

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 <https://huuc.net/worship-dates-and-information/> or at <https://huuc.net/> 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 <https://huuc.net/worship-videos/> and on <https://YouTube.com>.

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### "Roots and Rabbit Holes"



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

As his retirement from ministry approaches, our Senior Minister has found himself being drawn more and more to researching, and considering his relationship with, his ancestors. With help from his late mother -- who in her lifetime did a considerable amount of family research -- as well as Heritage's resident genealogist, Doug Beezley, and others, Rev. Bill is piecing together a rather extensive family tree. Like many before him, what he's learning is challenging his previous understanding of

his roots. But remember the line from our hymn of invocation: "Roots hold me close; wings set me free." **Today** we will journey with Rev. Bill and Doug into what family trees can mean.

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/mbyhsh3v> and <https://tinyurl.com/mczwyf7m>

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"Why Not Here?"



Sunday, March 9, 2025, 10:30 a.m.
Rev. Mitra Jafarzadeh leads this service.

Join in community **this Sunday** as we ask, "Why not here?" Maybe this is the place for love to shine. Where Grace breaks through the ordinary. Where the best of humanity might be realized. And it might start by asking not why, but "Why not?" Why not us, why not here, why not now?

Rev Mitra Jafarzedeh, now retired from the UU ministry, focuses on using her skills in pastoring and coaching to help individuals and groups live with integrity and grace. Her company, Direct Light Consultation, uses individual coaching, group facilitation, and public speaking / teaching to help people move from good to better.

Image source: HUUC.net media library

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## "Moving Forward with Joy, Hope, and Vision"



**Sunday, March 16, 2025, 10:30 a.m.**

***Laci Lee Adams, Reid Hester, and Rev. Bill Gupton lead this service.***

This morning we look ahead to an exciting and generative period of transition and possibility as a community of faith. Join us in person or online as we renew our commitment to Heritage Church and its values by leaning into the joy and hope we share, and the vision of what we can become, together.

Image source: created by B.L. Barnes

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"Weird Science: The Final Installment"



Sunday, March 23, 2025, 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Bill Gupton leads this service.

Among Rev. Bill's most popular recurring Sunday services have been his periodic explorations of exciting, esoteric, and even eerie scientific discoveries and data points, questions, and quandaries. He calls these reflections "Weird Science." Join him today for the final installment. Come for old-times' sake. Come for the beautiful and mind-bending photographs and images. Come to learn something about our wondrous universe that you didn't know before. Come for the special music — a

duet by Sherry McCamley and Bob Booth! And, come to welcome new members into our congregation in our springtime New Member Ceremony.

If you would like to become a member of Heritage Church, please contact Rev. Bill at:

revbillgupton@gmail.com

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/mr3whjke>

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## "Notes from the Field"



**Sunday, March 30, 2025, 10:30 a.m.**

***Rev. Bill Gupton leads this service.***

Next month marks the five-year anniversary of the opening of Heritage Acres Memorial Sanctuary, the tri-state region's only dedicated natural ("green") burial ground. My, how time flies! What a journey it has been — for this congregation, for Rev. Bill and all its founders, and for the more than 100 families who have now laid a loved one to rest on the beautiful grounds of

the sanctuary on Locust Corner Road.

This morning, Rev. Bill will share stories and reminiscences of that journey, and offer an update on all that's happening, and is being planned for what has quickly become one of the nation's premiere green burial grounds. Our Choir will also sing for us today.

Image source: courtesy of Bill Gupton

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"Why Not Now?"



Sunday, April 6, 2025, 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Mitra Jafarzadeh leads this service.

Last month, Rev. Mitra Jafarzadeh of Direct Light Consultation encouraged us to consider the question "Why Not Here?" Today she will continue to help us with our transition work by asking us to wonder "Why Not Now?"

Rev. Mitra Jafarzadeh, now retired from the UU ministry, focuses on using her skills in pastoring and coaching to help individuals and groups live with integrity and grace. Her

company, Direct Light Consultation, uses individual coaching, group facilitation, and public speaking / teaching to help people move from good to better.

Image source: "Man Caves and She Sheds," March 17, 2024, YouTube.com

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



March, 2025
by Rev. Bill Gupton

It's starting to feel "real" now, my friends! With just three months left in my career as a Unitarian Universalist minister, I'm beginning to engage in all the "things" that go with wrapping up a 23-year ministry at a church that has meant so very much to me and my family. Events and celebrations are being planned and scheduled. People are arranging meetings and meals for an opportunity to share thoughts and feelings, memories and blessings with me. I've already officiated at my last Christmas Eve service, my last Water Blessing service, and more; my last Easter Sunday and Flower Communion are fast approaching. I've turned over the pulpit on Stewardship Sunday

to those whose work will be part of next year's operating budget – because I won't be here.

Meetings with the committees and teams that do the work of the church have taken on a different air, as planning (which often takes the form of "looking six months ahead") also involves events and programs that I won't be part of. I've begun looking around my office, and at least *mentally* sorting my personal books and papers from those that belong to the church. This particular task – the clearing out and closing down of the "Minister's Office," and preparing to remove all that made it uniquely "mine" – is proving to be particularly emotional, for me. I actually plan to preach about this, on my next-to-last Sunday with you, on May 18, 2025.

I'm also finding it hard to lay down the now ingrained habit of planning what to preach about – again, several months in advance. I catch myself thinking about something that would "make a good reflection," only to realize that all my remaining Sundays are already scheduled, already planned, already spoken for. Perhaps that's part and parcel of why things are suddenly starting to feel "real" - I have begun walking the

path to retirement, and I can see the end of that path clearly now. It is right there, on the horizon, and growing closer with each passing day.

I promise I will share as openly and honestly as I can, with you – as I always have – what I’m thinking and feeling and experiencing, on these last steps of the journey. I hope you will do the same, with me. Together, let’s “walk to the corner,” as one of my own former UU ministers once described the retirement process. When he said those words to my church, way back in the 1980s, it never occurred to me that I would one day be a UU minister myself – much less that I would be walking to the corner, with my own congregation.

But, here we are. Let us make the most of this special time together!

Imagine,
Rev. Bill

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## Loaves and Fishes - Daffodil Style



### **My Tribute to Connie Booth by Jaime Castle, HUUC Board of Trustees President**

The following article I wrote for the Heirloom when I was serving as the HUUC Board of Trustees President back in the spring of 2019. We had just lost our church matriarch Connie Booth that February to cancer. Connie was ever-present here at Heritage and her fight was our fight – she included us in her journey with a living wake and with having us be present with her, holding our hands more than anything. I want to rerun this article now to introduce her to those who came after she left

and to remember her with those who knew her, especially her husband Bob. I have still not cut into her dress, but I think this year I am ready. We miss you, Connie!

