

Opportunities for Involvement at The Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington

We want to know what part you want to play in our church community. Complete our on-line connections form at <http://bit.ly/UUconnect> to get started. **= active during Covid

Social

****Book Group**

Meets one Sunday a month at 3 pm to discuss selected fiction and non-fiction books.

****Chalice Circles**

Small group, deep listening circles with trained facilitators. A great way to get to know others at a deeper level. August through May.

****Choir**

Do you enjoy singing? Our choir practices every Thursday evening at 7 pm. August through May. Join Us!

Families with Young Children

UU Families with children 12 and under gather for support, friendship, and social justice activities.

Fellowship Dinners

Monthly potluck dinners of 5-10 adults, held in participants' homes. Main entrée prepared by the host. Each participant hosts one meal. Each meal has a different mix of guests. October through April.

****Gardeners – Currently meeting in Virtual Coffee Hour!**

Gardeners of all kinds and abilities gather on the fourth Sunday each month at 10:30 AM to share ideas and experiences. They also do garden walks together and visit each others' gardens.

****Hikers**

Hike once a month, all year long. Varying levels of difficulty and length.

Life Stories Writing Group

Join us to write and share the stories of your life.

****Men's Group**

Meets monthly for discussion and support.

****Poetry Reading Group**

Meets the first Monday of each month to read poetry written by others.

****Singles – currently doing online events!**

A community of single adults who gather for events, lunch, and game nights. Meets every Sunday after second service to go to lunch together, and holds a game night on the first Friday of each month.

****Wednesday Walkers**

Meets Wednesday mornings at a variety of locations. Walkers walk at their own pace.

****Women's Alliance**

Encourages companionship, conversation, church and community outreach. Brown bag lunches are held the first Thursday of the month at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome—men, women, and gender non-binary.

****Young Adult and Campus Ministry**

Companionship, religious exploration, social justice activities, and fun for young adults ages 18-35.

Spirituality

Earth Kin

Earth Kin gathers to discuss and practice pagan and Earth-centered spirituality. This includes observing the four Greater Sabbats: Imbolc, Beltane, Lughnasadh, and Samhain.

****Shambhala Meditation**

Shambhala is rooted in the principle that every human being has a fundamental nature of basic goodness. These meditation sessions meet at noon every Monday and include instruction.

****UU Jewish Connections**

This is a supportive group for those who feel an affinity to Jewish traditions, rituals, and beliefs. They gather to support each other, and to celebrate.

Wellspring

Wellspring is a nine-month program for increasing spirituality, which starts in September. In this program, small groups use deep listening as outlined by Parker Palmer in his book "A Hidden Wholeness." Additionally, participants commit to a daily spiritual practice, meet at least once a month with a spiritual director, and complete readings and other assignments towards increased spirituality. 90% attendance in the small group sessions is required.

Zen Meditation

Everyone is welcome at Open Mind Zen. Zen practitioners come from many faiths, or from no faith at all. Zen meditation and discussion on Zen Buddhism is held Mondays at 7:00 pm.

****Social Justice Task Forces**

End of Life Task Force

We work to provide education, comfort, and support regarding end of life issues and at the end of life.

Green Sanctuary Task Force (Climate Justice)

We help create sustainable lifestyles and reduce our carbon footprints in our congregation and our community.

Habitat for Humanity Task Force

We work to provide decent, affordable housing for all by partnering with Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County and other community agencies.

Help Feed Our Hungry Neighbors Task Force

We organize food drives, collect holiday food baskets, and host a fiber arts fundraiser to benefit Monroe County United Ministries. We also run a food pantry once a month.

Homelessness Task Force

We work with agencies in Monroe County to provide services and support for those experiencing homelessness.

Hope for Prisoners Task Force

We recognize the humanity of those in prison and provide support to them and their families, and work to reduce recidivism. One part of this task force is the Kids with Absent Parents program.

International Outreach Task Force

We work to help those most in need through a women's business cooperative and orphanages for children whose parents died of AIDS in Kenya.

Just Peace Task Force

We demand just peace at local, national, and global levels.

Racial Justice Task Force

We take action in hopes of creating a racially just world.

Refugee and Immigration Support and Education Task Force (RISE) We partner with community immigration and refugee groups, and provide education on immigration and refugee topics.

Rainbow Rights Task Force

We work in the Bloomington community to advocate for LGBTQ rights and concerns.

Reproductive Justice Task Force

We connect with community partners to ensure reproductive justice for all women and men.

Support

Parent Talk for Parents of Adult Children

Parent talk supports parents of adult children through the joys and trials of this stage of parenting

****Pastoral Care**

Pastoral care is available from our ministers when you experience difficult times in life. Make an appointment by contacting a minister directly, or call the church office if you are in crisis.

****Caring Committee**

Our Caring Committee provides occasional rides to medical appointments, meals during severe illness or recovery, and visitors to those who have difficulty attending services.

Service

****Annual Goods and Services Auction -online this year!**

Volunteer to help with the auctioning of donated art, meals, lessons, and more at our lively spring fundraiser.

Flame Keepers

Set up the joys and sorrows candles and provide basic assistance to the minister on Sunday mornings.

Greeters

Distribute the order of service, assist with doors, and collect and count the offering on Sunday mornings.

****Grounds**

Maintain our church gardens (bushes, flowers, trees, and vegetables). No experience necessary.

****Holiday Art Fair and Bazaar**

Volunteer to help in the kitchen, bake, staff booths, set up, or tear down for this festive holiday fundraiser.

Java Crew

Ensures coffee and tea are available during coffee hour on Sunday mornings (10:30-11:15) and cleans up afterwards.

Ramadan Iftar Dinner

Show the local Islamic community your support by helping to host the Ramadan Iftar Dinner.

Welcomers

Welcomers stand at the Welcome Table on Sunday mornings. They welcome people new to the church, hand out brochures, and encourage newcomers to fill out a guest card.

If you need more information about any of these opportunities, or if you are ready to get involved, contact the Connections Coordinator at connect@uubloomington.org or (812) 332-3695, or complete the on-line connections form to get started: <http://bit.ly/UUconnect> .

****Religious Education**

We offer religious education opportunities for all ages, preschool through adult. In depth information about this programming can be found on our website:

www.uubloomington.org

If you are interested in volunteering with our children's religious education programming contact our Director of Religious Education at dre@uubloomington.org . If you would like to teach or facilitate a class for adults, contact our Minister of Religious Education at mre@uubloomington.org .

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