

TPC VISIONING 2/26/06 DATA

ENCOURAGE INTERNAL DIVERSITY

BECOME A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

- Definitely want to see TP become a “Welcoming Church” within 1-2 years. This is a concrete goal, but I fee it’s important for the congregation to be on board with this and to take initiative to begin planning.
- Welcoming church, esp. Gay/ Les/ Trans.
- Begin the Welcoming Congregation process but think of ways to help it not be a burden but rather a blessing – in terms of the work (6 -2hr workshops?) involved. How could prayer and meditation be part of this?
- Strive to honor and celebrate the diversity of our friends and members, in participating in the Welcoming Congregation.
- Outreach to increase diversity in community: race, age (including youth), sexual orientation, and economic status. (Welcoming Congregation, etc.)
- Welcoming congregation.
- As a congregation, go through the Welcoming Congregation process and all that entails. Whether or not we actually become a WC may or may not be the ultimate goal. The journey of it may be an end in itself.
- Welcoming Congregation

RACIAL, ECONOMIC, AGE, THEOLOGICAL DIVERSITY WITHIN TPC

- Diversity of multiple kinds
- Creating more ethnic and economic diversity in the congregation.
- More diversity – invite different churches.
- ADD Diversity, Diversity, Diversity. How to do this?
- Encourage Religious Diversity
 - Taste and experience good aspects of many religious traditions
 - Learn by visiting, dialogue, with other churches. Sunday school does this, have adults do it, too
 - Minister and members can teach music, rituals, and pitfalls from other religions.
- Age Diversity
 - This church is a place where people of different ages meet together, lead the service, have things to tell each other, meditate together, sing together and play/ listen/ make music together, celebrate milestones, learn from each other’s views, learn and interact with the outside world.
- Process to identify what new comers would like to maintain about their past religious experience, and to consider incorporating that into the life of the church.
- I value TPC – UU continuing to be a welcoming place of diversity and tolerance.
- Diversity within our own walls. Demonstrate to ourselves that we are a close-knit community with different voices but respect, love, and tolerance for all. (study groups, sister church)
- Hang representations form different religions in our sanctuary – maybe small stained glass, maybe Star of David, Yin/Yang symbol, etc. (besides just cross).
- Diversity: racial/ ethnic, economic/ class, sexual orientation. Somehow get more diverse by membership/ attendees.
- Race/ ethnic diversity.

- Bring in guest speakers from various religions, so we can learn more about their beliefs in order to better understand others. i.e. Buddhist monk, Rabbi, etc.