



the UNIGRAM

We Must Fight

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd, Minister

The aftermath of November 8th is still ringing through our lives – it’s still ringing through my heart – and so I sit here wondering: how did this happen? What, dear god, is going happen to people of color, Muslims, Jews, women, the LGBTQ community, and so many other minority populations now that we’ve effectively given permission to hate groups to be part of the mainstream? And what do we do now? While we’ll be analyzing and debating the “how?” question for a while, the “what do we need to do now?” question is in some ways easier, at least in the big picture. While specifics have yet to come into focus, the overall needed response is crystal clear: we must fight. We must fight for what is right. We must fight to protect the rights and safety of all in our

country. We must fight for justice.

Now, if you’re aware that our theme for December is Peace, and that I’m supposedly writing this article on that topic, you might be wondering how fighting is compatible with peace. For that, we’ll turn to the great Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who wrote (in our hymnal, Singing the Living Tradition, #584):

We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny.

Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

There are some things in our social system to which all of us

(continued on page 9)



In This Issue

<u>Sunday Mornings</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Theme Exploration</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Religious Education News</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Youth Programs</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Splinters from the Board</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Website Upgrade</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>Communications Committee</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Bazaar Wrap Up</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Sharing Gratitude</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Wheel of Life</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>December Calendar</u>	<u>11</u>



Life in the Time of Warfare

Rev. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer, Community Minister

I was born in 1945. My daughter was born in 1968. My two older grandchildren were born in 1995 and 1999. The younger three came along in 2012, 2014 and 2016. This means that neither me, nor my daughter, nor my grandchildren have ever known a time when the United States was not at war.

Some were major wars that involved coalitions of many nations—World War II, the Korean conflict, Vietnam, Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, and the current war on ISIL. Others involved only the US and one other country. Some, we said we “won.” Others, well...

Most were military engagements that involved US troops and firepower with or against other nations. There was also the Cold War – that persistent state of tension between the Western Bloc, the US and its allies, and the Eastern Bloc, composed of the USSR and its allies – that followed WWII. While military historians disagree on its exact dates, 1947-1991 is typically accepted. What I personally remember most about the Cold War Era is huddling in a terrified ball underneath my classroom desk in grade school when the sirens howled and we had air raid drills. I was certain that the images I had seen on jerky black and white newsreels of Nagasaki and Hiroshima would soon be images of the small town where I lived. Not necessarily logical, but kids’ fears often aren’t logical.

(continued on page 8)

Sunday Mornings at Our Church in the Woods

Services begin at 10:45 am December Theme :: Peace

For more information about this month’s theme check out Theme Exploration on [page 3](#).

Sunday, December 4 Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd	Rev. Seth kicks off our exploration of this month’s theme of Peace. Children and youth might enjoy the visit we will be having from a man dressed in red.
Sunday, December 11 Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd	We will hold our annual Santa Lucia celebration, and the Sanctuary choir will also be singing, so this is a Sunday not be missed!
Sunday, December 18 Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd	Rev. Seth will continue exploring the monthly theme of Peace, as we lead into the holidays.
Saturday, December 24 Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd	Our Christmas Eve service will follow the traditional Lessons & Carols format as we celebrate the holiday season. The service begins at 7:00 pm.
Sunday, December 25	We will hold a short multi-generational service on this special Christmas Day Sunday, focused on singing and a few brief readings, starting at 11:15 am. The annual Christmas Day carry-in will begin at noon, following the service.

Religious Education for Children & Youth :: 10:45 am

Sunday, December 4 Curriculum Sunday	Join us as we continue our religious exploration!
Sunday, December 11 Santa Lucia Ceremony	Come be part of our annual celebration as one of Santa Lucia’s Star Children. In our RE Classes this morning we will read the story of Santa Lucia and prepare for the processional. This year our beautiful Santa Lucia will be Anna Dillinger .
Sunday, December 18 Curriculum Sunday	Join us as we continue our religious exploration!
Sunday, December 25	This morning we will not be holding religious education classes. As always, nursery and childcare for our preschool and kindergarten youth will be available in the Green and Blue rooms from 11:00 am-noon.

Adult Religious Exploration Offerings :: 9:30 am

Our mission statement begins by calling us to a continuing exploration of our faith. In pursuit and support of that goal, we offer our Adult RE during the Sunday morning 9:30-10:30 am pre-service slot.

