



Inclusivity Project - Outreach Communication

Hello!

I am writing to inform you of an important initiative from the Board of Trustees, and ask for your help.

The Goal. At our annual Board Retreat, we decided to focus on Inclusion as the “challenge goal” for this year’s BOT. We have drafted an Inclusion Statement, and wish to engage the entire congregation in how we act on the challenges it contains.

“Our congregation aspires to be a community of communities where we welcome congregants regardless of where they fall along the spectrum of human differences.”

“Our congregation intends to promote inclusion within our community encompassing, but not limited to, gender and gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, race, culture, religious background, age, disability and socioeconomic status. Inclusion provides a path for our congregation to put into action the principles of our faith and allows individuals to realize spiritual growth within our faith community.”

“We recognize that individuals are the experts of their own experience, and true inclusion necessarily requires responding to the needs of each individual.”

“CUUC leadership seeks ongoing congregational input so that it may respond to diverse needs among congregational members, adjust programs accordingly and enable all who wish to find a home in our community to do so.”

The Process. We are asking six brief questions, via EMail to all members and friends. THE SIX QUESTIONS ARE CONTAINED IN THIS DOCUMENT, BELOW.

For those members who rely on regular mail instead of EMail, we’ll make the necessary alternative arrangements. In addition, we’ll conduct in-person events during (Conversation Circles) and after (Inclusion Forum) Sunday service to obtain your thoughts on CUUC inclusivity.



The Six Questions

Question #1: “Where do you think CUUC can do a better job of being inclusive?”

Question #2: “Do you have any new ideas or initiatives that would help make CUUC more inclusive?”

Question #3: “If you could change just one thing to help make CUUC more inclusive, what would that be?”

Question #4: “Have you ever felt that CUUC was not welcoming to you or your group?”

Question #5: “How could CUUC be more welcoming to you or your group?”

Closing Question: “If you have any additional comments you wish to share, please provide them below.”

NOTE: all responses will be kept confidential, to the extent possible.

Expected Outcome. While we don’t know exactly where this work will lead us, here are some likely deliverables:

- Achievable action items designed to achieve our aspirational inclusion goals.
- Passage of Inclusion Statement congregational resolution.
- Creation of new committee or project team to address the inclusion initiative(s).

It’s very important to us that we invite every member and friend to add their voice – and for CUUC leadership to listen!

We need your help. Please take a few minutes to respond to The Six Questions above, and make your personal contribution to “making CUUC its best self.” We gratefully thank you for your thoughtful participation.

Please send your response to:

- Pamela Parker at admin@cucwp.org via **EMail**, or
- “Pamela Parker, Congregational and Communications Administrator, CUUC at White Plains, 468 Rosedale Ave., White Plains, NY 10605” via **letter**.

Al Rocchi, Chair, CUUC Board of Trustees