

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbus

PROGRAM GUIDE

WINTER / SPRING 2024



PLANTING SEEDS FOR TOMORROW

SPECIAL EVENTS

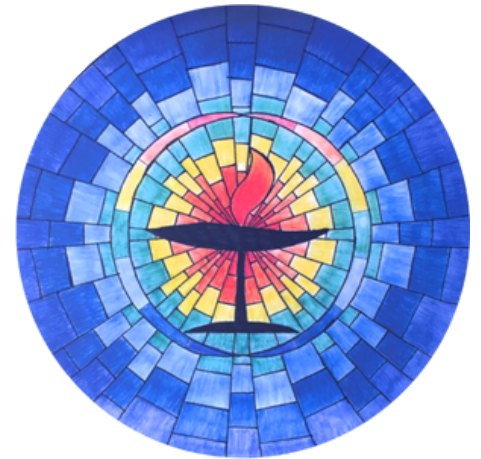
BRIDGE BUILDERS CONFERENCE
SOLAR ECLIPSE PARTY
UCCI YARD SALE
PEACE CAMP

HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

NEW YEARS EVE
SPRING EQUINOX
MAY DAY

Spring 2024 Program Guide

MINISTER'S WELCOME



Dear UUCCI Members and Friends,

Welcome! In your hands or on your screen is the 2024 Winter/Spring Program Guide. Whether you are newer or a longtime member of UUCCI, you will find there are numerous ways to get connected, learn, grow, serve, and celebrate with one another in the months to come. There are great signature programs in April and June 2024, including a day and a half retreat with our interfaith partners at UUCCI, which will be the inaugural and 1st Annual Bridge Builders Conference. Mark your calendars now because you won't want to miss this on the evening of Friday April 19 and during the day of Saturday, April 20. We will also hold our second annual Columbus Interfaith Peace Camp June 10-14. Lots of great opportunities to connect across our diverse interfaith campus in the months to come!

We also hope you will take advantage and attend (and/or host) a Small Group Dinner, which returns with much anticipation. There will be many programs to strengthen your social justice commitments, nurture your spirit, refine your character, and serve one another and the wider community.

Never hesitate to reach out if you need anything! I am grateful to serve as minister of this community!

With Gratitude,

Handwritten signature of Rev. Nic

Rev. Nic



If you ever want to read one of my sermons you missed, engage it more deeply, or if you want to remember the name of a reading used in one of the services, I post them on *substack*, which you can access and subscribe to, if you wish, at:

revcable.substack.com

MISSION, VISION, AND ENDS

UUCI Values

- Nurturing Community with Love and Compassion
- Freedom of Spiritual and Intellectual Growth
- Openness to the Mystery of Life
- Courageous Thoughtful Action

UUCI Mission

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbus, Indiana, is a community of hope and courage, where we celebrate love and work for justice.

UUCI Ends (2019-2024)

As individuals, as a congregation, and in the wider world, we:

1. Open ourselves to deeper human connection
2. Support each other, as Unitarian Universalists, in our lifelong journey for truth and meaning
3. Create dynamic congregational gatherings that open hearts and minds
4. Build a culture that engages and supports all levels of involvement
5. Align our resources to ensure that we are most effectively fulfilling our Mission and Ends
6. Cultivate intentional partnerships through mutual respect and collaboration
7. Nurture a vibrant interfaith community that positively transforms the Greater Columbus Area
8. Side with love by working to overcome injustice in all its forms

