

# APPLICATION TO CONTINUE AS/BECOME A SOCIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF BLOOMINGTON

Social Justice Task Forces are groups within the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington that:

- advocate, educate, organize, and/or inform around a specific area of social justice concern,
- share expertise and information about that specific area of social justice concern with other Task Forces and groups as needed,
- have at least three participants and are led by—and have at least 50% of their membership from—members and friends of the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Bloomington,
- have one representative on the Social Justice Coordinating Circle that meets at least three times a year (these representatives may be chairs or co-chairs of their Task Forces or members, but the Task Forces are to send representative persons who are both involved in and informed about the work of their Task Force AND are able to commit time to responsible involvement in the work of the Circle), and
- prepare a written report to the congregation annually.

The Social Justice Steering Committee receives and acts on (in consultation with the members of the Coordinating Circle) applications for Task Force status. The Social Justice Coordinating Circle provides orientation for the leadership of new Task Forces.

**To apply/reapply for Task Force status use this form as a guide for electronic submission of the information and answers requested below. Submit to [jmhall@indiana.edu](mailto:jmhall@indiana.edu). If this is not possible, fill in the blanks below and, using this as a cover sheet, submit answers to the applicable numbered questions on attached page(s). Turn in at the Social Justice Steering Committee box in the church office. Please note that this information will be used by the Steering Committee to describe your Task Force on the church web-site, on a “book mark” displayed on the Social Justice table, and in other publications.**

**Name of Task Force: Green Sanctuary Task Force on Global Climate Change Renewal ■**

**Form submitted by: Keith Vogelsang Date: 28 June 2006**

**Phone: 332-1303 E-Mail: [kvogelsa @ Indiana . edu](mailto:kvogelsa@indiana.edu)**

- 1. What are the purpose(s) and goal(s) of the Task Force?** The goal of this task force is to explore ways of reducing the ecological footprint of the UU Church of Bloomington and to assist in becoming certified as a Green Sanctuary from the UU Ministry for Earth.
- 2. In what ways do these purposes and goals fulfill the principles of the Unitarian Universalist Church and /or enhance the life of this congregation?** Becoming a Green Sanctuary would affirm and promote the seventh principle of Unitarian Universalism: “Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.”
- 3. Is this Task Force on-going or created to accomplish specific, time-limited goals? (If the latter, explain.)** Becoming certified as a Green Sanctuary is our major goal, and as such, implies that our task force will terminate upon completion of this goal. However, the UU Ministry for Earth requires ongoing programs to maintain certification, so it is likely that the Green Sanctuary Task Force on Global Climate Change will adopt a new mission (and new name) to reflect the congregation’s commitment to maintaining its Green Sanctuary certification.
- 4. What programs and/or events have been conducted during the past year?**

## Ongoing Projects/Activities

Project/Activity Name: Coffee Sales  
Contact Person: Mary Beth O'Brien  
Date: Every Sunday and in conjunction with the UU Bazaar  
Time: between services (10:15 am – 11:15 am)  
Location: Fellowship Room  
Purpose:

Additional Information:

Project/Activity Name: COB Kyoto Signatory  
Contact Person: David Keppel, Steve Cotter  
Purpose: To support the City of Bloomington in its interest to sign on to the Kyoto Protocol.  
Additional Information: The City of Bloomington signed on to the Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement on Friday, April 21, 2006.

Project/Activity Name: Children's Plant a Row for the Hungry Garden  
Contact Person: Cindy Port  
Additional Information: Alan Patterson

## One-Time Projects/Activities

Project/Activity Name: Letter to DNR  
Contact Person: Steve Cotter/Keith Vogelsang  
Date: Sent mid-December 2005  
Purpose: The purpose of the letter was two-fold. It addressed concerns with a new state plan to increase logging by up to 500% on state forest and the importance of forest in sequestering carbon, thereby decreasing greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and requesting that the DNR follow the law and allow for public involvement in this decision making process. The letter was signed by members of the GSTFGCC.

Project/Activity Name: IFA Petition  
Date: December 2005  
Additional Information: The GSTFGCC signed a petition from the Indiana Forest Alliance addressing the concerns regarding the logging proposal mention above.

