



A Note to Our Visitors:

Welcome! Thank you for choosing to be with us today. Please join us for coffee and social time after the service. Wearing your name tag will allow us to greet you personally.

We are a Welcoming Congregation: People of all ages, races, colors, national origins, religions, genders, sexual orientation and socioeconomic status are welcome to be a part of our religious community as members or friends.

Ours is a unique religious community and visitors often have questions about our history, beliefs and programs. The following resources may be helpful:

- The visitor packet contains information on both our denomination and our local church.
- By filling out the Visitor Registration card, you will receive the *All Church E-mail* each week at the e-mail address provided. Visitors and members alike are invited to all our activities and programs.
- On the third Sunday of each month, lay leaders conduct a brief information forum after the service. This is an excellent opportunity to ask questions and meet other visitors.

Our Director of Religious Education and all of our welcoming team are available any time to answer your questions. You can reach us by phoning or emailing the church office.

Membership in our church is based on joining for a common purpose, rather than on acceptance of a common creed. We do not require adherence to a creed or dogma, but we do have commonly held principles that we affirm, promote and try to live. If you are in sympathy with these principles and purposes and are considering making a commitment to its ongoing life, you may be ready to join.

Hearing devices and large print hymnals are available by request from the Usher.

The Pickett Room, located inside the front doors, serves as a family room. Use the volume knob near the light switch to hear the service.

Unitarian Universalist Principles

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

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person
2. Justice, equity and compassion in human relations
3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations
4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large
6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all
7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

Church Staff

Settled Minister - Rev. Julie Conrady	minister@uucbham.org
Interim Dir. Religious Education - Ruth Vann Lillian	dre@uucbham.org
Church Administrator - Jennie Moffitt	office@uucbham.org
Choir Director - Jim Sullivan	choir@uucbham.org
Pianist - Smith (Chip) Williams	smithwilliams@gmail.com
Children's Choir Director—Becca Rogers	childrenschoir@uucbham.org

Church Leadership

President - Leigh Shaffer	president@uucbham.org
Vice President -	vp@uucbham.org
Treasurer - Mary Ann Plant	treasurer@uucbham.org
Secretary - Julia Mortenson	board.secretary@uucbham.org
Religious Education Chair - Heather Hunter	heatherhunter75@gmail.com
Trustee Wynne Dimock	wynnedimock@gmail.com
Trustee Andrew Duxbury	aduxbury@uab.edu
Trustee Paul Mancill	paul@mancill.com
Trustee Scott Naftel	naftel@rand.org

OUR CHURCH is supported by annual pledges from members and friends and by the contributions of visitors. We welcome your support. To discuss a bequest, trust, or other gift to the Endowment Fund, please contact the church office @205-945-8109.

Feel free to take this Order of Service home to share.
Otherwise, please deposit in the recycle baskets inside of the sanctuary.

Find us on Facebook, and online at www.uucbham.org.



Unitarian Universalist Church of Birmingham

A church that honors differences in belief

Our Vision

We are a welcoming and supportive community with open minds and loving hearts that provides spiritual nourishment, promotes free religious thought, and works for a more just world.

Our Mission

We promote the free exchange of ideas, while bridging differences
We foster personal, spiritual, and intellectual exploration
We care for one another and provide mutual support
We act for social justice and live our values in the broader community

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Unitarian Universalist Church of Birmingham

