

## **First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Antonio PASTORAL ASSOCIATE APPLICATION**

The act of witnessing a person's life, especially as he or she manages its various transitions is a tender privilege. As a pastoral associate you would not only provide fellowship, you may also have the opportunity to intimately witness a person's life – an act that opens one's heart and that stays with one forever.

The mission of our Pastoral Associates Program is to organize a team to provide the following services to church members and friends: visit the ill or infirmed at home or in the hospital, support those going through times of transition or crisis, support those involved in caretaking, and/or to provide referrals to appropriate agencies.

All will be trained in the skills needed for empathetic, non-judgmental listening. Discretion and confidentiality are required. The mandatory trainings will focus on skill-building and spiritual nurturance.

Please fill out this form and email it to [minister@uusat.org](mailto:minister@uusat.org) or print it out and leave it in Rev. Mark's box in the Conference Room. Contact Rev. Mark with any questions or to set up a time to talk further.

**First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Antonio**  
**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE APPLICATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

*Please insert your answers into this Word document or provide answers on separate paper.  
Limit your responses to a half page or less for each question or set of questions.*

1. What does being a Pastoral Care Associate mean to you? How did you react upon hearing about this program? How would this commitment fit/integrate with others in your life?

2. What interests you in the possibility of becoming a Pastoral Associate? What is your expectation of what you will gain from this program?

3. What do you believe you have to contribute as a Pastoral Associate? What areas of special interest, what strengths, skills and experience do you have in working with people?

4. Describe a time in your life when you responded to someone in need.

5. Describe a time in your life when someone responded to you in a caring way.

6. What hesitations or doubts do you have about being a Pastoral Associate?

7. How does Unitarian Universalism inform your desire to minister to others?  
How would your Unitarian Universalist beliefs guide your work as a pastoral care associate?  
How will you minister to people whose beliefs or lifestyles are different from own?

List your preferences, if any, of people to be seen or helped: gender? \_\_\_ age range? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing to visit in a client's home? \_\_\_ hospital? \_\_\_ nursing home? \_\_\_ hospice? \_\_\_

Are you willing to be called in a crisis? \_\_\_ during the night time? \_\_\_

What are your areas of discomfort, if any, such as seeing people in bereavement? \_\_\_ with depression? \_\_\_ at time of death in the immediate family? \_\_\_ other? \_\_\_ (explain)

Would you provide companionship for the elderly, or chronically ill, with phone calls and/or monthly visits? \_\_\_

Please submit your completed application and a list of three people who are willing to serve as reference for your candidacy. Include at least one person from our congregation.

Background checks will be performed on anyone selected for the program.