

PNWD Congregational Survey - Spring 2008

END 2a.1 - Religious Development: Congregations demonstrate ethical, spiritual and faith development and UU identity.

1. Is "Unitarian Universalist" part of your congregation's name?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count	
Yes	93.3%	14	
No	6.7%	1	
Additional Comments:		1	We do routinely add "Unitarian Universalist" underneath our church's name on signs, banners, the Order of Service, newsletter, website, etc. There's talk of changing our church's name to include the term, but we're unlikely to take that step in the near future.

2. Does your congregation have a defined path to membership that includes education about Unitarian Universalist history and identity?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count	
Yes	71.4%	10	
No	28.6%	4	
Additional Comments:		4	Watch video from UUA 2008 and check-out video on Unitarian Universalism: An Heretical History from the UU congregation in Illinois. yes, but it is a very short and simple path and the "history" is the new UUA video. home books and videos needs substantial development

3. During the past year did a Sunday service, adult Religious Education class, newsletter, etc. include a reference to UU history or identity?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count	
Yes	100.0%	15	
No	0.0%	0	
Additional Comments:		2	series by visiting minister Our minister often reflects on UU history from the pulpit.

4. Does your congregation offer religious education for:

	Yes	No	
children? (nursery through grades 5/6)	13	2	
youth? (junior high/middle school and senior high)	11	4	
adults? (post-high school)	9	5	
Additional Comments:		4	adults intermittently, middle school but not high school at this time youth- youth discussion groups. Adults- intermittently 2 a year? children-nursery through 3rd grade Minister has done some Adult programs

5. Has your congregation offered either "Building Your Own Theology" or "Articulating Your Faith" in the last two years?			
Yes	28.6%	4	
No	71.4%	10	
Unknown/Unsure	0.0%	0	
Other (please specify):		3	did offer small group minisry series along similar themes planned for fall 2008 "Building Your Own Theology" by Minister

6. Does your congregation offer spiritual support for its members?			
Yes	81.8%	9	
No	18.2%	2	
Additional Comments:		6	home visits from fellowship lay members as requested This hits me as one of those "Huh?" questions you mentioned in the accompanying letter. One of the most important things our church does is offer spiritual support for its members. do the best we can as a lay-led congregation this is an overall goal for us, spritual direction also offered. Unsure what Spiritual Support means interpreted as counseling/pastoral service

7. Does your congregation have a small group ministry program? (<i>Covenant Groups, Chalice Circles</i>)			
Yes	30.8%	4	
No	69.2%	9	
Other (please specify):		5	We had covenant groups in the past, but they have all stopped meeting. Schedule 6-8 week series of meetings, each series is independent of the others It just ended this month, may resume in fall. We need to, but not well attended. Study circles without covenant work better. We have geographic groups because we're spread out over 100 miles.

8. How often does your congregation/leadership refer to your adopted Covenant of Right Relationship or the UU Principles to guide its decisions? (If your congregation uses another ethical guide, please identify it in "Additional Comments.")

Answer Options		Rating Average	Response Count	
Always	0	3.2	10	
Frequently	4			
Occasionally	1			
Rarely	4			
Never	1			
Additional Comments:		9		We don't refer to them explicitly, Board says "we've internalized them", I actually think they're perhaps right...
				not often, we intend to develop a covenant of right relations in 2008/09
				monthly
				annually
				I would like to work towards writing a covenant of right relationship
				once a month
			every Board and Committee meeting	
			No covenant as of yet; we are aware of UU principles and try to adhere always	
			Both Covenant of Right Relationship and 7 principles	

END 2a.2 - Religious Identity: Congregations are known by the larger community as religious groups.

9. Does your congregation identify itself as a religious organization?			
Yes	100.0%	15	
No	0.0%	0	
Additional Comments:		2	in our letterhead and brochures a few members don't

10. Does your congregation's name communicate that you are a religious organization?			
Yes	92.3%	12	
No	7.7%	1	
Additional Comments:		2	Unitarian Universalist Fellowship not clearly or consistently

11. Is your congregation a member of any ecumenical or interfaith organization beyond the Unitarian Universalist Association?			
Yes	66.7%	10	
No	33.3%	5	
Additional Comments:		5	Community of Welcoming Congregations, (local) Ecumenical Ministries, (local) food bank Ecumenical Ministries of (state), The Community of Welcoming Congregations, and (local) Congregations Relief Fund come readily to mind. There may be others... interfaith works (regional) church organization rural organizing project

12. Is your congregation listed by the Chamber of Commerce, in the phone directory or by local hotels as a church?			
Yes	100.0%	14	
No	0.0%	0	
Additional Comments:	2		We're listed by the Chamber of Commerce now, thanks for the reminder. We are listed in local newspapers religion directories. phone directory

13. Given the words and images on your congregation's website, would a viewer recognize you as religious?			
Yes	100.0%	15	
No	0.0%	0	
Additional Comments:	0		

END 2b - Diverse and Well Prepared Leadership: We intentionally build a diverse community of leaders who are well prepared to assume district and congregational leadership positions.

