



Our Congregational Covenant

Love is the spirit of this congregation
and service is its aim,
to dwell together in peace and freedom
to seek the truth,
and to help one another.
This is our goal.

WELCOME!

We are delighted you are interested in our community.
We hope this booklet gives you an overview of who we are.

Please join us for Sunday Services or any of the activities offered. Be sure to check our website for weekly updates at www.uuormond.org.

Our monthly newsletter is available on the *Home Page* of the website. You can also receive it through email by contacting the office of our Administrative Assistant.

If you would like to receive the weekly email bulletin, please visit the Home Page of the UUCOB web site at www.uuormond.org to subscribe.

Something Special Every Sunday

9:15 a.m. Discussion Group

10:15 a.m. Religious Education Classes
Child care available

10:30 a.m. Sunday Service

11:30 a.m. Coffee and conversation

12:00 p.m. "Talk About"



Located at 56 N. North Halifax Drive
Ormond Beach, Florida, 32176

Office Hours:

Monday & Wednesday 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday 2:00 – 6:30 p.m.
Sunday 9:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. and
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Office phone: (386) 677-6172
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Email: Office@uuormond.org
Website: www.uuormond.org

Sunday Morning Activities

Services begin at 10:30 a.m. Sundays. When the Minister is not in the pulpit, Sunday guest speakers address a variety of topics.

The service is followed by "Coffee, Cookies and Conversation." This is a time for fellowship with others in the Unitarian Universalist Congregation.

At noon, we often have a "Talk About" group discussion responding to the speaker's topic.

Prior to the service, the Discussion Group meets at 9:15 a.m. Topics vary each week, are chosen by the participants and are posted on the web site.

Tapes or CDs of past services are available for a \$3 donation to cover costs; see sound operator. Audio of the service is also available on the UUCOB web site.

- We offer assistive listening devices for guests with hearing challenges; available at door.
- The building is wheelchair accessible.

Sunday morning for children

Our Religious Education class is multi-age. Adaptations are made to meet the needs of all who participate. Lessons include stories, songs, activities, and games adapted from UU curricula.

Childcare & Religious Education classes are offered during the service (teachers are in class from 10:15 to 12:00).

Class for all children begins with a chalice lighting and reading. We then allow time for students to share

their joys and concerns before proceeding with the lesson.

Our philosophy, based on the writings of William Ellery Channing, encourages children to search for what quickens their spirit, strengthens their powers of thought, and awakens their conscience to moral discernment.

Discussion Group

Discussion Group meets at 9:15 a.m. Participants vary on any given Sunday. Occasional attendees and people who are in town for just one Sunday are as welcome and as able to participate as the core of "regulars." Fresh ideas are always welcome.

The topic is selected just one week ahead and even then is subject to replacement (by majority vote) on the day of the discussion. The topics selected are quite varied: national, state, local issues, philosophical, ethical, and religious topics are frequently suggested.

The following week, the discussion is started by the person who suggested the topic. Each person speaks for not more than three minutes. Everyone is given the opportunity to speak once before anyone speaks twice.

Our Congregation

Our Congregation is a dynamic and diverse group. We come from many different backgrounds, a rich array of life experiences, and embrace many spiritual beliefs and practices. Our beliefs are diverse and inclusive and come from many faith traditions. We have no shared creed. Our shared covenant (our seven Principles) supports "the free and responsible search for truth and meaning."

Our community honors and celebrates our individual journeys toward a deeper understanding of the awe and wonder for life. We are an inclusive network of fellowship, friendship and support in time of need. Spiritual action, for many of us, is acting upon our values through social action and community service.

Our activities and worship are open to all. Our desire to challenge our thinking, enrich our spiritual journey and expand our beliefs is reflected in the many programs that we provide or participate in throughout the year. We love dialogue and exploration of ideas, questions, current events, and historical insights as we search for understanding.

Welcoming Congregation

We welcome and celebrate the presence and participation of persons of all races, nationalities, previous religious beliefs, and sexual orientations. Our congregation is inclusive and welcomes all persons who are interested in joining our community.

Becoming a Member

We have a statement of seven principles (page 15) that we covenant to affirm and advocate in all of our endeavors. As seen in principles 3 and 4, we strive to be accepting of each other's beliefs, encourage spiritual growth and support a free and responsible search for our truth and meaning from many different faiths and spiritual traditions.

Membership is an act of commitment to support and participate in congregational affairs. Membership is accomplished by signing the Membership Book after accepting the written responsibilities of membership. Prospective members are encouraged to attend the “You and UU” Sessions before they commit themselves to membership.

