

Congregational Covenant chronology of events leading up to where we are today:

At the August 18, 2016 board meeting, the Board approved unanimously a new covenant for the Board, and also approved a team (to be later named the Congregational Covenant Planning Team (CCPT)) to explore the need for a congregational covenant, the team consisting of Sam Trumbore, Lee Newberg, Michael Hornsby, Dick Dana and Patti Jo Newell.

Sam gave several Sermons in September touching on the concept of covenant.

At the December 15, 2016 Board meeting, the CCPT reported that it agreed unanimously that a Congregational Covenant should be created.

There were a number of articles in Windows, starting with one way back in September of 2015, written by Al and Sue Berzinis, Dawn and Dick Dana, relating our experience listening to Rev. Sue Philips present an inspiring case for covenant at GA that year. Dick wrote Windows articles in January 2017 and June 2017. There were several other Windows articles by Board members (Ben English?) and several by Sam.

All four February services were on the theme of covenant. Ancillary to the sermons were inserts to the orders of service for February 5, 12 and 26.

In the February 12 service, a skit on covenant, written by Patti Jo Newell, was performed by Michael and Luchia Hornsby with assistance from the Choir acting as Greek chorus.

In the February 19 service, Patti Jo Newell spoke about her concept of covenant.

In the February 26 service, Lee Newberg spoke about his concept of covenant.

There were two Congregational Conversations to discuss the question: do we want/need a congregational covenant, on February 26 and March 2, 2017. They were poorly attended, with a total attendance of 15, excluding team members.

March 2017- Eileen Casey-Campbell, our soon-to arrive ministerial intern, made available to the congregation a video about herself in which the concept of Unitarian Universalism as a covenantal religion figured prominently.

At its April 2017 meeting, the Board unanimously charged a new Congregational Covenant Team (CCT). The members were Brian Frank, Jan McCracken, Zack Metzger, Patti Jo Newell, Leah Purcell, Kelly Smith, Sam Trumbore, Jacqui Williams, with Dick Dana as chair. Board charged the team with "gathering input from the congregation and creating a congregational covenant for Board approval and, ultimately, and up-or-down vote and the 2018 Annual Meeting."

Three congregational conversations were held, January 28, 30 and February 14, 2018, to get input from the congregation on what they wanted in a covenant. The total attendance was 30.

March 2018- The Team conducted a detailed, written survey of the congregation and compiled the results.

November 2019- The Team presents a draft Congregational Covenant to the Board of Trustees.

February 2020- The proposed Congregational Covenant is presented to the congregation in a service, and printed in Windows.

March 2020- the decision was made to put the rollout of the Covenant to the congregation on temporary hold due to the Coronavirus.

September 2020- The Ministries and Operations Team gave the Congregational Covenant Team the approval to proceed with rollout of the Covenant to the congregation, starting in mid October.

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