



Edmonds Unitarian Universalist Church

8109 224th Street SW Edmonds, WA 98026

Dream Casting Spring 2008



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September 2008

APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY SUMMARY REPORT 2008

Introduction

Our minister for eight years resigned unexpectedly in the spring of 2007. Though caught off guard we initiated a search for a new settled minister immediately. The search process is currently underway and we anticipate we will find a suitable replacement who will fit the requirements of this growing congregation by Spring 2009.

We sought advice in the matter from the Pacific Northwest District (PNWD) of the Unitarian Universalist Association. The staff at PNWD have been helpful in advising us of the processes and requirements we must follow in our search. They stressed that the first thing that must be done was to find an interim minister to guide us through the search period and helped us identify a suitable candidate. As a result, we engaged the services of the Reverend Cecilia Kingman Miller to act as our interim minister during this period.

PNWD also advised us that it is important for us to know what our congregants want from and expect of a settled minister before we begin searching for that individual. It was suggested that one way to do that would be to assess the feelings of our congregation using the Appreciative Inquiry (AI) process.

The Appreciative Inquiry Process

Appreciative Inquiry (AI) is a process of searching for the best in people, their organizations, and the relevant world around them and applying the information obtained to make intelligent decisions regarding actions taken during a period of transition. AI is frequently used as an organizational development tool for businesses and organizations seeking positive change in their institutions. A key to AI is to elicit responses to a series of questions that are posed in a positive tone to avoid negativism and encourage optimism in the responses. Churches in transition have found AI helpful in assessing the desires and needs of their congregants and unifying them in their approach to working through the transition period.

We, your Transition Team, sought to find out what we, as a congregation, have valued in the past, what we value now and what our aspirations for the future are using the Appreciative Inquiry method. We were assisted in the data gathering phase by our interim minister, members of the Board of Trustees and members of the Committee on Ministry.

We gathered the data for our Appreciative Inquiry study during the services on Sunday March 16th, 2008. Over 156 people participated in the process. This is approximately 45% of our total membership. Everyone who attended church that day was invited to participate, so, some of the respondents were visitors to EUUC. Three questions were posed in the following manner.



Participants were asked to select an individual other than their partner or close friend and break into pairs for this exercise. Each person was given a sheet with one of the questions listed below on it. One of the pair was designated the first respondent, the other the recorder. The recorder read the question aloud to the respondent and was asked to record what the respondent said on his/her sheet without asking further questions or commenting, except for clarification. Three minutes were allotted for this process after which the roles in the pair were reversed.



Everyone paired up again, but with a different individual, for the second question and the procedure described above was repeated, and the same was done for the third question.

After studying the comments obtained from the data gathering, Transition Team members offered four *'Provocative Proposals,'* visions of what the church might look like in the future, using the information collected from the congregation by the AI process.



THE QUESTIONS ASKED:

1. *Remembering your entire experience at EUUC, when were you most alive, most motivated and excited about your involvement?*
2. *What do you value most about EUUC? What are the best features of this church?*
3. *What are three dreams you have for the future of EUUC?*

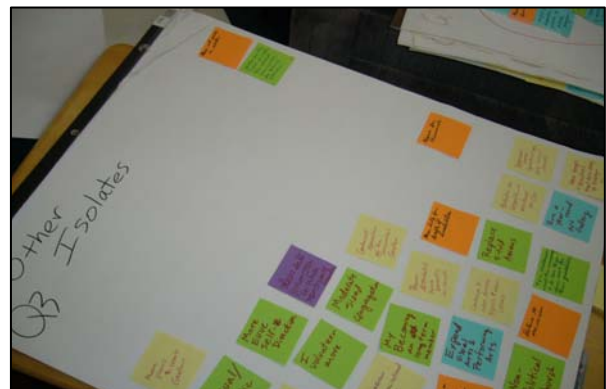
COMPILING THE RESPONSES:

Over 500 comments were recorded in this process. It was common for an individual to make more than one comment in response to a question. We wanted to classify these responses into broad topics in order to get a better understanding of the implications of the exercise. The approach we used, while primitive by current data processing methods, allowed us to get a grasp on what we were being told by the responses. The response sheets for the three questions were analyzed separately. The following process was followed for each of the three questions.



