

**Church Mission and Ends
as stated in
Unitarian Church of Montpelier (UCM)
Governing Board Policies**

Adopted June 2013; Amended January 2, 2018; Amended April 2021

We Welcome All

Our congregation embraces people of any age, race, culture, income or social class, learning style, physical ability, mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression.

- Visitors and newcomers feel oriented and comfortable.
- We feel responsible for engaging with one another. We stretch our comfort zones to learn from and affirm the differences among us.
- All of us feel safe, accepted and valued.
- We all feel invited to share our talents and energies, and we feel our presence makes a difference.

Build Loving Community

Our loving community needs careful cultivation, so we practice kindness and cherish one another.

- We practice seeing the best in others and are comfortable sharing our thoughts and feelings.
- We celebrate and deepen our connections by sharing important transitions in our lives (such as birth, loss, coming of age).
- We turn to one another for support and help and notice when these are needed
- We take action to make the broader society more loving.

Nurture Each Person's Spiritual Journey

- Through music, words, art, and silence, in all stages of life we each have opportunities for reflection, growth and transformation
- We expand our awareness and continue to discover what is ultimately important.
- We are inspired to live our values and purposes.

Serve Human Need

- Our congregation knows when members, friends and neighbors are in need; respecting privacy, we respond generously.
- As a congregation, we seek and act upon effective strategies in our community and around the world to address the root causes of
- Violence,
- Poverty, and
- Injustice.

Protect the Earth, Our Home

- We see ourselves as one, but only one, of the precious species to be protected on our planet.
- We actively investigate and learn about the impact of human activity upon Earth.
- In all our decisions as a congregation, we consider carefully what resources of the earth we are using.
- We work for political, economic and cultural changes that protect biodiversity and that address the causes of human over-population and climate change.
- We support one another to make the difficult and urgent personal changes necessary to live sustainably.