

Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
6 Month Anniversary Meetings
Compiled answers

Description: I meet with members when they have been members for about 6 months. The meetings have all been very positive. It has been a good opportunity to have 1 on 1 time with the members. I could also see this working in small groups or with a Membership Committee member.

What are you looking for in a spiritual home?

- Looking for something different than what we got from our Catholic background; Want ritual, especially for family; want to belong and also live life that way; connecting to something
- Learning about different spiritual paths
- A place where we can both feel inspired coming from different backgrounds; a place that voices what is right, not necessarily what is proper; to be around people who inspire me
- A variety of worship opportunities and programs that feed my soul; being with people with varied backgrounds to be able to learn from them
- Wanted a place to come to service with a message that would carry me through the week, and found that here.

What made you decide to become a member?

- Inclusiveness and tolerance; walk the talk; wanted to show support of this community
- We are surrounded by good people who are up on the issues; Whole variety of backgrounds
- When I was telling people I am a UU (which I tell everyone I know!)

Did you find what you were searching for/what have your experiences been like?

- So much compassion; when there are personal losses, we call; feel like we really belong and are genuinely accepted
- Felt very welcome; have met some people and have had other opportunities to meet others
- It has been wonderful; feel at home; support my family receives has been outstanding
- Involved in many congregations before, but the Fellowship is the most friendly and inclusive place, even before I joined! Appreciate that there is follow up after joining; we have a full spectrum of options to get involved in; the unity in diversity is incredible
- I am not just enjoying the services, but also the joys and concerns and response time, it is comforting to hear from others and get to know them; I love that there is a lot offered and a lot of outreach; appreciated the playgroup when I could go!

What can we do to make this a better fit for you/help you feel part of the community?

- Our own time commitments don't allow us to get as involved as we would like; hopefully more in the future
- Want to be RE teachers together; glad don't have to feel guilty about not coming every week; encouraged to get involved, which is good!; 101 class is great
- I am very happy here; would like to learn more about the different religious beliefs [gave UU101 definitions; suggested teaching RE and looking for AE classes]
- I struggle having young children and find it has been hard to get involved elsewhere because of them
- I would like to continue to learn more

What suggestions do you have for us to be more welcoming of newcomers?

- Meet leaders/chairs in an event because it is hard to call someone you don't know or walk into a new group where you don't know anyone [told about Building Community Fair]
- Have a tour available to newcomers
- We are unlike any other congregation I have been involved in; don't see gossip; we are walking our talk
- I can't say enough good things about this place- I am amazed at the way people are willing to expose themselves in a way I don't see elsewhere
- We do a great job, I haven't seen anything like it!