
Worship Dates and Information

For Sunday morning worship, on Sunday at 10:30 a.m., join us in the sanctuary at 2710 Newtown Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45244, or click the Zoom link that will appear in the service description at <https://huuc.net/>. The worship service and its attendees may be video recorded and appear later on various media.

“The State of the Church”



Sunday, January 28, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Bill Gupton leads this worship service.

In his annual “State of the Church” service, our Senior Minister reflects on where we stand as a congregation and a community of faith: our accomplishments, our challenges, and that which is both unique and timeless about us. We will also enjoy inspiration from our Choir this morning.

Please join us at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary, or [click this Zoom link](#).

HUUC Pagan Group Celebrates Imbolc



Saturday, February 3, at 6:00 p.m

On **Saturday, February 3, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Sanctuary, all are welcome to join the HUUC Pagan Community for Imbolc: a Night of Water and Fire. Sometimes called Candlemas or St. Brigid’s Day, this fire festival honors the Celtic Triple Goddess and marks the halfway point of winter.

“The State of the Union”



Sunday, February 4, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Bill Gupton leads this worship service.

We live in a time when the “union” that is the United States of America is more fragile than it has been in over a century and a half. In the coming year, we can expect a series of crises that will test what this country stands for and aspires to be.

How might we prepare for this test? What might it look like if we pass the test? What might it look like if we fail? We are being called to awareness – and to action.

Image: President Jimmy Carter presents his State of the Union Speech to Congress.

Image courtesy of the National Archives via [GetArchive](#).

“Bill and TED’s Excellent Sunday (Part 2)”



Sunday, February 11, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Bill Gupton leads this service.

In the fall, Rev. Bill curated a Sunday service featuring inspiration from a few of his favorite “TED Talks” – and promised that he’d offer a couple more such services in the winter and spring. So here, back by popular demand, before

winter leaves us, is the next installment of “Bill and TED’s Excellent Sunday”! We will also hear music from our wonderful choir.

Photo courtesy of Stacie McChesney via [Awesomely Luvvie](#).

“Think Self-Criticism is a Virtue? Think Again.”



Sunday, February 18, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

Andrea Dale leads this service.

“Kicking yourself” when you have made a mistake, gotten a speeding ticket, or lost your temper is a time-honored tradition in Western culture. So is the practice of self-criticism, meant to give you greater motivation, better results, and...happiness? Andrea Dale will share her own journey from self-criticism to self-compassion; offering ideas, a bit of science, and your very own “self-compassion break.” We will also be treated to a special musical solo this morning.

Image supplied by Andrea Dale.

“Healing Waters”



Sunday, February 25, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

Rev Bill Gupton leads this service.

Each year, exactly half a year – 26 weeks – after our Ingathering Water Ceremony in which we combine waters that we have collected over the summer and symbolically create the special community that is Heritage Church, we gather to use those waters in a healing ritual that washes away pain and sorrow, and reminds us that we are always loved, forgiven, and healed. This is one of our most popular services each year, featuring a ritual cleansing that allows us each to start anew, on the cusp of spring. Join us today for the community, the healing, the music (our Choir will sing), and the Love. Following the service, we will hold a congregational town hall meeting.

Image source: pxhere.com



“Origins and Oscars and Other Such Stuff”

Sunday, March 3, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Bill Gupton leads this service.

Did you know that, among his many other “past lives,” our Senior Minister once penned movie reviews for newspapers? This morning, a week before the presentation of the Oscars (which are, as always, surrounded by controversy this year), Rev. Bill will take a look at the powerful and provocative movie “Origin” — and probably drop in some other cinematic commentary as well. (It would be wonderful if you went to see “Origin” before today’s service.)

Image source: [Pixabay](https://pixabay.com).

Recent Worship Services

To watch videos of some recent worship services, go to <https://huuc.net/worship-videos/>.

Columns and Essays

On the Path



by Rev. Bill Gupton

Absence makes the heart grow fonder.

I write this having just come home from my first church event back following my annual winter break – a time for rest and renewal after the hectic holiday season. This year, that break included more than a week straight of sub-freezing daytime temperatures and single-digit nighttime temperatures. In other words, a lot more time than usual spent indoors, hunkered down and hibernating.

Which is why I was delighted to see so many of you – two dozen, in fact – at our congregational forum to discuss the changes that are taking place at the denominational level in Unitarian Universalism. Yes, the conversation was difficult, even painful at times, as folks expressed deeply held hopes and dreams, reservations and concerns, about the direction of our shared faith. There were tears as well as hugs. But, there was also a palpable, profound appreciation for the power, the strength, and the bond that is the foundation of this community we call Heritage: Love.

I left tonight's gathering, yes, with unresolved concerns about Unitarian Universalism – but also with an even deeper faith in Heritage Church. In what we have created here together. In what previous generations created here, and passed down to us. This is a very special place, and we are very blessed to have found it, and to be a part of it. Together, and individually, we are leaning into, and living into, difficult times. But we are doing so as we have always done – centering Love. Being thoughtful and respectful. Apologizing, when that is called for. Demonstrating compassion.

After a few weeks away, I hadn't realized how much I was missing this community. Its people. *You*. As one of our small group ministries puts it, We Need Each Other. I am thankful for the reminder of the blessing that it is to share this journey with you.

Namaste, my friends.

Rev. Bill

HUUC Finances Update



by Reid Hester

Dear Heritage Members and Friends,

Happy New Year 2024 to all! I'm very happy to report that we are in a very solid position with our finances as we reach the halfway point in our church fiscal year. I want to thank the Board and the volunteer spirit within our congregation for bringing loads of energy and excitement to our fundraising efforts and for making some hard decisions that have worked out very favorably for us this year.

As I look back on where we were at this time last year, I can see that we were concerned about losing our long time Taekwondo renter; we were facing mounting energy costs and confusing billing practices from Duke Energy; and we had what seemed like daunting fundraising goals. I'm very happy to report that we have made great strides addressing each of these challenges while all of you, our members and friends, have stepped up with your financial support of our church community through your pledges.

