

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Our Worship

During the church year, we meet to worship at 10:15 am. Religious education classes for children and youth, as well as childcare for infants and toddlers, are available during this service. In June, July, and August, we gather together to worship on Sunday mornings in Fellowship Hall. Childcare and one multi-graded elementary class are available in the summer. Summer services are lay-led, and we also have multigenerational services at holidays and other times during the year.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Urbana-Champaign

309 West Green Street
Urbana, Illinois 61801

info@uucuc.org / (217) 384-8862

Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9 am – 2 pm

Rev. Florence Caplow

Minister

minister@uucuc.org

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Custodian

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Stephanie Cobb

Sunday Kitchen Helper

Kelsey Libert

Childcare Coordinator

childcare@uucuc.org



Unitarian Universalist Church of Urbana-Champaign



“The Light Inside the Dark”

Sunday, December 23, 2018

10:15 am

Rev. Florence Caplow

Jerry Frye, Worship Associate

Kiri Fagen-Ulmschneider, Reader

Matthew Gladden, Laura Robinson, Music

The Mission of UUCUC

Build community. Seek inspiration. Promote justice. Find peace.



We are a “Welcoming Congregation” for the LGBTQIA+ Community

ORDER OF SERVICE
Sunday, December 23, 2018

Gathering Chime & Tower Bell

Welcome and Announcements Ben Joselyn

Greeting Our Neighbors & Centering Chime

Prelude “Yule (Winter Solstice Song)” Lisa Thiele

Enter the night and you'll find the light, that will carry you to your dreams.
Enter the night, let your spirit take flight, in the field of infinite possibilities.

Opening Words/Reading “You, Darkness” Rainier Marie Rilke

Unison Chalice Lighting

To go in the dark with a light is to know the light.
To know the dark, go dark. Go without sight,
and find that the dark, too, blooms and sings,
and is traveled by dark feet and dark wings. (Wendell Berry)

***Hymn #1063** “Winter Solstice Chant”

Story “The Dark” by Lemony Snicket

Song *We hold you in our love as you grow, as you grow
May your heart be at peace as you grow.
To nurture the spark of your precious life,
We hold you in our love as you grow. (Kathleen Tracy)*

Sharing Joys and Sorrows

*May the longtime sun shine upon you, all love surround you,
And the pure, pure light that's within you, guide your way home.*

Hymn #55 “Dark of Winter”

Reading “Blessed Are You Who Bear the Light” Jan Richardson

Offertory “The Foggy Dew” Trad. Irish

Reflection “The Light Inside the Dark” Rev. Florence Caplow

A Litany for the Winter Solstice

***Hymn #357** “Bright Morning Stars”

Benediction & Chalice Extinguishing

“May the Blessing of Light Be Upon You”

Postlude “Across the Burren” Michele McLaughlin

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

ARE YOU VISITING TODAY?

Welcome! Please stay after the service for coffee and snacks.

Visit the Welcome Table in the lobby and fill out a visitor's card. Visit the Connections Hub Table for information and stop by our Welcome Room (the Library in Fellowship Hall) to pick up literature and other information about our church community, and to meet some of our current members. Newbies or not, **everyone** is invited to stop in the Welcome Room for comfy chairs and quiet conversation. We're so pleased that you've visited us, and we hope you come again very soon.

Hospitable Parking. Please reserve spaces in the parking lot for guests and newcomers and for persons with limited mobility. You'll find a map of close-by parking areas at the Connections Hub table in Fellowship Hall.

Our intention is have a Fragrance Free building. Please choose to be fragrance free out of respect for those who are affected by scents. Help us keep the air we share healthy and fragrance free.

Sharing Joys and Sorrows. As a caring congregation, sharing written joys and sorrows on Sundays is a part of how we connect. There are cards available in the pew in front of you and in the foyer.

Rose Window Center: The Star. Designed by Robert Chase in 1965. The represents traditional religious symbols superimposed into a single splendid star. The wall hanging is the menorah, representing Judaism.

eNews and quarterly Uniter. If you would like to receive our weekly eNews and quarterly Uniter, please sign up at the Welcome table or visit <https://goo.gl/xgv6Kk>.

Young Adult Table. Are you ages 18-35? Join us after service in Fellowship Hall for conversations important to young adults or young at heart.

For Your Information: Church events, including services, may be recorded and/or photographed. This is an AED equipped facility. The AED is located in the lobby, near the Green Street entry.

JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

5:00 PM OR 7:00 PM

*Bring a Plate of Treats to Share for a Collective
Hospitality Between the Two Services.*

Announcements

Today's Hospitality Team F Volunteers! Welcomers: Heidi Richter, Peggy Patten, Maura Kinney & Georga O'Connor; **Ushers:** Kristy Higgs, Nancy Dietrich; **Decorations:** Nancy Dietrich; **Bellringer:** Todd Kinney; **Snacks:** Kelly Halcom, Heidi Richter, Lynn Kelly & Russ Rybicki

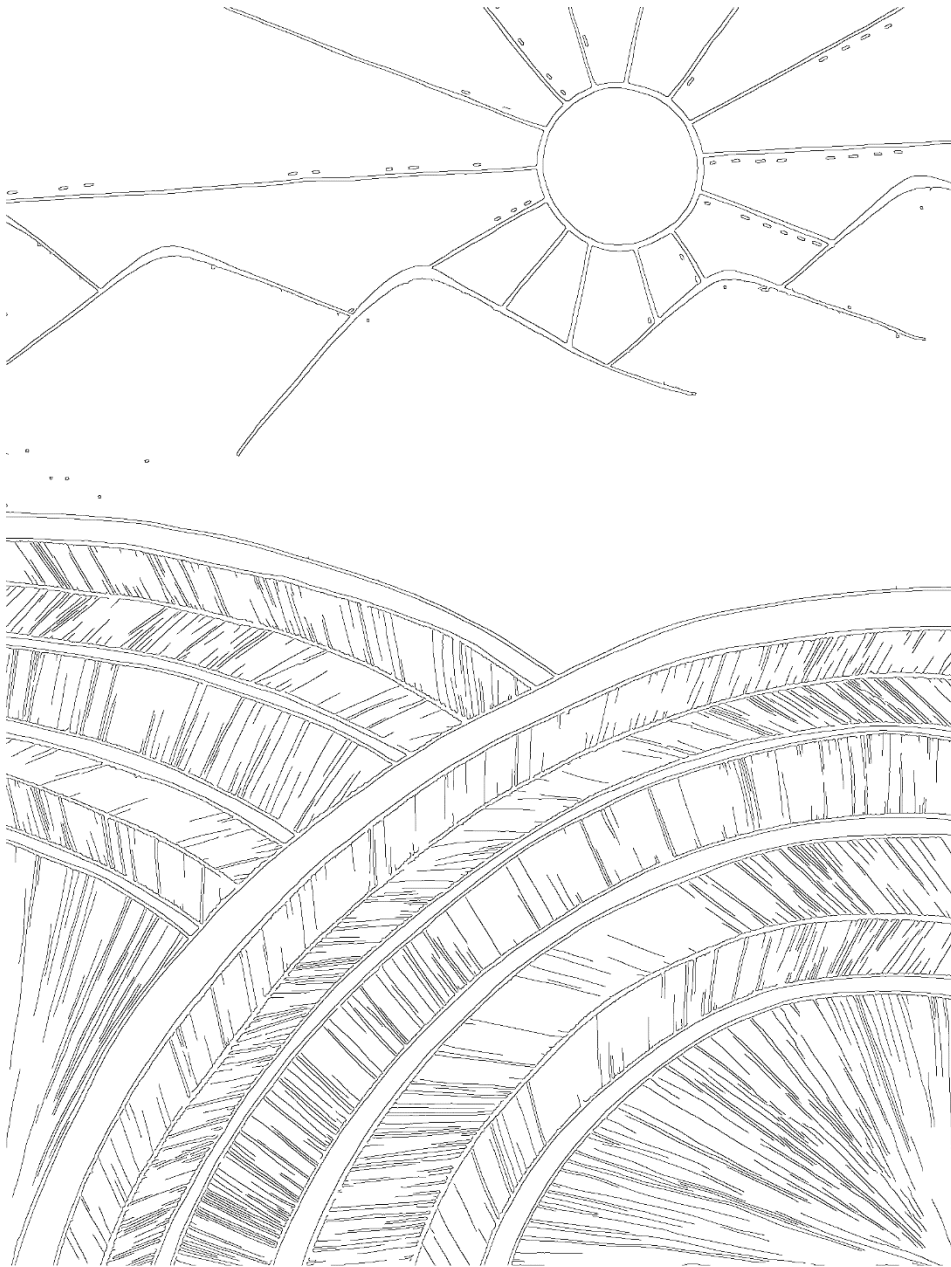
December Shared Offering is supporting Partner Churches. The mission and objectives of the Partner Church Committee are to develop long term, mutually supportive relationships with our fellow UUs in Transylvania, Romania, and in the Khasi Hills in North East India.