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#### **From an email dated April 15, 2017, at 11:32 AM:**

*Following up on Rev. Leslie’s story a few weeks ago, and preparing for tomorrow’s service, I have to say the loaves and fishes WORK! (or should it be works?)*

*I agreed to (Rev.) Bill’s request to provide daffodils, since the service will include our congregation’s very own daffodil/Easter story. Well, my daffodils tend to be on the early side of the season, and apparently so do most others’ gardens.*

*SO, I sent out the request just the same, and what came back was.... most are gone, but you are welcome to what’s there.*

*Also, several of you are away, but gave me permission to ‘go pick’ anyway. I have a very full bucket of probably a dozen or more varieties!*

*Five from one garden, six from another, and so it went.*

*And tomorrow morning while choir is rehearsing, I will be in heaven while I play with flowers from your gardens and your generous hearts.*

*Thanks folks!*

*Connie*

The above passage was the last email message that I received from Connie. I tend to forage for reminders of people: voice messages, text messages, or emails from them when they pass and when I'm missing them. When my beloved aunt passed in 2012, I listened to a voicemail message from her over and over until my newer edition phone came along and it was lost. I wanted to ingrain her voice to my memory. There is so much that will keep Connie in my memory.

My first memories of Connie go way back to when she led a Sunday service that was also a singing circle. She held rehearsals on Thursdays before choir met, just for an hour, weeks ahead of that service. I couldn't join the choir at the time as my schedule with my young daughter Lucy at home made it hard. This was a perfect way for me to get out and sing. Connie was so welcoming and nurturing. We sang: "Lord prepare me, to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true" and "Doors opening, doors closing," and also one that ended with "Be here now." Showing up and being a part of this service did open doors for me at Heritage, and I felt like it was after joining in on this that I started making connections. Music was a strong connector for Connie and me. I remember the night of the Italian themed fundraising party at the Lyon house that a bunch of us were hanging out singing bluegrass and folk songs together late into the night after most guests had left. Connie was there belting along and could have kept on going, but poor Bill Lyon finally, nicely, kicked us all out. Lol!

Another thing that connected Connie and me was sewing, and she would tell me about things that she had made. She would show great interest in the projects that I took on. She would come to me if there was a fix that she couldn't quite figure out on a garment needing mending. During one of my visits to her this fall, she had her wedding dress out. She told me about how both she and her grandmother had made it. She had hand sewn on the lace appliqué and was so proud of it. It was beautiful and elegant. She asked me to take it with me. She had asked me years ago if I had wanted it. I had used wedding dresses before to convert them into flower girl, baptism, or first communion dresses. She had heard of wedding dresses being made into angel gowns – beautiful handmade burial dresses and garments as gifts to the grieving families of babies that tragically die soon after birth. I had forgotten that she had asked me about it before and this time it seemed very heavy to take it from her after hearing her story and memories of it. It is in safekeeping for now. I do not have the strength to cut into it yet.

The emails I have from her all have to do with the gardening team that she guided. I have a good-sized yard and wanted to learn more about plants so Lucy and I would help along when we could. Connie walked me all around the grounds at Heritage teaching me about the flowers and plants that she planted. The giant Azalea bush in the front by our sign when in full bloom is my favorite! She would dig up excess perennials for me and tell me to go plant them at home. I learned a lot from her and now I have herb gardens, a vegetable garden, and flower gardens. I love to garden so much, and I know that my space is only going to get better as I tend to it. I would have loved to show it to her.

Rev. Leslie's version of the loaves and fishes goes something like this: Maybe Jesus didn't miraculously create enough bread and fish for all the people that came to hear him that day. Maybe people combined their resources and took care of each other and that is why there was enough for everyone. Even the latter explanation is a miracle in its own way—humanity showing itself as innately good.

Our hearts still are hurting, and our buckets are empty right now. Like the early daffodils, Connie is gone in body. But we have our memories of her and her presence is all around us. We need to help each other out, combine our resources, and slowly fill back up our buckets. Five from one garden, six from another, and so it goes.

She is in heaven. She is playing with the flowers that she has collected from our gardens – our generous hearts.

You're Welcome, Connie! And thank you for your generous heart!

Image sources: <https://tinyurl.com/4jnfcsjb> and HUUC.net media library

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I Wonder



How Do You Imagine Abundance?

by Laci Lee Adams, HUUC Director of Lifespan Faith Development

When I say “abundance,” what images or metaphors come to mind? If your first impulse was to try to define abundance or give a concrete example of abundance, your engagement is greatly appreciated *and* (take a deep breath, clear your mind) try to “imagine” abundance. We are in search of less concrete and

more imaginative connections to abundance.

There is a profound and growing set of academic research on the connection between our imagination and a whole host of social and personal goods. Scientists and researchers are gaining new insights into how our imaginations are essential to human thriving, to the flexibility of our brains, to our capacity for learning, and for our sense of possibility. Of note – much of this research is suggesting that *adult* imaginations lead to gains in our *adult* brains. That is to say that these emerging perspectives are starting to provide evidence for something that most sci-fi nerds and parents of "littles" have known intuitively for a while. Our capacity to imagine is incredibly powerful in helping us see beyond our current reality!

We find ourselves in times of great scarcity, not of actual resources but of human decency, of expansive thinking, of hopefulness. Scarcity breeds fear, and hoarding, and defensiveness, and even cruelty. I know from our conversations and our candles that we are yearning both for concrete ways to act in our world and for deeper ways of bolstering our courage, our joy, our capacity, and our possibility.

So flex your imagining muscle! The more we can imagine an expansive, and joyous, and beautiful, and diverse, and abundance world, the more we will be able to find ways and pathways to it! Share your imagining with each other, because when we flex our imagining muscles together it helps to knit us together and amplify our efforts and strength. If you are having a hard time imaging by yourself or with others, try to do it with a book (not a non-fiction book, but a book that imagines alternative possibilities for you!)

There is more hope in this world than we see. Continue to search for it or to imagine it.

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/4m27hyrm>

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# An Answer to What's Happening at Heritage — HUUC.net



by Barbara L. Barnes, *Heirloom* Editor

Ever wanted an immediate answer to what is next Sunday's morning worship theme/speaker, or when is the Sunday potluck lunch? Ever wonder what's happening at Heritage any day this month, the next, or beyond? Ever wonder about Heritage (HUUC) or UU-ism (Unitarian Universalism) in general? Both HUUC congregants and people beyond HUUC's current community find these answers (and much more) instantly on Heritage's website - HUUC.net.

HUUC.net delivers more detailed information about HUUC events, service offerings, and issues than each Sunday morning worship service's order of service announcements, the weekly *Heritage Connection*, or the monthly *Heirloom* newsletter. This article highlights the website's areas (homepage, worship, events, and calendar) that quickly answer common questions about Heritage activities for members, friends, and the interested public.

