United Valley Interfaith Project
“Aging with Dignity” Round Table Discussions

What is the United Valley Interfaith Project?
The United Valley Interfaith Project (UVIP) is a local interfaith organization of 13 congregations and social service groups (shown on the reverse side) that brings together community members and allies. We help them organize to share their stories, find their own voice, and build their own power to create meaningful, positive change in their communities and their own lives. In this way we seek to live out the calling for social justice of our many faith traditions.

Why are we doing “Aging with Dignity” Round Tables?
These Round Tables are the very first step in our Aging with Dignity campaign. Our work is grounded in the stories of everyday people about the challenges they face in their everyday lives. When we share our stories we build relationships with one another. When we build relationships we can work together. When we work together we can accomplish mighty things.

All of us are aging. New Hampshire and Vermont are both older on average and aging more rapidly than the rest of the country; at the same time resources are shrinking, especially in New Hampshire. Over and over, people like you have told us of the challenges of aging with comfort and dignity in our area – not for all, but for many.

Your stories – and those of many others like you – will guide us toward the specific things we should work together to improve so that all in the United Valley can “age with dignity”.

Some Guidelines for Sharing our Stories

- We ask each person to TELL A PERSONAL STORY from your own experience that illustrates the question at hand.

- Stories should be no more than 1 or 2 minutes long so ALL have a chance to share.

- Please listen to each story and do not interrupt the storyteller.

- We are NOT trying to solve one another’s problems here, or offer advice, or share what “the experts” say – simply share our own stories.

Our Story-Telling Questions

1. “What does it mean to ‘age with dignity’? TELL A STORY about someone in your family or faith community or neighborhood that sheds light on that…”

2. “What does it mean to ‘age in community?’ TELL A STORY about you, someone in your family or faith community or neighborhood that sheds light on that…”

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Local Member Organizations
1. Catholics For UVIP, Lebanon, NH
2. Community Lutheran Church, Enfield, NH
3. Hanover (NH) Friends Meeting
4. Lebanon (NH) United Methodist Church
5. Meriden (NH) Congregational Church
6. Open Hands Mission, Claremont, NH
7. Our Savior Lutheran Church, Hanover, NH
8. St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Norwich, VT
9. St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, White River Junction, VT
10. St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Hanover, NH
11. Trinity Episcopal Church, Claremont, NH
12. Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of the Upper Valley, Norwich, VT
13. Upper Valley Jewish Community (Hanover, NH)

Supporting Organizations
1. Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire
2. Episcopal Diocese of Vermont
3. New Hampshire Conference of the United Church of Christ
4. New Hampshire District of the United Methodist Church
5. Roman Catholic Diocese of Manchester

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