

**MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CONGREGATION OF NORTHERN CHAUTAUQUA (“UUCNC”)**

Membership Matters! You’re invited! When you join our congregation, you become part of our caring community, available to celebrate, encourage, and support you through life’s journey and your spiritual growth. You join your voice and hands with others to have a stronger presence in making our local community and larger world a place of welcome and blessing for all. You may develop leadership skills, your creativity, and share in group processes to determine future direction of our congregation. You become part of a progressive faith tradition spanning hundreds of years that has stood for human dignity, religious freedom, and spiritual expansion as well as justice and compassion. Your presence and participation strengthen this spiritual home and its ability to carry on this important tradition. We are glad to have you join us.

Before you join, we think it is important that you:

- 1) Feel in harmony with our Unitarian Universalist Principles and Living Tradition and this congregation’s covenant of right relations.
- 2) Have attended enough Sunday services to be well acquainted with our particular ways of worship, the variety and scope of our spiritual perspectives, and our religious values.
- 3) Have a basic understanding of our Unitarian Universalist history, guiding tenets and organizational structure by: attending one of our “Introduction to our Faith and Congregation” sessions; or by reading our brochures, “UU Pocket Guide,” “A Chosen Faith,” or “Welcome: A Unitarian Universalist Primer.”
- 4) Have a willingness to make a commitment of time, energy and financial resources to support this congregation, the wider UU movement and our work.
- 5) Make financial and service pledges to our congregation by filling out the pledge forms for each for the remainder of the congregational year when you join and giving these and your first financial pledge payment to our Treasurer, a member of our Stewardship Committee, or minister.

To join: Speak to a board member or our minister and tell us you would like to become a member. If you have not already done so, make your service and financial pledges and a contribution toward your financial one (contribution of record). Then sign our Membership Book in the presence of a board member or our minister. You become eligible to vote in congregational matters 90 days after contributing and signing.

After you join, we think it is important that you:

- 1) Attend Sunday services regularly.
- 2) Maintain and support our covenant of right relations.
- 3) Participate in one program each year that deepens your faith.
- 4) Participate in one outreach or mission project each year to serve others and our world.
- 5) Attend and participate in our annual congregational meeting.
- 6) Aim for congregational service and financial giving at a level that encourages your generosity, expresses your commitment to our congregation and faith, and is in keeping with your time availability and financial abilities. Our annual stewardship campaign provides the opportunity for you to thoughtfully evaluate both these pledges each year.