

UUCJ FORWARD TOGETHER TASK FORCE 2024-25 CHARTER

PORTFOLIO: REPORTS DIRECTLY TO THE UUCJ BOARD **APPROVED:** July 11, 2024

GROUP TITLE: **FORWARD TOGETHER TASK FORCE**

UUCJ VISION: UUCJ is a welcoming community. We encourage religious freedom, nurture individual spiritual and ethical growth, celebrate diversity and promote a just and sustainable world.

UUCJ MISSION: By serving compassionately and connecting authentically, we change the world.

GROUP FUNCTION: The Forward Together Task Force (FTTF) is charged by the Board to:

- Assess the impact of UUA’s new Article II on UUCJ.
- Monitor proposed changes to UUA’s Bylaws Article III.
- Research options for potential affiliation with Unitarian/Universalist group(s) beyond UUA and share the information with the congregation.
- Develop a process for congregational engagement with forging a new path to practicing our faith.
- Design an educational program that includes a timeline, procedures, relevant issues, appropriate venues, and opportunities for congregational participation and final decision-making.

To accomplish the Board’s charge, the Forward Together Task Force will:

- Provide workshops, townhall meetings, e-mails, relevant links, announcements, and a dedicated e-mail account.
- Present an analysis of options for retaining congregational wholeness as we move forward together:
 - Remaining as a UUA associated congregation.
 - Becoming an independent congregation.
 - Partnering with other Unitarian associations.
- Discuss with the congregation the impact of these changes on:
 - UUCJ’s Governance and Organizational Structure.
 - Ministry, religious education and worship practices.
 - The design of UUCJ’s website and marketing.
 - Staffing, church finances, assets and UUA services.
 - Current and potential membership.
- Recommend that the Board charge Portfolio Leaders with analyzing effects of the changes in their areas of responsibility.
- Request the UUCJ Foundation Board analyze the impact of the changes on the Foundation for:
 - Foundation Governance.
 - Management of the Endowment and possibly other funds.
 - Fundraising communications.
- Study and inform on:
 - Proposed changes to UUA’s Bylaws Article III.
 - Present other topics that may need attention as the research proceeds.
- Schedule a congregational meeting for a congregational vote on forging a path forward.

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GROUP COVENANT: The members will:

1. Abide by the UUCJ Covenant.
2. Practice deep listening skills.
3. Honor everyone's right to search for truth and meaning without judgement.
4. Respect everyone's right of conscience and the use of the democratic process.

RECORDS/REPORTS: The task force will provide a monthly report to the Board as appropriate, and will attend Board meetings upon request.

2024-25 GOALS/TASKS: The Task Force

1. Reorganize and re-title the current Article 2 Review Task Force to the Forward Together Task Force.
2. Request the Board send out an e-mail to the congregation announcing the renewal of the task force, its new name and its new charge.
3. Design educational plan as per Board charge and inform the Congregation.
4. Send from the task force an e-mail to the congregation introducing the planned educational approach.
5. Rename the current e-mail account and website link.
6. Submit pertinent recommendations to Board for action, as necessary.

LEADERSHIP: **CO-CHAIR:** Tessie Bond **CO-CHAIR:** Marge Powell

The Co-Chairs may be re-appointed at the discretion of the majority of the task force.

TERM OF OFFICE: 7/2024 – 12/2025

MEMBERSHIP: The task force is a collaborative group composed of volunteers who have expressed an interest in evaluating the viability of UUCJ's association with UUA and considering UUCJ's options for an independent path if so chosen by the congregation.

MEMBERS:

Julie Aaron	Sam Lane
Tessie Bond	Kathleen McKenzie
Ken Christiansen	Munsell McPhillips
Liz Dion	Marge Powell
Lois Hoeft	Robert Prager
Scott Kessler	Penny Reid
Davis Laffitte	