Check out all the offerings below!

Every Sunday – Red Room Adult Discussion Group	This group is meant as a chance for people with various personal beliefs to get together and openly discuss a variety of topics. See page 10 for weekly topics.
Every Sunday – Violet room Muncie UU Pagans	This is an open discussion group to explore the differences in our pagan traditions. We will also be discussing the reasons that so many Pagan and Earth-based religions find homes in UU congregations. People of any belief are welcome to attend.
2 nd Sunday – Yellow room Landscapes of Aging and Spirituality	Rev. Julia will lead an adult RE class based on Kathleen Montgomery’s edited book, <i>Landscapes of Aging and Spirituality</i> , a collection of essays on various topics relevant to spirituality and aging. The book is available through Skinner House.

Theme Exploration – Peace

Selecting a theme for our worship services each month allows us to explore specific important theological topics in greater breadth, while also challenging us to go deeper. If you have a reading, poem or personal story to share that relates to our current or upcoming theme, please e-mail them to Rev. Seth.

Sacred Text

Our sacred text for this month is an excerpt from Being Peace, by Buddhist monk Thich Nhat Hanh:

Life is filled with suffering, but it is also filled with many wonders, such as the blue sky, the sunshine, and the eyes of a baby. To suffer is not enough. We must also be in touch with the wonders of life. They are within us and all around us, everywhere, anytime.

If we are not happy, if we are not peaceful, we can't share peace and happiness with others, even those we love, those who live under the same roof. If we are peaceful, if we are happy, we can smile and blossom like a flower, and everyone in our family, our entire society, will benefit from our peace. Do we need to make a special effort to enjoy the beauty of the blue sky? Do we have to practice to be able to enjoy it? No, we just enjoy it. Each second, each minute of our lives can be like this. Wherever we are, anytime, we have the capacity to enjoy the sunshine, the presence of each other, even the sensation of our breathing. We don't need to go to China to enjoy the blue sky. We don't have to travel into the future to enjoy our breathing. We can be in touch with these things right now. It would be a pity if we were only aware of suffering.

Questions for Reflection

Where have you found peace in your life? How have you/have do you arrive at peaceful times, moments, and places?

What does peace as a concept mean to you? Is it something that has meaning and value?

Is peace a value you try to practice in your life in some way shape or form? If so, how?

Suggested Sermons

"Peace, Justice, and the Wisdom To Know the Difference" – Rev. Susan Maginn

<https://goo.gl/SvCYQX>

"At Peace in the Soul" – Rev. Alex McGee

<https://goo.gl/4U7Tjo>

Spiritual Practice or Reflective Practice

Practice the Buddhist "Loving-Kindness" meditation. Seek to hold yourself in peace, love and forgiveness. Then seek to hold someone you care about in peace, love and forgiveness. Then seek to hold someone with whom you are upset, or angry at, or have been wronged by in peace, love and forgiveness. Seek the place of peace in your heart.

2016-2017 UUCM Themes

September – Change

October – Humility

November – Emotional Intelligence

December – Peace

January – Belonging

February – Power

March – Humanism

April – Identity

May – Ambiguity/Paradox

June – Care of the Soul

Religious Education Corner

Nadine Tringali,
Director of Religious Education

UUCM Bazaar – “Chocolate & More!” Supporting Boston Bound Youth

Many thanks to everyone who helped staff our booth and to those who donated delicious baked goods and scrumptious treats!

Santa Lucia Ceremony – Sunday, December 11

Each year on a Sunday closest to December 13, we celebrate Santa Lucia in a ceremony where an elected girl, portraying Lucia, walks with a crown of candles ahead of a procession of star children each holding a golden star. The candles symbolize the light with which Lucia overcomes the darkness. There are many legends about Santa Lucia, and in each one Lucia stands as a symbol of light and hope to all mankind. Santa Lucia's coming begins the feasting, merriment, singing and the spirit of friendliness and goodwill that lasts all through the holidays. This year our beautiful Santa Lucia will be **Anna Dillinger**. All youth (boys and girls) are invited to be “star children.” Star children wear white gowns with a wreath of gold garland on their head and hold a golden star as they follow our Santa Lucia in a procession through the sanctuary. Following the procession, Santa Lucia will stand in the back of the sanctuary serving saffron buns to the congregation.