14. Does your congregation reflect the ethnic make-up of your surrounding community?			
Yes	42.9%	6	
No	57.1%	8	
Additional Comments:	6		25% Hispanic in our town, 5% Japanese-American; congregation is 2% Chinese-American, rest Anglo The surrounding community has more Hispanic/Latino than is reflected in our congregation. Community is not diverse (so yes, we're reflective) (Community) is getting many more Hispanics, (congregation) is not. (City) yes, (greater area): no we have few hispanic members

15. Does your leadership reflect the ethnic make-up of your surrounding community?			
Yes	42.9%	6	
No	57.1%	8	
Additional Comments:	1		(City): yes, (greater area): no

16. Do any members of your congregation receive public assistance?			
Yes	76.9%	10	
No/ Not that we know of	23.1%	3	
Additional Comments:	2		one adult member, one middle schooler that we know of n/a

17. Do any of your congregational leaders receive public assistance?			
Yes	38.5%	5	
No/ Not that we know of	61.5%	8	
Additional Comments:	3		one part time staff member recieves public assistance very few are unemployed n/a

18. Do any members of your congregation request pledge waivers or support to attend PNWD Annual General Meeting, UUA General Assembly, etc., for			
Yes	80.0%	12	
No	20.0%	3	
Additional Comments:	4		<p>just became aware of them this year</p> <p>Our minister holds that it is important for people to support the church at any level they are capable of (even a few dollars/month). But when needed she uses her Minister's Discretionary Fund to pay member's utility bills or otherwise financially help out. We always offer waivers for any RE classes that request a donation.</p> <p>unemployment</p> <p>this is in our budget</p>

19. Do any of your congregational leaders request pledge waivers or support to attend PNWD Annual General Meeting, UUA General Assembly, etc., for			
Yes	42.9%	6	
No	57.1%	8	
Additional Comments:	2		<p>Not that I'm aware of. One of our board members recently lost his job and may have cut back on his annual pledge.</p> <p>We budget funds to support delegates who attend AGM and GA when it's closer (geographically)</p>

20. Does your congregation include any regular attendees with significant physical or other disabilities?			
Yes	80.0%	12	
No/ Not that we know of	20.0%	3	
Additional Comments:	2		<p>Those with disabilities request support to accommodate attendance</p> <p>No, except for some age-related</p>

21. Does your leadership include any regular attendees with significant physical or other disabilities?			
Yes	40.0%	6	
No/ Not that we know of	60.0%	9	
Additional Comments:	0		

22. What percentage of your adult congregation is under age 30?			
None	0.0%	0	
Less than 10%	50.0%	7	
10-20%	42.9%	6	
30% or greater	7.1%	1	
Additional Comments:	3		<p>Only one of 55 - oops!</p> <p>(A guess.)</p> <p>But there are lots of young adults.</p>

23. What percentage of your congregational leadership is under age 30?			
None	66.7%	10	
Under 10%	13.3%	2	
10-30%	20.0%	3	
30% or more	0.0%	0	
Additional Comments:	1		one board member out of 7

END 2c - Extension of the Faith: PNWD congregations fulfill their moral obligation to extend our Unitarian Universalist faith.

24. Does your congregation have a growth committee or team?

Yes	28.6%	4	
No	71.4%	10	
Additional Comments:	5		We will form one in September when our new ministry begins membership team for greeting, visitor followup Our membership committee may serve this role. task force except membership

25. Has your congregation conducted a congregational assessment or survey in the past year?

Yes	42.9%	6	
No	57.1%	8	
Additional Comments:	3		worship team conducted survey regarding Sundays long range planning we did the year before

26. If yes to above, did you learn:

	Less than 10%	10-30%	30% or greater	Did not ask this question
What percentage of your members report that Unitarian Universalism has been transformational <u>in their lives</u> ?	0	1	0	4
What percentage of your members report significant belief that Unitarian Universalism is transformational <u>in the world</u> ?	1	0	1	3
Additional Comments:	1			Many people believe that that Unitarian Universalism is <u>moderately</u> transformational in the world.