Each response to the specific question was transcribed to a *Post-it* slip by a member of the Transition Team. These of paper slips were then affixed to larger sheets where they were classified by more generalized topics. A secondary filter was applied in which key words were assigned to each response. The data were then grouped according to these key words.

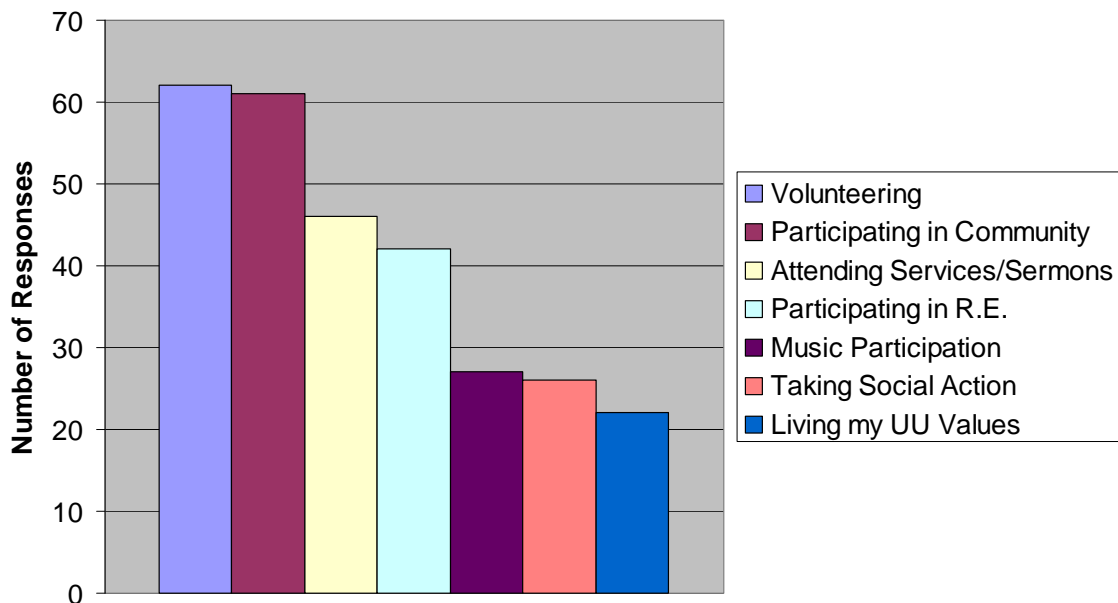
This process allowed us to identify the issues that appear to be most important to our congregation as a whole.



WHAT WE FOUND:

A summary of the answers to the three questions is given below. The order in which the themes are presented reflects the total percentage of answers that fell under that theme. That is, the most common response theme is listed first, then the second most common, etc. A complete list of all the answers will be available on the EUUC website. If you would like a printed copy, please contact a member of the Transition Team.

Question 1 *Remembering your entire experience at EUUC, when were you most alive, most motivated and excited about your involvement?*



VOLUNTEERING:

We like to volunteer. “I am most alive when I am more involved.” Many of us mentioned volunteering as a means of connecting and feeling engaged in the Church. “[I] volunteered for the Sound System after [hearing] feedback during a Sermon. I knew I could help. (I’ll be a member of church if I can help with sound.) Sound improved - very encouraging. Feel like [I] really contributed. People sought [me] after that.” We like to “teach in RE,” “work on social concerns projects,” “lead a canoe and hiking project.” We are enlivened by “being on the Board,” “working with people who [are] very involved and inspiring -- their unselfish commitment to the church (their work); seeing the inner workings was motivating.”

COMMUNITY:

The feeling of community* in our church was a theme that resonated strongly as a reason for attending EUUC.

We love our affinity groups. Covenant Groups, Pot Luck Dinners, BrUUmasters, Book Discussion, and the Jolly Boys Breakfast are examples of affinity groups that were often mentioned in our responses. Laughter, hugs, support from friends and the congregation were high on the list for most people. Among the individually expressed comments were “the friendly and genuine welcome one feels when first coming through the doors on Sunday” and “the embrace of the community makes me feel alive and part of the EUUC family.”