The homepage that appears upon opening <https://huuc.net>, and scrolling down past the "**One Community, Many Paths**" horizontal gray band provides answers to some of the most common questions from all readers. The homepage reveals a brief description of the next Sunday's morning worship service (including the Zoom link placed there by the Saturday before the service), information on the current week's donation recipient, and other featured upcoming events/activities. The bottom of this screen has links to other popular website items of interest - [All Upcoming Events](#), [Heirloom Newsletter](#), [Worship Videos](#), and [Building and Parking Rentals](#).

Along the top of the website is the menu bar of the website's content categories. These categories are: **About, Worship, Ministries, Community, Support, Calendar, Events, Search, Give, and Contact Us**. Clicking on a category activates a possible additional drop-down menu of subcategories.



A common use of HUUC.net is discovering the Sunday morning services' topics and speakers - both future and past. For future service information, open the **Worship/Worship Dates and Information** (category/subcategory) and a chronological list appears of the upcoming services and speakers for the next several weeks with a brief blurb regarding each worship service's theme. The **Kids Programming** subcategory of the **Worship** category contains the most recently posted information on the children's Sunday morning religious education sessions.

For past worship service information, [Past Worship Dates and Information](#) at the bottom of the **Worship Dates and Information** subcategory links the reader to a list of previous worship services' blurbs. Find edited videos of most past worship services in the **Worship/Worship Videos** subcategory.

Both congregants and the wider community use HUUC.net to obtain information on upcoming church events. Clicking on the top menu bar's **Event** category takes the reader to a long, chronological list of upcoming events. Each event shows a title, featured graphic, and a one or two sentence summary excerpt of the full article. Access the full article by clicking on the associated [Read More ...](#) hyperlink. The first few



events in the list are routine events occurring every week or month, such as the Healthy Lifestyles group, Midweek Mindfulness, or Sing Out Sisters.

If a specific event or meeting isn't in the events list, it may be on the church calendar. Clicking on the **Calendar** category in the top menu bar presents the current month's calendar of all church activities. Use the left/right arrow scroll buttons (   ), found just below the Calendar title, to look beyond the current month. Clicking on an event in the calendar shows the activity's date, time/duration, location, and possibly a brief description.

These four website areas reveal just some of the information available on HUUC.net. Congregants and the wider community find useful information about Turpin High School parking, renting the building for an event or meetings, and general tidbits about HUUC and UU (such as organization, beliefs, and history) in the **About** category. The **Ministry** and **Community** categories discuss many HUUC service offerings and groups. The **Search** and **Contact Us** categories provide useful tools to answer other questions. The bottom banner to each category contains applicable data, such as directions/map, and associated links to HUUC Facebook pages/groups and the Heritage Acres Memorial Sanctuary website.

HUUC.net is continually updated. Poke around the website often to discover not only what is happening at HUUC but additional information about Heritage and the richness it offers to all.

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/58bmfprh> and HUUC.net homepage screen shot

## Announcements

### March 2025 Sunday Children's Religious Education (RE) Programming



Our children's programming will be focusing on the theme of "Generosity" during March.

On March 2, 2025, we will start our exploration of generosity!

On March 9, 2025, we will give generously of time and talents by creating together in the kitchen to share during potluck. Older kids will also be responsible for setting up the Great Hall for potluck.

On March 16, 2025, our congregation of all ages will participate in worship. There will be a surprise including our hand bells!

On March 23, 2025, we will continue to learn together about generosity.

On March 30, 2025, we will act on our learning about generosity and be of service to our world.

Adult volunteers are always welcomed and encouraged to join our young people in RE (Religious Education.) Reach out to Laci to find the right opportunity for you at:

[d1fdhuuc@gmail.com](mailto:d1fdhuuc@gmail.com)

Image source: Laci Lee Adams

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Want to Help with a Worship Service?



The worship team is looking for a few new Worship Associates (WAs). The WA opens the service with greetings and announcements, assisting with candles of community and other service elements as needed. WAs serve only as frequently as they choose, so the time commitment is of your own making. Please reach out to Bethany Rogers at bbljrogers@yahoo.com

by March 9, 2025 if you have any questions or want to express an interest in this way to serve the congregation. There will be an orientation meeting for the position in the spring.

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/528xb38t>

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## Tech Coordinator Position Open!



We want to share an important update regarding a staff position at our church. Our current Technology Coordinator will be stepping down at the end of this month. We are deeply grateful for their dedication and contributions to our worship experience over the years.

Our leadership team has developed a job description and application process for those interested in serving in this role. The Technology Coordinator plays a vital part in ensuring that our worship services run smoothly and that our church remains connected through various forms of media and technology.

If you know someone who might be a great fit for this part-time position, we encourage you to share the job description with them. This role is an opportunity to support and enhance the worship experience for our congregation.

Thank you for your support, and please join us in expressing our appreciation for the service and commitment of our outgoing Technology Coordinator!

For more information on this job description access the link: <https://huuc.net/?s=Tech+coordinator+job+description>

Image source: HUUC media library

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Ready to Become a HUUC Member?



Are you ready to become a member of Heritage Church? Our next New Member Ceremony is Sunday, March 23, 2025. Speak with Rev. Bill to learn more.

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/ytydex5f>

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## Look Out for Phishing!



Every few weeks, someone in our congregation or on our staff receives an email that is supposedly from Rev. Bill or another member of our community, asking for "discreet" help (later explained upon your response as wanting money or gift cards sent directly to the emailer), asking for access to our directory, or asking for some other supposed favor. These may be "phishing" attacks.

Phishing is not a relaxing, recreational activity but a real hazard posed by today's digital world. Phishing is defined as the fraudulent practice of sending emails purporting to be from a reliable source to obtain personal information (such as passwords, credit card numbers, or ID numbers) or access to money. On the surface, a request from our minister or HUUC community might seem to be legitimate but unfortunately, due to these scams, such requests might not be real and are harmful scams.

Email phishing scams have used our beloved institution and leadership as fake fronts for their nefarious purposes on several occasions, even in recent weeks. A common focus of the attack is to obtain unauthorized access to our directory and other website functions. For the security of us all, do not share this information! Here are a few suggestions to avoid peril from such attacks.

- Review the return email address on emails asking for personal information or a "favor," such as sharing a password. Assure that the address is one you use to correspond with the sender.
- If the email originates from a gmail.com source, use this link to report the abuse - <https://support.google.com/mail/contact/abuse> . You can also block any future emails from this email source. Other originating email servers (such as Altra Fiber accounts, e.g. fuse.net) have different procedures.
- Do not share any password information, for yourself or any HUUC function!
- Look for any unusual miss-spellings or missing typical sign-offs in emails from sources asking for information or favors.
- Do not click on or open any links or attachments in questionable emails.
- Send questionable emails immediately to spam and delete them.
- Call the supposed sender to determine if their request is real.

