

AUGUST 2023 ISSUE

UUCI NEWSLETTER

WHAT DOES UU MEAN TO YOU?

Sharing Our Talents

By Louise Hillery

SPECIAL SERMON SERIES:

UU 101

SEARCHING FOR TRUTH,
MEANING, AND

POKÉMON

UUCI COOKBOOK IS
BACK WITH A TWIST!

ANNUAL AUCTION
Now An Auction Dinner!

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LETTER FROM THE MINISTER

DEAR COMMUNITY,

In June, for the first time since 2019, we held Peace Camp at UUCCI. The revival of the beloved summer children's camp was a bit different than in our pre-pandemic days. Two significant changes took place. The first is that the length of the camp expanded from four half-days to five full days of camp. That's a lot of peace! The second change was that this year was the first time we have launched the Columbus Interfaith Peace Camp. Columbus Interfaith is the umbrella organization that about a dozen congregations have assembled under to coordinate, celebrate, and collaborate together. The CIPC had almost 50 children registered and the joy was overflowing anytime I popped my head in to see how things were going. (I also got to play basketball during lunch one day and only dunked on two kids—I went easy)

CIPC was the reinvigoration that Columbus Interfaith, truly, that all of us needed as we have come out of the slog of the past three years. It was a big undertaking and more volunteers will be needed next year. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Adrienne who would love to get you on board. Official planning will begin in January.

But we have a long way to go until next June. And so I hope you will join me in engaging more deeply with our interfaith partners this coming program year. With the wind at our backs several programs are already in the works that I hope you will consider attending! The first is an amazing celebration that our Hindu friends will be putting on throughout the entire weekend of August 25-27. However, there is a special invitation from them to all the interfaith congregations to come on Friday night for delicious food, cultural programs, and fun. This just so happens to be the first program as we re-launch our UUCCI Fourth Friday Fun Night —that's a lot of fun!

The second program is a Columbus Interfaith Campus Block Party. While we might be out of a traditional setting for "block" parties, we want to come together as members of the Interfaith Campus (and this invitation will include our Buddhist, Jewish, and Pagan communities, too) and invite neighbors in the surrounding area, maybe a "block" in each direction, to come get to know us more. This will help with our continued efforts to be good neighbors to those around us and to break down barriers of misunderstanding around Hinduism, UUism, interfaith, etc. This event will be on Saturday, September 9 and the time has not yet been set, but likely in the late afternoon. I hope you can make this gathering too.

The final invitation is for all of you to feel welcome to attend the monthly Columbus Interfaith Program Committee meetings. It is a great time to get to know others and think about ways our organizations can work together to thrive individually and as an interfaith community. The meetings our every second Wednesday at 6:00pm at UUCCI.

If you have any questions about any of these events or opportunities, please reach out to me by email or phone. I look forward to all the ways we can continue to move toward our vision: to be a beacon for diverse religious thought and courageous action!

With Gratitude,



REV. NIC CABLE
UUCCI Minister

SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday Mornings at 10 am

AUG 6 *Where Do We Come From? A Brief History of Unitarian Universalism*

With Rev. Nic Cable

School's Back in Session! As our children return for another year of learning and growth, we begin a month-long series: UU 101. Join Rev. Nic Cable as he launches this series that will explore our history, theology, ethics, and community life together as UUs. Today, we will be diving into the rich, winding history of Unitarian Universalism, which transports us from here to Transylvania across the Atlantic to Boston and across what is now called the Midwest to where we are today. It is important for all of us to ask and understand two important questions: "what is our history?" and "what does our history tell us about today?"

AUG 13 *What Are We? Articulating a Unitarian Universalist Theology for Today*

With Rev. Nic Cable

We continue our UU 101 exploration with a turn to the world of thoughts, beliefs, and values that we hold as Unitarian Universalists. Theology may not be the term you use to explain your worldview, but whatever you call it, we all have a systematic understanding of how the world works and how we fit into it. Beyond our individual theological/philosophical/moral orientation, UUism offers a treasure trove of theological tools that are gifts for us to appreciate today. This Sunday, we will ask the fundamental questions: "What do we believe?" and "How are our beliefs changing today?"