SERMONS AND SERVICES:

The sermons and services were high on the list of reasons we gave for staying involved in the Church. We like services that are spiritual, moving and inspirational; those that use poetry and meditation. We find sermons that call us to act for social justice to be inspirational. The Credo and Affirmation were named as moments of deep connection to EUUC. “Credo and affirmation -- joining in unison with community that affirms deepest belief.”

On the other hand, some of us long for the intimacy, fun and unpredictability we experienced during the years when the church was smaller. “I Loved ‘smallness’ and intimacy of the church - shared lives – [we] got to know each other. “

We like to share in special events like Intergenerational Sunday and the Flower Communion. “After taking flowers, congregation stood in circle and sang ‘Circle Game.’”

SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE:

We give high priority to helping our community and the world at large. “Stimulating topics that touch me deeply and make me consider my place in the world.”

We value our contributions to Cedar Valley Elementary School, soup kitchens, microbanks, our designated Sunday offerings, support for gay rights and other social issues. Increasing our own awareness on these issues is of great importance to our congregation.

* We also spoke of actively participating in issues facing our larger, regional community. For example, see comments under the Social and Environmental Justice heading.

Those who attended the sessions on *Great Turning* and *Awakening the Dreamer* found these experiences significant. “[I] 'felt spirit here' - Great Turning was important to me.”

Our environmental conscience at EUUC continues to grow. As a group, we find it important and rewarding to help local farmers, reduce our consumption of electricity, purchase Fair Trade items and adopt sustainable practices.

FREE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY:

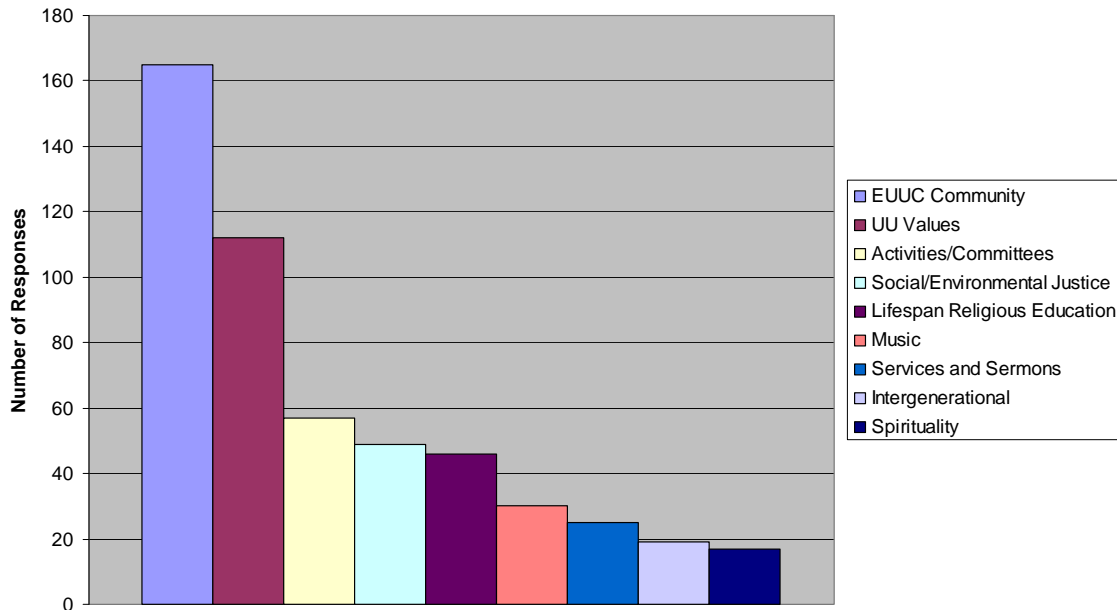
We expressed our appreciation of the accepting nature of the congregation and being welcomed into an open religious community. Many find it motivating and inspiring to be in a church where we can be free to seek our own truths. “learned that [I] was permitted to follow [my] own religion.” Other factors that have stimulated people to come to EUUC are that: “...we are not too structured;” “...we are nature lovers;” “...we’re not focused on material things.” “This is not a place of guilt or shame.”

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

We are firm believers in religious education, for our children, for our youth, for our adults, and, in a word, for all of us. Many of us named participating in RE at EUUC as a particularly enriching experience. We said that the intergenerational experience helped both the teachers and the students grow and appreciate one another. Typical comments relating to RE experiences were, “Watching my daughter graduate from the Youth Program”, “being a mentor for Coming of Age”, and “Having my child in the OWL (Our Whole Lives) program” and “being part of Mystery Friends (A program that teams youngsters with adults, secretly.)”

