



the UNIGRAM

Appreciating Our UUCM Volunteers!

Rev. Joel Tishken, Acting Minister

“If you want to be important—wonderful. If you want to be recognized—wonderful. If you want to be great—wonderful. But recognize that he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. That's a new definition of greatness. By giving that definition of greatness, it means that everybody can be great because everybody can serve.... You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve. You don't have to know about Plato and Aristotle to serve....You only need a heart full of grace, a soul generated by love. And you can be that servant.” – Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

I truly appreciate this quote from Rev. King that defines greatness not as status or power, but as service. Those who serve this congregation with hearts of grace and souls of love--in offering their time and talents to all the things that make this congregation what it is--are indeed the greatest. Please take a look at the lists below of the people who volunteered their talents and time to all the things that make this congregation function and thrive. Some names you may already know, as some tasks carry more visibility than others. While their visibility may vary, their importance does not.

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What Is a Developmental Minister?

Eleanor Trawick, President

Now that we have a Developmental Minister hired for the coming years, some members of the congregation are asking, “What is a Developmental Minister anyway? And how is that different from a regular minister?”

For starters, a Developmental Minister (DM) is hired by the Board of Trustees instead of being “called” by a vote of the congregation. And unlike an interim minister, the DM is hired for more than a one-year contract: Rev. Joel will be signing a five-year contract, which is renewable.

Furthermore, some of the priorities for the DM are working on developmental goals that the

congregation has identified as necessary to strengthen and enhance the church and community. In 2021–2022, the Board of Trustees and the congregation together came up with five developmental goals that we wanted to work on with a DM. These goals are:

- 1: Establish a congregational culture rooted in trust and offering mutual respect and encouragement.
- 2: Implement improvements to our Governance and Leadership models, evaluating and optimizing our use of both professional staff and volunteer roles.
- 3: Create a coordinated social justice advocacy to both invigorate members and increase UUCM presence in the outside community.

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Sunday Mornings at Our Church in the Woods

Multi-Platform Worship 10:45 am Online Service: <https://bit.ly/UUCMSundayService>

This month's Dedicated Offering recipient is Recovery Café.

The offering will be collected May 7 & 14.

May 7 – “The Politics of Plastics & Environmental Racism” Rev. Joel Tishken

Waste and pollution—locally and globally—follow the paths of least resistance. This means that it is the poorest people in our communities and across the world that bear the brunt of them. Join us as we explore the politics of plastics and environmental racism.

**May 14 – Forbidden Sounds: Music of the Composers Who Perished in the Holocaust
Galit Gertsenzon and George Wolfe**

Pianist and BSU Jewish Studies Professor Galit Gertsenzon and George Wolfe present excerpts of the lives and music of composers who were persecuted and died in Nazi death camps.

May 21 – “Body Dysmorphia Awareness” Rev. Joel Tishken

Join us for a service that is one part body dysmorphia awareness and one part celebration of all bodies. The sermon will begin with an examination of the causes and forms of body dysmorphia. It will then proceed to a critical examination of the cultural messages at work on all of us that can undermine our body confidence.

May 28 – “Belonging as Imperative: The Bedrock of Human Being” Katie Williams

Religious Education for Children & Youth

RE Program – 10:45 am Sundays

All children begin in the Sanctuary with their grownups and church community. Families are invited to sit wherever they are comfortable, plus, we have an area designed for young families with pillows, books, and a variety of manipulatives up front by the glass doors, where little ones can see what's going on during the service.

Following the Story for All Ages and the Lighting of the Children’s Lantern portions of the service, the congregation sings the children out to their Religious Education class. A family's grownups are always welcome to attend class with their children!

A nursery for infants and toddlers up to 23 months is available starting at 10:30am.

For more information about our Religious Education Program, please contact our Acting Director of Religious Education, **Susanne Hinson-Rieger**, at susanne@uuchurchmuncie.org or 317-418-1679 (voice or text).

Adult Religious Exploration

Adult Discussion Group
Every Sunday, 9:15 am
Via Zoom

This group is a chance for people with various personal beliefs to get together and openly discuss a variety of topics. You’ll find weekly topics and a Zoom link in the eBlast each Friday.

Service Auction: May 4 – 6 on Auctria



The 2023 Service Auction will take place online from **9:00 am, Thursday, May 4 to 6:00 pm, Saturday, May 6**. We will be using Auctria to host our online auction. Join us after service on Sunday, May 7 for a celebration meal – some auction items will be available for pick up! The online listings are available now at charityauction.bid/UUCMauction.

