WHAT'S HAPPENING AT

Heritage Universalist

Unitarian Church
What’s Happening at Heritage?

There’s a lot happening at Heritage Church these days! In the following pages, you will find an alphabetical listing and description of many of the events, activities, and ongoing groups that take place, year-round, in our active church community. Each listing also includes contact information to help connect those who are interested in learning more, joining in, and participating.

This catalog is by no means comprehensive. In fact, in many ways, what you see here is just the tip of the iceberg of all that makes Heritage such a vital, vibrant congregation. If there are groups, events or activities that have been overlooked, or that you think should be included, please email our Senior Minister, Rev. Bill Gupton, at SeniorMinister@huuc.net with that information. The catalog will be updated periodically with additional information and new contacts.

We hope that you will find this tool to be useful as you become more involved in our ever-growing, ever-evolving community. Together, we will continue to celebrate life, create community, and seek justice.

August 2018
Adult Religious Education
Throughout the year, individuals and groups in the church offer educational opportunities. These include one-time or multi-session gatherings ranging from spirituality to UU history; day-long events such as retreats; documentaries and other films; discussion groups centered on any number of timely topics, and more. Watch the newsletter, the bulletin, our website and email announcements for specific opportunities. Do you have an interest, expertise or topic you’d like to share? To offer an adult religious education event, contact Rev. Bill Gupton at SeniorMinister@huuc.net or call 513-633-8703.

Aesthetics Coordination Team (ACT)
Looking for an artful way to get involved at Heritage? Join our Aesthetics Coordination Team (ACT). The group’s focus is to identify specific projects which would enhance the beauty of our shared religious home. When projects are identified and receive appropriate approval, the team will get together and “ACT” to further beautify our church space. For more information contact Chris Burroughs (burroughs3@fuse.net) or Laura Provard (laurap7809@gmail.com).

Anderson Churches for Racial Unity (ACRU)
Heritage is part of this association of churches in Greater Anderson Township. In partnership with GAPP (Greater Anderson Promotes Peace), we strive to raise awareness among the residents of Anderson Township and surrounding areas regarding issues of racism, to promote inclusion, to encourage participation in solutions, and to build individual and congregational relationships between people of color and white people. We work to accomplish our mission through the presentation of guest speakers, film discussions, workshops, book studies, and entertainment. Contact Louise Lawarre at 513-368-9967, or email louiselawarre@yahoo.com.

Artists and Art Shows
We frequently hang a different art show in the Great Hall. Artists include those from within the Heritage community, as well as outside. The art is often for sale, with a portion of the proceeds going to the church. Maybe we’ll display your art! Or maybe you’d simply like to help us hang and “curate.” For more information contact Chris Burroughs at 513-735-0208 or burroughs3@fuse.net.

Building
An ad hoc group of volunteers oversees the maintenance of our church building and the systems used in support of the building. Volunteer by contacting Church Administrator Denise Martinez at 513-231-8634.

Caring Circle
This group of compassionate church members responds caringly and confidentially to the pastoral care needs of those in the HUUC community. Activities include arranging meals, providing transportation, doing lawn care, organizing memorial service support, sending cards, visiting hospitals, delivering flowers, etc. The group meets together once a month, and communicates frequently by email. To be considered as a potential member of this important team of loving volunteers, contact Julie Kane at 513-843-2567 or jgkane@cinci.rr.com, or Michelle Kelly at 513-675-3921.
Cincinnati Sanctuary Congregation Coalition
Heritage is an institutional member of this coalition as a “solidarity,” or supporting, congregation. We will eventually provide assistance to congregations that shelter immigrants who still have cases pending but are nevertheless at risk of immediate deportation. Contacts: Bob Drake and Russ Araujo at SanctuaryCoalition@huuc.net.

The Connections Team
This group’s goal is to help everyone at Heritage – from newcomers to long-time members – make and deepen their connections to our church community. From welcoming visitors to creating opportunities for fellowship to checking in regularly with one another, the Connections Team is committed to the goal of community building. To get involved, contact Rev. Bill Gupton at SeniorMinister@huuc.net or 513-633-8703.

Death Positive Film Series
Stop by church at 7 p.m. on the first Friday evening of each month for an interesting film that is sure to get you thinking! Whether it’s a documentary about the decision to seek death with dignity, to a film about “green burial,” to a hilarious series of internet vignettes, our Death Positive Film Series is designed to stimulate thought and conversation about that most taboo subject of all – the reality we all have in common – our own mortality.

