

UU FAQs

Do I have to join to attend services?

We have many friends who belong to our church family who never sign the book, or do so after years of involvement.

How do I join?

You can join at any time by meeting with Reverend Goldsmith to “sign the book.” Typically, prospective members also attend one of our orientation sessions or volunteer on a committee to become familiar with other members of the congregation and its activities.

How do I enroll my children in Sunday School?

We currently have almost 200 children and youth in our Religious Education program. Director LeeAnn Williams would love to talk with you about enrolling with your family. You can contact LeeAnn at 582-2033 or LeeAnnSLC@yahoo.com.

How do I get involved in church activities?

Stop by the Welcome Table in Eliot Hall after services and pick up a Welcome Book. In it, you’ll find descriptions of our committees, groups and events with contact information for each. If any spark your interest, call for more information.

One of our most popular offerings is Small Group Ministries, where small groups of congregants gather monthly to get to know each other in a more intimate setting.

Another great way to get involved and meet people is by volunteering to help out during coffee hour following Sunday services.

What do you mean when you say that you’re “a welcoming church?”

We are part of the UUA Welcoming Congregation Program, which ensures that gay, lesbian, transsexual and bisexual people are embraced by our church. We have also been deeply involved in past and current civil rights struggles for people of color, and strive to remove all barriers that prevent the disabled from fully participating in the life of our congregation.



First Unitarian Church of Salt Lake City

Minister

Reverend Tom Goldsmith
582-8687 ext. 2

Director of Religious Education

LeeAnn Williams
582-2033 or LeeAnnSLC@yahoo.com

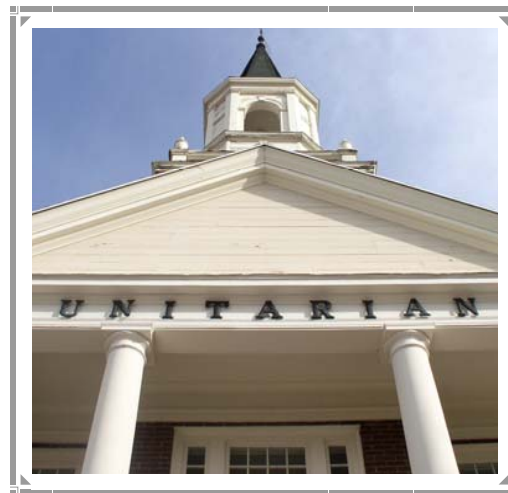
Church Administrator

Hal Gonzales
582-8687 ext. 4

We are located on 1300 South, near the University of Utah. We are one block from the University Stadium Trax stop.

Parking : we have off street parking on 1300 East (both sides) and on 600 South. There is also parking available in the Friendship Manor parking lot to the north of the church. Enter on 1300 East or 500 South and park in the southernmost area of the lot.

FOR OUR VISITORS



FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF SALT LAKE CITY

569 SOUTH 1300 EAST
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
84102

WWW.SLCUU.ORG

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF SALT LAKE CITY

Our History



THE PRESENT
CHAPEL WAS CON-
STRUCTED IN 1927

First Unitarian Church began on February 24, 1891. Inspired by a visit from Unitarian minister Samuel Atkins Eliot of Denver three months before, the charter of a new First Unitarian Society of Salt Lake City took root. Through hard times and prosperity, this church has continued to provide a place where people in Utah could freely express their doubts as well as their beliefs — a fellowship of seekers and a church for the “unchurched.”

In 1927 the present chapel was constructed at the corner of 600 South and 1300 East, striking in its Georgian Colonial architecture and suitably representative of Unitarianism’s New England heritage.

The activities of the hundreds of lay members on behalf of causes often unpopular in the larger Utah community impressively dot the church’s history. First Unitarian Church endorsed symbolic sanctuary for draft resisters during the Vietnam era, and the local Planned Parenthood clinic had its start in Eliot Hall. First Unitarian Church sponsored along with three other congregations the building of Friendship Manor, Salt Lake’s first retirement high-rise. We also provided a space for the fledgling Salt Lake Acting Company.

Social Justice concerns occupied the congregation during the closing decades of the 20th century, focusing on nuclear disarmament, world peace, women’s issues, the GLBT community, and feeding the homeless. More recently, First Unitarian Church partnered with a west-side elementary school, works closely with the International Rescue Committee in helping settle the huge influx of refugees, and continues to prepare sandwiches monthly for the Salvation Army. First Unitarian Church is recognized today throughout the community as an outspoken institutional force committed to safeguarding the rights of all people, defending free speech throughout the community, and working diligently for a world at peace.



Sunday Services

Regular Sunday services are held September through early June at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Immediately following Sunday services we join in Eliot Hall for Coffee Hour, a great time to mingle and meet new friends.

During the summer First Church hosts the Summer Forum which presents a series of talks and discussions on important issues by expert or high-profile guests. The Summer Forum is held at 10 a.m. mid June through late August.



Religious Education

We offer Religious Education classes at both our 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services. We offer classes for children that are toddler age through high school.

The mission of the Religious Education program is to create a fun, safe, and nurturing community that provides our children with meaning and worth. We do this through a strong foundation built on our UU Principles, exposure to a variety of religions and spiritual practices, and engagement in social justice activities in our community.

We want to support our children and youth and encourage them to be the unique and special individuals that they are.

There are *seven principles* which Unitarian Universalist congregations 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.

Unitarian Universalism (UU) 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.

These principles and sources of faith are the backbone of our religious community. (from uua.org)