

JPD Journey Toward Wholeness Annual Report

Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church
Compiled by the Rev. Heather Janules,
Asst. Minister and Minister for Pastoral Care

Due Date: March 1, 2008

Elements of the Report

1. **Table – Tracking Congregational/Institutional Change (Maintaining – Transforming)** See Below
2. Annual plan (Events/ Activities/ Goals/ Strategies)

After an adult programs course based on *Soul Work: Anti-Racist Theologies in Dialogue in the 06-07 church year*, the congregation was accepted as a field test site for *Building the World We Dream About*.

The *Building the World* participants include many of the *Soul Work* participants and, overall, include four members of our Social Justice Council, our Board Chair, our Membership Coordinator and our Intern Minister. The class has – beyond the curriculum – organized a “field trip” to a multicultural congregation (Capital Hill Baptist) and has created a list of action steps that we can take at Cedar Lane. This list – and hopefully many of these participants – will serve as a foundation for the creation of a task force in the 08-09 church year to implement these ideas. A worship service on June 22, drawing on our collective experiences of *Building the World*, will announce the beginning of this work and hopefully inspire many others to become involved.

Cedar Laners are also very active in Action in Montgomery, an interfaith organizing organization, whose current focus is securing funding for the renovation and repair of three community centers serving historically African American neighborhoods after the County Executive broke his promise to attend to these centers.

With an eye to the 08-09 church year, the Worship Committee has invited Christopher Bell Sr. and Jr to lead a service, telling stories of African-American freedom in word and music, in the Summer of 08. (Chris Bell Sr. is a member of Davies Memorial; the two led such a service there on February 24, 2008.)

3. Resources you have accessed (See list below)

JPD Anti-Racism Conference – Attendance by Chair of our Board of Trustees and others

Allies for Racial Equity- Some members, including the Asst. Minister, are members of ARE...

Jubilee II – 2 members of our Social Justice Council took part in Jubilee II training at All Souls church in Jan, 08

4. How many people would constitute a tipping point in your congregation or group?
20% of 866 (adults) = 173
5. What percentage of the tipping point have you engaged?
Maybe 2-5%

6. What is changing in your congregation? Among leadership (yours/others)?

Many leaders (within the *Building the World* course) are gaining increasingly impatient with the status quo of white privilege and feeling greater confidence in drawing attention to racist incidents, at church and beyond.

In September of 07, the congregation hired a minister-of-color to serve as our Coordinator of Youth Ministries

In November of 07, the congregation hired a woman-of-color to serve as our Administrative Assistant

7. What are you learning?

Members of all backgrounds are open to and hoping for opportunities to discuss race and anti-racism in safe situations (with the understanding that “safe” does not necessarily mean “comfortable.”)

8. Did you hold a Journey Toward Wholeness Sunday? \$\$ raised.

No, but a real possibility in the near future with our new practice of directing collection plate income to recipients and programs beyond our operating budget. We are cultivating a stronger culture of community and progressive investment.

9. Relevant Sunday Services: List titles and dates.

Jan. 13, 2008 – “The Ministry of the Rev. Lewis McGee”

Jan. 20, 2008 – “The Sermon that Inspired the Nation: MLK Jr. Sunday”

June 22, 2008 – (Scheduled – Reflections from “Building the World We Dream About”)

Resources

1. Now is the Time
2. Allies for Racial Equity
3. JPD Anti-racism Conference
4. JUUST Change Consultancy
5. Jubilee I
6. Jubilee II
7. Building the World We Dream About
8. ADORE
9. Social Justice Empowerment Workshop
10. Beyond Categorical Thinking
11. Other

Being Part of a Multicultural Society: Tracking Congregational/Institutional Change

Unexamined Status Quo	Deliberate intervention(s) aimed at putting things back the way they were.	Invitation is issued and there is positive response and engagement	Goal-setting oriented towards new and/or shared values	Learning and practicing new concepts, frameworks, tools, awareness, skills, etc.	Reorganizing processes and collaborating to fulfill the vision and meet the goals. New tools are being used.	Internalization of the changes so that new norms have been created and operate in the life of the church community.
MAINTAINING	REINFORCING	ADAPTING	REVISIONING	RETOOLING	RESTRUCTURING	TRANSFORMING
Board of Trustees	X					
Religious Education	X					
Worship Committee	X					
Social Justice Council		X				
Committee on Ministry	X					
Membership Committee		X				
Adult Religious Education		X				
Covenant Groups	X					
Finance Committee	X					
Buildings & Grounds	X					
We Care	X					
Nominating	X					

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Committee						
Aging Support Groups	X					
Young Adults	X					