

RACIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVES 2024-2025

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PROJECT	LEAD	Volunteer Opportunities
<p style="text-align: center;">EDUCATION</p> <p>1. Launch an ongoing interactive education program designed to help UUS leaders and members actively move toward a multicultural future in our congregation and our community over the next several years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conclude <i>Mistakes & Miracles</i> discussion and identify next steps. ● Pilot “Mapping the Journey” workshop with board and community leaders that introduces key elements of the journey. ● Begin a series of worship services and Congregational Conversations that call our members forward to a multicultural future. ● Develop and Beta test “Taking the First Steps” workshops for members interested in forming new communities and creating room and inviting new leadership. ● Assemble curated online resources offering pre-requisite learning about systemic racism and other oppressions. ● Previewing the journey: Worship services with congregational conversations that call our members forward and pilot workshop with board and community leaders that introduces key elements. ● Taking the first steps: Beta workshops on forming new communities and creating room and inviting new leadership. <p><u>Methods</u>: Book discussions, interactive workshops, book discussions, and curated online resources, and new book discussion groups</p>	<p>Catherine Bonner</p> <p>Rev Brock Leach</p> <p>Becky van der Bogert</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Acquire prerequisite understanding by exploring & utilizing curated racial justice resources, books and videos. ● Explore & utilize curated racial justice resources, i.e. books and videos. ● Congregation-wide participation in Worship services and congregational conversations. ● Board and Community Leaders’ participation in “Mapping the Journey” workshops. ● Participation in “Taking the First Steps” Forming New Communities workshops and exploring new communities. ● Join a team exploring differing needs of people from different cultures and generations and follow their lead in developing ideas. Participation in Paula Cole Jones’ 5-workshop series “Community of Communities: Shaping the Leading Edge.” ● Facilitate discussions of selected new books and topics.
<p style="text-align: center;">VOLUNTEERING</p> <p>2. Support our BIPOC community through a UUS Volunteer Placement Program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Maintain list of BIPOC organizations and volunteer opportunities. ● Assist members in identifying interests for volunteering. ● Connect members to volunteer training. ● Provide a list of individuals from UUS with technical skills and leadership experience to the BIPOC non-profits, businesses, and artists when requested and when feasible. 	<p>Nina Tortelli</p> <p>Aubrey Phillips</p> <p>Brock Leach</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Become familiar with the list of Black founded and led non-profits that we support. ● Staff Racial Justice Informational table during coffee hour. ● Volunteer for one of the listed organizations, receive training ● Attend their events ● Support these organizations financially and through other means

<p style="text-align: center;">COALITION SUPPORT</p> <p>3. Co-Sponsor, host, and promote Anti-Racism Events with community anti-racism partners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify and participate in coalition partner events. ● Offer venue and streamlining services for anti-racism events. ● Promote coalition partner events in the UUS newsletter and on social media. ● Help fund coalition events when feasible. ● Sponsor community-wide Racial Justice event(s). <p><u>Partners:</u> Suncoast Anti-Racism Initiative, Social Justice Alliance of the Suncoast, Manasota Anti-Racism Coalition, and others as they develop.</p>	<p>Sharron Howard</p> <p>Dale Anderson</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Become familiar with these groups. ● Be aware of Anti-Racism efforts in the Community & attend events. ● Assist with ideas and promotion of Racial Justice activities from these listed groups, and others that form in the community. ● Volunteer for events as needs
<p style="text-align: center;">UU NETWORKING</p> <p>4. Network with Regional UU Social Justice & Racial Justice Groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Connect with other UU congregation’s Racial Justice leaders & Teams. ● Organize and host at least one (or more) online meetings of the regional racial justice teams (Manatee, Saint Petersburg, and Venice). ● Explore opportunities for mutual support & collaboration on racial justice initiatives. 	<p>Sharron Howard</p> <p>Nina Tortelli</p> <p>Aubrey Phillips</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Become familiar with Manatee UU Fellowship, Saint Pete UU, Venice UU and others on West Coast through their website and events. ● Develop relationships for collaboration. ● Collaborate & promote events. ● Promote BLUU Haven activities.
<p style="text-align: center;">LYNCING MEMORIAL</p> <p>5. Explore Opportunities to enhance the impact of the Community Remembrance Project Lynching Memorial Installation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Explore potential ways of honoring of the John and Dorothy Chenault at the site. ● Develop a way that the story of the Lynching Memorial is visible on the Newtown Alive Trolley Tour. ● Explore opportunity for a group visit to the Peace & Justice Memorial in Montgomery Alabama ● Support the Remembrance Project soil collection ceremony on the UUS campus (Fall ‘24) ● Submit an article to the UU magazine on the process of hosting the Lynching Memorial. 	<p>Dale Anderson</p> <p>Becky van der Bogert</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Join a site enhancement planning group to explore ways to honor the Chenaults. ● Volunteer as a Memorial docent and assist visiting groups to the memorial ● Assist with planning a trip through the Living Legacy Project -A Pilgrimage- Birmingham to Montgomery.
<p style="text-align: center;">COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS</p> <p>6. Explore ways to Incorporate BIPOC Community Priorities in UUSRJ Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop a collaborative plan with individual organizations in the community to address Racial Justice issues that impact their community. 	<p>Aubrey Phillips</p> <p>Nina Tortelli</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Compile list of community organizations/people that UUS has a trusted relationship with. ● Develop method to Solicit input from these groups regarding their most pressing need(s) ● Develop joint advocacy plan with individual BIPOC organizations for identified needs.

