

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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### "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

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## "Nomadic Wonderings"



**Sunday, April 13, 2025, 10:30 a.m.**

***Patrick Sanders leads this service.***

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to live in other cultures, to experience new religions, and to learn and grow amid vastly different, non-Western societies? Patrick Sanders has spent a good portion of his 20s doing just that, and [this morning](#) he will share some of his experiences with us. After growing up in Heritage Church, he went to The Ohio State University to study Ecological Engineering, but always felt the call to travel. Once he graduated, he began a series of spiritual, environmental, and outdoor-educational adventures, first in New Zealand (2018-2020) and later in Hawai'i/Asia (2021-2024). During his most recent journey around the globe, he visited twelve countries and worked in six of them, leading youth in outdoor education. Don't miss this chance to hear about these journeys, which he refers to as "nomadic wonderings"!

Image source: courtesy of Patrick Sanders of Patrick Sanders in Bangladesh Green Mosque

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"The Many Meaning(s) of Easter"



Sunday, April 20, 2025, 10:30 a.m.

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

Unitarian Universalists have always had a particularly interesting relationship with Easter. Being a creedless tradition where different interpretations of scripture, myth, history, and even current events are welcomed and accepted, we often wonder how it is we should celebrate this major religious holiday – or even if we should at all.

This Easter Sunday, we'll hear from both our Senior Minister and our Director of Lifespan Faith Development (DLFD), as well as others, as we reflect on the many meanings of Easter. As is always the case on this celebratory Spring morning, our beloved choir will sing – and fancy Easter hats are optional, but welcome!

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/256vvxhk>

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## "Drawing on Faith, Living out Hope, Building Communities of Justice"



**Sunday, April 27, 2025, 10:30 a.m.**

***Rev. Mitra Jafarzadeh and Rabbi Jonathan Cohen  
lead this service.***

Join Rev. Mitra and Rabbi Jonathan to explore how we stay rooted in our own faith and respectful of the faith of our ancestors even as hope calls us into a new day.

Nurturing communities of justice is vitally important in this chaotic era. Building on these three things, faith, hope, and justice is a special skill of HUUC and we look forward to

exploring potential futures together.

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.

Rabbi Jonathan Cohen is an Israeli born scholar and rabbi who served as faculty member, director of an academic center, campus dean, and senior rabbi. Jonathan has been a board member of arts, social service, and denominational as well as interfaith organizations. He brings extensive experience in teaching and mentoring, coaching, organizational consulting, governance support, fundraising and budgeting, human resources, project management, and community building and organizing.

Together Rev. Mitra and Rabbi Jonathan are providing consulting services to HUUC with its ministerial transition. See the announcements for further details.

Image source: created by B.L. Barnes

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"Celebrations of Spring: Flower Communion & Child Dedication



Sunday, May 4, 2025, 10:30 a.m.
Rev. Bill Gupton leads this service.

Join us this Sunday as we celebrate the rites of spring at Heritage Church! In our traditional Unitarian Universalist Flower Communion ceremony, we will beautify our altar with fresh flowers, and each take home with us a lovely reminder of the Love that is the spirit of our church. We will also bless the youngest members of our church family in another cherished UU tradition, our Baby and Child Dedication.

In addition, our Choir will make beautiful music for us today, and our former Choir Director, Erin McCamley, will also sing.

Each person is invited to bring a fresh flower to church this morning. Our Flower Communion involves sharing those flowers with others. If you have a baby or small child whom you would like to be blessed and dedicated, please contact Rev. Bill to make arrangements to participate in that ceremony.

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/mkaa25ye>

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



April, 2025

by Rev. Bill Gupton

Friends, I can think of no better subject to write about in my penultimate (one of my favorite words) Heirloom column, than an ordination. An ordination *by* and *at* Heritage Universalist Unitarian Church, for that matter!

I hope you will join me on the afternoon of Sunday, April 13, as HUUC – along with the Unitarian Universalist Church of Lexington, Kentucky – proudly ordains Heritage member Bill Lyon to the UU ministry. In our faith tradition, ordination (the act of declaring someone to be a minister) is done by the congregation, or in this case, two congregations, that recognize

and affirm the training, the calling, and the readiness of one among them to serve as a Unitarian Universalist minister.

I have such fond memories of my own ordination, on Father's Day in 1996. Our son Patrick, who was but eight weeks old at the time, was the star of the show, snuggling and squirming in Jennifer's arms as the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta – the church I consider my "home church" and the place where I had really first felt the calling to ministry – ordained me. I can still recall the profound realization that, while the actual act of ordination lasted but a moment, it would permanently change my life, and my place and role in the world. Though I will be *retiring* from the Unitarian Universalist ministry at the end of next month, ordination is, in effect, *lifelong*. I will always be, to many people and communities whom I have served, "Rev. Bill Gupton."

Thus, as we ministers sometimes say during wedding ceremonies, this is not a ritual "to be entered into lightly." Wherever he may serve in the future, Heritage (and Lexington) will always be the churches who ordained Bill – who declared that he was "Rev. Bill Lyon." And that creates a very special relationship. Which is why I do hope you will join us at 4 p.m. on April 13, whether in the sanctuary or on Zoom, as – for the first time ever – we host an ordination at Heritage Church!