As we faced the prospect of losing our Taekwondo renters, the Board made the difficult decision to substantially increase the cost to Turpin High School students to rent spaces in our parking lot during the school year. We went into the school year with bated breath, wondering how this price increase would impact sales of parking passes, only to find that Turpin students and their families took the increase in stride. We sold out just as quickly as ever. This price increase, along with a few other rentals tucked into the year, are more than making up for the loss of Taekwondo, and this has been a huge help for our budget.

I want to thank Martha, our Church Administrator, for working diligently to seek out new contracts for our gas and electricity suppliers to lower our prices. Martha has also worked diligently with Duke Energy to make sense of our even billing (also known as budget billing) and ensure that we're not being overcharged. At this time last year, we were staring down some of the highest energy costs we have ever faced, and now halfway through this fiscal year those costs have been brought into line and well within our budget.

That brings us to fundraising. We have set a high bar this year, folks, and we dove right into the challenge early in the church year by moving our yearly auction from the spring to the fall. With the auction already behind us, we are now more than halfway to our goal of \$21,000 (after we exceeded our goal last year by raising almost \$19,000 on a goal of \$16,000). Congratulations to all for achieving as much as we have this year already! As we make our way through the second half of the church fiscal year, please be on the lookout for opportunities to host, plan, and participate in fundraising activities that are at least as important for their community-building impact as they are for their financial impact.

Now, for the boring stuff, the day-to-day work of the Finance Committee and the Board. We have made a major change by changing banks! Heritage banked with Fifth Third for many, many years, and it was a good relationship, until it wasn't. Little by little, Fifth Third added fee after fee and finally drove us away. An extensive search process led us to Center Bank where we were pleased to find excellent service, higher yields on our savings, and no fees. Center Bank is a locally run bank with branches that are convenient for our needs. We are looking forward to a long and drama-free relationship with this new banking partner.

Finally, as we have turned the page to a New Year, it will soon be time to plan our 2024-2025 fiscal year budget and set a pledge target for our spring pledge drive. Our pledge campaign will start in earnest on Stewardship Sunday, March 17. Learn about our most recent 23-24 stewardship campaign on our past year's stewardship website at <https://huuc.net/stewardship/>. If you are interested in volunteering to help with our upcoming 2024-25 pledge campaign, please send an email to: huucpledge@gmail.com

Here's wishing all of our members and friends a productive and positive start to 2024. As always, please let me know if you have any questions. You can email me anytime at: reid.hester@gmail.com

All the best,

Reid Hester
HUUC Finance Committee and Stewardship Chair

Behind the Screen and Scenes



by Barbara Barnes

Hello *Heirloom* readers.

This is your new *Heirloom* editor Barbara (Barb) Barnes. Although I'm new to this editor role, I'm not new to writing for the *Heirloom* publication. I've created the monthly Babes with Books announcements since 2006. Yet, in terms of my new position, I agree with all of you – we will miss Russ Araujo as he retires as *Heirloom* editor and HUUC webmaster. I have very big shoes to fill after Russ's nearly ten years of piloting both of our church's mainstays. Thankfully, those two huge tasks have been divided between two people – Antonio Ciolino and me. Antonio will drive the HUUC website while I steer the *Heirloom*. Since we've now divided the two roles once filled by Russ alone, it will take a bit of adjustment before Antonio and I work out the balanced dance integrating our two jobs. Be patient with us as we learn all the new skills, steps, timing, and how that all interacts with you.

Perhaps you've never considered how the *Heirloom* and HUUC.net intertwine. The current *Heirloom* structure pulls from numerous posts on our website. As a result, creating the newsletter and managing the website are highly interrelated.

Long gone are the days when the *Heirloom* editor alone wrote much of the publication's content or people provided the editor a handwritten slip with an announcement. Back then, the *Heirloom*'s team physically typed the copy on paper, then cut and pasted the pieces into a final mock-up for copying, collating, addressing, and snail-mailing to the congregation. Those efforts required several devoted volunteers to make the then biweekly publication happen. I pass along kudos to that team.

The modern *Heirloom* requires more than a detail-oriented newsletter crew, who knows how to write and type, armed with sharp scissors, glue, and a Xerox. Today, the "copy and paste" tasks take different forms. An editor also needs fluent knowledge of publishing legalities and several software packages to assure that the most correct articles and images appear in the *Heirloom* and on the HUUC website.

I applaud Russ who prepared lengthy document guides for exactly how to put together the current *Heirloom* using today's technologies. It takes longer than someone might think to create the modern versions. Did you know that Heritage is one of the few UU congregations to publish both a

printable PDF and electronic version of their newsletter? It nearly doubles the time required to create the publication. Whether this practice will continue is a matter for future consideration. There are pros and cons to continuing to create the PDF versions accessible on our website. At this point, I will continue the time-consuming practice. I'll concentrate on learning the current steps for *Heirloom* publication before considering any changes.

I envision my major role as a "word wrangler" and copy formatter. I'll remind people to submit articles by deadline and adjust the copy to fit the publication's format (such as fonts, text positioning, and copy layout), but use a light hand regarding copy content. I will limit my copyediting role to suggested changes (such as spelling, grammar, punctuation, and possibly clarification), but not content. As the published author of magazine articles and books, I am keenly aware of how it feels to be edited. As a writing/editing teacher, I've also learned that some authors dislike modifications to their work. Therefore, I will hold my actual editing role to making a submitted article's author and the publication look good while retaining the author's original style and intent, all within the newsletter's format constraints. I'll gratefully accept early submissions before the monthly deadline, avoiding the last minute crush to publication.

Once the article's copy is prepared, I'll then turn the submitted work over to Antonio for posting on the website. Antonio will alert the author when their submitted piece is available to review on the website before it is published in the *Heirloom*. Antonio and I will work collaboratively regarding any copy changes after the initial posting.

Following the monthly deadline (a varying date found in each month's masthead at the end of the *Heirloom*), my job is to create both the PDF and email versions of the *Heirloom* from the many, current website postings. I'll send the PDF version to Antonio to post on our website. Then I'll create the email version using the same material but a different software package. This second version I will distribute to the email subscribers. Once released, I will check that every email subscriber received the newsletter and attempt to resolve any issues if it was not received. Following any email distribution troubleshooting, the cycle repeats.

As the daughter of another church's newsletter editor, I feel honored to carry the baton passed on by Russ and a long line of previous *Heirloom* editors. However, it is you, the submitters, who help the *Heirloom* keep our church community informed and active. Your submissions of announcements, columns, essays, and opinions tell the tale of our vibrant, caring community. If you have any suggestions for *Heirloom* improvements or corrections, please contact me at newsletter1@huuc.net.

Now I'll duck back behind the screen and scenes of the *Heirloom* while reminding you to keep those submissions coming in to me at the above email address – the earlier the better!

Image courtesy of Barbara Barnes

Announcements

Workshop and Joint Worship Service – Save the Dates



Saturday and Sunday, May 4 and 5, 2024, offsite.

Deeper than the Skin: A Musical Presentation on Race

Performance by: Reggie Harris and Greg Greenway

Two friends, one Black, one white. Musicians, storytellers, students of history and world travelers born three days apart.

Two separate narratives forged into one powerful friendship aimed at finding common ground and helping others to do the same.

An experience of singing and listening, of experiencing a connection so deep that it makes you laugh, smile, cry and reconsider what you know about our history. It's an invitation to open your heart and mind to a story of shared humanity that resonates with your own.

Saturday, May 4, 3:00 p.m., workshop at St. John's Unitarian Universalist Church, 320 Resor Avenue, Cincinnati OH 45220.

Sunday, May 5, 10:30 a.m., joint worship service at First Unitarian Church, 536 Linton Street, Cincinnati OH 45219.

This special weekend is sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Council of Greater Cincinnati. (If you have questions, please speak with Heritage's UU Council representatives, Rae Jane Araujo, Ann Jarboe, and Bob Lamb.)

Image: Reggie Harris and Greg Greenway.

Keep Your Information Up-to-Date



Has your contact information changed? This includes your various phone numbers, email addresses, home address, and/or emergency contact information.

With the exception of emergency contact information, you can determine if your information is up-to-date by accessing the church directory from the password-protected page: <https://huuc.net/church-directory/> or navigate through HUUC.net menu's community option to member's area and

then to the password protected church directory.

If changes to your information in the directory are required, send an email with the new information to our Church Administrator, Martha Viehmann, in the office at HUUOffice@yahoo.com.

If you need the password to access the directory information, please send an email to the above address with your request and include your phone number. Martha will call you with the password. For security reasons, passwords are not provided by email.

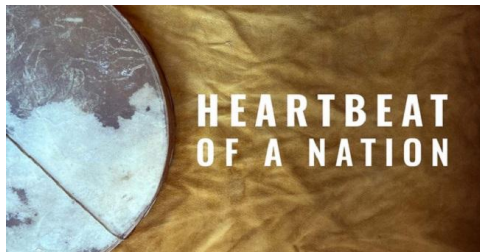
To place emergency contact information on file, or to update your information, please complete a form, which is found in the church lobby. Leave the completed form on Martha's desk (face down).

Thank you for helping us keep our records accurate.

Image source: [Pikist](#).

Ministries

Film and Discussion of “Heartbeat of a Nation”



Tuesday, February 6, 2024, 7:00 p.m., in the sanctuary.

Indigenous Issues Series

We will watch *Heartbeat of a Nation*, a short documentary by Eric Janvier that celebrates Dene cultural reclamation and revitalization. In the film, a father passes on traditional knowledge to his child through the teachings of a caribou drum. *Heartbeat of a Nation* captures the personal and loving interactions between father, child, and aunty.

Contact Mimi Sinclair for more information.

“Building the World We Dream About”



A Cincinnati UU Anti-Racism Learning Opportunity

Starting February 20, 2024, 7 pm Online

- Are you curious about the concepts of identity and difference? What do people mean when they talk about having privilege based on identity?
- Would you like to educate yourself to better address racism – to become a better anti-racist UU?
- Have you wondered how to help your congregation become more welcoming and inclusive across diverse ethnicities, races, and cultures?

- Would you like to meet other Cincinnati-area UUs who are invested in promoting racial justice?

If your answers are “yes,” please consider participating in this year’s UU Council of Greater Cincinnati’s Anti-Racism Circle program on Zoom for eight Tuesday evenings, 7-8:30 pm, beginning February 20, 2024. This free program builds on the success of the Anti-Racism Circle programming during 2021-2023 and is open to Cincinnati area UU adults, 18 or older, of all identities.

A curriculum from the UUA titled “Building the World We Dream About” is the starting point for this program. Building on 2023’s “BTWWDA I,” 2024’s BTWWDA II retains deep personal reflection and explores actions that individuals and their congregations can take to be up-standers. The interactive curriculum is designed to help Unitarian Universalists from all levels of multicultural experience to personally reflect on and share how we become better anti-racists. Topics to be explored include culture and identity, perspectives and privilege, and how we can learn from multiple truths and multiple realities.

Registration is required at: <http://tinyurl.com/UUbuildtheworld2024>. Please register by February 1. There is no course fee.

Image courtesy of Mimi Sinclair

Social Justice Collaborative Meeting



Sunday, March 3, 2024, starting 10 minutes after the end of the worship service.

After the worship service and getting a refreshment, come join us in the Heritage Room for the Social Justice Collaborative meeting. Whether your passion is racial justice, indigenous peoples, housing and homelessness, food security, a just economic community, democracy that is fair for all, or

something else – or if you just want to come to learn – you are welcome here. Feel free to bring a snack or brown bag lunch.

If you have questions, please contact Rae Jane Araujo at:
RaeJane.Araujo@gmail.com

Image: School Diversity Mural yard sign at Heritage UU Church.

Photo courtesy of Russ Araujo.

Community

Chase Away the Blues – Dining for Dollars Dinner



Saturday, January 27, 2024, 6:00 pm, Off-site Location

We are resuming our HUUC “Dining for Dollars” dinners in January.

Bruce Bowdon and Robin Bratt are announcing their *Chase Away the Blues* dinner party on Saturday, January 27th at 6:00 pm in their home. The menu includes three kinds of chili:

- Black bean vegan chili with the opportunity to add cheese or plain yoghurt.
- Chili with ground beef, beans, and tomato
- A white chicken chili.

We will be chasing our seasonal affective disorder away with a dose of B. B. King, Muddy Waters, Howlin’ Wolf, Eric Clapton, and Buddy Guy, etc.

After dinner, those of you who play can show off your skills on Bruce’s baby grand piano – singing may spontaneously combust.

This is the most legal fun to be had in during these dark days!

For the event, you have two price points from which to choose:

1. The chili plus beer is \$30 per person
2. The chili plus seltzer water or BYOB is \$25 per person.

There is room for 12 people. Register at <https://huuc.breezechms.com/form/dca8d228>.

Image source: [Public Domain Pictures](#).

Heritage Hoedown Fundraiser Dinner



Saturday, February 10, 2024, 6-10 p.m., in the Great Hall

\$35 per person or \$65 per couple.

Classic Country Cooking by Tracy Jo and Co.

You can dance or you can watch. We'd really appreciate you registering NOW!

Classic Country Cooking by Tracy Jo and Co. Featuring smoked meats by John Sandman. *There is also a vegetarian option.*

Square Dancing with Russ Childers. He will lead us through simple square and country dances that anyone can do! He has 35 years of calling and music experience (and will be gentle with those of us who have 2 left feet).

Child Care will be provided for all ages! Ages 10 and up are welcome to dance a few dances at the beginning of the event (must be willing to hold hands) and then be excused to age-appropriate activity in the Sanctuary.

Register Here: <https://huuc.breezechms.com/form/890fe6> or drop off a check in the office!

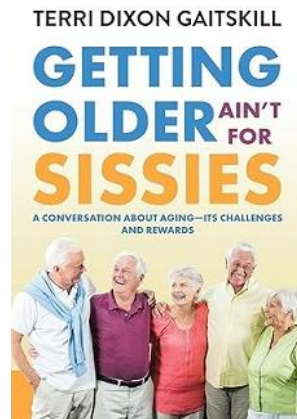
If you have questions, please contact Tracy Jo.

Potluck Lunch



On Sunday, February 11, bring a dish of food to share with all, and join with others in a meal and conversation after the worship service.

“Getting Older Ain’t for Sissies” Series



Monday, February 19, 2024, 7 – 8:30 p.m. and Monday, February 26, 2024, 3 – 5 p.m.

“Getting Older Ain’t for Sissies” is a health-related educational series aimed at older adults, those people who care for them or about them, or, if lucky, will also live a long time. Terri Gaitskill, a master’s prepared registered nurse with more than 50 years’ experience in both clinical practice and as a nurse educator, presents this multi-session educational program. The primary focus of Terri’s clinical practice concentrated on women’s health, OB/Gyn, and gynecologic surgery. Her experience as a nurse educator involved teaching nursing at the Great Oaks School of Practical Nursing, Mt. St. Joseph University, University of Cincinnati College of Nursing, and Xavier University College of Nursing.

This program’s first session will be held February 19 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. The topic will be advance care planning. The session covers the conversations that need to happen as we age, i.e. healthcare directives, funeral planning, and practical suggestions for the family. This session is not a legal or financial discussion, but a practical guide for making those “difficult decisions.”

The second session will be on February 26 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. The topic will be the physiologic change of ageing. It covers the physical changes that occur as we age. The session provides a system-by-system explanation of how ageing affects the body, the impact of a healthy lifestyle, medication management, and safety.

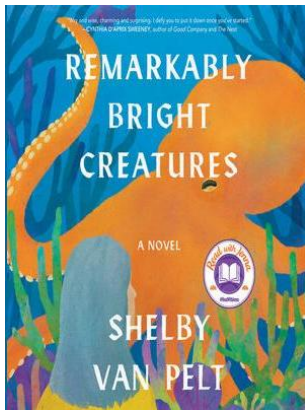
There are a number of additional, related topics available. Which topic to be presented next will be provided at the first talk. The time and dates for ongoing talks will be decided by participants.

If you wish to attend, and so that we can prepare for the number of participants, please respond to Terri at:

gaitskit46@gmail.com

Image courtesy of Terri Gaitskill

An Octopus Tells the Story to the BWB



Wednesday, February 21, 7 – 9 pm, in the Heritage Room

This month's book club selection recounts the relationship between an octopus and the aquarium's housekeeper. The reader is often perplexed regarding who is the "remarkably bright" entity in Shelby Van Pelt's novel *Remarkably Bright Creatures*, the February 21, 2024 meeting's novel for Heritage's Women's book club, known affectionately as Babes with Books, or the BWB. Come join us from 7 – 9 pm in the Heritage Room to discuss this unusual, touching, up-lifting, but deceptively sensitive novel with an octopus narrator, a perfect antidote for the depressing days of winter.

March 20 – *Hello Beautiful* by Ann Napolitano

April 17 – *The Maid* by Nita Prose

May 22 – *Those We Thought We Knew* by David Joy

June 19 – *Enchantment* by Katherine May

July 17 – *What Your Are Looking For is in the Library* by Michiko Aoyama

August 21 – *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* by Taylor Jenkins Reid (Location TBD)

September 18 – *Master Slave Husband Wife* by Ilyon Woo

All BWB meetings are held from 7 – 9 pm in the Heritage Room, unless otherwise announced.

All women (be they members, or friends) are always invited to any BWB meeting – whether they have read the book or not. Unless otherwise announced, the meeting's book selection is available on hold for the Heritage Book Club at the Anderson Township branch of the Hamilton County library approximately a month in advance.

For inclusion in the BWB Google group emails, contact the Heritage office at: HUUCOffice@yahoo.com

Books & Bling & Other Things



April 26 and 27, 2024, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

The annual church sales are now one big sale. In recent years, our church has successfully sponsored two separate sales. One was Books & Bling. The other was a rummage sale. This upcoming spring, these two sales will be combined into one big

blowout event!

“We are calling the sale Books & Bling & Other Things,” says Meredith Meyer, a board trustee who has been instrumental in improving our church fundraising potential. “By combining these fundraisers, we look to double the potential of each without doubling the efforts.”

This annual sale is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, April 26 and 27, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Plans call for the sale to be held the last weekend in April every year as a fun event that both church members and community members can look forward to, and those building our church budget can count on!

As in past years, any donations of books and “bling” (e.g., jewelry, purses, and scarves) are welcome. As for the “other things,” donations may include household items, home décor, framed art, tools, toys, sporting goods, musical instruments, collectibles, antiques, and smaller furniture pieces (that is, small enough to be easily moved by one or two people.)

“We asked members to do their own pricing last year, and it worked well, so we will be asking the same this year,” says Barbara Rohrer, the sale coordinator. “This approach allows volunteers to concentrate their efforts on creating attractive display areas that enhance sales. We suggest that members price their donations at 10% of full retail, if they are looking for guidance. Of course, all items for the sale must be clean and in good working order.”

DVDs, CDs, old electronics will not be accepted for sale, nor will any promotional item (e.g., water bottles with the name of a local hospital). “These items simply do not sell,” says Barbara. “Nor do magazines, so we won’t take those either.”

She adds that no date has been set yet as to when church members can start bringing their donations to the church for this annual sale. “But nothing is stopping any of us from beginning the process of sorting through our books, our jewelry boxes, closets, and basements for those unwanted and unneeded items that could be just the thing others are looking for!”

Seventy-five percent of the proceeds from this sale will go to this year’s operating budget. The remainder will go to the Clara Barton Guild, which supports special church projects, scholarships for the annual women’s retreat, and donations in keeping with UU principles.

For more information, contact Barbara Rohrer at:

barbara@lyghtelrohrer.com

Image courtesy of HISdesign via [Pixabay](#).

STEAM Camps for Children To Be Held at Heritage Location



July 1-3, 5, 2024: morning and afternoon camps.

STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics. Learn more at the vendor’s website: [Classroom Antics](#).

Image courtesy of St. Charles Parish Library via [Flickr](#).

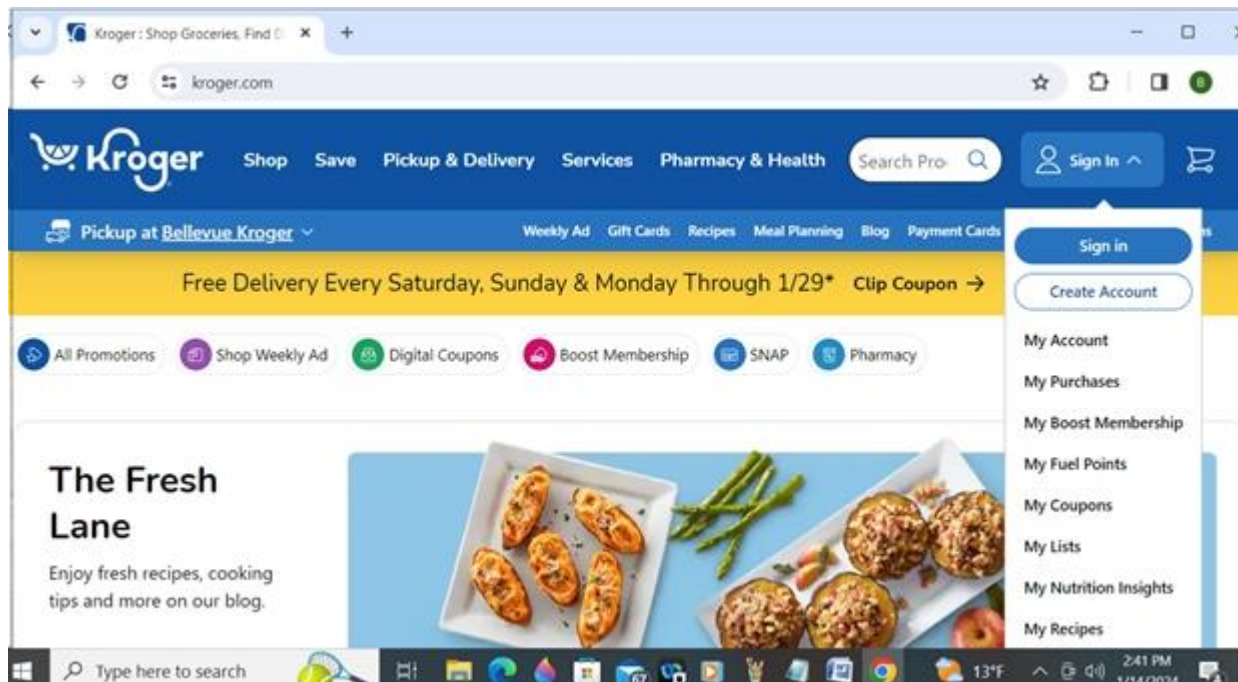
Support

How to Make Your Kroger Plus Card Help HUUC



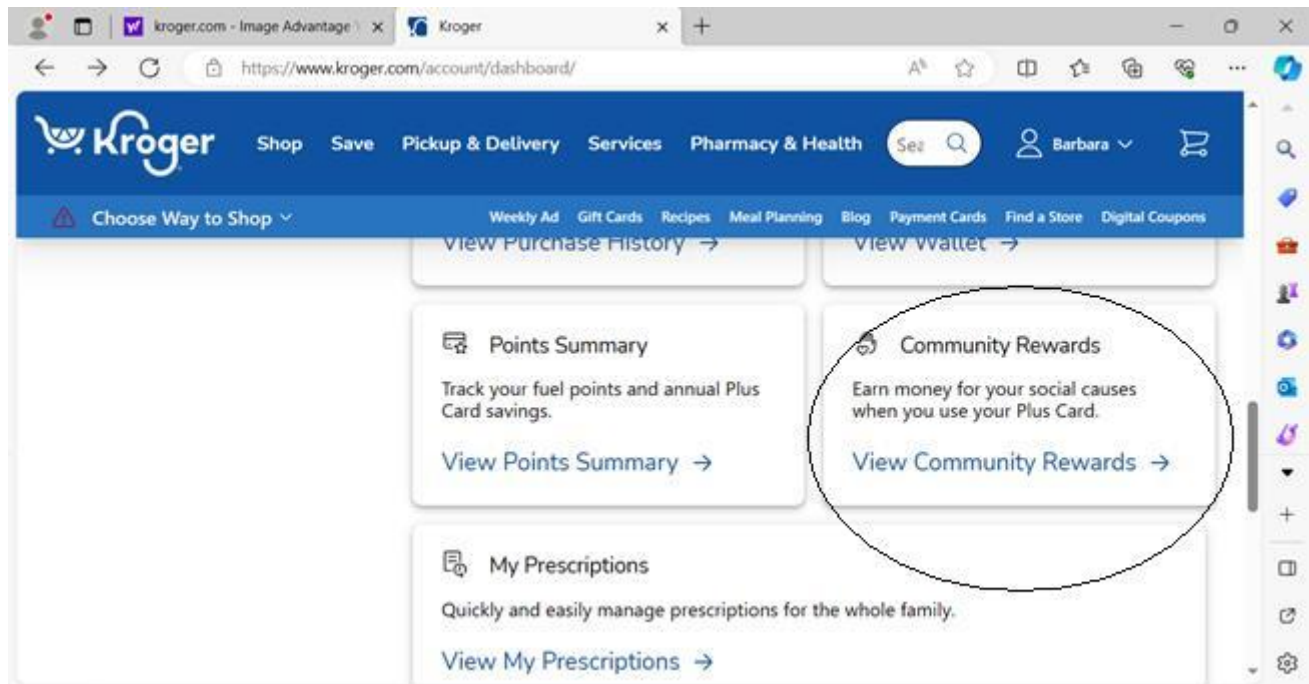
Kroger Community Rewards is an easy way you can help support HUUC with no cost and almost no effort. Through this program, every time you scan your Kroger shopper's card and make a purchase, Kroger will donate a small amount to HUUC at no additional cost to you. Here's how you can help:

Go to www.kroger.com and click on the "Sign In" button in the top-right corner to open the dropdown menu.



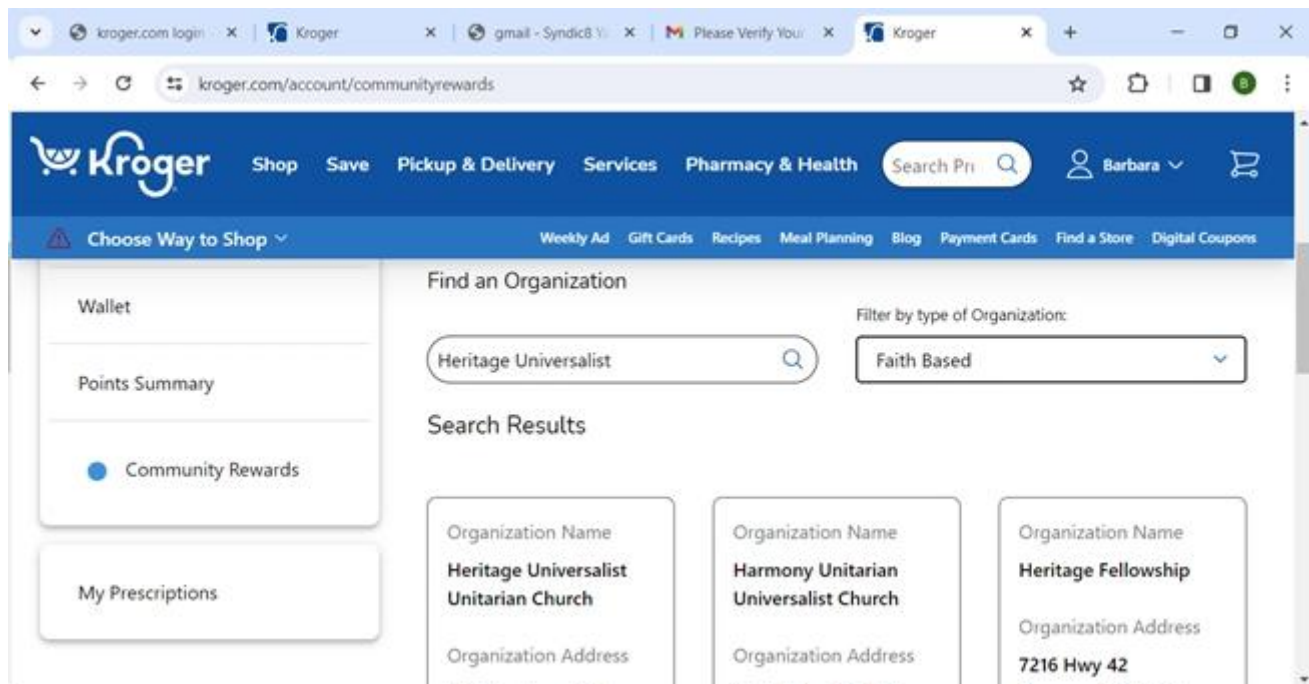
- Already have an account? Click "Sign In" from the dropdown menu and enter your email and password to log in.
 - If you don't remember your password, you can click the "Forgot Password?" link right below the password input field and follow the instructions.
- Don't have an account yet? Click "Create Account" from the dropdown menu and follow the instructions to create your account. Be sure to have your Kroger card handy so that you can enter the number to link your card to your account.
- Don't have a Kroger card? Ask for one during your next Kroger visit.

After you are logged in, click the "My Account" link, located in the same "Sign In" dropdown menu you clicked at the beginning.



On the *My Account* page, scroll down and click the **Community Rewards** link from the menu on the left-hand side of the page.

Click the blue **“Enroll”** button



In the search bar under “Find an Organization”, type in “heritage universalist”, then hit enter. You can also search by or organization number, **GM909**.

You should see a list of organizations pop up and HUUC will be the first one on the list. It is listed as:

Heritage Universalist Unitarian Church
Organization Address
2710 Newtown Rd
Cincinnati, OH 5244

Click the blue “**Enroll**” button underneath Heritage. You should now see your status as “enrolled,” and you can confirm that HUUC is listed as the organization name.

You’re done! Please be sure to scan your Kroger card whenever you shop – if you don’t scan your card, your purchases won’t count for the Community Rewards program.

This whole process also can be done through the Kroger app on your smart phone, though the exact directions may differ a bit.

If you have any questions about Kroger Community Rewards or need help, please ask Luke Walczewski at the address below:

lwalczew@gmail.com

I’m happy to assist.

Additional directions, as passed out at the HUUC January 14 worship service are available at the online leaflet at this link: HUUC Kroger Community Rewards Instructions at <http://tinyurl.com/yjrjmkww>

News Articles

Board Briefs for January 2024



The Heritage UU Church Board of Trustees met on January 8, 2024.

1. The Board voted for our congregation to support two additional amendments to the proposed revision to Article II: the “Reason and the Responsible Search for Truth and Meaning – Niell” Amendment, and the “Equity: Every person is inherently worth – Wheeler” Amendment.

These amendments do not signal our congregation’s overall support of the proposed revision to Article II, but instead are only an improvement to the proposed new Article II should it be approved.

2. Our fancy coffee maker, which has given us 8 years of faithful service, has finally met its doom. We’ll be replacing it with a new one soon!

Image: Heritage Universalist Unitarian Church Board of Trustees, November 2023 through June 2024, left to right: Kate Wells, Luke Walczewski, Rebecca Pace, Garry Wilson, Jaime Castle, Meredith Meyer, and Julie Kane. Image courtesy of Laci Lee Adams

From the Archives

The Heirloom: A Brief History



by Mike Roberts, Church Historian

With the imminent retirement of Russ Araujo as editor of this monthly newsletter, it has been suggested that a short history of the *Heirloom* might be in order. So, these eyes shift from trying to read the minutes of ancient Board of Trustees meetings to a historical perspective of this communication device you are reading. The *Heirloom* first went to press in January of 1986. That first issue appears to have been produced on an old word processor and then cut and pasted onto graph paper then copied and mailed. After that issue, the next available one in our archives is from December of 1986,

produced in similar fashion.

Newsletters had preceded the *Heirloom* but did not bear that name. Existing copies identify it as only *The Newsletter*. It had been edited by Connie Booth for four years. Andrea Benchley had assisted Connie for two years when the first *Heirloom* went to press. In 1988, Connie and Andrea recruited a number of new volunteers with Sue Riggs doing paste-ups and visuals. Nan Polaski took responsibility for Xeroxing, addressing and maintaining a mailing list. Florence Angus and Meredith Vickers did the collating, stamping and mailing.

A year later, a new team was assembled as Connie Booth was about to take on the position of Music Director. Andrea Benchley became editor with assistance from Sue Riggs, Gloria Winn, and Nancy Howard. In addition to the monthly newsletter, a one-page weekly *Heritage Informer* was also initiated. It was an update of breaking news and upcoming events. After one year, in 1990 the *Heritage Informer* was reduced to a mailing two weeks before and after each *Heirloom* was published. Also for the first time, the office manager was recognized as a key cog in the production process. That job was held by Jan McRoberts and she was responsible for collecting and managing many of the announcements and news items brought to the editing team.

The editors during this period, and in later years, were nagged by two problems. One was contributors not meeting deadlines. Second was the lack of monthly updates reported by committee chairpersons and other group leaders. Those problems plague all editors of publications to this day, I am sure. The regular features of the *Heirloom* have always been messages from the minister, the Religious Education Director, and President of the Board of Trustees. As well, committee chairs, social action groups, and others groups have been the subject of frequent contributors.

In August of 1991, Jan McRoberts left as office manager and was replaced by Sharon Hall. Contributions to the *Heirloom* were to be placed in a folder in the office or given to the office manager who then collected all the potential articles to give to the editor. Also in August of 1991, Andrea Benchley passed on the editing of the newsletter to Stephanie Wilson, a job which Stephanie dutifully performed for nearly ten years.

In 1993, the *Informer* portion of the paper was expanded to make the *Heirloom* a twice a month offering. This practice continued for the next 13 years. Also, the paper, along with the church, took a summer

break. Thus, there were no *Heirlooms* issued for a month to six weeks during the late summer season. Stability reigned through much of the 1990s.

However, the beginning of the new millennium brought with it many large challenges for publishing the church newsletter. Sharon Hall left the office manager position and was replaced for a short time by Linda Fischer. She was in the office for several months and then was followed by Bee Summers who took over in March of 1999. This prompted the first steps into the digital age when the church office adopted its own e-mail address in May of 1999. Also at this time, Elinor Artman announced her intention to retire and the church embarked on the lengthy process of finding a new minister.

As many of you well remember, the conversion to high tech was never smooth. Confusion interrupted the flow of information as several new e-mail addresses were added to the church system and the knowledge of which e-mails to use for what purpose became a problem. In September 2000, the PC versus MAC issue reared its ugly head as converting information from one system to another was beyond the scope of many of those using the systems. Stephanie Wilson patiently explained the misunderstandings resulting from turning the *Heirloom* from a cut-and-paste paper to a high-tech production. Every organization worldwide had similar experiences. It was a challenging time.

In the summer of 2001, Stephanie left the position of editor and Jill Frank took over the newsletter. She had just completed a year as President of the Board of Trustees. Jill had a tough opening to her service as editor as 9/11 happened just after she assumed the office. It was a tough time to deal with the grief and anger as well as getting the word out as to what the church and community response would be.

In January 2002, church members and friends were offered the option of having the *Heirloom* mailed to them by "snail mail" or sent to their home electronically. It was mentioned that the annual cost of mailing the *Heirloom* was \$1,500. Initially 46 recipients opted for the e-mail choice. Shortly after that, the increasing needs of technology required that the church add a new title to its list of church officers. Alicia Shamblin assumed the duties of webmaster and one of her first activities was to create an on-line calendar. This was quickly followed by the retirement of Bee Summers and the hiring of Denise Martinez as office manager.

When Bill Gupton was hired as our new minister, the added benefit was in his assisting with the editing of the *Heirloom*. Bill had actually had a career as an editor and his expertise was a helpful addition to the newsletter staff.

More changes occurred when Pat Murray took over as editor in June of 2003. A plea from her is all too reminiscent of the problems presented by the new technology. Pat explained her woes. "When I convert the newsletter from Publisher to PDF format for distribution, I lose all or most of the bolding, etc. — Anyone out there have a suggestion I might try?" That certainly has a ring of familiarity.

Pat remained editor for one year and was replaced by Sue Chaney. Sue had previous editorial experience with schools and agencies and added a bit of spice to the *Heirloom* with photos and graphics. She also ended most of the issues with a quote from a famous author and an added commentary. For example, a quote from Ghandi in the December 2008 issue was offered for consideration. "The things that will destroy us are: politics without principle; pleasure without conscience; wealth without work; knowledge without character; business without morality; science without humanity; and worship without sacrifice."