27. What percentage of your members are PNWD Chalice Lighters?

None	0.0%	0	
Less than 10%	0.0%	0	
10-29%	30.0%	3	
30-50%	40.0%	4	
Greater than 50%	30.0%	3	
Additional Comments:	4		Unknown. I don't think this is a term most of our members would recognize--we associate "chalice lighters" with the children who preform this service for us each Sunday. I believe there is the base minimum to qualify for a grant barely meet requisite for a grant don't know

28. Has your congregation conducted a study of your ministry area to determine the number of potential UUs in your community?			
Yes	21.4%	3	
No	78.6%	11	
Additional Comments	4		part of preparation for Chalice Lighter grant 4 yrs ago yes, long time ago we just signed up new members

29. Approximately how many potential UUs are there in your community, beyond those already attending your church?			
<i>See Comments</i>	12		Hundreds!
			Guess about 450.
			150
			Unknown.
			many many times our current membership
			up to 100
			no idea
			probably several hundred
			100
			substantial number
			?
			100

30. Does your congregation track attendance at Sunday worship?			
Always	80.0%	12	
Sometimes	13.3%	2	
Never	6.7%	1	
Additional Comments:	1		Almost always

31. Does your congregation track attendance in children's programs on Sundays? (<i>Nursery through grades 5/6</i>)			
Always	80.0%	12	
Sometimes	6.7%	1	
Never	0.0%	0	
Not applicable (no children's programs on Sundays)	13.3%	2	
Additional Comments:	0		

32. Does your congregation track attendance in youth programs? (<i>Junior and Senior High</i>)			
Always	60.0%	9	
Sometimes	6.7%	1	
Never	0.0%	0	
Not Applicable (no youth programs)	33.3%	5	
Additional Comments:	0		

33. How many voting members did your congregation add to the rolls this past year?		
<i>See Comments:</i>	15	9
		One
		5
		13
		5
		12
		18
		13
		10
		7
		13
		5
		8
		6
		10

34. How many voting members did your congregation remove from the rolls this past year?		
<i>See Comments:</i>	15	12
		One
		1 moved away
		About the same number.
		2-deceased
		1-died
		45
		1-death
		15
		1-death
		5
		5
		?
		4
		9 will resign as of 6/30/08

35. Does your congregation conduct "exit interviews" when members leave, or otherwise determine why members have resigned or been removed from			
Yes	13.3%	2	
No	86.7%	13	
<i>Additional Comments:</i>	5	Most recent of those who have left were due to moving away.	
		Board contacts members by phone who seem to be "drifting away" once per year before we certify in January	
		small community, usually know why people leave.	
		considering but not currently implemented	
		letters/phone calls to inactive members	

END 2c.1 - Welcoming Seekers: Congregations actively invite and welcome seekers.

36. Did your congregation count the number of visitors to worship or other church activities this year?

Yes	57.1%	8	
No	42.9%	6	
Additional Comments:	3		Only in the sense that the ushers count everyone in attendance each Sunday. such a small group it is readily apparant. last sunday~ three visitors they sign the guest book

37. If your congregation has tracked the number of visitors for more than one year, did you see an increase this past year?

Yes	50.0%	7	
No	50.0%	7	
Additional Comments:	3		n/a We do have visitor's cards we ask folks to fill out, but we've never kept a tally of the number of visitors/cards. didn't track, no records

38. Does your congregation have a membership integration process?

Yes	46.2%	6	
No	53.8%	7	
Additional Comments:	4		We have just recently begun discussing ways to better integrate new people into our community. needs improvement this is a priority these coming years though social time

END 2c.2 - New Congregations: Congregations actively create and support new congregations.

39. Has your congregation been involved in supporting a new congregation start-up in the past year?

Yes	0.0%	0	
No	100.0%	14	
Additional Comments:	0		

END 2d - Partners in Community Service: The congregations of the Pacific Northwest District are recognized as credible and effective partners in community service.

40. Has your congregation received awards, media attention or other recognition for community service in the past year?

Yes	57.1%	8	
No	42.9%	6	
Additional Comments:	4		Recognition for donating \$1000 per month to organizations working to end homelessness in (local) County. Media attention for helping to organize/lead a rally in response to a racially-motivated hate crime in a nearby community; we regularly receive thanks/recognition for our members' financial and volunteer time commitments at the women's prison, local Feed the Hungry program, and from various organizations that we contribute our twice-monthly special collections to. (Local) community council has expressed appreciation of our efforts adopt-a-road

41. Has your congregation worked with other community service organizations or non-UU Faith communities in the past year? (Possibilities below.)