Registration

If you created a bidder account in a previous year, your account is still available. **Try logging in ahead of time to make sure you remember the password!** If you are new this year, register for a bidder account online at: charityauction.bid/UUCMauction. You will not be able to bid without an account. *(If you do not have computer access or are unable to place online bids, contact Denise Ewing and we can help you make bids via proxy.)*

Catalog & Bidding

You can both look at the catalog and make your bids at charityauction.bid/UUCMauction!

Bidding works a lot like eBay. If you are interested in an item, you place a bid through your account. To make it super easy, you can set a maximum price you're willing to pay and it will automatically increase your bids for you! Otherwise, you will receive an email when you are outbid.

The *Buy It Now* feature will be active! If you love an offering and don't want to compete in the bidding process, just "Buy It Now" and it is yours! We have had a lot of hot items that were gone in mere minutes! So don't miss out - *Buy It Now!*

Check Out

When the auction is over, you will receive an email with the total amount that you owe and the items that you won. If you entered your credit card during the registration process, it will be super easy to check out. You will also be able to pay via PayPal or check.

Sunday, May 7—A Celebration Meal!

Join us for a meal after service on Sunday, May 7. A benefit of coming to church is that several items will be available for pick-up. How convenient! If your item is listed as being available on Sunday, May 7 but is not picked up - you will need to get to the church ASAP to collect it. Please coordinate with the church office if you plan to visit during the week.

** If you need technical assistance during the auction, please reach out to **Denise Ewing** via email or by phone: 317-650-0831, uucmfundraising@gmail.com.

Appreciating Our UUCM Volunteers!

Rev. Joel Tishken (continued from page 1)

Take a moment to thank our folks for the time and talent of their service as you encounter them. UUCM is the special place it is because we all co-create it and make it so. Thank you everyone for being servants. Thank you for being great.

~*Rev. Joel*

Board of Trustees

Eleanor Trawick, president; Steve Chalk, vice president; Lisa Cox, Treasurer; Benjamin Strack, past president; Kirk Robey, president-elect; Maggie Bartlett, secretary; Rev. Joel Tishken, ex-officio

Pastoral Care

We currently have four active Pastoral Associates to recognize: Mary Johnson, Jerry McKean, Caroline Sullivan and Leslie Duvall. There are also two people who rotated out of the group in the past year, Carolyn Cooley and Ron Burton. The pastoral care that Rev. Joel and I, along with our Pastoral Associates, provide does not take place in a vacuum, and I want to recognize these people and groups as well: Julie Fritz, who chairs our Caring Committee, helps keep me informed about people who may also need pastoral care. Our Connection Groups provide significant support for their members. And our choir also functions as a supportive group for many of its members.

Fellowship

Susan Calvin, Lisa Dwenger, Sue Errington, Jean Filson, Beth Gonser, Susan Magrath, Kirk Robey

Finance

Lisa Cox, Sam Harris, Jennifer Hollems, Mary Johnson, Lynn Sousa

Fundraising

Denise Ewing, Linda McKean, Jennifer Parks-Strack

Membership

Ben Ewing, Tim Hollems (co-chair), Tania Said (co-chair), Cindy Norrick Turner, Andrea Wolfe

Property Maintenance

Susan Bossung, Eli Butterbaugh Bruce Craig (chair), Judy Craig, Linda Morton, Cindy Peters, John Taylor, (co-chair)

- **Boiler Task Force:** Bruce Craig (chair), Brandon Mundell, John Taylor

Religious Education

Maggie Bartlett, Aryn & Zach Enos, Denise & Ben Ewing, Elsbeth Fritz, Holly Hanauer, Amy Shaw, Susan Taylor

Social Justice

Lynn Hale, Jerry McKean, Wayne Meyer, Andy Seager, Katie Williams

- **Feeding Our Hungry Neighbors (FOHN)**

These people delivered our food pantry donations to Christian Ministries: Doug & Shonet Martin, Kirk & Mary Johnson Robey, Eleanor Trawick, Flo Lapin, Susan Taylor, Susan Magrath, Carolyn Harris, Annemarie Voss, and Andrea Wolfe and her son, Wes (who delivered nine weeks, and counting!)
Family support shoppers: Judy Craig, Bea Sousa, Susan Taylor
And thanks to friends and members who continue to bring non-perishable food each week.

Stewardship

Holly Hanauer, Sue Errington, Jennifer Parks-Strack

Worship Associates

Tim Allison, Bill Frederick, Diane Hill (chair), Christine Lussier, Karen Moorman, Brandon Mundell, Brian Reed, Mary Johnson Robey

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Appreciating Our UUCM Volunteers!