PROGRAM CALENDAR



January

- 1/3 Pastoral Care Meeting - 2 pm
- 1/5 Sunday Service Team Meeting - 10:30 am
- 1/7 Sunday Service - 10 am**
- 1/8 Healing Circle - 6 pm (Hosted by Tree of Knowledge)
- 1/10 Columbus Interfaith Meeting - 6 pm
- 1/10 Interfaith Campus Meeting - 7 pm
- 1/10 Choir Practice - 7 pm
- 1/12 You Can Sing - 7 pm
- 1/14 Sunday Service - 10 am**
- 1/15 Spiritual Living Circle - 12:30 pm
- 1/17 Choir Practice - 7 pm
- 1/18 Womens Chalice Circle - 10 am
- 1/18 Board Meeting - 6:30 pm
- 1/20 RACE: The Power Of An Illusion - 9:30 am
- 1/21 Sunday Service - 10 am**
- 1/24 Building & Grounds Meeting - 5 pm
- 1/24 Cabaret Rehearsal - 5 pm
- 1/25 Chalice Circle - 5:30 pm
- 1/26 Friday Fun Night: Cabaret Music Night - 6 pm
- 1/28 Sunday Service - 10 am**
- 1/28 RACE: The Power Of An Illusion - 11:30 am

PROGRAM CALENDAR



February

- 2/2 Sunday Service Team Meeting - 10:30 am
- 2/3 Cooking Across Cultures - 5 pm
- 2/3 Candle Night Celebration - 5 pm
- 2/4 **Sunday Service - 10 am**
- 2/7 Pastoral Care Meeting - 2 pm
- 2/7 Band Practice - 7 pm
- 2/11 **Sunday Service - 10 am**
- 2/12 Spiritual Living Circle - 12:30 pm
- 2/12 Healing Circle - 6 pm (Hosted by Tree of Knowledge)
- 2/14 Columbus Interfaith Meeting - 6 pm
- 2/14 Interfaith Campus Meeting - 7 pm
- 2/14 Choir Practice - 7 pm
- 2/15 Womens Chalice Circle - 10 am
- 2/15 Board Meeting - 6:30 pm
- 2/18 **Sunday Service - 10 am**
- 2/21 Choir Practice - 7 pm
- 2/22 Chalice Circle - 5:30 pm
- 2/23 Game Night and Pizza Dinner - 6 pm
- 2/24 Kids Full Moon Party - 6 pm (Hosted by Tree of Knowledge)
- 2/25 **Sunday Service - 10 am**
- 2/28 Building & Grounds Meeting - 5 pm
- 2/28 Band Practice - 7 pm

PROGRAM CALENDAR



March

- 3/1 Sunday Service Team Meeting - 10:30 am
- 3/3 Sunday Service - 10 am**
- 3/6 Pastoral Care Meeting - 2 pm
- 3/6 Band Practice - 7 pm
- 3/10 Sunday Service - 10 am**
- 3/11 Spiritual Living Circle - 12:30 pm
- 3/11 Healing Circle - 6 pm (Hosted by Tree of Knowledge)
- 3/13 Columbus Interfaith Meeting - 6 pm
- 3/13 Interfaith Campus Meeting - 7 pm
- 3/13 Choir Practice - 7 pm
- 3/17 Sunday Service - 10 am**
- 3/20 Choir Practice - 7 pm
- 3/21 Womens Chalice Circle - 10 am
- 3/21 Board Meeting - 6:30 pm
- 3/22 Friday Fun Night: Game Night
- 3/24 Sunday Service - 10 am**
- 3/27 Building & Grounds Meeting - 5 pm
- 3/27 Band Practice - 7 pm
- 3/28 Chalice Circle - 5:30 pm
- 3/31 Sunday Service - 10 am**

PROGRAM CALENDAR



April

- 4/3 Pastoral Care Meeting - 2 pm
- 4/3 Band Practice - 7 pm
- 4/5 Sunday Service Team Meeting - 10:30 am
- 4/7 Sunday Service - 10 am**
- 4/8 Eclipse Party - 12 pm
- 4/8 Spiritual Living Circle - 12:30 pm
- 4/8 Healing Circle - 6 pm (Hosted by Tree of Knowledge)
- 4/10 Columbus Interfaith Meeting - 6 pm
- 4/10 Interfaith Campus Meeting - 7 pm
- 4/10 Choir Practice - 7 pm
- 4/14 Sunday Service - 10 am**
- 4/17 Choir Practice - 7 pm
- 4/18 Womens Chalice Circle - 10 am
- 4/18 Board Meeting - 6:30 pm
- 4/19 Band Practice - 7 pm
- 4/21 Sunday Service - 10 am**
- 4/24 Building & Grounds Meeting - 5 pm
- 4/25 Chalice Circle - 5:30 pm
- 4/26 Friday Fun Night: Music Night - 6 pm
- 4/28 Sunday Service - 10 am**

