



UUCDC GROWTH THROUGH SERVICE

CONVERSATION SHORT FORM

Meeting Preparation

Email/Call to set up date (GTS Conversation Invite Ask)

Email confirmation (GTS Conversation Invite Follow-up)

Gather handouts (staple in this order):

1. GTS Definitions to help with Conversation
2. My Record of My GTS Conversation/Recommended Reading
3. How Do I Find Available Service Opportunities
4. Where is your heart leading you? (Ministry Team descriptions)

Gather Conversation Materials for Interviewer

1. Conversation Questions
2. GTS Key Words
3. GTS Conversation Data Collection Form and Instructions

Opening

Thanks for meeting me today.

Intro to/ set framework GTS Project

- 7 principles (see Stmt Theolog Grounding below for relevant principles)
- UUCDC Mission Statement
- **IGNITE personal growth. ENGAGE in loving community. SERVE with integrity.**
- GTS Statement of Theological Grounding

As Unitarian Universalists, we live out our faith through our service to others. True spiritual growth, in ourselves and in our congregation, often arises through our connectedness with others and through serving a higher purpose that is greater than our own individual needs. In this context, service to our church community becomes a sacred experience, one in which our relationships are defined by a sense of caring, respect, commitment, and responsibility.

As sources for this statement, we draw on our third principle, which encourages spiritual growth in our congregations; our seventh principle, which acknowledges the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part; and the mission of UUCDC, which calls on us to care deeply about each other, our children, our neighbors and our Earth.

Questions?

What to expect from today:

- Meaningful service is different for different people, goal today is to discern what are characteristics of meaningful service for you
- Not discuss specific service opportunities, not recruiting
- Talk about your journey – past, current future
- Will be taking notes – but notes not available to all
- **DEFINITIONS – HAND OUT** and discuss
Not only way to define, but starting point for today

The Journey

Growing up – parents bring spirituality in house?

Did you question religion – when? – some people do as adolescent, when have children.
When did this begin for you? What choices did you make?

Then what happened? What have you experienced in your life that has played a large part in your spiritual journey? UUCDC?

If UUCDC hasn't come up...

Are you a birthright/child UU? Did you choose Unitarian Universalism as an adult?
What role did that choice have on your spiritual journey?

Where are you on your spiritual journey now?

Where do you want to be?

What are your hopes and aspirations for yourself?

SUMMARIZE what you have heard, drawing particular attention to the spiritual journey that you have just heard, even if the participant doesn't see it as a spiritual journey

Service and The Journey

Thinking back on how you have served in the past or how you are currently serving (church and non-church)

- Think of a role(s) that was particularly fulfilling?
- What was fulfilling about it?
- How did it impact your spiritual journey?

(Capture details of what described using form; e.g.: working alone or working in group, working with kids, working with youth, short one time jobs, serving on a committee, etc.)

Often our growth is harvested out of challenge. Can you think of a time where you have experienced negative aspects to service? Did that experience help you grow?

How do you imagine yourself serving UUCDC

- that would be meaningful to you
- help you move forward on your spiritual journey,
- find fulfilling?

(Capture details of what describe using form; e.g.: working alone or working in group, working with kids, working with youth, short one time jobs, serving on a committee, etc.)

Personal/professional growth: Any new skills that you would like to learn or develop further as part of your service at UUCDC?

Other ways besides service that you plan to explore in the next year or two that will help you move forward on your spiritual journey? (RE classes, books/reading, workshops, retreats, etc.)

SUMMARIZE – Focus on what you heard about their spiritual growth through service

HANDOUT – KEY WORDS

Going forward

I will contact you in the next week - questions, something to add.

I will record what we discussed – meaningful characteristics of service only, not everything.

What do we do with what discussed today?

- encourage YOU to seek service opportunities
 - well matched to your goals for personal and spiritual growth,
 - well matched to time and interests.
 - Service Opportunities on our website –
 - open and filled
 - DEMONSTRATE ON COMPUTER
 - HANDOUT INSTRUCTIONS For Service Opportunity Listing
 - contact me or contact person on Service Opportunity when you find an opportunity(ies) to serve that might be meaningful to you.
- GTS work with church leadership to find opportunity for you

GTS project doesn't just end with this conversation

- serious about creating a culture where we at UUCDC intentionally serve in a manner that feeds us.
- GTS is an ongoing project
- plan is for us to get together two years from now, and then every two years after that.

- talk about how your service experiences have been for you over the past two years and to see if they have helped you progress on your spiritual journey.
- where you would like to see yourself after the next two years, and what types of service would help you achieve that.

Does this make sense? Do you have any questions?

HANDOUT –

- **MY RECORD OF MY GTS CONVERSATION/RECOMMENDED READING**
- **DESCRIPTION OF MINISTRY Teams**

Closing

- Thank you.
 - Has this conversation been helpful to you? In what way?
 - Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like to add something to our conversation.
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After GTS Conversation

1. Enter GTS Conversation Data into database within 3 days (24 hours preferable).
<http://www.uucdc.org/webform/gts-conversation-data-collection-form>
2. Contact any person who needs to be given information (minister, caring committee)
3. Follow up call to interviewee in approx. 1 week. Enter any additional information from follow up call into database within 3 days (24 hours preferable).