



The Searchlight

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbia, Missouri

2615 Shepard Blvd., Columbia, MO 65201 • 573-442-5764 • <https://uuchurch.net> • Volume 56, Issue 12, June 2017

June Worship

Services at 10 a.m.

Sunday, June 4

**Down By The Riverside
Ellen Thomas, Peter Holmes,
and Rev. Molly Housh Gordon**

We're taking church outdoors! Our main worship service this Sunday will be down by the riverside at Katfish Katy's Campground on the Katy Trail in Huntsdale. Please bring a camp chair if you are able and dress for the sun. (See more details on page 2.)

For those who cannot or would prefer not join us at the campground, the same service content will be delivered at the church by Rev. Molly.

In case of heavy rain or storms, the main service will be moved to the church.

Sunday, June 11

"High Fidelity (HiFi)"

Cande Iveson

Now a generic term, HiFi was originally used to market equipment and media that promised a sound more faithful to the live performance – a truer experience for the listener.

This service will explore how true we are, or how true we can be expected to be, to our own covenants.

Sunday, June 18

"This is Water"

Rev. Molly Housh Gordon

How do we live out our values of mutual concern, worth and dignity, and collective liberation when the primacy of whiteness, maleness, heterosexuality, middle-classness, and able-bodiedness are the water in which we swim, the invisible "normal?"

Sunday, June 25

Lay-Led Service

Join us for our fascinating summer lay-led services, when we are blessed to learn from the diversity of voices and viewpoints among us!

Spiritual Growth is Cultivated by Practicing . . .

Fidelity to Covenant

In June of 2010, I entered into covenant with my spouse as we created a bond of marriage. On that day we vowed to walk together in constant and faithful partnership through all that life might bring. With this vow I bound my heart to another.

In May of 2011, I entered into covenant with the sacred and with the church universal as I was ordained to the office of ministry. On that day, I vowed to walk with our faith communities and with the Holy in the ways of love, truth, and service my whole life long. With this vow I bound my life to its own greater purpose.

In January of 2013, I entered into covenant with you, during a ceremony where your call was confirmed and I was installed as your third settled minister. On that day, we vowed, with a sense of responsibility and joy, (and I quote!) "to walk together in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in all the ways of Love." With this vow I bound my spirit to a community.

In December of 2016, I entered into covenant with my daughter in a child dedication at our beloved church, vowing to teach her in the ways of compassion and hope and to support her in her growth, even as life sends her ever further away from me. With this vow I bound my love to another life and its flourishing.

These formal vows mark the pinnacle moments of my life so far – each commitment opening the way into a deeper engagement with life and love, each changing me irrevocably.

If the spirit had growth rings, like a tree, these moments of covenant would be my strongest, brightest, widest rings.

Think back on some of your own growth rings and mountain-top moments... I am guessing that they, too, will represent some vow – a promise made either formally or informally. Our lives are marked by promise – by commitments to life and love across our span of days, as we walk through this world binding ourselves to those who we would have share our journey.

Join us in church to make and renew the promises that make us human!

See you in church! – Molly

Highlights of what's inside

Riverside Service; Annual Meeting; Forum	2
Music Director Search; Summer Worship	3
<i>REflections</i>	4
Social Action Team – Year in Review.....	5
Programs and Events.....	6

Budget approved, trustees elected

At the Annual Congregational Meeting on May 21, the following actions were taken:

- The 2017-18 operating budget was approved.
- Sam Buffaloe, Gretchen Maune and Barbara Rupp were elected to three-year terms on the nine-member Board of Trustees.
- Jenny Bossaller was elected to a one-year board term. She has been filling a vacancy on the board resulting from a resignation and will now finish filling the seat for the remaining one year of the term.
- A revised Investments and Endowment Policy was approved.

For more details, go to <https://uuchurch.net/annual-meeting/>.

Forum – June 2017

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.

June 4: UUCC member Heather Carver, chair of the MU Theatre Department, will give our group a preview of the 2017-18 season.