Ongoing Activities

We have fun together in a variety of activities open to anyone who wishes to participate. Educational and social activities are also announced on our web site, in our monthly newsletter, weekly email bulletin.

First Friday Pot Luck

The first Friday night of every month, members and friends gather at UU for an informal dinner at 6 p.m.

Bring a covered dish to share with others, and your plate and utensils; this makes doing dishes easy for everyone. There is a cash bar where wine, beer and soft drinks are available for a small donation. Often these evenings include a program that might be informative, interactive, or entertaining.

Choir

The choir rehearses on Wednesdays from 6 to 7 p.m. from September through May. There is plenty of help in learning your part, and there is much fun and great camaraderie among the choir members as we make the music come alive. If you are not sure the choir is for you, you’re welcome to join us for several rehearsals.

Alliance

The Alliance of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation Ormond Beach was formed in 1953 as a support group serving the UU Congregation through education, action, service and fellowship.

Over the past 60 years the Alliance has made a significant financial contribution to further our Congregation’s goals. Community service has included donations to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee and locally, to Family Renew, the Volusia Home Society, Sophie's Circle, Shoes That Fit, and Project Warm.

The Alliance's donations have been funded by annual dues, raffles, sponsoring soup and sandwich lunches, and selling beverages at our potluck dinners. The goals of the Alliance are to support individual members of our congregation when they are in need, and to support local charities in our community where we feel we can make a difference.

We meet at noon and we all bring a brown bag lunch so we can eat and talk together. A business meeting follows lunch.

Sometimes we have a seasonal project and we make crafts to sell, thereby raising money for a worthy cause. Everyone is welcome to join the Alliance.

Committees

Much of the essential work of the congregation is conducted by the committees. Following is a short description of the standing committees which meet regularly and have a member who serves as a liaison to the Board of Trustees. New members may want to attend several committee meetings to see where their talents might best be helpful in serving the congregation. Check the calendar for meeting times of each committee. Descriptions of all activities are at uuormond.org.

Action for Social Justice Committee

The focus of the committee includes a host of issues: the environment, poverty, worker justice, economic justice, democracy, civil rights, and gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender rights brought to the group by its members, or others. The committee welcomes wider congregational support in areas like FAITH and Family Renew.

The committee frequently hosts movies of social interest. The dates will be posted on the website calendar, in the monthly newsletter, weekly email bulletin and announced from the pulpit.

The following ongoing social action activities have been adopted by the congregation as a whole:

FAITH: Fighting Against Injustice Toward Harmony

F.A.I.T.H. is a coalition of 32 local congregations coming together to identify community problems, research how those problems could be fixed and then to hold local organization, political, and governmental officials accountable to make those changes.

Our Unitarian Universalist Congregation is an Active F.A.I.T.H. member. We participate through the efforts of Team Leaders and a Team Network. The teams' efforts culminate in the March 14 Action Assembly.

F.A.I.T.H. has tackled problems such as night bus service for workers, mental health problems at the jail, crime and drugs. Recently our attention has been on homelessness and the building of a shelter, Volusia Safe Harbor. We have encouraged the use of Civil Citations in the place of giving young people arrest records for minor offenses and Ban-the-Box, an initiative to remove questions about criminal records from the job applications allowing qualified candidates to gain an interview where the question can be answered face-to-face.

For a schedule of this year's meetings and more on FAITH's successful endeavors you are welcome to visit the F.A.I.T.H. website at www.faithvolusia.org

Family Renew

In 1989, our congregation was one among 19 churches that formed an ecumenical community concerned about 'The Forgotten Youth' - a plan to provide transitional housing for homeless families and an attempt to guide and redirect those who were willing to work toward their economic stability. The focus is on assisting families to become independent and self-sufficient, including learning budgeting, nutrition and practical parenting.

The Family Renew Community has a 16-unit former motel in Holly Hill that can provide no-cost housing for two-parent families. There are also two single-parent shelters in Daytona Beach and

Deland.

Adult Education Committee

Our Life Long Learning series of adult education seminars offer an array of educational programs.

Types of programs include:

Lecture & discussion
Panel discussions
Debates
Ongoing study groups
Workshops
Films/videos with discussion

Program content areas include:

The humanities
Religion and theology
The arts
Science
The social Sciences
Social issues.

Building and Grounds Committee

The Building and Grounds Committee oversees the general maintenance and care of the facility and the adjoining property which consists of a relatively untouched, forested natural dune.

