



The St. Lawrence District Strategic Plan for 2010-2015 OVERVIEW

The **St. Lawrence District** is made up of 34 chartered UU congregations in upstate New York and northern Pennsylvania and is governed by a District Board. In August, 2008, the District Board charged a new committee, named the Futures Team, to develop and recommend to the District Board a new five-year Strategic Plan.

The **Strategic Plan** will build on the District's previous long-range plan, explore new opportunities and challenges, meet the present and emerging needs of our congregations, and provide a framework for the District's future work. In developing a new plan, the Team will interact with the District Board on a regular basis as well as consult with congregations, constituents, the District staff, and resources outside the District (e.g. Unitarian Universalist Association and other district staff, the Alban Institute, theological schools). In keeping with its focus on the future, the Team will also revisit the District's Mission and Vision statements. The new plan will be presented to the Board in time for a final report to be voted on at the District's Annual Meeting in April 2010.

34 chartered congregations make up the St. Lawrence District



KEY PLANNING PHASES

Initiate:
Through November 2008

Become familiar with the committee's charge and set strategic direction.

Inquire:
Through March 15 2009

Outreach, to learn the issues.

Imagine:
Through June 15 2009

Develop goals.

Innovate:
Through Early Fall 2009

Finalize plan document and present at April 2010 District Annual Meeting.

Futures Team

SLD Futures Team: Dave Munro, Chair (Past President, First UU Society of Albany), Jeanne Crane, Team Consultant (District Planning Consultant), Jan Gartner (Director of Religious Education, First Unitarian Church of Rochester), Bill Parke (District Board Trustee), Rev. Deane Perkins (UU Congregation of Glens Falls); ex officio members David Friedman (UUA Trustee), Karen LoBracco (District Program Consultant)

Outreach to Congregations

Members of the Futures Team are visiting congregations throughout the St. Lawrence District to ask:

1. What visions do you hold for your congregation and for Unitarian Universalism?
2. How can the District help you grow spiritually and in your connections with other congregations and the larger faith?
3. If your congregation had the resources to spend, what one project would you try to accomplish?
4. What specific topics are of interest to you: right relations, conflict management, multiculturalism, worship and music, multi-generational connections, family ministry and/or GLBT concerns?

Outreach to Groups

Focus groups help us learn about trends, challenges, and opportunities for our congregations and our larger faith. We are connecting with a number of specific identity groups and interest groups, including musicians, multiracial families, District religious educators, and ministers.

Outreach to Learn New Ideas and Meet New Leadership

To enhance our awareness, creativity, and vision, we are interviewing denominational leaders, including the candidates for UUA President, and sending Futures Team members to relevant conferences.

Message from Tom Chulak, District Executive

“Thank you for your interest and support of the St. Lawrence District Strategic Plan for 2010-2015 planning process. By building on success with the preceding plan, obtaining your involvement and ideas, and identifying opportunities within the District, we can stride confidently into our future — together!”



Share Your Thoughts through Direct Communication with the Futures Team!

CLIP & MAIL to St. Lawrence District, 695 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo, NY 14222 OR EMAIL this information to SLDFuturesTeam@gmail.com

Your Name:	
How can we best reach you?	<input type="checkbox"/> Email, <input type="checkbox"/> Phone, or <input type="checkbox"/> Letter
Your Contact Information:	
Your Thoughts/ Recommendations for the Futures Team:	

District Services to Congregations

Behavioral Covenants	Growth Grants (Chalice Lighters)	Religious Education Consulting
Board Retreats	Leadership Development	Social Justice Program
Building Staff Teams	Membership Retention	Strategic Planning
Campus Ministry	Ministerial Transitions	UU Identity
Communications	Multigenerational Community	Unitarian Universalist Leadership Team Institute
Conferences by Congregation Size	New Congregation Development	Website
Conflict Management	News Packets	Worship
Fundraising for Congregations	Process Consultation	Young Adult Network
Gould Library	Public Witness	Youth Conferences
Governance Structures	Publicity	