Divine Feminine Workshops
Learn more about the Divine Feminine in workshops held two or three times per year at church. Curricula provided by the Unitarian Universalist Association guide our exploration of long-forgotten and suppressed spiritualities. Contact Tracy Jo Small at 513-310-9029 or email tracyjoduckworth@gmail.com.

End-of-Life Ministry Program
A loving, compassionate team of church and community members is available to help those in the church who are dying (and their families) during this time of transition. We can also provide in-home or in-church after-death care through vigils and alternative funerals for those who are interested in avoiding involvement with the funeral industry and funeral homes. For more information contact Rev. Bill Gupton at SeniorMinister@huuc.net or call 513-633-8703.

Endowment Committee
The Endowment Committee manages and operates the church’s Endowment Fund. Members are elected by the congregation at the Annual Meeting. Email Endowment@huuc.net.

Facebook
Search “Heritage Universalist Unitarian Church” on Facebook, and “like” or “follow” us! Facebook is often the most timely and up-to-date way to find out “what’s happening at Heritage.”

Finance Committee
The Finance Committee oversees and manages the church’s finances, makes budget projections, issues end-of-year financial reports, and works closely with the Board of Trustees and the Senior Minister on current and long-term financial matters. Email Finance@huuc.net.
General Assembly
Attend the Unitarian Universalist Association’s annual General Assembly, held each June. Delegates are appointed by the Heritage Board of Trustees and must be church members. Others are invited to attend in an unofficial (but very educational and entertaining) capacity. For more information go to www.uua.org/ga.

Get Acquainted Dinners
Each Fall and Spring, those who are new to the church are invited to an informal dinner put on by long-time members. Newcomers get to meet one another and church leaders, share stories about their experiences at Heritage, and learn more about the church. Contact Rev. Bill Gupton at 513-633-8703 or email SeniorMinister@huuc.net.

Greater Anderson Promotes Peace (GAPP)
Heritage is an institutional member of GAPP – a nonprofit organization serving Anderson Township, Mt. Washington, Newtown and western Clermont County since 1999. GAPP provides and advocates for community-building activities and programs honoring diversity, encouraging understanding, and promoting inclusion. Throughout the year, GAPP offers a wide variety of community events that are both educational and proactive. Contact church member and GAPP Executive Director Louise Lawarre at 513-368-9967 or email gapp.peace@gmail.com.

Green Burial
Our congregation is actively seeking land in order to create Cincinnati’s first natural burial ground. Heritage Acres Memorial Sanctuary will offer natural, environmentally friendly and sustainable alternatives to conventional, toxic, polluting American burial practices. Have a passion for the environment? Have knowledge or expertise in development, management, promotion, fundraising, etc.? Want to help? Or are you just curious about “green burial”? Contact Rev. Bill Gupton at SeniorMinister@huuc.net or call 513-633-8703.

Habitat for Humanity
Each summer-to-fall, Heritage is involved in helping build a house for people who otherwise could not afford to live in a home of their own. As part of the Madisonville Area Habitat for Humanity Coalition, we provide on-site volunteers, usually one Saturday a month during the building season, and also provide lunches for the workers. All skill levels are welcome and needed. To learn more email Habitat@huuc.net.

Healthy Cooking Classes
Like to cook? Like to help others? Roughly once per quarter we offer a day of healthy cooking classes to the community (either to Inter Parish Ministry clients, or to the New Richmond Boys or Girls Club). To volunteer, contact Tracy Jo Small at 513-310-9029 or email tracyjoduckworth@gmail.com.
Healthy Lifestyles
A group for all women members and friends of Heritage. We meet most every Tuesday at noon in the Great Hall. Healthy Lifestyles is a gentle support group that gives each of us the confidence to make better choices regarding our health. It includes but is not limited to healthy weight. We each bring a brown bag lunch and socialize while we eat. We then have an opportunity to share our challenges and successes regarding living a healthy life. No cost, no scales, no judgment – just fellowship and encouragement. We welcome any woman who has a desire to make better choices in any area of her life. Contact Julie Kane at 513-843-2567.

Hospitality and Greeting at Heritage
Did you ever notice that each Sunday when you arrive at Heritage, there is a smiling, friendly person in the lobby to greet you? And that there’s always coffee and tea, etc., available in the Great Hall? If you’d like to help make sure these and similar acts of hospitality continue to be the norm at Heritage, maybe you want to volunteer to be part of the team! Contact Rev. Bill Gupton at SeniorMinister@huuc.net or call 513-633-8703.

Interfaith Hospitality Network
Work one evening and/or overnight quarterly helping host homeless families at First Unitarian Church, 536 Linton St. in South Avondale. You can play games or lead activities with the children, help with dinner, or serve as an overnight host. Learn more at: http://huuc.net/interfaith-hospitality-network-ihn/ or contact Rae Jane Araujo at IHN@huuc.net.