Back in 2012, Heritage co-ordained our ministerial intern, Bruce Beisner, along with St. John's UU Church, but the ceremony was held at St. John's. Before that, in 1976, the congregation ordained Doak Mansfield (now our Minister Emeritus) at the old Salem Acres building on Apple Hill Road.

As you can see, ordinations do not happen often. What an honor it will be to welcome not only Bill's family and loved ones, but various clergy, UU leaders, folks from the Lexington church, and many of Bill's teachers and mentors to Heritage on this joyful and auspicious occasion.

See you there!
Blessings,
Bill

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## The President's Corner



### **A Toast to Joy!**

**by Jaime Castle, HUUC Board of Trustees President**

Remember: finding joy and being joyful is an act of rebellion in difficult times. Returning to my decision to dedicate this space to helping others find more joy in the world around us, this month I am going to share with you places that you may not know about located in the Greater Cincinnati area where happiness can be found!

Last November, two days after the election, I found myself across the river in Covington, Kentucky, at a place that I had been to before. This place would afford me a quiet, solemn sanctuary where I could purchase a fun, sugary coffee drink, an escape from my election results sadness, and 50 minutes in a lounge with sweet, mischievous kittens. That's right friends - you can hang out with kittens all around you playing and napping and cuddling! The place is called Purrfect Day Cafe Covington and they partner with animal shelters to bring adoptable cats and kittens to the cat cafe so that people can interact with them, helping them to be socialized, with the aim that they will be adopted.

On this day and on the previous visits to this place, I had gone with the intention to just play with the kittens and to take pictures of them to share on social media hoping that others would see them and come to adopt them. On this particular visit, however, as I sat quietly crisscross applesauce on the floor observing the kittens, a tiny classic tabby girl approached me, sat in my lap, looked up at me, and licked my face. You betcha that I brought her home! We named her Ruby and she is the best!

Even if you are allergic to cats, you can experience this wonderful place through their Facebook page where they feature videos of receiving each new batch of kittens from the partner shelters and one-by-one they "unbox" them as they tell you their names and ages. As they get adopted, they post photos of them with their new families! (Also - I recommend that you try the Smelly Cat Frappe!)

Another place that I would like to highlight for you all to check out is a grocery store. (Insert pause here so that you can ponder this and predict what I am about to say.) If you guessed Jungle Jim's International Market, you would be correct! I would like to highlight our eastside store located in Eastgate. Perhaps you have not been there yet, perhaps you have been there numerous times. What started in 1971 as a produce stand in a parking lot has turned into two large stores selling products from over 70 countries, along with many locally grown and made items.

I bet if you asked 20 people familiar with Jungle Jim's what they love the best from there, you would get 20 different recommendations of items that they have found! What I love about our Eastgate store is that it is accessible to anyone and anyone can find joy there. You can find families leisurely strolling together, for fun, seeing what they can find. You realize how big the world is by seeing all of the different sections featuring different countries' foods and ingredients and wondering what they are and what they may taste like. There are so many exotic finds yet some of the best finds are handcrafted right here in Ohio.

One of my favorite items found there are the twice-baked potatoes located in the meat/butcher counter in the back corner of the store. They are made by a family-owned company out of Cheviot and are amazing -

so creamy and cheesy! Another item, bread flour, is made by Sixteen Bricks, an artisan bakery company out of Bond Hill. They sell baked goods from Sixteen Bricks in the bakery section, but look for the flour if you like to bake your own bread. I swear by it! My loaves turn out so much richer and softer when using this flour. I'm sure someone sold their soul for the recipe!

Lastly, I'd like to point out in the wine section is a perfect bottle of red wine for \$15. To find a perfect bottle of red for \$15 is a big deal and if you know about wine, you get it. If you do not know about wine, you can still spend this relatively modest amount to check it out. I won't go into the science and history of this bottle (feel free to learn more on your own), but it is from Tuscany, Italy (Toscana) and is called: CIACCI PICCOLOMINI d'ARAGONA.

I encourage you all to continue to seek joy wherever you can find it! Be joyful little rebels and raise a full glass from your perfect bottle of red wine for \$15, give a big cuddle to your purrfect cat, and toast to all of the other radicals around you! We are going to get each other through these times - I have to believe it!

Photo Caption: Photo taken from that day at the cat cafe, at the exact moment when Ruby looked up at Jaime and their fates were sealed!

Image source: courtesy of Jaime Castle

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I Wonder ...



Where Do You Find Courage?

by Laci Lee Adams,

HUUC Director of Lifespan Faith Development

Emily, my wife, and I have been talking a lot about courage in our home, since she was recently asked to serve as a panelist on a grand rounds presentation about cultivating courage in medical institutions.

In the course of our conversation, it struck me that, as Unitarian Universalists, this season of year is primarily celebrated for its connection to new possibilities, for the flowering of spring in our midst. We celebrate Flower Communion and Easter that

focus on spring renewal. These are powerful rituals and celebrations because they reflect on the never-ending turning of the wheel. However, these celebrations might not have the same religious focus on finding, cultivating, and practicing courage as the rituals and holidays celebrated by our interfaith neighbors.

