

Unitarian Universalist History

We Would Be One: A History of Unitarian Universalist Youth Movements

Wayne Arnason and Rebecca Scott

Documents the challenges, triumphs and far-reaching effects of the UU youth movement through compelling personal stories from the late 19th century to the present.

The Other Side of Salvation: Spiritualism and the Nineteenth-Century Religious Experience

John B. Buescher

Tells the fascinating story of a unique moment in history when Universalists and others believed spirits of the dead could be contacted through trance mediums and séances.

Unitarian Universalism: A Narrative History

David E. Bumbaugh

An accessible overview of Unitarianism, Universalism and Unitarian Universalism from their beginnings in Europe to the end of the 20th century.

Long Challenge: The Empowerment Controversy (1967-1977)

Victor H. Carpenter

A look back at a conflict between African-American and white UUs that exposed deep tensions that remain with us today.

Universalism in America: A Documentary History of a Liberal Faith

Edited by Ernest Cassara

Selected writings from some of the most influential people in Universalism, 1741 to 1961, plus incisive commentaries.

Standing Before Us: Unitarian Universalist Women and Social Reform, 1776-1936

Edited by Dorothy May Emerson

Historical reformers and leaders advocate for social justice, equality in education, religious reform and an end to slavery and prejudice. Contains a biographical sketch of each woman and informative notes on the texts selected.

Historical Dictionary of Unitarian Universalism

Mark W. Harris

A reference guide to Unitarian Universalism with numerous entries on places, significant leaders and issues.

Norbert Fabian Capek: A Spiritual Journey

Richard Henry

True story of an inspiring leader who, in the face of Nazi oppression, built a Unitarian religious movement in his native Czechoslovakia that numbered close to 10,000 members.

For Faith and Freedom: A Short History of Unitarianism in Europe

Charles A. Howe

Lucid and readable account of the origin and development of Unitarianism in Europe, from the Reformation until the 20th century.

The Larger Faith: A Short History of American Universalism

Charles A. Howe

Spans from the first gatherings of American Universalists in 1793, to the consolidation with the Unitarians in 1961, to present-day Unitarian Universalism. Includes bibliography, appendices and an index.

Call to Selma: Eighteen Days of Witness

Richard D. Leonard

Leonard's journal of joining with other clergy in the struggle for voting rights in Selma, Alabama, in 1965. Presents Selma as a pivotal point in the advancement of civil rights and a defining moment for Unitarian Universalism.

Being Liberal in an Illiberal Age: Why I Am a Unitarian Universalist

Jack Mendelsohn

This sterling affirmation of liberalism examines the roots of Unitarian Universalism and the underlying factors that have drawn many leaders to this faith. The second edition features a new introduction by the author.

Black Pioneers in a White Denomination

Mark D. Morrison-Reed

Portraits of racism in liberal religion tell the stories of two pioneering black ministers. Includes biographical notes on past and present black Unitarian, Universalist and UU ministers.

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The Epic of Unitarianism: Original Writings from the History of Liberal Religion

Edited by David B. Parke

This collection of writings spanning the 16th through the 20th centuries provides a rich portrait of early Unitarian thought.

Funding Justice: The Legacy of the Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program

Warren Ross

Chronicles the long-lasting influence of benefactor Caroline Veatch and the achievements of the funding program that bears her name.

The Premise and the Promise: The Story of the Unitarian Universalist Association

Warren Ross

The tale of two like-minded but separate religious bodies electing to unite and move into the future together. Features important figures in Unitarian and Universalist history and chronicles significant aspects of the work of the UUA since 1961.

This Day in Unitarian Universalist History

Frank Schulman

Marks the significant anniversaries and milestones in Unitarian and Universalist faith heritage for every day of the year. Spans six centuries of liberal religion.

Making the Manifesto: The Birth of Religious Humanism

William F. Schulz

The story of the religious humanist movement of the 1920s and 1930s and the people who created the "Humanist Manifesto." Examines the intellectual, religious and cultural influences that shaped religious humanism.

The Arc of the Universe is Long: Unitarian Universalists, Anti-Racism and the Journey From Calgary

Leslie Takahashi Morris, Chip Roush, Leon Spencer

Captures the history of the UUA's journey toward becoming an anti-racist, anti-oppressive, multicultural movement since the passing of the 1992 Calgary resolution, "Racial and cultural diversity in Unitarian Universalism." Includes material culled from interviews with proponents and critics of the "Journey Toward Wholeness" program.

Crisis and Change: My Years as President of the Unitarian Universalist Association, 1969-1977

Robert Nelson West

A compelling account of West's historic tenure as the second president of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

A Stream of Light: A Short History of American Unitarianism

Conrad Wright

Unitarian thought from 1805 to 1961. Essential for any UU historical library.

The Unitarian Controversy: Essays on American Unitarian History

Conrad Wright

Chronicles a key period in early American Unitarian history (1805-1835), when a liberal wing gradually split off from the congregational churches of the Standing Order of Massachusetts to become a separate denomination.

Walking Together: Polity and Participation in UU Churches

Conrad Wright

The history of church autonomy in the Unitarian and Universalist traditions.

The Fellowship Movement: A Growth Strategy and Its Legacy

Holley Ulbrich

Explores the history and lasting impact of the Fellowship Movement (1948-1967), an effort by the American Unitarian Association and then the Unitarian Universalist Association to actively promote and nurture small, lay-led faith communities.

Unitarian Universalism and the Quest for Racial Justice

Collected documents on the denomination's pursuit of racial diversity.