



the UNIGRAM

The Stories We Tell Ourselves

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd, Minister

“I’m not very creative.” This was my statement to our staff, last fall during our staff retreat, when we were talking about ways in which we could bring more creativity to our work. Our wonderful, caring, thoughtful staff – they pushed back at me: “That’s not true, you’re very creative administratively. You come up with ideas in terms of doing new things administratively that would never have occurred to us.” My story of non-creativity was very strong though. “Sure, ok, but that doesn’t count. I can’t draw, I can’t paint, or sculpt, or...” They kept pushing. “Is art really the only way that someone can be creative?” Me: “Ummmm...” <pause to think> “Hmmm.” <more thinking> “I guess not.” In my head, I

understood the logic of what they were saying. My emotion, my body, my spirit was rebelling though. I was finally able to acknowledge, after they pointed out several specific examples, that it did seem like I was fairly creative in terms of leading the administration of the church.

Reflecting about this later, I totally get where my story of non-creativity came from. Growing up, I was good at math, and school, and following directions, and not as good at the “typically creative” stuff, like drawing, painting, or any kind of typically artistic things. That was my sister,

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From the Stories of Our Living

Rev. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer, Community Minister

Our hymn “The Fire of Commitment” usually leaves me with tears in my eyes when we sing it. This passage in particular:

“From the stories of our living rings a song both brave and free,
Calling pilgrims still to witness to a life of liberty.”

Many, if not most of you, know the rudiments of my story. I’m a survivor. Briefly, my father sexually abused me in several ways from the time I was four or maybe five years old until my parents divorced and he moved out when I was twelve. There was also emotional and physical abuse, and the effects of

his alcoholism and womanizing affected our family dynamics as well.

Working through that part of my life story with a compassionate, caring and competent listener who had a seemingly endless capacity to walk beside me into the scary, shaming, grieving places of my life made healing possible.

As we tell our stories in an open, nonjudgmental space, new possibilities emerge, which can translate into a life far different than we had imagined possible. As we tell our stories, we piece together our wholeness, bringing together

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Sunday Mornings at Our Church in the Woods

Services at 9:00 & 11:00 am

October Theme :: Story

Our October theme of story invites us into hallowed space in human history and the human experience. Before we had the internet and printing presses and wide-spread access to books, we existed with primarily an oral culture, much of which was shared and handed down in the form of story. Stories have the power to transform us – to change our minds, to inspire us, to help us reimagine who we are and what we believe. We are shaped by stories, and in turn we shape the stories of our lives. We'll be exploring all this and more on Sunday mornings this month. Special Sunday service events include:

- October 1 – the choir will be singing
- October 15 – we will hold our second White Supremacy Teach-In, see www.uuteachin.org for details
- October 29 – we will have multi-generational service, with Halloween costume parades at the beginning of both services, and the Day of the Dead ceremony between services at 10:30am

October 1, 15, 22, 29 – Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

October 8 – Rev. Elizabeth Carrier-Ladd

Religious Education for Children & Youth

Classes at 9:00 & 11:00 am

Here is what is coming up this month in RE:

- On the first Sunday, during our 9:00 Service, **Joel Tishken** will be leading a multi-age Children's Chapel on the theme of the month: Story.
- On the first Sunday, we will be holding another high school fundraiser brunch, from 10-10:45 in the fellowship hall. Please come with an appetite for some delicious food!
- On Sunday, October 29, we will have our annual Halloween parade at the beginning of each service. All are welcome!
- This month we will be kicking off *Our Whole Lives (OWL) Sexuality Education* program for our K-2 grade children. More information can be found in my RE Corner, and on the UUA website.

Adult Religious Exploration Offerings

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 on Sunday mornings. Check out all the offerings below!

