**Who Are We, and What Are We About?**

We at LCUUF hold three core values for who we are and what we are about. The three values are “Oneness,” “Openness,” and “Compassionate action in service to all beings.”

“Oneness” is the oneness of God or of reality, a sense that all things are interconnected, that all are one. We believe what science shows us: that physical reality, the ecosystem, and our own human societies are all networks of networks. Our beliefs in oneness and connectivity lead us to reject such dualities as “us versus them,” “matter versus spirit,” or the “saved” versus the “damned.”

“Openness” emerges from Oneness. Openness invites us to consider what others offer and to hold our own views with a degree of humility. We hold ourselves open to the thought that something new and illuminating can emerge from the synthesis of others’ ideas with our own. Our Openness has boundaries, however, for we are not open to any sort of dual thinking that leads to racism, homophobia, patriarchy, or the denigration of the earth.

“Compassionate action in service to all beings” speaks to how we exercise our values of Oneness and Openness. We act in the world based on our values, and the nature of our actions is service and care for other people, other beings, and our home, the planet Earth. Compassion is at the center of our honoring the needs and desires of those we serve as best we can discern them. We hope that our service leads to a greater sense of unity or oneness for all, and that it opens up new possibilities for interconnection among all that is.