For our Christian, Jewish, and Hindu neighbors, the festivals and observances of this season focus on how individuals and peoples respond to moments of deep despair. For Christian people, Easter is less focused on the inevitable and welcome coming of spring, but is instead about the power of God to defeat even death. For Jewish people, Purim and Passover are about remembering the resourcefulness and resilience of the Jewish people to persist in the face of genocide. For Hindu people, Holi, with all of its fun, frivolity, love, and equity, is about the triumph of good over evil. These are all stories of how people and peoples find their

way through dark times. These are holidays and rituals about marshalling courage (individually and collectively) to meet the needs of a moment.

We find ourselves in scary and uncertain times. One response is to give into our fears, to be overwhelmed into inaction, to allow the enormity of the moment to immobilize us. However, courage might just be doing something, anything, any small or big thing, in face of the despair! It's not everything but courage is doing something in the hope that others might join us and that together we can meet the moment.

Best,
Laci

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/49cyftz>

Announcements

Ministerial Transition Update



As the date of Rev. Bill Gupton's retirement from the role as HUUC senior minister approaches at the end of May, the ministerial transition efforts move forward.

Board President Jaime Castle announced during services on Sunday, March 9, 2025 and in a follow up email announcement that, "we have entered into a contract to work with consultants Rev. Mitra Jafarzadeh and Rabbi Jonathan Cohen (Courage and Covenant LLC.) to professionally guide us through the transition and help our congregation do a meaningful self-assessment."

Jaime's announcement continued to describe these consultants' role and the reasons behind this contract. "Courage and Covenant collaborates with congregations through ongoing consultation and evaluation. They strive to understand both leadership direction and member experiences, ensuring authenticity to the congregation's mission. Their work evolves as needed, but they remain

committed to helping Heritage engage its members, clarify values and priorities, strengthen leadership, and express hopes for its next religious leader. Expect more information to be coming about this as there will be many opportunities for engagement through congregational interviews and discussions! The length of our contract with them is five months and our aim is to have a contract minister in August."

More information on these consultants and what they do can be found at: <https://courageandcovenant.org>

A transition team has also been formed to recommend to the Board a contract minister. Members of this team include Garry Wilson and Jaime Castle (both from the Board), Bob Lamb, Louise Lawarre, Les Tacy, Mimi Sinclair, and Katie Kpaeyeh.

Image caption: Rev. Mitra Jafarzadeh and Rabbi Jonathan Cohen (Courage and Covenant LLC.)

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

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## Protest & Boycott - The Signs of Our Times!



Unfortunately, protest and boycott signs may truly be the signs of our new times. The HUUC Social Justice Collaborative (SJC) group is tracking many of the local protests and individuals are participating in them. The March HUUC-SJC meeting minutes cited several upcoming events. Further information on such events is distributed via the HUUC-Social-Justice Google Group. If a person is not a member of the Google Group but wants to be, they should email a request to Mimi Sinclair at:

[mimisinclair@me.com](mailto:mimisinclair@me.com)

The following list indicates those SJC cited economic boycott events that will occur following the release of the April *Heirloom*.

- **March 21-28:** Do not buy *Nestle products*.
- **April 7-14:** Do not buy from *Walmart*.
- **April 18:** *General economic boycott*.
- **April 21-18:** Do not buy *General Mills products*.
- **April 5-11:** Do not use *Meta services*, including *Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, and Messenger*.

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/2xaj8vdj>

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April's Kids Programming for Sunday Mornings



The April 2025 religious education (RE) theme is Interdependence. It will focus on the many ways in which we are all connected to each other, to our community, to our wider world and to our earth.

On April 6, 2025, we start our learning together to discover the many forms of interdependence.

On April 13, 2025, we will experience one form of interdependence in congregational life - an ordination in anticipation of Bill Lyon's ordination later in the afternoon. We will actually be putting on a spirit play ordination during our religious education time!

On April 20, 2025, we will celebrate Easter (in its various forms) then have a little fun during our post-worship Egg-stravaganza!

On April 27, 2025, we will experience our interdependence through a day of gardening.

Finally, a reminder - Saturday, April 5, 2025, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. is our Spring Service Day. Check out this article shown in the events section of the Heirloom and HUUC.net full details.

Image source: courtesy of Laci Adams

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## No Potluck Lunch on April 13, 2025, Date Change for May's Lunch



Due to the extremely busy day at Heritage on April 13, 2025, the normally scheduled potluck lunch will not occur. Please join us for our Sunday potluck when it resumes on May 4, 2025, a week earlier than usual so we can attend the area UU service on May 11, 2025.

Image source: HUUC.net media library

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HUUC Seeks New Minister



The HUUC Board of Trustees will reach out through several publications to potential contract minister candidates as part of our ministerial transition process with the following.

"A full-time senior minister is sought by Heritage Universalist Unitarian Church (HUUC) in Cincinnati, Ohio. HUUC is an avidly Universalist congregation with deep traditions. It is a growing, mid-sized church — a liberal beacon welcoming members from the surrounding conservative suburban neighborhood, especially families with young children. The senior minister is retiring after serving more than two decades. The HUUC Board is seeking a contract minister, with options to extend by

mutual agreement. Candidate interviews begin in April. Additional, qualified candidates may apply. Interested parties can reach the HUUC Search committee at:

HuccSearch@gmail.com "

For more information on the ministerial transition, contact Board President Jaime Castle at:

BoardPrez1@huuc.net

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/wvja4dpd>

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## Welcome Lucy Rogers as HUUC Technology Coordinator



Lucy Rogers became our Heritage Church Technology Coordinator at the beginning of March 2025, succeeding church member Kevin Palmer, who "retired" back to life as a Sunday morning attendee and active HUUC member. Lucy's role will be similar to Kevin's: handling our audio and visual technology both in the sanctuary and for our Zoomers during Sunday worship services; providing tech support for congregational and special meetings, weddings and memorial services, and our staff; and working with our ever-more sophisticated software, hardware, and physical technology infrastructure.

