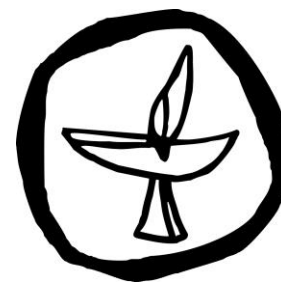


MAKING CONNECTIONS



OLYMPIA UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

We are a liberal religious community that opens minds, fills hearts, and transforms lives.

- *Mission Statement*

DISCOVER A GROUP OR ACTIVITY THAT WOULD:
OPEN YOUR MIND,
FILL YOUR HEART,
TRANSFORM LIVES...



WELCOME

Visitors and newcomers often talk about how much meaning they draw from their experience of Sunday worship, our congregation's social justice work and the religious education activities for children and youth.

Long time members draw meaning from worship and social justice actions and delight in the many learning opportunities for all ages, and the chance to build relationships. One of the strengths of our congregation is the breadth and quality of opportunities for growth and meaning created and supported by our members. We are a vital religious community.

How can I make connections in this active community? How can I find what I need most at this point in my life?

This directory can help. Find opportunities to grow and connect created by our members, with a short description and the name of someone you can contact to learn more. How to find out more? Check the weekly Wednesday email for upcoming events and talk with people following each Sunday service over a cup of coffee.

What I know is that the value you find here at OUUC will be deepened as you make connections and build relationships.

- [Lori Doron](#), Connections Coordinator,
communitylife@ouuc.org

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE OPPORTUNITIES

CAREGIVERS

We welcome OUUC people who see themselves as caregivers, usually for a family member. We meet monthly. Contact [Rev. Carol McKinley, Affiliated Minister](mailto:faithinactionministry@ouuc.org) faithinactionministry@ouuc.org

OUUC CHOIR

The OUUC Choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9pm. The choir participates every other week in the Sunday morning worship services. In addition, the choir presents two major concerts each year, and participates in other civic and religious celebrations in the greater community as opportunities arise. There is no need to audition in order to participate in the choir. If you are interested participating in the choir please contact [Troy Fisher, Music Director](mailto:musicdirector@ouuc.org) musicdirector@ouuc.org

COVENANT CIRCLES

Each month Covenant Circles meet to engage in the spiritual practice of reflection and discussion, with questions that explore the Soul Matters theme of the month. Members who sign up are making a commitment to their group, which means making every effort possible to have good attendance and participation and to be in covenant with one another. The Circle meets in private homes (address will be messaged to participants). [Contact Sara Lewis, Director of Lifespan Religious Education](mailto:dre@ouuc.org) dre@ouuc.org

SATURDAY MORNING VOICE CLASS

The Saturday Morning Voice Class meets each Saturday morning from 10am to 11:30am in the church Sanctuary. It is an opportunity to work on developing and improving singing techniques. It is an opportunity to participate in some great community singing from a wide variety of musical styles. It is a great opportunity to improve your overall emotional and physical well-being. There is no audition required. If you want to do some singing please just show up. You do not need to make a commitment to participating every week. Once a month we sing at a local retirement community. If you are interested please [Contact Troy Fisher, Music Director](mailto:musicdirector@ouuc.org) musicdirector@ouuc.org

SOUL MATTERS DISCUSSION CIRCLE

Everyone welcome – Soul Matters Discussion Circle meets each second Sunday, following the 11 am service for lunch and discussion. We meet to discuss and reflect upon each month's Soul Matters theme. People are welcome to attend as many of the monthly Circle discussions as they like. Soul Matters packets containing reflections, questions, spiritual exercises, and links to additional resources are available each month in the Commons. [Contact Sara Lewis, Director of Lifespan Religious Education](mailto:dre@ouuc.org) dre@ouuc.org

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Adult Education Program offers a wide range of classes to help members and others in their spiritual development and in a broad variety of life skills, as well as classes to broaden knowledge in specific areas, or just for fun. The Committee reviews ideas for classes, finds and assists instructors, and publishes seasonal catalogs of class offerings. Class examples include: furthering knowledge of UU history and teachings and of other world religions, meditation and mindfulness, end-of-life issues, current social justice and environmental advocacy, outdoor nature and gardening, how we fit into the larger universe, music, travel for personal growth, and disaster preparedness. [Contact Gary Worthington](mailto:gsworthington@comcast.net) gsworthington@comcast.net