Every Sunday, 9:30 am Red Room Adult Discussion Group	This group is a chance for people with various personal beliefs to get together and openly discuss a variety of topics. Check the weekly eBlast for weekly topics.
Every Sunday, 10:00 am Violet room Muncie UU Pagans	This is an open discussion group to explore the differences in our pagan traditions. People of any belief are welcome.
2 nd Sunday, 10:00 am Yellow room Landscapes of Aging and Spirituality	Rev. Julia leads 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 – Story

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 this month is a poem titled “Spiritual History” by Unitarian Universalist minister Rev. Mark Belletini:

Let my body remember.
 Let my hands and feet remember.
 Let my breath remember
 those who have come before me,
 those who have come before us.
 Didn't Muhammad wait quietly in his cave?
 And didn't Jesus sigh silently by the blue lake?
 And Guan Yin, didn't she sit in silence
 thinking about what to do before doing it?
 And what was Siddhartha the Buddha doing
 anyway under that tree if not just sitting quietly?
 And Susan B. Anthony, didn't she push back
 from her desk, and take a breath now and then?
 And Florence Nightingale, didn't she
 put down her nurse's hat
 and think silently about what to write
 in her essay on mysticism before she actually wrote it?
 And Sophia Fahs, didn't she stop telling
 stories sometimes and just sit there?
 And didn't Black Elk just notice the sunlight
 glancing off his chair sometimes?
 And Starhawk, does she only talk and write, or
 does she too keep silence?
 Let us remember them all with our bodies.
 Let us remember them with the silence
 they too knew

Questions for Reflection

What genre is your current life's story? Are you living a mystery? An adventure story? A romance? A thriller? Are you worried that your story is not interesting enough to be published? Is it a half-finished manuscript stuck in writer's block? Are you in the midst of going back and re-writing the ending?

What story does your family of origin tell about you? Does that telling leave you feeling seen or misunderstood?

Celebrated or unfairly characterized? If mischaracterized, what are your plans to get them to reshape their telling of you? Or is your true story better served by just letting go of trying to change their unfair one?

What current cultural or political “story” strikes you as dangerous? How might you step up your commitment and efforts to challenge that dangerously false story? How might you double down on making sure that the true story is known?

Suggested Readings

Blog post: Top 10 Stories I wish all UUs knew by Rev. Gretchen Haley
<https://goo.gl/HJ59Yo>

Blog Post: Empathy, Justice and the Science of Story by David Zahl
<https://goo.gl/3Wxbzb>

Spiritual or Reflective Practice

(from Soul Matters)

Six-word stories are a common exercise in writers' groups because they vividly display the power of brevity and encapsulation. Think of Caesar's famous quote: “I came. I saw. I conquered.” (And it was only three words in its original Latin: *Veni, vidi, veci.*) The spiritual practice for this month: describe your personal religious journey/story in six words!

Here's some inspiration found from all over the internet:

“Seeking him who loved me first.”

“Born Jewish. Discovered bacon... still Jewish.”

“No more Sunday school. Sleeping in.”

“I've fallen and finally got up.”

“Fairytales. Thought. Deliberation. Reason. Awakening. Atheist”

“Prayed every night; no one answered.”

“I pray. She answers. Each time.”

“Brainwashed, manipulated, guilted, awoke, objected, rejected.”

Religious Education Corner

Nadine Tringali, Director of Religious Education

Our Whole Lives (OWL) Sexuality Education K-2nd grade youth

This month we will be kicking off our K-2nd grade OWL program. OWL models and teaches caring, compassion, respect, and justice. It helps young children identify their attitudes, values, and feelings about themselves, their sexuality, and others' sexuality. Participants are guided through an engaging curriculum that addresses age appropriate topics. A complete description of the OWL curriculum is available on the UUA website.

The mandatory Parent/Child Orientation will be held on Wednesday, October 4, at UUCM in the Red and Yellow Rooms from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Our K-2 grade OWL program will begin on Wednesday, October 11, and will run for eight one-hour sessions, beginning at 5:30pm. The following seven sessions will be held on October 18 & 25, November 8, 15, 29, and December 6 & 18. Our Orientation will begin with a Parents' Workshop and a Children's Workshop for the first hour. At 6:30, we will take a short pizza break, and then conclude the Orientation with a Parent/Child Workshop. **Ben & Denise Ewing** will be our facilitators for this program.

Our K-2 OWL program is open to the community. If you have friends who might be interested, please let them know about our program and the Orientation.

Coming of Age (CoA) Fall Retreat

Friday, October 13, 8pm - Sunday, October 15, 10am

Our Coming of Age youth will spend two nights together to get to know each other, build trust, and create this group's unique identity.