June 11: Rudi Keller, veteran *Tribune* reporter and author of *Life During Wartime*, a day-by-day history of the Civil War in mid-Missouri, will revisit some of the most interesting stories he's covered in his career.

June 18: Carla London, Supervisor of Student and Family Advocacy for Columbia Public Schools, will explain the wide variety of services she supplies – the toughest job around.

June 25: The Rev. Mel West, retired Methodist minister, will present on one of his many contributions to mankind.

DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE

Riverside Worship and Potluck Brunch

Sunday, June 4

Service – 10 a.m.

Brunch – 11 a.m.

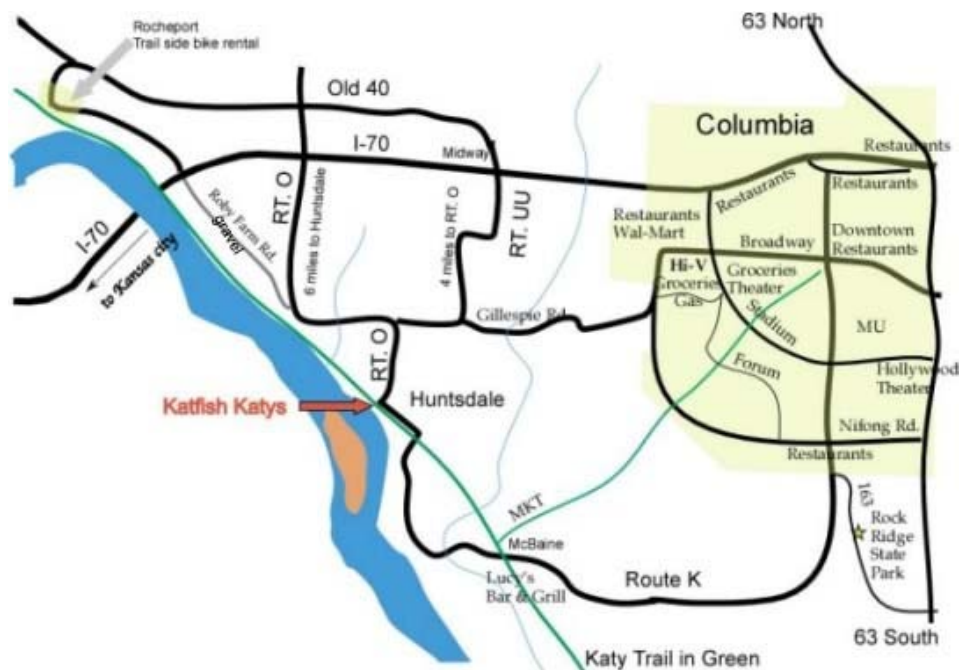
Come join us at Katfish Katy's Campground on the Missouri River at Huntsdale (location map below) for our annual gathering at the Missouri River – a chance to enjoy the company of our church members in a beautiful spot on the banks of the river.

Our members Linda Lou and Robert Brown no longer own the campground, but the new owner has given us permission to use our usual site again this year. However, we will only be there on Sunday, not on Saturday.

There will be a portable toilet and picnic tables, but we will have to bring everything else. Please bring food and drinks for the potluck and folding chairs if you want them. Also bring your own plates, cups and silverware. We will mainly be under the trees, like last year, but a sunhat might be a good idea.

For those unwilling or unable to come to Katfish Katy's on June 4, there also will be a worship service at church at 10 a.m. that day featuring the same content.

Contact Peter Holmes or Patty Daus if you have questions.



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.

Summer lay-led worship planning

What's your service? We all have a sermon inside.

If you're ready to share yours, sign up to lead one of the summer lay-led services.

You will be supported in bringing your idea and inspiration to life through a worship workshop with Rev. Molly from 9 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 3.

You will also have the assistance of the worship associates (Rebecca Graves, Cande Iveson, Anja Eick, Jeff Ordway, Sam Otten, and Desi Long), and they are ready even now to take your questions.

If you're interested in leading a summer service, please sign up at the visitors table or send an email to worship@uuchurch.net.



