

Monthly newsletter for members and friends of Heritage Universalist Unitarian Church (HUUC) January 2025

Worship Dates and Information

For worship on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m., join us in the sanctuary at 2710 Newtown Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45244, or click the Zoom link that appears in the service description at <u>https://huuc.net/worship-dates-and-information/</u> or at <u>https://huuc.net/</u> for the next upcoming service. The worship service and its attendees may be video recorded and appear later on various media. Recent service videos can be found at <u>https://huuc.net/worship-videos/</u> and on <u>https://YouTube.com</u>.

"Strike a Pose: An Interactive Holiday Pageant"



Sunday December 22, 2024, 10:30 a.m. *DLFD Laci Adams leads this service*.

The winter is a season full of holiday celebrations, timeless stories, jovial festivities, plus ancient and modern rituals. Join us today for a holiday pageant that embraces balance and strengthens our light through an exploration of holidays both familiar and new to us. The pageant will be an interactive, multimedia experience including our kids, families, and even you. Laci Lee Adams, Director of Lifespan Faith Development (DLFD), leads this All Ages worship.

Image sources: <u>https://tinyurl.com/ywebmhru</u> and <u>https://tinyurl.com/5ybkwt2f</u>

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



Tuesday December 24, 2024, 7:00 p.m. *Rev Bill Gupton, DLFD Laci Lee Adams, and others lead this service.*

Join us on Christmas Eve for our traditional Heritage Church Christmas Eve candlelight service with beautiful music from our Choir and all the things you've come to love over the years in this very special evening. Hear the familiar words, bask in the beauty of familiar (and new) faces, lift your voice in song, thrill to the silent warmth of our sanctuary Christmas tree and luminaries, enjoy welcoming community (and Christmas cookies) afterward... Bring out-of-town (and in-town!) friends and family to this memorable evening at HUUC -- but be sure to come early to get a parking space and a seating space in the sanctuary.

Image source: https://tinyurl.com/36uztufr

"New & Old: The Kin-dom Option"



Sunday December 29, 2024, 10:30 a.m. *Rev. Doak Mansfield, HUUC Minister Emeritus, leads this service.*

The times are a challenge. In a few weeks, a new regime will take over in Washington, Rev Doak says of his message. I'll speak of the spiritual resources my personal and professional life has taught me. Life offers fine lessons!

Doak served as HUUC's minister from 1975 to 1985, and led the relocation from Salem Road to old Anderson High School and to HUUC's present location. An avid amateur historian, he has served seven congregations during his fifty-year career, as well as ministry

with the US Army Reserve (eight years as chaplain) and hospital chaplain. He received a successful heart transplant in 2010. Doak is the author of five books, two fiction (Mockingbird's Ballad, Jones of Old Lincoln) and three non-fiction works (An Irreverent Guide to Spirituality, Kin-Ship Spirituality, and The Kin-dom Option). He is a portrait artist/caricaturist, old movie fan, avid reader, and will choose almost anything related to history over any other option for fun or recreation.

Image source: HUUC.net media library

"The Earliest Religious Impulses"



Sunday January 5, 2025, 10:30 a.m. HUUC member Bethany Rogers leads this service.

Bethany offers some thoughts on the very earliest human religious impulses and practices, and what those fellow souls may have to teach us about our own spiritual journey.

Bethany is a software analyst in the healthcare industry, has

two college age children and lives with her husband in Madeira. They have been in the Cincinnati area for about 20 years and now know what to do if someone randomly says "Please?" in a conversation.

Image source: created by B. L. Barnes

"Readers' Theater"



Sunday January 12, 2025, 10:30 a.m. HUUC member Steph Tacy leads this service.

Going to the theater can transport you to other places and times. It might be a Broadway play, a small civic performing group or wait ... What about Reader's Theater right here at Heritage Universalist Unitarian Church!?!

Join us as Steph Tacy leads this all-ages service complete with an all-star cast of familiar faces. And who knows? You may

come away having experienced a valuable life lesson.

Image source: https://tinyurl.com/3hj262kd

Martin Luther King's Dream: Walking the Long Road Together



Sunday, January 19, 2025, 10:30 a.m. HUUC member Jen Ciolino leads this service.

"I must confess that over the last few years I have been gravely disappointed with the white moderate. I have almost reached the regrettable conclusion that the Negro's great stumbling block in the stride toward freedom is not the White Citizen's Council-er or the Ku Klux Klanner, but the white moderate who is more devoted to 'order' than to justice; who

prefers a negative peace which is the absence of tension to a positive peace which is the presence of justice . . .".

- Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., April 16, 1963 Excerpt from "Letter from Birmingham Jail"

We remain on a long, winding journey toward a world free of systemic racism—one where the initial outrage sparked by injustice too often recedes into silence, and even backlash, over time. Together, we will explore this road with candor, humor, reflection, and a willingness to embrace discomfort.

Our path forward calls us to grow, to act, and to move beyond complacency, transforming aspiration into tangible change.

Image source: from Talia Jane, used with permission

"State of the Union"



Sunday January 26, 2025, 10:30 a.m. *Rev. Bill Gupton leads this service.*

Today marks the first Sunday of a new era in American history – and the first of two consecutive Sundays in which Rev. Bill will reflect on the very unsettled state of affairs in which we find ourselves here at the beginning of the year 2025.

For two decades now, at this time of year, our minister has offered a "State of the Church" sermon, loosely patterned

after the U.S. President's annual "State of the Union" address. Well – that'll be *next* week. Today, he will consider where our nation and our society are headed, and offer some thoughts on how we might survive the rocky road that lies ahead.

Image source: https://tinyurl.com/rj2xt68s

"State of the Church"



Sunday February 2, 2025, 10:30 a.m. *Rev. Bill Gupton leads this service.*

Heritage Church – formerly and formally known as the First Universalist Society of Cincinnati – is nearly 198 years old. This morning our Senior Minister, who will be retiring from the Unitarian Universalist ministry this spring, will share his final "State of the Church" reflection.

Legendary Unitarian minister Theodore Parker once spoke of "the transient and the permanent." With major changes on the horizon at Heritage, what might we hold on to as "timeless" – and what might we embrace as generative transformation? Our Board of Trustees will also make a report on the status of the ministerial transition during the service, and will hold a town hall meeting immediately after

the service to answer your questions. Bonus: Our beloved Choir sings for us today!

Image source: created by Bill Gupton and Barb Barnes

Recent Worship Services

Missed A Sunday Service?