LEARNING RIGHT RELATIONS

Join the continuing search for appropriate expressions of right relationships with the original people of the Salish Sea. During three 3-hour monthly gatherings the class will meet with members of the Nisqually, Puyallup and Squaxin Island Tribes to come to know the path of right relations and to nurture the growing interest of non-tribal people in becoming involved with the Tribes in useful ways. Contact [Douglas Mackey](mailto:dougwmackey@yahoo.com) dougwmackey@yahoo.com or [Karen Jackson](mailto:karensandw@gmail.com) karensandw@gmail.com

MEANINGFUL MOVIES OLYMPIA

Meaningful Movies Olympia exists to educate, empower, and activate audience members through powerful social justice films and post-film dialog with knowledgeable facilitators. We screen free documentary films focusing on local and regional issues once a month at 6:30 on the 3rd Thursday. We are a non-partisan, non-profit, non-sectarian and all volunteer organization. See our full mission at: meaningfulmovies.org. [Contact Linden Bentley](mailto:benticott@yahoo.com) benticott@yahoo.com

CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES.

[Contact Sara Lewis, Director of Lifespan Religious Education](mailto:dre@ouuc.org) dre@ouuc.org

- **NURSERY**

Available for children under 4 years old during the 9:15 am and 11 am Sunday Services. The nursery is open before Services begin and is staffed by trained youth from our congregation.

- **SPIRIT PLAY –**

A Montessori-style program which features stories and independent worktime for children to choose their own activities during class. 9:15 Service: this program is offered for a smaller mixed age class of preschool-5th grade.

11am Service: preschoolers-kindergarten.

- **LABYRINTH LEARNING – K-5TH GRADE**

A mixed age class utilizes learning stations, students choose their activities following a brief whole group story or lesson. Offered during the 11 am Service.

- **MIDDLE SCHOOL GROUP**

During the 11 am Service. They are exploring Neighboring Faiths this year.

- **HIGH SCHOOL GROUP**

Following the 11 am Service the Second and Fourth Sunday's each month.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

ADOPT A PLOT

Adopt-a-Plot is a program that allows church members to share in the grounds maintenance of the church as they are able. The church landscape has been sectioned off into various sized plots which are assigned to church members primarily for the purpose of weed control.

[Contact Rob Radford](mailto:frankyrad@yahoo.com) frankyrad@yahoo.com

ANNUAL AUCTION

Each year our members and friends auction off over 100 events, services, and special items to our community. Become one of the over 50 people whose work builds community through creating this event and through the many dinners and events that unfold as a result. This event raises funds for our congregation's annual budget. [Contact Melanie Ransom](mailto:melransom@comcast.net) melransom@comcast.net

AUDIO VISUAL TEAM

Provides lighting, sound, video and presentation projections for services and events held in the sanctuary. Team members operate the sound board and other equipment, manage microphones and hearing assistance devices. Equipment includes a computer for showing slide shows and streamed video. We are always looking for new team members with experience or interest in audio visual support for the congregation. [Contact Riley McLaughlin](mailto:riley@villagemediaworks.com) riley@villagemediaworks.com

BOOKS, BROWNIES AND BEANS

An annual used book sale held in February for the larger community. We sell books, brownies, and coffee to raise funds for area groups working to serve the homeless. Over 100 volunteers work together to make this event possible. [Contact Kent Canny](mailto:kent.canny@gmail.com) kent.canny@gmail.com

CARING FRIENDS LISTSERVE

OUUC Caring Friends is an opt-in group which enables us to let one another know when we need help with practical things like transportation, doing errands, having meals delivered, etc. Caring Friends facilitates member/friend-to-member/friend support during life transitions and times of illness or stress. It is also an opportunity for each of us to respond to a request for help when we can. Each of us has the opportunity take care of those in our congregation.

