

## UConn Faith

Meeting Minutes: March 10th, 2020, 3pm  
Student Union 324

### **Member Attendance:**

**OCCSS:** John Armstrong and Bianka Horvath, **Cru:** Scott Thomson, **Generation of Hope Ministry:** Pam and Ray Riddell, **Reformed University Fellowship:** Lucas Dourado, **Spirit and Truth Apostolic Church:** Joseph Black, **St. Thomas Aquinas:** John Antonelle and Emily Golec, **The Navigators:** Brandon Wilson, **Redeemed Christian Church of God:** Kunle Okele, **Storrs Friends Meeting:** Georgianne Copley and Joe Pandolfo, **Chabad at UConn:** Shlomo Hecht, **UConn Hillel:** Jacqui Schulefand, **Chi Alpha:** Gil Banton

### **Coronavirus**

- 3/10/2020- University announces that there is a possibility that students may be asked not to return to campus after Spring Break
  - Implications campus wide including international, on campus and off-campus students
  - Preventative measures may be taken that include remote learning
  - Students have been asked to register their international travel plans via an [online form](#)
  - Please note all University sponsored travel is not permitted until further notice
  - Daily announcements will be made by the University to inform the public on an Coronavirus updates
    - John to send updates to members of UConn Faith
    - A specific UConn [website](#) has been created to provide updates on the Coronavirus

### **UConn Faith Rebranding**

- The need for an updated and inclusive name for the group was the driving force behind rebranding from AARC to UConn Faith
- With rebranding, will come a brand new website which will streamline information for the public to access information about faith at UConn
  - Ask John for website categories
- A big “thank you” to Scott, Lucas, and Gil for being a part of the work group and helping John behind the scenes
  - Anyone is able to be part of the work group, contact John for more information
- Vetting process for new members
  - New groups requesting to join will be required to provide specific information/answer questions
  - This process is not meant to discourage anyone from requesting to join
- Mission statement
  - In progress
  - Use of a tagline? “Coexist” mentioned

### **Orientation**

- With the new UConn Faith website, John will reach out to incoming students to provide them more information about faith based groups at UConn
- Suggestion from the group: create a new brochure/pamphlet that includes a QR code to the website

### **Mental Health**

- Hiring of a new Associate Director for Student Health and Wellness
- Referring students to inundated departments will not further help students in need
  - Faith groups are vital to the overall health and well-being of UConn community
- Discussion of the need for “resilience” among student population
- Training opportunities are available to faith members, inquire more information from John

## **U.S. Census, 2020**

- Census is based on where one will be sleeping on April 1<sup>st</sup>, contrary to popular belief
- Mansfield residents total- 24,000-26,000
  - Half of these residents are UConn students
- More information is available upon request

## **2020-2021 Meeting Schedule**

- 2 Fall Meetings/1 Spring Meeting
- Tuesdays at 3pm
- Members have requested UConn Police/State Police to be invited to the next meeting to go over emergency preparedness plans

## **Next Meeting: Fall 2020**

### Academic Calendar

- Spring Break: March 16-20
- Spring semester final exams: May 4-9
- Undergraduate commencement ceremonies: May 9-10