

This fall at UUCC, we're trying . . .

TWO HOUR CHURCH

UUCC growing together in
joy spirit community creativity

What's Two Hour Church?

Two Hour Church is an experimental Sunday morning structure that UUCC will be trying out September through November of 2019. Instead of having our children's Faith Development programming *during* worship, people of all ages will worship together, and then there will be Faith Development programming for children, youth, and adults during the hour following worship.

Here's a general outline of what Sunday morning will look like:

- 10:00 - 11:00 am -- Worship for everyone in the sanctuary
- 11:00 - 11:15 am -- Transition time with coffee and snacks in the lobby
- 11:15 am - 12:15 pm -- Faith Development offerings for children, youth, and adults

Why this shift?

Worship is an amazing time for our community, but worship alone is not enough to fill the hunger folks have for spiritual growth. However, there isn't an existing structure to facilitate that kind of development for our adults. Two Hour Church builds time for grown ups to attend Faith Development programming into Sunday morning.

This shift also lets us worship together as a whole community every Sunday. Our children and youth are vital members of our community, and having them in worship with us affirms our commitment to growing Unitarian Universalists of all ages.

We'll try this structure for three months and then assess it before committing long-term.

Okay, but I've got questions . . .

Wait, church starts at 10 now?

Yes, worship will begin at 10 am!

What about coffee hour?

Coffee hour is an important way for many folks at UCC to connect with one another! I still want folks to make those connections, but the setting might be different. Instead of running into somebody at coffee hour, now you might sit next to them in your class on little known historical UUs or pull up a mat at a yoga session! It's still important to create space to break bread together, so once a month we will have an all-church potluck instead of Faith Development classes.

Won't the kids disrupt worship?

Worship -- even with a 15-20 minute sermon -- is totally appropriate for school-aged kids! Attending worship services regularly helps them learn how to worship like Unitarian Universalists -- to know our hymns and rituals, and to find meaning in them. Kids do tend to be wigglier than grown ups (though these "grown ups" sometimes make noise, too) -- which is why I'll be working with our Director of Faith Development, Mary, to create some space in the sanctuary that sets families with littles up for success.

Will there still be sermons?

Yes! Many Sundays, we will have a more traditional sermon, while other Sundays will have a more avant garde structure (yes, there will still be art and crafts in worship occasionally).

What kind of programming will there be for adults?

There will be a variety of drop-in style classes for adults on Sunday mornings! These classes might range from a lesson about images of the divine in different religious traditions to a discussion-style session about parenting and UU values to an introduction to yoga to a class on UU history. The sessions won't all stay the same

from week-to-week (though, every week there will likely be an option that's a Going Deeper session on the themes from that morning's service), so you don't need to commit long-term. This Sunday morning time *isn't* designed for ongoing small groups to meet, or for teams and committees to meet to do the business of the church.

Will there still be childcare?

Yes! There will be nursery care for children 5 and under during both worship and Faith Development time.

Will this all cost anything?

The only ongoing cost we anticipate is some additional nursery care hours.

How will we measure success?

There are different metrics that we'll look at during the month of December as we consider whether to continue this structure. These include, but are not limited to, worship attendance, adult and children's Faith Development attendance, and participation numbers for teachers and facilitators for those Faith Development programs. We will also be conducting a survey to gather more qualitative feedback.

How can I provide ideas and feedback about this?

Great question! You can email Rev. Hannah anytime at minister@uucheyenne.org.

There will also be three opportunities in the coming week to engage! On

Wednesday, May 8th from 7 pm - 8 pm, Rev. Hannah will host a conversation via

Zoom, a video conference platform (with an option to call in by phone as well,

information below). On **Thursday, May 9th, from 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm**, we will have

an in-person conversation **at UUC in the library**. Both of these options are open

to folks of all ages. Then, on **Sunday, May 12th**, Rev. Hannah will have a table set up

in the **social hall during the Mother's Day Cake Auction**, so you can stop by and

chat about questions or concerns while you wait to see whether you won that delicious dessert.

Information on attending the Zoom conversation:

Hannah Roberts Villnave is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Two Hour Church Conversation

Time: May 8, 2019 7:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/62149755>

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,621497551# US (San Jose)

+16468769923,,621497551# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 621 497 551

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/adRwzyc0Ox>

Want a quick “how to” on joining a Zoom meeting?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vFhAEoCF7jg>