[Contact Wendy Tanner](mailto:caringfriends@ouuc.org) caringfriends@ouuc.org

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer in the program. Be a trusted adult in a learning relationship with one of our age groups: preschool, or elementary. [Contact Sara Lewis, Director of Lifespan Religious Education](mailto:dre@ouuc.org) dre@ouuc.org

COMMUNITY KITCHEN CREW

Cook and serve a meal for those in need at Community Kitchen, downtown Olympia. OUUC's happy crew serves dinner the 3rd Friday of each month and whenever there is a 5th Friday of a month. [Contact Karmel Shields](mailto:karmelshields@comcast.net) karmelshields@comcast.net

EZINE "THE COMMONS"/WRITERS

Create periodic Ezine, "The Commons. Topics vary. [Contact Linda Crabtree](mailto:4.Linda.Crabtree@gmail.com) 4.Linda.Crabtree@gmail.com

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

HOSPITALITY TEAMS

Provide that warm welcome to OUUC each Sunday morning. Welcome people at the door, help visitors feel welcome in a new place, help people find a place in the Sanctuary, collect the offering. Each team serves one Sunday each month at the 9:15 am or 11 am service. [Contact Jack Jackson](#) jackisnever@gmail.com [or Jennifer Sabel](#) jcsabel@gmail.com

IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE SUPPORT

OUUC members and friends provide support to the Greater South Sound Faith Network for immigration and Refugee Support, a coalition of faith communities focused on providing sanctuary in our area. For information about this and other opportunities to support immigrants and refugees: [Contact Frances Tanaka](#) yftanaka@icloud.com or [Miriam Lorch](#) miriamlorch@comcast.net

INTERFAITH WORKS EMERGENCY OVERNIGHT SHELTER

OCCU has a long history of supporting Interfaith Works offering food and safe overnight shelter to our homeless neighbors, first as part of the Women's Emergency Shelter, and since its beginning in 2014, as the Adult Emergency Shelter in downtown Olympia. Each third and fourth Wednesday volunteers from our congregation provide and serve dinner at the Shelter. New volunteers are always welcome to bring a main or side dish, and/or come to the Shelter from 5:30 to 7:00pm to serve the evening's meal. [Contact Jo Ann Young](#) drjo.annyoung@gmail.com [or Billie Williams](#) Billie@enfrancetours.com

JUSTICE NOT JAILS

Advocates for reform to the criminal justice system. To learn more, add your name to this group email list. [Contact Steve Tilley](#) tilley5000@gmail.com

MEMORIAL RECEPTIONS COMMITTEE

Coordinates volunteers to assist with tasks related to an OUUC memorial service for members and pledging friends. [Contact Melanie Ransom](#) melransom@comcast.net

PASTORAL CARE TEAM

Lay ministry team that offers direct spiritual care and support to members and friends along with the Minister. [Contact Rev. Mary Gear](#) minister@ouuc.org

SANCTUARY ART DISPLAYS

The team works with artists and photographers who have work suitable for hanging on the walls in the church sanctuary. The team schedules a date for hanging and works with the artist to install and take down the show. Shows are typically for a month or a little longer. [Contact Gary or Sandra Worthington](#). gsworthington@comcast.net

SEWING MINISTRY

Focuses on creating warm quilts and other sewing projects for those in need. [Contact Karen Jackson](#) karensandw@gmail.com

SHARE THE PLATE

This group meets in early fall to choose the 6 groups OUUC will receive half of the Sunday offering throughout the year. To help, nominate community groups that could Share the Plate. To help, watch the Weekly Update announcing when the Share the Plate group meets to make its selections. [Contact Eric Felch](#) radicalshift@gmail.com

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

SOCIAL MEDIA TEAM

Provide content for current social media platforms: Facebook and Twitter. Monitor engagement. Manage groups. [Contact Administrator, liberalfaith@ouuc.org](mailto:liberalfaith@ouuc.org)

STANDING UP TO RACISM

Addresses racism through education and activism and works with community organizations, including The Black Alliance of Thurston County, Full Circle United, Standing Up to Racial Justice (SURJ), and Unity in the Community. [Contact Rev. Carol McKinley, Associated Minister](mailto:faithinactionministries@ouuc.org) faithinactionministries@ouuc.org

SUNDAY FLOWERS

The lovely floral arrangements at the pulpit every Sunday morning are donated by members and friends of the congregation – either “just because”, or to honor or remember a special person or a special day. [Contact Ken and Ann Yeo](mailto:theyeosolywa@gmail.com) theyeosolywa@gmail.com

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE TEAMS

These lovely folks provide that hot cup of coffee following Sunday services - giving us that time to connect with one another over a cup of coffee. Teams serve once a month at one service: prepare sustainably grown coffee and clean up our chinaware afterward. A great opportunity for introverts to say hello to folks on Sunday mornings! [Contact Julie Rosmond](mailto:jgrosmond@gmail.com) jgrosmond@gmail.com

