

The Unitarian Church in Westport
Vision Statement
June 2013

We are a welcoming, multigenerational religious **community**, richly **diverse** in our membership and beliefs, and **connected** by shared questions, joys, concerns and covenants. We encourage **leadership** through communal involvement and inspire **spiritual** discovery by exploring universal teachings and religions in our worship, music and **education** programs. **Stewardship** from fundraising as well as generous member pledges of money, time and resources provide financial support for sustainability and growth. We remain committed to lifelong learning, conducting **outreach** and taking action with other faiths and shining as a beacon of social justice. With a spirit of equality and adventure, we interconnect with our community and our world.

Community – We are a religious community that is well-informed and connected by shared questions, joys, and concerns that enable us to grow within, among and beyond ourselves. We embrace music as a core way of celebrating our faith and building community.

Diversity - We are welcoming to all, richly diverse and consciously provide programs that affirm and serve across ages, races, ethnicities, religious backgrounds and sexual orientations. We foster compassion for each other's story.

Leadership – Our congregation's leaders (ministerial, professional and lay) provide services ranging from inspiring sermons and pastoral care to stewardship and oversight. We appreciate the talents, skills, passions and interests of every congregant, and invite each to contribute in their own way.

Spirituality - We are a heart based spiritual community that embraces wisdom and the essence of multiple world religions, belief systems, arts and philosophies. We support each other's free exploration of practices that enhance inner peace, gratitude and love.

Education - Our inspirational staff and generous volunteers provide vibrant, engaging and innovative educational experiences for all ages that nurture, provoke independent thinking and encourage spiritual growth through participation and service.

Stewardship - Multi-generations are joining our congregation in growing numbers, and find welcome, affirmation and fulfillment of their spiritual needs – they pledge generously. We enjoy our spectacular building and grounds that are natural and lovingly maintained. Our sanctuary reflects our belief in the importance of nature and caring for it. We operate from a sense of stability and abundance.

Outreach - As a group of creative thinkers and doers, we provide a beacon of hope connecting with others from diverse faiths working for social justice and inspiring a broad range of positive outreach to the world.