It is not the same as attending in-person or viewing in real time on Zoom, but portions of most worship services are available for later viewing on the church website - HUUC.net. For personal security reasons, the Candles of Community portion of the service is removed. However, if you can't be physically or virtually there on a Sunday morning, you can still enjoy the music and reflections. A collection of recent Sunday worship service videos is available at https://huuc.net/worship-videos/.

Images source: HUUC.net media library

Columns and Essays

ON THE PATH



January 2025 by Rev. Bill Gupton

We wait, collectively and individually, at another "liminal time" – a period of time *between* times, when the door to the past is closing, and the door into an unknown and uncertain future is not yet quite open. It is like this each year at this time, of course: the holiday season and the end-of-the-year / New Year celebrations, the shortest day and longest night of the year, the turn of the wheel. But perhaps this year, our liminal experience is more pronounced. Perhaps it is a bit more difficult to see and have faith in the return of light.

Yet the light <u>will</u> return. Buds will burst forth in spring, and the earth will green again. Metaphorically, too, our world will one day emerge from the current darkness. And we have learned, through the rhythms of the planet we inhabit and the cosmos that sustains us, the importance – the actual life-saving and spirit-supporting necessity – of huddling together, in the dark, of holding one another, of gathering in community around the symbolic (and literal) hearth. My prayer is that this holiday season, in this winter of our discontent, this liminal time, we will do just that – with, and for, one another. My friend and colleague the UU Rev. Kimberley Debus (who recently appeared on "Jeopardy," and who has a wonderful blog that lately has been uncannily spot-on in expressing how I am feeling, even if sometimes I didn't realize I was feeling that way), wrote this week that "what matters is that there is always a glimmer of hope. There is always a light. And those things exist because we exist, together – to be a light for one another."

May you find, and know, and *shine* your own special light, in this time of darkness. May you be illuminated by the light of others. And may we, together – we who call ourselves Heritage Church – offer the light of hope and hospitality to our hurting world.

With much love, Rev. Bill

The President's Corner



"To Lend Courage to Virtue and Ardor to Truth"

by Jaime Castle, HUUC Board President

Having served in the capacity of President of the Board of Trustees before, this my third time, it seems that I have come to create traditions for myself in this space. One tradition is to have fun with the January *Heirloom* President's Corner in the form of divination. This intrigue originated from when I was the horoscope writer for my high school's newsletter back in the 90s.

I do not claim to have a supernatural gift of fortune telling nor some special backstage pass to the unknown spiritual realm. When I write this, I just write whatever comes to mind. I used the Celtic zodiac signs the last time, writing out the fortunes to come for that year. This year, I'm going to use the Viking

Runes.

The title of this article is a quote from the 18th century English writer Dr. Samuel Johnson and is the epigraph of *The Book of Runes* by Ralph H. Blum. It resonated with me because I think it is very timely for what good is virtue if there is no courage to fuel its action. In this age of misinformation and disinformation, one must be passionate about what is the truth. I think Blum chose this quote to help introduce the role of runes.

I won't go into the mythology and history of runes, although I do encourage you to do so, but know that they are not meant to foretell your future, but rather they are oracles. "An Oracle points your attention towards those hidden fears and motivations that will shape your future by their unfelt presence within each present moment," (Page 8 from Blume's *The Book of Runes*). I'll not be just writing what comes to

mind this time. What I will do is divide up the year using the traditional Western zodiac and pull a rune for each. I will then talk about each and how it can help guide you in 2025.

I do encourage you to look up your birth date rune so that you can see the visual symbol of it. Enjoy and may they lend you courage and provide ardor to truth! Happy New Year Heritage!

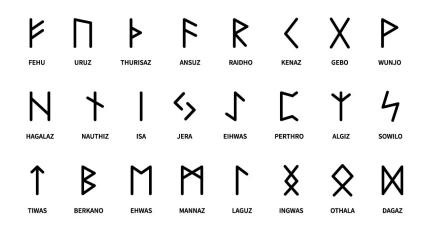


Image source: https://tinyurl.com/4r8ks4ks

<u>March 21-April 19: Gebo "Partnership"</u> – This partnership could be with a person, a business, or even with the Divine. Caution is called for to keep your own sense of self in this partnership for it to be successful. You are being called to make yourself ready to a union of shared purpose.

<u>April 20-May 20: Ehwaz "Movement"</u> – This rune signifies physical shifts as well as self-improvement or bettering your situation. "Moral effort and steadfastness are called for when you draw Movement." (Page 125)

<u>May 21-June 21: Perth "Initiation"</u> – This rune encourages you to fly high like the eagle so to get a better view, getting a broader vision. *Perth* also encourages letting go of certain things in order to move forward.

June 22-July 22: Mannaz "The Self" – This rune encourages humility and modesty which will help give you direction. "Strive to live the ordinary life in an in ordinary way." (Page 93)

<u>July 23-August 22: Sowelu "Wholeness"</u> – This is a powerful rune that "marks a time for regeneration down to the cellular level." (Page 139) This rune is about self-realization, seeking to become who you already are at your core.

<u>August 23-September 22: Kano "Opening"</u> – "The more light that you have, the better you can see what is trivial and outmoded in your own conditioning." (Page 118) This rune encourages you to have renewed clarity and to be more open.

<u>September 23-October 23: Raido "Journey"</u> – This rune is about the soul's journey meaning that reflection, meditation, and openness to balance and joy. Intention and attunement are necessary as well as release of all that doesn't serve you.

October 24-November 21: Fehu "Possessions" – This is a rune of satisfaction, whether that be in materials or emotion. There is also a call for pause and reflection if what you possess is what you want or if it is consuming you. This could be a time to declutter all of the literal and figurative things in your life.

November 22-December 21: *Inguz* "Fertility" – New beginnings await once resolutions of something lingering have concluded. "As you resolve and clear away the old, you will experience a release from tension and uncertainty." (Page 109)

December 22-January 19: *Dagaz* **"Breakthrough"** – "Considerable hard work can be involved in a time of transformation. Undertake to do it joyfully." (Page 136) This rune is a signal of a major shift or transformation of your Self. It encourages you to trust in this change.

January 20-February 18: Algiz "Protection" – Your protection is knowing that you will progress, but only by being mindful and controlling big emotions in a time of transition.

February 19-March 20: *Eihwaz* "Defense" – This rune encourages patience, a time of waiting in order to persevere and foster foresight instead of reckless, reactionary action. "Receiving *Eihwaz*, you are put on notice that, through inconvenience and discomfort, growth is promoted." (Page 110)

Featured image source: created by Jaime Castle

Announcements

December 2024 Children's Religious Education (RE) Schedule



December 1 - Bake-n-Take: Start off our exploration of pluralism in December with a bit of holiday baking/cookie decorating.

