



# The Searchlight

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbia, Missouri

2615 Shepard Blvd., Columbia, MO 65201 • 573-442-5764 • <https://uucomo.org> • Volume 64, Issue 3, September 2022

## September Worship

**10:30 a.m. Sundays**

**Services are both in-person and online**

*If you have trouble accessing the technology to join us online, please send an email to:*

[techhelp@uucomo.org](mailto:techhelp@uucomo.org)

**Sunday, Sept. 4**

**“Walking That Freedom Highway”**

**Woody Guthrie Sunday!**

**Rev. Molly Housh Gordon,**

**Violet Vonder Haar and Guests**

Join us for a special Labor Day service celebrating the music and anti-capitalist politics of American bard and prophet Woody Guthrie. Violet and special guests will build the base of the service with Woody’s own songs.

**Sunday, Sept. 11**

**“Roots and Wings”**

**George Grimm-Howell and**

**Rev. Molly Housh Gordon**

Meet our new Intern Minister George Grimm-Howell, who will be preaching alongside Rev. Molly to introduce our programs for the year. A special collection and celebration will be held for Festival of Sharing and coordinator Bonnie Johnson.

**Sunday, Sept. 18**

**Guest Preacher**

**Rev. Dr. C.W. Dawson, Jr.**

Join our favorite guest preacher for a rousing message and inspiration for your week.

**Sunday, Sept. 25**

**“Tart and Sweet”**

**All-Ages Service**

This Sunday marks the mid-point of the Pagan festival of Mabon – marking the Fall Equinox and the second harvest. It is also the first night of the Jewish High Holidays, as Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown. Join us for an all-ages service to share wisdom from these deeply rooted traditions and to spend some time with a symbol of both observances – the apple.

### Minister’s Message

## *Roots and Wings*

*“Roots hold me close,  
Wings set me free,  
Spirit of Life  
Come to me,  
Come to me.”*

– Carolyn McDade

Dear Ones, we have reached a new program year in the life of the church! Who knows what the future will bring, but this feels to me like a year of rooting down and stretching our wings after two and a half years of closing in and re-emerging. I feel us at the edge of a new era of our ministry together – one with new opportunities for hybridity in-person and online, excellent music, deep connection across the lifespan, and a further deepening of our commitment to anti-oppression as we live our newly adopted 8<sup>th</sup> Principle.

All of this, I believe, must be powerfully supported by grounded, rooted spirits. That’s why this year your staff is particularly focusing on Spiritual Practice. You’ll notice recurring practices and centering songs in our worship, home spirituality kits to check out and take home with you, opportunities to connect in spiritual practice with our church grounds, adult education offerings, and more. We’ll also be working to engage more of you in our ministries caring for one another and our shared space – an essential aspect of rooted church community. This is the year we root back down deeply into our own spirits, into our patch of earth, and into our shared community.

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## Worship Zoom information

Worship services are offered in-person and via Zoom at 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

The Zoom address for our 10:30 a.m. Sunday worship is: <https://zoom.us/j/380411489>

You can also join by phone: 312-626 6799  
Webinar ID: 380 411 489

Services are also streamed live to Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/UnitarianUniversalistChurchOfColumbiaMO/videos/>

The Zoom address for our coffee

hour is: [https://zoom.us/j/95152263717?](https://zoom.us/j/95152263717?pwd=SzJJeWdWV0d5QkU4MTdnK1U0b1ZDQT09)

[pwd=SzJJeWdWV0d5QkU4MTdnK1U0b1ZDQT09](https://zoom.us/j/95152263717?pwd=SzJJeWdWV0d5QkU4MTdnK1U0b1ZDQT09)

You can also join by phone: 312-626 6799  
Webinar ID: 652 315 354

## Forum will resume on Sunday, Sept. 11

This weekly conversation about current events, civic engagement, religion, emerging thought and more will resume meeting downstairs in the Library each Sunday morning from 9 to 10 a.m.

## UU Meditation Take a Deep Breath Every Sunday at 9 a.m.

At the Fire Circle – or in the Centering Room if it is raining or the temperature is below 50 degrees. Beginners and experienced meditators welcome.

## George Grimm-Howell will be our Intern Minister in 2022-23

George is a seminary student who holds a master of divinity degree from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities. He lives in University City, MO. with his family and is a long-time member of First Unitarian Church of St. Louis. His particular interests are social justice and liberation – particularly for members of the LGBTQ+ community and people of color – and incorporating socially transformative art forms into the worship experience. We welcome him to UUC.