Introducing your Music Director Search Team

As the month of May wraps up, we wish Desi Long a very happy retirement, and we turn our attention to the search for our next music director, whom we hope will join us in August.

I am pleased to announce that we have formed a fantastic search team that will partner with me in this search process. We are working on finalizing a job description, which will expand the position from nine months to year-round and articulate the importance of music to our congregation's life together. We will be advertising the position soon.

Your Music Director Search Team is: Kara Braudis, Cande Iveson, Pack Matthews and Neil Minturn

Please do not hesitate to be in touch with me or one of our search team members if you have questions!

In Faith,
Rev. Molly

minister@uuchurch.net
573-442-5764

Joys and Sorrows now posted on website

Joys and Sorrows shared during our worship services and noted for the e-newsletter can now be found on our website on a password-protected page. You will find the page on the Members/Friends tab of the main menu.

You must be registered to access the password-protected pages on the website. Information about how to register can also be found on the Members/Friends tab of the main menu.

Our presence on the web

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

UUC 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.*

Reflections



In June we head into our summer schedule at UUCC. We will have only one service at 10 a.m. During that time, our R.E. program will be broken into two classes. Children who are pre-K to 3rd grade will participate in our Spirit Play curriculum, a Montessori-inspired, self-directed experience. Children who are 3rd grade to 8th grade will participate in a series of interesting workshops.

You may notice some overlap in age between these classes – you can choose which curriculum you think is most suitable to your child. Please come talk to me if you want some help figuring out which one is best for your child.

Our high school youth group will meet this summer from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Recent graduates from eighth grade are invited to participate as well. The teens will start making their summer plans at their annual retreat June 2-4. Our eighth grade graduates are invited to attend the second day of the retreat. If you have not already done so, please let us know if you plan to participate.

Looking forward to a great summer!

In addition to our classes, we will also have several intergenerational services and Group and Service Sundays (where all the kids will be together working on a project):

- June 4:** Intergenerational Service (Down by the Riverside) and Group Sunday (at UUCC)
- July 2:** Service Sunday
- July 9:** Intergenerational Service
- July 30:** Intergenerational Service
- Aug. 20:** Intergenerational Service
- Aug. 27:** Intergenerational Service
- Sept. 3:** Group Sunday



We are looking for volunteers to teach and aide in our R.E. program, both for the summer **and** the school year. Volunteering in R.E. is a wonderful opportunity to connect with the children of our community, help them grow as UUs, and also to grow yourself. We would love for you to be involved!

Please sign up now so we can start planning for the year ahead. Signups are located on the wall in the Greeting Area.

Jamila Batchelder
Director of Religious Education
dre@uuchurch.net
573-442-5764
Office Hours: Tues. 10 a.m.-noon
and by appointment

R.E. Team Meeting Noon-1 p.m. June 18

Join us to discuss summer plans and think ahead to the new church year.



Pie and Board Games
A monthly event for all ages! Bring your favorite board game, your favorite pie, or both, and join us for a time of fun and fellowship and pie.
June 3, 6:30-8:30
Childcare provided



UUCC's Monthly Hiking Groups

June 18, 1:45 p.m.: A family-friendly hike at Grindstone Nature Area. Meet in parking lot at UUCC.

June 19, 9:45 a.m.: A shorter hike suitable for the smallest UUs. Meet in parking lot at UUCC.

Spirit Play Training 10 a.m.-noon June 3

We are looking for people to teach in our Spirit Play classroom this summer and in the year ahead. It is a lot of fun and in many ways easier than teaching the traditional curricula. To learn how to teach in the Spirit Play classroom, sign up to participate in this training led by Melissa McConnell. Childcare will be provided.