December 8 - Learning Together: Come find out about the many winter holidays around the world, in preparation for the holiday pageant.

December 15 - Jam Session: Love music? This is a perfect Sunday to enjoy music together with Charlotte Loflin.

December 22 - Holiday Pageant: This day will be our holiday pageant – "Strike a Pose: An Interactive Holiday Pageant."

December 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7 p.m.

December 29 - There will be no kids programming on December 29, as it's the Sunday after Christmas.

Image source: Canva

HUUC Office Limits Hours over the Holidays



Please note that the HUUC office will be open only limited hours between December 23, 2024 and January 6, 2025. The office will close at 3 p.m. on December 23. It will reopen for limited hours on December 30. January 5, the office will be open 10 a.m. to noon. Normal hours resume on January 6, 2025. For more details, contact Martha in the office at:

HUUCoffice@yahoo.net

Image source: https://tinyurl.com/bdf8x958

Healthy Lifestyles Group Takes a Short Hiatus

Be a Christmas Tree Angel on January 5, 2025!



Typically, Heritage women (members and friends) meet every Tuesday for a brown bag lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Great Hall for this gentle support group that supplies the confidence to make better health choices without cost, scales, or judgment. However, during the holidays, the Healthy Lifestyles Group will take a short hiatus. The group will not gather on December 24 or 31, 2024. The group will resume their regular meeting schedule on January 7, 2025.

Image source: https://tinyurl.com/22z9b97h

Putting up a Christmas tree is a traditional delight of this winter holiday season. However, taking it down is often viewed with sadness or at least it is considered a chore. Not so at Heritage! For this activity, we become "Christmas Tree Angels."

Come join us on Sunday, January 5, 2025 immediately following the morning service, as we retire the sanctuary's Christmas tree for this season. Everyone can participate. You don't want to miss this amazing cooperative choreography. Excerpt: Please join the amazing cooperative choreography as we retire the sanctuary's Christmas tree for the season on January 5, 2025 immediately following the morning service.

Want Texts from Heritage?



This fall, did you get a text message from "Breeze-huuc" with an event reminder? That's because we began using the text option in our directory database, Breeze. But new regulations require that cell phone carriers receive "double opt in" to transmit SMS messages from HUUC via Breeze. That means you need to reply YES when you receive a request from Breeze to transmit messages on behalf of Heritage even if you have already given a member of the church staff your permission to receive text messages.

If you received a text message on October 23, 2024 from

87447 asking you to opt-in to messages from "Heritage Universalist Unitarian Chu...", you may still reply "YES" to that message. If you think you deleted that message or replied "stop" by mistake, try sending a text to 87447 with the message "Start."

If your cell number is not in our database, and you would like to receive text messages, please contact Martha in the HUUC office, give her your cell phone number, and state or email your express permission to receive text messages from Breeze on behalf of the church. You will then receive a text asking you to confirm your request, and you will need to respond to that text message to complete the double opt-in process.

If you aren't certain that Heritage has your mobile number in our database, please contact Martha in the HUUC Office by calling (513) 231-8634 or emailing Heritage UU Church at

huucoffice@yahoo.com

Image source: <u>https://tinyurl.com/2kwpctdd</u>

Citywide Our Whole Lives (OWL) Needs You



Our area UU churches are officially re-launching citywide OWL this year with Sr. High and K-1 OWL offerings, along with a possible adult or senior adult collaboration with a Cincinnati UCC church. If you love OWL and want to support our expanding citywide partnership, please consider these opportunities:

1. Do you have a Sr. High youth who hasn't completed OWL? To receive information about our Sr. High OWL class starting in 2025, email Laci at:

dlfdhuuc@gmail.com

2. Are you an adult who would like to take OWL? Make sure to fill out the Adult RE Interest form found at: https://huuc.breezechms.com/form/b7b9a8

3. Are you a trained Jr./Sr. High OWL teacher? We are still building our Sr. High OWL 2025 teaching team. The commitment includes teaching once or twice a month on Sunday afternoons at Heritage.

4. Might you be interested in teaching a future OWL course? We are planning to host OWL teacher trainings for both K-1/Grade 4-6 and Jr./Sr. High teachers in the coming year.

Best,

Laci Lee Adams HUUC Director of Lifespan Faith Development

Image caption: OWL program logo, fair use

Image source: <u>http://profile.ak.fbcdn.net/hprofile-ak-snc4/50255_30258756296_1249_n.jpg</u>, <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?curid=33016606</u>

Ministries

Social Justice Collaborative Meets in January



The HUUC Social Justice Collaborative will meet on Sunday, January 26, 2025 in the Heritage Room starting ten minutes after the completion of the morning worship service.

Any member or friend of Heritage is welcome to attend and learn more about our work to seek justice for all. The Collaborative brings together individuals who have passion for various areas of social justice, including racial justice, economic equity, governmental reform, homelessness, LGBTQ+ issues, and basic human rights for all. We meet to share information and support each other in this important

and oftentimes difficult work.

If you would like more information or a topic added to the agenda, contact Mimi Sinclair at:

mimisinclair@me.com

Image source: https://tinyurl.com/yck8589n

Community Events

Midweek Mindfulness



Every Wednesday at 12:30 p.m.

Midweek Mindfulness is a powerful, transformative, very easy and quick spiritual practice. Set a recurring reminder on your phone for 12:30 each Wednesday. Then join others in the Heritage community (and literally around the world) in five minutes – *just five minutes* – of mindfulness. Take a break,

right in the middle of your busy and stressful week, from 12:30-12:35 p.m. each Wednesday, to breathe. To rest. To meditate. To be. Stop and smell the roses. Look at the clouds passing overhead, or a flower in the grass (or on your desk). And know, as you are doing it, that many others are doing the same. Join them in mindfulness and spiritual connection.

Image courtesy of Intel Free Press via Flickr. Creative Commons License.

New Year's Day Candlelight Vigil



January 1, 2025, 5:00 - 5:30 p.m. at Beech Acres Park, Anderson Township, OH

On January 1, 2025, the New Year's Day Candlelight Vigil event will take place at the Peace Pole Garden in Beech Acres Park, 6910 Salem Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio.

This will be the twentieth year of the event.

Participants are invited to bring a brief poem or reading to share. Candles will be provided.

Image: GAPP Peace Pole Garden Image courtesy of Louise Lawarre.

2024 Potlucks in Review before the Potluck Lunch on Sunday, January 12, 2025



A comment overheard describing HUUC is that we are the "pot-luckiest people!" Our potlucks have become legend among our ranks. As we close in on the end of the year and consider what to make, bring, and/or eat at our next Sunday potluck lunch event, January 12, 2025, immediately following the morning worship service, let's review the 2024 potluck secrets series points.