## Minister's Message – continued from page 1

But we don't stop there! We root down so that we can stretch out, and we hope that our grounded spirits will move ever more fully into partnership and service in our wider community. We can't keep all this good and love to ourselves! We'll be working on more multi-generational service opportunities; gathering a few new issue teams to do reproductive justice work, defend trans kids, and more; and envisioning a Liberation Practice Group program to help us live our values more fully.

That's why our theme for the program year of 2022-2023 is "Roots & Wings" – because we want to root down deep *and* stretch out wide! Join us all year long for rich spiritual practice, re-invigorated service to each other and our community, and resources for aligning our values with the Collective Liberation and Beloved Community that together we seek.

See you in church,  
Rev. Molly

## Rev. Molly's office hours will change this year

Rev. Molly has found that folks wanting to meet with her prefer to make an appointment, which makes it hard to hold a lot of open hours. This year she will be holding her Community Office Hours as the only open hours and offering appointments every day except Monday (day off) and Wednesday (sermon-writing day) for those who wish to meet with her online, by phone, or in person at an indoor or outdoor location of choice.

The easiest way to make an appointment is by using Rev. Molly's scheduling app at [calendly.com/revmollyhoushgordon](https://calendly.com/revmollyhoushgordon), but if you can't find a time there, send an email to [minister@uucomo.org](mailto:minister@uucomo.org) as she can sometimes work you in at a slightly different time.

### Office Hours

- 10:30 a.m. to noon Tuesdays at Uprise Bakery
- Other meetings available by appointment at [calendly.com/revmollyhoushgordon](https://calendly.com/revmollyhoushgordon)

Our website address is <https://uucomo.org>

Visit for information on church activities and our online calendar of events.

*Liberation Conversations*  
**A Second Sunday Civic Engagement Series**  
of the UU Church of Columbia  
2615 Shepard Blvd., Columbia, MO 65201

[uucomo.org](http://uucomo.org)

Childcare Provided

Catered lunch available if reserved ahead at [uucomo.org/liberationconversations](http://uucomo.org/liberationconversations)  
\$15 each or Sliding Scale

**Sunday, Sept. 11**

Lunch at noon, conversation begins at 12:30 p.m.

**“The State of Democracy in Missouri”**

**With Molly Fleming**

**Director, MOVE (Missouri Organizing and Voter Engagement Collaborative)**

*The Missouri Organizing and Voter Engagement Collaborative exists  
to empower ordinary people to reclaim democracy in the state of Missouri.*

**Sunday, Oct. 9**

Lunch at noon, conversation begins at 12:30 p.m.

**“Missouri After Roe: Our Reproductive Justice Landscape”**

**With Jess Lambrecht, Program Director, Missouri Abortion Fund**

*The mission of Missouri Abortion Fund (MoAF) is to provide public education and support  
for people needing reproductive health services, primarily by providing financial assistance  
to Missouri residents who cannot afford the full cost of abortion care.*

**Sunday, Nov. 13**

Lunch at noon, conversation begins at 12:30 p.m.

**“Movement Chaplaincy: Spiritual Care for Social Justice Makers”**

**With Jeanne Snodgrass, Director, Mizzou Hillel**

*Movement Chaplains participate in social change ecosystems by providing accompaniment,  
care and resilience building with the goal of reducing activist burnout and creating more  
sustainable movements at all levels. Movement Chaplaincy is one of the ways the legacy  
of care and accompaniment is developing in this generation of social change work.*

**Online Poetry for  
Spiritual Growth series**

**With Rev. Molly Housh Gordon**  
**First Thursday each Month on Zoom**  
**Beginning Sept. 1 – 7 to 8:30 p.m.**

Join us for a contemplative series with poetry at the center. We will reflect on spiritual and theological questions using poetry as our source text. We will share some of our favorite poems. We will write, whether you prefer to journal or write your own poetry. And we will share our reflections, and perhaps our writing, with one another.

Please join us for any session even if you can't commit to the whole series.

**A welcoming opportunity awaits**

Join the team that welcomes all that enter our doors, to guide those interested towards membership and to facilitate the integration of new members into our beloved congregation.

If one more monthly meetings is not of interest, you could sign up to greet or usher for a service. It's fun, informative, community-building and appreciated. The time commitment is 10 a.m. to noon on Sundays. Greeter and usher signup can be found at: <https://uucomo.org/sign-up-to-help/>. Once you have signed up, more detailed information will be provided.

For information, please reach out to a Sunday greeter or email Patty Daus at [pajods@gmail.com](mailto:pajods@gmail.com).