Lucy is a Cybersecurity student at the University of Cincinnati, planning to complete that program in the spring of 2026. Their professional interests center around

networking and systems administration, with plans to next pursue a CCNA (Cisco Certified Network Associate) certificate, an entry-level certification for network professionals.

They have thrived in not one but two very successful co-op terms with 84.51 (Kroger's technology arm), gaining more experience in both systems and networking. Outside of work, Lucy enjoys video games, reading, catching up on their many preferred television programs, and taking Pilates classes.

We are excited to add Lucy to our wonderful Heritage staff. Please welcome them the next time you're at church on Sunday!

(Call the church office at 513-231-8634 to get their email address.)

Image source: Rev. Bill Gupton



## 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](mailto:jaimecastle@me.com)

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

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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/tcjke4t>

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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](http://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](mailto:ldyhkw37@gmail.com)

*March of 2024, Image source: Joann Meyer*

## Ministries

### Found House Needs Volunteers in May



**Sunday May 4 - May 11, 2025**  
**St. John's UU Church**  
**320 Resor Ave., Cincinnati, OH**

St. John's UU Church will host homeless families from Sunday, May 4 until the morning of Sunday May 11, 2025. Volunteers are needed for dinner, entertainment, and overnight hosting during that period.

Access the SignUpGenius link below to help with this valuable ministry.

<https://tinyurl.com/mvy7bhzu>

Image source: <https://www.foundhouse.org/>



## May Social Justice Collaborative Meeting



**Sunday, May 4, 2025**  
**Starting 10 minutes after**  
**The morning worship service.**

Immigration and the new administration's policies were a big focus of the March 2025 meeting of Heritage UU Church's Social Justice Collaborative. Topics ranged from the status of the Haitian community in Springfield, to workshops to understand the complicated immigration legal process, to reasserting the right of immigrants not to be apprehended while receiving sanctuary in a house of worship.

The HUUC Social Justice Collaborative meeting topics included:

- Racial Justice
- Housing and Homelessness
- Indigenous Peoples
- Immigration
- Climate Change
- Government Reform
- Activities in UU Organizations

The next meeting will be on Sunday, May 4, 2025, starting about 10 minutes after the end worship service ends, in the Heritage Room. All Heritage members and friends are invited to attend.

If you have questions or suggestions, please contact Louise Lawarre or Mimi Sinclair.

Louise Lawarre - May meeting leader:

*[louiselawarre@yahoo.com](mailto:louiselawarre@yahoo.com)*

Mimi Sinclair - May agenda and communications:

*[mimisinclair@me.com](mailto:mimisinclair@me.com)*

Photo Caption: Rev. Bill Gupton and other Heritage Church members join in an immigration-related rally on September 5, 2017.

Photo Credit: Russ Araujo.

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Immigrant Assistance Cards - Rights and ID



Two local organizations (Ignite Peace and MARCC) are offering assistance to immigrants regarding their rights and needs for an ID.

According to their website (<https://ignitepeace.org/>), Ignite Peace is a Cincinnati based organization (formerly known as Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center) that educates and advocates for peace, challenges unjust systems, and promotes the creation of nonviolent society. Ignite Peace is offering a free,

downloadable cards listing immigrant right to hand out or leave in places where immigrants might find them. These "Red Cards" are available at <https://ignitepeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Know-Your-Rights-Cards.pdf>

MARCC (Metropolitan Area Religious Coalition of Cincinnati) (<https://marcconline.com/>) is a coalition of 14 Jewish, Roman Catholic, Muslim, Protestant, Unitarian-Universalist organizations that collaborate together on a few local social concerns to improve life for the people of Metropolitan Cincinnati. They are offering Identification cards. According to their website, "The (MARCC) community identification (ID) card will improve the potential for individuals to be recognized and provided with equal protection and due process under the law and receive governmental services in Cincinnati. The MARCC ID card is for any resident who may have limited access to government issued forms of identification." For more information see <https://cincinnati-latino.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/09.15.2018-MARCC-ID-Flyer.pdf>.

Images sources: <https://ignitepeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Know-Your-Rights-Cards.pdf> and <https://marcconline.com/>

Community Events

Come Join the Healthy Lifestyles Group for Lunch

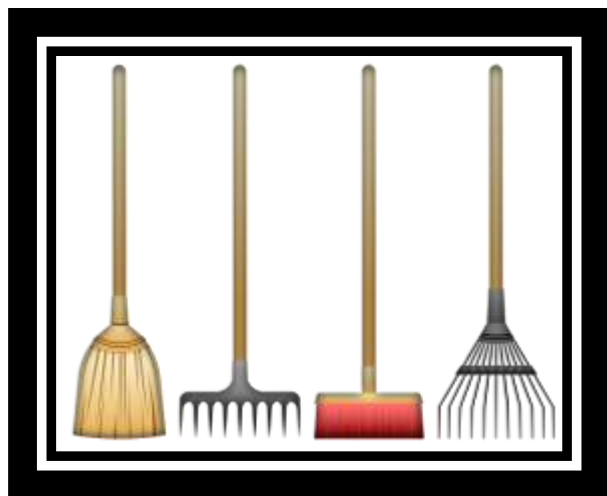


Every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., in the Great Hall.