AUG 20 *Where Are We Going? Envisioning a World Rooted in UU Values*

With Rev. Nic Cable

Universalist minister, professor, and seminary president, Lewis Beals Fisher wrote in his 1921 book—*Which Way? A Study of Universalists and Universalism*—"Universalists are often asked to tell where they stand... The only true answer to give to this question is that we do not stand at all, we move." Our liberal religious history is shaped by theological convictions that inspire us to act in the world. How have our ethical commitments evolved over time and where are they headed in our post-pandemic world. In this third Sunday of our UU 101 series, Rev. Nic will articulate an ethical framework grounded in our history and theology as Unitarian Universalists.

AUG 27 *How Will We Get There? The Counter-Cultural, Radical Path We Have Chosen*

With Rev. Nic Cable

Unitarian Universalist community meets at the intersection of our history, theology, and ethics. How we gather matters. Or as Unitarian Universalist educator, Angus MacLean put it, "The Method is the Message." What is unique, meaningful, and transformational about UU community? What is that *je ne sais quoi*, that x-factor, about our congregation at UUCCI? Rev Nic will conclude our four part series on Unitarian Universalism exploring why our community is nothing short of radically revolutionary!



SHARING OUR TALENTS

By Louise Hillery
Acting Music Director



A new program year is starting at UUCCI, and with COVID mostly in the rear-view mirror we are making plans for a robust program of music-related activities.

Circle of Song began on July 6 and will continue at 7:00 PM on the first Thursday of each month. With our growing 30-page songbook and help from Sondra Bolte's guitar when she's in town, we are ready to sing our hearts out, just for the fun of it. There are no requirements except that you should like to sing. It's a close and loving circle, and we love new voices – be they hoarse, off-key, timid, or whatever. It's just for fun.

Choir practice will start at 7:00 on Wednesday, August 9 and meet on the 2nd and 3rd Wednesday of each month to sing for the 4th Sunday service each month. In months that allow us the time to have a third rehearsal, we will schedule that as needed. Highlights coming up this year include singing at the Christmas Eve service, and a springtime cantata for Flower Sunday, where we will sing several songs as part of a service of words and song.

Fourth Friday Cabaret Nights will give us a chance to show off our local talents in a coffee-house format. Family-friendly Cabaret Nights will happen on September 22 and three more times this year. They will be part of the monthly Fourth Friday Fun Nights which are coming back to life this year.

The Goeller Consort, our little band that played to open the May 7th Music/Homecoming service, will meet to make plans for a performance schedule that suits the players. Contact Louise (music@uucci.org) if you play a band or orchestra instrument.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION TEAM

Update from Richard Boyce

UUCI has continued to make made a lot of progress on developing awareness of Climate Change & the need to get a Climate Plan established for the City of Columbus, IN. We have worked closely with Doris Marlin on a number of projects, and finished “Operation Drawdown” as the #2 Congregation in Indiana.

While we did manage to get the City of Columbus, IN to submit their 1st Plan to CDP, the results were disappointing & they elected to not submit a plan for 2022. We are now working with the City Department of Public Works (City Garage) to get ready to submit a plan again in 2024. They have changed Sustainability Administrators & we are currently working with Jenna Pesano @ the City & Tobi Herron (President -Inspire Motives, LLC) on Grant Submissions. We are also working with the Heritage Fund to obtain funding for the development of a Climate Plan. We have also worked with Energy Matters to develop a submission for “Columbus , Indiana Solar for all Project Proposal , A Neighborhood Reliability and Resilience Hub Suitable for Sustainable and Affordable low. & Moderate Living”.

We have also made major progress in developing a Wild Flower Pollinator area at the church & have supported other efforts in the City. Finally, we are in the process of putting together our submission for Green Sanctuary Recertification & will be meeting on Sunday August 20th to relaunch on efforts.



THE UCCI COOKBOOK IS BACK!

We are so excited to bring back our UCCI Cookbook! This is a fun opportunity to share your favorite recipes on Sunday mornings and share a bit about yourself with a brief story about the dish or its significance to you. The finished cookbook will be sold to raise funds at our Holiday Market this December!

