

**Our Mission:** We are a liberal religious community seeking transformation in our hearts, our homes our community and our world.

The goal of Unitarian Universalism, as clearly as we can say it, is **transformation**. And it's not just transformation for transformation's sake, but transformation for the purpose of salvation. The goal of Unitarian Universalism is to save the human enterprise on all levels. That may sound like traditional religious language, but it's up to each of us to give it the new meaning that it deserves and requires. We are in the business of salvation.

We are here **to save ourselves** for *decency* and for *purpose* and for *joy*. We're no good to the world, no good to anyone else if we are not good to ourselves. Being good to ourselves means taking time for spiritual discipline, taking time for personal growth, taking time to heal and forgive and to seek forgiveness, taking time to enjoy and appreciate this wonderful gift of life we've been given. We are in the business of salvation.

We are here **to save one another**, to allow that which is god, or love, or decency in ourselves to connect with and to uphold that which is god, or love or decency in others. We are called to be in responsible relationships with each other. We are called to affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of one another. We are in the business of salvation.

We are here **to save our human communities and our cultures**. This includes our efforts to eliminate social and economic injustice, racism, homophobia, violence and all the rest. This includes our efforts to promote world peace, a peace that begins in each of us and in our homes, and then reaches out to embrace the world. We are in the business of salvation.

Finally, we are here, to do nothing less than **to save this creation**. This wonderful and precious world, this spinning home of our human life-form is in desperate need of salvation and our spiritual and religious, our individual and corporate response must be to become a part of that salvation. **We are in the business of salvation, partners in the enterprise of creation.**

**The Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Montclair**  
**67 Church Street, Montclair, New Jersey**  
**973-744-6276 uumontclair.org**

**Like our name says, we are Unitarian Universalist.**  
*We believe in the unity of all things.* From the inherent worth and dignity of every person to the interdependent web of existence of which we are a part, we believe in the unity of all things.

I'll tell you what – I thank God I'm a Unitarian Universalist! I'm thankful that I have found a religious tradition that believes in the unity of all things; that believes in the human spirit. I'm thankful that I have found a religion that promotes beliefs that are expansive and lead the way to wider sympathies, promoting bonds in a world community, where sincere differences are seen to beautify the pattern, opening wide the gateways of confining views, providing vistas for exploration, nurturing self-confidence and enriching personal worth, growing with the thrust of life.

I thank goodness I am a Unitarian Universalist, but I know it's not enough to be merely thankful. I have to share this religious message with a world that is desperate for it. I don't need to – none of us need to – push this liberal religious faith on anyone else. But folks, we've got to let people know it's here. We've got to let people know *we are here*.

There are other religious messages out there, messages that lure people with the notion or the feeling of being saved, of being insulated, of being superior. There are religious messages out there that convince people that they can have a special relationship with a deity, who in turn empowers them with special rights of moral authority and dominion. Our religious message of a belief in the unity of all things – *the interdependence and connectedness of all things, as well as the salvation of all things and all people* – needs to be voiced in the religious marketplace in order to provide some balance in a conversation that, as we move into the future, appears to be getting less and less religious and more and more self-serving. I thank God I'm a Unitarian Universalist!