Elsa and Marvin Reichle brought this beautiful ceremony to our congregation in 1973. The crown of candles that Anna will be wearing is the original crown that Elsa bought in Sweden so many years ago! Many thanks to the Reichle family for sharing this tradition with us! If you would like to help **Liz Lowe** and me with the making of the saffron buns on Saturday, December 10, 1:00 pm, please let me know.

Multi-Gen Event: Holiday Ornaments December 18

Following the service, we invite you to join us in the Yellow Room from 12:30-1:30, and create a festive ornament to take home for the holiday! The Yellow Room will be set up with a variety of materials to create your own individual and unique ornament. Please join us!

Nadine

December Youth Programs

Elizabeth Carrier-Ladd,
Coordinator of Youth Programs



Sunday, December 4, 12:30-2:00 pm

Combined Youth Group Meeting – 6th-12th Grades

Join us for a gathering of fellowship and support, laughter and perhaps some healing tears. This is a safe space where youth share what is going on for them in their lives and offer care to one another. In addition, we play fun games and eat lunch together!

Saturday, Dec 10, 12 noon - Sunday, Dec 11, 9 am

Hogwarts Lock-In – 6th-12th Grades

The Order of the Phoenix and Dumbledore's Army: Creating Communities of Resistance

This month's lock-in will have a very important and timely theme. The Harry Potter series at its core is about how we create communities to fight racism, hatred and oppression in our world. Harry does not kill Voldemort alone. The Order of the Phoenix and Dumbledore's Army offer us great lessons of how to organize and resist hatred and oppression even in the face of great personal danger. We will discuss the lessons in the books and create some clear plans for how our youth group might work in the years to come to keep our neighbors safe and create a world where everyone is valued and no one needs to live in fear.

Sunday, December 18, 12:30-2 pm

Combined Youth Group Christmas Party! 6th-12th Grades

Join us to celebrate! We will have special treats along with our lunch! Please bring a small, wrapped gift to contribute to our White Elephant. Do not spend more than \$10 on your gift. If you cannot bring one for whatever reason, just let Elizabeth know and she'll bring one so that you can play!

Elizabeth

Splinters from the Board

Exploring faith. Practicing Inclusivity. Living Justice.

Can you recite our UUCM Mission statement? That was the challenge presented in the chapter "Mission" from The Growing Church, which the board is reading together this year. The author, Thom Belote, points out that many churches don't have a mission statement, or that it's too long and complex to remember.

Happily, our mission statement was written just a couple years ago and it's just six words: "Exploring faith. Practicing inclusivity. Living justice." It appears on the cover of our Sunday order of service, the home page of our website, and in several other publications. The ongoing challenge is to focus on our mission throughout our programming and really live it.

In board actions this month, we voted to offer an internship to Joel Tishkin, a seminary student at Earlham preparing for the UU ministry. We feel that now, more than ever, it's important to support the UU movement through training new ministers, and that Joel will be a great asset to our congregation as we work to strengthen our programs in the areas of adult religious education, membership and leadership development. This internship will be for the 2017-18 academic year, beginning in August or September, with a \$10,000 stipend. The board will be exploring how to raise these funds in the coming months.

We also approved adding an ex-officio youth board position on a short-term basis, beginning in January and ending June 30th, with an eye towards proposing a by-laws change to make the position permanent if the trial period goes well. The youth can add a valuable perspective to the work of the board, and we want to encourage their involvement as current and future UU leaders.

Our December board meeting has been rescheduled for December 12 at 6:30, to accommodate several board members holiday travel schedules.