Caring Committee

The Caring Committee's mission is to make visits to those who are home bound or hospitalized, make phone calls, send notes, and in general, lend a helping hand.

Specifically we:

- visit and provide companionship;
- suggest community resources for long-term care;
- prepare and deliver an occasional meal; and
- assist with memorial service receptions.

The congregation as well as committee members inform the Caring Committee chair of members/friends who would benefit from assistance.

Denominational Affairs Committee

The primary responsibility of the denominational affairs committee is to provide a liaison between the congregation and the Unitarian Universalist Association and the district, region, and cluster(s). The

committee meets to discuss issues of denominational concern. It promotes education on Unitarian Universalist General Assembly social justice statements in collaboration with other committees. It fosters an understanding of, and a commitment to, what it means to be a responsible member of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations. Through these efforts, the denominational affairs committee prepares a pool of people in the congregation to be delegates to the General Assembly and to district meetings.

Finance Committee

Oversees financial records, investments. establishes the budget, and arranges audits.

Hospitality

We promote fellowship throughout our organization at many planned events by providing food and/or beverages for the attendees. These refreshments may be purchased with organization funds or prepared by committee and UUCOB members.

Hospitality events may include:

- Coffee and Conversation after Sunday service
- First Friday Evening Pot Luck
- Memorial Services or Celebration of Life Services
- Church Clean-up Days

Membership Committee

Our Membership Committee makes a special effort to greet visitors every Sunday. We welcome new members of the congregation and try to acquaint them with our Unitarian Universalist history and beliefs.

Our committee looks for ways for friends and members to connect within the congregation, develops ways to retain our current members and recognizes the accomplishments of our members.

“You & UU”— we offer classes on Unitarian Universalism and our own church history and organization. At Sunday services, new members are welcomed in a commitment ceremony. We provide publications relating to membership, and maintain contact with friends and members who come irregularly. We reach out to new guests through personal and e-mail contact.

Every year, we honor the UU members who have been with us for over fifteen years, celebrating their contributions to our congregation and awarding them a special pin.

Religious Education

Our Religious Education class is multi-age and provides religious education for children and youth from 2 years of age to 15. The children’s classes are divided into a preschool group and an older group.

Adaptations are made to meet the needs of all who participate. Lessons include stories, songs, activities, and games adapted from UU curricula.

You might find preschoolers singing a song about making new friends, second graders engaging with a story about loss and bereavement, fifth graders talking with a Muslim couple about Islam, or older youth speaking to the congregation about their plans to raise money for a local homeless shelter.

Our teachers bring considerable talent to the program. All view their work with young people as a privilege and a joy.

Public Relations Committee

Organizes and disseminates information regarding our congregational activities.

Worship Committee

One of this committee's goals is to involve members in the presentation of the services. Its responsibilities for Sunday services are:

When the Minister Is Present:

Assist the Minister, as requested, in the presentation of the Sunday services and coordinate the service leaders, music, sound system and any other extra additions to the service.

When Minister is not present:

On the Sundays when the minister is not in the pulpit, guest speakers address a variety of topics.

On these Sundays the committee works with the presenter to plan a complete Sunday service suitable to the speaker's subject.

Society History and Founder

Founder

Herbert M. Davidson (1895-1985), owner of the Daytona Beach News Journal, founded the Unitarian Society of Daytona Beach in 1953. He also provided meeting space for the Society in his newspaper and radio facilities, and served successively in several of the officer positions of the Society Board of Directors. He was well known and respected throughout the newspaper industry.

History

The Society was founded in 1953 with thirty-five members. The meetings were held in the News-Journal (our local newspaper) building on Orange Avenue in Daytona Beach with the Religious Education classes being held in the YWCA. By 1957, services were held in the Little Theater, now known as the Daytona Playhouse, and Religious Education in the firehouse at University and Halifax Drive.

In 1957, the property at 56 N. Halifax Drive in Ormond Beach was acquired; and, by 1960, the society was meeting in its own building. The current building was completed in 2003.

Seven Principles

The member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Associations of Congregations covenant to affirm and promote:

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
2. Justice, Equality and Compassion in human relations;
3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in the society at large;
6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all;
7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

We are a safe harbor
where people may explore
diverse ideas and beliefs,
and be a force for a better world.

Our Congregation is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association's Southern region.. For more information about the UUA, go to the national UUA home page: www.uua.org.

For more information and/or updates on programs, please visit our website: www.uuormond.org

Welcoming Congregation
Designated 1997



Accreditation 2009



LOVE

Standing on the side of love