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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### Make a Difference in Our Playground Area



**April 5, 2025  
9:30 - 11:30 a.m.  
HUUC Playground**

Roll up your sleeves and make a difference in our playground area on Saturday Family Service Day, April 5, 2025 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. We need to clear leaves, refresh the raised beds and sandbox, power wash furniture, and more. All ages are invited to bring their energy and smiles. We'll bring the donuts! RSVP to Katie Kpaeyeh with details about how many in your family can come and for how long to:

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

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/y9nxjubp>

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HUUC Hosts Bill Lyon Ordination



April 13, 2025, 4 p.m.

**Heritage Universalist Unitarian Church
Reception to follow**

The Ordination of Bill Lyon takes place on April 13, 2025 at Heritage UU Church (HUUC). All HUUC members and many friends have been invited to this celebration.

If you would like to help the Ordination Committee provide hospitality for this rare event, please contact Rae Jane at:

raejane.araujo@gmail.com

Image source: courtesy of Bill Lyon

The Babes Find "The Lost Book of Bonn"



**April 16, 2025, 7 - 9 p.m.
in the Heritage Room**

The Babes with Books or BWB, Heritage's women's book club, revisits WWII era Europe for their April 16, 2025, 7 - 9 p.m. meeting in the Heritage room with their selection *The Lost Book of Bonn* by Brianna Labuskes. This post-war historical novel is described by an Amazon.com reviewer as a "gorgeous book about forgiveness and the power of the written word." Set before, during, and after WWII, the review continues that this book covers immense ground including "all the various shades and shapes that bravery can take" as the story behind a slim volume of poetry and its handwritten dedication, stolen by the Nazis, is revealed.

The current reading selections for BWB upcoming meetings are as follows:

May 21, 2025 - *The Briar Club*, by Kate Quinn

June 18, 2025 - *The Whalebone Theater*, by Joanna Quinn

July 23, 2025 - *We All Live Here*, by Jojo Moyes

August 20, 2025 - *Real Americans*, by Rachel Khong

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 HUUCCoffice@yahoo.com.

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## Indigenous Film Screening



**Tuesday, May 6, 2025**  
**7 - 9 p.m. in the Heritage Room**

The Indigenous Issues group will gather to watch "Drunktown's Finest," a feature film from 2014 that follows three young Native Americans - an adopted Native girl, a young father-to-be, and a trans woman who dreams of being a model - as they wrestle with their relationship with their Navajo home and relations. The film illuminates the impacts of colonialism on the Navajo nation while affirming the continued vitality of Navajo culture.

A segment from the program 20/20 focusing on Gallup, New Mexico titled "Drunk Town USA" inspired writer-director Freeland to make the film. Sydney Freeland is a member of the Navajo Nation and is also known for "Reservation Dogs" (2021) and "Rez Ball" (2024). "Drunktown's Finest" won several awards including

Best Film at the American Indian Film Festival in 2014.

For questions or more information, contact Mimi Sinclair at [mimisinclair@me.com](mailto:mimisinclair@me.com)

Link to trailer: <https://tinyurl.com/ywpcpd2a>

Image source: [https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3091286/?ref=tt\\_mv\\_close](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3091286/?ref=tt_mv_close)

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Save June 7, 2025 for a Heritage Fundraiser Concert



Plans are underway for a fundraising concert to be held at HUUC the evening of June 7, 2025. The headliner will be Friction Farm, a husband/wife musical duo. Friction Farm combines storytelling, social commentary, and humor to create songs of everyday life, local heroes, and quirky observations.

The exact time, price, and other details for this event are still being organized. However, save the date for what promises to be a wonderful evening.

For more details contact Valerie DuBay at:

valdubay@gmail.com

Image source; courtesy of Valerie DuBay

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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:

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

Image source: Canva

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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

Image source: Canva

Support

Our Giving Supports Our Growing



As with any pledge drive, we have a number of key priorities to fund in our new church fiscal year that will begin on July 1, 2025. But this year is different, and it is special. We have one, overriding priority that will guide our efforts and raise the bar for us as congregation. That priority is our ministerial transition, which we are kicking off just as we kick off the pledge drive itself.

We have sustained and grown this congregation during an era when other UU congregations in the Cincinnati area have struggled. We are now the second largest UU congregation in Cincinnati with if not the largest, then certainly the fastest

growing Religious Education program in the city. We are the premiere representative of Universalism in the entire region. We have a lot to be proud of and a lot to be excited about as we seek to bring a new minister into our congregation.

From a financial standpoint, we also have much to celebrate. We have maintained a robust series of fund-raising efforts at the same time that we have successfully competed for grant money to improve our facility. But, there is no doubt that our pledged giving provides the vast majority of the financial support that sustains the daily life of our congregation.

As we initiate the process of recruiting a new minister to lead us in our spiritual journey, we must plan for a number of costs that are not usually in our yearly budget. We are hiring a transition consultant firm to guide us in our efforts, and we must anticipate possible expenses such as moving costs for a new minister joining our congregation from outside of our region. Of course, we would also like to give our existing staff raises to acknowledge their value to us in a time of rising costs. We would like to modestly increase our RE budget, and we would also like to expand our Children's Music Director involvement in the life of our congregation from eight times a year to every month.

