

**UU Congregation in Reston, VA
Cottage / Library Meetings for Mission Conversations**

Fall 2015

Rev. Dr. Barbara Coeyman

Grounding Ideas

- Review the meaning of 'religion' = 're-ligio' = re-bound together
- Review the meaning of 'mission' = 'purpose,' that is, what is our reason for existing?
- Review the mission of organized religion --- the purpose of church --- in western culture.

Questions for Brief Responses

With one- or two-word responses, what are three or four of the most important reasons you attend church (that is, what purpose(s) does church fill in your life)?

In brief responses, what are three or four of the most important reasons (purposes) you chose UUCR as your church?

What concepts do you hope will be included in UUCR's new mission statement as a way to move the congregation forward in the next five to ten years?

Goals for Mission / Purpose Work

- Create a new mission statement, to include in ministerial search materials
- Live into the mindset of what it means to be a mission-based congregation.

Covenant for these conversations

- Each participant should feel free to speak openly and express opinions which are in keeping with the values of UUCR, without fear of critique from others in the conversation
- Each participant shall have enough time to express her or his view and opinion.
- Each participant should remain aware that this is a group conversation and do what she or he can to provide time for everyone who wishes to speak
- Each person will be encouraged to discern how she or he can contribute to the on-going work of discerning Mission and Purpose for UUCR and helping UUCR live as a mission-based community after these Cottage / Library meeting are concluded.
- Other:
- Other:
- Other: