Unitarian Universalist Church Urbana-Champaign

Come Learn with Us!

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Introduction

Welcome to the first edition of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Urbana-Champaign’s lifespan religious education program booklet. Our goal is to coordinate all learning opportunities for each semester. This semester spans January to May 2020. Our congregation highly values learning and encourages you to engage in one or more of this semester’s opportunities. There are opportunities for all ages!

Register for upcoming learning opportunities:
This book, registration and all links can be found online at https://uucuc.org/learning/adults/

Some events have their own registration. Please see the course description for registration instructions.


Generosity is greatly appreciated.
Please know that all these learning opportunities are free and open to UUCUC members and friends. We also invite the surrounding community to join us. We are grateful to those who generously give to this congregation. Their gifts of money and time make it possible to provide the following programs. If you would like to give a donation to continue to support this congregation’s outreach and programming, please make checks payable to UUCUC and mail or drop off to 309 W. Green Street, Urbana, IL 61801.

Do you have an idea for a learning opportunity?
If you have an idea for a learning opportunity, please share your ideas. We are always looking for new programs to offer. Use this link to tell us about your idea. Michele or a member of the adult religious education working group will reach out to you to discuss further: https://uucuc.breezechms.com/form/d4a7f2

Sunday Morning Religious Education
Sundays provide education opportunities for all ages. The following religious education classes are available on Sunday morning. To learn more about these opportunities, visit the religious education page on our church website: https://uucuc.org/learning/learning-overview/

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adult Discussion Group</th>
<th>Looks at a variety of topics.</th>
<th>9:00-10:00 AM Fellowship Meeting Room</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PreK Class</td>
<td>Ages 3-4 learn about what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist</td>
<td>10:15-11:30 AM Room #3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten-2nd Grade</td>
<td>World Religions</td>
<td>Begin in worship and then go to class. Class ends at 11:30 Room #2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd-5th Grade</td>
<td>World Religions</td>
<td>Begin in worship and then go to class. Class ends at 11:30 Room #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th-8th Grade Middle School</td>
<td>World Religions</td>
<td>Begin in worship and then go to class. Class ends at 11: Children’s Chapel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th-12th Grade YRUU (Young Radical Unitarian Universalists)</td>
<td>10:15-11:30 AM Youth Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nursery care</td>
<td>Childcare is available for children ages 0-5</td>
<td>10:00-11:30 AM Room #4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Offerings**

**Computer Lab, Google Lab**

- The first and third Sundays following worship: January 5th & 19th, February 2nd & 16th, March 1st & 15th, April 5th & 19th
- 11:45 AM to 12:30 pm
- Library (Lower Level)
- Michele Grove and team of experts

Many Unitarian Universalist Church of Urbana-Champaign (UUCUC) groups and committees to organize its material and store documents using Google Drive and other computer applications. Computers and Google are often challenging to understand. This Sunday lab is designed for anyone working with a UUCUC committee or group who would like to know more about navigating the programs we use to organize our communication and materials. If you would like a tutorial or have a specific problem, we invite you to drop by. It is helpful to bring your own laptop or tablet, so we can help you with your specific needs!

*For more information, email* Michele Grove at re-director@uucuc.org or call 217-284-8862. No advance registration needed, just drop by!

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**Feature Movie: The Hate U Give.** An excellent film for all of us as we wrestle with racial injustice and our role in the problem and solutions. *The Hate U Give* is based on the book by Angie Thomas. Storyline: Starr Carter is constantly switching between two worlds: the poor, mostly black, neighborhood where she lives and the rich, mostly white, prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Now, facing pressures from all sides of the community, Starr must find her voice and stand up for what's right.

This is a great opportunity for youth and adults to come together to learn and discuss. Pizza and snacks will be a part of this evening event. (Photo credit: https://www.harpercollins.com/childrens/thehateugive-1/)

*For more information, email* Michele Grove: re-director@uucuc.org
*To register, go to:* https://uucuc.org/learning/adults/

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**Unitarian Universalist Association Common Read**

**An Indigenous Peoples’ History of the United States**

- Monday, January 13th, February 10th, March 9th
- 7:00-9:00 pm
- UUCUC Library (Lower Level)
- Jenny Hunt and Andy Townsend

The Unitarian Universalist Association is engaged in a common read of *An Indigenous Peoples’ History of the United States* by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz.
(Beacon Press, 2015) and An Indigenous Peoples’ History of the United States for Young People adapted by Jean Mendoza and Debbie Reese (Beacon Press, 2019). Our congregation will join congregations from around the United States in reading and discussing this enlightening work. Since our church sits on land stolen from many different tribes, it is worthwhile to study and discuss. The UUCUC library has several copies of both books if you wish to borrow. (Photo credit: https://www.uua.org/books/read)

For more information email Andy at narwhaledream@aol.com or Jenny Hunt at jennyh57816@gmail.com
To register, go to https://uucuc.org/learning/adults/

“Whole-Hearted Living in a Brokenhearted World”

- Thursdays: January 23rd, 30th, February 6th and 13th
- 4:30-5:30 pm
- Channing Murray Foundation
- Rev. Florence Caplow

“Whole-Hearted Living in a Brokenhearted World” is a 4-week meditation class based on the teachings of Pema Chodron. Learn and practice Buddhist meditation and explore renowned Buddhist teacher Pema Chodron’s newest book: Welcoming the Unwelcome: Whole-Hearted Living in a Brokenhearted World. Open to all, no meditation experience necessary.

For more information, email Rev. Florence Caplow at minister@uucuc.org
To register, go to: https://uucuc.org/learning/adults/

**Immigration Justice Task Force Learning Series**

- Thursdays, January 23rd, February 6th, March 5th and 26th, and April 9th
- 7:00-9:00 pm
- Children’s Chapel
- Pam Richart and Millie Davis, co-facilitators, along with presentations by members of groups working on behalf of immigrants

Let’s learn together about immigration, why we see it as a social justice issue, and how it affects us locally in our community. We’ll learn the meanings of many terms that are used when describing immigrants and how the UUA perceives this issue. We’ll hear from local advocates for immigrants and see (through film and stories) the lives of immigrants. We’ll learn about the work our own Immigration Justice Task Force and other local immigrant activist groups are doing for immigrants in our community. Each session will feature a “Solutions” section for participants to develop plans of action. This is a drop-in course-come when you can—and is suitable for ages middle school and older.

Week One (January 23): Who are the Immigrants in Our Community and Why Are They Here?
Week Two (February 6): History and Economics of Immigration in the U.S
Week Three (March 5): A Picture of Immigration in Film
Week Four (March 26): Security, Enforcement, and Human Rights
Week Five (April 9): Immigration Is a Moral Issue. Who Benefits from a Broken System?

For more information, email Pam Richart prichart@ecojusticecollaborative.org or Millie Davis mildav02@gmail.com. Registration is not necessary since this is a drop-in class. However, if you are able, please fill out the religious education
Spring 2020 registration form and let us know you are coming! Find registration form at [https://uucuc.org/learning/adults/](https://uucuc.org/learning/adults/)

**Voices in Unitarian Universalism Book Group**

- Select Sundays beginning January 26, 2020
- Noon to 1:00 pm
- Rev. Florence Caplow

January’s session will begin with the book focused on Humansim. Books are available on loan from Rev. Caplow. For more information, email Florence Caplow at minister@uucuc.org. To register, go to: [https://uucuc.org/learning/adults/](https://uucuc.org/learning/adults/)

**New Soul Matters Group**

- Sunday, January 26th
- 2:00 pm
- Classroom #1 or online participation
- Sherry Bohlen and Becky Densmore

We are pleased to announce the formation of a new Soul Matters group. Scheduled for its first meeting January 26, 2020, the meeting structure is purposely being designed to meet in a format that meets individual needs and ensures access to rich connections and self-exploration experiences. Members of this group can choose to meet with the group in-person here at the church or select to stay in the comfort of their own home by connecting virtually. (And don’t worry – we’ll teach you how!)

To register or for more information, please contact Sherry Bohlen (membership@uucuc.org) or Becky Densmore (densmore03@gmail.com), group co-facilitators.

**Driving the Alaska Highway**

- Friday, January 31st
- 7:00-9:00 pm
- UUCUC in the Fellowship Hall
- David Gross

David Gross will share his learnings through photos, stories, great scenery, wildlife, camping and some geology. David has twice driven round trip to Alaska, the first over 23 days and the second over two months. The wilderness is still there, and it still has a great deal to teach us.

This is Part One of the Four-part series: Travel That UU Can Do - a Series of Four Travelogue Programs. Each of these four sessions stands alone. You can attend 1, 2, 3 or all 4.

For more information, email: DLGgeology@aol.com

To register for this or any other adult learning program, go to: [https://uucuc.org/learning/adults/](https://uucuc.org/learning/adults/)

**The Wi$dom Path: Money, Spirit, and Life**

- Sundays, February 2nd and February 16th
- 3:00-5:00 pm
- UUCUC Classroom #1
- David & Claudia Gross, Nancy Dietrich & Russ Rybicki, with assistance from Rev. Florence Caplow
Money affects many things in our lives. Its influence is sometimes obvious; often subtle. Many of us have learned it is impolite to discuss money issues. Join us as we discuss money matters as they affect our personal lives, in our community, and in our larger society. What is your “money story?” How can we align our spending & saving with our values? How can we help promote economic justice for all? We’ll talk about all of this and more in a 6-workshop series called The Wi$dom Path: Money, Spirit, and Life, using curriculum from the Unitarian Universalist Association.

This class needs a minimum of 8 participants.
For more information, email: nancydietrich01@gmail.com
To register, go to: https://uucuc.org/learning/adults/

Our Whole Lives (OWL) for ages 5-7

- Sunday afternoons from February 2nd to April 19th (includes parent sessions)
- 4:00-5:15 pm
- UUCUC Classroom #2
- Miriam Larsen, Paul Kaiser, and Kim Kranich

Our Whole Lives (OWL) is a Unitarian Universalist program designed to guide children, youth and adults through an understanding of their identity and sexuality in a safe environment. Acceptance and community support are at the heart of this learning program. UUCUC has sponsored the Our Whole Lives (OWL) program for 7-9th graders for more than 20 years.

In 2020, we will expand to offer the 8-week class for 5-7-year old children. The class will be offered on Sunday afternoons from 4:00pm -5:15 beginning February 9th. A mandatory caregiver/parent and child orientation are scheduled for February 2nd 3:00-5:30 pm. This class is limited to 12 students. Register for this class by filling out this online form. We will create a waiting list if more than 12 students express interest.
For more information, contact Michele Grove at re-director@uucuc.org. To register, use https://uucuc.breezechms.com/form/300041

Was the Author of the Christian Gospel of Matthew a Radical Feminist?

- Tuesday, February 4th
- 6:30-8:30 pm
- Michele Townsend Grove

The patriarchal society before the common era (BCE) in which Jesus was born traced family lineage through the male side of the family. And yet, the first Gospel According to Matthew includes five women in its introductory lineage. What does this say about Jesus and the author of Matthew’s Gospel? More importantly, what does it say about the extraordinary women who are included? This class will examine these women and the stories they bring to the early days of Christianity. Participants should be prepared for amazing stories of the Hebrew and New Testament Scriptures.

This class needs a minimum of 4 participants
Questions should be directed to Michele Grove re-director@uucuc.org
Please register using: https://uucuc.org/learning/adults/
Cruise Ship Travels

- Friday, February 28th
- 7:00-9:00 pm
- UUCUC Fellowship Hall
- David Gross

David Gross has traveled all over the world, often with a traveling party of UUCUC folks. We have traveled at various times and places with ten of our CU folks plus some Minnesota and Iowa UUs. The emphasis of this program will be on the convenience and options of cruise ship travel while also exploring some of the lessons learned while traveling with other Unitarian Universalists.

