

Comments from Article 2 Forum January 28, 2024

Concerns:

1, I feel lost as the new language doesn't clearly state the seven principles I know and love. More complicated than seven principles.

2, Will we get a "short" version that I can use as an "elevator speech"?

X 2

3, Too many values/words in current graph.

4, Can current value words be easily translated outside of UU members? (I find it hard to explain why I'm a UU to my neighbor who isn't)

5, How will we be "retrained" to understand and know this well enough to share it/own it? X 2

6 What does accountable mean – what if I/or a congregation doesn't follow this... X 3

7, Lack of preparation (among voters)

8, Politicization of UUA.

9, (Need) more opportunity to see and consider.

10, Newcomers may need more information. X 2

11, Would like to see one or two sentences incorporating all values.

12, Would like to know what percentage of congregations have adopted the eighth principle.

13, I'm worried that "democracy" is buried X 2

14, A "value" is less strong than a "principal".

15, concerned that the change will not effectively bring forward the issue of white supremacy.

16, Fear of loss of the 7 principles.

17, Living into the values requires resources, ongoing effort.

18, Need to renew attention to covenant in order to avoid divisiveness.

19, Concerned about the divisive nature of the opposition. X 2

20, love the way the seven principles are laid out. Concise and easy to understand. More poetic, new is too wordy.

21 Punitive aspect (of the new article 2).

22, I mourn the loss of being able to answer "what do you believe as a UU" I always say our first principle is "all human beings have an innate worth and dignity" that is why I became a UU. What do I say now?

23, not enough inclusion of general congregations.

APPEAL:

- 1, Like the chart. Change will take a while. This meeting is useful.
- 2, Appeals to younger people.
- 3, Current principles (are) Incorporated.
- 4, Provides articulation of values, extensive inclusive process.
- 5, Clear statements of what values mean.
- 6, More action oriented. X 3
- 7, Graphic representation in addition to words is another way of inclusiveness.
- 8, Accountability – good or bad?
- 9, Inclusion of “love”.
- 10, Language is eloquent.
- 11, Social justice emphasis.
- 12, Visual.
- 13, Love in the center.
- 14, Brings 8th principle to all congregations.
- 15, Weaves all together
- 16, flows from 8th principle work acknowledges need to combat racism and bring it into our lives, actively.
- 17, Each value is appealing in itself.
- 18 Builds on the groundswell of energy around the 8th principle honors the content of the 8th principle as a key aspiration not an afterthought
- 19, Pushes us toward a sense of inclusion, radical welcome.
- 20, Incorporates poetic language.
- 21, Process included young voices, members of diverse backgrounds.

These are the comments from the congregants who attended the article 2 forum. You will notice “X” after some of the statements and a number. That is the number of times this statement was made.

Humbly submitted by Theo Harper.