



Unitarian Universalist
Church of Charlotte

ACTIVITIES & GROUPS

We encourage you to explore the many small group experiences we offer.

You will find groups to support you in your challenges,
to have fun and get to know others, to make beautiful music,
to explore your spirituality, to improve your physical health,
and to give back to our community.

February, 2015

ACTIVITIES & GROUPS

Newcomers and drop-ins are welcome!

"All Things Considered"

All Things Considered, formerly the Economics Group, is a forum for adults who gather to discuss various topics. Topics discussed range from religious, economic, social or political issues as they affect UUsers or US citizens in general. The group meets at 7:00 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month in the Schweitzer Room. This is an open group. Questions, contact group facilitator Ron Maccaroni at maccaronir@gmail.com.

DiscoverGroups

DiscoverGroups, a form of Small Group Ministry, is open to members only who are committed to meet once a month for a year. It is an important opportunity to get to know other members on a deeper level while exploring their own spiritual journey. Questions and comments about availability can be directed to Adult Programming Coordinator, Martha Kniseley at martha@uuccharlotte.org.

Exploring Humanism

The Humanist movement has long been part of the Unitarian Universalist tradition. We will explore Humanism at a monthly meeting where the group will share the responsibility of preparing the topic on a rotating basis. We meet on the 1st Thursday of each month in the Bernstein Room. Contact: Steve Bivens at (704) 568-9696 or wsbivens@aol.com.

Friday Film Series

Separate films for children and adults are chosen based on the theme of the Second Sunday Topic. Discussion will follow. Usually shown on the Third Friday of the Month, but please check *Voices* or the website.

Healing Threads: Prayer Shawl Ministry

We meet monthly on the second Monday at 7:00 p.m. to knit or crochet together as a spiritual community and to bless the completed shawls. During the month, participants will work on their individual shawls. Completed shawls will be offered to two groups: 1) UUC members who have suffered a significant loss or who are experiencing a challenging physical or medical situation (for example, loss of a partner or child, terminal or chronic illness) and 2) the Levine Dickson Hospice House where there is a need for prayer shawls from a liberal religious group. Contact: Kathleen Moloney-Tarr, leaders@mindspring.com.

Lotus Path

In the Lotus Path Group we discuss various eastern religious teachings and philosophies with consideration of their applicability to modern times and our own personal experience. These discussions include topics in Buddhism, Taoism, and the I-Ching. We meet every Sunday morning at 8:00 in the Schweitzer Room. Contact: Edie Gelber-Beechler at erg_b2@hotmail.com

Moneybaggers

Fellowship of participants who care about and are connected to each other through an interest in investing in the financial markets. Meets every 4th Thursday of the month, 7:30-9:00 pm, in the Workroom. Contact: Bill Cooke, (704) 364-2107, billcooke@mindspring.com, or Mary Traynham, m_traynham@yahoo.com, (704) 537-4691.

Musical Opportunities

Adult Choir sings throughout the year at one-to-two worship services per month, and is open to all interested in singing. Rehearsals are held Wednesday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Sunday morning warm-ups are held 45 minutes before the service. **Chamber Choir** is an auditioned chamber vocal ensemble that performs throughout the year for services and special programs. Rehearses twice a month on Wednesday evenings from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Performance and rehearsal schedule announced. **Children's Choir** is open to all 1st—5th graders. The fun and engaging weekly rehearsals are held Sunday mornings from 10:30 to 10:55 a.m. in the Priestley Room. The Children's Choir sings for Sunday services throughout the school year. **Hand Chime Ensemble** works with a 4-octave hand chime set, this dedicated ensemble works diligently to create beautiful music throughout the year. Rehearsals are held Wednesday evenings from 6 to 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. . **Song Leaders** come-as-you-can choir that assists in leading congregational hymn singing when choirs are not present. Rehearses 30 minutes before each service. Performance and rehearsal schedule announced. **Other Opportunities** — there are many opportunities for those who play an instrument or sing, from instrumental music in special services to providing music for CYRE and outreach programs. Contact Director of Music John Herrick at (704) 366-8623 ext. 230 or john@uuccharlotte.org.

Mystics & Metaphysics Discussion Group

The purpose of this new group is to come together to explore topics of a metaphysical nature. Whether you are skeptical, just curious, intrigued, or a believer, sign up to be part of a freewheeling discussion. Meetings are on the 2nd Thursdays of each month in the Schweitzer Room. Contact: Carol Smith at smithcarolc@gmail.com.

Open Mind Book Club

Group discusses a wide variety of books chosen in advance. Meets on the 1st Monday of the month in the Conference Room from 7:30-9:00 p.m. Contact Gwynne Movius, (704) 366-9409, gmovius@usa.com.

Outdoor Adventure Group

Hikes are planned once a month and vary in location and exertion. Details of planned hikes are announced in *Voices*, the *Order of Service* and through group email. Contact: Ralph Hanson at athikerrfh@aol.com.

Parent Support Group

Parents of young (preschool-elementary) children meet to discuss their challenges and share advice and resources. Meets 2nd Fridays at 6:00 pm in Freeman Hall. Contact: Melissa Vullo at melissavullo@gmail.com.

Second Sunday Topic Discussion

This is an opportunity to meet with the Minister to share your thoughts, ask questions, and hear other's views relative to the second Sunday sermon topic. The meeting will begin promptly at 10:30 a.m. in the Bernstein Room from September—June. Childcare Provided.