Each Sunday, we will be inviting everyone to bring a new "chapter" of dishes to share! Here is the line up for the next three months.



3 MONTHS OF AMAZING FOOD EACH SUNDAY! WHAT WILL YOU BRING?

August 6: Breakfast Favorites
August 13: Quick & Easy Lunches
August 20: Entrees & Drinks
August 27: Snacks & Appetizers

September 3: Salads & Dressings
September 10: Side Dishes & Veggies
September 17: Quick Breads & Baked Goods
September 24: Desserts

October 1: Soups, Stews, & Chilis
October 8: Simple Recipes & Instant Meals
October 15: Gifts in a Jar: Mixes for Cookies, Soups, and More!
October 22: Holiday Favorites
October 29: Canning And Preservation



You can submit as many recipes as you like! If you bring a dish to share on Sunday morning, please bring the recipe or a list of ingredients so that we can be mindful of food allergies.

Please do not bring any dishes containing nuts of any kind. Thank you!

**[CLICK HERE](#) TO SUBMIT
YOUR RECIPE OR [PRINT THE](#)
[PAPER COPY](#) AND RETURN
IT TO THE ADMIN OFFICE**



Children and Youth Programming

We are looking forward to meeting again, beginning Sunday, September 10th after Time for All Ages for our kids programming. Our goal here at UUCCI is to foster a deep sense of community while providing opportunities for all ages to learn and grow while making new friends.

We can't wait for you to see updated spaces awaiting our lifelong learners: Our familiar Montessori inspired classroom (formerly known as the Flame Room) rich with invitations to explore will shift to the Elsie Weekly room.

A NEW! Makerspace for those wanting to nurture their creative spirit. This studio space will welcome special guests to share a passion or talent with those in attendance and also encourage children and youth to stoke the fires of their own passions and talents.

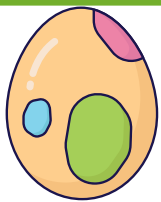
In Spring of 2023, we experimented with hosting bi monthly gatherings for our upper elementary and middle school aged children. We are thrilled to share that we have some exciting things in store for our youth in 5th grade and up! Sunny Currier will be working with volunteers to continue to support our emerging youth group to have fun through games, explore topics of spirituality, get involved in social justice projects, and provide leadership opportunities.



Volunteers make a vibrant church where children and youth are seen, known, loved, and supported. Please consider how you can help support Children and Youth programming and perhaps learning some things along the way that help you on your own spiritual journey!

[CLICK HERE TO VOLUNTEER !](#)
[OR EMAIL CHILDREN@UUCCI.ORG](mailto:CHILDREN@UUCCI.ORG)

Searching for Truth and Meaning AND **POKÉMON**



August 6th- Search the UUCCI grounds for types of Pokémon ready to hatch!

Try to collect fire, ground, rock, fairy, etc.

August 13th- Are you ready trainers?

What type of Pokémon are you most curious about? Test your skills as a trainer with an obstacle course and challenges. Share what you have learned and create your trainer card.



August 20th- Set your creativity loose!

Try your hands at drawing & creating Pokémon.

Can you imagine yourself as a Pokémon?

What region would you come from? What type would you be? What would your special powers be?

August 27th- Show and Share!

Bring in your favorite Pokémon related toys, cards, books, etc. If you play Pokémon Go- this is a good time to trade and share about your favorite!



**LEVEL
UP**
↑ ↑

**This August at UUCCI
ALL AGES WELCOME!**

UUCCI PROGRAMS

AUGUST 2023

Circle of Song

Thursday, August 3 at 7 pm

The purpose of Circle of Song is to get together as friends and sing just for the fun of it.

Flowerbed Work-A-Thon

Friday, August 4 at 7:30 - 10 am

Spend time with friends and give our lovely flowerbeds a makeover! gardening gloves are available, and Donna will provide treats for our volunteers.