Adult Education was also mentioned as important and many congregants appreciated the *Great Decisions* series and the opportunity to learn something new and stimulating in a non-judgmental environment. As one person put it in response to “*When were you most excited about your involvement?*” she said “Being involved in: Great Decisions, coffee and politics, women's group, dine out group.”

Question 2 What do you value most about EUUC? What are the best features of this church?



WE VALUE OUR EUUC COMMUNITY.

Members of EUUC cherish one another and appreciate the caring and supportive nature of this congregation. “How much this is really a community is what makes EUUC special.” In addition, we admire the way members of EUUC face challenges positively and are proud to be a welcoming and accepting congregation. “[The] open minded nature of UUs - very welcoming.” We especially appreciate the friendships we have formed at EUUC and revel in the joy and fun we have together. “I value many strong ties of friendship with people of many different ages.”

WE VALUE THE SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM.

We set great store in UU values as set forth in *The Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism* and aspire to hold to these principals.

We appreciate the acceptance and openness of our fellow congregants at Edmonds Unitarian Universalist Church and enjoy sharing our thoughts, hopes, aspirations and concerns. “I value the *Seven Principles*. They eloquently speak to my beliefs.” We are proud of the diversity within our group as expressed in numerous ways and referring to different aspects of our church life, including, our acceptance of others, our beliefs, our talents, our thoughts, our interests, our activities, etc. We laud the openness of our

congregation in accepting diverse points of view. “I value openness - in accepting people of different: ethnicity, economic status, sexual orientation.”

Our congregants’ wide range of beliefs and ‘isms’ provides a stimulating intellectual environment in which we can interact with one another. “I don't feel judged or challenged for what I believe.” We are grateful to belong to a liberal religious community in which one can think for ourselves. “At EUUC one is encouraged to create his/her own theology.”

WE VALUE OUR MUSIC.

We sing, we play, we listen, we enjoy music and we are blessed with a cadre of exceptionally talented musicians in our congregation. One individual opined that, “Without music there would be no church for me.” others said that they love: “...the Music Program.” “...the Children’s choir.” “...the Piano.” “...Singing.” “...The Joyful Noise.” And several of us would like to hear some organ music from time to time.

WE ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT AND ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES.

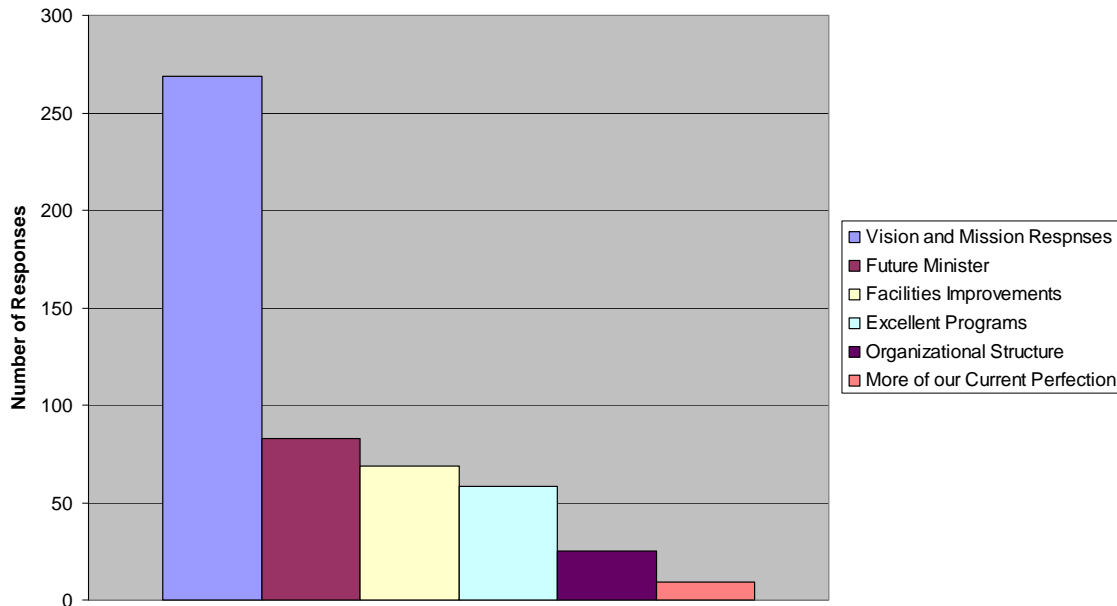
EUUC members pride themselves on being involved in issues of social importance and have taken action in that arena since the church was founded. “I like our expressions of social concern and involvement in community – Homeless Kitchen in January, Interfaith House, Food Bank, Rummage Sale.” We are particularly active in the areas of Social Justice and Social Concerns, the latter of which is a major item in our annual budget. Through the years, members have been active in social outreach, working at food banks, feeding and housing the homeless, supporting international microbanks, demonstrating at local events and much, much more.