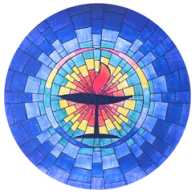
PROGRAM CALENDAR



May

- 5/1 May Day Celebration - 6 pm
- 5/1 Pastoral Care Meeting - 2 pm
- 5/1 Band Practice - 7 pm
- 5/3 Sunday Service Team Meeting - 10:30 am
- 5/3 Cooking Across Cultures - 5 pm
- 5/5 **Sunday Service - 10 am**
- 5/8 Columbus Interfaith Meeting - 6 pm
- 5/8 Interfaith Campus Meeting - 7 pm
- 5/8 Choir Practice - 7 pm
- 5/12 **Sunday Service - 10 am**
- 5/13 Spiritual Living Circle - 12:30 pm
- 5/13 Healing Circle - 6 pm (Hosted by Tree of Knowledge)
- 5/15 Choir Practice - 7 pm
- 5/16 Womens Chalice Circle - 10 am
- 5/16 Board Meeting - 6:30 pm
- 5/19 **Sunday Service - 10 am**
- 5/22 Building & Grounds Meeting - 5 pm
- 5/23 Chalice Circle - 5:30 pm
- 5/26 **Sunday Service - 10 am**

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10 AM



SUNDAY SERVICES

Art And Its Impact Series

Our Whole Lives Learning Series

Bridge Building Series

January 7

Putting Down and Picking Up: A Fire Communion Service to Begin the New Year

January 14

I Can, UUCAN, We Can Together: Courageous Action at UUCI

January 21

You, Me, and the Silver Screen: How Film Brings Our Characters to Life

January 28

From Cover to Cover: How Literature Gives Us Language and Unlocks Our Imaginations

February 4

**A One and a Two and a One, Two, Three, Four:
How Music Invites Limbic Resonance and Reminds Us Who We Are, Together**

February 11

Guest Speaker related to Gender and Sexuality

February 18

Sex and Spirituality: The Two S-Words in Conversation

February 28

Dismantling Body Supremacy

March 3

Gender and Homophobia

March 10

Bring Many Names: Why Language Fails Us, Metaphor Saves Us, and Gods Surround Us

March 3

Gender and Homophobia

March 17

Our Faith is But a Single Gem: Ethical Lessons from World Religions

March 31

Interfaith Poetry Sunday

April 7

Building Bridges in a World of Walls

April 14

Navigating Conflict When We Remember We Are Human

April 21

Sociological Impact of Bridge Building

Music Activities

Join the Fun and Make a Joyful Noise!

Cabaret Nights - Do you remember that special Friday night last September, when some of our best singers let loose, belting out their favorite Broadway or folk tunes in the darkened venue of Fellowship Hall? Or did you only hear about it regretfully afterward? Don't miss the upcoming Cabaret nights:

- Friday, January 26 - pitch-in casual supper 6:00, program at 7:00
- Friday, April 26 - details to be determined

Choir Practice happens from 7:00 to 8:00 PM, generally on the 2nd and 3rd Wednesday of the month. All kinds of voices are welcome; music reading ability is helpful but not required. A special event this spring will be a Cantata for Flower Communion on June 16. For questions, contact Louise at music@uucci.org.

Spring choir rehearsal schedule:

- January 10, 17 - performance Jan 21
- February 14, 21 - performance Feb 25
- March 13, 20 - performance March 24
- April 10, 17 - performance April 21
- May 8, 15, 22 - performance May 19
- June 12 - performance June 16

Goeller Consort, a band consisting of wind or string instruments, will play in services 4 times this spring. Rehearsals are generally at 7:00 PM on 1st and 4th Wednesdays of the month. If you're a present or former band or orchestra player who would join, talk to Louise, music@uucci.org.