Project/Activity Name: Gaviotas: A Village to Reinvent the World; a presentation by Brandon Pitcher  
Date: January 21, 2006  
Time: 6:30 PM  
Contact person: Keith Vogelsang  
Location: Fellowship Hall  
Purpose: Brandon Pitcher is a businessman who has worked on a variety of projects that promote economic development by working with natural processes that promote productivity and efficient use of raw and recycled materials. This presentation was co-facilitated by Lucille Bertuccio of the Center for Sustainable Living

Project/Activity Name: Peak Oil Forum  
Contact Person: David Keppel

Date: Sunday, February 5, 2006  
Time: 10:15 am  
Location: The Library  
Purpose: To educate the congregation on Peak Oil.  
Additional Information: Number in attendance approximately 40

Project/Activity Name: Civil Marriage Task Force Breakfast  
Contact Person: Ruth Ann Cooper  
Date: February 19, 2006  
Additional Information: Inspired by the values of GSTFGCC the Civil Marriage Task Force focused on waste reduction and use of green paper products. Breakfast for 100 people was served while producing only one bag of trash and utilizing 100% recycled, unbleached napkins.

Project Name/Activity: Sermon on Food and Sustainability  
Contact Person:  
Date: February 2006

Project/Activity Name: Clothing Swap  
Contact Person: Stephanie Kimball  
Date: Saturday, March 25, 2006  
Time: 9 am – noon  
Location: Fellowship Room

Project/Activity Name: Nomination of CSL for 25%  
Contact Person: Kate Cruikshank  
Date: March 31, 2006  
Additional Information: The GSTFGCC nominated the Center for Sustainable Living to be the non-profit that receives 25% of the donations received at the Sunday services for the FY beginning in July 2006.

Project/Activity Name: Presentation at District Meeting  
Contact Person: Anne Veldman, Keith Vogelsang  
Date: Saturday, April 8, 2006  
Time: 10:00  
Location: Embassy Suites

Project/Activity Name: Earth Fair  
Contact Person: Anne Veldman  
Date: April 23, 2006  
Time: Between Services  
Additional Information: The Earth Fair consisted of tables – Community Resource, Direct Action, Library Resources, Composting, Bikes Week, Coffee Sales, Visioning and Action with the GSTF – designed to encourage and educate people on decreasing their footprint. Several members of the GSTFGCC staffed tables, answered questions, and distributed information.

Project/Activity Name: Earth Day Intergenerational Service  
Contact Person: Emily Leite  
Date: April 23, 2006

Additional Information: Emily created and lead an intergenerational service in honor of Earth Day. At the end of the service people were asked to make an Earth Pledge.

Project/Activity Name: Northwest Institute Classes on Deep Ecology

Contact: Beckie Wagner

Date: Feb 15 – March 29

Location: Room 103, 6:30 PM on Wednesdays

Additional Information: Funded by the GSTFGCC

Project/Activity Name: Sustainable Building Discussion – Adult RE

Strawbale Building – brochure Spring 2006

5. **How effective does the Task Force judge these programs to have been?** We believe these programs have done much to create the necessary awareness about how interconnected environmental issues can be (and are). We are pleased with our programs to date, but feel we could always do more.
6. **What programs and/or events have been planned or are projected for coming months?** We are planning an intergenerational retreat and service to take place at the CYO Camp in Nashville, IN. We are also planning a fall clothing swap, and many other programs have been discussed, but are still in development.
7. **What are the funding needs of the Task Force? How are they to be met?** Funding needs to date have been modest (less than \$1000/year) and are met primarily through weekly sales of fair trade coffee.
8. **What other resources and support does the Task Force need to be effective?** The most critical resource needed to date has been the human resource. We also rely heavily on the ability to communicate via *Common Ground* and *The Prologue*. The church administrative staff has also been a crucial part of the success of this task force.
9. **Who are the persons primarily responsible for decision making and policy setting for this Task Force? (Indicate which are members or friends [financial supporters] of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington.)**

David Keppel (member)

Keith Vogelsang (friend)

Anne Veldman (friend)

Mary Beth O'Brien (member)