Help us keep our communications safe by helping us fight phishing. Thanks for your assistance.

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/tcjkbe4t>

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Box for Soles 4 Souls



Do you typically rush through the back hallway outside the family lounge, formerly called the nursery, and past the coat racks? Maybe you haven't noticed the new collection box, tucked discretely in the corner intended for the on-going drive to collect gently used shoes for persons in need – a campaign known as Soles 4 Souls.

Most donations go to the national organization called Soles 4 Souls. That organization takes any shoes, in any condition, and sends them to those people in need all around the globe. For more information on the organization, check out Soles 4 Souls at www.soles4souls.org.

Sometimes, donated shoes are in such good shape that the HUUC organizer, Joann Meyer, can donate them to our local Inter Parish Ministry (IPM). For more information on IPM see <https://www.ipmfoodpantry.org/>.

So, instead of throwing away unwanted or old shoes, please bring them to church. Keep them out of a landfill. Put them in the new, blue box. We can make a difference!

For more information, contact Joann Meyer at:
ldyhkw37@gmail.com

March of 2024, Image source: Joann Meyer

Ministries

Social Justice Collaborative Meets in March



Can we work to reduce new injustices? Can we help improve the plight of those harmed by recent events? These are things that many in the collaborative are working on, each person focusing on topics that they find important.

The collaborative is the HUUC Social Justice Collaborative, which will meet on Sunday, March 2, 2025 in the Heritage Room, starting ten minutes after the completion of the morning worship service.

Any member or friend of Heritage Church is welcome to attend.

The Collaborative brings together individuals who have a passion for various areas of social justice. We meet to share information and support each other in this important and often difficult work. Our last meeting discussed issues and actions regarding racial justice, housing and homelessness, indigenous peoples, immigration, trans people, climate change, governmental reform, and peace.

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/447ca66d> and B.L. Barnes

Community Events

Come Join the Healthy Lifestyles Group for Lunch



Every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., in the Great Hall.

This gentle support group is for all women members and friends of Heritage. We give each other the confidence to make better choices regarding our health. Bring a brown bag lunch. No cost, no scales, no judgment.

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### Our 2025 Rummage Sale



**Thursday, March 6, 2025, 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.**

**(Limited Access)**

**Friday, March 7, 2025, 9 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (Public)**

**Saturday, March 8, 2025, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**(Public)**

**In the HUUC Great Hall**

Our annual rummage sale is weeks away, and we need your donations to make the sale a success!

Donations can include household items for kitchen and bath, home décor, linens, tools, toys, sporting goods, musical instruments, jewelry and fashion accessories, antiques, collectibles, and small furniture pieces.

All donations must be clean and in good working order. *Each item needs to be priced.* You will find a price guideline with stickers for pricing in the Great Hall (to the right of the coffee maker).

Donations may be left in the Makers Room (the classroom closest to the Heritage Room) beginning Sunday, February 23, from noon to 3:00 p.m. Additional dates for drop off are as follows:

- Monday, February 24, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, February 26, through Friday, February 28, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- Sunday, March 2, Noon to 3:00 p.m.
- Monday and Tuesday, March 3 & 4, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.



Note: No donations are to be brought to the church after Tuesday, March 4.

The sale on Thursday will be open to Heritage members, families, and friends. The sale on Friday and Saturday will be open to the public.

Sign up here to volunteer to help with the sale: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COB4BADA82EABFD0-54604898-rummage/144180051#/>

All proceeds from this sale will go to this year's operating budget.

For more information, contact Barbara Rohrer at:  
[barbara@lyghtelrohrer.com](mailto:barbara@lyghtelrohrer.com)

Image source: Pixabay, photographer – Jacqueline Macou

## “Forward Into Light” New Opera



**March 8, 2025, 7 p.m.**  
**St John's UU Church,**  
**320 Resor Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45220**

St. John's UU church located at 320 Resor Ave, Cincinnati (Clifton), 45220, presents a new opera on Saturday, March 8 at 7:00 p.m. to celebrate International Women's Day. This free musical reading of “Forward Into Light” is a dramatization of the work of suffragist Alice Paul. A reception sponsored by the League of Women Voters follows at St. John's.

This opera was composed by the St. John's pianist Stephen Variames, with the words of librettist Kathleen Stakenas. This debut will be a musical reading (sung, not acted.) Stephen and four singers will present the opera about the women's marches of the early 1900s in the U.S. and specifically of suffragist Alice Paul, who helped secure women's right to vote, coordinated 18 months of protests outside the White House, and authored the Equal Rights

Amendment.

The evening includes an historical perspective by Dr. Kimberly Hamlin, the Chamberlin Family Professor and Chair of History at Miami University, and board member of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

For more details, access the St. John's website at <https://tinyurl.com/32w6p9zb>

Image caption: suffragist Alice Paul

Image source: <https://www.facebook.com/events/320-resor-ave-cincinnati-oh-45220-1616/forward-into-light-an-opera-about-suffragist-alice-paul/1786699538925967/>

## March Second Sunday Potluck Lunch



**March 9, 2025**

**In the Great Hall following the morning worship service  
(First in the Potluck Puns Series)**

Yes, it is thyme but also time for the second Sunday potluck luncheon, immediately following the morning worship service on Sunday, March 9, 2025. If you make something,

bring something you've bought, or just bring yourself, all offerings are gratefully received. Please come join the monthly feast in the Great Hall to chat with old and new friends.

Ending joke: Why do peppers hate winter? They get a little chili.

Image source: <http://tinyurl.com/rbd2hn3n>

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Want to Witness a HUUC Board Meeting?



Most HUUC congregants are unaware of the many decisions made each month to keep our community going. Many actions taken on the behalf of the community are determined by the HUUC Board of Trustees. The Board typically meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Heritage Room. Yet few people are aware that the majority of these meetings are open to the public.

HUUC members and friends are allowed to witness these meetings but are restrained from participating in the discussions or the votes. On occasion, the Board will go into executive session where non-board members are not allowed to attend.