Spring band rehearsal schedule:

- Jan 31, Feb 7 - perform Feb 11
- Feb 28, March 6 - perform Mar 10
- March 27, April 3 - perform April 7
- Apr 24, May 1 - perform May 5

Music FUNDamentals is an 8-week course in the basics of reading music. Will be offered if 3 or more people sign up. The class time will be determined at a weekly time that works best for the first 3 enrollees. Contact Louise at music@uucci.org. (1 student signed up already - only need 2 more).



Children and Youth Ministry at UUCCI

This year at UUCCI we will be offering the following opportunities for children and youth to engage in lifespan learning on Sunday mornings during service:



Seedling and Sprouts (infants-preschool)

meet every Sunday in the Earth Room with our caregivers to meet new friends, share stories, sing, and play!



Roots and Wings

Our child centered space provides invitations for child directed exploration that allows both individual and collaborative play. Special guests will visit to teach about special topics or world religions.



Our new studio space will provide kids an opportunity to foster their creativity with different mediums, learn how to use artistic tools, and time to experiment and tinker. Special guests will visit to share their passions and talents with the kids.

UUth Group (5th grade + on the next page!

Volunteers needed



LEARN MORE

One of our goals here at UUCCI is to foster intergenerational connections between adults and our children and youth. We invite you to consider how you might deepen your own spiritual journey by serving in our Children and Youth Ministry program. Whether you are able to help regularly, visit to share a special passion, or lend a hand behind the scenes, we value the opportunity to find a way for you to be involved.

Questions?

Contact Adrienne Summerlot
Children's Ministry Coordinator
children@uccci.org



4th FRIDAY FUN! NIGHTS

JANUARY 26 CABARET MUSIC NIGHT
FEBRUARY 23 GAME NIGHT
MARCH 22 GAME NIGHT
APRIL 26 MUSIC NIGHT

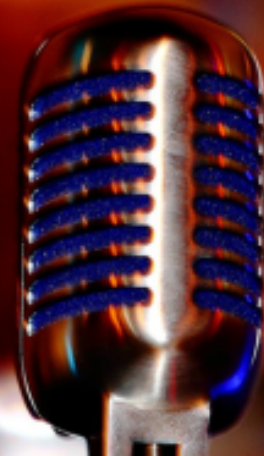
Join us for food, fun,
and friends of all ages!



CABARET NIGHT AT UCCI

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26TH
APRIL 26TH

6:00 - 7:00 Light pitch-in supper
7:00 - 8:00 Program for all ages in Fellowship Hall



Friday, February 23rd ★ 6-8pm



Pizza Dinner Provided- Bring a snack to share!

★ Games for All Ages ★

GAME NIGHT
6 to 8pm
Fun for All Ages
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Friday
March
22


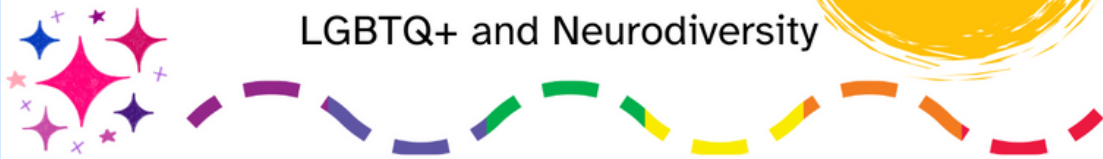
Pizza Dinner Provided
Bring a snack to share!



Our Whole Lives Learning Series

February 11th- Parents as Sexuality Educators
 February 18th- K-2nd Grade
 February 25th- 4th-6th Grade
 March 3rd- Supporting and Nurturing LGBTQ+ and Neurodiversity


12-4pm

INTERFAITH SOLAR ECLIPSE VIEWING PARTY

Monday April 8, 2024

ALL AGES
 Crafts
 Games
 Fun & Friends

*Bring a Picnic Lunch
 Solar Eclipse Glasses
 for the first 100*






FRIENDS **OUTDOORS** **GAMES**

INTERFAITH  PEACE CAMP
JUNE 10TH-JUNE 14TH
AGES 5- 12 YEARS

OPTIONAL FAMILY CAMPOUT JUNE 14TH-15TH





Volunteer for Interfaith Peace Camp

June 10th-14th from 9am-4pm
Interfaith Campus at UCCI

Do you have a skill, passion, time, or talent to share?

