

UUCR Goals and Initiatives to Achieve Them

November 4, 2012

Worship: Worship at Restoration will be the unifying, community-building experience of our congregation and friends. Using diverse and multi-cultural musical and visual arts, it will be stimulating and meaningful and appealing to newcomers. Our theological and wisdom resources will be as varied as the people who come to Restoration. We will value worship with a spiritual depth that encourages spiritual growth.

Our recent accomplishments

- Installed our full-time minister.
- Diversified the format, tenor and focus of services to appeal to the diversity of spiritual paths that congregants are following.
- Created worship associates for Sunday services

Priorities for the immediate future

- Improve the audio-visual system (sound system, visual projection, recording equipment) to enhance the spiritual experience at all services, share it online via our website and to provide a vehicle for projecting monthly spiritual/justice movies.
- Enhance and beautify the sanctuary, increasing chalice symbolism throughout

Religious Education: Restoration will provide multiple opportunities for personal, religious and spiritual growth for all age groups, thereby creating a community that is actively and consistently increasing in spiritual maturity.

Our recent accomplishments

- Hired a part-time religious educator to oversee our RE program.
- Cleaned and refurbished the nursery.
- Hired a nursery worker.
- Cleaned the playground

Priorities for the immediate future

- Refurbish all classrooms to make them safer and more inviting to children and their parents.
- Provide teacher training for RE teachers.
- Offer more evening sessions for adults. Offer adult programs that build on each other and lead to increased spiritual maturity.
- Offer monthly movies for all ages—tied to spiritual and justice themes and built into the following Sunday sermon.

Community: UUCR will be a welcoming, inclusive spiritual community. We will build authentic relationships, cultivate sincere caring, and engage with the local community and the world beyond.

Our recent accomplishments

- Instituted a system for greeting newcomers and welcoming them during the service and during coffee hour.
- Expanded lay outreach, caring and cards
- Established hospitality teams

- Installed an attractive sign in front of the church
- Begun inter-generational activities (game nights, picnics)

Priorities for the immediate future

- Upgrade the church website to attract new members and enhance communication within the congregation.
- Expand inter-generational activities

Social Justice: UUCR will be committed to social justice. We will address issues of anti-racism, anti-oppression and multiculturalism. We acknowledge our responsibility to address the issues of our environment, our city and the wider world.

Our recent accomplishments

- Committed to being a welcoming congregation.
- Hosted NPHIN families
- Pursued individual justice initiatives

Priorities for the immediate future

- Expand our efforts as a welcoming congregation.
- Revive the Restoration Plan for UUCR to increase congregational support and involvement in justice issues.
- Create community partnerships with local organizations, such as NPHIN and Stenton Family Manor.

Infrastructure: Restoration will build a solid infrastructure of human, financial, and physical resources to support our current and future program needs.

Our recent accomplishments

- Repaired the roof, installed storm windows, renovated a major stained glass window, and re-plastered and painted walls.
- Installed air conditioning in the sanctuary to support summer services.
- Remodeled the kitchen and added a commercial dishwasher.
- Installed two baby-changing tables.
- Met our financial stewardship goals for the past three years

Priorities for the immediate future

- Clean up all areas of the building and discard junk and old, broken furniture to make the church more inviting to newcomers.
- Improve handicap accessibility (elevator, bathroom).

Other initiative to consider

- Initiate a planned giving program.