Bazaar in the Woods: Boston Bound Youth Booth, "Chocolate & More" ~ Saturday, November 4

Each year at the Bazaar, we raise funds for our upcoming Boston Bound Heritage Trip for our middle school youth. Our next trip will be in June 2019. All donations of candies, baked goods, or "more" will be greatly appreciated! A sign-up sheet will be in the foyer, two weeks before the bazaar, or you may contact nadine@uuchurchmuncie.org. Donations can be dropped off on Friday, November 3, or early Saturday morning. Please list ingredients and wrap them for sale. Suggestions for our booth are: fudge, cookies, cupcakes, brownies, puppy chow, sweet breads, cake pops, and chocolate covered items such as: marshmallows, pretzels, nuts, raisins, and cranberries.

Nadine

Youth News

Elizabeth Carrier-Ladd, Coordinator of Youth Programs

Combined Youth Group - October 15, 12:30 - 2 pm, Indigo / Violet rooms

Join us for this special youth group where we will work on creating the altar for the church's Day of the Dead ceremony. This fun, creative project is also a huge service to the congregation. Bring photos or mementos of your loved ones who have died to help decorate the altar.

Our Past Stories as Resources in Our Present

Joel Tishken, Intern Minister

A friend asked to speak to me in July 2016, distraught at recent events in our country and abroad. And it was no wonder why she was upset. So was I. Our nation and world suffered many horrific events that summer including the terrorist attacks in Orlando, in Pulse night club, and in Nice, France, when a cargo truck was purposefully driven into a crowd. For my friend, the incidents were more than tragic, however. They revealed for her a disturbing pattern that indicated the world was in the worst state it had ever been. At home and abroad hate, violence, and insecurity did indeed appear to be dangerously widespread and out of control.

We talked for some time about her sadness, anger, and fear. Awhile into the conversation I asked whether there were other times in her life when she had similar feelings about the state of the world. After a lengthy and pensive pause, she responded that yes, she had felt similarly during her childhood and teenage years in the 1960s, with the assassination of John F. Kennedy and MLK, the Cuban Missile Crisis, and never-ending news reports of body counts in the Vietnam War. I then shared comparable experiences of my own teenage years in the 1980s when the threat of nuclear war had reached a fevered high, and a string of mass shootings at restaurants and workplaces made many of us feel insecure in public places.

This conversation taught me an important lesson about our life stories and how we could use our past to help us cope in the present. We almost always feel the present moment more acutely than the past. The present is more real in terms of the totality of the experience. The power of what my friend and I were

experiencing in the summer of 2016 was strong and immediate. The power of our present sadness, fear, and anger was greater than the feelings we had in comparable situations in our past. In addition, the passage of time from those events had also allowed both of us to find means to cope with the feelings the original events had inspired.

We found ways to reframe those events and consider them in a new manner. Doing so removed some of the original emotional sting and allowed us to fold the events into our lives and memories without the intense raw feelings they first engendered.

My writing here has focused upon feelings about grand events and the geo-political world because my reflections about story were inspired by a friend's conversation on that subject. However, our life stories can also be a resource for us in our present at more personal scales too. When we are currently dealing with grief, tragedy, or misfortune, it is possible we might benefit from examining when we faced a comparable situation in our past. What support did we find? What did we do to cope? How did we potentially transform or reframe the situation? Our own story of resilience in the past can offer us lessons in our present. Our story is not just a bundle of facts. Our story is also a testimony to our capacity to survive. When we are struggling with something now, it is possible our own story may have some insights on how to endure in the present. May all our stories be a blessing and a comfort.

Joel

Day of the Dead Altar

In honor of those who we have lost to death, please bring any photos of mementos you have anytime the church is open, between October 16 and October 29, so that we can create our Day of the Dead altar together. The items you bring make the altar more special and meaningful. On October 29, our altar will be open to all throughout both services to add items, light a candle, and remember with joy the ways in which our loved ones touched our lives and live on through us.

Splinters from the Board – Looking to the Future

Exploring faith. Practicing Inclusivity. Living Justice.

The church board has been busy. At our annual Board retreat in August, we identified several goals for the year:

- strategic evaluation of programming & program development process;
- continued support of the transition from a pastoral church to a program church;
- promoting and modeling a healthy congregational approach to relationships and conflict;
- creation of a long-range plan (5-years).

And, as always we will be guided by our mission, vision, values, and principles of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Muncie.

