



The Searchlight

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbia, Missouri

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October Worship Services at 9 and 11 a.m.

Sunday, Oct. 2

“Blessing of the Animals”

Rev. Molly Housh Gordon

Join us for an Intergenerational Blessing of the Animals Service. This is a time when we rededicate ourselves to the care of other creatures and learn about the beloved animals in the lives of our fellow members and friends. You may bring your well-behaved pet in a carrier or on a leash or bring a photo of your pet. You may also bring a photo of any deceased pets you would like to honor during a time of remembrance.

Sunday, Oct. 9

**“Leadership, Followership,
and Other Ships that Sail”**

Rev. Meg Riley, Special Guest Preacher

You do not want to miss this opportunity to hear a message from the Rev. Meg Riley, senior minister leading our denomination’s largest congregation – The Church of the Larger Fellowship, a congregation without walls serving UUs all over the world. Join us!

Sunday, Oct. 16

“If Not You, Then Who?”

Rev. Molly Housh Gordon

We have a perception in American culture that offering leadership means bossing people around or showing expertise. Most don’t wish, or don’t feel qualified, to lead in that way... But what if we reframed leading as the simple act of doing what we know deep down is ours to do?

Sunday, Oct. 23

“Finding Home”

Kenny Wiley, Special Guest Preacher

Join us for a sermon from Kenny Wiley, former UUC member and now a *UU World* senior editor and Denver-based religious educator. Kenny first visited UUC as a Mizzou sophomore in 2008, and is excited to lead us in a spirit-filled service reflecting on the importance of deep relationship across racial and cultural lines – and its limits as a tool for movement-building.

Sunday, Oct. 30

“Remembrance Sunday”

Rev. Molly Housh Gordon

In this Intergenerational Service of Remembrance, we will mark the season in which the ancients believed the veil between the living and the dead thinned. Together we will build an altar remembering all those whom we have lost. *Please bring a photo or memento of a loved one to add to our altar.*

Spiritual Growth is Cultivated by: Offering Leadership and Service

*“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is,
‘What are you doing for others?’”*

– The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Think for a moment about a couple of the experiences in your life that have most deeply impacted your spiritual life and your personal growth. Go ahead, I’ll wait...

My guess would be that one or more of them had something to do with service and connection; that your growth and your service to others and to the world create a continuing spiral together. Through serving with an open heart, you learn more about the world and yourself in it. Through that learning you grow, and through that growth you become more open-hearted, more able to authentically offer service. For this reason, our second quality of spiritual maturity is: The willingness to offer leadership and service.

What does it mean to lead? What does it mean to serve? How do both intertwine and meet our heart’s deepest yearnings? Join us this month to explore.

See you in church!

Molly

Community Office Hours Moved to Wednesday

Rev. Molly’s office hours have changed – they are now:

- Tuesdays – 1 to 4 p.m. at church
- Wednesdays – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Kaldi’s downtown
- And, as always, by appointment

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Ministry is what we do together

Festival of Sharing – What Happens Next?

October Activities

1. Please turn in your kits by **Oct. 1**. If for some reason you cannot meet that deadline, please contact Marian Hjelmfelt. We can make arrangements for a later delivery.

2. All kits need to be audited – **detectives are needed!**

3. Extra items will be removed and used to make more kits.

4. Missing items will be listed and obtained to complete the kits – **shoppers are needed and can be reimbursed.**

5. Kits need to be boxed by type, labeled and sealed – **volunteers are needed.**

6. On **Oct. 15**, all kits need to be transported to the State Fair Arena in Sedalia for distribution to appropriate aid agencies – **drivers are needed.** Being there will give you a glimpse of all of the great people and projects that make the Festival of Sharing possible.

Thanks for your generous support of the Festival of Sharing this year. You have made kits and given financial support that will provide care and hope to many of our worldwide brothers and sisters.

Will you help us in this final list of activities?

You may contact Marian Hjelmfelt at hjelmfeltm@yahoo.com or 573-449-5118 with questions and suggestions and to volunteer.



Leadership Kickoff Breakfast

**Saturday, Oct. 1
9 to 11 a.m.**

Calling all team leaders, all interested volunteers, and all who wish to grow in leadership!

Join Rev. Molly Housh Gordon and your Committee on Ministry for a Leadership Breakfast on Saturday, Oct. 1 from 9 to 11 a.m.

The primary purpose for this breakfast will be coordinating the work and schedules of our ministry teams for this program year. Bring your calendar and the spirit of collaboration as we seek synergy, partnership, and understanding between our many groups!

Honduras 2017 News (Do You Like Crepes?)

The Honduras Service Trip group has met twice, and we are excited to start planning for the next latrine building trip in June 2017.

This means several fundraisers throughout the church year, and we will kick it off by selling crepes between the two worship services and after the 11 a.m. service on Oct. 23.