Inter Parish Ministry (IPM)
Bring nonperishable food and supplies to church to donate to this organization’s choice food pantries – or help transport our congregation’s contributions to IPM outlets. Contact Mike Roberts or Kay Inskeep at FoodJustice@huuc.net.

Men’s Chalice Circle
A Chalice Circle provides an opportunity for participants to gather, share their lives, and explore topics of faith together in a small group setting. The Men’s Chalice Circle is led by Reese Johnson, and meets once a month at the church. New groups form each September, and are then closed for the remainder of the “church year” (through May or June). Email Reese Johnson at mrreese@yahoo.com.

Midweek Mindfulness
Each Wednesday – from 12:30-12:35 p.m. – take five minutes out of your busy day and week for a time of shared mindfulness. This is when folks in the Heritage community pause to renew their spirits with a mindful break from routine that for some includes meditation, for others prayer, for others simply quiet breathing or walking in Nature. Our shared practice connects you with others in our community, knowing that wherever they – or you – are, we are practicing together!

Music Committee
The Music Committee builds and supports a music program that is diverse and inclusive in style, theme and experience level, and that enhances both the worship experience and the community ministry of Heritage Church. The group also conducts occasional fundraisers, promotes concerts, etc. Email MusicCommittee@huuc.net.
Musicians
Occasionally we like to highlight special musical performances by individuals or groups during our Sunday worship service or at other special events and occasions. To be included, contact HUUC Music Director Les Tacy at 513-476-2474 or steph2004les@gmail.com.

Newsletter
Read all about it! Find out what’s happening at HUUC with The Heirloom, which appears in three formats: Email-based, full-content PDF, and excerpt PDF. To subscribe, email Denise Martinez at office@huuc.net. If you have an article, photo, or information to contribute to the church newsletter, email news@huuc.net.

On Your Own Time Sale
This is an alternative church fundraising effort in which members and friends contribute to the financial well-being of our church through individual online sales, yard sales and community awards programs. You can help raise money for Heritage with little or no effort – “on your own time.” To learn more contact Barbara Rohrer at barbara@lyghtelrohrer.com.

Pagan Group
The HUUC Pagan Group focuses on earth-based spirituality to create rituals and gatherings throughout the year. Email Pagan@huuc.net.

Personnel Committee
The Personnel Committee maintains employee records, oversees (in consultation with their supervisor) an annual goal-setting and review process for non-ordained church employees, makes salary recommendations for the same staff, and consults in a human resources capacity as needed with staff members. Email Personnel@huuc.net.

Potluck Lunch
On the third Sunday of each month, following the worship service, the church community gathers in the Great Hall for a shared potluck meal. All are welcome!

Racial Justice
Various racial justice workshops, movie nights and other events take place each year, some at Heritage and some offsite. Contacts: Louise Lawarre and Rae Jane Araujo, at RacialJustice@huuc.net.

Religious Education for Children and Youth
Age-appropriate classes are offered every Sunday for children from preschool through middle school, using curriculum from the Tapestry of Faith series for Unitarian Universalists. Summer Sunday meetings are more informal, typically incorporating a popular culture theme such as “Star Wars” or Hogwarts. Throughout the year, opportunities for multigenerational gatherings and special events are often planned around holidays. Watch the newsletter and announcements for opportunities to be involved in planning or participating in our programs and/or contact Rev. Leslie Woodward at 937-478-1031 and RE@huuc.net
Singers
Join our wonderful Choir, or simply sing some special music during a worship service or other special event or occasion. Choir rehearsals are on Thursday nights from 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. To become part of the Choir, contact Choir Director Steve McCamley at 513-5-8-6398 or email smccamley@aol.com. To sing special music, contact Church Musician Les Tacy at 513-476-2474 or email steph2004les@gmail.com, or Rev. Bill Gupton at 513-633-8703 or email SeniorMinister@huuc.net.

Singing in Sacred Circle
The second Tuesday of each month, 20 or more women gather in the sanctuary to share their voices in a fun, relaxed, safe space that is empowering, loving and healing. Regardless of singing experience, skill or comfort, all women are welcome to connect and create a beautiful sound with one another. Facilitated by Shelley Graff. For more information contact Tracy Jo Small at 513-310-9029 or email tracyjoduckworth@gmail.com

Sisterhood
The women of the church officially go by the name of the Clara Barton Guild, but informally are known as the Sisterhood. This open group not only provides sisterly fellowship, but raises monies to support various worthy causes both within the church and beyond. In keeping with the Universalist attitude and tradition, all women of the congregation are considered part of the umbrella of the Clara Barton Guild, no matter how many or how few annual activities are attended. The Guild also holds an annual holiday dinner in early December. Send general email to CBG2@huuc.net and emails about the holiday dinner to ClaraBartonGuildDinner@huuc.net.