After several years of debate, on December 2006, it was announced that the *Heirloom* would only be published monthly. Reduction of costs as well as the availability of information directly on-line probably led to the decision to move to monthly issues.

In April 2010, Sue stepped aside and Erica Minton assumed the editor's position. That summer the *Heirloom* was no longer archived in the office records and was only available on-line. That made researching this article a bit more difficult. Thanks to Russ Araujo, the records show that Erica was

succeeded as editor by Kathy Wade in July 2011, who served until June 2013. Melissa Dunlap followed Kathy Wade and Russ took over the editing in February 2015. He has served exceedingly well and will be finding new direction for his talents. He will pass on the red pencil to Barb Barnes and Antonio Ciolino.

Russ offers us some parting thoughts. “Just as I was implementing a new website for Heritage in January 2015, Rev. Bill (Gupton) told me that there was a need for someone to take over the *Heirloom*. I knew that many other newsletters at the time gave summaries in an email, with links to the full article on a website. I investigated and found that with a piece of free software I could do that pretty easily for our own newsletter. In implementing this, I ended up taking over responsibility for both the website and the *Heirloom*.

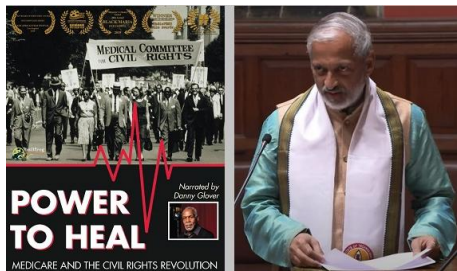
“I’ve enjoyed my time as *Heirloom* editor. Along with the website, it’s given me a unique chance to blend experience in technology and writing. I knew that good communication was vital in a congregation, and this role has allowed me to serve the church community that I love.”

Three big hurrahs for Russ!

Image courtesy of Mike Roberts

The Wider UU World

UUJEC Offers Two Webinars on Civil Rights and the Environment



Heritage UU Church is a member organization of Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic Community (UUJEC). UUJEC is offering two online webinars of interest in the near future.

Power To Heal: Medicare and the Civil Rights Revolution

Wednesday, January 31, 2024, 7:30 p.m.

Film Screening and Talk with Producer Dr. Barbara Berney

Power to Heal tells a poignant chapter in the historic struggle to secure equal and adequate access to healthcare for all Americans. Central to the story is the tale of how a new national program, Medicare, was used to mount a dramatic, coordinated effort that desegregated thousands of hospitals across the country in a matter of months.

This is a two-hour event: One hour for screening and one hour for other interactions.

To register for this Zoom event, click here: <http://tinyurl.com/yc39t7ew>

The Greatest Transformation in Human History

Thursday, February 8, 2024, 8:00 p.m.

Dr. Sailesh Rao has over three decades of professional experience and is the Founder and Executive Director of Climate Healers <https://climatehealers.org/>, a non-profit dedicated towards healing the Earth's climate. A systems specialist with a Ph. D. in Electrical Engineering from Stanford University, Dr. Rao worked on the internet communications infrastructure for twenty years after graduation. In 2006, he switched careers and became deeply immersed, full time, in solving the environmental crises affecting humanity.

Click here <http://tinyurl.com/mmnzwbzy> to register for the Zoom webinar. Click here <http://tinyurl.com/2v6ww9az> to watch on Facebook.

For more on these webinars, go to <https://uujec.org/webinars>.

If you would like to know more about UUJEC, please contact Rebecca Pace by email, or by phone at 513-231-9641. Rebecca's email address is: rebpace@gmail.com

Image: Left: "Power to Heal" movie poster. Right: Dr. Sailesh Rao.

Images source: UUJEC.

MidAmerica Regional Assembly



**Friday and Saturday, April 19 and 20, 2024.
Multiplatform: Online and/or Madison Wisconsin.**

The MidAmerica Region is coming together – both online and at the First Unitarian Society of Madison, Wisconsin on Friday, April 19 and Saturday, April 20 of 2024 for a multiplatform Regional Assembly!

Our Keynote address will be given by the Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt, President of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations, and Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia A. Thompson, General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ.

There will be workshops, the Annual Business Meeting of the MidAmerica Region, and opportunities to meet many UU Leaders from across our faith tradition.

For those who are in person, there will even be opportunities to tour this historic church designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.

But most importantly, it is a time for us to come together as Unitarian Universalists from across the MidAmerica Region.

Please join us, online and in-person for our first-ever multi-platform MidAmerica Regional Assembly!

Learn more at the Regional Assembly webpage at <https://www.uua.org/leaderlab/events/threads-connect-stories-inspire>

Register at <https://uua.wufoo.com/forms/q15hy8g61be3aym/>.

If you have questions, please contact Rae Jane Araujo, who is a MidAmerica Region Board Member. Rae Jane's email address is:

RaeJane.Araujo@gmail.com

News from the UUA



The UUA recently released several news topics including how to be a General Assembly (GA) volunteer, registering for this summer's virtual GA, and the final revisions of the bylaw's Article II plus its future steps. Details can be on all these topics and more can be found at: <http://tinyurl.com/m7uys8s6>

Image source: flickr.com

Calendar of Events

For the online calendar, go to: <https://huuc.net/calendar-for-huuc/>

See also the list of all events at: <https://huuc.net/events/>

Get Weekly Updates

People in the Google Group “huuc-announcements” get a few Heritage-related announcement emails each week, including a summary on Monday of the upcoming activities and worship. If you would like to receive huuc-announcement emails, please send an email requesting it to the church administrator, at:

HUUCoffice@yahoo.com

Heirloom

A publication of

Heritage Universalist Unitarian Church

Rev. Bill Gupton, Senior Minister

Rev. Doak Mansfield, Minister Emeritus

Jaime Castle, Board President

Laci Lee Adams, Director of Lifespan Faith Development

Sherry McCamley, Music Director and Accompanist

Steve McCamley, Choir Director

Martha Viehmann, Church Administrator

Kevin Palmer, Technology Coordinator

Antonio Ciolino, Web Technician

Barb Barnes, *Heirloom* Editor

Submissions for the next *Heirloom* are due February 20, 2024.

See <https://huuc.net/website-and-heirloom-newsletter-submitters-guide/>

Contact Information: <https://huuc.net/contact-us/>

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