Holly Hanauer, President



We're Not Giving Up! The Fight for Clean Energy Continues

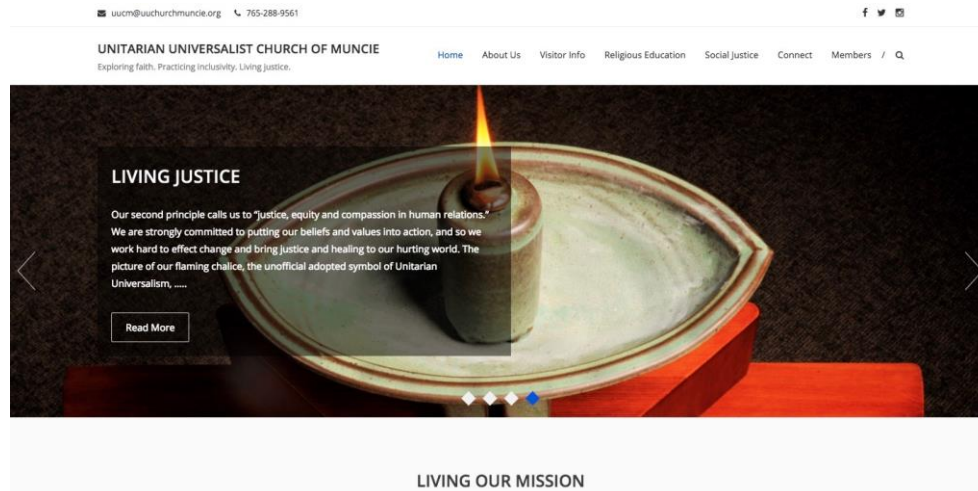
Here's an opportunity to take a simple action for clean power in Muncie on December 11. After the service, enjoy your Lucia bun and coffee and then please stay a few more minutes to hear an update on the Beyond Coal campaign. Some of Muncie's electricity is coming from the AEP-Rockport coal-fired power plant, one of 22 "Super Polluters" recently featured by USA Today and is the sixth largest carbon polluter in the nation (see www.superpolluters.com).

Indiana Michigan Power filed a case with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) hoping to get permission to charge customers \$260 million for pollution controls on AEP-Rockport Unit 2. Rockport 2, one of two units at the plant, is owned by five wealthy out-of-state corporations and big banks: General Electric, Verizon, JP Morgan, Citigroup and tobacco giant Philip Morris. I&M operates Unit 2 under a lease that expires in December 2022. They want to raise our bills, even though they haven't decided whether that unit will be retired in 2022. Customers can write comments to the IURC, asking them to deny permission to I&M for this action. For the whole story, go to <https://goo.gl/3zS7Pp>.

Learn more and make your voice heard on December 11.

The Green Team

Our Website Is Upgraded!



As you may have noticed if you visited the church website sometime in the past few weeks, we recently completed a full renovation and upgrade. If you haven't had a chance to take a look, you can check it out at www.uuchurchmuncie.org. The new site is more modern, contains updated content, and is geared towards visitors and seekers.

The first thing you'll see on the home page of the newly upgraded site is the slider, or three rotating images, representing the three parts of our mission statement. You can click on the "read more" button on each slide to read a more in-depth exploration of each part of our mission. As you scroll down, the next section you'll see on the main page contains a number of different areas of church life that highlights how we live into our mission. Each photo is clickable and takes you to an article or page that goes more in depth. If you keep scrolling down, you'll see several other new sections featuring different aspects of church life, as well as the content that used to be on the old website's front page, the most recent featured Unigram articles.

One area in particular to check out for members and friends of the church is the new "Members" menu item on the far right of the top-level menu. The Members drop-down offers access to information, links and documents that are geared specifically towards members and friends of the church, and is easily accessible from any page on the site. Of particular note, the church calendar, a frequently accessed page by many, is now located in this drop-down. The drop-down

also includes access to our governance documents, such as the church Bylaws and the most recent version of the Policy & Procedure Manual, as well as the Board of Trustees meeting minutes. The "Forms & Information" page available under the Members drop-down also has many relevant and helpful documents for participating in the life of the church.

If you have any difficulties loading the new website, here are two quick fixes you can try. First, make sure you have an updated bookmark, since the default web address of the old version of the site had "/web/" on the end. If you have the church website bookmarked using this old address, you will get an error message – to fix the problem, simply update your bookmark to www.uuchurchmuncie.org. If that doesn't work, you may need to clear your browser's cache to access the new site. Instructions for clearing your cache on different web browsers are available at <http://www.refreshyourcache.com/en/home/>. If you come across any typos or other errors as you explore the site, or have suggestions for new content or any other improvements, please e-mail them to seth@uuchurchmuncie.org.

