

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington, North Carolina
Board of Trustees (BOT) Supplemental Meeting Minutes, May 23, 2023**

Attending: Kathy Gillcrist, Jane Horrell*, Jerry Hurwitz*, Jeannie Lennon, Robert Demco, Gary O'Connell, Becki Schreiber, Fran Strauss

Guest: Marvin Fineman, John Grigsby, Kim Scott

Ex-Officio: Rev. Dr. Kathy Hurt

8th Principle: The Board voted unanimously in support of the update changes made to the 8th Principle Resolution. (Appendix A)

Buildings and Ground: It was reported that work is in progress!

Budget: to be shared at the Congregational meeting June 11th. Kudos were given to the Generous Life Team. At this time, there are \$230,000 in pledges.

John explained the budget might look a bit “wonky” due to the expense of the Air Condition unit early in the fiscal year.

There’s an increase to UUA dues on a yearly track to reach their established “fair share” estimates (\$15,000) based on our budget. Last year’s budget was \$6,000, increased up to \$9,000 this year.

An increase of \$15,000 is included for repair and maintenance with plans to address the parking lot grading each year.

Net income and expenses illustrate a \$500 shortfall of budget that’ll require gap to be filled with savings.

There’s a need to return to fundraising in upcoming year. Would normally expect \$10,000 additional budget from fundraising efforts.

Classroom two needs to be returned to traditional setup to ensure building can accommodate meetings and rentals.

This budget is due to be published ahead of the June 11th Congregational meeting.

The Board is grateful for all the hard work that went into the Budget. As such, the Board voted unanimously to accept the budget as presented.

The Budget/Finance committee logged off the Zoom meeting at 6:06pm.

AED: The Board voted unanimously to purchase and AED unit for the congregation for an expense not greater than \$2,000.

Meeting adjourned at 6:22pm.

The 8th Principle Resolution

Unitarian Universalism Congregation of Wilmington, NC

June 11, 2023



WHEREAS that we, the members of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington, North Carolina (UUCWNC), denounce racism and other oppressions and pledge to engage in action designed to accountably dismantle them, as well as work for equity and inclusion for all oppressed people in our congregation, our community, our state, our nation, and our world.

BE IT RESOLVED *“We, the members of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington, North Carolina (UUCWNC) 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.”*

Word-by-Word Analysis of the 8th Principle

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association,

This is coming from a grassroots effort among *UU congregations*, not the national UUA.
So far, 244 separate UU congregations have adopted the 8th Principle.

covenant

Which means we promise one another.

to affirm and promote:

Not only approve and agree, but get out there and encourage others to join us.

journeying toward spiritual wholeness

We're seeking wholeness as individuals and a society to heal the wounds of racism and other oppressions. And we recognize the pilgrimage aspect of the work as the journey will be long and difficult at times. As the Rev. Dr. William Barber puts it: "Forward together: not one step back."

by working to build a diverse and multicultural Beloved Community

"Beloved Community" was coined by 1913 by American philosopher, theologian, and historian Dr. Josiah Royce, who said: "My life means nothing [...] unless I am a member of a community." Besides actual communities we experience on a daily basis, Royce proposed an ideal "beloved community." The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., adopted the phrase, and used it as early as 1957. "But the end [goal]," he once wrote, "is reconciliation; the end is redemption; the end is the creation of a beloved community." For both thinkers, Beloved Community is one that cares for everyone and is characterized by the absence of inequality and hate. It means everyone experiences true membership and belonging.

by our actions

This means all kinds of actions, within our congregation, within our community and state, and within the country and globally. It means not just talking about it but doing something.
If we all do one thing that calls to us, that adds up!

that accountably

This means taking responsibility for following through - holding *ourselves* accountable.

dismantle racism and other oppressions

Oppressions are intersectional and systemic, and racism gives us a focus and point of entry to take apart the structures of all oppressions.

in ourselves and our institutions.

As Hillel the Elder is reputed to have said in the first century BCE, "If not me, who?
If not now, when?" This is the call for us today.