

A. The Humanist Group at the UUAA

B. Author: Bruce Gibb, co-coordinator

C. Description of the Ministry

The Humanist Group (HG) is comprised of 52 members and friends of the Congregation. The group meets twice a month, on the first and third Thursday afternoons from 2:00 to 4:00. Everyone is welcome.

The HG is a safe group for individuals to share their thoughts and feelings openly without challenge or criticism. The Humanist label of the group means that anything which pertains to human processes of thinking, feeling or behaving is open for discussion. It is not specifically focused on more general humanist doctrine or advocacy but these topics do come up for examination.

D. Core Values

The Humanist group enhances the mission of the UUAA by living the UUAA 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th principles.

E. Goals and Objectives

We will be selecting a focus of our energy on a few unfulfilled articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Most recently, the group has been talking about how to increase the congregation's understanding of humanism and its role in the history of Unitarian Universalism.

F. Goals and Objectives Achieved

The group considered 42 topics, articles and/or books this year. Implicitly, we are a group that builds and strengthens the relationships among the members of the group. Another implicit goal is to engage and apply the understandings, insights, and values we gain in our lives outside of the group, to become better people.

This year we also offered and conducted a seminar for the whole congregation based on the book *Humanist Voices in Unitarian Universalism*. We will be offering a 7 week course on the same topic in the spring of 2018 as an offering of the Adult Spiritual Growth and Development program.

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