- UU food can be kale, quinoa, tofu, pizza, soup, or anything ranging from vegan to carnivore, healthy to indulgent. Make it, buy it, or just bring yourself, all is good!
- Potluck offerings can be as simple as peeled Clementine oranges.
- Potluck offerings can be as indulgent as chips and dip.
- Consider stopping at UDF for your potluck offering if time is of the essence.
- Surprised by the date, didn't realize it was the second Sunday? Then, just bring yourself.
- Too hot to cook during these dog days of summer? Just bring something cold or just you.
- Are you bashful about attending? You will make friends without effort and catch up with old ones.
- The potluck variety is more than tuna noodle casserole.
- Do you make too much for you at home? Bring it in for the potluck.
- Enter the holidays with the potluck entrees.

Come join us as we commune in our revered monthly potluck ritual in the great hall, January 12, 2025 immediately following the worship service.

Image Source: Collection of creative commons images by B. Barnes from March - December Heirloom issues

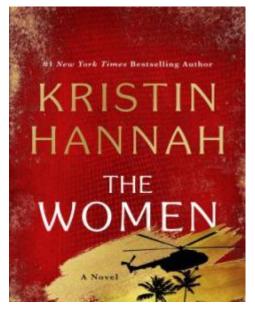
Sing Out Sisters



Second Tuesday of each month, at 7:00 p.m., in the sanctuary.

We gather in circle as women to create sacred space through song. Feel free to bring an altar item to co-create the altar.

The BWB Reads "The Women"



Wednesday, January 15, 2025 7-9 p.m. in the Heritage Room

Join the Heritage Women's Book Club (affectionately known as the Babes with Books or the BWB) for their discussion of *The Women* by Kristin Hannah on Wednesday, January 15, 2025 in the Heritage Room from 7 - 9 p.m. This novel is the story about one woman who served in the Vietnam war, but it shines a light on all women who put themselves in harm's way and whose sacrifice and commitment to their country has too often been forgotten. It is a novel about deep friendships and bold patriotism. *The Women* is a richly drawn story with a memorable heroine whose idealism and courage under fire will come to define an era.

Our current selections for our upcoming meetings are as follows:

February 19, 2025 - *The Measure,* by Nickki Erlick March 19, 2025 - *True Biz,* by Sara Novic April 16, 2025 - *The Lost Book of Bonn,* by Brianna Labuskes May 21, 2025 - *The Briar Club,* by Kate Quinn June 18, 2025 - *The Whalebone Theater,* by Joanna Quinn

All BWB meetings run from 7 - 9 p.m. 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.

Join Us for a Six-Week Yoga & Meditation Series



at Heritage Universalist Unitarian Church 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. in the church's sanctuary on various dates below

Looking for a peaceful space to unwind, to center yourself, and to connect with others? We invite you to join our grounding, free, six-week series designed to help you find calm amidst the chaos.

What to Expect:

• Tuesday, January 21 and Tuesday February 18,

2025 - Breathwork & Yogic Techniques to restore balance

and reduce stress (lead by Tracy Jo Duckworth)

- Wednesday, January 29, 2025 Guided Meditation to quiet the mind and nurture inner peace (lead by Maureen Boylan)
- Tuesday, February 4, 2025 Yoga Nidra Relaxation to deeply relax and rejuvenate (lead by Julie Lusk)
- Wednesday, February 12 and February 26, 2025 Gentle Yoga to release tension and cultivate mindful movement (lead by Joelle Tunning)

This series is a sanctuary from political angst and a chance to be in community, embrace mindfulness, and create space for healing. All are welcome. No previous experience is required. No childcare is provided. Please bring a yoga mat to most of these sessions.

Let's come together to breathe, move, and find peace in this collective journey.

Mark your calendars for 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. for yoga and meditation on January 21, January 29, February 4, February 12, February 18, and February 26 in the HUUC sanctuary.

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For more information, contact Katie Kpaeyeh at

ktonger@gmail.com

Image source: https://tinyurl.com/3huzj73m

## The HUUC Indigenous Issues Group Reads "A Council of Dolls"



#### A novel by Mona Susan Power 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., January 28, 2025, in the Heritage Room

Amazon.com describes this book that spans the years as "(f)rom the mid-century metropolis of Chicago to the windswept ancestral lands of the Dakota people, to the bleak and brutal Indian boarding schools, *A Council of Dolls* is the story of three women, told in part through the stories of the dolls they carried...." Amazon.com continues that this novel by awardwinning Native American author Mona Susan Power is "(a) modern masterpiece. *A Council of Dolls* is gorgeous, quietly devastating, and ultimately hopeful, shining a light on the echoing damage wrought by Indian boarding schools, and the historical massacres of Indigenous people. With stunning prose,

Mona Susan Power weaves a spell of love and healing that comes alive on the page."

The HUUC Indigenous Issues Group will discuss this novel starting at 7 p.m. on January 28, 20025 in the Heritage Room.

Image source: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/59xyn4jr">https://tinyurl.com/59xyn4jr</a>

## Join an "Improvisational" Night of Food and Fun -Explore Leaning Into the Unknown



Saturday, March 29th, 2025, 6:00 - 9:30 p.m. (at the latest) in the HUUC Great Hall

#### Cost: \$30 per person

This dinner/improv event is inspired by Bill Lyon's recent sermon on improv. The first rule of improv is "Say YES and..." Please say YES to supporting HUUC at this unique fundraiser.

We can't tell you what is on the menu because we don't even know! Come along and be surprised! A vegetarian option will be available (who knows, the whole meal may be vegetarian!) There will be something to please everyone. You know it's going to be good because Chefs Julie Kane and Tracy Jo will be in the kitchen.

The rest of the evening's entertainment is best summed up right now as "yet to be determined." In the true spirit of improv, it might be determined right before your eyes! Stay tuned for more details or just open yourself to the spontaneous possibilities as they unfold.

Enjoy a full evening of food, fun, and friends. Explore leaning into the unknown! Follow this link to register: <u>https://huuc.breezechms.com/form/bd4f98</u>

Image source: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/2smztyyn">https://tinyurl.com/2smztyyn</a>

## **Classroom Antics STEAM Summer Camps Return**



From June 30 to July 3, 2025, the annual robotics, video game, coding, and animation Classroom Antics STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) camp returns to Heritage. Registration opens Friday, November 29, 2024 with the biggest discounts available that day only. For details and registration, visit <u>https://www.classroomantics.com/camp-locations/cincinnati-summer-camps/summer-tech-camps-in-anderson-twp-ohio/</u>.