Membership in committees related to social issues is large and growing, e.g., Green Sanctuary, Peace and Justice, Social Concerns and Sustainability. “It is an active church - doing things, not just talking (social justice, etc.)”

WE BELIEVE IN AND ENCOURAGE LIFE-SPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

An overwhelming majority of EUUC members consider religious education for children to be of key importance in the life of the church. In addition, we strongly support our youth and coming of age programs. EUUC members also believe that adult education is an important aspect of a well-rounded religious experience. “[EUUC] provides a place for religious education for young people and adults.”

Question 3 What are three dreams you have for the future of EUUC?



WE ARE DREAMERS

We, at Edmonds Unitarian Universalist Church, **are** dreamers. The following response to this question expresses the depth of our aspirations.

“Make heaven on earth manifest!”

Our Transition Team has taken that as our mantra.

Some of us articulated dreams that were less all-encompassing, e.g., one (actually, many) of us wants “More parking places,” and one of us dreams of erecting a “Neon flaming chalice” to attract attention to EUUC.

Most of our dreams center around strengthening EUUC and increasing our presence in the larger community through community activities and improving our visibility in the local community and beyond. We aspire to become **the** focal point for social and environmental justice in our community.

Many of our dreams envision EUUC growing larger while still continuing to be a spiritually fulfilling relational community encompassing many generations and ethnicities.

We have dreams of improving our physical facilities. For example, many of us wished for a more inspiring worship hall and others offered creative ideas for how we might use the newly acquired property that is adjacent to the

church: – a homeless shelter, a youth facility, an assisted living facility for our elderly, and, of course, more parking space.

Additional dreams were for more and better Religious Education and Music programs, and expanded programs in the visual and dramatic arts.

Another recurrent theme found among the responses to this question was the hope that we might find a vibrant and able settled minister who will challenge and inspire us on Sundays and also gracefully manage our staff and work with church leaders. The ability to leap tall buildings in a single bound is optional, although the ability to deflect slings and arrows would be helpful.

Individually expressed wishes included:

- “That we become a catalyst for spiritual worship and growth in the greater Seattle area.”
- “We're recognized as leaders in social justice. We take leadership in the community, particularly in environmental issues.”
- “More sacred spaces.”
- “I see us in a larger facility with a congregation of 500. At least 2 ministers and a full professional staff.”
- “Build retirement home and nursery school. Hire youth to work there.”
- “Continually grow in size without end so space is always a problem.”
- “I would love for Chapman Hall to be warmer – prettier.”
- “A place of healing - gain strength from each other empowered by community. We should always use our gifts for good.”
- “To see the church open to the public [for] plays / concerts / lectures / stimulus to the community.”
- “We find a great minister that inspires us; challenges us; teaches us and leads us spiritually. Funny and Smart.”
- “Expand leadership opportunities. Recognize new ways to do things. Pass the torch.”
- “To be seen from the street - Neon chalice?”

Provocative Proposals

The final element of the AI process is to assimilate the information from the data gathering process into visionary scenarios of what the future of Edmonds Unitarian Universalist Church might look like. This task fell to members of the Transition Team. We discussed, brain stormed and debated the implications of this charge and individuals were assigned the task of drafting these Provocative Proposals (sometimes affectionately called, 'Preposterous Proposals'). Some of these visions for our future are presented below.

