



Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation at White Plains

The 8th Principle Resolution

WHEREAS the Universalist Unitarian Principles were designed to be *dynamic*, not a fixed creed. When we get to a new level of understanding and clarity, our structure makes it possible to reflect that. Unitarian Universalism is the only religion that intentionally builds in that flexibility to acknowledge the importance of ongoing revealed truth.

WHEREAS a person can believe they are being a “good UU” and following the Seven Principles – without thinking about or dealing with racism and other oppressions at the systemic level. Our existing 7 principles *imply* this 8th principle, but do not *explicitly* hold us accountable for addressing these oppressions directly, especially at the *systemic* level.

WHEREAS UUism has great potential for building diverse multicultural Beloved Community as envisioned by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (not just European/Americans and African/Americans, but including Native Americans, Latinx people, and other cultural groups) *globally* and could experience tremendous diversification, vitality, and thriving if it works to embody this vision, but it won’t happen without conscious awareness and effort on our part.

WHEREAS none of the other Principles mentions *love*; by having “Beloved Community” in the 8th Principle, it brings our commitment to love higher in our consciousness, consistent with our “Side with Love” campaign.

WHEREAS the 8th Principle came from a feeling that we need something to renew our commitment to this work, to hold ourselves accountable, and to fulfill the potential of our existing principles.

WHEREAS the Unitarian Universalist Association “Article II Study Commission” is currently considering the 8th Principle for inclusion in our Principles. Proposed changes are not scheduled for submission to the UUA Board of Trustees until January 2022, so that they may be considered by the Board, and then be placed on the 2022 General Assembly Business Agenda for the first vote in June 2022.

WHEREAS recent events, triggered by but not limited to, the May 25, 2020, death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, call us to act immediately and not wait until the 2022 General Assembly.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the members of the Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation at White Plains (CUUC), denounce racism and other oppressions and pledge to engage in action designed to accountably dismantle them.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED “*We, the members of Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation at White Plains (CUUC), covenant to affirm and promote journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other forms of oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.*”