Image source: https://tinyurl.com/fmxea8b9

## Support

### **Remember the 13th Month!**



Dear HUUC Members and Friends,

We are very near the end of the calendar year, which means that we are also close to launching our first-ever 13<sup>th</sup> month pledge campaign. The idea with this supplemental pledge campaign is that we will ask each pledging member and friend to contribute the equivalent of one month's pledge as an additional "13th month" donation to the church.

Here's how this campaign will work. Just after Thanksgiving, all

members and friends who made a pledge for the current fiscal year will receive an email from me via <u>huucpledge@gmail.com</u>. In that email, I will let you know what your 13<sup>th</sup> month pledge would be based on your current yearly pledge amount. You will have the option of paying your 13<sup>th</sup> month pledge as an additional full month's payment, or you will be able to choose a different amount.

If you currently make your pledge payments via EFT, then you will be able to select that payment option for the 13<sup>th</sup> month pledge (I'll include a submission deadline in order for the EFT withdrawal to happen by the end of the year). You will also have the option of paying via check.

This fund-raising concept received very strong support at our last Annual Meeting, and I'm looking forward to seeing how generous we can be with this effort over the holiday season. The 13<sup>th</sup> month pledge campaign will run from the week after Thanksgiving through the end of the year.

Please email me if you have any questions at:

reid.hester@gmail.com

Yours in service and generosity,

Reid Hester HUUC Stewardship Chair

Image source: <u>https://bit.ly/3NoGtax</u> and <u>https://bit.ly/3BJU2is</u>

## Making a Contribution or Pledge Payment to HUUC during the Sunday Worship Service?



Use the blue envelopes (found at the rear of sanctuary or ask an usher) for contributions or pledge payments you are making **to the church** when adding them to the collection. Loose cash or checks in offering plate go to weekly outreach recipient.

Image source: https://tinyurl.com/e2c3sr9d

## **News Articles**

### **HUUC Board Briefs for November and December 2024**



The Heritage UU Church Board of Trustees met on November 11, and December 9. 2024. The following summarizes their activities.

#### **November 2024 Board Briefs**

1. You may have noticed that the LED portion of our sign out front is not working correctly. Fixing the sign is rather expensive, and since it is older technology, the Board is of the

opinion that it isn't worth putting money towards fixing it when it is likely to break again soon. *Nov. 16 addendum*: After reviewing the options researched by Susan Conley, the Board

voted to cover the LED portion of the sign with a fixed graphic, which you can now see in place on the sign.

2. The Board will be sending out a survey soon to gather input on the Senior Minister transition. It will be presented during an upcoming service, and will be open for a few weeks. There will be both paper and digital options for completion.

#### **December 2024 Board Briefs**

- 1. Our roof has developed a leak over the kitchen area. After bringing a trusted roof repair company out to assess, the Board has elected to make the required repairs to the existing roof, as well as shore up a few other potential problem areas. The roofing expert's opinion was that we could get a number of additional years out of our existing roof after making these repairs.
- The HUUC Board has appointed the following six people to the Heritage Acres Memorial Sanctuary Board of Trustees, effective now through the end of 2025: Tom Bosarge, Donna Buckley, Donelle Dreese, Mika Kill, Dave Spinney, and Jeff Syroney. There is one remaining open seat on the Heritage Acres board that will be filled at a later date.
- 3. Our minister transition survey is open and will close on December 15. We have received over 60 responses so far, so thank you to all of you who have completed it! The Board will continue to seek guidance from the congregation as we move into the new year.
- 4. We received an unexpected and very welcome \$4,000 donation from an unnamed source to be used as needed. Thank you for your generosity!

Photo caption: HUUC Board of Trustee members -Front row: Jaime Castle, Rebecca Pace Back row: Luke Walczewski, Antonio Ciolino, Garry Wilson, Susan Conley, Roger Miller Image source: <u>https://huuc.net/huuc-board-members/</u>

## New Members Join HUUC on December 1, 2024



Featured Faces of New HUUC Members, Dec. 1, 2024



On December 1, 2024, six new members officially joined the ranks of Heritage Universalist Unitarian Church by signing the membership book. The new members include Austin and Karley Bauritcher (pictured in this article's feature image with their children), Gloria Walker, Molly McTighe and John Colebrook, followed by the picture of their children, and Kelly Vienot (not pictured.) Some of these congregants are fairly new to our space, others have been involved with us for quite some time. Please welcome these new and maybe not so new faces and learn more about them in the descriptions below.

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Austin and Karley Baurichter started coming to Heritage this fall, seeking a safe spiritual home in which



to raise their children – Elinor (who is six) and Everett (who is three).

Austin is a recent graduate of law school who says he is blessed to have found a line of work where he can combine a love of reading and writing with an opportunity to affect change and do good in the world. Considered something of a homebody, he is happiest when spending time with Karley and the kids – but he's also really enjoying the community he is finding here at Heritage.

Spiritually speaking, Austin has, at various times, been a Catholic schoolboy, a hardheaded atheist with a penchant for quoting Humphrey Bogart characters, and, he adds, "truthfully, someone who was just not sure which way to walk." Thankfully, Austin has come to the conclusion that

what really matters is simply listening to oneself, and being with others whose hearts and minds are open – which is why he is so happy to have found Heritage.

**Karley** says that for as long as she can remember, she's been "seeking answers." She sought them from her parents; she sought them from the Catholic Church in which she was raised, from her teachers, and in the books she read. This singular focus led to a Bachelor's degree in English from U.C., where, alongside her core classes, she took electives ranging from Buddhism to a class called Demons of the Bible.

Feeling incomplete in her search, Karley continued her education at the University of Louisville, where she earned a Masters in English and served as a composition instructor. She found great satisfaction teaching students *how* to look for answers, and how to communicate their ideas.

To date, she says the only thing that has come close to an "answer" for her is being there as her children (whom she now home-schools) ask questions themselves. To quote Kahlil Gibran, "Your children are not your children / They are the sons and daughters of life's longing for itself." Karley says, "I am so deeply glad to have found this community, where people don't claim to have the answers, and where my children feel safe."

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**John Colebrook** and **Molly McTighe** have been coming to Heritage for a few years now, and are active, respectively, in our security and religious education teams. They are the proud parents of Jane, age 10, and Simon, age 7.

Born in Lexington, as a child, **John** enjoyed life on thoroughbred horse farms as his family moved around Kentucky and Ohio for his father's job as a farm manager and trainer. They eventually settled here in Cincinnati. John went to college at Bucknell in Pennsylvania, where he studied chemical engineering. He then landed an environmental consulting job at Trinity Consultants, where he still works.

