

To: Vice President, HVUUC

### 2010-11 Report of the Congregational Covenant Team (CCT)

Our major focus during 2010 was to promote and integrate the Covenant in our congregational lives. To this end we started with the name of our committee, "Covenant Implementation Team (CIT)". We felt that the term 'Implementation' in CIT sounded harsh and authoritarian. In order to make the team name gentle and inviting, we changed our name to "Congregational Covenant Team (CCT)". This new name invites us to take ownership of the Covenant and be gentle and understanding with each other.

Our team spent considerable amount of time and effort to update CCT on our HVUUC website. Now any congregant can reach us easily by writing to [cct@hvuuc.org](mailto:cct@hvuuc.org). Congregants can read the latest version (April 2009) of the Covenant by signing on [www.hvuuc.org](http://www.hvuuc.org).

For the convenience of future CCT teams and also for keeping history and data up to date, the team has its own Yahoo group site for CCT Guidelines and for reference to all meetings agenda and minutes for the past three years.

During the year CCT sponsored two Sunday Services. On September 26, 2010, we invited Dr. Rick Toomey to speak on "Creating Caring and Productive Dialogue". On April 3, 2011, Dr. Patricia Robertson spoke on the broad subject of "Handling Difficult Conversations" which we all need to learn and use during difficult times.

We held a Listening Circle on January 23 this year. In this informal but somewhat structured gathering, all 15 participants listened to each other about their views on important matters of the church. We feel that the Listening Circle is a useful tool to gauge the pulse of the community and to know if a conflict is in simmering stage. We would have liked to, but could not schedule a second Listening Circle this year.

For promoting the Covenant, we introduced periodical readings of a part of the Covenant during the Sunday Services. In order to integrate the Covenant in the Sunday Order of Service, we added the acronym HVUUC "Honoring the Values that Unite an Understanding Community" on the front page.

CCT spent a total of \$58 from its budgeted amount of \$200 for the year. Due to limited funding, we could not plan professional training for the team and for other congregants this year. But we did initiate some self-study readings.

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