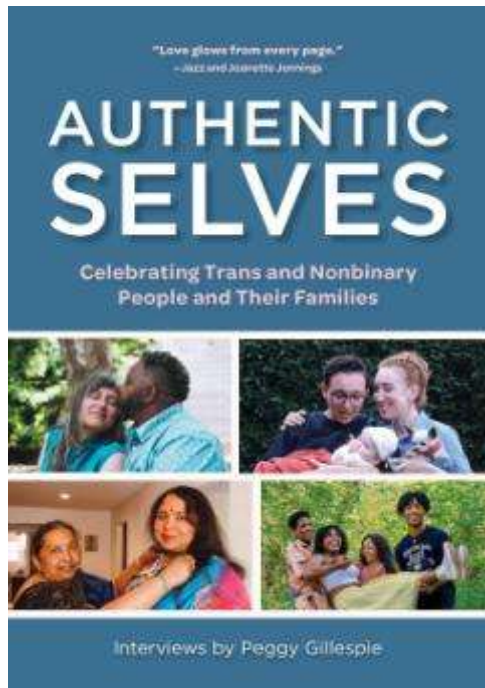
If you want to see our busy and dedicated Trustees in action, or are considering becoming a Trustee, you might find attending a meeting worthwhile. To assure that a meeting is held at its typical date, time, and location or will not be in executive session, obtain the latest information by contacting Board President Jaime Castle at:

jaimecastle@me.com

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/de3muwwm>

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## Authentic Selves Book Discussion at St John's UU



**Saturday, March 15, 2025, 10 a.m. - Noon at  
St. John's UU Church, 320 Resor Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45220-1698**

St. John's UU Church in Clifton is inviting all area UUs to a group discussion of *Authentic Selves: Celebrating Trans and Nonbinary People and Their Families*. The discussion will take place Saturday morning, March 15, 2025.

*Authentic Selves* is the UUA Common Read for 2024-2025. It is a collection of narratives, stories of a wide diversity of trans and nonbinary people and those they call family. Get yourself a copy from the UUA bookstore and come share with other UUs what you've learned and what surprised you. Both a paperback version and a Kindle eBook version are available on Amazon at <https://www.amazon.com/Authentic-Selves-Celebrating-Nonbinary-Families/dp/1558968962/>, or just the paperback version is available at the UUA Bookstore at <https://www.uuabookstore.org/Authentic-Selves-P19547.aspx>.

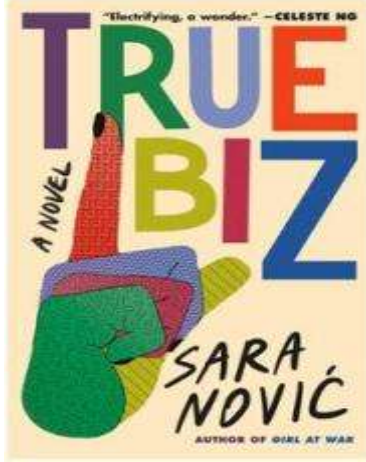
Participants will meet at St. John's UU Church, 320 Resor Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45220-1698. The meeting will take place in person in the church's Krolfifer Hall on Saturday morning, March 15, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

The organizer of this gathering has said, "Maybe the words from the Inaugural address about our new government policy that there 'are only two genders: male and female' have made you want to know more about trans and nonbinary people. Bring your copy of the book, even if you've only partially finished it, and come with an open mind, prepared to help us all grow together in understanding."

If you have questions, contact Russ Araujo at  
[russaraujo@gmail.com](mailto:russaraujo@gmail.com)

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Will the BWB be Silent?!?



March 19, 2025, 7 - 9 p.m. in the Heritage Room

Heritage's BWB (or Babes with Books, the HUUC women's book club) is rarely silent. This monthly meeting is known for being loud, raucous, ribald, with often times multiple conversations occurring simultaneously. However, at this upcoming meeting, this gathering's novel concept is about silence, that is, it is about students and faculty in a residential school for the deaf.

The plot of *True Biz* by Sara Novic, set in eastern Ohio but loosely based on Cincinnati's St. Rita School for the Deaf, follows the teenage students and the faculty as they deal not only with the challenges of being deaf but also the impending closure of the school. Come join us as we discuss this glimpse into a subculture with which few of us are familiar; a

subculture that holds its unique norms and biases in addition to the standard challenges of being a teenager.

Our current selections for our upcoming meetings are as follows:

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.

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## Climate Issues Film Festival at HUUC



Please join the Heritage's (HUUC's) Social Justice Collaborative in the Heritage Room on Tuesday, March 25, 2025 at 7 p.m. as it screens a collection of short films by the Climate Future Film Festival.

This collection of educational and moving short films focuses on climate change, in different styles and from artists around the world. Introduced by climate leader Bill McKibben, each of these films touches the emotions and the heart in the way art does best, bringing the issues into a clarity that facts and statistics can't convey.

This preview link is a visual invitation to be part of the conversation.  
<https://tinyurl.com/25wtezjb>

Contact Louise Lawarre for more information at:  
[louiselawarre@yahoo.com](mailto:louiselawarre@yahoo.com)



Images source: usage rights granted by Climate Future Film Festival

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Join an "Improvational" 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: <https://huuc.breezechms.com/form/bd4f98>

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/2smztyn>

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# Unleash Your True Colors: A Pride Camp for LGBTQ+ Youth



June 9 - 13, 2025

Discover a vibrant summer at our inclusive Pride Camp! This unique experience offers a safe and supportive space for LGBTQ+ youth aged 13-18 to explore their identities and be in community. Engage in daily yoga and mindfulness practices, immerse yourself in nature, express yourself artistically and foster a deep connection and a sense of belonging within your local LGBTQ+ community.

### Key elements:

- **Safe & Inclusive:** A supportive environment free from judgment and discrimination
- **Meditation & Yoga:** Mindfulness practices, stress and anxiety reduction
- **Social Justice:** Learn about LGBTQ+ history and rights & Take action together

- **Nature:** Outdoor activities, nature walks

This camp provides a transformative experience where young people can celebrate their authentic selves and build lasting connections with others.

To register access the link below:

<https://huuc.breezechms.com/form/369319513981>

For more information contact Laci Lee Adams at:

[dlfdhuuc@gmail.com](mailto:dlfdhuuc@gmail.com)

Image source: Canva

# Cultivating Peace through Play: Peace Camp



July 7 - 11, 2025, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Peace Camp is a week-long day camp with fun daily activities that teach empathy, encourage tolerance, and respect diversity for kids ages 5-11. It is an immersive experience where kids can learn about themselves, the world around them and about each other.

### Key elements:

- **Cooking and baking:** Yes! Campers make their own lunches.

- **Nature:** Outdoor activities, games, and nature walks

- **Self-Expression:** Arts, crafts, music and theatre and
- **Meditation & Yoga:** Cultivating peace practices like yoga or meditation.

We offer a low counselor to camper ratio, so campers can learn how to connect with one another, to express their emotions, to build community and to navigate conflict. Our hope is that each camper finishes the week with a greater sense of self, more resilience, and exhausted from all the fun!

### REGISTRATION

Kids 12+ can serve as junior counselors (at no cost, while earning service hours!). Junior Counselors are a vital part of our camp experience and are empowered and supported to lead aspects of camp that connect with their interests.

Kids 5-11 are welcome to attend as campers (cost is \$275 or sliding scale with scholarship available!). There is also a \$50 sibling discount for each subsequent child.