Calling All Christmas Eve Helpers. One usher & two welcomers are needed for the 5:00 pm service. One welcomer is needed for the 7:00 pm service. If you can help, please let Peggy Patten know at mspeggypatten@gmail.com.

New this year! There will be a collective hospitality BETWEEN the two Christmas Eve services. Everyone is invited to bring a plate of cookies or bars for our collective hospitality, please place them on the snack tables in Fellowship Hall. **NOTE:** The Hospitality Teams **DO NOT** provide snacks on Christmas Eve. If you are attending the 7:00 pm service, please come 30-45 minutes early to enjoy hospitality with those coming out of the 5:00 pm service. Remember to bring your plate home at the end of the evening. *Thank you!*

Pathway to Membership Class / Sunday, January 13, 2019 / Noon to 3 pm / Children's Chapel. Learn about UUCUC governance, activities, opportunities and social action mission. Learn about benefits & responsibilities of membership. Meet others interested in UUCUC membership. At the end of the class, you'll have an opportunity to "sign the book" and become a member of our church community and a vested partner. Childcare & lunch provided. Contact Sherry Bohlen (217) 384-8862. Sign-Up to register in Fellowship Hall.

Save the Date – Saturday, February 2, 2019. UUCUC Racial Justice Project will host the *Critical Cultural Competency Workshop* presented by trainers from Crossroads Antiracism Organizing and Training. You won't want to miss this workshop, presented here at UUCUC. Make a note on your calendars and watch for more details soon!



UUCUC Upcoming Weekly Calendar

Sunday, December 23

Adult Discussion Group / 9:00 am / Library
Mindfulness Meditation Group / 9:00 am / Library
Worship Service / 10:15 am / Sanctuary
Visitor's Welcome Room / 11:30 am / Library
Young Adult Group / 11:30 am / Table in Fellowship Hall

Monday, December 24

Bridge Group / 1:00 pm / Children's Chapel
Choir has reserved the Library from 4 – 8 pm
Christmas Eve Service / 5:00 pm / Sanctuary
Collective Hospitality / 6:00 pm / Fellowship Hall
Christmas Eve Service / 7:00 pm / Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 25

Merry Christmas ~ Church Office is closed

Wednesday, December 26

Church Office is closed
(Smart Recovery) / 6:00 pm / Classroom #1

Thursday, December 27

Church Office is closed
(Many Paths: An Agnostic AA Group) / 6:00 pm / Rm #1

Friday, December 28

Church Office is closed

Saturday, December 29

(Many Paths: an Agnostic AA Group) / 4:30 pm / Classroom #1

For the most up-to-date calendar information, please visit uucuc.org/uucuc-calendar.

Religious Education News

Upcoming Religious Education Opportunities

December 23rd – No Regular Religious education classes. Worship for children and youth in the Children's Chapel. **Nursery available for ages 0-5.**

December 30th – No Religious education. **Nursery available for ages 0-5.**

January 6th - All ages worship service: Possibilities!! **Nursery available and PreK class will meet in room #4.**

January 13th – Children and Youth religious education classes resume.

Creating a Unitarian Universalist Learning Roadmap:

Religious education is at its best when it meets the learning needs and desires of the congregation. Mark your calendars for **Saturday, January 12, 2019 9:30-Noon** (Please note that the 12th is the real day.... Last week was in error) when Carol Veit (Board liaison for religious education) and Michele Grove (Interim director of religious education) will host a workshop which looks at the question: what do we want our children and youth to learn at UUCUC? This will be a fun experience which draws on our wishes and memories. Everyone is encouraged to attend. RSVP to Michele no later than January 8, 2019. Child care is available upon request.

Resolving Conflict, Finding Agreement - Part 1 Sunday, January 20, 2019 Noon-4:00 PM, UUCUC Children's Chapel Light Lunch and Child Care Provided

RSVP to Michele Grove re-director@uucuc.org no later than January 16, 2019 so we have enough food and may ensure that child care is properly staffed.

At a time when differences seem more pronounced, simple disagreements can turn into difficult conflicts. Join Gail Schiesser and Virginia Brubaker to learn how to deal both more effectively and more comfortably with conflict. In this fun and hands-on experience.

This class will help anyone who finds themselves in situations where those around you are in conflict with each other from time to time. If you would like to be more helpful in those situations, this class is for you.

Virginia and Gail have taught communications skills for many years through the NLP Institute of Chicago. As partners in Common Sense Mediation, they resolved complex conflicts through mediation for couples and groups. Please feel free to call them if you have questions about this class. Virginia's number is (217) 419-3106.