Master crepe chef Jackie Verdun will make the batter using farm fresh eggs and will demonstrate her skill in front of your eyes so you can have a chance to learn how to make crepes yourself. Gluten-free and vegan crepes will be available as well. Crepes can be eaten on the spot, and you can buy extras to take home.

For more information and to join our group, please contact Allie Gassmann by email at alliegassmann@socket.net.

Forum for October 2016

9 a.m. Sundays

The UU Forum, an adult discussion group open to the public, meets on Sundays from 9 to 10 a.m. Conversation and light refreshments are offered along with the discussion. Forum coordinator: Bill Clark, 573-474-4510.

Oct. 2

George Frissell, long-time UUCS member, will continue his series on world religions.

Oct. 9

Heather Carver, UUCS member and chair of the MU Theatre Department, will preview the 2016-17 season for us.

Oct. 16

Steve Johnson will discuss the Center for Urban Agriculture and the Farmer's Market.

Oct. 23

A member of the Minority Men's Network will present.

Oct. 30

A representative from the Columbia Office of Cultural Affairs will present.

UU Life Writers start on Oct. 1

UU Life Writers – the group that writes great stories!

We will start this fall on Saturday, Oct. 1 at the usual 10:30 a.m. time.

The theme for this fall is "Potpourri," meaning that each Saturday will be different. We will do Emerson and Thoreau in the spring.

So... for our first session we will *not* write "What I did on my summer vacation," but something thoughtful, profound, informative or humorous about your summer experiences. Bring one or two postcards or pictures from those times. On the back write *one* word that "shows" your experience. Think about it!

All are welcome to come and write their life stories. Bring paper/pencil or pen. We write and share our stories... and drink coffee!

For more information contact Fran Reynolds at 573-443-4336 or Reynoldsf@missouri.edu.



New Member Ingathering Oct. 16

Are you ready to join the church?

A New Member Ingathering will be held during both worship services on Sunday, Oct. 16. You may join at the service you most often prefer to attend. If you have attended the Membership 101 class or have had a private conversation with Rev. Molly about joining the church, you are invited to join Oct. 16.

Please RSVP to Kevin Fritsche at fritschek@missouri.edu and designate which service you will attend.

If you are interested in joining but cannot be present for the formal ceremony this time, you can also join by contacting Rev. Molly or any member of the Welcoming Team.

Unitarian Universalist History Evening Workshop with Potluck Dinner

Friday, Oct. 21
6 to 9 p.m.

Join us for an exploration of the history of our Unitarian Universalist tradition!

We will share dinner together – please bring a potluck dish to share.

RSVP required by Oct. 17 to Rev. Molly Housh Gordon at minister@uuchurch.net.

Free Gentle Yoga

Free Gentle Yoga Sessions are cancelled Oct. 25-28 and Nov. 17-29 when instructor Karen Dwyer will be away. For the full schedule, check the calendar on the church website.

Jazz Rep Lab

This unique group rehearses at UUCS the first Thursday every month at 7 p.m. Audiences are always welcome! Come experience American jazz performed by local musicians including UU saxophonist Alan Arnold.

Folk Singers Jam

The fourth Monday of each month at 7 p.m. you are invited to join this informal group of singers who focus on old-time folk and religious music. Drop in once or twice and give them a try!

Green Sanctuary



Green Sanctuary Team Report

CAMPING! Join fellow Columbia UUs for the family camping weekend of October 14-17. We've reserved Bergfried campground near Hermann for the full weekend. Come enjoy beautiful fall weather, beautiful grounds and fellowship. There will be informal games, music, and time for spiritual reflection and connection with nature. There is a \$3/person camp fee for the use of the grounds. Peter Holmes and Patty Daus are coordinating this activity, and they'd like to have a rough count of those planning to attend. Please contact Peter and let him know you're coming, or sign up online (see story below right).

Would you consider bringing a small bouquet of fresh cut flowers for the sanctuary for Sunday services? GST is working toward bringing more nature into the sanctuary. Don't wait for someone to ask – feel free to bring a bouquet as often as you like! There are a few vases available in the kitchen.

Green Tip of the Month: The FDA recently banned the use of triclosan in antibacterial soaps (except for use in hospital and medical settings), and antibacterial soaps are not recommended for home and school use. Triclosan is a known endocrine disruptor and contributes to antibiotic resistance. As you make the transition to provide healthier soaps for your families, remember to purchase both liquid and solid soaps that are plant-derived and not made with petroleum products. Soaps made with petroleum products harm our waters and ecosystems. Consider more economical soaps that can be diluted and put into reusable pump containers.

GST welcomes two new members, Nicole Whitehill and Suzanne Griffin, who will bring fresh ideas and perspective as we continue to plan green activities. Welcome Nicole and Suzanne! The next GS Team Meeting is on Tuesday, Oct. 11 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Lisa Guillory's home.