To register access the link below:

<https://huuc.breezechms.com/form/369319513957>

For more information contact Laci Lee Adams at:

[difdhuuc@gmail.com](mailto:difdhuuc@gmail.com)

Image source: Canva

## Support

### Cardboard Needed for Heritage Acres Memorial Sanctuary



Heritage Acres Memorial Sanctuary needs your spare cardboard. If you have any large boxes of at least 2' x 2' to donate, please remove the tape and labels, flatten the boxes, and drop them off at Heritage Acres, 796 Locust Corner Rd, Cincinnati, OH, 45245. Put the cardboard to the right of the shed, next to the trashcans.

If you have questions or need to arrange a pickup, contact Patrick Sanders at

[land.steward@heritageacresmemorial.org](mailto:land.steward@heritageacresmemorial.org)

Thanks for your support!

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/hn78e72>

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IPM's Most Needed Items



count on IPM (and you too!).

Bob Drake, our contact with IPM (Inter Parish Ministries), is making a special request to Heritage folks for donations of personal care items. These items are constantly in demand (and often in short supply) - especially feminine care products, such as menstrual pads and tampons.

Bob asks members of the HUUC community to bring sanitary pads and tampons to the church and place them in the IPM designated shopping cart located in the Great Hall. You will be providing a valuable service to IPM and our neighbors who

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/5yxx9xm3>

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## Supporting Pride and Peace Camps



As described in the events section of both the Heirloom and HUUC.net website, HUUC is hosting two youth camps this summer, Pride Camp and Peace Camp. Please refer to the respective articles/postings at either of those sources. However, you don't need to be a camper to support these programs.

You can support our camps in the following ways:

- **PROMOTE:** Share this announcement with friends and families that you think might be interested.
- **VOLUNTEER:** If you have an hour or a day or the entire week that you would like to

volunteer or have a related interest or skill to share, please reach out to Laci at:

[dldfhuuc@gmail.com](mailto:dldfhuuc@gmail.com)

- **DONATE:** Fees from campers cover most of the costs of our camps, but donations make it possible for us to offer youth leadership opportunities at no cost, a sliding fee scale, and scholarships.

In the case of Pride Camp, donations will make it possible for us to offer additional support and services to an especially vulnerable group of young people. Your donations are generously accepted.

To donate you can access the following:

<https://huuc.breezechms.com/give/online>

Image source: canva

# News Articles

## Heritage Votes For the Ordination of Bill Lyon



On Sunday, February 23, 2025 at a special congregational meeting, HUUC (Heritage Unitarian Universalist Church) unanimously voted to ordain long-time Heritage member Bill Lyon. The UU Church of Lexington, where Bill did part of his ministerial training, will hold a similar vote at their special congregational meeting and join Heritage as a co-ordaining congregation.

The ordination ceremony will occur at Heritage on Sunday, April 13, 2025, at 4:00 PM, followed by a reception. Please save the date and look for an invitation to which you are asked to RSVP.

Image source: courtesy of Bill Lyon



## HUUC Congregants Protest on President's Day



On February 17, 2025, the President's Day holiday, at least 11 HUUC members and friends braved the cold and joined a crowd of others at the Cincinnati City Hall to protest the current actions of our federal government. The focus was that Donald J. Trump is not a king on Presidents Day, but there were plenty of signs stating, "Stop the Coup" and "Lock Up Musk."

According to NPR (National Public Radio) at <https://www.npr.org/2025/02/17/nx-s1-5299915/dc-protests>, this nationwide protest was part of the 50501 Movement. The name stands for 50 protests, 50 states, and 1 movement. The focus of the protests was a response to what organizers described as "the anti-democratic and illegal actions of the Trump administration."

Image source: courtesy of Tracy Rossa



## HUUC Board Briefs for February 2025



The Heritage UU Church Board of Trustees met on February 10, 2025. The following summarizes their activities.

1. Budget season is rolling around again! The Board had a preliminary conversation with Reid Hester to discuss requests and priorities for the upcoming budget cycle as he helps us

prepare for our budget planning and creation process. Thank you again Reid — your continuous work is greatly appreciated!

2. HUUC will be co-ordaining Bill Lyon later this spring to officially make him a UU minister. Congratulations, Bill — looking forward to the celebration!

3. We're still looking for a new Technology Coordinator following Kevin Palmer's departure from the position. If you know anyone who might be interested, please talk to a Board member!

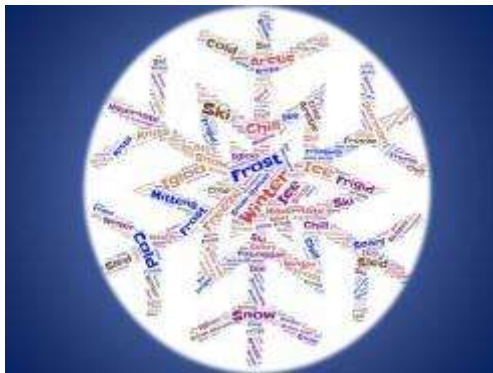
4. The security cameras that were purchased through the security grant have been installed and are functioning. The upgraded doors should be going in sometime in the next few months. Thank you to Susan Conley and the rest of the security team for all of their work in moving us forward on this!

5. The Board is in discussion with Rabbi Jonathan and Rev. Mitra regarding hiring them as consultants to help us through the minister transition process this spring. We are excited to work with them!

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: <https://huuc.net/huuc-board-members/>

## Creativity Corner

### "Winter" Creative Corner Submissions



We are still officially in the winter season although some of us may be tiring of it. For some, they are still relishing the cold weather sports, time before a fire with a good book, or enjoying the reprieve from mowing the lawn. This time of year is all fodder for deep feelings and thus fuel for creative writing efforts.

Submissions for the Creative Corner section of the March 2025 *Heirloom* include original poetry and prose on the expansive theme of "winter" from HUUC congregants.

Image source: created by B. L. Barnes

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The Ice Storm

by Dot Christenson

The squirrel shield on the feeder
fringed with tassels of ice,
the birds huddle under
sheltered by the device.

The juncos, the titmice
chickadees and house sparrows
scramble to feast
from the open bird barrels.

A brood of pink house finch
stands guard by the ports
soon displaced by a crowd
in a flutter of discord.

A cardinal has breached
the small birds' space
He is hustled and squeezed
to the outside rim of the place.

The upside-down gold finch
swings 'round trying to eat
He can't always hold on
as he swings downward to feast.

The squirrel's corncob bungie
is empty today
the remains quite frozen
and it's too cold to play.

A short lull in the storm
draws more birds from around
the backyard is aflutter
and the chatter profound.