Much thanks and appreciation to our Webmaster, **Matt Davis**, and to Rev. Seth, for the many hours of hard work they put in preparing the new site for publication. We hope you enjoy the new site, and share it with those who might be interested in visiting our church!

Spotlight on Communications Committee

This is the tenth in a series of articles about the ministries of our church. Everything we do is part of our ministry to one another and to the community, both within the church and beyond. Each month the series spotlights the work of a committee or task force that contributes to the broader ministry of our congregation.

The Communications Committee serves as a liaison for other committees and task forces seeking to publicize their activities to the congregation and/or the general public. In recent years, the committee has placed a special focus on social media advertising, especially via Facebook. Committee members also provided input into the church's newly revamped web site, and actively promoted the solar panel installation and ribbon-cutting. Other common activities include: drafting press releases for local newspapers, and advertising the annual bazaar and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service. Many of you have also seen the committee's promotional literature in the welcome kiosk of the church lobby.

Of special urgency now is the committee's role in navigating public feedback to Reverend Seth's November 13 sermon, which extended a message of love and commitment in the wake of the US presidential election. Many church members and organizations have responded with activism of their own, and the committee can help to publicize such efforts.

This fiscal year, the committee has three members: **Maggie Bartlett** (maggie_o@yahoo.com), **John Bartlett** (pmjghrs@yahoo.com), and **Jay Moorman** (jkmooorman@gmail.com). Given its vital role in crafting a public vision for the church, the committee could use additional talent! An additional two members, including a chairperson with ideas for new initiatives, would help greatly.

Committee meetings take place on Tuesday evenings immediately following the Body Life dinner. (Thus, new participants could combine food and fellowship with a bit of service.) Please consider what you might do to help the committee or to draw upon its expertise in promoting significant church activities. Thanks so much.

Bazaar Ripples

If you attended the Bazaar evaluation meeting on November 20, you already know that the total income generated this year was over \$19,000. After expenses, our profit was \$15,778. The Bazaar is our major fundraiser and having that money added to our budget is wonderful and comforting.

However, the benefits aren't limited to just our church. As recently noted by member **Marnee Cooley**,

"Our Bazaar is a powerful event in our church life, many people come and it's very profitable. But I think some of you don't know all of the things it helps besides just our church.

We took the best women's clothing to the YWCA, to help women needing professional clothing for interviews and working. We also donated many warm sweaters, slacks, and other clothing items to women in need.

This year, A Better Way was the recipient of many lovely baby clothes, small children's clothing, cuddly stuffed toys, large-size clothing (always at a premium), and household items.

A big box of children's books went to the YWCA and the remainder went to the Muncie Mission.

So, all of these things were appreciated by a great many people."

This year's Bazaar was a great effort and benefited a great many people—not just our budget.

Thank you all!

Sherry Ware, Co-Chair, 2016 Bazaar Planning Committee

Life in the Time of Warfare

Rev. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer

(continued from page 1)

A recent report indicated that tensions between the United States and Russia are now at a level not seen since the Cold War Era. Are we headed down that path again? Will my perennially-cheerful, happy-go-lucky grandson come to know the terror I felt? Will my grandchildren face conscription?

Some wars were international in scope, while others entailed US participation in a civil war within a country. Some were high profile, while people barely realized others were going on. World War II, which ended in 1945, was the last war officially declared by an act of Congress – the only body authorized to do so. But the others were fought just the same. That in itself is a strange situation: there is a protocol in place for those times when it is deemed necessary to declare war. Yet, seemingly more and more often, the wars in which we engage are not “official” ones that have been vetted through that process.

There are, in other words, at least two, and in some families three, generations for whom there has not been a time of peace in their lifetime. It does not seem to be an exaggeration to say that we are a warrior nation, a nation that often enforces its desires and ideas with the use of military might or the threat of such use. I am not a pacifist, at least not in the usual sense of that term. I believe that there are, or may be, times when there are threats to the welfare of humanity that are so grave as to require the use of whatever force is necessary to subdue or at least contain them. I am, though, deeply disturbed by how facile we have become about launching into armed conflict, especially without Congressional action. It seems that military force is more and more becoming our first line of defense, not our last resort when everything else has failed.

