**Governing Board Policies**

**I. Church Purpose and Goals**

**Mission**
We welcome all
as we build a loving community
to nurture each person's spiritual journey,
serve human need
and protect the earth, our home.

**Ends/Desired Results/Vision**

***We Welcome All***

Our congregation embraces people of any age, race, culture, income or social class, learning style, physical ability, mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression.

* Visitors and newcomers feel oriented and comfortable.
* We feel responsible for engaging with one another. We stretch our comfort zones to learn from and affirm the differences among us.
* All of us feel safe, accepted and valued.
* We all feel invited to share our talents and energies, and we feel our presence makes a difference.

***Build Loving Community***

Our loving community needs careful cultivation, so we practice kindness and cherish one another.

* We practice seeing the best in others, and are comfortable sharing our thoughts and feelings.
* We celebrate and deepen our connections by sharing important transitions in our lives (such as birth, loss, coming of age).
* We turn to one another for support and help and notice when these are needed
* We take action to make the broader society more loving.

***Nurture Each Spiritual Journey***

* Through music, words, art, and silence, in all stages of life we each have opportunities for reflection, growth and transformation
* We expand our awareness and continue to discover what is ultimately important.
* We are inspired to live our values and purposes.

***Serve Human Need***

* Our congregation knows when members, friends and neighbors are in need; respecting privacy, we respond generously.
* As a congregation, we seek and act upon effective strategies in our community and around the world to address the root causes of
	+ - Violence,
		- Poverty, and
		- Injustice.

***Protect the Earth, Our Home***

* We see ourselves as one, but only one, of the precious species to be protected on our planet.
* We actively investigate and learn about the impact of human activity upon Earth.
* In all our decisions as a congregation, we consider carefully what resources of the earth we are using.
* We work for political, economic and cultural changes that protect biodiversity and that address the causes of human over-population and climate change.
* We support one another to make the difficult and urgent personal changes necessary to live sustainably.