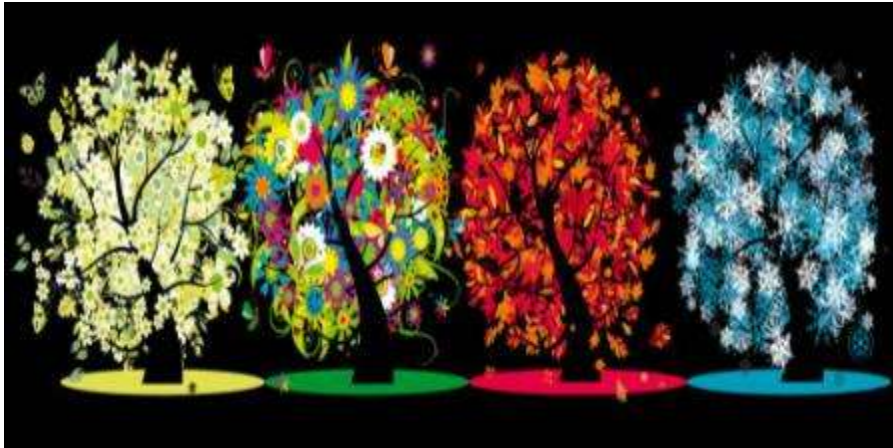
The neighbor's bundled children
attack the cold trampoline

it crackles like ice cubes,
there is laughter and screams.

More ice on the window
we're not done yet,
birds and people will be happy
when it's over, I'll bet.

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/44um524p>

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## The Passing Seasons

*by Chris Burroughs*

Of all the seasons, perhaps Spring is the best:

So fresh. So new.  
So lilac-y and dandelion-y.  
Spring is like that precious infancy time of being.  
It's exciting, energizing...so toddlerlike.

But then, Summer's good:

Children squealing in sprinklers.  
Leaves casting shadows.  
Everything so rosy and dandelion-y.  
So warmly friendly...like pre-schoolers I have known and loved.  
Summer...a time of freedom from slickers and boots.  
A time for chatting over fences and sitting on porches.

Well, Autumn is not too bad:

School busses reminding us to slow down.  
And that crisp nip in the air.  
The sniffing of burning campfires.  
And the remaining dandelions, aged with gray puffs, ready for pursed lips.

Maybe, just maybe, Winter is best:

Melting marshmallows swirling in hot chocolate.

Handmade afghans for snuggling.

The surprise of a sudden snowfall.

A time for reflection and remembrance of the year's sweet times.

Anticipation of coming seasons and those bright, dancing dandelions.

So, I am wishy-washy over which season to prefer. It's like the seasons of life I have known...each has brought its own special joys; each offering times to cherish.

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/ywuu8ytc>

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Beauty Found

by Barbara Lyghtel Rohrer

Once upon another life
winter nights formed ice
crystals on a small
window of three
narrow panes above
the landing in
a stairwell to the second
floor of an old white farmhouse,
patterns to this day that remain
in memory, how I stood
on cold nights gazing
at the sight, how the moon
above the north field revealed
beauty in so much
darkness.

Now this morning,
on my dining room window
overlooking
the east woods —
ice crystals. They will not last
but are enough to evoke
another time,

another place, where
all was not well,
but briefly
blossomed beauty.

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/ycbn4783>



“Stillness and Quiet”

by Valerie DuBay

You would think you would hear it
because it is such a presence

Having a certain beauty, it curls around,
lightly touching

It Can be fierce - doing exactly what it wants ... obliterating everything

But not today, at least just yet

Soft, intimate, even warm, in its way

Snow

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/2zej2bs>

From the Archives

Those Who Have Served - Part 3



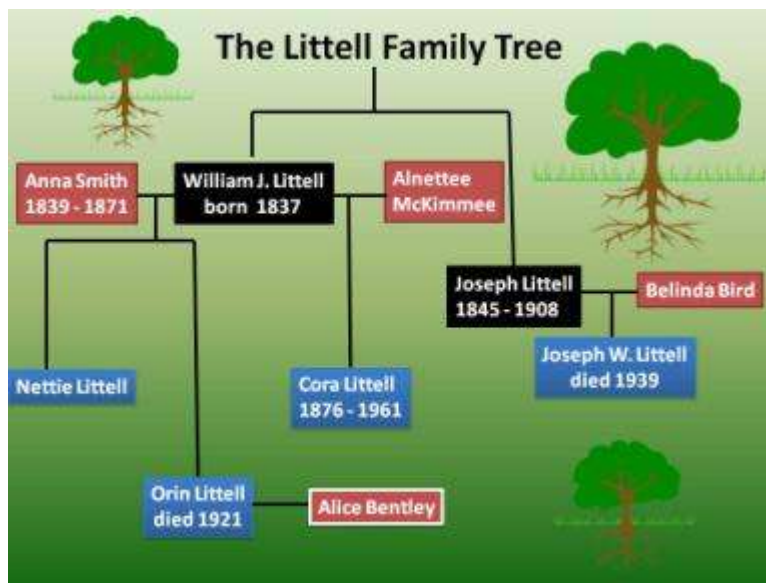
by Mike Roberts, HUUC Church Historian

In the series of articles about “Those Who Served,” we add this month the names of Andrew P. Henkel and the Littell family.

ANDREW P. HENKEL— Mr. Henkel was a member of our congregation through his entire adult life and contributed much to the church during that span. He was born to Hiram and Lucy (Van

Ness) Henkel in Cincinnati on January 8, 1856. He married Stella Gregory and five children were born of that relationship. One son, Paul, was an accomplished pianist studying in Europe when he was struck down by encephalitis at the young age of 24. Andrew owned a cotton textile-manufacturing firm and lived in Hyde Park with his family. He was a director of the Hyde Park Bank, a founding member of the Hyde Park Country Club and noted as an amateur astronomer who reputedly had the largest home observatory and telescope in the state. At the closing of his estate, it was valued at \$68,000.

Mr. Henkel served his church in many capacities before his untimely death from prostate cancer at the age of 51. No greater description of these contributions could be offered than the resolution passed by our Board of Trustees in January 1914. "We record our appreciation of the character and labors in behalf of our church of Mr. Andrew P. Henkel. For forty years—almost from the day he entered our city— he was a force in the life of our parish. He was ever in his pew as worshipper; as Deacon he was unremitting in his thought for the spiritual good of our Zion; as Trustee and President of the Board of Trustees, he gave of himself unreservedly to the work of all that made for the advancement of our cause in this city—his rare business acumen; his constant devotion—his services—his substance—and most valued of all the presence were ever at the call of the church's needs."



THE LITTELL FAMILY— Beginning with William J. Littell, this family remained faithful to the church in successive generations beginning in the early 1880s. Born in 1837, William Littell became a real estate and financial broker operating out of offices on West 4th Street. He first married Anna Smith but she died at age 32 in 1871. From that marriage, two children were born, Nettie and Orin. William remarried to Alnettee McKimkie and four more children came from that union, but only one, Cora, lived to adulthood. William was active in the church serving on many committees and the Board of Trustees. He was part of a three-man team that laid the cornerstone for the new Essex St. Church.