Harvest Supper 2016

Nov. 12 – Save the Date!

This year's Local Harvest Supper will be held at the church on Saturday, Nov. 12.

It will be a potluck, and we'll be asking folks to bring a dish made with locally grown or produced ingredients.

GST will likely provide a main dish at each table. We'll set up the sanctuary to be a lovely and cozy setting, and of course we'll have entertainment!

Because this will be a potluck, ticket costs will be quite minimal – just enough to defray the cost of drinks and a simple main dish on each table.

Fun in the Forest

First Annual UUC Church Campout Oct. 14-17 at Bergfried

**Fall colors, campfires, s'mores,
singing, camping, hiking, music, games,
and an outdoor Sunday Service**

The campout will be held at Bergfried, a 600-acre tract near Hermann, Mo. owned by Eliot Unitarian Chapel of Kirkwood, Mo.

If you want to attend, please sign up at <https://uuchurch.net/sign-up-for-oct-14-17-campout/>.

We have the entire weekend reserved, so stay as short or as long as you like.

There will be a fee of \$3 per person for the weekend camping, and we will be asking for donations to help defray the costs of leasing the Bergfried property.

Our presence on the web

**Go to <https://uuchurch.net>
for complete information on
church activities and our
online calendar of events**

UCC provides Loaves and Fishes meal on 3rd Sundays

UCC provides the evening meal at Loaves and Fishes on the third Sunday of each month.

Please sign up on the church website to prepare food for this meal and/or to help set up, serve, and clean up.

Serving meals at Loaves and Fishes is a project of our Social Action Team.

If you have questions, email Diane Suhler at drsuhler@ccis.edu.

Men's Group – Oct. 8, 22 and 29

The UCC Men's Group meets on the second, fourth, and fifth Saturdays of each month at 8 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Executive Center. The group is open to all men. There are no fees and no reservations are necessary.

The agenda is an open discussion of whatever is on the minds of those in attendance – and breakfast!

For more information contact Wiley Miller.

UCC Mission Statement

In the spirit of courageous love, we forge a community of radical welcome and deep connection that moves us together to heal the world

Grieving Circle

Grieving Circle meets at church every month on the second Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. and on the fourth Thursday at 7 p.m.

Everyone is welcome. Come, share, listen.

Find more information at <https://uuchurch.net/grieving-circle/>.



Kaleidoscope – Oct. 29

Join Kaleidoscope at 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 29 at the Ordway's home for a celebration of Samhein. Please call 573-298-6382 for information and directions.

The year is at its end. In this time, we remember those who have passed and look toward the future and who we will be in this new year.

The ritual will begin at 6 p.m., and a potluck will follow. All are welcome. Find more information about Kaleidoscope on the church website.

Reel UUs – Third Week

The Reel UUs Film Group gathers during the third full week each month to view a film and hold a discussion immediately following.

The date, time, film and location are announced each month by email, Facebook and website.

Email Janice Smith at janepicturean@gmail.com if you want more information.

Mindfulness Meditation

Mindfulness Meditation takes place from 10:05 to 10:45 a.m. every Sunday in the Centering Room – or, if the weather is suitable, outside around the Fire Circle. On fourth Sundays throughout the year, Mindfulness Meditation takes place at the Fire Circle whatever the weather.

Meditators of all levels of experience are welcome. This is mainly silent meditation with some instruction, if needed, and with brief selected readings from eminent teachers.

For more information, email Peter Holmes at pfolmes63@gmail.com

UU Book Discussion Group – Oct. 14

The UU Book Discussion will meet at 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14 at ABC Chinese Cuisine, 3510 I-70 Dr. S.E.

Bring a book you have read to discuss briefly.

Call Pam Springsteel at 573-445-0642 if you have questions.

Conversations, Etc. – Oct. 12

Conversations, Etc. will meet at noon Wednesday, Oct. 12 at the church. Irene Karnes will speak about her Alaska trip. Bring a brown bag lunch and a snack to share if you wish. Call Melinda Farhangi at 445-6326 if you have questions.

Hook & Needle Group

Take a break and join our church's Hook & Needle Group. Yarn, patterns and tutoring are available. The group meets at the church on Tuesdays at 2 p.m.

For more information, call Marian Hjelmfelt at 573-449-5118.



Social Action Team to Meet Oct. 2

The Social Action Team is back at it!

Join us the first Sunday of every month in the Forum Room at 12:30 p.m. A light lunch is provided.

There are three activism teams you can join: Anti-Racism, Economic Justice, and LGBTQ. Or, consider helping with education or communications!

Follow us at:

- www.UUCCSocialAction.org
- www.facebook.com/SocialActionTeam
- <https://uuchurch.net/social-action-team/>

Let us know if you're interested or have questions by email to SocialAction@uuchurch.net.

