

Cover Letter for By Laws Revisions, Greenville Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

From: By Laws Revision Committee

To all who receive this, the By Laws Committee is pleased to offer for your consideration and approval changes to our existing By Laws, last revised in 2004. The information contained herein consists of 1) The existing By Laws, 2) Proposed By Laws, and 3) A summary, to the best of our ability, of the differences between the two. As our Fellowship grows, questions and issues arise which require guidance for resolution. The By Laws are an important source of reference for responding to, addressing, and resolving such issues. Additionally, they establish the basic framework of our organizational structure.

Congregational Meeting

A Congregational Meeting to vote on the changes will be held on Sunday, October 26th, 2008. Two informational meetings will be held prior to this, on Sunday, October 12th and Sunday, October 19th, in the left overflow room. Everyone is welcome to drop by and inquire about the changes. Board members and By Laws Committee members will be present.

Changes to the By Laws

The changes to the existing By Laws will guide the Fellowship in addressing future Congregational as well as Ministerial issues.

Of Special Note to the By Laws Changes

With respect to Ministerial issues, we would direct your attention to the existing By Laws, Article 12, Section 5, which states that any Minister will be in Fellowship with the UUA. This Section has been deleted. Our reasons are as follows:

From the standpoint of our association with the UUA, we are an independent entity within the UUA and have the authority to ordain individuals who have not completed Divinity School or been officially ordained by the UUA. In our particular case, we could foresee the possibility of desiring to create Ministerial positions for Religious Education and/or Music. The current By Laws would quite likely prohibit such an action.