

## *Unitarian Universalism*

Unitarian Universalism is a non-creedal, liberal religious tradition with Christian roots that now embraces and draws from many religious sources. While Unitarian Universalists have a variety of views about life after death, God (or Goddess), and specific religious texts, we are united in an inclusive, ethical, life-affirming approach to religion. The seven principles we covenant to affirm and promote:

- 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 world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life.
- Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves.
- Humanist teachings which counsel 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 Minister*

In September 2010, the Unitarian Universalist Church in Eugene (UUCE) welcomed the Reverend Alicia McNary Forsey, Ph.D. as our two-year interim minister.

Rev. Alicia McNary Forsey, Ph.D., is a professor of history and a parish minister, Visiting Scholar at the Graduate Theological Union, and Faculty at the Humanist Institute. Dr. Forsey is responsible for the project that saved and made accessible the Earl Morse Wilbur Rare Book Collection which documents the intellectual history of Unitarianism.

You can find more information about Rev. Forsey and her career as a UU minister and historian on her website at <http://www.pacificuu.org/fore>.

## *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 our adult worship services. Classes include a program for both our children and 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, and enjoy coffee, tea and/or conversation. We are a friendly bunch.
2. Attend one of our Newcomer Orientations. 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 our monthly potlucks, Interweave movie nights, men's groups, book groups, sister circles, Shared Group Ministry (requires a commitment), and various discussion groups. Consult your Sunday order of service or the "UUCE Resource Guide" for a complete listing and sign up to receive the our weekly or monthly newsletters. Please visit [www.uueugene.org](http://www.uueugene.org) for more information.
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 "UUCE Resource Guide" for a list of groups and 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 or 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, please attend "Getting to know UU", our newcomer orientation series, conducted twice each year, to learn about the steps to become a member and to become integrated into our community. This series is offered in the Spring and the Fall prior to New Member Sunday.

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  
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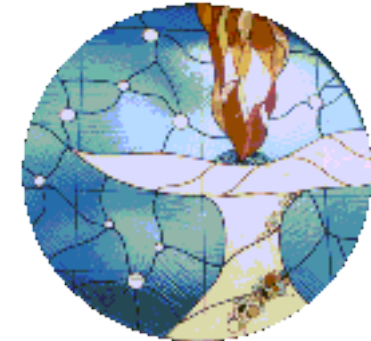
Visit our Web site at: [www.uueugene.org](http://www.uueugene.org)

- Newcomers page
- Benefits & Responsibilities of Membership
- Religious Education
- Calendar of Events & Activities
- Leadership
- Receive the weekly UUpDate via e-mail (<http://www.uueugene.org/UUpDate.html>)

Contact names and numbers:

- Marilyn Junkins, Membership Committee Chair: (541) 968-9200 or [mdjunkins@comcast.net](mailto:mdjunkins@comcast.net).
- Rev. Dr. Alicia McNary Forsey, Minister: (541) 686-2775 or [RevForsey@gmail.com](mailto:RevForsey@gmail.com)
- Candee Cole, Director of Religious Education for Children and Youth: (541) 686-2775 or [uucedre@gmail.com](mailto:uucedre@gmail.com)
- Kim Harris, Church Administrator: (541) 686-2775 or [office@uuce.org](mailto:office@uuce.org)

## *The Unitarian Universalist Church in Eugene, Oregon*



## *An Overview for Visitors*