We would love to have your help for 1 hour, 1 day, or the whole week!

We invite you to join us for opportunities to dance, sing, play, laugh, and connect with children in our community!

Volunteer here!

<https://bit.ly/VolunteerPeaceCamp2024>



Art & Craft Leaders



Music & Game Leaders



Lead Nature Activities

RACIAL JUSTICE TEAM



by Chris Kevitt

RACE:

The Power of an Illusion

The Racial Justice Team is busy planning an event for January. You will not want to miss this information and the opportunity to build relationships between our congregation and others in the community. Learn more about it in italics below. We also look forward to the Building Bridges retreat coming in April. We meet via Zoom on the 2nd Thursday of most months at 6:30 pm. New members are very welcome. Come join this team. For more information, contact our current convener, Cynthia Scott.

Have you ever heard that race is a social construct? How can there be only one human race when the peoples of the world look so different from one another? What does “social construct” mean?

Please join the Racial Justice Team to explore these questions and the impact that the invention of race has had, historically, and in people’s lives today. We will be using videos from “RACE: The Power of an Illusion” as a basis for our discussions.

Saturday, January 20, 9:30 am to about 3:00 pm.

We will gather at UUCCI for coffee and breakfast treats, then view the first video beginning at 10:00 to understand the biology and invention of race, followed by breakout discussion. We will enjoy lunch together, then, at 1:00 p.m., we will watch the second video. It highlights the impact of race on the history of the United States and we will engage in breakout discussion.

Sunday, January 28, 12 noon to about 2:00pm.

We will reconvene following a light lunch during after- service coffee hour. Rather than show the 3rd chapter of this 2003 series about the impact of race at that time, we will hear a panel of Columbus residents relate their personal experiences around race in their lives. There will be time for questions and discussion.

The Racial Justice Team hopes that everyone in the UUCCI congregation, Columbus Interfaith, and the NAACP will participate in this two-part event. Please register for all or individual parts of this event by emailing Cynthia Scott at cynscott2011@gmail.com . We need a number to plan for Saturday lunch. We hope to provide childcare for those requesting it.

SMALL GROUP DINNERS

Beginning February 2024

SMALL GROUP DINNERS RETURN IN 2024. HERE'S HOW IT WORKS....

Each month, we will gather information from those interested in hosting a special dinner the following month. For example, you can sign up in January to be a dinner host in February).

HOST A DINNER TO REMEMBER

If you would like to get in on the fun by hosting a special dinner, you can sign up on our quick, easy [Host Sign Up Form](#). Once all of the host info is submitted, we will share the Guest Sign Up Form. This will provide information about the event as well as the number of seats available. Everyone will have the opportunity to sign up as a guest. Once the seats are full, we will send the contact info of the guests to you (the host). If you have any questions, please reach out to Brittany at admin@uucci.org.



BE OUR GUEST!

Each month, take a look at the Friday reminders and monthly newsletter to see what fun dinner party experiences are available. Remember, seating may be limited, so save your seat before it's gone! You will have your choice of which dinner you would like to attend, and the sign up form will be available in the Fellowship Hall and in the Friday Reminder emails. Will you go to a crab boil at Otto's pool party, a cozy soup swap at Bernadette's cabin, or maybe a simple steak dinner with the Whitman family? You decide!

**Scan this code or
[Click Here](#) to sign
up as a Small
Group Dinner Host!**



April 19th and 20th
Columbus Interfaith Campus
7850 W. Goeller Rd.
Columbus, IN 47201

THE FIRST ANNUAL **BRIDGE BUILDERS SUMMIT**

**LOVE
OVER
HATE**

The first annual Bridge Builders Summit hosted by Columbus Interfaith will take place on the evening of Friday, April 19 and conclude Saturday, April 20. The purpose of the Bridge Builders Summit is to bring together those who seek to build bridges across our differences. Whether religious, racial, ethnic, class, sexuality, or ability, we will gather at the summit of our shared values and aspirations for a more peaceful and just world.