SOCIAL ACTION TEAM

- ◆ Social Action Team Chair – Janice Smith
- ◆ Economic Justice Coordinator – Diane Suhler
- ◆ Anti-Racism & Justice Coordinator – Wiley Miller
- ◆ LGBTQ Activism Coordinator – Ruth Milledge
- ◆ Finance – Amie Burling
- ◆ Education – Suzanne Griffin
- ◆ Communications – Suzanne Hansford-Bowles

Year in Review

As the summer begins, we pause to reflect on the activities of the past church year. In 2016-2017, members of the Social Action Team led or participated in many forms of social justice work including:

- ◆ Organizing a **Resistance Training** on strategies for effective community organizing for over 60 attendees (in partnership with MO Faith Voices)
- ◆ Serving approximately 45 people per month at a monthly meal at **Loaves and Fishes**
- ◆ Collecting over \$10,000 through **Faith-to-Action** collections for nine organizations that were selected by the congregation
- ◆ Facilitating three **UUA Common Read** discussions on *The Third Reconstruction*
- ◆ Purchasing **Pronoun Ribbons** and making them available to the congregation
- ◆ Organizing the **Transgender Day of Remembrance**
- ◆ Leading a visible congregational presence at the **Columbia Women's March** on January 21, 2017
- ◆ Volunteering to help provide over 420 nights of shelter to community members at **Room at the Inn**
- ◆ Leading a **worship service** on the topic of white privilege



Men's Group

The UUCS 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.

Grieving Circle – June 8

The Grieving Circle meets once a month on the second Thursday at 7 p.m.

Rev. Molly, Barbara Carter, Greg Bergman, and Maria Oropallo continue to facilitate the monthly gatherings providing safe comfort, and, we hope, much love for anyone dealing with any kind of loss.

For further information feel free to email at grieving@uuchurch.net

Kaleidoscope – June 17

Join us as we celebrate Litha, the summer Solstice. The longest day, and the shortest night, are here. The Sun stands in his glory and full strength. Glory with him, this bringer of warmth, light, and hope.

Gather with us at 6 p.m. Saturday, June 17 at the church. We will join in ritual, followed by a potluck and friendship.

All are welcome, no matter what your personal path.

Mindfulness Meditation

Join us for Mindfulness Meditation every Sunday at 9:05 a.m. in the Centering Room or around the Fire Circle.

For more information contact Peter Holmes.



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 janepicurean@gmail.com if you want more information.

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.

Conversations, Etc. – June 14

Conversations, Etc., UU Women's Group, will meet at the northwest corner of the Target parking lot to drive to Fayette to Jackie Byland's home at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 14.

Bring a brown bag lunch and a snack to share if you wish.

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

UU Book Discussion Group – June 9

The UU Book Discussion meets at 5 p.m. on the second Friday of each month 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.

UUCS provides Loaves and Fishes meal on 3rd Sundays

UUCS provides the evening meal at Loaves and Fishes on the third Sunday 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.

THE SEARCHLIGHT

The Newsletter of:
Unitarian Universalist Church
2615 Shepard Blvd.
Columbia, MO 65201-6132

Return Service Requested

Our Staff

Rev. Molly Housh Gordon, Minister

Office Hours:

Tuesdays 1-4 p.m. at church

Wednesdays 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Kaldi's Coffee Downtown

By appointment (including evenings and weekends)

Email: minister@uuchurch.net

Kathie Bergman, Administrator

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Telephone: 573-442-5764

Email: uuchurch@uuchurch.net

Visit our Website: <https://uuchurch.net>

Jamila Batchelder, Director of Religious Education

Office Hours: Wednesdays 10 a.m.-noon and by appointment

Email: dre@uuchurch.net

Desiree Long, Music Director

Email: music@uuchurch.net

Betsy Fritsche, Sunday Morning Assistant

2016-2017 Board of Trustees

Jeremy Milarsky, President

Todd Iveson, President-Elect

Steve Scott, Secretary and Past President

Patty Daus, Treasurer

Gregg Suhler

Janice Smith

Mark Johnson

Peter Holmes

Jenny Bossaller

Unitarian Universalist Church of



Columbia, Missouri

The Searchlight is published monthly by the
Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbia, Missouri.

Submissions:

Email to uuchurch@uuchurch.net
or mail to Church Administrator.

The deadline for submissions is noon on the third Monday
of each month for the following month's edition.