WEBSITE TEAM

Manage the OUUC website. Wordpress experience required. Help with content design, image quality and maintenance. [Contact Darlene Sarkela, Administrator](mailto:liberalfaith@ouuc.org) liberalfaith@ouuc.org

YOUTH RE PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS AND MENTORS

Volunteer in the program. Be a trusted adult in a learning relationship with one of our age groups: middle school group or high school group. [Contact Sara Lewis, Director of Lifespan Religious Education](mailto:dre@ouuc.org) dre@ouuc.org

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

LADY UNITARIAN SOCIAL HOUR

UU women gather for community, and drinks or hors d'oeuvres from 4:30 to 6ish pm on Tuesdays at establishments around Olympia. Arrive when you can - women come and go over the time, see who is there when you arrive. Locations listed in OUUC's weekly email newsletter sent each Wednesday: OUUC Weekly Update. [Contact Emily Ray](#) emilyrayjimlengenfelder@msn.com [or Meliz Maatta](#) hearingmatters@gmail.com

MIGHTY UNITARIAN GUYS

(MUGs)Meets every Thursday at 10 am for coffee and friendly discussion. Locations listed in OUUC's weekly email newsletter sent each Wednesday: OUUC Weekly Update. [Contact Otto Buls](#) obuls@mac.com

OUUC WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

Formed in 2002, the group is dedicated to growing and nurturing friendships as well as discussing literature that relates to our ethical and spiritual lives. We meet at OUUC in Jan., May, July, Sept., and Nov., on a Sun. evening to share a potluck meal, enjoy other's company, and talk about what we've read. Newcomers are welcome if they are interested in the ongoing nature of the group. [Contact Ann Yeo](#) theyeosolywa@gmail.com

POWERFUL UNITARIAN GALS (PUGS)

This Informal women's group meets every Wednesday at 10:30 am to noon for friendly conversation. We meet in the Youth Room of OUUC. Bring your own refreshments. [Contact Pat Sonnenstahl](#) cnmpat@comcast.net or [Trink Newman](#) tnewman@northwestern.edu

FRIENDSHIP DINNERS

Small group dinners are held in members homes in the Fall and Spring. Hosts sign up to have guests come to dinner. Host provides entrée and guests provide other items for the meal. More info on OUUC's website at [Friendship Dinners](#). Contact [Carol Williams](#) hideycat@comcast.net, [Pat Sonnenstahl](#) cnmpat@comcast.net, or [Trink Newman](#) tnewman@northwestern.edu

THANK GOODNESS IT'S FRIDAY ON THURSDAY (BEER LOVERS)

Guys get together each Thursday afternoon for refreshments and conversation. We drink beer, insult each other (lovingly) and argue. Locations listed in OUUC's weekly email newsletter sent each Wednesday: OUUC Weekly Update. [Contact Bernie Brady](#) broadeye@comcast.net

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

Young Adult Group enables young adults age 18-35 to connect with each other by social activities, community service, and discussions of what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist. We meet for lunch the 1st Sunday, following the 11:00am service. [Contact Sara Lewis](#) dre@ouuc.org

COMMITTEES AND TEAMS

ADDICTION AND RECOVERY MINISTRY

The OUUC Addiction and Recovery Ministry is available to give guidance and information on dealing with and understanding addiction and finding help for recovery. We meet with people in a private and discreet setting, and all discussions are confidential. We also provide information resources in our library and the church website, and teach classes relating to the addiction and recovery experience. [Contact Dave Verbon](mailto:dpverbonouuc@yahoo.com) dpverbonouuc@yahoo.com

THE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS TEAM

Maintains the OUUC buildings, parking lots, and landscaping. We have short term and ongoing opportunities for handy people of all abilities, from adopting a small landscaping plot to making minor repairs to managing major upgrade projects. [Contact Jerald Dodson](mailto:jedsmd55@gmail.com) jedsmd55@gmail.com

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

A sustained flow of income to OUUC from the profits of invested gifts to support programs identified by the congregation. [Contact John Tafejian](mailto:jtafej@gmail.com) jtafej@gmail.com

FINANCIAL CONSULTING TEAM

To consult with and aid the Minister and Bookkeeper in providing oversight of the congregation's financial well-being, considering relevant policies and best practices. All members ex officio or appointed by Minister. [Contact Rev. Mary Gear](mailto:minister@ouuc.org) minister@ouuc.org

