



## About Unitarian Universalism

### The First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor

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[ from the Unitarian Universalist Association web site [www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org) ]

Unitarian Universalism is a liberal, non-creedal religion that is over 400 years old. In the U.S., the Universalist Church of America was organized in 1793 and the American Unitarian Association organized in 1825, as one of the two movements formed in a schism among the Congregationalist parishes of early New England. (The other movement eventually became the United Church of Christ.) The Unitarians and Universalists merged in 1961. In the 19th century, Unitarian Minister Ralph Waldo Emerson and other transcendentalists influenced the Unitarian movement to embrace the use of reason in religion and to look to other religious traditions for inspiration. In the 20th century the humanist movements influenced UUs to put less emphasis on traditional beliefs and focus more on leading ethical lives of personal fulfillment that aspire to the greater good of humanity.

Today Unitarian Universalist congregations gather in community to support each member's individual spiritual journey. We trust that openness to one another's experiences will enhance our understanding of our own links with the divine, with our history, and with one another.

We have radical roots and a history as self-motivated spiritual people: we think for ourselves and actively object to what we believe is wrong. We have a track record of [standing on the side of love, justice, and peace](#).

We are diverse in [faith](#), [ethnicity](#), [history](#) and [spirituality](#), but aligned in our desire to practice our faith in tangible ways.