

## **Unfolding Peace with First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego**

“To build community requires vigilant awareness of the work we must continually do to undermine all the socialization that leads us to behave in ways that perpetuate domination.”

— bell hooks, Teaching Community: A Pedagogy of Hope

### **Phase 2: Relationships: Process Nourishment Update**

- Inviting congregants to move beyond behaviors that deny them a future together and accompanying them through the chaos of healing

Thank you for the opportunity to process harm and future visions and hopes with congregants and friends of FUUSD. As we have discussed, healing from trauma is a process. The revelations from the process provides essential ingredients for 21st century informed changes to reflect, implement, monitor, and modify covenant principles embodiment.

1. The dominant questions for exploration the week of June 1st, 2022, and going forward are worthy of internal engagement for the next three weeks are:
2. How do you currently value a selected aspect of your name?
3. How are you feeling right now?
4. How are you participating and experiencing the “WE-Ness” of FUUSD?
5. How were you harmed and what is/was the impact on you?
6. Vision – When it is good at FUUSD, what would it look, feel, taste, smell, and sound like?

During the week of June 1-5, 2022, there were 3 convenings with approximately 30 people, 3 planning and debrief meetings with variations of a core (Revs. Omega, Suzelle, Deanna, and myself). I also conducted 9 one-to-one meetings. Through service at the food pantry, met with 4 impacted beloveds. I attended the Saturday South Bay service and briefly attended the Sunday Hillcrest morning service. Additionally, Rev. Deanna had a one-to-one with an impacted beloved during this week, via zoom.

We are tallying the results of all listening sessions within the framework of the 5 questions listed above. This data will be shared with leadership once it is compiled.

I did offer to all congregants the opportunity to ask family and friends of FUUSD to respond to the above 5 questions and share their findings; as well as the invitation to watch the last 3 movies viewed (Crash, Hidden Figures, Fifty First Dates] to process how evidence of crashing, hidden people in their congregation and the need to intentionally renew relationship terms are present.

**The next immediate steps are:**

- An invitation to view the movie, The Giver and join in a group reflection regarding its contents and lessons for FUUSD.
- Continue conversations with congregants utilizing the five questions mentioned above.

This is update offers leadership an important way to bear witness to the unfolding process our work is supporting with FUUSD.

Peace, Denise

Unfolding Peace

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