As a part of our 2017-2018 budget, the congregation voted to authorize a fall fund-raising campaign to “bridge the gap” between the budget and pledges. The Board held a special meeting to establish a goal for the campaign of \$30,000 and to design the campaign itself. More information on the “Bridge the Gap” campaign will be forthcoming as the month unfolds.

In our September 20 meeting, the Board took several actions to help us achieve the goals identified above, including amending the policy on moderating our Facebook pages, asking the Committee on Ministries to collaborate with the congregation on creating a Healthy Relationships agreement and recommending related policies to the Board, and creating a committee to run our fall family retreat at Pokagon State Park.

Behind the scenes, Board members have been at work at helping with the additional Sunday service, assisting committees in their duties, and consulting with our minister on the immediate needs of the congregation.

The work of the board depends on board members offering honest opinions, listening carefully to each other and the members and friends of the congregation, and offering support and encouragement. I am pleased to tell you that your board members are getting this done. It is a pleasure to work with them.

Jerry McKean, President

Notice of Congregational Meeting

The fall meeting of the congregation will be held on Sunday, October 22, at 12:15 pm, in the sanctuary. The agenda is below – we hope you will all come and participate in this important part of our church governance process. We uplift and uphold democratic ideals, and democracy works best when people participate!

Agenda for October 22, 2017, Congregational Meeting

Call to Order

1. Approval of Minutes from November 21, 2016 Congregational Meeting
2. Presentation of the financial report on the 2016-2017 fiscal year, Board Treasurer.

Adjournment



Bazaar in the Woods

Celebrating Our 120th Year... and We're Still Here!

Saturday, November 4 • 8:00 am – 2:00 pm

Questions / Suggestions / Concerns / How to get involved:

Contact one of the Co-Chairs

Bruce Craig bcraig@bsu.edu or 215-8426

Usha Shivaswamy ushashivu@gmail.com or 289-5095

Sue Errington errington@comcast.net or 282-3581

Make YOUR 2017 Bazaar... A Celebration of our 120th Year!

The UUCM Bazaar is the oldest continuous church bazaar in Muncie. Let's get to work and make this Bazaar spectacular in everything we do! It takes the ENTIRE CHURCH to make this annual event successful.

What Can You Do?

- Watch for announcements in the eBlast and order of service. Contact a Co-Chair to sign up.
- Check the [UUCM Facebook page](#) and [website](#) for photos and updates.
- ASK for ideas on how to help and you'll soon be swept up in Bazaar excitement!
- Stockpile all your goodies to donate to the 2017 Bazaar – ENCORE! Fashion Boutique / Christmas Holiday items / Jewelry / Collectibles / This & That objects / Children's Corner / Tool Shop, Books & Media.
- Silent Auction – Dig through your attic, garage, boxes, drawers, and closets TODAY! Do NOT procrastinate! Find your donation, measure it, and write a description. Silent Auction booth outlines its booth space early. When you have donation information, please email or call **Bruce Craig**. The sooner the better!
- *Special Need:* Our stock of jewelry is nearly exhausted. Consider downsizing your stash and donating little worn pieces to the Jewelry Booth.
- *Special Need:* Our food booth always sells out. Baked goods, frozen meals, jams, jellies, relishes, noodles... you name it, they'll buy it! Be sure to include a label with your name, ingredients, and suggested price.
- *Special Need:* UU Gardeners: Start rooting your cuttings and potting your plants before the first frost.
- *Special Need:* A team of Greeters to welcome our guests at the front and back doors. Contact **Usha Shivaswamy** to volunteer.

If we work together, our BAZAAR in the WOODS will show Muncie we're Celebrating Our 120th Year... and We're Still Here!

Rejoice for Reason

Earlier this year the Board voted to establish a task force to develop an application to the Unitarian Universalist Humanist Association to recognize our church as a Freethinker Friendly Congregation. This is similar to the Welcoming Congregation designation we received some years ago.

After hard work by members of the task force last month we were awarded Freethinker status. Check our certificate beside the welcome kiosk. What does this mean? Freethinker standing means we now more than ever, consciously and purposefully recognize and welcome atheists, agnostics, and non-believers into our congregation, and into our programming. As a supportive community we should expect nothing less.

What do Freethinkers and Humanists believe? "We rely on reason and compassion, rather than supernatural revelation, to guide us in our quest to become more fully human as individuals and to cooperatively improve society and sustain the planet."