John says he was drawn to UUism because of his skepticism of dogma, and desire to find a community of compassionate and caring people.

**Molly** grew up here in Cincinnati with three older sisters. Molly and John have been together since high school, though they briefly went in different directions for college – Molly first to UNC-Asheville, and later to Xavier for a masters in clinical mental health counseling. She's also an artist and owner of a small business doing pet portraits and murals.

Lately, Molly has also become invested in local politics, and is energized to continue supporting her friends in the Ohio state house and on the Forest Hills School Board.

Molly and John were both raised Catholic, but found the values of Unitarian Universalism more aligned with the ideals they hold for their children and their community.

At home, the McTighe-Colebrook crew enjoys seeking out new adventures in the realms of:

1) outdoor activities,

2) cooking – including finding cool new places to participate in the arts, culinary, and brewery scenes, and

3) identifying ever more distant and exotic travel destinations for the family's next big vacation.

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**Gloria Walker** has been coming to Heritage for years, and is very active in our choir. She's on a continuing journey of spiritual discovery that began as a child, when she was the youngest of five children of the minister of a Predestinarian Baptist Church. With a father who was a preacher, she says religion was very much a part of her upbringing, from the beginning. But Gloria eventually went off to college and later medical school, and she stopped going to church (except for a Baptist Church where she went to hear gospel singing!)

She practiced her specialty, family medicine, in Greater Cincinnati for a number of years, but currently describes herself as "semi-retired, except for doing telehealth." She has

four adult children and one grandson. Her hobbies include reading, writing, piano, singing, and walking.

Gloria describes her spiritual journey as "very complicated," with explorations of yoga, Spiritualism, Buddhism, metaphysics, and mysticism. Once, at a Transcendentalist Meditation retreat, she met Mary Pat Genz – who told her about Heritage Church – and when Mary Pat found out that Gloria was a singer, she recruited her for our Choir, assuring her that she didn't have to join the church in order to sing in our Choir. "I thought that was quite interesting," said Gloria, "So I started coming. I enjoy this community very much."

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**Kelly Vienot** is a native of Cincinnati who recently moved back to town from Fayetteville, N.C., where she attended a Unitarian Universalist church as well. She is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati's School of Social Work, and previously worked for the United States Marine Corps' Wounded Warrior Battalion. Kelly and her son Remi, age 5, are very excited to become part of the Heritage Church community.

Featured Image caption: clockwise from left corner - The Baurichter family: Austin, Karley, Elinor, and Everett / Gloria Walker / Molly McTighe and John Colebrook / Molly and John's children Jan and Simon / not pictured - Kelly Vienot.

Image source: created by B.L. Barnes from photos supplied by the new members

#### HUUC Women Enjoy the Clara Barton Guild Holiday Dinner



Wednesday evening, December 4, 2024, approximately 40 HUUC women attended the annual Clara Barton Guild dinner. Each year, the Clara Barton Guild hosts a holiday dinner for all the women of the church. The women shared many appetizers and desserts that they brought, and savored eggplant Parmesan, lasagna, and salad for dinner.

As a part of the Guild's business meeting, held during the

January 2025 HUUC Heirloom

gathering, the group agreed to make Guild donations to Hope Springs, Planned Parenthood, and the Clara Barton Camp for Diabetic Education. Erin Walczewski gave a lovely talk about the life of Clara Barton.

As usual, all were delighted by the evening event. Put this delicious evening on your 2025 calendar - an event usually held on the first Wednesday of December.

Image source: https://tinyurl.com/48s342b6

#### The HUUC Bazaar was a Rousing Success!



The December 7 and 8, 2024 HUUC Holiday Bazaar that combined sales from crafters from HUUC and Ten Thousand Villages plus photos with Santa was a rousing success. The Holiday Bazaar had gross sales of \$ 6,170 with the craft section accounting for \$ 870 and Ten Thousand Villages adding \$ 5,300. The total net profit was more than \$1,500 for the HUUC operating funds.

Thanks to all who contributed their time and craftworks efforts to this profitable event.



HUUC members Bob and Ellie Lamb with Santa at the HUUC Holiday Bazaar.



Santa with more HUUC youths at the HUUC Holiday Bazaar.

Featured image source: licensed through Canva Photos courtesy of Meredith Meyer

January 2025 HUUC Heirloom

## **Creativity Corner**

## "Holidays" Creative Corner Submissions



We are in the midst of the major holiday season, at least in the western world. However, we don't all celebrate the same thing. We don't all love this season. For some it is a time of joy, excitement, nostalgia, or possibly dread. It is all fodder for deep feelings and thus fuel for creative writing efforts.

Submissions for the Creative Corner section of the January, 2025 *Heirloom* include poetry and prose on the expansive theme of holidays - all sorts - from HUUC congregants.

Image source: Created by B. L. Barnes

## The Big One



#### by Chris Burroughs

'Twas the coldest day of the year in a long ago year. The three boys were quite young and excited by the snow. Their father was determined that it was a great day to head to the Christmas Tree Farm "somewhere" in Kentucky . . . a part of the state which had at least one hundred tree farms but only one with "the good " trees. It supposedly had lots of trees, acres of evergreens. We found the place after a few hours. The guys working at the tree farm gave us a handsaw. It didn't look very sharp. A bit rusty. Splintery handle. We

hoped it would do the job. We started at the lowest part of the hill and determined that the newer, smaller trees were there. The children complained that those were soooo small. I complained that it was toooo cold to go much further. But, we trudged on. And on.

Toby, our middle son, found a baby tree and joked that this could be "the one." Looked good to me. All 18 inches of it. Dad shrugged and said that we could find something better that that one. So on we went, examining dozens of potentials.

Too short. Too spindly. Too crooked. Trunk too thick. Trunk rather thin. Open spaces in the front. And on the back side, as well. Dropped its needles. Top leaned over.

#### Top had no point. "Twiggely." Loser.

So many didn't pass the test. So, we walked on. And on. Up. Up to the skyline, it seemed. The view from the top of the hill might have been worth it if we had been able to turn our frozen bodies around to lift our chins. We could only move stiffly like robots. The youngest boy was crying. Maybe I should take him to the car. You know, with the engine running, the heater blasting, our most beautiful car, our salvation from frostbite or worse.

No. No. Our tree suddenly appeared right in front of us. We all agreed that it looked perfect. The older boys and their Dad took turns sawing. And sawing. Damn saw was worthless. A guy on a snowmobile drove up with a chainsaw and **ZIP ZOOM...** down came our tree. Our perfect holiday tree. Not spindly or crooked. Trunk seemed right. No open spaces. Live bird nest. It had everything we hoped for. A bit tall, though. The older boys and their father dragged it down the hillside. I carried the youngest child. My back was breaking from his hefty 35 pounds, and miles to go down the hillside.

