

Are You Looking For

- A faith that grows and changes with the changing times, encouraging diversity and continual spiritual journey?
- A religious education program that encourages children to explore world religions as a foundation for formulating their own beliefs and respecting the beliefs of others?
- A community of people committed to serving the larger community?

Please Join Us for Sunday Services and Religious Education Classes at 10:00 AM, followed by Friendship Hour. Services are held mid-September through mid-June.

What We Believe:

Principles of Unitarian Universalism

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;

- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

The living tradition which we share draws from many sources:

- Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;
- Words and deeds of prophetic women and men which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love;
- Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires our spiritual life;
- Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;
- Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit.
- Spiritual teachings of earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.

Taken from the UUA Web-site - www.uua.org

Religious Education

We believe that religion is not something to be given to a child, but something that grows out of direct experiences. Through our religious education classes, children (and adults) are exposed to a wide variety of thoughts and beliefs from many world religions to assist them in developing their own religious philosophy. We believe that religious education is not achieved during one hour on Sundays but is a continuous process influenced by parents, peers, and community members. The Foxborough Universalist Church's Religious Education Program is designed to assist a lifelong spiritual journey. The program's mission is to:

- Teach respect for the inherent worth and dignity of all people
- Emphasize the importance of freedom of religious expression
- Empower our students to develop their beliefs and encourage them to act on their convictions
- Increase our awareness of other cultures and religions, recognizing that we are part of a world community
- Create a positive, enjoyable environment that stimulates natural curiosity and enthusiasm for learning.

To do this, we utilize UUA curriculums and other activities that engage children in the active learning process. One Sunday per month, children remain upstairs in the sanctuary for special intergenerational services.

History of the Foxborough Universalist Church:

The first meetings of the Universalist Society in Foxborough were held as early as 1838 in Sumner Hall, which was situated where the Union Block used to stand. Services were held there every Sunday by Hosea Ballou, Thomas Whitemore, a Mr. Davis, and other ministers who were pioneers in the Universalist Church.

In 1843 the present building, situated at the head of Bird Street, was erected on land given by Willard P. Turner.

Early in October 1843 the church was dedicated and the first settled minister was installed, the Rev. Charles W. Mellen, who served the parish three years. Originally there was a spire on the church but during a severe gale in 1853 that was blown off.

During the pastorate of Rev. C. A. Bradley, 1860 to 1865, the society suffered severe loss from a fire that damaged the auditorium and ruined the organ.

Interesting incidents of the fire was the heroism of Albert F. Belcher who crawled in on his hands and knees and dragged out the small organ, and Lewis Pond who rescued the pulpit Bible, running his fingers along the edges to put out the fire.

The Society, undaunted by this disaster, bravely repaired the damages. So much was done at this time that a re-dedication service was held. On October 16, 1896, the church and society was incorporated under the laws of the State of Massachusetts, the legal name being the Foxborough Universalist Church. Later it was voted to have parish members.

*Taken from the
Foxborough Universalist Church
Web-site*



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Minister Katie Lawson

Welcome!

The Foxborough Universalist Church is an association of people who recognize the worth and dignity of each human being and value freedom of religious expression. The church's mission is to develop a community for spiritual growth and instruction with a sense of sharing, understanding, and support. Our goal is to significantly improve and positively influence conditions which affect the quality of life of our members, our families, and our community. We strive to provide a place for people to explore their own spiritual beliefs as we believe that religious growth and learning is a lifelong journey. Our members have diverse religious backgrounds and everyone is welcome. Everyone is free to explore and share (if so desired) his/her own thoughts and feelings as he/she embarks on his/her own personal spiritual journey. We currently have a minister who preaches three times per month. For our other services, we have guest speakers or lay-led services. If you have any questions, please call us at (508)543-4002 or visit us on the web at www.foxborough.bcd.uua.org. If you want more information about Unitarian Universalism, please visit www.uua.org.

Then Please Come and Visit Us!