

1.

“God is one” is written over many church doors in Transylvania. In Hungarian that is written “Egy az Isten” and pronounced “Edge oz eesh-ten.”

2.

Most Christians are “trinitarians” –they believe in a 3-part God. The name “Unitarian” was first used in Transylvania in 1600. Do you know why this name was used? (Here’s a clue--“Uni” means one!)

3.

During King John’s reign, religious debates were important exciting events. Preachers were like famous celebrities and people took sides to support their favorite preacher, almost like a sports event today. Do you have a favorite famous celebrity? Who?

4.

One of the most famous sayings of Francis David was: “We need not think alike to love alike.” What do you think he meant by this?

5.

Transylvanian Unitarians believe that Jesus was “our best teacher” but not God. What was one of Jesus’ teachings?

6.

Communion, or the Lord’s Supper, is a Christian ritual practiced by Unitarians in Transylvania. Have you ever seen communion? What is it?

7.

Religious education is taught in public schools once a week by the ministers of each religion. If there are only a few children of a certain religion in a village, a minister will come once or twice a month to worship and give lessons. Does your minister teach in your school?

8.

During the Communist years (1949-1989) children were not supposed to go to church. The Young Communists had uniforms and marching songs. So some churches, including Unitarians, had their own marching songs. Does your congregation have any special children’s songs? Do you have special t-shirts for kids?



9.

At age 13 or 14 youth can become full members of their churches. To do this they have to say by heart the answers to a set of questions about their Unitarian faith (the Unitarian catechism). This is similar to many Protestant churches in the United States today.

Can you think of a good question about UUism that would be good for every UU child to know how to answer?

11.

Each time a child enters the church they say this prayer silently:

I have entered your house of worship
Oh, gracious God, My prayers are seeking
you And I hear your voice.
Loving God, be with me, show me your holy
face, fill my heart and my spirit
Let me feel your loving presence.

Does your congregation say the same words each week? What are they?

13.

At the beginning of each religious education class, this prayer is said:

Good Father, our God, be with us in
our work.

Then they say the Lord's Prayer together.
Do you know any prayers by heart?

15.

If a mother and father of a family are of two different religions, the girls are brought up in the mother's religion and the boys in their father's religion. How did your parents decide what religion to bring you up in?

10.

The confirmation service each year is a solemn ceremony where each of the classmates answers several of the questions. Then they are welcomed into the church and served communion for the first time. Then there is a big party. Will your church have a coming of age ceremony for you?

12.

Here is the prayer each child says when they leave the church:

I depart with joy in my heart,
Filled with peace and stillness.
My soul has found rest here, because you
have been with me.
Guide me, protect me, help me
Always, oh loving God.

What is the last thing that happens before you leave your church service?

14.

In some old fashioned Unitarian churches, the men sit together on one side of the church and the women on the other. Boys and girls sit separately, too, and only teenagers get to sit in the balcony. In some of the new churches, families sit together. Where do you sit when you are at a service in your sanctuary?

16.

People in Transylvania almost never choose to practice a different religion from the one they grow up in. What religions did each of your parents and grandparents grow up in? (If you don't know, find out on your way home today!)



17.

Transylvanian Unitarian children are Christened when they are babies or toddlers. There are 6 or more godmothers. One of the godmothers holds the baby through the ceremony, where water is poured on the baby's head. After the church ceremony there is a big party that often lasts all night. Have you even been to a Child Dedication ceremony? What happened?

19.

During Transylvanian services the children and adults never laugh out loud. Being in church is serious. They think laughing would be disrespectful. Do the people in your congregation laugh and clap during your worship services? What do you think about this?

18.

Name one thing you've learned that Transylvanian Unitarians do or believe that is different from you, and one thing that is the same.

20.

If your Church School class got together with a class from Transylvania, what do you think would be most fun to do together?