This is Part Two of the Four-part series: Travel That UU Can Do - a Series of Four Travelogue Programs. Each of these four sessions stands alone. You can attend 1,2,3 or all 4.

For more information, email: DLGgeology@aol.com
To register for this or any other adult learning program, go to: https://uucuc.org/learning/adults/

Road Scholar Travels

- Friday, March 27th
- 7:00-9:00 pm
- UUCUC Fellowship Hall
- David and Claudia Gross

David and Claudia Gross have done nine of these Road Scholar Programs ((the organization previous known as Elderhostel). Some of their experiences lasted 5 or 7 days and one (Egypt, Jordan and Israel) for 21 days. The emphasis is on travel with a strong educational content. While Unitarian Universalists (UUs) are only one tenth of one percent of the U.S. population, Road Scholar groups are often 20% UUs.

This is Part Three of the Four-part series: Travel That UU Can Do - a Series of Four Travelogue Programs. Each of these four sessions stands alone. You can attend 1,2,3 or all 4.

For more information, email: DLGgeology@aol.com
To register for this or any other adult learning program, go to: https://uucuc.org/learning/adults/

Gentle Spring Day of Silence and Meditation

- March 7th
- 10 am to 2:30 pm,
- Friends Meeting House
- Florence Caplow, leader

Welcome early spring with a day of silence, sitting and walking meditation, talks, and a chance to slow down and appreciate your life.

For more information, contact Florence at: minister@uucuc.org
To register: https://uucuc.org/learning/adults/

Travels to UU Destinations

- April 24, 2020
- 7:00-9:00 pm
- UUCUC Fellowship Hall
- David Gross and Randy Locke

Unitarian Universalist offer amazing learning opportunities through such programs as Camp Unistar, UUA General Assembly, and the Living Legacy Pilgrimage. Learning also occurs when people travel to visit one of our partner churches like the one in Romania.
Randy Locke will join us to discuss how these learning opportunities help us learn and be Unitarian Universalists.

This is Part Four of the Four-part series: Travel That UU Can Do - a Series of Four Travelogue Programs. Each of these four sessions stands alone. You can attend one or all!

For more information, email: DLGgeology@aol.com
To register, go to: https://uucuc.org/learning/adults/

Learning opportunities still in production
Watch for the following in Spring 2020

Resolving Conflict, Finding Agreement Facilitated by Virginia Brubaker and Gail Schiesser

Transforming Hearts Collective Course: Transgender Inclusion in Congregations Co-facilitated by leaders from the LGBTQ+ Welcome Team and Religious Education

EqUUal Access Online Forums
Watch for information and possible small group discussion opportunities. This series of online forums help us think critically about many accessibility and inclusion issues that face our congregation.

Use this form to register for the classes in which you wish to participate. You can find an online registration at www.uucuc.org/learning/adults/. Some programs have their own registrations and are not included on this list. All registration instructions are included with each learning summary in this book.

I wish to sign up for the following (check all that apply):

_____ Movie Night and Pizza Party (January 11)
_____ An Indigenous Peoples’ History of the United States (beginning January 13)
_____ Wi$dom Path: Money, Spirit, and Life (beginning January 19)
_____ “Whole-Hearted Living in a Brokenhearted World” (beginning January 23)
_____ Immigration Justice Learning Series Part I (January 23)
_____ Voices in Unitarian Universalism Book Group (beginning January 12)
_____ Driving the Alaska Highway (January 31)
_____ Was the Author of the Christian Gospel of Matthew a Radical Feminist? (February 4)
_____ Immigration Justice Learning Series Part II (February 6)
_____ Cruise Ship Travels (February 28)
_____ Immigration Justice Learning Series Part III (March 5)
_____ Gentle Spring Day of Silence and Meditation (March 7)
_____ Immigration Justice Learning Series Part IV (March 26)
_____ Road Scholar Travels (March 27)
_____ Immigration Justice Learning Series Part V (April 9)
_____ Travels to UU Destinations (April 24)

Your Name ____________________________________________

Phone number: _________________________________________

Email Address: _________________________________________

Do you have any suggestions for future learning opportunities?
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