

# The Unitarian Church in Summit

## Expectations of Members

### Responsibilities of Membership

#### *Attending Worship Services Regularly*

Communal worship is extremely important to the life of our congregation. Regular Sunday attendance will help you feel connected to the spiritual heart of our community.

#### *Honoring and Celebrating our Diversity*

Our congregation seeks and celebrates diversity, inclusive of all theologies, ages, colors, sexual orientation, abilities, and classes. We are proud to be recognized as a Welcoming Congregation by the Unitarian Universalist Association. We encourage members to strive to overcome both personal prejudices and institutional discrimination.

#### *Working on your own Spiritual Development*

We expect members to take responsibility for their own spiritual well-being. In our non-creedal tradition, we provide resources and walk with you as you discover and deepen the religious truths that are revealed within your own journey.

#### *Pledging at a Stewardship Level*

The financial support of our congregation comes primarily from the generosity of its members. We ask members to contribute at least 2.5% of their income to the congregation. You may need to plan how to reach that goal over time. Each year we will ask you to make a pledge – a financial commitment that allows us to set goals and fulfill our vision for the year.

#### *Serving the Congregation*

Use your gifts and interests to serve your fellow members. There are a variety of ways to serve: nurturing one another through pastoral care, becoming involved in a committee, teaching a class, working at the garage sale, singing in the choir, and many more. As a member, you should also attend the annual congregational meeting in June.

#### *Serving Others*

A commitment to acts of caring is an essential part of belonging to a faith community. We show through our deeds what we say with our words. We commit our faith to action in many ways, such as visiting members in the hospital, sheltering homeless families, investing in renewable resources, and many more.

#### *Connecting to the Wider UU Movement*

We encourage you to become involved in the larger Unitarian Universalist movement, to attend district events, and to attend the annual General Assembly of UU congregations.

## *Expectations from the Congregation*

### *Support and Comfort*

You can expect the members of this congregation to support and comfort you during personal and family transitions and passages. When you are in need, please contact our Pastoral Care Team.

### *Tolerance and Acceptance*

We are free-thinking religious liberals who place a great value on freedom, reason, and tolerance, and who will support you as you explore different spiritual practices within our principles.

### *Opportunities for Growth*

Our community provides numerous social, educational, and spiritual outlets and opportunities to broaden friendships and deepen understanding. You can expect to be challenged in your theological assumptions, urged to deepen your spirituality, and supported in your search for a meaningful faith.

### *Religious Exploration for Children; Empowerment for Youth*

We are seriously committed to our children and youth. Our community provides a safe environment for our children that will support them in their own questioning and searching. Our youth know that the congregation empowers them to lead, speak out, and grow their emerging faith.

### *Becoming Part of a Evolving Community*

As a member of our community, you are part of a growing, living institution. Your presence will change us, just as interacting with us will change you. By supporting and nurturing each other, by exploring together, we all grow as individuals and as a community.