

**We,
the member congregations
of the Unitarian Universalist Association,
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 to 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 an 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;
- Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.

Grateful for the religious pluralism, which enriches and ennobles our faith, we are inspired to deepen our understanding and expand our vision. As free congregations we enter into this covenant, promising to one another our mutual trust and support.

**Mission Covenant for
First Unitarian Church of Salt Lake City**

We, the members of the First Unitarian Church of Salt Lake City, as a voluntary religious community, pledge to uphold our traditions of free thought, inclusive membership, the democratic process and the Unitarian Universalist Principles.

Together, we seek to undertake the human quest for meaning, faith and fulfillment. As we search for a disciplined understanding of ourselves, our history, the world and the universe, we promise to seek that understanding in an atmosphere of love and mutual respect.

We promote a free and open religious community in Utah. We have a commitment to growth in our membership, to help and initiate new UU congregations throughout the state and to support the voice of religious liberalism. We have a commitment to respond to human pain: to act with compassion to assist those who are among the powerless, disadvantaged, challenged and disenfranchised. We have a commitment to our youth: to nurture them with hope, free religious inquiry and ideals, and to encourage them to develop the ability to resolve life's challenges.

As members of a free church in which questioning is valued, we will work to keep our community open to unlimited explorations of the religious life. We are committed to the shared purposes and ideals that bind us together, and we covenant to promote our mission with our time, energy, finances and support of one another.

**First
Unitarian
Church
Of Salt Lake City
(Unitarian Universalist)**

*Welcome to
a Religious Home
For the Liberal Spirit*

(chalice)

569 South 1300 East
Salt Lake City, Utah 84102
801-582-8687

◆
Sunday Worship Services
Traditional: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00a.m.
Intergenerational Service 10:20 a.m.

◆
Summer Forum 10:00 a.m.
June 18 through August 20

Welcome...

We welcome all who come to our worship in the spirit of love and mutual respect. As a non-dogmatic faith, we believe that each person can

and must undertake the human quest for meaning. We impose no creed for membership. We would like you to feel at home with us and join any activities that interest you. First Unitarian Church is a welcoming congregation that affirms all people regardless of ethnicity or sexual orientation.

What is a Unitarian Universalist?

With its historical roots in the Jewish and Christian traditions, Unitarian Universalism is a liberal religion that keeps an open mind to the religious questions people have struggled with forever. We believe that personal experience, conscience and reason should be the final authorities in religion, and that religious authority lies not in a book or person or institution, but in ourselves. We do not ask anyone to subscribe to a given creed.

Historical notes

The Unitarian movement developed in the 16th century in Europe and in the 18th century in America. Its founders were liberal Christians who rejected the doctrine of the trinity and believed in the simple *unity* of one God. Universalism also began in Europe in opposition to the harsh doctrine that only the elect will be saved. They believed that salvation is *universal* for the whole family of humankind.

In 1961, the two groups merged into one movement called "Unitarian Universalism."

Our church

The origins of First Unitarian Church can be traced to Dr. Samuel Atkins Eliot who, while serving as minister in Denver, visited friends in Salt Lake City. Arriving in December 1890, he preached the liberal gospel to more than 300

guests, with 127 interested enough to begin a Unitarian Church on February 24, 1891.

For over 100 years the First Unitarian Church has served as a beacon of innovative and progressive ideas. The current chapel was built in 1927. The addition for religious education was completed in 1993.

Church Leadership

Our parish minister, Rev. Tom Goldsmith, graduated Harvard Divinity School in 1975 and previously served churches in the Boston area. He arrived in Salt Lake City in 1987 and has been very active in the community on behalf of social justice issues.

LeeAnn Williams, our Director of Religious Education, is originally from Louisiana and attended the Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University. Prior to joining the team at First Unitarian in 2003, LeeAnn worked in programming for religious education at SMU.

Governance

First Unitarian is governed democratically by its members. Important matters of church policy are decided by a vote of the members at the annual meeting. An elected Board of Trustees meets each month to oversee church operations. The work of the church is

supported by pledges and contributions from both members and friends.

How can you get involved?

- Attend any of the church worship, social or study activities.
- Visit with us for coffee and conversation after church services.
- Enroll children in the complete graded religious education program for preschool through high school is offered. (Check the newsletter for specific times and places.)
- Participate in seminars, study groups, and small group ministry groups offered from September to May for adults.
- Attend *UU Orientation* and *Finding Your Way at First Unitarian* classes to meet others and hear more about who we are.

We would especially like to...

- Mail you our church newsletter, *The Torch*; call the office at 801-582-8687 to be added to the mailing list.
- Visit with you after Sunday services at the Welcome Table in Eliot Hall, our common area.