Softball Team

All that's needed is a glove, a good sense of humor and a willingness to tolerate a group of people still trying to relive their youth. The team plays about 10 evening games once a week, Mon-Thur starting in April with practice beginning in March. We welcome anyone over the age of 16. Contact: Greg Schropp at schg02@aol.com.

Straight Spouse Support Group

This group provides personal, confidential support to straight spouses or partners, current or former, of gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender mates and mixed-orientation couples. Meets in the Conference Room on the 1st Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. Contact: Sage Brook, (704) 366-7983.

Sunday Morning Meditation

This group meets each Sunday morning from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. in the Schweitzer room following the Lotus Path discussion. The meeting includes a short lesson and then a 25 minute meditation. SMM is in the secular Buddhist tradition of Insight Meditation or Vipassana with lessons based on the teachings of the human being we know as the Buddha! Contact: Debbie George (704) 763-2193.

"T.E.D. for the Soul"

TED for the Soul is an open group that meets at two separate times each month: The third Monday of the month at noon is facilitated by Melissa Mummert and the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., is facilitated by Trish Hevey and Susan Cox. At *ted.com* there exists a wealth of ideas shared by powerful speakers on a wide variety of topics that can inspire us to think on a deeper spiritual level, or learn something new about ourselves and each other. We'll watch a TED Talk together and then share our reactions to the talk. Join us at either time in the Bernstein Room.

Theater Group

Each year a satirical review called *The Follies* is inflicted upon us by a talented group of writers and performers who know the difference between good taste and bad taste, and how to ignore it. Contact: Mic Elvenstar, (704) 362-3105, dearmic@earthlink.net.

Credo: A Spiritual Journey

This I Believe/This I Practice will be transitioning to a new name, Credo: A Spiritual Journey. This change will reflect the language of our mission statement, our Sunday Services, as well as the CYRE Coming of Age program. The sessions for Credo: A Spiritual Journey will continue with the same format—a member of the UUCC will present his/her spiritual journey, usually on the 4th Sunday, between services in the Bernstein room. In these thirty minute sessions the presenters speak about their personal religious/spiritual beliefs or/and their regular religious/spiritual practices.

UUCC Women's Circle

This social group offers friendship and caring and is a way to connect on a deeper level with women of all ages. Meets every 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m., typically in the Schweitzer Room. Occasionally outings are taken. Contact: Sandy Vermillion at slv13@carolina.rr.com.

Young Adult Group (YAG)

We meet on the first Sunday of each month for a social event, and again on the third Sunday of each month for more formal gatherings at UUCC, at 12:45 p.m., following second service. Child care/the nursery will be available for the meetings following service, and child care can be arranged for social events if necessary. There's no reason to miss out on the fun; come make some new friends with us! For more information about the YAG, details about these events, and to receive invitations to other spontaneous gatherings, please email lincolnbaxter@gmail.com to be added to the email list.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Our volunteers make a difference in our community.

Affordable Housing/Homelessness Action (AHHA) Initiative

The congregation selected AHHA as our Social Justice focus for the next several years. Our goal is to make a substantive contribution to this issue in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. We have a variety of on-going educational and hands-on direct service opportunities that are facilitated by our Social Justice Team. Look for more information at the Social Justice Table in Freeman Hall on Sunday. Contact: Craig Miller at craigmmiller@hotmail.com or Thelma Reynolds at tbrpgr@hotmail.com.

CROP Walk

10K walk in October with 10,000 participants raising money for the hungry in Charlotte and the rest of the world. Contact: Cindy Fox, (704) 554-0866, cinfox49@gmail.com.

Food Bank

We distribute canned and boxed food to 25 needy families and 75 individuals in the Charlotte area each month. A collection barrel for non-perishables is located in the church office hallway near the front desk. Contact: Eileen Hanson-Kelly, (704) 855-8353, hansonkelly@ctc.net

Habitat for Humanity

Seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness in our community by helping to build homes. Contact: Mary & Frank Burnett, (704) 846-8724, mcburnett@windstream.net

Partner Church in Transylvania

For more information on how you can help, contact the Denominational Connections Chairperson, Cindy Fox at (704) 554-0866, cinfox49@gmail.com.

PRIDE Charlotte

Our church is a proud sponsor of our city's annual festival supporting the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender) community. We have an information table and strong turnout at this event.

Room in the Inn

This is an interfaith ministry winter shelter program for the homeless sponsored by the Urban Ministry Center. December 1 through March 31 on Sunday evenings, we provide a warm, safe place to sleep and two meals (dinner and breakfast) and return the homeless guests the following morning. There are many opportunities to volunteer including set up; clean up; donation, preparation and serving of food; overnight hosting; and transportation. Contact: Rocky Hendrick at rockyhendrick@mindspring.com or Jarod Brown at jarodebrown@gmail.com.

Sunday Operations Volunteering:

A/V Technician: Doug Swaim at doug@uuccharlotte.org

Greeter: Kelly Greene at kelly@uuccharlotte.org

Coffee Service: Shannon Bradley at uuccoffeeservice@gmail.com

Ushering: Contact Megan Van Fleet at meganvanfleet@gmail.com

Office Volunteering:

UUC Front Office: Alesia Hutto at alesia@uuccharlotte.org

CYRE Office: Belinda Parry at Belinda@uuccharlotte.org

Open Door School: Amy Crew at amy.crew@opendoorschool.org