William's brother Joseph was also a church member through this era. He was born in 1845 and died in 1908. Joseph and his wife Belinda Bird had but one child live to adulthood, Joseph W. Littell. Joseph passed away in 1908 but son Joseph Wesley Littell followed the family in service to our church. He held many positions of leadership and passed away in 1939.

Three of the other Littell children (Orin, Nettie, and Cora) became active members of the church as adults. Orin was married in the church to Alice Bentley and gave enormous amounts of his time to the First Society.

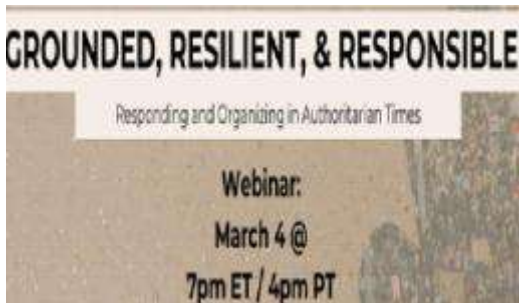
Between 1895 and his death in 1921, he served every year either as Secretary to the Board of Trustees or as the church business manager. He and Alice were frequently mentioned in activities within the church. Orin was a cashier for the Lincoln National Bank but also was a 33rd degree Mason, and a member of several Hyde Park business groups.

Nettie and Cora never married. Nettie was a regular participant in church services and died in 1924. Cora lived to be the last of her namesakes to grace the First Universalist Society. She was extremely active in the Clara Barton Guild and other charitable organizations within the church. She left the bulk of her estate to the church upon her death in 1961. The Heritage Room of our church is dedicated to the memory Cora of Littell and her faithful service to the Universalist religion.

Featured Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/33ps8vpe>, photo by mmsJack
The Littell Family Tree created by B. L. Barnes with <https://tinyurl.com/3c8fy8y6>

The Wider UU World

Grounded, Resilient, & Responsible Webinar by the UUA



The Side with Love public advocacy campaign of the Organizing Strategy Team of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) is sponsoring a free webinar on March 4, 2025 with the title "Grounded, Resilient & Responsible". The description of the hour-long program is as follows.

"This moment calls for us to be deeply grounded in our values, resilient in the face of challenges, and responsible stewards of justice. Together, we will explore:

- Simple tips on communicating safely in public and on private channels
- Strategies for responding in crisis moments
- Practical tools for organizing and resisting authoritarianism

Join us for powerful stories from the organizers who helped write the Grounded, Resilient, and Responsible toolkit. Learn how these tips can help you meet this moment.

Now more than ever, we must show up for one another. Join us to deepen your commitment, strengthen your skills, and stand in solidarity for a just and liberated future."

You can register for this webinar at: <https://tinyurl.com/ydw2bj3y>

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/ydw2bj3y>

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## The Legal Aid Society of SW Ohio Presents Immigrants' Rights Program



**Tuesday, March 18, 2025**

**6 - 8 p.m. on Zoom**

The "UU Know Your Rights" training program about immigrants' rights is scheduled for Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 6 p.m. on Zoom.

The approximately two-hour presentation is being offered to members of UU congregations by the Legal Aid Society of Southwestern Ohio. The presentation discusses the legal rights that immigrants have and how they can best be used in the face of ICE (U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement) actions. In addition, the rights that immigrant advocates and allies have in doing their work in the immigrant community are also explained.

Here is the Zoom link from the Legal Aid Society of Southwestern Ohio:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89174621496?pwd=brC5kfoadgF55TB4wPMLxWDU6W3E1a.1>

Meeting ID: 891 7462 1496

Passcode: 415807

Image source: <https://lasswo.org/>

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Katharine Childs to Lead the 2025 UUA GA Service of the Living Tradition



Thursday, June 19, 2025 at 7 p.m. on line

The Unitarian Universalist Association's (UUA's) Ministries and Faith Development Staff Group is proud to announce the 2025 Service of the Living Tradition Worship Leader for General Assembly (GA) is Katharine Childs, Director of Religious Exploration at the Unitarian Church of Montreal.

This service is a heartfelt tribute to our esteemed fellowshipped and credentialed religious leaders. It's a time to reflect on those who have left an indelible mark, celebrate the accomplishments of those who have completed their service, and warmly embrace the talented individuals who have recently received fellowship or credentialed status.

Katharine Childs (they/them) is a storyteller, religious educator, and curriculum writer who has been delighting, inspiring, and making meaning with kids and adults for more than twenty years. Katharine comes from a line of boundary-breaking women leaders within their childhood faith tradition, finding a theological home in Unitarian Universalism in their early twenties; a lifelong call to ministry brought them to UU Religious Education nearly ten years ago. Katharine finds great joy in turning ordinary moments into extraordinary stories, some of which have been retold in dozens of congregations across the continent.

The Service of the Living Tradition is Thursday, June 19, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. ET. Registration for GA at <https://www.uua.org/ga/registration> is required to attend in person or access the online experience.

Image source: UUA

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## UUA Announces GA 2025 Music Leaders



**UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
BALTIMORE • JUNE 18 - 22, 2025

The UUA has announced the 2025 General Assembly (GA) music leaders for three GA positions - Music Coordinator, Choir Director, and Band Leader/Accompanist.

Natasha Steinmacher is returning as the 2025 GA Music Coordinator. Natasha is the Director of Music Ministry at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Cherry Hill, NJ, where she has served the music ministry for over 20 years. In previous years, she contributed music for General Assembly as both soprano soloist and choir accompanist.

Rev. Verdis LeVar Robinson will serve as the 2025 GA Choir Director. Rev. Verdis is a newly fellowshipped Unitarian Universalist minister who holds degrees in History, African American Studies, and Music Performance from SUNY College at Brockport, SUNY University at Buffalo, and Boston University. He is currently an Assistant Minister for Growth at First Unitarian Church of Rochester, and the Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of East Aurora.

Carl Kennedy will be stepping in as both Band Leader and Accompanist for GA 2025. Carl Kennedy serves as Director of Music at Second Unitarian Church of Chicago where he directs the choir, the band, and works as the primary service pianist. He is a current candidate for Music Leadership Certification and serves as the worship band coordinator for the AUUMM conference planning committee.

Image source: UUA.org

## Calendar of HUUC Events

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

## 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](mailto: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 **5 p.m., Tuesday, March 25, 2025**.  
See <https://huuc.net/website-and-heirloom-newsletter-submitters-guide/> for information on  
writing for the *Heirloom*

Send submissions to [newsletter1@HUUC.net](mailto:newsletter1@HUUC.net).  
HUUC Contact Information: <https://huuc.net/contact-us/>

### Heritage Universalist Unitarian Church

2710 Newtown Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45244  
Phone: 513-231-8634  
<https://huuc.net/>