## ***Celebrating Rev. Molly's 10-Year Anniversary With UUCC***

**Following is the speech given by President  
Melissa Ensign-Bedford at our Aug. 13 *UUCC Elevated* Gala**

On April 22, 2012, Molly gave a sermon to our congregation called “Roots Hold Us Close.” At the beginning of that service, she painted a picture for us in which she described her “roots” and how Columbia feels “awfully close to where she came from.” She stated that she hoped that her ministry would dig deep and grow strong in our community. As a member of this congregation and someone who has been on this journey for the last 10 years, I feel I can say that Molly’s roots have not only dug deep and strong but have become an integral part of our spiritual ecosystem.

In ecology, there is a term called Mother Tree. Ecologist Suzanne Simard describes them as “the glue that holds the forest together.” These trees use a mycorrhizal network to feed, communicate and support the ecological community that surrounds them. They are a central hub of sorts. They connect not only with their species but with other tree species, plants and soil microbes. They hold soil, and they keep the water flowing through the system, and after a disturbance, the Mother Tree is what helps the system recover.

When we called Molly to be our settled minister, I do not think we knew that we were calling a Mother Tree in the making. As soon as she was planted here, she began to seek out those connections that make a mother tree a mother tree. She started with the congregation by get-

ting to know us, and then she branched out to the community at large. Year after year, she builds on this network, working tirelessly to help us dismantle systems of oppression and simultaneously nurturing our congregation. She asks us to consider hard questions and step out of ourselves, not because she wants us to struggle, but because she is helping us grow.

During the pandemic, Molly held us together through online fellowship. This was a considerable feat for a church that had never had online services and was not wired for it. It required the talents of many coming together without actually being in the same room! Even though the pandemic sucked, we can now offer our services in-person and online. You could say our church’s roots are now intertwined with the world’s web.

I think what I, and the board, love most about Molly is that when the world throws us a punch, she faces it head-on. She reaches deep down into those roots and faces the challenge, knowing that being firmly planted means you won’t get knocked down – or at least not as hard. I look forward to continuing this journey and seeing our roots, and thus our church, grow. Molly, your wish that your ministry would dig deep and grow strong in our community has come to fruition. We know it hasn’t always been easy, and there must have been times that you wanted to run away, but you didn’t! Thank you for taking root at UUCC.

### **Disability Justice and Inclusion Team looks forward to ‘SuperFest’**

Each Autumn, the Disability Justice and Inclusion Team virtually participates in SuperFest, the world’s largest and longest running disability film festival. This fully-accessible festival celebrates disabled filmmakers from around the globe. After engaging in the films, DJIT has lively discussions amongst its members to discuss our favorites. If you’d like to learn more or engage with our awesome activities, please reach out.

DJIT would also like to thank everyone who helped make August’s *UUCC Elevated* Gala a success. It was wonderful to celebrate Rev. Molly’s 10 years with us, and so exciting to raise such needed funds to make critical accessibility improvements to our church.

DJIT meets on the third Sunday of each month from 1:30 to 3 p.m. via Zoom for the safety and accessibility needs of its members. Contact Chair Gretchen Maune at [gmmaune@gmail.com](mailto:gmmaune@gmail.com) for information.

## Membership classes scheduled in September

Are you interested in learning more about membership with our community? Are you ready to deepen your connection and get involved? If so, join us for these membership classes:

### 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22, via Zoom

Membership 101: "History of Unitarians & Universalists"

Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83444793563>

Meeting ID: 834 4479 3563

Passcode: 430930

### After worship Sunday, Sept. 25, in-person

Membership 102: "Getting Involved at UUCC"

A vegetarian lunch for the in-person class will be provided for those who RSVP online or at 573-442-5764. Childcare can be provided with a one-week notice.

You can sign up for the classes at <https://uucc65201.breezechms.com/form/6b0d8d>. If you are not yet ready to join, we have already scheduled winter sessions.

### 'Talk and Do' group

1:30 p.m. Fridays

Join your fellow UUs for some informal conversation from the comfort of your home! Come as you are, and feel free to work on a project as we chat – it's okay if your attention is divided!

This is an informal and casual group where it is okay to not be totally focused. Just tune in at:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84030143959?pwd=MW9zZlZ0RzJpdjJ6OGpXeXJ4dDVGdz09>

(Zoom ID: 840 3014 3959, Passcode: 345079).

While you work on whatever, you can chat! For more information email Robin Duple at [ryduple@gmail.com](mailto:ryduple@gmail.com).

## UUCC Caring Ministry

The Caring Ministry Team is based on the belief that we are all worthy of care and meaningful connections with others. This ministry provides support in times of celebration and challenge. Support may include cards, calls, visits, meals, transportation or other needs. Please consider joining our team and/or helping out periodically. Those needing help should contact the team in a time of need.

Email Meredith Donaldson at [mjdonlsn@gmail.com](mailto:mjdonlsn@gmail.com) or call the church office at 442-5764 if you need help or want to volunteer

## Music plans for the fall

Calling all musical members! Weekly choir rehearsals will begin on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Sept. 14. Let's make this a year for creating community through singing and song! All ages and ability levels are welcome and encouraged to join. Sunday performance dates are still to be arranged.

YO(UU) Kids Sing will be a monthly gathering to take place on most third Sundays of the month after the worship service. This is a chance for our youth to stretch their musical wings. Bring a simple lunch – music and fun to follow! YO(UU) Kids Sing will take place Sept. 18, Oct. 16, Nov. 20 and Dec. 11 and will culminate in a performance at worship on Sunday, Dec. 18.

On Sunday, Sept. 11, we will be joined during our morning service by award-winning touring songwriter Crys Matthews. A prolific lyricist and composer, Crys has found inspiration in her surroundings; from driving through the Blue Ridge Mountains to the compelling and heart-breaking love story of Richard and Mildred Loving. Thoughtful, realistic and emotional, Matthews' songs speak to the voice of our generation and remind us why music soothes the soul. Crys will be teaching a master class on the "Art of Writing Social Justice Songs" with a full concert to follow on Sept. 10 at the Compass Music Center. More information and tickets are available at [compasscolumbia.org](http://compasscolumbia.org).

## New and continuing Chalice Circles – 2022-2023

Are you looking for a way to connect with fellow UUCC members and friends? Seeking opportunities to share your heart in a safe/brave space? Wanting to find new connections and opportunities to discover how UUCC can be meaningful in your life? **Joining a Chalice Circle may suit your needs.** Learn more about Chalice Circles on the church website at <https://uucomo.org/chalice-circles/>.

Nine-session Chalice Circles will meet once or twice a month for an hour or two from September to the end of May. Each circle is limited to 10 members. Groups are facilitated by UU volunteers. Topics are planned in coordination with Rev. Molly. Regular service project opportunities are chosen by members of each group to enhance bonds of friendship. Commitment is for one cycle of nine sessions.

Chalice Circles are open for signups now on the website or by contacting Kathie Bergman at 999-3938 or by email at [chalicecircle@uucomo.org](mailto:chalicecircle@uucomo.org). Questions are welcome!

## Social Action Team announces Faith-to-Action nominees

Following is a list of Faith-to-Action collection nominees for 2022-23. Because of administrative changes to the program, we cannot accommodate all of the nominees. The Social Action Team will decide on a final list of recipients in the coming month. Brief descriptions of selected organizations will then be posted on the church website. Thanks to those who submitted nominations!

- Centro Latino
- Children's Grove Kindness Libraries
- Columbia Second Chance
- Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture
- Dawson Journey Ministries
- Festival of Sharing
- Heart of Missouri CASA
- The Lajee Center
- Loaves & Fishes
- Minority Men's Network
- Missouri Rural Crisis Center
- Missourians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty
- Planned Parenthood Great Plains
- Rainbow Network
- Room at the Inn
- Stop Human Trafficking Coalition
- Tent of Nations
- Unitarian Universalist Service Committee
- UCC Sanctuary & Immigration Team
- UCC Honduras Clinic
- UCC Honduras Education Project
- The Wardrobe
- World Wide Mobility

## Guatemalan family in a home of their own - SIJT update

On July 22 Lilly, Manuel, and Lakshmi moved into a home of their own – a duplex in the Parkade neighborhood. The family is happy and grateful to UCC for help with the move and with household items.

The Sanctuary/Immigrant Justice Team will be planning a "Take-Out Tamales" fundraiser for the Sanctuary Fund from which financial assistance is being provided for the family. Lilly is working at the University of Missouri, but her custodial job is part-time. Consequently, UCC needs to continue helping with the costs of rent, utilities, food, child care and other necessities. When the fundraiser is scheduled, there will also be a Faith-to-Action collection for the Sanctuary Fund during worship. With much gratitude...

