

The Way

What?

A journey of faith exploration, formation, and affirmation for HUCC Youth through the life and teaching of Jesus, in concert with an appreciation for the diverse religious traditions of our world.

How and When?

A series of classes, gatherings, and outings from January through April. Classes will be held 2x a month for two hours, on certain Sundays from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, with field trips scheduled as needed. Snacks will be provided. In May, we will have a celebration of the journey in a Sunday Service. At a latter date, those wishing to join HUCC will join with other new members, and youth who have not been baptized may choose to do so.

Our Guide Rails for the Journey

HUCC Vision

As a community of faith we seek to challenge and transform the world, beginning with ourselves, and to celebrate the image of God in every person and in all creation.

HUCC Purpose

Responding to God's love, we gather to be a healing, authentic, and empowered community who, through worship, education, fellowship and compassionate action, extend God's extravagant welcome in the world.

HUCC Core Values

We courageously embrace innovation and open minded conversation, where inclusion is expected and people of all walks of life are welcomed and encouraged to seek God and progress on their own spiritual journeys.

1. We recognize God in the life and teaching of Jesus, in concert with an appreciation for the diverse religious traditions of our world.
2. Christianity is a faith of extravagant grace, radical inclusion and relentless compassion
3. All members of the congregation as ministers.
4. We value the freedom to question and to be spiritually curious.
5. Everything is connected. We are part of the whole. We recognize our mutual accountability with all of creation.
6. We cherish authenticity and genuine relationships.
7. Our hands and voices are God's tools to create a more just society.
8. Cultivating a life of compassion that honors vulnerability and offers healing presence.

Sessions

1. **Orientation - Where do you stand?** - Community and class covenant, HUCC Values, exploring youth beliefs, how our faith shows up in the community of Utah, an intro to what Jesus teaches us. (Mentors Participate)

2. **Heretics R Us** - Discover how heretics through the ages have shaped our faith, speaking truth to power, and exploring Jesus as a heretic. Exploration of the Evolution of the Christian Church including the Nicene Creed, Lord's Prayer, Church Calendar, the construct of the Bible, and who were these Apostles?
3. **Visit a Non Christian Service** e.g. Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, or Jewish
4. **Reflecting on Baptism** - What does God's unconditional love mean? What is "confirmation" anyway?
5. **Visit a Christian Church Sunday Service** - To be selected by youth
6. **Faith in Action for Me and for Others** - What pain is there in the world today? What Pain do I feel? How can I be present for others? (Note: Mentors will join this day, and we will talk about areas of HUCC service)
7. **God is Still Speaking: Being in the UCC** - Faith is continually evolving. Having a voice in my denomination. How is the UCC is structured. We are all ministers and disciples. How do I fit it in my Utah community?
8. **Let's Serve our Community** - Event with Volunteers of America or Operation Sandwich
9. **This is my Religion, What is Yours?** - What do all religions seek and why? Compare and contrast different world faiths. Youth will make presentations about values they admire in another tradition.
10. **Where Do You Stand Part Two** - What do I believe, what do I question, how do I fit into a community, what do I need from my community? (Note: Mentors to attend).

Confirmation Sunday in May - **Let me tell you about my faith journey**

Celebration of the youth with whole congregation for taking this faith exploration class, sharing their view of community and faith, what they need from and can offer to the HUCC community.

After the completion of "The Way," youth who choose to join the church will be invited to join during the next New Member Sunday Service alongside the congregation's new adult members.