

NEWS FROM THE MISSION PLANNING TEAM

In May and June, we have been engaged in the third segment of our Mission Planning journey, **Motivating Vision**. Pastor Tom guided us more deeply on a path of introspection and personal discovery in order to encourage expressions of aspiration for Evergreen's future - where we want to go together in the future. This ongoing conversation has provided opportunities for us to envision new possibilities... what it is that we value and what the next 30 years could look like; to consider not necessarily *what* we see for the future but *how* we see, and perhaps make a shift in perspective based on our examination of what is nourishing us in our UU experience and faith; to participate in spiritual practices to open ourselves up to deeper awareness of what sustains us; and opening our hearts to listen to the concerns and fears and hopes of others in the larger community around us.

In this time of isolation, we have also had an opportunity to reflect on the state of our lives, our vulnerabilities, the world around us, and what the future might hold in a post-Covid environment. How will we emerge from that experience? Can we use that reflection to re-imagine the landscape of our lives and the future of Evergreen in our lives and the community in which we live? When we cross the threshold of the post-Covid era, how might we

Please submit Visions by email to the Planning Team:
missionplanning@evergreenuu.org

manifest our [Core Values](#) and [Bedrock Beliefs](#) in a more robust and genuine way? How might we celebrate our joy in life again through our generosity to each other and to those who might need us in the larger community? These are all additional portals for exploring visions for Evergreen's place in the horizon not yet seen.

We encourage you to take advantage of the experiences being offered this summer to cultivate awareness, to build capacity to imagine what is possible, and to challenge us to act in this moment:

Individual Spiritual Practices

Listening Prayer Triads

Practicing Reading Sacred Text

The Planning Team will continue to gather Visions submitted by the Congregation and Friends throughout the summer months and publish them anonymously in the Weekly Update. At the end of the summer, these submissions will be compiled for discussion and synthesis at a series of **Focus Groups** before presentation to the Congregation. Please plan to add your voice to the vision of possibility and promise for Evergreen's future.

THE MISSION PLANNING TEAM

Please contact any of us with questions or concerns. We welcome your input and your participation.

Ann Kelleher • Karen Winchell • Nancy Miller
Marijo Duprey • Sally Malan • Laurel Nisler
missionplanning@evergreenuu.org

VISIONING COVENANT

As we address the future direction of this congregation, we promise to:

- listen with our hearts,
- think with creativity and imagination,
- stay open to and respectful of new ideas and concepts,
- consider limitless possibilities, and
- honor the values and beliefs of the Fellowship; and

we are:

- ready to accept others without judgment, go to the extremes of diplomacy, and offer the maximum generosity,
- prepared to laugh at ourselves and laugh with each other, and
- eager to try, fail, learn, and try again.