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Kitchen

Susan Bossung, Elsbeth Fritz, Lynn Hale, Carolyn Harris, Jane Meyer, Jan Moore, and Jean Rutherford

Coffee Teams

Susan Bossung*, Judy Craig, Beth Gonser, Katie Frederick, Lynn Hale, Holly Hanauer, Linda Hanson, Christine Lussier*, Susan Magrath, Cindi Marini*, Jerry McKean*, Linda Norris Morton, Cindy Peters, Julie Rosser, Bea Sousa*, Lynn Sousa, Caroline Sullivan, Mike Sullivan, Susan Taylor, Eleanor Trawick. (* Denotes team leader; Bea Sousa chairs the entire effort.)

Offering Counters

Maggie & John Bartlett, Judy Craig, Lynn Hale (organizer), Robert Guillaud, Mary Johnson, Cindi Marini, Cindy Peters, Paul Stout

Sights & Sounds

Matt Cechini, Ric Dwenger, Ben Ewing, Brian Reed

Zoom Techs

Jay Moorman, Brian Reed, Janay Sander, Andy Seager, Eleanor Trawick

Service Auction

Denise Ewing, Jean Filson, Shonet Martin, Susan Taylor

Bazaar in the Woods

Katie Frederick & Linda McKean (co-chairs), Kate Murray (publicity)

Beth Gonser, Crafts; Mary Johnson Robey & Caroline Sullivan, Collectibles; Susan Bossung, Food; Kirk Robey, Chalice Booth; Nan Barber, Elsbeth Fritz, Beth Gonser, Holly Hanauer, Linda Hanson, Cheryl LeBlanc, Cindi Marini, Quilt; Denise Ewing, This & That; Bruce Craig, Silent Auction; Robert Guillaud & Sam Harris, Tools; Adrienne Gruver, Kid's Corner; Holly Hanauer, Jewelry; Judy Craig & Cheryl LeBlanc, Plants; Karen Moorman, Books; Cindy Turner, Artisan Booths; Ric Dwenger, Sound & Stage; Ben

Ewing & John Taylor, Setup/Cleanup; Elsbeth Fritz, Childcare; Lisa Cox, Finance; Judy Craig & Jane Meyer, Rummage Sale.

Every booth had 2-4 additional people helping out. And thank you to everyone who donated, shopped, and spread the word!

Developmental Minister Search

Steve Chalk, Denise Ewing, Holly Hanauer

DLRE Search

Rev. Joel Tishken, Jay Moorman, Susan Taylor

We tried to be sure to list everyone who has volunteered at UUCM over the last year, but it's inevitable that we've omitted some names. Please know that we appreciate EVERYONE'S contributions! We ❤️ UUCM!



Congregational Meeting – Sunday, May 21, 12:30 pm

UUCM's annual business congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, May 21, 2023, at 12:30pm. This will be an in-person meeting held in the church sanctuary with the option to attend via Zoom.

To be eligible to vote, please ensure that you are a member in good standing according to the following passage from our bylaws: *Our By-laws define voting membership as follows: Article III, Section 2. Persons who have been admitted to membership for at least thirty (30) days, who make a financial pledge to the church and make a good-faith effort to pay it, who donate their time and services, and who attend church services and activities are deemed to be voting members with all rights and privileges. Members who by reason of health have not been able to participate in church affairs and members who by reason of financial hardship have not been able to make a monetary contribution, are nonetheless viewed by the church as being members.*

Please note that a contribution of record for the 365 days preceding this meeting must be received by the church office by 4:00 pm, Monday, May 15, to fulfill the financial contribution requirement.

The agenda is as follows:

1. Call to order
2. Approval of the agenda and minutes from the October 2022 Congregational meeting
3. Presentation of the finances in 2022–23 and the proposed budget for 2023–24
4. Vote on acceptance of the 2023–24 budget
5. Update on replacement of the church's HVAC system
6. Nominations for officers of the Board in 2023–24
7. Election of officers of the Board in 2023–24
8. Adjournment

We look forward to seeing you there!

What is a Developmental Minister?

Eleanor Trawick (continued from page 1)

4: Develop deeper comprehension as individuals and as a congregation of religious histories and diversities in what we bring into our UU covenants.

5: Strengthen the physical plant of the church by creating plans to care for what we have and expand in ways that align with our UU values.

See my discussion of these goals in the August 2022 *Unigram* [here](#).

The congregation will need to work with Rev. Joel to decide which of these goals are still relevant for us—it is, after all, two years since we came up with them, and things have perhaps changed.

Furthermore, we need to work with Joel to decide what these goals really mean. #3 and #5 are pretty straightforward, but the others require some interpretation as to what the goal really is.

