

## **Recognized Communities List Update**

January 2015

Prepared by Rev. Tandi Rogers

The Congregational Life Staff team has a key member in each region reaching out to a list of 50+ “low-hanging fruit” in their region. They are using the materials included in this packet to invite groups to consider this new designation. Below is a list of our progress by category:

### **Innovative Worship Communities**

- Sanctuary Boston (MA): Needs more information about the larger covenant behind this new designation.

### **Intentional Social Justice Communities/ Missional Communities**

- Welcome Table (Turley, OK): Considering
- Chalice Circle- Young Adult Group (Chicago, IL): Considering

### **Intentional Living Communities**

- Lucy Stone (Boston, MA): Too busy purchasing another home to consider at this time. They also note that currently they are very happy with their relationship with the UUA

### **Prison Ministry Groups**

- Discussing possibilities with Rev. Meg Riley of Church of the Larger Fellowship who is the primary support for incarcerated individuals

### **Military Ministry Groups**

- Discussing possibilities with Rev. Sarah Lammert, Director of the Ministries & Faith Development Staff Team

### **International**

- Discussing possibilities with Rev. Eric Cherry, Director of the UUA International Office

## **Small Fellowships & Meeting Groups**

### New England Region

- UU Fellowship of Stowe (Waterbury Center, VT): In discernment as to whether to be a congregation or a branch of a multisite.

### Southern Region

- Most of the 20 identified groups are so small and tiny that even the designation Recognized Communities is too extravagant. Kathy McGowan is working to cluster these groups and connect them to an existing congregation for mentorship. We suspect that this will result in some MultiSite possibilities.

### Pacific Western Region

- UU Society of the High Desert (Victorville, CA): Considering
- UUs of Goldendale, (WA): Considering
- Methow Valley UU Fellowship (Winthrop, WA): Considering
- UUs of Seward (AK): Considering
- North Kitsap UU Church (Poulsbo, WA): Congregation by GA
- Peninsula UU Fellowship (Port Orchard, WA): Congregation by 2016

### Central East Regional Group

- Camden Area UUs (Camden, NY): Congregation by 2016
- Olean UU Community (Olean, NY): Congregation by 2016
- Schuylkill UUs (Schuylkill Haven, PA) Congregation by GA

### MidAmerica Region

- Prairie UU Fellowship (Hutchinson, KS): Considering
- UUs of Buffalo (MN): Considering
- Spirit of Life Church (Saint Cloud, MS): Congregation by 2016

*I listed the groups who have insisted their application for member is coming. We believe that the invitation to move from Emerging Congregation status to this new Recognized Communities may have mobilized them, and we thank you.*

*Please also note that earlier this month an Emerging Ministries Highway Design (development and support plan) got the green light by members of the Leadership Council to start building. Soon there will be support structures in place to care for and accompany these emerging ministries. This is a comprehensive, cross-staff-team effort.*