Social Justice Collaborative
This is a monthly meeting of those who are involved in social action / social justice work, to share information, ideas and support. The collaborative has no set leader; duties of meeting-leading and minute-taking are rotated among participants. To get on the Heritage Church Social Justice Google Group email list, email a request to Russ Araujo at SocialJustice@huuc.net. Watch church announcements and the newsletter for meeting dates.

Special Outdoor Projects
Periodically, volunteers gather to take care of some of special needs around the church that we might otherwise “never get around to.” This is a fun way to help out while meeting and getting to know others. Most projects occur on evenings or weekends, and might include cleaning out our storage shed, removing invasive plants, repairing our bridge in the woods (bet you didn’t know we had one!), cleaning up our amphitheater (ditto!), stacking logs and removing fallen brush and branches, etc. Contact Terry Planitzer at 513-773-5566 or email tplanitzer@hotmail.com.

Spirit in Life
Each year, September through May, small groups of four persons gather monthly to explore spirituality and deepen their individual and shared spiritual lives. Prayer, silence and sharing characterize these monthly meetings, where participants strengthen relationships with one another and with the Divine. A commitment to nine monthly meetings, as well as to the group, is required. New groups form in late summer and begin meeting in September. To sign up contact Rev. Bill Gupton at 513-633-8703 or email SeniorMinister@huuc.net.
Spring Cleaning
Members and friends of the church gather once or twice a year to give the church a thorough cleaning. Contact: Tracy Jo Small at 513-310-9029 or email tracyjoduckworth@gmail.com.

Stitchers
This is an intergenerational group of women and men who gather in the Heritage Room each Thursday afternoon between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. to practice our crafts (not limited to needle arts) while building community by sharing talents and our stories. Stitchers is an open, drop-in group that welcomes not only Heritage members and friends but all others who wish to share in our time together. For more information contact Lou Kerr at 513-300-9345 or kerrcincinnati@gmail.com.

Third Thursday Ladies’ Lunch
Once a month, women of the congregation are invited to lunch and conversation to foster community among us. No formal, set program is planned – just a time to be together and get acquainted. This takes place on the third Thursday of each month, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at church in the Great Hall and kitchen. Please bring a salad, beverage or dessert to share. For more information, contact Connie Booth at 513-205-5068 or conniej.booth@fuse.net.

Unitarian Universalist Council of Greater Cincinnati
This is a group composed of representatives from all area UU churches who meet to share information and ideas. Delegates are elected at Heritage Church’s annual congregational meeting, and must be church members, but all meetings are open to anyone. For more information email BoardPrez@huuc.net or UUCouncilReps@huuc.net.

Unitarian Universalist Justice Ohio (UUJO)
Participate in meetings and activities of a network of UU churches and individuals from all over Ohio, to promote social justice. To learn more email UUJO@huuc.net.

Usher
Hand out programs, direct congregants to their seats, and pass the offering plates on Sunday morning. This is a great way to meet folks while helping your church community. Each and every Sunday at least two ushers are needed; we’d love to have you become a member of our growing team! Contact usher coordinator Lou Kerr at 513-300-9345 or email kerrcincinnati@gmail.com.

Varieties of Gender
VoG is a peer-led, professionally facilitated, confidential support group which meets the second, fourth and fifth Sundays of the month at the church, from 1:00-2:30 p.m., and is open to all individuals who self-define as gender variant. On months when there are five Sundays, we meet for a potluck meal and movie, and invite friends and family members to join us. Contact: Cori Yaeger at 513-706-9323 or iroc1949@icloud.com.
**Vespers Service**
An evening worship once a month in a meditative atmosphere with readings, song and silence. Second Wednesday of the month, September through May. Group leaders are Mimi Sinclair and Steph Tacy. Email Vespers@huuc.net.

**Website**
Everything you need to know about Heritage can be found on our website, www.huuc.net. You can also contribute articles and pictures for potential posting. Email Russ Araujo at news@huuc.net. (Items sent here also automatically go to our Church Administrator, Denise Martinez, for the Sunday bulletin announcements, and to Steph Tacy, for the weekly “Our Heritage Connection” email.)

**We Need Each Other**
This deeply committed, covenanted group meets the fourth Sunday of each month from 6:15-9:15 p.m. to experience the support and encouragement of an intentional community. While the current group is closed, new groups are forming. For more information about the We Need Each Other program, contact Dave Small at 513-383-7697 or email him at djsmall45255@gmail.com. To get connected to the new groups that are forming, contact Tracey DuEst at taduest@gmail.com or call her at 513-678-6809.