The imagery of war also permeates our culture. We now have the war on drugs, the war on crime, the war on the unborn (i.e. abortion), and the wars on poverty and cancer – not to mention the so-called “war on Christmas.” A high proportion of the computer games that are so popular and played by so many people are war-themed. Camouflage sells in both the world of high fashion and off-the-rack clothing.

One of my concerns with the multi-generational

pervasiveness of warfare is that I wonder how generations of people who have no memory of peace can wage peace? What basis do we have for believing that peace is even possible? How can we believe that the prophet Isaiah’s stirring vision is anything more than a fantasy: “The wolf and the lamb will graze together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox; and dust will be the serpent’s food. They will do no evil or harm in all My holy mountain” (65:25).

Another concern is the emotional and spiritual toll that living in a seemingly-endless time of warfare takes on people. The prevalence of modern-day technology means that war, wherever it is, is streamed into our living rooms and our bedrooms, as it happens. Every bit of it. Images of bloodied children. Images of the World Trade Towers falling in rubble. Image of soldiers cradling fallen comrades, providing what comfort they can in their last minutes of life. There are several generations of little kids who have never known anything else. Research indicates that people who watch more war reporting have higher anxiety levels, and at the same time, become numb to the images, disconnected from the reality they represent.

Related to that, the pervasiveness of war reporting normalizes war. We are no longer taken aback, no longer outraged, no longer dismayed that better solutions elude us. War has become “business as usual.”

I don’t have answers. I don’t have answers that are satisfactory for me personally, and I certainly don’t have answers that might begin to heal a world drunk on war. But I know we must try. We cannot let armed conflict remain the go-to solution.

Rev. Julia



We Must Fight

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd (continued from page 1)

ought to be maladjusted.

Hatred and bitterness can never cure the disease of fear, only love can do that.

We must evolve for all human conflict a method which rejects revenge, aggression, and retaliation.

The foundation of such a method is love.

Before it is too late, we must narrow the gaping chasm between our proclamations of peace and our lowly deeds which precipitate and perpetuate war.

One day we must come to see that peace is not merely a distant goal that we seek but a means by which we arrive at that goal.

We must pursue peaceful ends through peaceful means.

We shall hew out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope.

We must pursue peaceful ends through peaceful means. We must come to see that peace is not merely a distant goal that we seek but a means by which we arrive at the goal. Yes, this, this is what we need. With an interpretation of peace and love where both are defined as **strong and powerful and active and outraged and just**. As King wrote in [Stride Toward Freedom](#), "True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice." Peace in these times is not going to be "peaceful," as we traditionally think about it. It is not going to mean the absence of tension; it is in fact, almost certainly going to be full of tension. Seeking peace in this time may in fact look very much like "living justice," as our mission statement calls us to do. If we are to live into a just peace, we are going to have to be committed, we are going to have to act, and we're going to have to fight for it.

As King warns us, though, that fight, that powerful activism – it must be grounded in love and peace, for otherwise we shall not overcome. In my [November 13th sermon](#) I suggested that this election calls for us to be "love warriors." Love – grounded, loving, gentle, compassionate, empathetic. Warriors – fierce, strong, protective, powerful, active. It seems clear to me that we also need to be peace warriors. Gentle, loving,



compassionate, grounded, peace warriors.

I also shared in that November 13th sermon that we will not heal the divisions in our country if we demonize those who are different from us, if we're unable to create relationships and learn to better understand and relate to those who voted for Trump. It is true too that we will be unable to heal the divides in our country if we are anger warriors. This is not to say we shouldn't be angry. We should and must be angry. We should and must be passionate. We should and must do everything we can to stand with and help those who will almost certainly be oppressed. And we should and must do our very best to carry out our actions, not with anger, but with peace and love in our hearts, so that the actions themselves, our presentation, everything about what we do – conveys peace and love. A just peace must not only be the end we seek, it must also be the method we use to seek it.

I hope and pray that one day we won't need to be warriors for peace and love, that one day peace and love will simply be the way of our country, and the way of the world. But for right now, as we serve as warriors for peace, love and justice, may peace and love be our primary tools in the fight. Love is not just mushy and soft; peace is not always just peaceful. May fierce love and just peace win the day.

See you in church!