	Yes	No	
Financial contributions from the congregation	11	3	
Use of your facilities	9	3	
Provided volunteers	12	2	
Supporting the work of a UU Community Minister	2	9	
Active support of UU service organizations such as	10	4	
Other?	6	3	
Additional Comments:	6		Sponsored an alternative gift fair for about 25 local charity organizations open to the public Food bank steering committee, youth camp steering committee We are members (and the major financial supporter) of the (local) Congregations Relief Fund. This organization of local churches and the police station allow our office administrator to give out referral forms for lodging, groceries, hot meal, and/or gasoline to people in need who come to our door. The people take these vouchers to the police station, which confirms they have not received a voucher from another church recently (and runs a background check on them for outstanding warrants); the police station then supplies vouchers for the needed services. UU service committee: special collection. Other: homeless shelter Showed a series of immigration films in partnership with the Regional Occupational Program (ROP) of community college; also active with Clatsop County community action Other: Interfaith Alliance of (local community)

END 2e - Cooperative Congregations: The congregations of the Pacific Northwest District work in cooperation to transform their communities.

42. In what ways has your congregation linked with other UU congregations during the past year? (Possibilities below.)

	Yes	No	
Community service projects	2	8	
Hurricane Katrina and/or other relief efforts	2	8	
Marriage equality or other legislative action	1	9	
OWL (Our Whole Lives sexuality program) training	3	9	
Youth Group or RE community service activities	2	8	
Hosted a workshop or event for the district or	1	10	
Other?	2	5	
Additional Comments:	3		Members of our church are involved with (local area) Council of Unitarian Universalist Churches. GA+AGM planning a small congregation workshop with (nearby) church

END 2f - Denominational Identity: The congregations of the Pacific Northwest District have a strong sense of denominational identity – to the district, to the UUA and to each other.

43. How many times in the past year have you posted/submitted news items to "News from Around the District"? ("News from Around the District" is a

Never	58.3%	7	
Once or twice	41.7%	5	
Often	0.0%	0	
Regularly (monthly or close to)	0.0%	0	
Additional Comments:	2		used items in newsletter unknown

44. How often in the past year have staff or leadership accessed the PNWD website?

Daily	9.1%	1	
Weekly	27.3%	3	
Monthly	63.6%	7	
Once or more	0.0%	0	
Never	0.0%	0	
Additional Comments:	4		Unsure how often the minister and DRE access the website--the office admin does not usually access it. 2-3 times unknown unknown

45. How often in the past year have staff or leadership accessed the UUA website?			
Daily	8.3%	1	
Weekly	50.0%	6	
Monthly	41.7%	5	
Once or more	0.0%	0	
Never	0.0%	0	
Additional Comments:	3		unknown
			unknown
			unknown

46. Approximately how many times in the past year have your congregation's staff or leadership contacted PNWD staff or volunteers?			
<i>See comments</i>	13	10?	
		two or three	
		6	
		Unknown.	
		approx 5	
		5 or 6	
		unknown	
		many times because we were in search	
		6?	
		about 10	
		several times for RE	
		several-many	
about 20			

47. Does your congregational website link to websites of the UUA, PNWD or other UU entities?			
Yes	100.0%	13	
No	0.0%	0	
Additional Comments:	3		UUA and PNWD
			It links to the UUA; not to PNWD or other UU entities.
			uua and uu social justice orgs, not PNWD

Congregations participating in this survey:		
	Response Percent	Response Count
	20.0%	15
Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church	Kirkland	WA
Community Unitarian Universalist Church	Pasco	WA
Mid-Columbia UU Fellowship	Hood River	OR
Atkinson Memorial Church	Oregon City	OR
Rainier Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation	Seattle	WA
All Souls UU Community	Lacey	WA
Shoreline UU Church	Shoreline	WA
Juneau UU Fellowship	Juneau	AK
Cedars UU Church	Bainbridge	WA
South Coast UU Fellowship	North BEnd	WA
UU Fellowship of Central Oregon	Bend	OR
Pacific Unitarian Universalist Fellowship	Astoria	OR
Rogue Valley UU fellowship	Ashland	OR
San Juan Island UU Fellowship	Friday Harbor	WA
Magic Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship	Twin Falls	ID

Any other comments for us?
Survey completed by Board President with assistance from Board and Membership Committee member.
keep up the good work!
Sorry this is late!
delegated to board secretary
completed by board discussion
completed by board president.
completed by board chair
completed by board memeber and president
completed by staff and reviewed by president and minister
survey completed by board discussion, and by president
completed by board president
completed by board president. We are a small group, averaging 6 to 18 attendees.
completed by board discussion