PROVOCATIVE PROPOSAL NO. 1 – 2013:

Many of us dreamt that we might become a larger church with more members and more influence in our community. We wanted "EUUC to be a leader in peace and justice in our broader community." We hoped to become a "force for social justice and peace activism." We wanted to "Be courageous about change and create appropriate structures without fear." Many, many of us wanted to "expand as a church and share our principles with more people." We also said we needed to "keep our location as green as possible" and "have more beauty in Chapman Hall." We said "It should be inspiring to be there!" Here is where we might go in the next five years...

THE VISION:

Board President's Column in the September 2013 Newsletter

I am so pleased to say that Unitarian Universalism is alive and well here in south Snohomish County. And what are we UUs doing? Well, Cedar Valley School was just given an award for the highest test scores in the state of Washington; even with its 75% reduced price lunch recipients. Our conflict resolution education program at Cedar Valley has helped numerous children and families live more peaceful productive lives. EUUC has been working with Cedar Valley and its students for almost two decades. Our 40 volunteers at the school are having an enormous impact!

This past summer we initiated our fourth organic community garden at a low income housing facility. These gardens have been written up in the *Seattle Times* as a shining example of local action and education for sustainable projects to help people in need.

The Big Build for Habitat for Humanity of Snohomish County was attended by over 100 EUUCers. Many of our youth were there alongside the adults. The Big Build provided new housing for 40 families. Wow! I loved the T-shirts EUUCer's wore: Liberal + Religious = Edmonds Unitarian Universalist Church Building a Better World. Great job everyone!

I am pleased to see that our Lifespan Religious Education program is taking on the theme of Peace activism in all aspects of our RE program this year. See our wonderful DLRE's column for more details.

On the facilities front, I am thrilled to report that the solar panels have been installed on our roof and are functioning well. This, along with the installation last year of our geothermal heating system after our old heating units gave out means that EUUC could be giving back to the PUD's electrical grid this year! The new wooden floor for Chapman Hall given by an anonymous donor is a very long awaited improvement. Thank you to the one who wanted to be able to dance in comfort!

The UU Denomination is paying attention to us: Our congregation donated over \$70,000 to various causes last year through our Sunday Plate Offering program and we were written up in the UU journal, *Interconnections*. And our music program CD, "Singing for Our Lives" was featured in the June issue of *The World*.

Please attend one of the upcoming meetings about the land and building use. The decision about whether to eliminate our parking lot and run busses from Park and Ride locations is an important one. If we were to do this we would have the space to expand our facility on our current land holdings. It is vital that we make a decision during the next twelve months about how to accommodate our membership which just went over the 600 mark in the spring. Even with three services we are having difficulty accommodating everyone.

Many, many kudos to our hard working and forward thinking members. I am so fortunate to be part of a community of people who really make a difference. I look forward to another year full of wonder, love and changing the world!

Blessings in service,

Your own President of the Board

PROVOCATIVE PROPOSAL No. 2 – 2018

Sing to me, talk to me, and let’s get together again and again and again. Over half of the dreams expressed by our congregants involved wishing for more church-based activities, more music, more of everything that brings us together. Our dreams included: “Continue with music program and multiply it by leaps and bounds,” “New younger members – that’s the future,” “Would like more small group opportunities to interact with the minister (discussions etc),” “Kids more involved in community service,” “Opportunity to improve my social connections – oriented around activities,” “Warm inviting community with cross generational activity – all feel accepted,” “Active acknowledgement of our wide spectrum of beliefs.” We melded these wishes and more to create a dream for what EUUC’s calendar in the year 2018 might include in addition to the kinds of things we already have on our agenda.

The Vision:

The church administrator has just finished the Calendar of Events section for the Newsletter. Then the phone rings —

10 October 3, 2018

Calendar of Events this Week

Sunday

- 12:30-1:30 pm - Talk Back with Minister
- 4-5:30 pm - Barbershop quartet practice
- 6-8 pm - Potluck for Grandparents and Grandchildren
- 7-9 pm - Wiccans
- 7-9 pm - Grief and Loss group

Monday

- 9 am - noon - Lunch Prep and Delivery for Homeless Project
- 11 am-12:30 pm - Preschoolers Luncheon with Retirement Home Residents (first Monday)
- 12-3 pm - Social Concerns Project Cedar Crest School third graders (second Monday)
- 6-8 pm - Newcomer’s Potluck (second and third Mondays)
- 7-9 pm - UU Atheists (first Monday)
- 7-9 pm - Youth choir practice (first and third Mondays)

