

WHAT WE VALUE:

- enthusiasm
- community - one big family; welcoming, genuine, accepting, support from others and whole congregation, a place where everyone can “fit in” and be themselves
- community; being for others (not just ourselves), stay in relationship with each other even when it’s hard!
- shared responsibility
- room to grow spiritually
- spiritual exploration; lots of different paths (i.e. nature)
- trust, tolerance, respect, non-judgmental, inclusive (draw the circle wide)
- continuity; sense of heritage, confidence in what we stand for, principles we embrace (past, present, future - part of larger movement)
- non-creedal, write your own script, moral strength; guts to stand for...
- standing up for values in the community and beyond
- rational religion, facts matter!
- diversity of worship services, lay participation
- empowering and encouraging
- rites of passage (birth, marriage, coming of age, death...); all the support, compassion, caring for those in need (both within and beyond the congregation)
- social justice support; Ann Marie House, interfaith community
- connections to one another on Sundays are fulfilling
- Holiday Fair; important fundraiser and importance of congregation working together and fundraising and community outreach
- community-wide projects
- leadership training; models in community, opportunities and roles
- UU denominational connections; speakers, programs leaders, broader perspective from others beyond UUCM, collaborating with other congregations
- compassion for our members, our town, our world (example Unicef project)
- fun and serious efforts lead to successful events - joyful balance
- education that supports all ages through life passages (OWL)
- cooperation; Holiday Fair and Ferry Beach are prime examples - talent show; our youth in community with the other church’s youth. Working together for opportunities to grow
- multigenerational opportunities to connect
- music; very important to this congregation, our services wrap around it, a way people find our community
- physical space here is important; it allows us to convene as well as others from the outside
- share like values, feeling of appreciation
- social justice opportunities to gain understanding, seek out diversity
- community supper connections, our dinners serve a great benefit and are an outreach program

HOPES AND DREAMS

- more multigenerational projects that involve many of us (social justice) congregational
- outreach; strengthening our connections with town, interfaith, spread our message through PR/marketing
- grow the congregation
- vital programs for children, youth and adults to educate/embrace 7 principles
- community education programs (voter registration for example)
- think about different ways to use our space and reach out to the community
- well placed literature to let others know more about who we are (processes being worked on now)
- expand community suppers through better PR
- we often desire consensus but it takes a lot of time for decisions to be made (things can stall out in process) Hope for a decision-making process that's inclusive and more timely and responsive.