

Grow Your Soul & Serve the World

classes | forums | groups | service

2016-17 Winter Brochure



- page **2** Classes & Groups
- page **4** Wednesday Forums
- page **5** Ongoing Small Groups
- page **6** Service Opportunities
- page **8** 2016-17 Monthly Themes

Classes & Groups

Theme Circles | Monthly – *see times below*

A monthly small group focusing on the monthly theological theme with guided questions and short readings. Led by a trained facilitator, these circles engage the deep questions of spirituality, with time for reflection, silence, and sharing. New participants are welcome to join throughout the year.

3rd Sundays 12:30-2:30

3rd Tuesdays 1:00-3:00

3rd Mondays 10:00-12:00

3rd Wednesdays 6:30-8:30

Contact: Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer (revluke@wbuuc.org or 651-426-2369x103)

Living with Grief | Sundays, Oct. 23 – Dec. 11 – 1:00-2:30pm

A group that will explore and support the personal and often bewildering process of grief. The focus will be readings, poetry, and sharing personal experience.

Contact: Victoria Safford (vsafford@wbuuc.org)

The Sharps War | Wednesdays, January 18 and February 1 | 6:30-7:30pm

We will watch *Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War*, followed by discussion. This PBS documentary by Ken Burns tells the story of Waitstill & Martha Sharp, a Unitarian minister and his wife from Wellesley, Massachusetts, who left their children behind in the care of their parish and boldly committed to multiple life-threatening missions in Europe. Over two dangerous years they helped to save hundreds of imperiled political dissidents and Jewish refugees fleeing the Nazi occupation across Europe.

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New Member Classes | 2nd Sundays – 12:30-2:30pm

A two-session class, *Session I* explores our church's history and mission and Unitarian Universalism, and *Session II* focuses on the meaning of membership and getting engaged in the church, with a book signing ritual. After participating in *Session I*, you can take *Session II* at anytime.

December 11 – Session I

February 12 – Session I

January 8 – Session II

March 12 – Session II

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Sign up for classes & groups: wbuuc.org/classes or at the "Grow Your Soul" table

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Childcare and programming available every Wednesday night, and Sunday afternoons upon request.

For assistance, call the church office at 651-426-2369

Circle Suppers | Friday, December 9th OR Saturday, December 10th

Hosted in a church members' home, these casual gatherings are a time for conversation, a shared meal, and connecting with others in the church. Indicate if you are interested in hosting or attending, where you live, and you will be contacted with more details. Sign up in the Social Hall or online.

Contact: circlesuppers@wbuuc.org

SoulWork for Racial Justice & Common Read

4th Sundays 12:30 – 2:30 | 2nd Wednesdays 6:30-7:30pm*

A churchwide conversation on racial justice, with excerpts from select books to guide our monthly discussions. Drop-ins welcome, no pre-reading required.

Common Read books

Available for purchase or order through the bookstall in the Social Hall

WINTER: The Fire This Time – A New Generation Speaks About Race by Jesmyn Ward

Contact: Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer (revluke@wbuuc.org or 651-426-2369x103)

*Exception: the SoulWork forum in January will be held on January 4th (the 1st Wednesday).

Young Adult “After Hours” | 4th Wednesdays – 8:00-9:30pm *offsite*

A monthly circle of young adults for check-in and conversation around the monthly theme. We meet at a local pub – on facebook “WBUUC After Hours”.

Contact: Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer (revluke@wbuuc.org)

Parents of Young Children | 2nd Wednesdays – 5:30 Dinner, 6:15-7:30 Circle

A circle of parents of young children to explore spirituality and parenting.

Contact: Amy Peterson Derrick (dre@wbuuc.org)

Parents of Youth | 2nd Wednesdays – 5:30 Dinner, 6:00-7:30 Circle

A circle of parents of youth to explore spirituality and parenting.

Contact: Jill Schwendeman (youth@wbuuc.org)

Third Thursdays for 60+ | 3RD Thursdays – 11:00am – 1:00pm

A group for those 60+, including lunch, discussion and occasional speakers.

Contact: Rev. Victoria Safford (vsafford@wbuuc.org)

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Wednesday Night Forums

5:30 Dinner | 6:30-7:30 Forum | Childcare provided

December 7 | Hard Holiday Conversations

Reflection and resources to engage hard conversations during the holiday season.

December 14 | SoulWork for Racial Justice (see page 2)

December 21 | Winter Solstice

Our annual celebration with music, poems, and a luminous outdoor path and fire.

December 28 | *Holiday Break – no programs*

January 4 | SoulWork for Racial Justice (see page 3)

January 11 | GUEST – Advocates for Human Rights – Immigration Forum

A presentation from guest Michele McKenzie, from *Advocates for Human Rights*, speaking about immigration and justice.

January 18 | The Sharps War – Session I (see page 2)

January 25 | Global Climate Forum – Sustainability

A presentation from member Kimberly Byrd, a professor at the University of Minnesota, on Environmental Sustainability.

February 1 | The Sharps War – Session 2 (see page 2)

February 8 | SoulWork for Racial Justice (see page 2)

February 15 | Rural Health Care Initiative

A presentation by member Carol Nelson about the Rural Health Care Initiative, providing health care in rural Sierra Leone.

February 22 | Global Climate Forum

A Citizens' Climate Lobby panel will discuss carbon fee and dividend, a market-based strategy to reduce greenhouse gasses.

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Ongoing Small Groups

Womenspirit Circle | 2nd Tuesdays - 7:00-9:00pm

A group supporting women in exploring their spiritual origins, experiences and beliefs in community. Meetings open to all women of WBUUC.

