



## The Essential Role of UUUM Delegates

Delegates to the UU Urban Ministry are, first and foremost, **bridge-building ambassadors**. They connect their congregations and the Urban Ministry - always in service of advancing the Urban Ministry's mission:

### OUR MISSION:

*We work across race & place to dismantle racism and white supremacy culture, and to advance racial, economic, & social justice.*

### OUR VISION:

*We envision a Greater Boston where all people live with freedom and dignity, and have equitable access to resources and opportunity to shape the present and the future.*

Our Delegate role is evolving to align with the Urban Ministry's focus on partnership with BIPOC-led organizations in the greater Roxbury community. These partnerships serve to amplify the voices of BIPOC-led organizations and advance their impacts on economic and racial justice. Similarly, our Delegate role is evolving to address more explicitly our new mission's commitment to dismantle racism and white supremacy culture. Delegates are called to heed this exhortation credited to Aboriginal Australian visual artist, activist, and academic Lilla Watson:

*If you have come here to help me, you are wasting your time. But if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together.*

**We invite delegates to see their role in five ways: Participating, Communicating, Organizing, Fundraising, Governance & Voting. Below is information about each of these areas.**

### **Participating**

Be an active participant in UUUM activities, events, and programs.

Here are some ways to do that, and remember: no one does all of them!

- Join a tour sponsored by the UUUM
- Tune into a Community Conversation
- Attend an RYP Showcase
- Enjoy a Makanda Jazz Concert on the UUUM greenspace
- Be a greeter at a UUUM event
- Join a Task Force
- Donate to the Annual Appeal

## **Communicating**

Keep your congregation informed about important events, changes, and opportunities for engagement at the UUUM.

Here are some ways to do that - and remember: no one does them all!

- Encourage your congregation to invite Rev Mary Margaret Earl to lead worship for your congregation so members can learn firsthand from her about the Urban Ministry's efforts to live into our bold mission and vision
- Host an information table about the UU Urban Ministry at your social hour
- Invite UUUM staff to meet with your Social Action and/or Racial Justice Committee to share opportunities for partnership
- Engage with UUUM's Congregational and Volunteer Coordinator to explore ways to build a relationship with and partner with businesses/organizations in the Roxbury community
- Ask your minister if they already receive the UUUM newsletters; if they don't, sign them up with Development Director Vinnie Myles [vmyles@uum.org](mailto:vmyles@uum.org)
- Encourage members to sign up to receive the UUUM newsletter - better yet, offer to sign them up
- Share an event or opportunity from UUUM's monthly newsletter with members who might have a special interest and then arrange to have UUUM news included in your congregation's weekly communication
- Ask to report about the Urban Ministry at a meeting of your Social Action/Racial Justice Committee, your Parish Board, and/or your Annual Meeting

## **Organizing**

Create and help coordinate opportunities for members of your congregation to learn about and advance the Urban Ministry's mission.

Here are some ways to do that - and please remember again: no one does everything!

- Organize groups to learn about and support BIPOC-led community partners like Louis D. Brown Peace Institute, City Life/Vida Urbana, DeeDee's Cry, and Paige Academy
- Help recruit members who are willing to provide technical and other support to Roxbury-based small businesses and organizations that are partnering with the Urban Ministry
- Invite members of your congregation to join you at an event at the Urban Ministry
- Arrange group visits to UUUM for a tour followed by eating out together at a Nubian Square restaurant or visiting the Frugal Bookstore
- Organize a virtual or in-person "watch party" for a Community Conversation - with discussion afterward exploring its implications

- Encourage purchases from artists in the Roxbury Artist Amplification Project catalog
- Inspire members to become customers of Black-owned businesses that UUUM lifts up through commercials, tours, and its website
- Coordinate a small group to respond to UUUM requests for support, such as City Life mailings, Peace Garden weeding/planting
- Recruit and orient new delegate(s)

## **Fundraising**

Help raise funds from individuals and the congregation to enable UUUM to fulfill its mission.

Here are some ways to do that - and remember: no one does all of them!

- Share fundraising efforts like UUUM's Annual Appeal, the Pews Project, and sale of Mother's Day cards
- Introduce UUUM staff to philanthropic congregants
- Share congregation-specific grant opportunities for operating support
- Design congregation-specific ways to raise money for UUUM
- Identify congregants with expertise in development who might be willing to actively support UUUM's efforts

## **Governance & Voting**

Exercise your responsibility as a delegate to attend and vote at UUUM Annual and Special Meetings.

- Elect Delegates-at-large and members of the Board of Directors
- Vote on bylaw revisions recommended by the Board
- Approve any sale of real estate property used in UUUM's work as recommended by the Board