seeking opportunities and* responding to calls for collective action on urgent moral issues by adding our presence and our voices
- Advocating for efforts that disclose and work to dismantle systemic injustice and inequity

Engage in Environmental transformation by

- Engaging with our community to educate ourselves on issues of environmental injustice
- Promoting environmental justice and sustainable practices and policies

Overall, this commitment to transformation will enable us to:

- Integrate spiritual, societal and environmental awareness, practices and experiences
- Communicate our work as described above to the congregation and to the community at large
- Celebrate our new awareness, knowledge, and community connections acquired and made in the interest of the common good

These initial steps toward our Vision call us to:

- Listen with humility and respect as we learn to become more powerful agents for transformative change in ourselves and in our world
- Step up courageously to live out the principles of our faith
- Show up to defend our ideals when our presence can make a difference
- Speak up for justice and equity in our society

By challenging each other to embrace the work of realizing our Vision, we will transform our loving liberating religious community and help to create the just society we envision for ourselves and for future generations.