

The Path to Membership

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Shenandoah Valley, Stephens City, VA (540-869-6965)
Membership Chair - Dixie Wiles (540) 955-2942

Welcome!

Your decision to join UUCSV could be one of the most spiritually rewarding decisions you will ever make. We trust this step puts you on the road to sharing our faith community, to searching for your truth, to working for justice and to aspiring to live in loving relationship with others. It also means making a commitment to contribute to the financial health and stability of the church. Before you join, please read these pages carefully. We look forward to welcoming you as a member.



Benefits of Membership

1. Pride of being a UU Member and associated with its open-minded, inclusive principles.
2. Access to a wide range of programs for adults and children.
3. Ministerial services and use of church building at no fee for personal celebratory events (birthdays, anniversaries, memorial services, etc.)
4. Free subscription to the UUA inspirational UU World Magazine
5. Eligible to discuss and vote on all church matters at congregational meetings.
 - *Voting Member: A member, who is at least 16 years of age, has signed the Membership Record Book, and, during the preceding 12 months, made a financial contribution of record.*

Responsibilities of Membership

1. Support “Our Covenant” and Seven Principles.
2. Attend church regularly.
3. Serve the church, as you are able, by being involved in an activity, committee, social event, task force teaching, or assisting with Sunday morning worship.
4. Recommit annually to your UUCSV Membership by making and fulfilling your financial pledge each year.
5. Keep the church office informed of any changes in your contact information.

Getting Started: 3 Steps to Membership

1. You are invited to attend the **UU Orientation for Newcomers class** offered twice a year; learn more and pre-register at the **Welcome Table** on Sunday. These are usually held in the Fall and Spring.
2. **Complete the two Membership Enrollment Forms.** Return the completed forms to the Membership Committee mailbox outside the church office, or give it to Dixie Wiles, our Membership Chair.
3. Sign the **Membership Record Book** by making an appointment with the minister or contacting the Membership Chair.

*You will be invited by the Membership Chair to attend the **New Members Welcome Ceremony**. The Membership Chair will contact you with a mutually agreed upon date for the ceremony.*

ENROLLMENT FORM #1- NEW MEMBER INFORMATION

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Shenandoah Valley, Stephens City, VA

If you wish to become a UUCSV member, please complete Enrollment Forms and make an appointment with the minister, 540-869-6965 or call the Membership Chair, **Dixie Wiles** (540) 955-2942.

Membership indicates your commitment to this community, our covenant, the Unitarian Universalist Principles, and your willingness to support the church financially as you are able.

To be completed by each prospective member. Partners and Spouses residing together may use the same form. *(Minimum age for membership is 16.)*

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Today's Date: _____

Name(s): _____ Birthdate: _____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Preferred Phone no(s): _____

Preferred E-mail(s) _____

Please List Children's Names for Directory -- *Be sure to register your children in our Religious Education program with our Director of Religious Education, Cory Ness at corythedre@gmail.com or 540-869-6965.*

GETTING INVOLVED IS THE KEY TO MEMBERSHIP

Attending the worship service on Sunday is a very special experience, but most members find that, over time, it is not enough to sustain their commitment to the church. We know of no better way to deepen your connection, as well as increase your reward, than by active engagement in a church program that most closely matches your needs, interests and abilities. Don't wait! Find a group, program or activity that feeds your soul and in which to involve yourself as soon as possible. This is how you will start "feeling a part of" the church, and in return, the people of UUCSV will become a community for you. Use the **Ways to Connect** brochure to guide your response below.

YOUR PLEDGE IS YOUR FINANCIAL PROMISE TO THE CHURCH



Pledging Generously Within Your Means

What does that mean?

"Pledging generously within your means" means that you look within your heart and determine for yourself the financial commitment that calls you to generosity. In making this decision, we invite you to reflect upon the church's role in your life, the church's needs, and your own financial situation. **It is up to you to determine a pledge amount that is generous for you.** There are suggested guidelines at the bottom of this sheet that can help you assess your giving potential.

IMPORTANT: So that we can keep an accurate record of your annual pledge, please submit each pledge contribution clearly labeled with your name and the church financial year (July-June) for which you are contributing. Cash placed in the weekly offering basket is impossible for us to appropriately credit unless you fill out one of the envelopes provided at the usher stations or if you use your own envelope, with your name clearly indicated on the outside. Statements are issued throughout the year to update you on the status of your pledge.

Guidelines for Monthly Pledging:

Here are some examples using your household income, which show giving categories stated on a monthly basis. ***Please note that these are only a guideline to help you assess your giving potential.***

- The **Visionary** is 5% - 7% of your annual income.
- The **Sustainer** is 3% - 5.5% of your annual income.
- The **Supporter** is 2% - 4% of your annual income.

Financial Giving Guide Examples: Monthly			
Annual Income	Visionary	Sustainer	Supporter
\$10,000	\$42 per month (5%)	\$25 per month (3%)	\$16 per month (2%)
\$25,000	\$104 (5%)	\$63 (3%)	\$42 (2%)
\$50,000	\$208 (5%)	\$167 (4%)	\$125 (3%)
\$75,000	\$375 (6%)	\$281 (4.5%)	\$188 (3%)
\$100,000	\$542 (6.5%)	\$417 (5%)	\$292 (3.5%)
\$150,000	\$813 (6.5%)	\$625 (5%)	\$438 (3.5%)
\$200,000	\$1,167 (7%)	\$917 (5.5%)	\$667 (4%)

ENROLLMENT FORM #2 PLEDGE FORM

Printed Name(s): _____

Signature (s): _____

Total Pledge Amount for the remaining Current Church Fiscal Year (July to June) \$ _____

Pledge will be paid: ___ Weekly ___ Monthly ___ Quarterly ___ Annually

Form of Payment: ___ Check ___ Direct Debit* ___ Stock/Securities ___ Cash**

** If paying on a monthly basis, consider the ease and reliability of an automatic transfer set up with your bank to deposit to the account of the UUCSV. This also provides a regular cash flow for our church. Contact the church administrator, (540/869-6965), for further details.*

*** For cash, place in an envelope with your name and applicable pledge year (July-June) written on it each time you make a payment toward your pledge.*

Cut off this portion to keep for your records

Name _____

Committed to UUCSV for Church fiscal year (July to June) _____

Pledged financial support \$ _____

Date _____

Please return your completed Path to Membership forms to the church mailbox slot labeled Membership Committee to the right of the church office door.

Thank You!