(just) peace, (fierce) love and blessings,

Rev. Seth

Sharing Gratitude



On behalf of the board and the whole congregation, I want to thank the Bazaar Committee for all they did to put on a fantastic bazaar! They developed a new layout, brought in some new vendors, designed new signs and generally gave the whole event a facelift. Our budget depends on this large fundraiser to be successful every year – and many of us show up that week and that day to do our part – but it takes a group of organizers to really make sure it happens and runs smoothly. These folks stepped up and gave countless hours to make “the best bazaar in town” better than ever: **Sherry Ware, Susan Bossung, John McKillip, Judy Lowe, Katie Frederick, Annemarie Voss, Phil Gift, John and Maggie Bartlett, and Kirsten Smith.** We’re so grateful for your commitment to our UU community. **Holly Hanauer**

Adult Discussion Group

Sundays at 9:30 am – Red room

December 4 – The Nature of Human Nature

Steve Robert will start us talking about what human nature is, where it comes from, and how it effects our decisions and lives. Come give us some help with this tough question.

December 11

Guest Bibi Bahrami, President of AWAKEN (Afghani Women And Kids Education and Necessities), has agreed to come to discuss the group’s mission. She would like to speak briefly about the group, the Afghanistan situation, and her life here in the US, and then have time dedicated to discussion so that she may learn more about the concerns and thoughts of others.

December 18 – The Winter Solstice

In the northern latitudes the winter solstice has been an important time for celebrations throughout the ages. Many celebrations occur around the Solstice, including in Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism, Secularism, Judaism and Paganism. Members of **Muncie UU Pagans** will be with us to discuss why the shortest day of the year has long been a turning point for so many communities.

December 25 – There will be no meeting today.

Wheel of Life

I am pleased to announce that I will be serving as the Sabbatical Minister for the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Tippacano County in West Lafayette from January until June. This is a half-time position so it will not change my ability to continue in my current position at the church or in teaching yoga at two local studios. It will bring me to full time between all of my jobs, which will be a big shift for me and the kids. I am excited to work with this lovely congregation! **Rev. Elizabeth Carrier-Ladd**

Paul Rodger Errington, long time friend of the UUCM, died November 12, 2016, from complications of Parkinson’s disease. A renaissance man, Paul had a passion for learning, teaching, music, and exploring nature. Friends and family celebrated his life in a memorial service on November 15, at the church. **Sue Errington**

If you have a major life event you'd like the church community to be aware of, please submit it to uucm@uuchurchmuncie.org and note "Wheel of Life" in the subject line.



December 2016 UUCM Calendar

Online calendar: <http://www.uuchurchmuncie.org/members/calendar/>

Regular Weekly Events

Adult Discussion Group (no meeting Dec 25)	Sundays	9:30 am
Muncie UU Pagans (no meeting Dec 25)	Sundays	9:30 am
Worship Service	Sundays	10:45 am – noon
Religious Education for Children & Youth	Sundays	10:45 am – noon
OWL 7-10 th Grade (no class Dec 25)	Sundays	2:15 – 3:45 pm
Body Life Dinner	Tuesdays	6:00 – 7:30 pm
Finding Spirit :: Transgender Support Group	Tuesdays	7:00 pm
Choir Rehearsal (NO rehearsal Dec 27)	Tuesdays	7:30 pm
Revival Hour (see web calendar for location)	Wednesdays	5:30 pm
Muncie OUTreach LGBTQ Youth Drop In	Fridays	5:00 – 8:00 pm