Reason, compassion, and community are the watch words.

Celebrate Reason.

Tom Lowe,

for the Freethinker Task Force

The Stories We Tell Ourselves

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

she was the free spirit, the painter, the drawer... the “creative one.” Me, I still draw stick-figures to this day. So I can see where this story comes from, and, I recognize now that I am indeed creative in other ways... and so I’ve worked on trying to change this story for myself since then. But even today, sitting here writing this, there’s still part of me pushing back – “but I’m not *really* creative.” That story I have is strong, it’s not going away easily. And this is not unique to me. The stories we tell ourselves are powerful – they can and do shape our experience of our lives and the world.

I’ve shared in a sermon before the experience of a former co-worker, Tom, whose family told him his whole life that he was impatient. That was the story he was told as a kid, and so it was the story he told himself – and acted out in his life – as an adult. He didn’t try working on being patient in most of his early adulthood, since he figured it was just who he was. He just continued to act impatiently... until he had children in his thirties, and decided it was important to him to be patient with them. Lo and behold, he discovered that he*could* be patient when wanted to be. By the time he was sharing this with me, his children were teenagers, and he had made enough progress that impatience was their story, not his. But it took a long time and a lot of hard work on his part to change his internal narrative.

The stories we tell – the reality-shaping stories we tell – aren’t just about ourselves either. Up until last year, the story we told at our Harvest Feast about the landing of the Pilgrims and the First Thanksgiving was solely from a White European perspective, because that’s the story American culture tells us. Our history books today, the history we learn in school – it still usually doesn’t speak of the genocide our forebearers committed in taking this land from the indigenous peoples. We’ve changed our Harvest Feast now to paint a more fully representative picture, and there are more and more people speaking out today about the tragedies inflicted on the Native American peoples than ever before, but our United States cultural story is still one of white triumphalism.

There are other stories that we tell as a culture, as a

country, that are problematic as well. One of the most common ones is that we are a land of equal opportunity, that “anyone can pull themselves up by their bootstraps” – if they work hard enough. The reality, of course, is, that our starting conditions dramatically impact our chances of success in life. Growing up in poverty means you are far less likely to become wealthy than those born in the middle class, let alone those born into wealth. We love in our country to lift up individual examples of those who have risen from the poorest of the poor to gain great wealth in their lives in attempt to prove how this myth, this false story, is true – but the individual examples actually run counter to the broader statistical reality. Income inequality and social mobility are both decreasing in our country, and little is being done to shift the tide.

As we explore our October theme of Story together this month, I hope we can spend some time reflecting on our stories, and the truth, or lack thereof, that they represent. Not all stories we tell about ourselves are false of course, many of them are true. But are they all true? What stories of yours do think might need to be re-examined?

See you in church!

peace, love and blessings,

Rev. Seth



“Unitarianism” Harshman Panel
Photo by Gunther Cartwright

From the Stories of Our Living

Rev. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer (continued from page 1)

those parts of ourselves that have been shattered and split off by the external circumstances of our lives, or those that we ourselves have cut off because they were too painful. In doing so, we get to write a new ending to our unique story—not fictionalizing it nor changing what’s already taken place, but envisioning a new trajectory that reflects new insights we may not have had previously, new ways of understanding and feeling that point us to new ways of living in the world.

Transpersonal/humanistic psychologists John Firman and Ann Gila say the spiritual effects of sexual abuse are “primal,” undercutting the “core of our deepest humanity.” Firman and Gila go on to describe how this primal wounding affects us spiritually. For me, theirs remains the best description of the effects of sexual abuse on spirituality as I have ever read (from their book The Primal Wound):

“However this wounding is inflicted, it is a break in the intricate web of relationships in which we live, move, and have our being. A fundamental trust and connection to the universe is betrayed, and we become strangers to ourselves and others, struggling for survival in a seemingly alien world. In psychological terms, our connection to our deeper Self is wounded. In religious and philosophical terms, it is our connection to Ultimate Reality, the Ground of Being, or the Divine that is broken.... Again, it is caused by unnatural experiences in which our fundamental relationship to other people, the world, and the Ground of Being has been violated.”