The theme for the inaugural summit is "Love Over Hate" and will feature a special viewing, keynote, and Q&A with the subjects of the Oscar nominated Best Short Form Documentary, Strangers at the Gate.

Hosted by



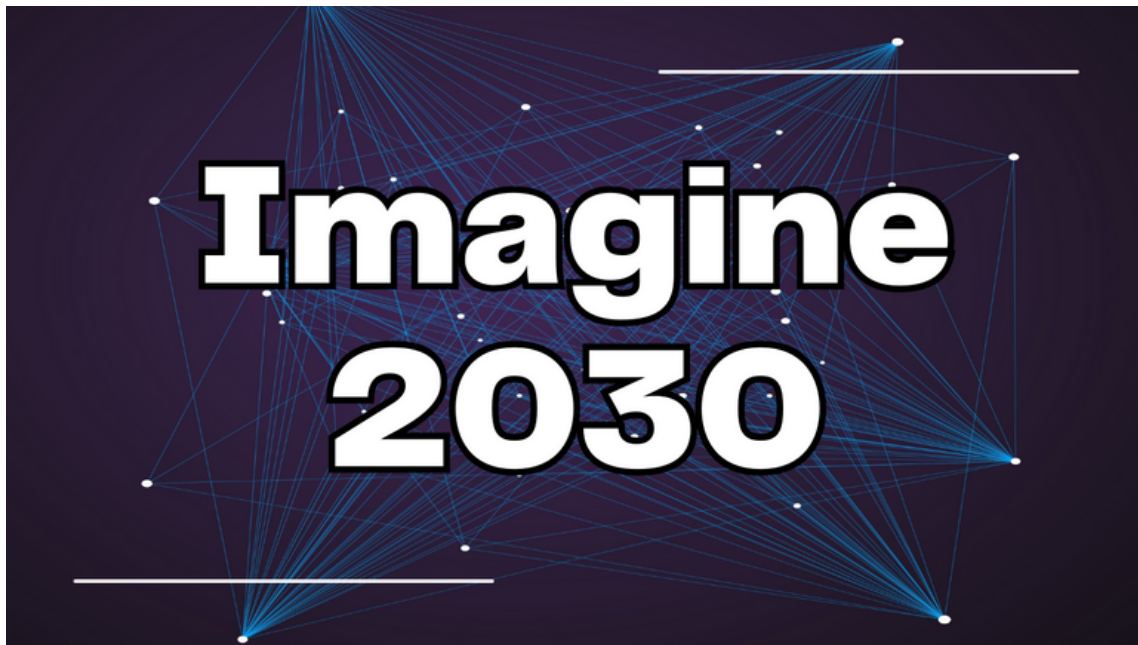
UUCCI & Tree of Knowledge
invite you to join us for a

May Day Celebration

Wednesday
May 1st 6-8pm

Pitch in Picnic Dinner
Music, Crafts, and
Dancing the May Pole





Next Steps in 2024

Unlike the Ends Setting Process of 2018-2019, we will take twice the time to not only renew the Ends, but to develop an accompanying strategic plan which we did not have for our first and current Ends. Here's how the Board will guide us through the coming year:

January 2024 — February 2024

The Board of Trustees will take all of our Stories, Wishes, and Art and distill the essence from them into some number of Ends.

March 2024

These Ends will be presented to the congregation at a Board Town Hall.

April 2024 — August 2024

Following that presentation, the Board of Trustees will begin to develop a strategic plan that would create measurable goals under each of the Ends that could be achieved or furthered over the next five years.

September 2024

The Proposed Ends and Draft Strategic Plan will be shared with the congregation for feedback.

October 2024

The Board will refine the Strategic Plan and vote to add it to the Annual Meeting Agenda.

November 2024

The congregation will vote on whether to approve Imagine 2030.

January 1, 2025

If approved, Imagine 2030 takes effect and guides our path forward through December 31, 2029.



