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:

 By filling out the Connection 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.

Our Staff 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.

Religious Education for Children and Youth
We are committed to providing a safe, open environment for our younger community to explore their spiritual path. All of our childcare workers are screened and vetted. 0-3years: Our Nursery is open from 9:45-12:15 so parents may enjoy the service and RE hour. Pre-K/K: Our Pre-K and K children have activity time at 10am and RE time at 11:15. Many of these children stay in the service until the Time for All Ages, and then go to activity time and then their class with the other children. 1st grade and up: We know how vital it is for our children and youth to experience Sunday service with us. They are in the service with us through the Time for All Ages, when our team takes them for snack and activity time, followed by Religious Education class at 11:15. Parents are invited to join a class of their own at 11:15 for their own enrichment. Pick up is at 12:15.

For their safety, before children are left with us, please ensure a complete registration form is submitted. Our RE staff can provide one to you at the welcome desk.

If you have any questions about our program, please don’t hesitate to contact our Director of Religious Education, Nicole Jacobson, at dre@uucbham.org or 205.945.8109 ext. 104.

Welcome to

Unitarian Universalist Church of Birmingham

A church that honors differences in belief
Our church does not adhere to any creed, or dogma, or doctrine. We live in community, respectful of one another’s beliefs, using our covenant to guide us.

UUCB Covenant of Right Relations

Inspired by the seven Unitarian Universalist Principles, we promise to:

• Nurture a diverse and welcoming congregation by being respectful, friendly, and welcoming to all members, friends, visitors, and staff.
• Engage and contribute to the life of the congregation by connecting with its programs and governance, and by caring for our shared spaces.
• Trust that others’ behavior is driven by good intentions.
• Practice direct communication by actively listening to and speaking with individuals, not about them, in an honest and compassionate way.
• Seek to resolve conflicts and make amends through intentional compromise and when necessary, request facilitation and mediation.

By intentionally encouraging and growing healthy relationships within the congregation, we are empowered to live our values in the broader community. This covenant is a living document that will evolve as we evolve. We will do our best to abide by this covenant.

Unitarian Universalist Principles and Sources

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

Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote seven Principles, which we hold as strong values and moral guides. We live out these Principles within a “living tradition” of wisdom and spirituality, drawn from sources as diverse as science, poetry, scripture, and personal experience. These are the six sources our congregations affirm and promote:

• Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewed spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;
• Words and deeds of prophetic people 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 us in our ethical and 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.

Contact Us
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For a complete listing of Staff Contacts, visit our website listed below.

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205-945-8109
You may find us online at www.uucbham.org
and the following social media sites:

@uucbham
@uumbl 

Welcome to the

Unitarian Universalist Church of Birmingham
We forgive ourselves and each other, We begin again in love.

Narrator: For remaining silent when a single voice would have made a difference

*Meditation Hymn*  
*We Begin Again in Love*

Meditation Moment

Offertory

*Narrator: For each time that our greed has blinded us to the needs of others We forgive ourselves and each other, We begin again in love.*

*Narrator: For the selfishness that set us apart and alone We forgive ourselves and each other, We begin again in love.*

*Narrator: For falling short of the admonitions of the spirit We forgive ourselves and each other, We begin again in love.*

*Narrator: For losing sight of our unity We forgive ourselves and each other, We begin again in love.*

*Narrator: For those and for so many acts both evident and subtle which have fueled the illusion of separateness We forgive ourselves and each other, We begin again in love.*

Anthem  
*There Is Sweet Music Here*  
_words by Alfred, Lord Tennyson_  
_music by Mary Lynn Lightfoot_

Time For All Ages  

Singing Children to Their Classroom  
*The UU Principle Song*

Words That We Hold Tight  
*Words by Alfred, Lord Tennyson*

*Music by Mary Lynn Lightfoot*

Reading  

Sermon  
*When People Hurt Us*  

—  

*Narrator: For the selfishness that set us apart and alone*  

*Narrator: For each time that our greed has blinded us to the needs of others*  

*Narrator: For losing sight of our unity*  

*Narrator: For falling short of the admonitions of the spirit*  

*Narrator: For each time that we have struck out in anger without just cause We forgive ourselves and each other, We begin again in love.*

*Narrator: For each time that our greed has blinded us to the needs of others We forgive ourselves and each other, We begin again in love.*

*Narrator: For the selfishness that set us apart and alone We forgive ourselves and each other, We begin again in love.*

*Narrator: For falling short of the admonitions of the spirit We forgive ourselves and each other, We begin again in love.*

*Narrator: For losing sight of our unity We forgive ourselves and each other, We begin again in love.*

*Narrator: For those and for so many acts both evident and subtle which have fueled the illusion of separateness We forgive ourselves and each other, We begin again in love.*

We forgive ourselves and each other, We begin again in love.