December Events & Activities

Chalice Marketplace	Sunday	Dec 4	9:30 am & Noon
Tree Trimming Party	Sunday	Dec 4	After the service
Combined Youth Groups	Sunday	Dec 4	12:30 pm
Theme Reflections	Sunday	Dec 4	12:30 pm
Secular Humanists/Board Meeting	Sunday	Dec 4	3:00 pm
Feeding Our Hungry Neighbors Task Force	Monday	Dec 5	7:00 pm
Finance Committee	Wednesday	Dec 7	7:00 pm
Worship Associates	Wednesday	Dec 7	7:30 pm
Bazaar Committee	Thursday	Dec 8	6:00 pm
Two Services Task Force	Thursday	Dec 8	7:00 pm
Youth Group Lock In	Saturday	Dec 10	Noon
Saffron Bun Baking for Santa Lucia	Saturday	Dec 10	1:00 pm
Choir Rehearsal	Sunday	Dec 11	9:30 am
Aging & Spirituality	Sunday	Dec 11	9:30 am
Chalice Marketplace	Sunday	Dec 11	9:30 am & Noon
“Beyond Coal: Clean Energy Fight Update”	Sunday	Dec 11	Noon
New Member Dinner	Sunday	Dec 11	5:00 pm
Board of Trustees	Monday	Dec 12	6:30 pm
Social Justice Committee	Monday	Dec 12	7:00 pm
Membership Committee	Tuesday	Dec 13	11:00 am
Unigram Submission Deadline	Wednesday	Dec 14	9:00 am
Pastoral Associates	Wednesday	Dec 14	6:00 pm
Program Council	Wednesday	Dec 14	7:00 pm
Committee on Ministries	Thursday	Dec 15	7:15 pm
Circle in the Woods	Saturday	Dec 17	7:00 pm
Sack Lunch Prep for Harvest Soup Kitchen	Sunday	Dec 18	9:30 am
Chalice Marketplace	Sunday	Dec 18	9:30 am & Noon
Adult Discussion Committee	Sunday	Dec 18	12:15 pm
Combined Youth Groups Holiday Party	Sunday	Dec 18	12:30 – 2:00 pm
Multi-Gen Event :: Holiday Ornaments	Sunday	Dec 18	12:30 pm
Candlelight Service	Saturday	Dec 24	7:00 pm
Christmas Day Carry In	Sunday	Dec 25	Noon

Mark Your Calendar

Tree Trimming Party

The annual church tree trimming will take place in the sanctuary directly after the service on Sunday, December 4. All ages are invited to help decorate the tree in this inter-generational event. Join the fun! The Fellowship committee will provide cookies.

Church Office Holiday Schedule

The Church Office will be closed December 23 – January 2, so the staff can enjoy holiday time with family & friends. Wishing you peace, joy, and love.

UU Book Group

The next meeting of the UU book group will be December 8th, at 7:00 pm, in the home of **Annemarie Voss**. We will be reading *I Feel Bad About My Neck: And Other Thoughts on Being a Woman*, by Nora Ephron (2006).

Mitten Tree

It's that time once again.
We are smitten
To heap our tree with glove,
hat & mitten.
Let's load it full of warm wear
in great hues:
Yellows and pinks, reds,
greens, and blues!

Donations may be placed by the tree on the table in the foyer through December 11.

UUCM Staff & Leadership

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd, Minister

seth@uuchurchmuncie.org

Rev. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer, Community Minister

julia@uuchurchmuncie.org

Nadine Tringali, Director of Religious Education

nadine@uuchurchmuncie.org

Christie Williams, Office Administrator

christie@uuchurchmuncie.org

Dr. James Helton, Director of Music

jim@uuchurchmuncie.org

Rev. Elizabeth Carrier-Ladd, Coordinator of Youth Programs

elizabeth@uuchurchmuncie.org

Megan Wenning, Membership Coordinator

megan@uuchurchmuncie.org

Matt Davis, Website Administrator

matt@uuchurchmuncie.org

Board of Trustees

Holly Hanauer

President

Jerry McKean

President-Elect

Susan Bossung

Vice President

Sharon Seager

Secretary

Usha Shivaswamy

Treasurer

Sherry Ware

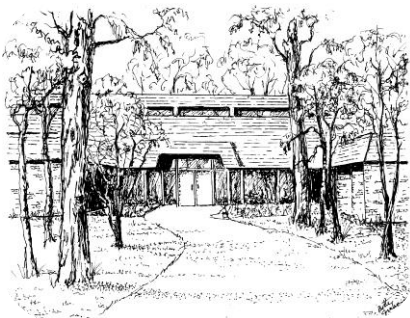
Past President

765.288.9561 | uucm@uuchurchmuncie.org | www.uuchurchmuncie.org

Office Hours: Monday 1:00 – 4:00 pm | Tuesday 9:00 am – 2:00 pm | Wednesday – Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Unitarian Universalist Church of Muncie

4800 West Bradford Drive
Muncie, IN 47304



*Exploring faith.
Practicing inclusivity.
Living justice.*

DATED MATERIAL

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit 635
Muncie, IN

Return Service
Requested