In the past few years, we have begun using Breeze, a church management and database system. Many of you have logged in and become accustomed to its features – way to go! Here are some ways you can use Breeze:

Contact – Look up phone numbers or emails for your UU friends with a simple search. Update your information anytime so folks can get in touch. Learn how in this 2-minute video:
<https://youtu.be/ciusKIURNuc>

Mobile App. – If you have a smartphone, you can use the Breeze app on-the-go! Find out how in this brief tutorial:
<https://youtu.be/AxRf00dSqP0>

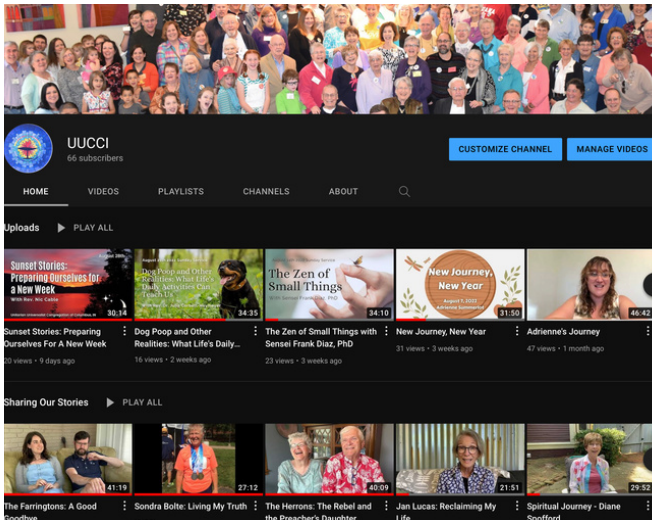
Giving – Look up your giving history, set-up recurring pledge payments, or make other gifts online at
<https://uucci.breezechms.com/give/online>

Teams/Tags – The Tags feature is an organizational tool to keep up-to-date member lists for Board Committees, Ministry Teams, program participants, and other groups. Leaders can add/remove team members in just one place and everyone will have the most current list! Also, when team members update their personal contact information under “My Profile”, all the teams and team members will have it!

If you have not yet jumped into Breeze, getting started is fast and simple.

Create an account: <https://uucci.breezechms.com/login/create>
or contact Brittany Phillips at admin@uucci.org

YOUTUBE AND PODCASTS

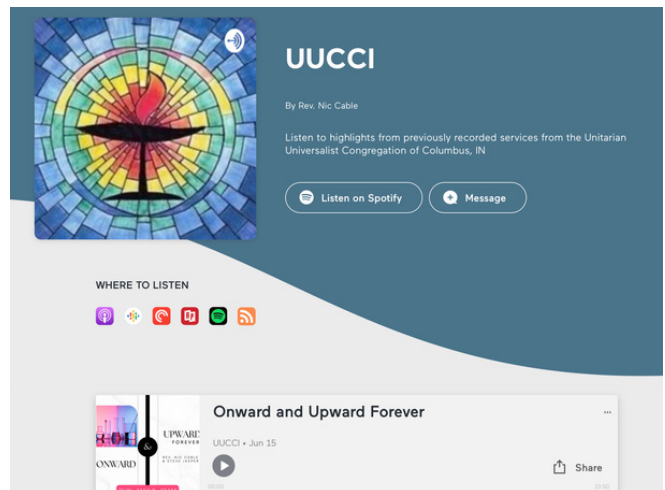


Did you know we have a YouTube channel with over 100 Sunday Services curated for your enjoyment and personal growth? You can Subscribe to the channel or check back weekly for new content that can assist us all as we continue our journey together.

[Visit Our YouTube Channel](#)

Not a big fan of YouTube? What about podcasts? We convert most of our services to a format that can be accessed wherever you listen to podcasts. Take a listen on a walk, a drive to work, or a quiet afternoon during the week.

www.Anchor.fm/uucci



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Carol Kostrzewsky, President	president@uucci.org
Linda Iwamuro, Past President	
Cynthia Scott, Vice President	
Nicole Wilttrout, Secretary	
Brandy Giles, Treasurer	treasurer@uucci.org
Sandy McCoy	
Adam Reuter	
Kate Slabosky	
Stephen Barnard	

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