Tuesday

- 9 am-to noon - Lunch Prep and Delivery for Homeless Project
- 3-5 pm - Social Concerns Project Cedar Crest School fifth graders
- 7-8 pm - Dads and Daughters (first Tuesday)
- 7-8 pm - Mothers and Sons (second Tuesday)
- 7-8:30 pm - Single Moms Raising Kids (babysitting provided) (third Tuesday)
- 7 - 9 pm - Youth Leadership Training and rotation to Board meetings
- 7-9 pm - Choir practice

Wednesday

- Noon-1:30 pm – Brown Bag Lunch Bunch (the Narthex Noshers)

October 3, 2018 11

Calendar of Events (Cont.)

- 1-3:30 pm - League of Women Voters (first Wednesday)
- 6-8 pm - UU 20 Something’s Potluck (first Wednesday)
- 6:30-8:00 pm - UU Christians (second Wednesday)
- 6:30-8:00 pm - Suddenly Singles Group (last Wednesday)
- 8-9:30 pm - Vespers services

Thursday

- 9 am-noon - Lunch Prep and Delivery for Homeless Project
- 9 am-3 pm - Caregivers Day Out / Adult Day Care Provided by EUUC Members
- 6:30-8:30 pm - GLTB Singles Club Potluck (second Thursday)
- 7-10pm - UU 30’s and 40’s Groups (third Thursday)
- 7-9 pm - EUUC Jazz and Swing Band practice

Friday

- 9 am-noon - Lunch Prep and Delivery for Homeless Project
- 6-8 pm - Foster Grandparent Monthly Potluck (first Friday)
- Noon-1:30 - Brown Bag Lunch Speaker Series
- 7-10 pm - EUUC Performs – Music presentations by church members (second Friday)
- 7-9 pm - Secular Humanists (fourth Friday)
- 7-11 pm - Seattle Area GLTB Singles Dance (last Friday)

Saturday

- 9-11 am - Free breakfast for low-income church members
- 3-6 pm - All Ages Theatre Group
- 6-9 pm - Wild Women Potluck (first Saturday)
- 6-9 pm – All-Church Potluck and Dance (last Saturday)

PROVOCATIVE PROPOSAL No. 3 – 2023

Many of our wishes involved being a growing, vibrant community and having updated or new facilities in which to house us. Some of us want to “change more people’s lives by becoming a bigger church.” These dreamers, for example, asked for a “drop in meditation space,” “to leave this concrete block warehouse and get into a *real church* that will give us an opportunity to get bigger,” “larger, more visible facility,” “better parking, paving,” “more beauty,” and “it should be inspiring here.” Here’s what it might look like if this dream came true.

THE VISION:

September, 2023. As I drive into the church’s 400 car parking lot on Edmonds Way, I am amazed by all the cars in the lot at 9:50 am on a Monday morning. The parking lot has just been paved with a porous asphalt alternative, a wonderful green solution to a previously muddy field. Pipes under this asphalt collect rainwater for use in our organic gardens and landscaping.

On the way into our wheelchair accessible buildings, I look around to see what activities are going on. The building is warm and cozy despite the cool fall temperature thanks to our nanotechnology insulation. Solar panels provide electricity for lighting and to run the geothermal heating and cooling fans and pumps as well as the electrical appliances. The toilets in the many bathrooms are odorless, self-composting models.

In the 2500 sq ft kitchen, about 40 volunteers are making lunches for the homeless to be delivered in the church’s electric van later in the day to street people in Seattle. While not “state of the art” the kitchen is well designed and has several work stations and lots of counter space and food storage which makes it a practical, easy place in which to work. The skylights make it unnecessary to use lighting during most days.

In the large conference room is a task force of staff and members meeting with our architects who are designing a retirement center to be built on the newly acquired five acres adjacent to our church. This retirement center, which will provide assisted living and skilled nursing care, has been long awaited by our aging members. On the grounds will be a walking track through a lovely landscaped area for those who want to exercise outside as well as an indoor exercise room. It also will be heated and cooled by solar and geothermal systems.