All of these elements taken together mean that we have a big ask for all of our pledging members and friends. We are requesting a 15% increase in pledged giving for the 2025-2026 church year. This increase will raise our total pledge income to \$258,000.

If you are new to our congregation, you can learn more about our congregation and our pledging statistics, such as average pledges and Fair Share Giving, by visiting our Stewardship website at <https://huuc.net/stewardship/>. When you are ready to pledge, you will find the pledge form at the bottom of the Stewardship website or you can go directly to the pledge form via this link: <https://huuc.breezechms.com/form/2025-2026-pledge-form>.

Many thanks to those who have already pledged, and thanks to everyone in our congregation for carefully considering your level of pledged giving to support the continued growth and vitality of our congregation.

Yours in faith and service,
Reid
Reid Hester, HUUC Stewardship Chair

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/yum75pr2>

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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

### Welcome New Members to HUUC Installed March 23, 2025



On Sunday, March 23, 2025, four new HUUC members signed the membership book. The following introduces these new members Cynthia Kufla, Aaron Bird, Rachel “Rai” Bosch , and Samuel Bosch-Bird to HUUC.

#### Cynthia Kukla



Cynthia Kukla is relatively new to Heritage Church, but she has been a member of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington-Normal in Bloomington, Illinois, since the 1990’s. Since moving back to Ohio a few years ago, she has been wanting to reconnect with UU-ism and a UU church.

Her return to the Cincinnati area was driven by a desire to be closer to her grandchildren. Cynthia lives in West Clermont County, where she has completed construction of a “glorious art studio” right behind her house. She says that “the fun and effort involved in building my studio is what kept me from joining the church sooner. I only fired *two* contractors!”

Cynthia is an Emerita Professor of Art who started her career at Northern Kentucky University, a place that still holds many fond memories for her. She says, “I am still in touch with many of my former NKU students here – which is wonderful.”

Cynthia specializes in watercolors, and regularly teaches watercolor workshops at the Cincinnati Nature Center and Pyramid Hill Sculpture Park. She’s also an environmentalist, nature-lover, and casual gardener.

## Aaron Bird



Aaron Bird grew up in Elkins, West Virginia, in the Episcopal Church, where his father serves as the presiding priest at Grace Episcopal. His journey to Cincinnati began when a software corporation acquired his employer's company, coinciding with his wife Rai's pursuit of a PhD at the University of Cincinnati.

Aaron works in AI implementation, and enjoys outdoor activities such as hiking, cave exploring, and boating, as well as cheering on FC Cincinnati. Aaron and Rai began attending Heritage because they were seeking a welcoming community where their children, Samuel, Zach, and Tyler, could connect with like-minded peers. Aaron has been particularly inspired by the congregation's commitment to kindness, love, and community, and now feels called to formally join the church, to, in his words, "help sustain

this vibrant community for generations to come."

## Rachel "Rai" Bosch



Rachel "Rai" Bosch grew up in Cheshire, Connecticut, where her spiritual foundation was shaped at the Unitarian Society of New Haven. The UU principles have been a guiding force throughout Rai's life.

After relocating to Cincinnati to pursue a PhD in geosciences, she and Aaron sought a welcoming spiritual home for their family – and Heritage became that safe, supportive community where their children could thrive.

Now a licensed professional geologist and environmental consultant specializing in caves, karst, and fractured rock systems, Rai's scientific curiosity aligns with her reverence for the natural world.

They find joy in cave exploration, boating, swimming, cheering for FC Cincinnati with their family, and most recently, fly fishing. Rai's spiritual path continues to be illuminated by the UU principles of the inherent human dignity, the free search for truth, and the pursuit of worldwide peace and justice. They cherish Heritage as a community where individuals support each other's unique spiritual journeys while collectively working toward these shared ideals.



## Samuel Bosch-Bird



Samuel Bosch-Bird was born in West Virginia, and then home-schooled in Michigan until sixth grade. In 2016, when its family moved to Cincinnati, some of its first friends in the area were made at Heritage.

Samuel came out as transgender in 2018. It studied Information Technology at U.C. for a year in 2022-23, but currently works in retail, with plans to slowly ease back into education to find a job in I.T. Samuel has multiple souls, most of which are animals, with the most important being a dragon; it does volunteer work online for a website about nonhuman-identifying people. Its special interest has been Minecraft since it started playing the game in 2013, and it's been running Minecraft servers for fun since 2019.

Consistent throughout Samuel's time at Heritage has been evidence of the love that is the spirit of the church. It says, "Heritage has a very warm, welcoming, and supportive community, with a clear commitment to support the wider community through service and charity." Samuel has always felt joy and recognition at Heritage, and wants to continue to be part of such a community whose spirituality is full of love and support.