Allie Gassmann and Dave Gibbons  
Co-Chairs, Sanctuary/Immigrant Justice Team

## Meet UCC: Jamila Batchelder

The Membership Team is excited to introduce you to your fellow church members through a series of questions! We begin with Jamila Batchelder, Director of Religious Education.

**What do you like to be called and what is your pronoun?**

*Jamila. My family calls me Mila. My pronouns are she/her*

**What is your preferred pronunciation or what tips can you share that will allow us to pronounce your name correctly?**

*Ja MEE la. Like Tequila.*

**What drew you to the UU?**

*Planning an interfaith wedding originally, and knowing that the UU supported marriage equality. What hooked me was the commitment to social justice, particularly the work my first UU church did with migrant farmworkers. For UCC, it was how awesome the children and youth here were.*

**What three foods would you like to eat at your last meal?**

*Oh man, that is a hard question! An Ethiopian feast, the perfect avocado, and a piece of chocolate cake from this bakery where I grew up with a glass of milk.*

**What makes you proud to be a UU?**

*The way we show up. In almost all the great movements of the last 200 years, abolition, suffrage, civil rights, gay rights, etc.*

**What historical figure do you most identify with?**

*I have a real attachment to UU Joseph Tuckerman, in his ability to empathize and see the potential in all people.*

**What do you most value in your friends?**

*Open heartedness, passion, the ability to be real and vulnerable even when it is scary or embarrassing. Bursting into song or dance when a good song comes on is a major plus!*

**What is your motto?**

*"Let all things happen to you, beauty and terror. Just keep going. No feeling is final." - Rilke*

*"Nolite te Bastardes Carborundorum" - Atwood*

**Check us out on the UCC Facebook page.**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/uuchurch>



## Programs and events

### Kaleidoscope Pagan gathering

4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17

Mabon, the Second Harvest, and the Equinox. Once again the Earth stands for just a moment in perfect balance, then, as always, falls to the side, this time into darkness.

Gather with us at 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, at the church. All are welcome, no matter what their personal paths.

Please bring snacks and drinks for yourself as desired. Masks and the possibility of a return of pot-lucks are under advisement at this time. If you have questions, please contact us at [kaleidoscope@uucomo.org](mailto:kaleidoscope@uucomo.org).

### UU Life Writers

10:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 17

Our theme for our fall writing times is "Writing as Spiritual Exercise." All are welcome. You do NOT have to be an accomplished, published writer, but someone who would enjoy writing with a group composing mini-memoirs. We meet the first and third Saturdays of each month in the Centering Room at the church. If the weather is bad, we meet on Zoom.

Fall dates are: Sept. 17, Oct. 1 and 15, Nov. 5 and 19, and Dec. 3 and 17 – 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. For information call, text or email Fran Reynolds (881-3828 or [freynolds@centurytel.net](mailto:freynolds@centurytel.net)).

### Social Action T-Shirts

*Your \$20 purchase helps  
UUC continue our  
social action projects.  
Contact Allie Gassmann or  
Sarah Twaddle-Wolcott.*

Unitarian Universalist Church of



### UUC Book Discussion

3:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10 –  
online and by phone

The group will meet online and by phone to briefly discuss books each has read. Contact Pam Springsteel at [pspring@socket.net](mailto:pspring@socket.net) for more information.

### Conversations, Etc.

1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7 –  
online and by phone

Conversations, Etc., the UUC senior women's group, will meet via Zoom and telephone.

We gather to enjoy the company of women friends. If you would like to join the group, contact Pam Springsteel ([pspring@socket.net](mailto:pspring@socket.net)).

### Green Team

7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1 – online

Email [alliegassmann@socket.net](mailto:alliegassmann@socket.net) for details.

### Sanctuary/Immigrant Justice Team

1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11 – online

Email [alliegassmann@socket.net](mailto:alliegassmann@socket.net) for details.

### Men's Group

8:30 a.m. Sept. 10 & 24 – online

The UUC Men's Group previously met in person on the second, fourth, and fifth Saturdays of each month. The group has now arranged for online meetings. For more information, contact Wiley Miller at 573-864-8574 or [millerwi@missouri.edu](mailto:millerwi@missouri.edu).

### UUC provides Loaves and Fishes meal on third Sundays

Sept. 18 this month

The Social Action Team is looking for volunteers to prepare servings of various dishes, which are assembled into boxed meals at the Wilkes Boulevard United Methodist Church.

This system requires the volunteers providing food to take the food to Wilkes Boulevard United Methodist Church by 4:15 p.m. The volunteers who assemble the boxed meals also are asked to be at the church by 4:15 p.m. Sign up online at [uucomo.org](http://uucomo.org).

