

We warmly invite you to become a Member or Friend.

When you become a member or friend of the Unitarian Church of Calgary, you join a tradition dating back to the 1500's. Today there are Unitarian and Universalist congregations throughout the world, with 50 fellowships and congregations across Canada.

At present the Unitarian Church of Calgary has 270 members and friends who have chosen to be part of this community.

As a Member or Friend

you will become part of a vibrant and diverse community.

You are invited to grow with us.

Bring your beliefs, your energies, your substance and humanity.

We will work together to build our religious home.

Unitarian Church of Calgary

1703 1st Street NW
Calgary, Alberta T2M 4P4

Phone: (403) 276-2436
Email: info@unitarianscalgary.org

Visit our web page:

www.unitarianscalgary.org

or the web page of the

Canadian Unitarian Council

www.cuc.ca

Interim Minister 2009-2010

Rev. Fran Dearman

President, Board of Trustees
2009-2010

Jane Ebborn

Unitarian Church of Calgary
October 2009

Unitarian Church of Calgary

**Becoming a
Member or Friend**



You are invited

You have visited the Unitarian Church of Calgary, attended services, read our newsletter and brochures. Perhaps you have participated in some of our events or adult courses. We invite you to consider a formal connection with the Unitarian Church of Calgary. This brochure is designed to help you think of the questions you want to ask, answer some questions and tell you the steps to take for joining our church community.

If you are new to our Unitarian Universalist movement we urge you to attend one of our *Introduction to Unitarianism* sessions. You will learn more about our faith and more about our Calgary Church. We'll tell you about the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of a member or friend of our church.

Choosing to become a member

Membership signifies a commitment to the life and values of the Unitarian Universalist community in Calgary and through it to the Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC).

As a Member, you have rights and responsibilities which are described in the *Member Application Kit*. We are self-governing: our members decide what our vision as a church will be, who we will hire as our professional staff, how we raise the finances for our church, and how we spend our resources. Members serve as our elected representatives on our governing Board and serve as chairs of our standing committees. Members represent us at the Canadian Unitarian Council and the International Council of Unitarians and Universalists.

Each Unitarian Universalist church, congregation or fellowship writes its own By-Laws on requirements for membership. Our church requires that you affirm the Principles of Unitarian Universalism, are willing to contribute to the life of the church, and are at least 16 years of age.

To become a Member, please give your completed application to the Membership Chairperson. A member of the Membership Committee will call to see if you have any further questions. Your application will be reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees. Active membership then begins by signing the Book of Members in the presence of either our minister or a member of the Board of Trustees. We would like to welcome you publicly on one of our New Member Recognition Sundays if you are comfortable in doing so.

Choosing to become a Friend

You really feel that our church is a good place to be, but you are uncertain about becoming a member. Or perhaps, you have life circumstances that make it uncomfortable to become a member of any church. We invite you to continue your exploration with us by registering as a Friend of the Unitarian Church of Calgary. Friends are recognized in our By-Laws as being in agreement with our principles and purposes. Friends receive our newsletters and other mailings. We also encourage Friends to become active in the work of our church, both internal activities and those that reach out to the larger community.

To become a Friend, complete the form in the *Friend Registration Kit*. You will receive a phone call to talk about your interests and how you might become involved in our church community.

Stewardship

The church relies upon the generous contributions of Members and Friends, which take a variety of forms including both volunteer time and financial support. Since we are self-financing as well as self-governing, everyone is expected to take responsibility for a share of our annual budget, according to personal means.