



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Ames

Growing *spiritually*. Creating *community*. Striving for *justice*. Learning to *love*.



Online
Membership
Exploration

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Ames

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Welcome

to UUFA Online Membership Exploration

Welcome to the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Ames! We are thrilled that you have found your way to us. We hope you will continue your journey by exploring membership as part of our community.

Becoming a member of the Fellowship is a way to learn about:

- UU identity, history, theology and structure;
- The programs offered by the Fellowship;
- How to get involved.

Here's how to become a member:



- Register and attend a membership exploration gathering where you will meet other potential members, reflect on your spiritual or religious journey and share what draws you to Unitarian Universalism.
- Complete the self-study (takes approximately 2 hrs. 10 min.).
- Contact the Membership Services Committee (membershipservices@uufames.org) with your decision to join.
- Make an annual contribution (or pledge to do so) to the Fellowship, according to your means. (More information is available at uufames.org/generosity/givingfaq)
- Sign the membership book at a welcome service on a Sunday.

Of course, if you choose not to join the Fellowship at this time, we encourage you to continue participating until you are ready.

We are glad you are exploring UU Fellowship life and look forward to getting to know you better and discussing any questions you may have. Our future becomes brighter when people come together in this faithful community of seekers. We hope you will join us for the journey!

In fellowship,

Membership Services Committee

Below you will find resources to guide your exploration of Unitarian Universalism and what it means to be a member at the UUFA. Most resources are in video format , with some light reading/online exploration  interspersed, totaling approximately 1 hour, 45 minutes to review. This list is intended to be viewed in the order provided, and a YouTube playlist is available at <https://bit.ly/3dICMRR>, which will automate moving from one video to the next. Note though that it is not possible to integrate the reading resources there, so you may want to keep this list nearby or write down where the reading sections are incorporated.

We hope you enjoy exploring with us!



1

1:52

Welcome to Membership Exploration!

Sarah Carlson, Membership Services Team

<https://youtu.be/60sc1ej0S-c>

What is Unitarian Universalism? (22:35)



2

3:17

We are Unitarian Universalists

A quick introduction, produced by the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA)

<https://youtu.be/-3UYWnngiEo>



3

2:13

What is a Unitarian Universalist?

Testimonies from General Assembly

<https://youtu.be/Gnpcl2ATzAI>



4

12:05

UU Theology

Rev. Dr. Matthew Johnson, Senior Minister, Rockford UU Church, Rockford, IL

<https://youtu.be/zfuk7FMIWNg>



5

5:00

The Flaming Chalice: Symbol of Unitarian Universalism

by Susan J. Ritchie

<https://www.uua.org/beliefs/who-we-are/chalice/flaming-chalice>

What is the history of Unitarian Universalism? (12:18)



6:46

A History of Unitarianism

Rev. Sean Neil-Barron, Associate Minister, Foothills Unitarian Church, Fort Collins, CO

<https://youtu.be/ijMLoUQLNQ8>



5:32

A History of Universalism

Rev. Sean Neil-Barron, Associate Minister, Foothills Unitarian Church, Fort Collins, CO

<https://youtu.be/YS46egsVxQg>

Go deeper!

History of Unitarian Universalism (UUA)

<https://www.uua.org/beliefs/who-we-are/history>

UUA History Video Resources

<https://www.uua.org/re/adults/curricular-resources/uu-history-videos>

How do we side with love? (25:07)

The UUA-produced 2021 *Side with Love* Sunday service engaged critical themes in Unitarian Universalism: living our values; hospitality and inclusion; educating for liberation; and restoration and reparations. What if to “side with love” mean making bold, faith-full choices? What if it were even a little bit scary? This service brought together worship leaders and musicians from across the country to offer hopeful, moving, challenging reminders about what we, as Unitarian Universalists, are called to do and BE in the world, to commit to love and liberation.



5:55

The Agreement: A Time for All Ages

Dr. Tuli Patel, Executive Director for Lifespan Ministry at Beacon UU Congregation, Summit, NJ; adapted from Barry Lopez

<https://youtu.be/IX-pg1u2beA>



6:31

Healing the We

Laura Conkle, lay leader serving Unitarian Universalism at local, regional, and national levels.

<https://youtu.be/do2TnUBUikQ>



5:14

Embodied Learning

Julica Hermann de la Fuente, Director of Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Ministries, First Unitarian, Minneapolis, MN

<https://youtu.be/LRsl81dsm6U>



7:27

The Call of Our Faith

Dr. Takiyah Nur Amin, Member of the Black Lives of UU Organizing Collective Board since 2016

<https://youtu.be/MFxlri4bWM8>

Go deeper!

Watch the complete 2021 *Side with Love* service

60 minutes

<https://youtu.be/nxe8YtcUyU8>

What is the Unitarian Universalist Association? (17:01)



2:01

What is the UUA?

A quick introduction, produced by the UU Leadership Institute
<https://youtu.be/O-eLbsRBVoU>



15:00

Why Is Unitarian Universalism Called a Living Tradition?

UUism welcomes people with many beliefs. Explore the links on this page to reflect on the significance of the Six Sources and the Seven Principles. It is important to know that these are not beliefs. As a covenantal faith, these are our agreements concerning how we aspire to be in relationship with each other and move in the world.
<https://www.uua.org/beliefs/what-we-believe/beliefs>

What does local membership mean? (25:53)



4:40

Other Ways of Having Faith

A reflection by Sarah Manatt, UUFA Generosity Team member
<https://youtu.be/xlZggpEo1IU>



4:12

What Does it Mean to be a Member?

Rev. Renee Ruchotzke, Congregational Life Consultant, UU Leadership Institute
<https://youtu.be/tohRIWzguQI>



1:09

When I Joined the Fellowship

A reflection by UUFA member Roberta Vann
<https://youtu.be/lA5zKaKrgjg>



6:20

An Introduction to UUFA History

Rev. Kent McKusick, UUFA minister 2012-2022
<https://youtu.be/5GrcHAWxBCU>



2:50

An Introduction to International Unitarian Universalism

Produced by the Unitarian Universalist Association. Even local congregations have an international impact!
<https://youtu.be/eP467YG9ch0>



3:09

Our Partner Church in Tordátfalva, Transylvania

A photo montage of Rev. Kent's pilgrimage to Romania in 2018 to celebrate 450 years of religious freedom.
<https://youtu.be/DcBpfjIOja4>



2:04

Providing for Today and the Tomorrows to Come

A reflection by Ben Woline, UUFA Generosity Team member

<https://youtu.be/-AcKkbBTP4Q>



1:29

Thanks for Exploring with Us!

Sarah Carlson, Membership Services Team

<https://youtu.be/g!Lya0YQo00>

Thank you for exploring UU Fellowship life.

We hope you will join us!