Images source: courtesy of Rev. Bill Gupton

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HUUC Board Briefs for March 2025



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

1. The Board has engaged Courage & Covenant (Reverend Mitra Jafarzadeh and Rabbi Jonathan Cohen) to assist us with our upcoming minister transition. Courage & Covenant will be working with our community in a few different capacities over the coming months to help make our ministerial transition as successful as possible.
2. The Board has appointed the following people to our ministerial transition team: Jaime Castle, Katie Kpaeyeh, Bob Lamb, Louise Lawarre, Mimi Sinclair, Les Tacy, and Garry Wilson. Thank you all for your service!
3. The Board has appointed Rae Jane Araujo as a HUUC delegate to the Mid-America Regional Meeting. If anyone else is interested in serving as a delegate to this meeting, please speak with a Board member.
4. The facility improvements from the security grant are ongoing — cameras are in place, and the new doors will be going in soon!

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/>

Our 2025 Rummage Sale Is a Success!



The 2025 Heritage UU Church rummage sale, held March 6 - 8, 2025, was our most successful to date, reports Barbara Rohrer, coordinator of this annual fundraiser. The sale took in over \$5,000, netting over \$4,700 for this year's church operating budget, once the \$300 expense for signage was deducted, she says.

Barbara attributes the success of the sale to three factors: the myriad of donations of items to sell from many members of the congregation; the efforts of over 35 members who volunteered their time to help with set up, the sale itself, and clean up; and the marketing partnership with Lisa Johnson from the Early Bird Resale

Shop. Click the following link to obtain more information about this firm: <https://earlybirdresale.com/>

The annual event proves more than a fundraiser for the church. As Heritage member and rummage sale volunteer, Karen Rush said, "I found it oddly satisfying to help the young woman who shopped near closing time. When she came to us, she had very little in her new home. She walked away with plates, glasses, and many other household items, all inexpensive and practical. Our donations found the right owner! In one perspective, the rummage sale is about generating revenue for the church. In another perspective, it's about clearing out our basements and closets. In a higher perspective, it's about service, and the infinite process of giving and receiving."

Barbara asks members to start now putting aside items for next year's sale. Planned for the early spring of 2026, a date has yet to be finalized.



Images source: courtesy of Barbara Rohrer

recognition as a Welcoming Congregation. This effort was initiated by Amy Russell, the interim minister following the retirement of Eleanor Artman and before the hiring of Bill Gupton. When Reverend Bill was hired, our church was just entering the initial phases of the self-examination.

The charge to our membership stated that, "Our vision goes beyond the Welcoming Congregation Program. By taking this first step, we hope to explore more issues than those presented — like sexism, racism, atheism, to name just a few. Becoming a Welcoming Congregation will act as a catalyst to learning more about ourselves and to ending exclusion. Only when we are truly open to the wealth of diversity in our world will the inherent worth and dignity of every person be affirmed with a large voice."

To accomplish these goals, the membership had to examine itself on three fronts. One was in education, a second in congregational life, and finally in community outreach.

The action plan called for four points to be considered in education:

- 1) Offer religious education that incorporates bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender life issues.
- 2) Promote participation by the congregation's leadership in the Welcoming Congregation Program.
- 3) Offer a congregation-wide workshop program(s) including study and reflection.
- 4) Use of the UUA OWL program.

Six items needed were addressed under congregational life:

- 1) Form a broad-based welcoming committee.
- 2) Adjust congregational bylaws to include a non-discrimination clause.
- 3) Use inclusive language and content as a regular part of worship services.
- 4) Provide main worship space and ministerial services for bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender rites of passage.
- 5) Welcome bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender persons in the congregation's brochure.
- 6) Ensure that publications, public information, and programming reflect the requested status of any individual as they may desire.

An additional five areas to study existed under community outreach.

- 1) Celebrate and affirm bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender issues and history during the church year.
- 2) Participate in and support efforts to create justice, freedom, and equality for the bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender communities.
- 3) Establish and maintain contact with local bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender groups to offer support and promote dialogue and interaction.
- 4) Advertise in the local press and other media that reaches the bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender communities.
- 5) Provide use of building space along with other UUA organizations when requested by members for programs and meetings of an Interweave Chapter.

The UUA strongly stated that most congregations were actively following many if not all of the guidelines listed above. However, they urged that each be addressed to improve and initiate programs to achieve the Welcoming Congregation status. To carry out the assessment and training process, a committee was established to tackle the work that needed to be done. That committee was chaired by Kathy Nalepa.

Assisting her were Rae Jane Araujo, Russ Araujo, Cindy Fink, Donna Buckley, Peg Fay Feder, Sam Gamble, Martha Garner-Holman, Linda Conway Hensley, Dave Hollinden, Melissa Meyer, Pat Murray, and Layne Richard-Hammock.

Reverend Bill Gupton had joined the Heritage family shortly after the process of becoming a Welcoming Congregation had begun. Several committee members remember that he strongly supported the committee's efforts but did not wish to interfere with an effort that was on-going when he arrived. He would, of course, play a strong role in shaping Point 3 of congregational life, that being to "Use inclusive language and content as a regular part of worship services."

To examine Heritage's attitudes on the bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender community, a survey was conducted with the congregation, the results of which pointed the direction in which the church needed to work for improvement. Nearly 80% of those surveys were answered. The next step was to design workshops to meet the identified needs. These workshops were offered over the ensuing year. Also, the committee outlined twelve other activities which it had undertaken to meet the UUA goals but did not involve the congregation as a whole. Among those activities was amending the church's constitution whose wording was contrary to the Welcoming Congregation goals. Of course, a positive vote by the congregation was necessary to approve the changes.