You can also support this effort by making a donation to the church specifying "Loaves and Fishes Fund." For information, email [diane.suhler@gmail.com](mailto:diane.suhler@gmail.com).

### Non-toxic Masculinity Men's Group

7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 19

The Non-toxic Masculinity Group will resume first and third Monday meetings on Sept. 19. For information email Kevin Fritsche at [klfritsche37@gmail.com](mailto:klfritsche37@gmail.com).

### Consider donating to others

Minister's Discretionary  
Benevolence Fund

You can donate to this fund at  
<https://uucomo.org/give/>.

Community Foundation of Central  
Missouri's Covid-19 Relief Fund  
[https://cfcmfoundation.org/  
donations/covid-19-regional-relief-  
fund/](https://cfcmfoundation.org/donations/covid-19-regional-relief-fund/)

Food Bank for Central and  
Northeast Missouri

[https://interland3.donorperfect.net/  
weblink/weblink.aspx?  
name=E164454&id=77](https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=E164454&id=77)

# Reflections

This year at UUC, we will be focusing on deepening our spiritual practice so that we can reach out all the further in doing the work that helps heal our world.

And as always, I hope we remember that spiritual practice is not just for adults. Children need rituals, grounding, and moments of reverence to feed their souls as well.

This year, we will be exploring many ways that children can engage in spiritual practice. One way we can deepen our children's spiritual lives is including them in all-ages worship. I know from my own experience of attending with my children when they were young how challenging this can feel. Children rarely can do reverence on command!

But I also have the experience now of having shared this with my children for years, and each year, each service, that reverence grows. Spiritual practice takes...well, practice! And it is also good practice for we parents to sit with the spiritual lesson of being present with a fidgety or fussy kid, of appreciating the one moment in the entire service where a connection is made. I encourage you to stick with it, and you will be surprised how quickly something beautiful will grow.

I also encourage you to work on developing your own home spiritual practices. This year we have home spirituality kits for check-out so that you may explore a variety of different spiritual practices together as family.

And I would love to hear what spiritual practices your family has discovered on their own! One of the joys of being in community together is the opportunity to learn from each other and grow together.



**Jamila Batchelder**  
Director of Religious Education  
[dre@uucomo.org](mailto:dre@uucomo.org)  
573-442-5764  
Office Hours: Wed. 10 a.m.-noon  
and by appointment

**Junior Youth**  
6:30-8 p.m.  
Sept. 16

Our first Junior Youth meeting of the year! All middle school youth are invited to our once monthly events of fun activities and service projects. For our first meeting, we will brainstorm ideas for activities we want to do together this year and then vote on our favorites. Pizza will be served. RSVP.



*Now that we  
have your  
attention!*

We are preparing to offer 7th-9th grade *Our Whole Lives* comprehensive and inclusive sexuality education this fall at UUC.

If you are interested in having your child participate, contact Jamila for more information.

## REGISTER YOUR CHILDREN IN OUR R.E. PROGRAM!

**Make sure to register your child(ren)** for the upcoming R.E. year. If you have registered in the past and there are no changes, you will have a simplified registration form confirming permission to be in the program and to use photographs on our website. It is important to register so that we know we have all information up to date. Registration can be found on the church website under the "Education" tab.



## R.E. Schedule

Sept. 4: R.E. Summer Class  
Sept. 11: Regular R.E. Classes  
Sept. 18: R.E. Summer Classes  
Sept. 25: All Ages Service



## ***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 10:30 a.m.-noon at Uprise Bakery

Or by appointment at [calendly.com/revmollyhoushgordon](https://calendly.com/revmollyhoushgordon)

Email: [minister@uucomo.org](mailto:minister@uucomo.org)

#### **Suzanne Clark, Administrator**

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Telephone: 573-442-5764

Email: [uuchurch@uucomo.org](mailto:uuchurch@uucomo.org)

Visit our website: <https://uucomo.org>

#### **Jamila Batchelder, Director of Religious Education**

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

Email: [dre@uucomo.org](mailto:dre@uucomo.org)

#### **Violet Vonder Haar, Director of Music Ministry**

Email: [music@uucomo.org](mailto:music@uucomo.org)

#### **Phylshawn Johnson, Sound Technician**

Email: [music@uucomo.org](mailto:music@uucomo.org)

#### **April Rodeghero, Sunday Morning Assistant**

Email: [uuchurch@uucomo.org](mailto:uuchurch@uucomo.org)

### **2022-2023 Board of Trustees**

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