The developmental goals are only *some* of the priorities for the DM. In other ways, Rev. Joel is just like a settled minister. Along with the worship associates, he will lead worship on Sundays, giving a sermon or a homily three Sundays a month. With Rev. Julia and the pastoral associates he will provide pastoral care to the congregation. He will conduct weddings and memorial services. He will act as the leader for the other staff. He will work with the Board and with various committees to make sure that the church is running smoothly and that various tasks are done.

The next five years should be an exciting time of change and renewal for UUCM. We will have an excellent minister to travel with us into a future of new possibilities.

Eleanor

Sharing Gratitude



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

There are so many people I want to thank for making my ordination service a deeply meaningful and celebratory day! First of all, of course, this congregation for making it all possible by choosing to ordain me. And Rev. Joel for initiating it and supporting my work from the beginning. Pulling the service itself together truly took a village. Diane Hill as Worship Associate. Jim Helton, our amazing choir, and Jon Treadway for the music. Our RE children for the gift of a chalice they had made. Eleanor Trawick on Zoom and Ben Ewing on Sights and Sounds, along with Cindy Turner as our greeter for the morning. Eleanor also helped lead the ritual. Christie Williams put the Order of Service together with skill and grace, and was responsible for the lovely yellow roses. Mary and Kirk Robey and the Fellowship Committee provided a delicious luncheon afterward. Bruce Craig and Property Maintenance for the ordination gift of a dedicated parking space. Thank you all!

~Rev. Julia



May 2023 UUCM Calendar

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

Regular Weekly Events

Check the eBlast for in-person locations or links to these Zoom meetings

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------------|
| Adult Discussion Group via Zoom | Sundays | 9:15 am |
| Multi-Platform Worship Service | Sundays | 10:45 am |
| RE Classes | Sundays | 10:45 am |
| Coffee Hour | Sundays | After service |

May Meetings & Events

Check with committee chairs or church office for in-person locations or Zoom links

| | | | |
|---|-----------|--------|----------|
| Board of Trustees | Tuesday | May 2 | 7:00 pm |
| Worship Associates | Wednesday | May 3 | 7:30 pm |
| Service Auction Online 9am, Thursday, May 4 – 6pm, Saturday, May 6 | | | |
| Kitchen Cleaning | Saturday | May 6 | 10:15 am |
| Auction Celebration Lunch | Sunday | May 7 | 12:00 pm |
| Pastoral Associates | Sunday | May 7 | 12:00 pm |
| UU Book Club | Thursday | May 11 | 7:00 pm |
| Paul Stout Celebration of Life | Saturday | May 13 | 2:00 pm |
| Committee on Ministries | Thursday | May 18 | 7:00 pm |
| Congregational Meeting | Sunday | May 21 | 12:30 pm |
| Unigram submissions due | Wednesday | May 24 | 9:00 am |



UUCM Office Schedule

Monday

1:00 – 4:00 pm

Tuesday- Friday

9:00 am – 4:00 pm

The office will be closed for the Memorial Day holiday on Friday, May 26 & Monday, May 29.

Items for the eBlast are due by 9:00 am each Thursday. Please use the [Publicity Form](#) to submit your announcements.

Articles for the next *Unigram* are due Wednesday, May 24. Please send as attached Word docs to uucm@uuchurchmuncie.org

UUCM Book Club

The UUCM Book Club meets at the church on the second Thursday of the month at 7:00pm. It is informal and anyone is always welcome! If you have any questions, reach out to Jennifer Parks-Strack at Jennifer.e.parks@gmail.com. We will be reading the following books for the remainder of the year.

- May: *Crazy is Relative* by Melissa Keller
- June: *Black Cake* by Charmaine Wilkerson
- July: *Starry Messenger* by Neil DeGrasse Tyson
- August: *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead
- September: *The Many Daughters of Afong Moy* by Jamie Ford
- October: *Dinners with Ruth* by Nina Totenberg
- November: *Squeeze Me* by Carl Hiaasen

UUCM Staff & Leadership

Staff

Rev. Dr. Joel Tishken, Acting Minister
joel@uuchurchmuncie.org

Rev. Dr. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer, Chaplain
julia@uuchurchmuncie.org

Susanne Hinson-Rieger, Acting Dir. of Religious Education
susanne@uuchurchmuncie.org

Christie Williams, Office Administrator
christie@uuchurchmuncie.org

Dr. James Helton, Director of Music
jim@uuchurchmuncie.org

Board of Trustees

Eleanor Trawick
President

Kirk Robey
President Elect

Steve Chalk
Vice President

Maggie Bartlett
Secretary

Lisa Cox
Treasurer

Benjamin Strack
Past President

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

Unitarian Universalist Church of Muncie

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