Over a year later, Committee Chair Nalepa presented the results to the congregation and asked that a vote be taken to adopt the resolution applying to the UUA for official recognition as a Welcoming Congregation. The vote was taken at the annual meeting on May 23, 2004 and passed unanimously. The last step was to submit to the UUA a record of the process and the changes that were made, as well as the congregation's approval. The UUA approval was granted and Heritage officially became a Welcoming Congregation.

A guiding light of that effort were the words of Universalist poet Edwin Markham in his poem titled "Outwitted."

He drew a circle to shut me out,
A heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.
But love and I had the wit to win.
We drew a circle to draw him in.

Image source: courtesy of Mike Roberts

The Wider UU World

Universalist Convocation Announces Monthly Vesper Service



The Universalist Convocation is launching a new, free, monthly, evening online vesper service to be held on the first Wednesday of the month. Each service will have a different topic and presenter. Shown below is the current schedule. Obtain a one-time necessary Zoom link registration at <https://universalistconvocation.org/monthly-vesper-schedule/>

The Dana Vespers - April 2, 2025,

8 p.m. Eastern, 45 minutes, followed by open discussion, Presenter: Rev. Richard Trudeau

Content: How the Universalist church in Dana, Massachusetts responded to the destruction of their town.

What is Universalism - May 7, 2025,

8 p.m. Eastern, 45 minutes, followed by open discussion, Presenter: Rev. Justin Lapoint

Content: After a brief history, we will discuss Universalism of the present day.

The Universal and the Human - June 4, 2025,

8 p.m. Eastern, 45 minutes, followed by open discussion, Presenter: Rev. Derek Parker

Content: What does it mean to be human? People have been wrestling with this question for as long as there have been people. Can we come to a universal religious view of our humanity? What is at stake in these questions?

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

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## **Hands Off! Cincinnati Fights Back**



**Saturday, April 5, 2025 11:00 am - 1:00 pm**

**Washington Park, 1230 Elm Street,  
Cincinnati, OH 45202**

Part of a nationwide, mass mobilization for democracy and freedom, similar events to this protest rally will take place in Washington, DC and throughout the nation on the same day.

This is a nonpartisan, nonviolent protest demanding that President Trump and Elon Musk keep hands off our democracy, our health care, our Social Security, our public schools, our bodies, and our wallets.

Endorsed by 86 organizations, including Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice ([uusj.net](http://uusj.net)), Common Cause, Color of Change, League of Women Voters, Indivisible, National Education Association, Friends of the Earth, Center for Common Ground, Human Rights Campaign, and Reproductive Freedom for All.

For more information and registration, visit the following web site:

<https://handsoff2025.com/>

Image source: <https://handsoff2025.com/>

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Join the Gathering Meeting Monthly



Side With Love, the organizing strategic team of the UUA (Unitarian Universalist Association), is offering an online gathering the second Monday of every month at 8 p.m. The purpose of this meeting is to ground, inform, and mobilize UUs and partners in this critical moment.

This meeting offers the following:

- Spiritual Grounding – Strengthening our hearts and spirits for the work ahead
- Political Analysis – Understanding the threats to democracy and justice
- Collective Action – Organizing with others to counter anti-democratic forces and build a just and loving world

The next gathering is April 14, 2025 at 8 p.m.

To register and obtain the Zoom link access the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/3px2kbet>

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/3px2kbet>

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## The UUA Celebrates 35 Years of Green Sanctuary



**Wednesday, April 16, 2025**

**7 p.m. Online**

For 35 years, Unitarian Universalists have been imagining renewal through the Green Sanctuary Program, a bold commitment to climate justice launched in 1989. Today, nearly 340 congregations are engaged in the revitalized Green Sanctuary 2030, focusing on continuous renewal and meaningful climate action.

At 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 16, 2025 online, the UUA will host the Green Sanctuary 35th Anniversary Call for Renewal with UUA President Sofia Betancourt. It is a time to honor the movement's past, reaffirm shared commitments, and envision the future we long for.

To obtain the Zoom link to this program access:

[RSVP today!](#) or <https://tinyurl.com/3s7ad525>

Image source: [RSVP today!](#)

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Feel Like Taking Action but Don't Know How?



In this time of political and moral upheaval, it is easy to feel that justice action is required, but what action is the question. The UUA's (Unitarian Universalist Association's) organizing and strategy team known as Side With Love has alternatives. Every Tuesday they update a list of how people can take timely action, attend upcoming events to connect and mobilize, and spiritually reflect to sustain the work.

Access their weekly update via the following link for more information.

<https://tinyurl.com/yck8vdx>

Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/yck8vdx>

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## Side With Love & UUSJ Condemn FY25 Continuing Resolution



On **March 15**, Side With Love (a UUA team) and Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice (UUSJ) issued a joint statement condemning the passage of H.R. 1968, the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act of 2025. This statement indicated that Federal budget is a moral failure—gutting public services, enabling mass deportations, and prioritizing billionaires over everyday Americans.

To read the entire statement, access the following link:

<https://uusj.net/wp1/26637-2/>

Images sources: <https://sidewithlove.org/actioncenter> and <https://uusj.net/wp1/26637-2/>

## 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., Thursday, April 24, 2025.**  
See <https://huuc.net/website-and-heirloom-newsletter-submitters-guide/> 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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