

Unitarian Universalism

Unitarian Universalism is a liberal religion that unites Unitarianism and Universalism, and has its earliest roots in our Judeo-Christian heritage. Rather than finding meaning and truth in a specific creed or book, we trust the religious authority that comes from our consciences, our personal experiences, and ourselves. The seven principles we covenant to affirm and promote are:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement towards spiritual growth in our congregations
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence, of which we are a part

The living tradition we share draws from many sources:

- Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and all openness to the forces which create and uphold life.
- Words and deeds of prophetic women and men which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion and the transforming power of love.
- Wisdom from the worlds religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life
- Jewish and Christian teachings which calls us to respond to Gods' love by loving our neighbors as ourselves
- Humanist teachings which council us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit.

Perhaps our overriding values are best expressed in the words we teach our youngsters:

*We are Unitarian Universalists—
the church of the open mind, the loving heart,
and the helping hands.*

Our Church

Our church in Eugene began in 1909. In recent years we have experienced a rapid growth in membership. Many of our members are families from all religious traditions who are seeking a way to teach strong values to their children. Others are individuals who feel a need to find a meaningful spiritual community in a secular society.

Our Ministry

The Rev. Jeanne Melis Mills is our interim minister for this church year. She, along with lay worship associates, crafts our two Sunday worship services, one at 9:00 am and one at 11:00 am. Jeanne earned her Master of Divinity degree at Harvard Divinity School in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She brings more than 30 years life experience as a Unitarian Universalist and is one of approximately forty Accredited Interim Ministers serving our congregations across the country.

Jeanne will be leaving UUCE in June, her last Sunday with us, June 17. Summer services, at 10:00 am, are coordinated by UUCE's Worship Associates and Worship Committee. The UUCE Ministerial Search Committee is actively engaged in the search to find a new settled minister to succeed beloved former minister, the Rev. Carolyn Colbert, who retired this past summer.

Religious Education

Candee Cole is the Director of Religious Education. She organizes – along with a spirited cadre of congregational volunteers – the weekly religious education classes, which happen concurrently with the adult worship service. These classes include children as well as a youth program for 13-18 year-olds. The curriculum rotates each year to include world religions, peace and social justice, and our identity as Unitarian Universalists.

In addition to implementing the curricula, the Religious Education Committee organizes a full roster of additional community building activities for children and adults alike. These include such favorite events as the Halloween extravaganza, the Advent Garden, and an alternative Easter egg hunt. While some of these activities are drawn from our Judeo-Christian traditions and roots, the RE program incorporates an eclectic and open-minded approach to the sources of our values as Unitarian Universalists.

How to Meet People

Getting to know other congregational members is integral to feeling part of our church. Here are some of the ways you might get to know people:

1. Coffee Hour – Stay after the service, help yourself to coffee or tea and chat with people. We are a friendly bunch.
2. Attend one of the Newcomers Orientations. A series of four sessions are conducted twice each year. You will learn more about the principles that guide us and explore your own religious and spiritual journey.
3. Attend one of the adult gatherings or ongoing groups. Numerous church groups meet on a weekly, monthly, or single-meeting basis. Consider attending monthly potlucks, Singletarians, men's groups, sister circles, book groups, Shared Ministry Groups, or various discussion groups. Consult your Sunday order of service for a complete listing and sign up to receive the newsletter for a monthly calendar. You can also go to www.uueugene.org.
4. Sing in one of our choirs. Talk to our music director, Tom Sears, about joining this important part of our worship.
5. Volunteer for a variety of activities. Check the inside pages of the church telephone directory for a list of groups/committees and the contact person to call for more information on how to get involved.
6. Volunteer in the RE program by contacting Candee Cole at (541) 686-2775.
7. Volunteer to make coffee for the social hour following our Sunday services.
8. Become an usher/greeter.

We're friendly. We're fun. We welcome you! Join us!

An Invitation to Join The Unitarian Universalist Church in Eugene

If you are just becoming acquainted with Unitarian Universalism, there is no hurry to join. Membership in this Unitarian Universalist church is an important decision. We encourage you to get to know our congregation and our church first.

You are welcome to attend either the Spring or Fall orientation sessions where you will meet other newcomers and learn more about Unitarian Universalist origins, philosophy, and thought.

If you have been with us long enough to feel that this congregation is your church home and we are your religious community, consider making that relationship official. Become a member at one of our New Member Sunday services, held in the Spring and the Fall. Dates will be published in the newsletter and order of service.

If you are interested in becoming a member, you may wish to:

- Speak to the minister or a member of the Membership Committee to clarify any questions you have.
- Have an understanding of the Purposes and Principles of Unitarian Universalism.
- Sign the Membership Book.
- Sign a Pledge/Membership card.

As you take the small steps to become involved and participate in the activities offered, you will find yourself at home in our church community, as well as find a greater depth of spirituality.

We look forward to including you in our church family and community!

The Unitarian Universalist Church in Eugene

Contact Information

The Unitarian-Universalist Church in Eugene
477 E. 40th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97405
(541) 686-2775
email: office@uueugene.org

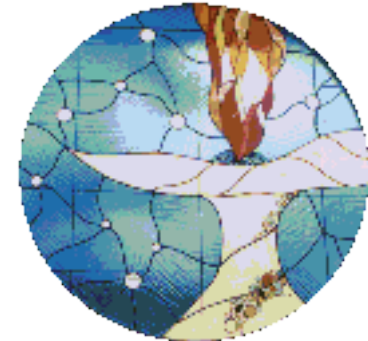
Visit our Web site at: www.uueugene.org

- Newcomers page
- Benefits & Responsibilities of Membership
- Religious Education
- Calendar of Events & Activities
- Leadership

Contact names and numbers:

- Norma and Al Landy, Membership Committee Co-chairs: (541) 741-6619
- Rev. Jeanne Melis Mills, Interim Minister: 686-2775, 344-5410, or aplyd@aol.com
- Candee Cole, Director of Religious Education for Children and Youth: (541) 686-2775
- Kim Harris, Church Administrator: (541) 686-2775

The Unitarian Universalist Church in Eugene, Oregon



A Brief Visitor's Orientation