Contacts: Carol Marsyla, carol.marsyla@gmail.com, (651) 253-4200

Women's Book Group | 2nd Mondays - 7:00-9:00pm

A group reading a variety of books written by women, chosen by the group, focusing on books which are affordable or at a library.

Contact: Dana Jackson (danaleep@q.com)

Men's Group | 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 12:30 | 2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 7:00

A group to make connections, deepen friendships and build community, through sharing, learning and support. **Contact:** Steve Kahn (stevekahn@comcast.net)

Unitarian Universalist Voices | 4th Wednesdays - 7:30-9:00pm

An open group to discuss various voices from our Unitarian Universalist heritage, with readings regularly provided.

Contact: Anita Braunstein (anitabraunstein@gmail.com)

Second Monday Discussion Group | 2nd Mondays - 12:00-2:00pm

An open book group reading various books throughout the year. Readings regularly provided. **Contact:** Anita Braunstein (anitabraunstein@gmail.com)

Shamanic Drumming | 3rd Tuesdays - 7:00pm

A group participating in the ancient practice of shamanic drumming for meditation and spiritual exploration. **Contact:** Nancy Hauer (nancy@rookhouse.org)

Sunday Sitting Meditation | Every Sunday – 10:15am

A small meditation group, open to everyone, between services in the Quiet Room in the back of the Sanctuary. *Drop in anytime.*

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Opportunities for Service

Wednesday Night Dinner Cook & Clean Team | Once a month

A monthly team hosting the Wednesday evening dinner. This may include set-up, food preparation, serving, and cleaning – there are many roles and ways to help! Dinners are Wednesday evenings mid-September through early June.

Contact: Roger Upham (rupham@comcast.net)

Sunday Morning Welcome Team | Once a month

A team of welcomers to help with many roles: hand out orders of service, usher in the sanctuary, help direct newcomers around the building, and welcome visitors at the *welcome center*.

Contact: Nan Cowin & Cindy Hanson (portlandwoods@comcast.net)

Front Office Volunteers | Weekdays

Support the church by offering hospitality in the office, including answering phones and assisting various program projects, with direction from staff.

Contact: wbuucvolunteer@wbuuc.org or 651-426-2369

Sunday Coffee Helpers | Sundays

As we are in process of hiring a new assistant custodian, help out with Sunday morning coffee by preparing coffee and cleaning pots and mugs. Instructions are provided, and this is a temporary fill-in position.

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Potluck & Reception Assistants

Help with set-up and clean-up for various church potlucks (often following a special service such as the Blessing of the Animals, Winter Solstice, etc.). Signing up will place you on a “on-call” list to help as you are able for special events.

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Providing Meals for People, Inc. | Monthly, ongoing

A group meeting on 2nd Mondays at 10:00am to prepare and then serve a hot meal to a program through People, Inc. called “Project Homeless” serving people experiencing homelessness, many of whom have mental illness.

Contact: Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer (revluke@wbuuc.org or 651-426-2369)

Shuttle Drivers | Various Dates

Help provide a shuttle from the Education Building (corner of Maple and 244) to the church on Sundays First service shuttle driving runs 8:10 - 9:00 and then continues from 10:15 - 10:45. Second service driving runs 10:30 - 11:00 and then continues from 12:15 - 12:45.

Contact: John Bauh (bauh0002@umn.edu)

Cookie Bakers & Dough Makers | 1st Saturdays, 9:00am-12noon

Join a crew of bakers to make cookies for social hour after services. Bring dough that we can bake and join in the fun! Children over 8 and youth are always welcome. If you cannot come on Saturday morning, we welcome cookie dough to be dropped off Wednesday, Thursday or Saturday morning.

Contact: Roger Upham (rupham@comcast.net, 651 646-1794)

Preparing Lunch for 3rd Thursday 60+ Group | Monthly, ongoing

Help provide lunch for the Third Thursday 60+ group that meets monthly. This includes preparing a meal and setting tables for approximately 25-40 people. Funds are provided by the church for food costs.

Contact: Rev. Victoria Safford (vsafford@wbuuc.org or 651-426-2369)

Religious Education Volunteer

Join this year's team of volunteers as we work to help our budding UUs on their amazing spiritual journey. Learn and grow alongside our children as you serve; training is provided for lead teachers and assistants. Signed Ethics and Screening Forms required, and active involvement at WBUUC for at least 6 months.

Contact: Amy Peterson Derrick (dre@wbuuc.org or 651-426-2369)

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2016-2017 Monthly Themes

Find monthly theme packets including readings and poetry at wbuuc.org/themes or at the Welcome Center in the Atrium. Sign up for a Theme Circle at wbuuc.org/classes.

The intention of the themed year is to help Unitarian Universalists build a robust spiritual and ethical vocabulary. The themes are not “topics,” but instead points of departure for religious liberals seeking to think, speak and act theologically, prophetically and prayerfully. The themes reclaim religious language, casting old terms in a new key to deepen spiritual grounding and sharpen moral reasoning. Each theme includes a practice which helps to provide a point of reflection and embodiment of the theme.

We engage these themes in Sunday worship, small groups and classes, religious education, committees and leadership, and personal spiritual practice.

September	HOPE	<i>The Practice of beginning history</i>
October	COVENANT	<i>The Practice of traveling together</i>
November	WORTH-SHIP	<i>The Practice of holding what matters</i>
December	PEACE	<i>The Practice of spreading light</i>
January	SALVATION	<i>The Practice of healing</i>
February	PRAYER	<i>The Practice of staying awake</i>
March	SIMPLICITY	<i>The Practice of living by heart</i>
April	IMMANENCE	<i>The Practice of blessing the world</i>
May	SUBMISSION	<i>The Practice of claiming power</i>
Summer	SPIRIT	<i>The Practice of inhaling and exhaling</i>