Another family was hoofing up the hill toward the elusive skyline. A youngster of six years or so tugged on his mother's coat and said, "It is, Mom! It's the tree for the library." It was then that I worried about our choice.

We made it down the steep hill. The workers at the tree farm kindly secured the tree to the roof of our station wagon. Off we drove, hoping to find our home before morning. Within minutes, we had the car heater warmed above freezing. We turned it on full blast. The youngest boy fell asleep. The older two discussed what kind of birds lived in the tree and what would they feed them at home. I thought - please, dear God, no worms in my refrigerator or crickets in the cheese drawer.

Well, we made it home. As the tree was unloaded, some neighbors gathered around. Some snickered. Some backed away. Some were speechless. After the tree broke the frame of our home's front door and busted the storm door off its hinges, it was in. We only had to cut four feet off in order to get it upright. It was tied to the stair banister as insurance against a tumble. At that stage of the game, who cared if the top had no point, or that the birds flew their nest, or that the trunk would not fit in the tree stand. It was **OUR TREE**. It was the BIG ONE. Yes, indeedy, the Big One.

Oh, by the way, we kept it up until Easter.

Image source: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/5cbm4ee">https://tinyurl.com/5cbm4ee</a> and <a href="https://tinyurl.com/3e9ne7yv">https://tinyurl.com/5cbm4ee</a> and <a href="https://tinyurl.com/3e9ne7yv">https://tinyurl.com/3e9ne7yv</a>



## Still THERE!! by Valerie DuBay

Isn't it fun to see Lady Cardinal, resplendent in her understated, yet quite beautiful RED, sitting on a branch of the soft, green pine tree outside my window? Looking all Christmas-y and Winter-y and Fine? She is joined by her bright RED mate, and they exchange places on the branches then chase each other, as birds do. What a Joy to see!

Even though, at times, the uncertainty of so much in our lives may lead us to doubt what we have known for so long, and at times we just simply don't know quite what to do -yet..... the Birds STILL sing the Sun STILL shines Rain STILL falls, and the Beauty and Kindness in the world, in Nature, in all of Us.... it's ALL STILL there-for us to draw strength from.... pulling us through.

It's STLL THERE!!

Image source: https://tinyurl.com/338wtw5e

## 'Twas the Night Before Christmas Yoga Poem

Adapted and written by Julie Lusk from 'Twas the Night before Christmas by Clement Clarke Moore (1779-1863)



'Twas the time before Christmas, and in the yoga place, not a muscle was moving, it was filled with grace. The mats were lined up, on the floor with care, in hopes that sweet relaxation would soon be there.

The students relaxed, all snug on their mats, while life hurried by, like crazy cats. Everybody began moving, this way and that.

"Now Tadasana! Now Chandrasana! Virabhadrasana & Bridge! On Cobra! On Bow! On Locust and Fish! To the top of your head! And the bottom of your heart! Now breathe away! Breathe away! And please don't fart!"

When up in my brain there arose such a clatter, I fell out of my posture, to worsen the matter, When what to my wandering mind should appear, but a big plate of chocolate, and a six-pack of cheer!

Such a mental mirage so clever and quick, I knew in a moment, it was a monkey mind trick! More calm and deeper my breathing I made, to ensure that distractions, quickly would fade.

Breathing mindfully now, making the ocean sound noise, I found balance and focus to bring my life poise. And as I turned my head, I lost sight of myself and caught a brief glimpse behind me, a small Santa's elf!

He was dressed in an outfit, all green and red, with a bright stocking hat to cover his head. His stretching looked strained, most likely due, to his crafting in the workshop, 'till his knuckles were blue.

Gradually he got all stretched out and about, and his stout little body was filling with glee, from the crown of his head to his cute little feet. His energy cleared, his outlook made merry, his cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry.

During downward dog pose, blood rushed to my head, flooding my brain with oxygen, turning me red. It was then I came to realize, that much like the elf I was creating a gift, of peace, for my Self.

Yoga postures and breathing, not a cell left untouched now the body at peace, and the mind just as much.

Each posture creating a delightful feeling. It felt real, I was not dreaming. Every part of my self I learned to treasure like a true gift of love, far beyond measure.

In final shavasana I heard not a thing. I felt I was soaring, on a beautiful bird's wing. My body at peace, and so too, my mind, releasing my Self from the stressors that bind.

Never too poor, never too sick, never too old, or fat, like St. Nick. Yoga's health and happiness, it's certainly true, peace and joy are presents for you.

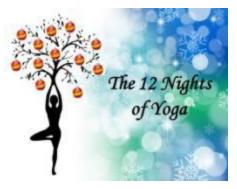
And as you leave, relaxed and renewed, Here's one wish I hope, you get just right:

"Peace and Joy and to all a Good Night!"

Image source: https://tinyurl.com/3jtzmt49

## The 12 Nights of Yoga Holiday Poem ©

by Julie Lusk & Yoga Friends



On the 1st night of yoga, my teacher gave to me ...

Balance in a tree pose

- 2 Downward Dogs
- 3 Sun Salutes
- 4 Breaths of Joy
- 5 Namaste's
- 6 Standing Stretches
- 7 Chakras Spinning
- 8 Pigeons Posing
- 9 Yogi's Sleeping
- 10 Oms A-Singing
- 11 Warrior Poses
- 12 Meditations

Image source: https://tinyurl.com/4hvb9twt, https://tinyurl.com/34vnfcu8, and https://tinyurl.com/5n7fd6xd

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The Holidays - A Haiku by Barbara L. Barnes



- Jan. 1 New Years Day*
- Jan. 2 Saint Basil's Day*
- Jan. 3 Festival of Sleep*
- Jan. 4 National Trivia Day*
- Jan. 5 Twelfth Night*
- Jan. 6 Three Kings Day*
- Jan. 7 Orthodox Christmas Day*
- Jan. 8 National Bubble Bath Day*
- Jan. 9 National Word Nerd Day*
- Jan. 10 House Plant Appreciation Day*
- Jan. 11 National Hot Toddy Day*
- Jan. 12 National Hot Tea Day*
- Jan. 13 National Rubber Ducky Day*
- Jan. 14 Russian/Orthodox New Year*
- Jan. 15 National Bagel Day*
- Jan. 16 National Religious Freedom Day*
- Jan. 17 National Hot Buttered Rum Day*

