

Committee on Ministry Health Report to the B.O.T.



Main Line Unitarian Church
15 June 2022

Committee Members: 2021-2022

Michael Zink (Chair) - Year 1

Gary Geoghegan - Year 3 (willing to continue)

Betsy McIlwain - Year 1

Nini Ingersoll (Board Liaison)

Focus of CoMH: 2021-2022

Engaging the congregation on
MLUC's fulfillment of our mission

Assisting the Board with Open
Questions

Out of Scope

Survey Work

Focus group work completed in Spring 2021
Additional survey work suspended due to
upcoming ministerial search survey

Minister Evaluation

Out of scope for interim phase

Three events brainstormed with Open Questions team

1. “Graffiti Wall “
2. “Tell Your Story” event
3. “Social Action Shark Tank”

Graffiti Wall: Summary of Themes

How has MLUC transformed my life?

Education

Friends and Connection

Artistic Expression

Supporting Children and Youth

Personal Development

How has MLUC transformed the community?

Advocating / Protesting

Connecting with the Local Community

Donation to Worthy Causes

Liberal Religious Voice

How has MLUC transformed the world?

Political Action

Developing Change-Making People

Support of Others in Need

Liberal Religious Voice

How has MLUC Transformed my Life?

MLUC made me a better parent

MLUC made my kids better people

I enjoy attending the OWL program

I have made wonderful friends

I look forward to church. It makes me a better person to think about others in a different way than when I didn't come to church.

I get to meet new friends and have time to play with them. I get to see them every week

Adult education. Writing my credo

Youth group transformed me

Keeps me connected to my family

I am transformed by singing in the choir

I like church

MLUC has made me a more complete person ... added children to my life when I had no sons/daughters ... connected to me with seniors after my parents had past ... gave me new friends when I had to leave my old ones behind

It helps me keep the inherent worth of all forward in my mind

I know that my 26 year old daughter has firm ground beneath her feet due to MLUC church school, OWL and YR-4U

How has MLUC Transformed my Life?

I like hanging my coat in the closet. I like going into the worship service. I like getting my name tag.

Being a youth group advisor transformed me as a parent

MLUC helped my come of age

MLUC has helped my artistic nature

MLUC makes me a better person

MLUC gives me a caring community

MLUC has a wonderful group of artists

Introduced me to feminist theology

MLUC has transformed my by enabling me to find valuable purposes in doing what I like to do in the first place. There are many church members with all types of computer, phone or car gadget problems that I like to figure out and share.

When I do this for MLUC people (who's kids aren't around) I am enabling THEM to do more of THEIR community building and world-improving volunteer activities. There are so many ways that MLUC members are making lives better for others. For some of them you have to kind of pry it out of them.

How has MLUC Transformed my Life?

Providing community, acceptance, and search for meaning

MLUC has given me a deeper understanding of social justice and opportunities to work for social justice issues

I became a DRE thanks to MLUC's support

Church refreshes my mind

How has MLUC Transformed the Community

MLUC members protest injustices together

MLUC sets a good example of liberal working together

MLUC supports many worthy organizations through its offering outreach

Planted trees

Cakes for the Queen ... Planned Parenthood .. IHN, etc. etc. etc. !!

We speak our mind to injustice and inequities around us

Our partnership with St Davids Nursery School

Opening space to community organizations, supporting homeless, or disadvantaged, providing a liberal religious voice.

I missed this church

Church has helped many people who otherwise would have more difficulty such as not enough money for a home

Community concerts and art shows draw the public in

Speaking up for issues (Black Lives Matter)

Sharing our offering money with community organizations has made a difference

How has MLUC Transformed the World?

MLUC helps homeless families

MLUC has sent out generations of good people to change the world

Mohammed, Adila, Hadya and Safa

MLUC supports separation of church and state

Latin American Task Force, Partner Church, USCG, Guest at Your Table

Challenging the accepted view of "Church"

I think it is so amazing that MLUC gives half of the Sunday plate to a monthly charity. So special.

Hope for a unified world

College of Social Justice trips and donations to Haiti

Home for unconventional child through her youth

Invitation to be creative and express myself

Examination of the important question of life

We live our convictions for good examples to the greater world

Support of refugees, partner church, expanding understanding, acceptance, consciousness, and liberal voice

MLUC has sponsored families fleeing war. Vietnamese and Afghanistan

44 Plan helped change PA's congressional districts

Graffiti Wall: Optional Next Steps

Post phrases around church (MMR)

Use phrases in marketing and communication media

Other ideas?

Other Event Ideas

“Tell Your Story Event”

- Concept: members share personal stories of how MLUC transforms lives
- Inspired by “Search for Meaning “ done in the past
- Recommendation: Include the activity in a Sunday Service rather than a separate event

“Social Action Shark Tank”

- Concept: members pitch a program or organization, winner(s) get funded
- Recommendation: Expand to engage (inter-generational) *participation* as well as funding. This would be a church-wide event beyond the scope of CoMH.

“What priorities do you see?”

Lifespan Religious Education

Social Action (especially intergenerational)

CoMH Going Forward

Committee charter defines 4 members, we have 3 (one “overstaying”)

Reduced role again expected in 2nd interim year

Committee is ready to evaluate MLUC’s success is fulfilling our mission and support the Board with Open Questions

Priorities and focus for 2022-2023 to be defined. What role will Open Questions play in 2022-23 and how can CoMH be supportive?