

## Becoming a Member of Jefferson Unitarian Church

1. **Get to know us** by attending worship services, fellowship dinners, classes and other events. If you have children who may be interested in attending, check out our "Way Cool Sunday School."
2. **Ask Annie Hedberg**, our New Member Coordinator, for a **Membership Packet**. This packet contains information about Unitarian Universalism and JUC which may help you make a decision about membership. The packet also contains all the paperwork needed for the joining process.
3. Attend the *Path to Membership* orientation class, to meet other newcomers and learn about Unitarian Universalist history and principles, our ministry programs here at JUC, and about the responsibilities and benefits of membership.
4. **Fill out the paperwork** - if you decide to become a member, you can fill out the papers after the Path to Membership class or at home.
  - a. **New Member Profile**. This information sheet will be given to Cyndee Dries, our Administrator, to aid her in getting your name on our directory roster and on the subscription roles for the *Crier* (our newsletter) and the *World* (UUA magazine). *Please spell your name on the form the way you want it to appear on your new member name tag. Each adult joining the church fills out his or her own form.*
  - b. **Foundations of Fellowship**. On the back of the Profile, this form gives you the opportunity to choose which of the basic tasks, such as ushering and making coffee, you prefer. All members are asked to help with these tasks four times per year.
  - c. **New Member Pledge Form**. This form asks you to estimate the financial support you expect to be able to give the church for the remainder of the current fiscal cycle. Our fiscal year goes from July 1 to June 30. We conduct a "stewardship campaign" in the spring of each year during which people "pledge" what they intend to give during the next fiscal year. The congregation adopts a budget in May based upon the expected income. As a new member, you are likely coming in the middle of a fiscal cycle. Your new member pledge should be for the remainder of the current cycle only. Couples usually make a combined pledge, but may make individual pledges.
  - d. **Youth Religious Education Enrollment Form**. If your children have been attending, you may have already enrolled them. Enrollment is renewed every year.
5. **Sign the Membership Book**. This ceremonial document has the signatures of all JUC members since the founding of the church. Each person signs the book individually. Turn in your paperwork at the time of signing the book.
6. **Pose for your new member photograph**. Marv Spears will take your photo for our new member display board. He is available on Joining Sundays, at New Member Potlucks and by appointment at other times.
6. **Find your new name tag** on the members' name tag carousel in the foyer the week after you join. **Name tag details:** Please re-alphabetize your own tags on the carousel after each use. Couples please use the same pocket to store both tags. Children will get name tags from the Youth R.E program. You may remove the new member ribbon from the name tag whenever you wish. There is a plain white name tag behind the yellow one. You may switch to using the white one at any time you no longer feel like a "new" member. Most do by the end of the first year of membership.
7. **Attend the next New Member Welcoming Ceremony**, held several times a year. New members will be introduced to the congregation during the service and given a reception in their honor.
8. **Attend New Member Potlucks**. Annie Hedberg will mail you invitations to the four dinners held the year after you join. A great way to get to know other new members!
9. **Join in on the life of your congregation**. Continue to come to events on Sunday, and at other times, and find the areas of our ministry that most appeal to you, both as a participant and as a volunteer. Come to congregational meetings to participate in our democracy and help make the decisions that will guide our community. Welcome to JUC!