For me, re-visioning the abuse story opened the way to embracing ministry, which was where I had begun but turned away from early on. I had completed my seminary degree, then chose to complete my doctorate in religious studies and teach instead. It wasn’t until 1999 that I picked up that earlier thread of ministry. At that point, I was able to find my connection to the Ground of Being, a connection that had been shattered by abuse.

My interest in and approach to spiritual/pastoral care and counseling is strongly influenced by this experience, too. Specifically, it’s led me in the direction of what is called “narrative pastoral counseling.” It’s an approach that is collaborative and non-pathologizing. It is deeply respectful of the person and sees the pastoral counseling relationship as consultative, rather than a directive one.

It begins with a premise that each of us is the expert in our own lives. With the right support and assistance, we can reclaim what we need to become more whole human beings. We can draw on the capacities, values, purposes, beliefs and wisdom that enable us to change our relationship to ourselves and to the issues that brought us to counseling.

This month’s theme, Story, ties back into September’s theme, Welcome. Listening to another’s story or stories is one of the ways we can welcome them, whomever they are, whatever their stories. It isn’t limited to pastoral care; it’s a gift we can each offer to each other as the need arises.

In a recent newspaper column, Sharon Randall noted that “in the beginning was the Word. It’s still spoken every day.” Reverend Seth and I are always available to listen to your stories. In addition, how might we all help make ours a community in which it’s safe to share the stores that are our lives? In sharing them, we may discover that in “the stories of our living rings a song both brave and free,” inviting us all into a renewed “life of liberty.”

In freedom,

Reverend Julia



“Humanism” Harshman Panel
Photo by Gunther Cartwright

Body Life Dinner

A reminder to join us each Tuesday night at 6 pm, for a potluck dinner at the church. It’s a time to enjoy a great meal and fellowship. Come nurture your body with good food and nurture your soul with good friends. All are welcome! Bring a friend.

Doing Church the UUCM Way: Check it Out

The Inquirers Series will be offered every Sunday starting October 1, at 10:00 am, in the Violet room, to welcome newcomers into the church community. Eight topics are covered, one per session, and then repeated throughout the year. The goals of the Inquirers Series are as follows:

- Make our church values and culture transparent and known to newcomers, so that they may make an informed decision about membership in our church
- Introduce newcomers to church staff, ministers, and lay leaders
- Establish a “safe space” for newcomers to learn more about the church in the form of a regularly scheduled small group designed for their needs.

As an extension of the congregation’s hospitality, the Inquirers Series is designed to be accessible to visitors and to address their needs and interests. We welcome visitors by asking them what brought them here, and helping them connect with people, groups, and opportunities to serve that relate to the need, desire, or curiosity that prompted them to seek out a religious community. We teach them how we do church and help them figure out where they belong.

Sharing Gratitude

The Property Maintenance committee held a congregational workday on Saturday, September 9, and many chores were addressed, primarily on the church grounds. It was a beautiful day to do this, and we want to thank **Bill Frederick, Holly Hanauer, Carolyn Cooley, Linda Morton, Jane Meyer, Eleanor Trawick, Elsbeth Fritz, Cindy Peters, Bruce and Judy Craig, John McKillip,** and **John Taylor** for their efforts!! Many thanks to you all.

~The Property Maintenance Committee

We have begun our experiment of offering two services on Sunday mornings. Much gratitude and appreciation to all who have helped make our two-service Sundays work well so far, including the Worship Associates, the Board of Trustees, the Sights & Sounds team, the Hospitality Team, and our staff. Thank you everyone for your hard work and attention to detail!

If you have a gratitude you'd like to submit for the next Unigram, please send it to uucm@uuchurchmuncie.org, subject line "Sharing Gratitude."



Wheel of Life

Jefferson Bartlett, member and son of **John** and **Maggie**, married **Jamie Coons** on September 23, 2017 in a beautiful ceremony at UUCM. The couple and families would like to thank all in attendance for sharing their day. Special thanks to **Laura Janney, Kirk Robey, Rev. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer**, and other family and friends who lent a hand to keep the parents sane! - **John Bartlett**

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.

