

ALUUC Long Range Planning 2015-2016 Strategic Vision

The ALUUC Long Range Planning Committee presents five Strategic Visions as statements of our intent for the future of our community. Grounded in our recollections of the best of ALUUC, expressed in these visions is much of what we love about our community. Because they are inspired by our visions of the future, they are aspirations for what ALUUC could become. Stated in the present tense, they inspire us to envision *now* what we will become and serve as a reminder of our intent and a yardstick for our progress.

Our Strategic Visions will be made real over time by prioritizing and implementing our goals.

#1 Inreach to the congregation

We are an inclusive, diverse Unitarian Universalist community that cares for all members and friends, with loving intent and in covenant of right relations, consistent with our welcoming and accepting beliefs and those of our denomination.

#2 Outreach to the larger community to share our welcoming and accepting beliefs and our pursuit of social justice

We promote and follow Unitarian Universalist beliefs and principles through the practice of an exciting, energetic and well-organized social justice, social action, and environmental mission that engages the passion of our members/friends and attracts others to join us in making the world a better place. As a UU congregation located in Illinois' seat of government, we take advantage of the opportunity to influence public policy in ways that reflect our mission.

Together with other community organizations, we serve as a resource to the wider community on social justice and environmental issues.

We offer an accepting and welcoming home so that others feel free to join us and express the fullness of their gifts and ways of being in the world.

#3 Personal growth through enrichment programming

We provide a provocative and exciting enrichment program for all ages through engaging and thought-provoking experiences for participants. Through these programs, we share our values with the wider central Illinois community.

Our religious education program for children and youth is high-quality and consistently well-attended. It serves as a primary appeal for new families. Our programs educate our children and youth about other cultures, religions and ethical ways of being in the world.

#4 Meaningful, life-affirming and life-changing services

We create meaningful, life-affirming and life-changing services to educate, to provide comfort, and to celebrate life's transitions, such as Sunday and other worship services, weddings, memorial services, and child dedications. These services, inspired by our beliefs and principles, integrate a wide variety of topics, including social justice, environmental concerns, and personal and spiritual growth.

#5 Stewardship

We are careful stewards of our physical and spiritual assets. We make wise, intentional choices about using our staff / volunteer time and talents, as well as our financial assets and property in ways that support our mission and strategic direction. We preserve and use our assets to maintain our presence for future generations of UUs in central Illinois. Our employment practices are consistent with our values of inherent worth and dignity.