Use eScrip at Schnucks to earn money for UCC

Don't forget to use your eScrip card when shopping at the local Schnucks Supermarket. The church receives a percentage each time you shop.

Don't have an eScrip card? Stop by the customer service desk at Schnucks and pick up one.

Then simply register online and you are ready to earn money for the Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbia!

Lost and Found

We have sorted the tablecloths in the kitchen and found many that we are not going to keep. If you have lost one that has been used at the church, check the box in the Greeting Area under the coat racks for it.

Also, check the lost and found boxes located in the same area for your lost items.

After Oct. 15 we will donate what is left to a local charity.

– Kathie Bergman
Church Administrator

UU Dinner Groups need hosts!

The Dinners for 8 are scheduled for October, November, January, February and March.

However, we are short of hosts – we need two or three couples who live in Columbia and are willing to host a Dinner for 8 in January or February. All other months are covered. Hosts furnish only drinks and appetizers for the dinner. Others would bring entree, salad, vegetable and dessert dishes.

If you would like to join, contact Linda Lou Brown at brownlinda.lou@icloud.com or call 573-447-3939 for more information about the dining groups.

This is a great way to get better acquainted with UU Members! Find more information at <https://uuchurch.net/dining-group/>.

Need a ride?

Do you need a ride to church on Sunday, or a church function at another time? We are coordinating rides as part of the Caring Ministry.

Please call the church office at 573-442-5764 or contact Meredith Donaldson or Win Scott, Team Leaders.

YRUU

We are off to a great start in YRUU (Young Religious UUs)! We are excited to welcome several new teens to the group, as well as two new advisors, Erica and Kinjal Majumder.

We got to know each other in September, had a fun lock-in, and created our covenant that will guide us through the year.

In October, we are looking forward to diving into the curriculum that the teens created for the semester.

We will participate in a workshop with Missouri Faith Voices and do some canvassing against Amendment 6, learn the empowering art of stage fighting from Heather Carver and Kate Buselle, take in the Interpretations Art Show downtown, discuss myths and symbols with Rev. Molly, and see the play Good Kids and discuss it with the playwright, Naomi Iizuka.

It will be a full month with lots of learning and, as always, lots of fun!

– Jamila Batchelder
Youth Advisor

Halloween Game Night

Mark your calendar for Friday, Oct. 28 from 7 p.m. to 10-ish.

Join us for an evening of fun and games. We will have a costume contest and games to play.

For more information contact Qhyrrae Michaelieu, Tim Dickerson or Larry Lile.

Religious Education News

It's that time of year again!

Don't forget to register your child(ren) for Sunday School!

<https://uuchurch.net/online-re-registration/>

Our Religious Education program is off to a great start this fall, in spite of our transition between directors. Classes have been engaging, and the children are having a great time exploring our new social justice curriculum.

Want to help out?

We are always in need of volunteers! You can sign up through the website – just click the purple **RE Signups** button on our website home page. It's a rewarding and fun way to help out our community.

DRE Search

The search team is excited to continue the process of finding our new DRE over the next several weeks.

If you have any questions or concerns during the transition, please contact one of our transition team members – Melissa McConnell, Jeff Ordway, Melissa Collins, Corinne Mann, or Jamila Batchelder – or you can email retransition@uuchurch.net.

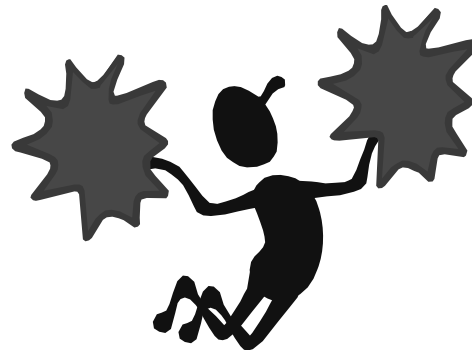
Upcoming Events

- **Oct. 2 – Multigenerational Service** – all children will be upstairs for the service. Nursery care will be available as always.
- **Oct. 14 – Jr. Youth Activity from 6 to 8 p.m.** – see below for more information.
- **Oct. 28 – Board Game Night and Halloween Party** – see below left for more details.
- **Oct. 30 – Multigenerational Service** – all children will be upstairs for the service. Nursery care will be available as always.

Jr. Youth Group for Middle School Kids Will Meet Oct. 14

The Jr. Youth will love coming to UUCC on second Fridays of each month at 6:30 p.m. for their exciting group activities that were chosen last month and will begin on Oct. 14!

Just think... s'mores, video games, pizza, water balloons! Who would not want to join in! If your middle schooler has not been involved before, but wants to join now, contact Lisa Fritsche at lisa.fritsche@gmail.com or the church office at uuchurch@uuchurch.net.



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Columbia, Missouri

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