

Mission Statement

We believe in promoting respect for the worth and dignity of every person and the value of traditional and non-traditional families. Celebrating our diversity, accepting our differences, and searching for common ground will bring tolerance and a strong, vital community.

We believe that the democratic process is the best method to address the needs of our society. Informed voters and the empowerment of individuals on the local level are key to the success of this process.

The purpose of government is to strive for balance between private interests and the common good. The separation of church and state is the most basic example of this balance in our democracy. When the Bill of Rights provided that "there will be no establishment of religion," it protected both the state's ability to be impartial and the conscience of each religion.

We feel that the Radical Religious Right, in their attempt to "take back America," intends to establish a de facto state religion. It is important that people of faith participate in government as contemporaries, pluralistic, respectful influences, bringing with them the common values of honesty and fairness.

What are the issues?

Our issues include:

- Environmental Issues
- First Amendment Rights
- Gay/Lesbian Issues
- Gun Control
- Public Education
- Reproductive Choice
- Violence Against Women

As our name implies, we expect a diversity of opinion among our members, but we all strive for a reasonable dialog among our elected officials in a search for the common good while honoring the individual as a moral decision-maker.



United for Diversity
N33 W7174 Buchanan St.
Cedarburg, WI 53012

(414) 375-1522

Sally F. Mills, President

United for Diversity

*An Organization of
Unitarian Universalists and Friends*

Who are we?

We are a faith based group of people who are concerned about the policy direction being taken by our local, state, and federal elected officials. Dedicated to political action with a positive, pro-active emphasis, we formed United for Diversity to expose the agenda and tactics of the Radical Religious Right (RRR) in the State of Wisconsin and to challenge them by participating in the political process in our local communities.

We seek to empower local individuals to address the issues in their communities. Local issues are what drive elections. We offer advice and support, research on candidates' connections to the RRR, assistance in producing voter guides, and a state and national perspective.

Voter Guides

We publish issue oriented voter guides for selected elections. We can help local congregations create voter guides for school board or other local elections, assisting with research and documentation of the candidates' positions. State and federal offices are also included. Local efforts to distribute the voter guides to other congregations, neighbors, and friends will help to inform all voters.

Our Newsletter

Our newsletter, *Voices of Reason*, is a forum for congregations to share their struggles with the RRR and network for help. The newsletter also includes legislative alerts, tips on how to respond as a congregation, and how to use the political process effectively (voting, town hall meetings, hearings, running for office).

Forums Available

We offer traveling forums presented by members of the Steering Committee at congregations around the state. Following the presentations, we encourage feedback and input from local congregations. Topics include: who is the RRR; what is their agenda and the logic behind it; what legislation is being considered or passed under RRR influence; what action we can take at the local level.

Networking

Each congregation has a telephone notification network so we can respond to issues in a timely manner. Statewide, we can respond to our own issues as identified by our issue chairpeople, by a congregation, or by the Unitarian Universalist Association's Washington office. Phone calls to legislators and letters to the editor of local and state newspapers can be surprisingly effective.

We are also networking with other organizations in Wisconsin who are challenging the RRR.

Will you join us?

Within our congregations we have members who are activists, and others who are interested but only have time to be informed and contact legislators. We also have members who join as individuals. Please join us by filling out this form and returning it to us with your contribution. Thank you!

Name _____

Address _____

City, Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

Congregation _____

Denomination _____

___ \$15 ___ \$25 ___ \$50 \$_____ Other

Please make checks payable to Janet Nortrom, Treasurer, and mail to:

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Contributions to United for Diversity are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.