**Winter Solstice Celebration**
Each December on or near the Winter Solstice, folks of all ages from HUUC and the wider community gather at church for a celebration of the shortest night of the year and the return of the sun. We share food, chant and drum, and enjoy a bonfire and other rituals. Contact Tracy Jo Small at 513-310-9029 or email tracyjoduckworth@gmail.com.

**Women’s Book Club (aka “Babes with Books”)**
On the third Wednesday of each month, women meet from 7-9 p.m. in the Heritage Room to discuss a selected book. The gatherings are often raucous and irreverent, and having actually read the book is a bonus rather than a requirement! Books are selected a few months in advance and are available through the public library. Contact Barb Barnes at 513-248-8099 or email scubagoddess@fuse.net.

**Women’s Retreat at Hope Springs**
Each September, many of the women of Heritage spend a transformative weekend of renewal at Hope Springs Institute in Adams County. Make connections and learn more about yourself and others. Relax. Enjoy! Contact Julie Kane at 513-843-2567 or jgkane@cinci.rr.com.

**Women’s Spirituality Group**
Meets the first Wednesday of every month from 7:00-8:30 pm. Open to all women connected to Heritage. A time to explore our spiritual connections to each other, our faith, and our world. Contact Ann Raub at 513-232-2414.
Worship Services
Each Sunday morning at 10:30, the entire Heritage community gathers for Sunday worship. Services are led by our Senior Minister, Rev. Bill Gupton, our Worship Committee, or other church members and outside speakers. In other words, though we have many dearly held worship traditions, there is also great variety in our worship. Usually, children join us for the first part of service, then leave for age-appropriate religious education classes. Nursery and toddler care is provided for the youngest members of our community. Sunday mornings are a time for the whole church family to gather together in fellowship.

Worship Technicians
This skilled group of folks makes sure our sanctuary sound system, video projector, and technology work well and serve our worship needs each Sunday morning. If you’re the kind of person who loves audio/visual technology and helping create a meaningful experience for others, this team would love to welcome you! Contact Rev. Bill Gupton at 513-633-8703 or email SeniorMinister@huuc.net.

be in the know about
What’s Happening at Heritage!

- Sign up to receive our monthly electronic newsletter, The Heirloom. Email Church Administrator Denise Martinez at office@huuc.net and ask to be added to the newsletter distribution list.

- For even more up-to-the-minute information about “What’s Happening at Heritage,” sign up for our HUUC-announcements email list. Again, let Denise Martinez at office@huuc.net know you’d like to receive these email announcements (we promise they won’t be too frequent!).

- Carefully read over the printed church announcements that are inserted in the bulletin each Sunday morning.

- If you have any questions, feel free to call the church office at 513-231-8634, or you can call Rev. Bill Gupton at 513-633-8703.
Who’s Who at HUUC
(a helpful listing of our church’s leaders)

Board of Trustees:
Jaime Castle, President
Jim Nolan, Vice-President
Tamilyn Thompson, Secretary
Craig Horton
Heather Wasco
Bob Rush
Barb Lyon

Worship Committee:
Suzanne Horton, Chair
Regina Pugh
Roger Miller
Jenn Hester
Teresa Robinson
Chris Whittaker
Lou Kerr

Committee on Ministry:
Kathy Wade, Chair
Beth Staggenborg
Barbara Rohrer

Sunday Offerings:
Regina Pugh

Caring Circle:
Julie Kane, Chair
Michelle Kelly, Vice-Chair
Joan Stoffregen
Margie Spinney
Stephanie Wilson
Joann Meyer
Gretchen Norman
Barb Beezley
Cherilyn Loney
Lou Kerr

Children’s & Youth Ministry:
Jaime Castle
Steph Tacy
Ann Roberts
Feriel Feldman
Bob Lamb
Ellie Lamb

Personnel Committee:
Susan Conley, Chair
Craig Horton
Michael Wilhite

Church Musician:
Les Tacy

Finance and Stewardship:
Reid Hester

Choir Director:
Steve McCamley

Music Committee:
Bob Lamb, Chair

Church Administrator:
Denise Martinez

Website / Newsletter:
Russ Araujo

Assistant Minister for R.E.:
Rev. Leslie Woodward

Usher Coordinator:
Lou Kerr

Senior Minister:
Rev. Bill Gupton

Website / Newsletter:
Taylor Epperson

Sunday Greeter Coordinator:
Rebecca Pace