October 2017 UUCM Calendar

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

Regular Weekly Events

Worship Services	Sundays	9:00 & 11:00 am
Religious Exploration for Children & Youth	Sundays	9:00 & 11:00 am
Adult Discussion Group	Sundays	9:30 am
Inquirers Series	Sundays	10:00 am
Muncie UU Pagans	Sundays	10:00 am
Body Life Dinner	Tuesdays	6:00 – 7:30 pm
Bazaar Team	Tuesday	6:30 pm
Finding Spirit :: Transgender Support Group	Tuesdays	7:00 pm
Choir Rehearsal	Tuesdays	7:30 pm
OWL K-2	Wednesdays	5:30 pm
Revival Hour (see web calendar for location)	Wednesdays	5:30 pm
Muncie OUTreach LGBTQ Youth Drop In	Fridays	5:00 – 8:00 pm

October Events & Activities

Visitors Q&A	Sunday	Oct 1	10:15 & 12:30
Service Journey Fundraiser Brunch	Sunday	Oct 1	10:00 am
Choir Rehearsal	Sunday	Oct 1	10:15 am
Worship Associates	Wednesday	Oct 4	7:30 pm
Fall Retreat at Pokagon State Park	Fri-Sun	Oct 6-8	
Landscapes of Aging and Spirituality	Sunday	Oct 8	10:00 am
Chalice Marketplace	Sunday	Oct 8	10:00 am
Roots & Wings :: New Member Class	Sunday	Oct 8	12:30 pm
Feeding Our Hungry Neighbors Task Force	Tuesday	Oct 9	7:15 pm
Social Justice Committee	Monday	Oct 9	7:00 pm
Pastoral Associates	Wednesday	Oct 11	6:00 pm
Program Council	Wednesday	Oct 11	7:00 pm
Coming of Age Mentor Dinner	Thursday	Oct 12	6:00 pm
Coming of Age Chalice Circle Retreat	Fri-Sun	Oct 13-15	
New Member Signing Ceremony	Sunday	Oct 15	10:30 am
New Member Dinner	Sunday	Oct 15	5:00 pm
Soup Lunch	Sunday	Oct 15	Noon
Adult Discussion Committee	Sunday	Oct 15	12:30 pm
Combined Youth Group	Sunday	Oct 15	12:30 pm
Board of Trustees	Wednesday	Oct 18	6:30 pm
Common Read Book Discussion	Wednesday	Oct 18	7:00 pm
Committee on Ministries	Thursday	Oct 19	7:15 pm
Congregational Meeting	Sunday	Oct 22	12:15 pm
OUTreach Fundraiser Dinner	Monday	Oct 23	5:00 pm
Unigram Submission Deadline	Wednesday	Oct 25	9:00 am
Membership Committee	Thursday	Oct 26	7:00 pm
Kitchen Cleaning	Saturday	Oct 28	9:30 am
OUTreach Fall Dance	Saturday	Oct 28	7:00 pm
Day of the Dead Ceremony	Sunday	Oct 29	10:30 am
Bazaar Set Up Begins	Sunday	Oct 29	Noon

Service Journey Fundraising Brunch! October 1, 10:00 am

Don't miss this month's Brunch! Join us October 1, between the services, for a delicious brunch served by the high school youth.

Donate what you can to support their upcoming trip to the Arizona and Mexico border. If you are interested in donating food for the event, please sign up here: <https://goo.gl/aPU58w>. Hope to see you there!

Fall Retreat October 6 – 8

Check out the bulletin board in the lobby for all the details about the upcoming retreat at Pokagon State Park in northern Indiana. Everyone is welcome at this annual getaway! Enjoy fellowship, food & autumn in the woods! Sign up at church or contact **Jan Mundell** for more information 765-730-9554.

UU Book Group

The UU book group will be meeting at the home of Annemarie Voss on Thursday, October 12, at 7:00 p m, to discuss *Middlesex*, a novel by Jeffrey Eugenides.

UUCM Staff & Leadership

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd, Minister

seth@uuchurchmuncie.org

Rev. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer, Community Minister

julia@uuchurchmuncie.org

Joel Tishken, Intern Minister

joel@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

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

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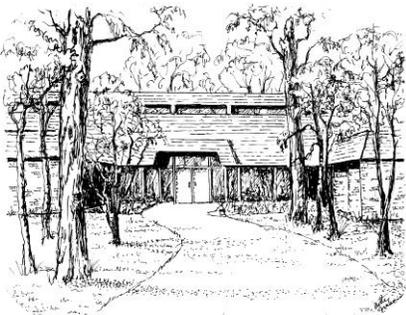
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