



FEBRUARY 2015

Application for Congregational Membership



Introduction

Each year at General Assembly a colorful parade of hundreds of banners from many of our member congregations energizes the Opening Plenary. The parade is a powerful visual statement of our diversity and unity as a religious organization. In becoming a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association, your congregation's strength and vision joins this living religious tradition.

As stated in the UUA Bylaws, *"The primary purpose of the Association is to serve the needs of its member congregations, organize new congregations, extend and strengthen Unitarian Universalist institutions, and implement its principles."* Consequently, we unite in this Association to provide services that individual congregations cannot provide for themselves. Each affiliated congregation becomes associated with one of district or regional offices. Through these structures, member congregations have access to a variety of programs and services, including resources on our web site, in

- Lifespan faith development, religious education
- Congregational growth including racial and cultural diversity
- Congregational finances
- Social action and justice making initiatives for the denomination and congregations
- Ministry and professional leadership including settlement
- Lay leadership development and support

In addition, your congregation may send delegates/participants to our annual General Assembly as well as to a variety of trainings, conferences and gatherings held at the local and Association level.

More than 1,000 congregations in the United States, Canada, and throughout the world are members of the Association. Each congregation is democratic in process, governing itself. Becoming a member congregation in the UUA unites you with our on-going history as a religious organization that combines two traditions: The Universalists, who organized in 1793, and the Unitarians, who organized in 1825. These two merged into the Unitarian Universalist Association in 1961.

Unitarian Universalism is a liberal religion with Jewish and Christian roots. We have no creed. Our principles call us to affirm the worth and dignity of human beings, to advocate freedom of belief and the search for truth and meaning. We strive to provide an inclusive and supportive community for people who believe that living our UU principles is a much-needed witness in our world. As a member of a congregation of the UUA, you commit yourself to affirming and promoting our Unitarian Universalist purposes and principles in your life and as an active member of your congregation.



Checklist

Use this list to make sure your application is complete. Please include this checklist with your application.

Name of Congregation:

- Application from the congregation
- List of charter members
- The congregation's Articles of Incorporation
- The congregation's Bylaws
- Check to the UUA for the Annual Program Fund
- Recommendation from the Regional Lead
- Recommendation from the District or Regional President
- Recommendation from a local UUMA chapter minister
- Covenanting Documents & Practices



UUA Membership Application

On _____ the _____
date name of congregation

of _____
City, State

was organized with _____ charter members.
number

The following are the elected officers:

President: _____

Address: _____

Phone/email: _____

Secretary: _____

Address: _____

Phone/email: _____

Treasurer: _____

Address: _____

Phone/email: _____



Name and Address of Meeting Place:

Official Mailing Address (if different) to be used in UUA Directory:

Name and Address of Nearby Congregations and Ministers:

Subscribing to the principles of the Association, including the stated policy of the UUA that applying congregations welcome into membership all qualified persons "without regard to race, color, sex, affectional or sexual orientation, age, or national origin," and pledging to support the Association, it is the desire of this congregation to become a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association. We herein enclose with this application: 1) a list of charter members; 2) the Articles of incorporation with the appropriate dissolution clause; 3) the Bylaws of the congregation, and; 4) an initial contribution of \$_____, which is not less than the suggested Fair Share of the Annual Program Fund, pro-rated for the portion of the UUA fiscal year remaining as to the date of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

President or Leader Sign Full Name & Print Last Name Date

Secretary Sign Full Name & Print Last Name Date