Cooking Across Cultures

Friday, August 4, 6 - 8 pm

The next Cooking Across Cultures will be hosted by Mrs. Elaine Smith, a local caterer, featuring Soul Food: pulled pork, mac and cheese, cornbread, collard greens and sweet potato pie. Elaine is excited to tell us about how the institution of slavery in America influenced the cuisine of the Southern U.S. Elaine describes her heritage as very mixed and blessed with 16 different nations, the highest percentage of which is African and Native American. Her maternal grandfather was Shawnee and her great grandparents were brought to the Americas during the transatlantic slave trade. Elaine will demonstrate 3 of her dishes--sweet potato pie, cornbread, and BBQ sauce. This promises to be a very full meal, so come hungry- and curious!

Free will donations taken

To reserve your spot at the event contact Kathleen Leason at kmleason@gmail.com.

After Sermon Discussion with Rev. Nic **Sunday, August 6 at 11:30 am**

Join Rev. Nic Cable in the sanctuary after service for a discussion of the history of Unitarian Universalism.

Choir Practice

Wednesday, August 9 at 7 pm

During choir practice, our singers will rehearse songs for upcoming services.

Singing Meditation

Sunday, August 13 at 9:15 am

Anita Naanes will be leading a musical meditation group before service on Sunday mornings.

Raising Unitarian Universalists (RUUs)

Sunday, August 13 at 11:30 am

We will meet in the library for coffee, snacks, conversation and fellowship. Childcare is available!

Spiritual Living Circle

Monday, August 14 at 12:30 pm

Spiritual Living Circle meets the 2nd Monday of each month from 12:30pm until 2:00pm in the library at UUCCI. Join us for a time of meditation, reflection, and discussion. We use the Spiritual Living Magazine and a metaphysical book of group choice as our source materials. For more information, please contact Mary Harmon or Anita Naanes.

Choir Practice

Wednesday, August 16 at 11:30 am

During choir practice, our singers will rehearse songs for upcoming services.

UUCCI PROGRAMS

AUGUST 2023

2023 Auction (Now An Auction Dinner!) Saturday, August 19 at 5:30 - 8:30 pm

Each year, UUCCI hosts an auction to raise funds for our many programs and services. In the past, guests have had the opportunity to bid on a wide variety of items, services, and arts. This year, we will have all of the amazing selections to bid on, as well as a fun community dinner with friends!

Please let the Auction Team know your plans. [Register through Breeze](#) or contact Cynthia Scott for more info at cynscott2011@gmail.com

Singing Meditation

Sunday, August 20 at 9:15 am

Anita Naanes will be leading a musical meditation group before service on Sunday mornings.

Green Sanctuary Recertification

Sunday, August 20 at 11:30 am

Richard Boyce and Liz Nolan-Greven will be leading a meeting to discuss recertification for our Green Sanctuary.

Building & Grounds Team Meeting

Wednesday, August 23 at 5 pm

If you're wanting to volunteer, this is a great place to start! If you are interested in joining the Building and Grounds team or lending a hand, please contact Donna Stanley at dstan52@frontier.com, Jon Fischer at farmbrewer@gmail.com, or Michael Greven at mgecosourceinc@gmail.com

Singing Meditation

Sunday, August 27 at 9:15 am

Anita Naanes will be leading a musical meditation group before service on Sunday mornings.

UUCCI Involvement Fair

Sunday, August 27 at 11:30 am

Meet some of the amazing teams that support UUCCI and learn more about how you can get involved!



COLUMBUS INTERFAITH

EVENTS AT UUCCI INTERFAITH CAMPUS

**First harvest Celebration & Corn Moon
Saturday, August 5 at 5 pm
Tree of Knowledge Indiana**

This event is for ages 18+
Join us for an afternoon of fun, food, and friends. A tradition in our coven is to celebrate the first harvest with outdoor games and prizes. Compete in egg relays, corn-shucking races, team challenges, and more. Winners will receive crystals, incense, and other prizes. Ritual will be led by Conner McKay.

You may wish to bring the following:

- Comfortable shoes to wear
- Canned goods for Love Chapel
- A side dish or two to share
- Corn- the more the merrier!

