



**Parish Meeting Agenda
Virtual & In-person
October 29, 2023 from 12:30 – 2:00 pm**

Meeting located in the FUS Atrium Auditorium and on Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87515625927?pwd=WE1ldFNwU29ZUGhsV2I3UjhwV2c1UT09>

Call in: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 875 1562 5927

Passcode: 950186

- I. Opening, Rev. Kelly Asprooth-Jackson
- II. Welcome & Agenda Review, Jenny Seeker Conroy
- III. Open Question Presentation
- IV. Small Group Open Question Conversations
- V. Closing, Rev. Kelly Crocker

Handouts

- Relational Covenant

Open Questions:

In May, the congregation adopted a new vision statement “to be a spiritual community of belonging. We will transform ourselves and society through the practices of radical welcome, deep listening, and compassionate, authentic connection. We envision a world fueled by love and justice.” Which portion resonates the most with you as an area you could contribute? How can we as a congregation use our collective strengths to move toward fulfilling our vision over the next 3-5 years?

Relational Covenant of the First Unitarian Society of Madison

Within our commitment to journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse, multicultural space, we form this covenant. We seek to create a brave space, a space to celebrate each person's unique abilities, a space to grow and build a bond between ourselves and each other; a joyful and compassionate space. When issues arise and this covenant is called upon, it is important to trust foremost that everyone is doing their best.

The Spirit With Which We Approach One Another

- Make a choice to remain in relationship, in good faith, over and over again even as we disappoint.
- Assume and remember that all have the best interest of the congregation at heart.
- Maintain open and generous minds and hearts.
- Practice radical hospitality, welcome, and inclusion.
- Support equity, diversity, and involvement of all.
- Relinquish the need to be right; lots of roads lead to the same end.

Communication

- Practice direct communication. Focus on the problem/behavior, not the person.
- Listen deeply. Make "I" statements. Seek to understand before responding.
- Accept that conflicts are inevitable.
- Participate appropriately; act or yield as needed.

Personal Responsibility

- Take responsibility to acquaint ourselves with FUS; support FUS financially and volunteer when possible toward the good of the community.
- Accept skilled help when we cannot reach an agreement or reconciliation.
- Strive to balance individual needs with the well-being of the community as a whole.
- Consider our personal role in an issue before seeking solutions elsewhere.

Appreciation for Staff and Volunteers

- Provide clear expectations, transparent lines of communication, and steadfast love and support for the leadership within our congregation.
- Cultivate an attitude of gratitude for the contributions of all.

Final Draft approved by Relational Covenant Task Force on June 1, 2021. This document is subject to change when deemed necessary.