

# LOV (Living Our Values) Team

## Annual Report May 2022

The purpose of the lay-staffed LOV Team is to serve as partners in building, maintaining, and repairing congregational relationships to ensure that we are living in alignment with our UUAA covenant. We work to strengthen the shared covenant-based fabric of our community.

The LOV Team is committed to supporting and nurturing healthy, right relationship\* by:

- Providing proactive, skills-building activities as workshops, seminars, and discussion circles that promote covenant-based relationship **in the absence of** harm or conflict.
- Addressing potential or actual harm **in the moment**, serving as proactive bystanders and reminders of healthy covenant and mutual care.
- Serving as facilitators and guides who assist/support the conversation, healing, re-committal to covenant, and affirmation of love & care that is sometimes needed **after harm has been caused**.

[Use this link to read the February 2020 Charge to the LOV Team.](#)

LOV Team Members include:

Ken Clein (chair), Cynthia Dunitz, Mark Jagner, Gregg Peterson, John Kasab, cristy cardinal, debita graham, Suzie Thompson, and Spencer Thomas.

We are convened by Rev. Manish. QuianaDenae Perkins served as our staff liaison until her position was eliminated due to budget concerns.

During the past year the team:

- Said goodbye to members Maryn LeWallen, Kathy McLean and Jeannine LaPrad. We are very grateful for their time and commitment in establishing the LOV Team and helping to develop materials and a process for on-boarding new members.
- On-boarded new members John Kasab, Spencer Thomas, Debita graham, Suzie Thompson and welcomed back cristy cardinal.
- Participated in a virtual retreat with the senior minister to help focus our work in the church year and provide support in that effort.
- Met virtually each month to learn from each other and occasional guest teachers, as well as reflect on emerging opportunities to engage with other groups in the congregation to support relationship building.

- Participated in two projects with the Shared Ministries Team (SMT) to develop responses to frequently asked questions (FAQs) by members of the congregation and develop a means to allow congregants a channel to express differences of opinion or suggestions on church issues (informally referred to as the DOS project). While SMT led the organization of these efforts, all members of LOV were involved in vetting questions, developing possible responses, and editing final text. The plan is to launch these projects on the new church website.
- Engaged in several scenario training exercises and discernment activities including a session with Khatija Dadabhoy on communicating in challenging conversations.
- Engaged in group discussion of several chapters of the book, "*Beyond Welcome - Building Community of Love*" edited by Linnea Nelson.
- Assisted the Shared Ministries Team (SMT), Leadership Advisory Team (LAT) and Senior Minister by reviewing and providing focused comment on proposed revisions to the Congregational Health and Safety Policy.
- The LOV team chair continued to participate as a member of the Leadership Advisory Team (LAT), which serves as one source of high-level consultation, coordination, and feedback for the Senior Minister on operational decisions that intersect in critical ways with the congregation's values and vision.
- The LOV Team chair served as *process moderator* at the Congregational meetings in June of 2021 and January 2022. At the discretion of the Board of Trustees, this may become a regular role of a LOV Team member, since it intersects with the team's purpose and allows us an opportunity to practice our covenantal relationship in this important aspect of congregational life.

Respectfully submitted by Ken Clein