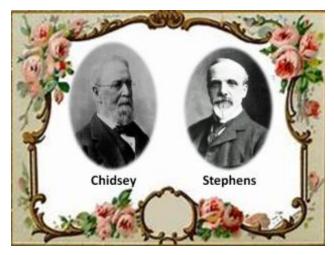
- Jan. 18 Swap Soup Day*
- Jan. 19 National Popcorn Day*
- Jan. 20 MLK Birthday*
- Jan. 21 National Hugging Day*
- Jan. 22 National Blonde Brownie Day*
- Jan. 23 National Pie Day*
- Jan. 24 National Peanut Butter Day*
- Jan. 25 Barb Barnes B-day*
- Jan. 26 National Peanut Brittle Day*
- Jan. 27 National Chocolate Cake Day*
- Jan. 28 National Blueberry Pancake Day*
- Jan. 29 Chinese New Year*
- Jan. 30 National Croissant Day*
- Jan. 31 National Hot Chocolate Day*
- Feb. 1 National Baked Alaska Day*
- Feb. 2 Groundhogs' Day*
- *High holiday, gifts required

Should I show more holidays? Retired - each day a feast. Why not celebrate? (Gift consumables!)

Image source: https://tinyurl.com/ym3xxyv5

From the Archives

They Also Served - Chidsey and Stephens



by Mike Roberts, HUUC Church Historian

Much has been reported in this column from our archives, biographies, and other references regarding the many ministers who accepted the pulpit to what we now call Heritage Universalist Unitarian Church. Not as much has been offered about the men and women who gave much of their lives to the sustenance and support of our congregation. In this and in future articles, I will introduce a few of those persons, who, over the years, have been integral parts of our heritage.

William Chidsey — Brother Chidsey was a long-time

member of our church and its board of trustees from the 1850s to the 1870s. He was born in Bristol, England in 1814 and immigrated to the United States as a young man. He brought with him the skill of wire making and, after a brief stay in Philadelphia, he came to Cincinnati where he opened the first wire making business in the city.

Chidsey prospered and extended his service to the city in several other pursuits. He served as a justice of the peace for many years. He also was a clerk in the county auditor's office. Most of all, he was remembered as a highly respected and honored member of the International Order of Odd Fellows. He held many statewide positions and his funeral was attended by nearly every high ranking member of the I.O.O.F. in the state of Ohio.

Chidsey evidently left the Universalist Society at some point late in his life. His funeral was held at the Church of the Advent, an Episcopalian Church in Walnut Hills. William Chidsey married Sarah Bacon and they had four children.

<u>Charles H. Stephens</u> — Brother Stephens was a lifetime member of the First Universalist Society of Cincinnati. He served in many capacities including numerous terms as President of the Board of Trustees as well as serving as a trustee when not serving in an office. He also chaired many committees and was instrumental in the construction of our church building on Essex Avenue.

In private life Stephens was a lawyer, owning his own firm after the death of his co-owner Timothy Lincoln. Stephens also served on the Board of Directors of the Cincinnati School System alongside Alfonse Taft, the father of William Howard Taft. He served on the Board of Alderman for the city and was part of the team that successfully attacked the corruption in city hall.

Stephens took great pride in casting his first vote for President for Abraham Lincoln in 1864. Charles married Alice Bard and they had three sons. One son joined the law firm, a second died young, and the third was Vice-President of the St. Louis Cardinals baseball team. Stephens passed away at age 99 in 1940. He was thought to be the oldest member of the Ohio Bar Association and made regular trips to his office

until just three weeks before his death. He granted the church \$2,500 in his will to be used as the leadership chose. The grant was named after his mother, Elizabeth, who died in 1922 at age 100.

Image caption: William Chidsey and Charles H. Stephens Image source: Mike Roberts and <u>https://tinyurl.com/mr236hsk</u>

The Wider UU World

General Assembly 2025: Registration and Housing Opened December 9



Registration and housing for the 2025 UUA General Assembly in Baltimore opened on December 9. This is your chance to secure your spot at the largest annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists.

Why Use the GA Housing Reservation System?

Booking through the official GA Housing System helps the UUA secure critical meeting space at the convention center and hotels while negotiating for accessibility and sustainability requirements on behalf of attendees. Staying in our hotel block ensures the success of GA while keeping you close to the action! Learn more and explore hotel options at <u>https://www.uua.org/ga/travel/generalassembly-hotels</u>.

Financial Assistance and Special Discounts

- **Registration and Housing Support**: Financial aid is available to assist with registration and housing. Qualified recipients will receive promo codes for discounted registration and housing links for hotel or dorm reservations. Apply at: <u>https://www.uua.org/ga/registration/financialaid/scholarships</u>
- **First-Time Attendees**: If 2025 will be your first in-person GA, use the promo code WELCOME100 to save \$100 on multiplatform registration. First-timers will also be invited to a welcome orientation on Wednesday, June 18 and a post-GA debrief session. Only 100 discounts are available, so act fast!
- Inclusion Promo Code: Attendees holding a historically marginalized identity (e.g., BIPOC, LGBTQ+, or people with disabilities) who face financial hardship can use the promo code INCLUSION100 for a \$100 registration discount. A total of 100 discounts are available.

Volunteer at GA

GA is powered by hundreds of volunteers who assist with everything from tech support to hanging congregational banners. Volunteers receive complimentary full-time multiplatform registration. Interested? Learn more at: https://www.uua.org/ga/registration/financialaid/volunteer.

What's Next?

While hotel reservations opened December 9, dorm housing and home hospitality options may be available in the new year. Stay tuned for updates about these alternatives. Sign up to be notified if and when dormitory housing is secured.

Mark your calendar and visit uua.org/ga on December 9 to register, reserve housing, and make the most of all GA has to offer!

Image source: <u>https://tinyurl.com/nhzfzy3v</u>

Calendar of HUUC Events

For the online calendar of HUUC events, go to: <u>https://huuc.net/calendar-for-huuc/</u> and scroll to the month of interest. See also the list of all events at: <u>https://huuc.net/events/</u>

Get Weekly HUUC Updates

People in the Google Group "huuc-announcements" get a few Heritage-related announcement emails each week, including a summary on Monday, entitled *Heritage Connection*, 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 Barbara L. Barnes, *Heirloom* Editor

Submissions for the next *Heirloom* are due by <u>**5 p.m., Tuesday,**</u> January **21, 2024**. See <u>https://huuc.net/website-and-heirloom-newsletter-submitters-guide/</u> for information on writing for the *Heirloom* Send submissions to newsletter1@HUUC.net.

HUUC Contact Information: https://huuc.net/contact-us/

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