Sunday, December 2, 2018

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

Ringling the Chime	<i>Our service begins and ends with the chime.</i>
Welcome	
Announcements	
Prelude	Skating by Vince Guaraldi
Lighting the Chalice	The Balance We Seek by Sharon Wylie
*Opening Words	Suspended Between by Linda Barnes
*Hymn	Let It Be a Dance #311
Offertory	Across the Vast, Eternal Sky by Ola Gjeilo
Anthem	When the Song of the Angels Is Stilled words by Howard Thurman/ music by Elizabeth Alexander
Meditation Moments	
*Meditation Hymn	Let There Be Light #142
Time For All Ages	
Singing Children to Their Classrooms	<i>Go Now In Peace</i> <i>Go now in peace. Go in quiet wisdom.</i> <i>Go forth into the world with kindness and love.</i> (Children & adults will sing together once. The second time the adults will sing as the children return to their seats.)
Reading	
Sermon	The Balance
*Hymn	All Whose Boast It Is #150
*Extinguishing the Chalice (In unison)	by Amy Zucker Morgenstern When we take fire from our chalice, it does not become less. It becomes more. And so we extinguish our chalice, but we take its light and warmth with us, multiplying their power by all of our lives, and sharing it with the world.
*Benediction	
Postlude	The Snowman's Music Box Dance by Howard Blake, arr. George Winston
Ringling the Chime	

Participating in today's service:

Rev. Julie Conrady – *Settled Minister*

Patti Steelman – *Worship Associate*

Jim Sullivan – *Choir Director*

Chip Williams – *Pianist*

Leigh Shaffer – *Offertory Words*

Lora and Emma Anderson – *Chalice Lighters*

Today's flowers are provided by Gerda Carmichael.

TODAY IS FIRST SUNDAY LUNCH

If you are a visitor today, please stay and be our guest.

If you are a member, but didn't bring a dish today to share, consider giving an offering to help defer the costs of kitchen supplies.

OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE CHURCH

⇒ We are updating our church directories and need photographers and proofers. Please contact the church office if you are willing to help.

⇒ Want to join our church? New Member Sunday is December 9. Contact Rev. Julie if you are interested.

⇒ Please check your connection card to mark your interest!

- Writing the draft Congregational Covenant
- Serving as Greeter
- Serving on the Board of Trustees
- Joining the Safe Congregations Team
- Helping in the search for a new DRE
- Teaching OWL (requires training)
- Welcoming new members/hospitality
- Facilitating a craft station at the Yule service on Dec. 21 (craft provided!)
- Offer to give rides to church

MUUSICShare welcomes newcomers, but will **not** meet this month in the church on the first Tuesday at our usual time, due to a heavy performance schedule. We're a group of singers and acoustic instrumentalists who enjoy familiar folk *mu(u)sic* and *share* it with retirement communities and other underserved populations in the greater Birmingham area. Please contact Debra Burrell if you'd like to participate.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN IN OUR SERVICE OF WORSHIP.

Following the "Time for All Ages" the children will go downstairs for Activity Time including games, songs, playground, and snacks. Please sign in your children on the clipboards at the R.E. table near the front door. The first Sunday of each month no classes are planned. Please gather your children immediately following the end of the service today and join us for First Sunday Lunch.

December Schedule of Events

12/2 - **TODAY – CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING**
during First Sunday Lunch – Everyone is encouraged to add an ornament to the tree in the Sanctuary.

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WINTER EVENING FAMILY FUN

Come for potluck, crafts, singing & seasonal fun on the following Fridays from 6-8 pm. (Everyone is Family!)

12/7 - **WELCOME HANUKKAH**

Stories, Latkes, and Dreidels!

12/14 - **NIGHT TREE**

Based on Eve Hunting's book with same title, we will make tree ornaments out of edible materials, then take a night hike to the top of the hill behind the church, decorate our tree, and sing a few carols. Dress warm and bring your flashlight!

12/21- **YULE SERVICE**

Please sign up to host winter-craft tables that the children can rotate through. AND Reverend Julie Conrady will lead us in a special Yule celebration complete with burning the Yule Log in the outdoor classroom!

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BLUE HOLIDAY SERVICE

Sunday, 12/16, 5 pm – Vespers service for those who grieve a loss at the holidays. Everyone will have an opportunity to share during Circle of Lights.

CHILD DEDICATION

Sunday, 12/23 During Regular Service (Speak to Rev. Julie if you want to dedicate your child or infant)

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Tuesday, 12/24, 6:00 pm – Carols in Narthex at 5:30pm
Dessert Potluck to follow service; bring a treat to share!