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION TEAM

Advises and educates OUUC to make good environmental choices and coordinates with other community groups. Advocates for sound environmental policy with national, state, and local governments. [Contact Leslie Romer](mailto:LeslieHR@aol.com) LeslieHR@aol.com

MUSIC TEAM

To inspire and move us with music. Contact [Bobbe Murray](mailto:bobbemm@gmail.com) bobbemm@gmail.com

PARTNER CHURCH TEAM

For many years OUUC served as a Partner Church to the Unitarian Church of Kissolymos, a small farming town in Transylvania, the birthplace of Unitarianism. The congregation supports Kissolymos spiritually and emotionally and with financial assistance when needed. New members are always welcome to join. The Committee is in frequent communication with the church's minister, sponsors fundraisers for their needs, and offers opportunities to visit Kissolymos. For those interested, a trip is planned in the fall of 2019. [Contact Rick Brandt-Kruetz](mailto:rleebk@gmail.com) rleebk@gmail.com Contact Jo Ann Young [Contact Jo Ann Young drjo.annyoung@gmail.com](mailto:drjo.annyoung@gmail.com) annual Stewardship Campaign to raise operating funds for the church; encourages giving throughout the year. [Contact Linda Crabtree](mailto:Linda.Crabtree@gmail.com) 4.Linda.Crabtree@gmail.com [or Jeff Goltz](mailto:goltzwelsh@comcast.net) goltzwelsh@comcast.net

WORSHIP ARTS TEAM

Facilitates the weekly worship services, providing our minister with logistical and ritual support. In the absence of our minister, supports guest ministers and provides lay-led services. [Contact Neil Marsh](mailto:NeilM@localaccess.com) NeilM@localaccess.com

LEADERSHIP

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

A nine-member group elected by the congregation. Members serve a 3-year term. Each year 1/3 of the group is replaced. The Leadership Development Committee recommends membership to the Board. The Board sets policies to ensure the Executive's decisions match the long-term vision and mission of the congregation. Typical duties are to update and review policies, review and keep OUUC financial status up to date, approve the budget for sending to the congregation and reviewing ministers Monitoring Reports. [Contact Fritz Wrede](mailto:fritzwr@comcast.net) fritzwr@comcast.net, Board Chair.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

As described in OUUC's bylaws, the members of the committee are elected by the congregation. The team compiles the list of candidates for the Board of Trustees and the Leadership Development team. The congregation's vote takes place at the spring Annual Meeting. The team also develops an annual leadership training plan. [Contact Erik Felch](mailto:radicalshift@gmail.com), radicalshift@gmail.com

COMMITTEES AND TEAMS

Committees and teams lead in areas of ministry or programs. By joining one of the Committees or teams listed on page 8, you become another one of this congregation's leaders.

GOVERNANCE

THE CONGREGATION

The Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation operates under the principles of congregational polity. This means we are independent, self-supporting and governed by our own members. Responsibilities of Membership: A member shall accept responsibility for the well-being of the OUUC community through contributions of time, energy, and financial resources. B. Members shall not represent themselves as speaking on behalf of the Congregation unless authorized in accordance with Board of Trustees (Board) policy.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

According to our bylaws, the Board of Trustees functions on behalf of, and is always subject to the will of the membership. It governs using a Policy Governance model, meaning the Board is visionary, with its primary roles being 1) the articulation of the differences the congregation wants to make in the world and for whom and 2) assuring that those differences are accomplished. Besides the articulation of the Ends, the Board's other functions include linking with the congregation, writing and revising board policies necessary to help the organization achieve its Ends, delegating the management and operations of the organization to an individual or team, and monitoring the work toward accomplishing the Ends.

THE EXECUTIVE

At OUUC, the Minister is designated by the Board to be the Executive or operational leader of the church. The Accountable Persons Team, who reports to the Executive, is both responsible for and has the authority to ensure that the resources and programs within their purview are directed to assuring the congregation's health and meeting its Ends. The Accountable Persons Team's members each lead one of the congregation's Five Ministries: OUUC's Spiritual Life Ministry, Faith Development Ministry, Community Life Ministry, Faith in Action Ministry, and Resource Ministry. Most church committees fall within the purview of one of the five ministries.