<p align="center">Greenville Unitarian Universalist Fellowship</p>

Committee Charter
Social Justice League

Effective July 1, 2018
Approved by Program Council: May 2, 2018
Approved by Board: May 9, 2018

Mission:

The primary aim of the Social Justice League is to inspire individual and congregational transformation by celebrating and elevating the spiritual and contemplative dimensions of Unitarian Universalism through programming that emphasizes direct personal connections with people affected by injustice.

Purpose:

The Social Justice League shall implement, coordinate and sustain programs for and with the Fellowship, in concert with our Seven Principles, with guidance from GUUF's congregational covenant and in service to the advancement of Social Justice, which includes these three areas: (1) Social Concern (Educate) – engage the mind and spirit with respect to societal injustice; (2) Social Responsibility (Serve) – alleviate and remedy the adverse impacts of societal injustice; and (3) Social Action (Act) – take measures toward altering systems and confronting the root causes of societal injustice.

The Social Justice League (SJL) will also develop and communicate position statements for its programming choices that speak only for the SJL, not for the congregation. From time to time, it may propose congregational resolution on matters of pressing societal concern, to be voted on by members of the congregation, provided the SJL has first determined the congregation is both equipped and willing to engage in meaningful Social Action in support of such resolutions.

Qualifications for Chair:

Membership in GUUF for at least six months. Previous engagement in Social Justice programming with GUUF. A commitment to lifting up the spiritual/contemplative dimension of Social Justice programming that we undertake as a congregation. Knowledge of UU principles. Ability to represent the Fellowship in a manner which reflects these principles. Effective communication skills. Ability and willingness to work collaboratively with (i) our minister(s), (ii) staff members, (iii) other Program Council chairs, and (iv) ministers and faith leaders of other spiritual and faith communities and houses of worship in the area that are engaged in social justice programming with goals that overlap with GUUF's programs.

Qualifications for Committee Members:

The SJL Committee shall have at least four (4) members (including the Chair and one member each focused on one of the three programmatic areas). Members of the SJL Committee must be members of GUUF, with the exception of youth members between the ages of 12 and 16 who may participate if they have an adult parent or guardian who is a member of GUUF. Membership on the Committee shall be at the invitation of the Chair. Committee members, including its Chair, must understand the value of fostering inclusivity with regard to SJL activities, programs and committee composition, and they should be willing to learn and eventually model healthy, productive, and nonviolent behaviors encouraged for all people who engage in SJL-sponsored initiatives.

Overall Responsibilities of the Committee:

The SLJ shall represent and facilitate the coordination of all SJL programs, projects, communications, and services. This includes making recommendations to the Board and to the Fellowship, coordinating the initiatives it undertakes, operating within the congregation-approved budget, keeping the Board and the congregation apprised of its actions. Selection and the continuation of SJL subprograms shall be based on (i) grounding, (ii) fit, (iii) opportunity, (iv) accountability, and (v) present relevancy and sustainability.

Functions of the Committee and/or Its Members:

1. The Social Justice League (SJL) chair is a member of the Program Council and participates in its monthly meetings, collaborative efforts, and decision making
2. Recruit, select, train, develop, and work with Committee Members
3. Work closely with other committees, leadership and staff as appropriate to coordinate efforts
4. Submit article/notice/announcements to the Spark, Flame, Web site, social media, and other communications platforms as appropriate to publicize the work and needs of the SJL
5. Develop and recommend an annual budget to accomplish the SJL's work and work within the allocated budget
6. Adhere to Board policies and procedure; obtain waivers, exceptions or modifications from the Board where the Committee believes they are necessary
7. Respect the time constraints and other obligations of our paid staff in planning and organizing SJL activities
8. Select SJL initiatives in accordance with the four metrics described in the UUA workbook, "Inspired Faith, Effective Action," plus a fifth metric which requires a continuing review of initiatives for ongoing relevance and sustainability. (See the UUA workbook, "Inspired Faith, Effective Action" at pp. 14-16.)
9. Ensure that SJL initiatives are consistent with our Seven Principles and maintain a spiritual or contemplative dimension, with the goal of transforming individual members, the congregation, and those who are directly affected by societal injustices that the SJL confronts

10. Actively seek out the advice and guidance of GUUF's minister(s) with respect to SJL initiatives and, in particular, with regard to carrying out the duties described in the preceding item.
11. Emphasize SJL initiatives in which GUUF's SJL participants are directly interacting with persons who are directly impacted by social injustices
12. Remain committed to our SJL initiatives as moral propositions, without regard to who or which party has political or economic power that the initiatives confront
13. As servants of justice, not saviors, the SJL actively identifies opportunities to provide platforms for directly impacted persons to speak directly, not through SJL participants
14. Collaborate with GUUF's Adult Religious Education leadership to prepare SJL participants to become engaged in activities or conversations that are healthy, productive and nonviolent – even if they are sometimes uncomfortable—while representing GUUF.