In the Main Hall is a large group of close to 500 members and community leaders participating in a workshop. This large multi-functional space is used as one space for worship, dances, concerts, parties, and other large functions or can be divided into four smaller rooms by retractable walls. The

pulpit and stage can recess into the floor at the touch of a button for easy conversions.

There are 25 classrooms / meeting rooms of varying sizes. Several rooms are occupied this morning by the preschoolers and another by a yoga class. The Ministers' offices with private bathrooms and seven other staff offices are all in use. A well decorated chapel for small weddings and vesper services completes the space.

What an improvement from our old facilities on 224th Street!

PROVOCATIVE PROPOSAL No. 4 – 2028

We are in 2028 and I am ready for a change. An elderly member ponders... “I am tired of trying to keep the yard looking nice, of maintaining the house and of paying property taxes. I need to move yet I am reluctant because I have such a nice home. It would be nice to have someone else do the cooking and cleaning. I would also like to be around children – there are none in my neighborhood – they have all grown up and moved away.

“I know that our church has a retirement community called Waldon Acres. I should check it out. It would be fun and fulfilling to be around people with similar values. Once I need help with my activities of daily living, for example dressing and bathing, it will be provided. There is more, but I better get a brochure and start thinking of it seriously.”



STRAWBERRY FIELDS FOREVER...

COMMUNITY PRODUCED

Vegetables, Herbs, Fruits

Eggs, Cheese

Flowers

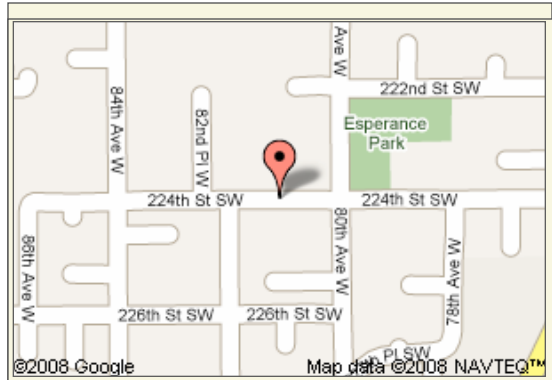
Breads

All produce maintained by residents,
families, children & young adults

Children ages twelve to eighteen volunteer
three hours per week for school credit

Wednesdays open-kitchen for the needy

Fridays open market on grounds



WALDON ACRES

EUUC COMMUNAL LIVING
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS ESPERANCE PARK)

80500 224TH ST SW
EDMONDS, WA 98026

TEL: 1-888-655-4000

WWW.EUUCWALDONACRES.ORG

SERGEANT PEPPER PRESCHOOL

80550 224TH ST. SW
EDMONDS, WA 98026

1-888-646-6400

WWW.SERGEANTPEPPERPRESCHOOL.EDU

EUUC

COMMUNAL LIVING



WALDON ACRES

Our philosophy is taken from Sociologist Ray Oldenburg's belief that to lead a rewarding life, each of us needs three places. 1st is the home. 2nd is the workplace or school. Beyond lies the place where people from all walks of life and all social levels interact, experiencing and celebrating their commonality as well as their diversity. All three of these are present at Waldon Acres.





MORE INDEPENDENCE THANKS TO:

- ✓ Wi-fi and bluetooth in each room
- ✓ Direct access via TV satellite with your personal physician
- ✓ Electronic medication order/delivery
- ✓ Voice-activated lighting system
- ✓ Keyless doors
- ✓ State of the art security system to prevent falls
- ✓ Fully automated toilets/bidets with heated seats
- ✓ Personal robot to help with dressing and ambulating

care ~ security ~ stimulation

Waldon Acres is in an eco-friendly environment with green buildings and sustainable gardens. Bamboo and cork floorings, individual water heaters, solar panels, and thermal insulation make it a healthy place to live.

Its a place where those over seventy who want to be active can do so through continuing education classes; voluntarism; teaching and social activism without leaving the compound.

At Waldon Acres, you can “age in place” by getting help in your own living quarters when needed. Palliative and Hospice care also are brought to you eliminating the need to move.

For those with memory loss, Waldon Acres provides state of the art accommodations, gardens and programs.

Waldon Acres has a number of residences allotted for qualified low income seniors.

Waldon Acres residents use the seven principles from the Unitarian Universalist Association as guiding truths:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our community and in society at large
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