**Group Meditation & Dharma Talk
Sunday, August 6 at 2 pm
Open Mind Zen Indiana**

Open Mind Zen Indiana (OMZI) is a community dedicated to self-discovery through the practice of Zen. Our practice modalities include traditional and contemporary teachings, various styles of meditation, koan study, dharma talks, workshops, retreats, and group discussions. As a lay sangha, we are committed to the flourishing of Zen as realized and expressed in everyday life. Please contact Ann Beattie if you have questions at anndbeattie@gmail.com

**Columbus Interfaith Meeting
Wednesday, August 9 at 6 pm
UUCCI Interfaith Campus**

Each month, the guiding members of Columbus Interfaith meet to discuss upcoming events, organize the shared calendar for the campus space, and share support. For more info, contact Nic Cable at minister@uucci.org

**Red Tent Women's Circle
Saturday, July 15 at 5 pm
Tree of Knowledge Indiana**

Each month, we gather to heal and celebrate each other. This month, our Red Tent Womens circle will be hosted by Jeni Gibson who will share breathing exercised that help with anxiety, sleep troubles, and more! Along with enjoying discussions, crafts, and food, we will also be creating breathing bead keychains to help us with mindful breathing practices. Please bring a side dish to share as well as some comfy clothes.

For questions, please contact Brittany Phillips at admin@gmail.com or Jeni Gibson at jeni.gibson120@gmail.com

**Group Meditation & Dharma Talk
Sunday, August 20 at 2 pm
Open Mind Zen Indiana**

As a lay sangha, we are committed to the flourishing of Zen as realized and expressed in everyday life. Please contact Ann Beattie if you have questions at anndbeattie@gmail.com

UUCCI CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

HELP WITH THE 2023 AUCTION DINNER!

Three Things We Can Do Better Together:

1. What object, experience, or service can I donate to the August 19 auction? Jog your memory of popular things from past auctions and become inspired to create new excitement by reviewing our list of ideas.

2. How can I help us become "Better Together" at the auction by just showing up? VOLUNTEER! We need food and kitchen help, setup of silent auction items, live auction numbering help, teardown and cleanup help, cashier tellers, live auction helpers, musicians, and maybe even childcare helpers.

3. Do I need to pre-register to become a bidder? No, but it would really be helpful and make things run more smoothly if you did. Please study your busy schedule and see if you can attend for the entire evening, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.—We promise to keep you fully engaged the entire time!

Please let the Auction Team know your plans. Register for any of the three things above or even more than one. Do this via our [Breeze Form online](#), or fill in the [PDF form](#) and email it to Cynthia Scott — cynscott2011@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER TO PLAY!

If you are a parent, enjoy spending time with children, or would rather stretch your legs during service, we would love to have you as a child care volunteer for Sunday mornings! Contact Adrienne Summerlot at children@uucci.org to learn how you can get in on the fun!

[Click Here to Volunteer!](#)

VOLUNTEERS FOR SUNDAY MORNINGS

Volunteers for Sunday morning greeting and making coffee are being recruited each month. If you can help, reach out to Marcia Walker at mwalker@epowerc.net or 812-521-1825. There is also a sign up sheet and information posted on one of the bulletin boards in the fellowship hall.

COMMUNITY

SUNDAY MORNING COOKBOOK MEALS

A great way to get to know the members of our congregation and share a bit about your own personality is to share a meal together after service. We are collecting the favorite recipes of our congregation through November to compile into the 2023 UUCCI Cookbook!

[Click here](#) to share a recipe!

PLANNING AN EVENT?

Spring is here, and there are a LOT of events happening. Spring and Summer are especially busy seasons for rentals. We want to ensure that the members of our congregation are able to have their choice of dates, times, and locations for their meetings and events before we start receiving the seasonal rental requests. If you are planning an event at UUCCI, please contact our admin to add your event to the online [Breeze calendar](#). Send an email with event details to Brittany at admin@uucci.org or fill out this [Calendar Request Form](#)

PUBLIC NOTICE

SEE YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE NEXT MONTH!

This is an opportunity to make connections within the UUCCI community. Are you looking for a dog walker? Connect with the friend looking for a work-out buddy! Do you have a box of scrap fabric to get rid of? Reach out to the sewing club. Want to lend a hand? Our "Help Wanted" section has some suggestions. Send your classified listing info to admin@uucci.org