

Sunday Service Frequently Asked Questions



What will happen when I first arrive? As you enter through our hospitality area, a greeter will welcome you. They will offer you a name-tag and the chance to sign our guest book. Stay and chat with the folks there, or find a seat in the sanctuary. There are usually no reserved seats; sit where you are comfortable. The Order of Service will be accessible via a QR code displayed at various places in the sanctuary.

Why do you call your Sunday services "Worship Services"? The word "Worship" comes from an old English word meaning to ascribe worth. Traditionally, Jewish and Christian religions consider an idea of God to be of ultimate worth. In Unitarian Universalist worship services we ascribe worth to our shared values and seek answers to life's most difficult questions through many sources of wisdom, both ancient and modern. Sunday services are one way we gather in community to remind ourselves of our highest aspirations. We choose to share the journey of our lives together as we embrace our different beliefs, knowing we share common principles and seek the greater good of all.

Are children welcome? YES! Of course!

What is available for my children? At this time, we have in-person Sunday School two Sundays (1st and 3rd) each month. Our children begin the worship service with the adults, and then are escorted to their Faith Development classes. We invite you to visit the Faith Development page for more information. There is currently no nursery for children 3 and under, but all children are welcome to stay with their parents for the entire service.

My child doesn't like to be separated from me; what do I do? Feel free to keep your child with you through the service.

What do I wear? Wear what you feel comfortable wearing. You'll see people in business casual as well as in shorts, t-shirts, and jeans. We have a relaxed and inviting atmosphere. You are perfect just as you are!

Will I be shaking hands? We greet each other with a smile, a handshake, a fist-bump, or a hug. If touching is not your style, do what is comfortable for you. A smile or a fist-bump works just as well.

Will I be required to wear a mask? Our most important priority during the pandemic is to keep each other safe and to protect the most vulnerable among us. For this reason, our COVID committee recommends we continue to mask while indoors. We can expect this guidance to change as health conditions in our community improve. See the COVID Protocol page for more information.

Will someone try to "sell" me on your congregation? We want to make every visitor feel welcome and comfortable. We ARE friendly, but only because we value each and every person. We are truly interested in getting to know YOU. We do not believe that pressure should ever play a part in your spiritual decision-making process.

How do I get involved? How do I meet people? Volunteer with our Service, Social Justice and Green Team to make our community a better place. Interested in book discussions? Our BUUKies group may be for you. Do you love to sing? Our choir practices twice a month. Do you love to bake? Our Hospitality team is always looking for snacks for our social connection time after worship services. Do you love the outdoors? Our Full Moon Daughters group is very active. Would you enjoy being part of a small group to talk about things that truly matter in a quiet and safe setting? We have several small groups from which to choose. You don't have to be a member to join most of our programming. Explore this website and read your weekly emails for more details on upcoming events...there is always so much going on at the River!

What happens after service? You can stay and grab a cup of coffee or tea (or some juice) to go along with fresh baked goodies or fruit while you mingle and have some "get to know us better" conversations.