

Building on the Side of Love

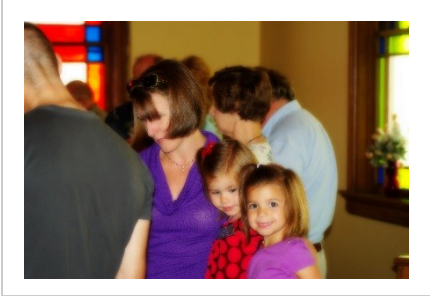


Unitarian  
Universalist  
Community  
Church  
of  
Hendricks County

## Who we are

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### Mission



We are a growing community that embraces freedom of thought, where people come together to encourage each other to spiritual growth that makes for peace, ethical living and community service.

### Values



**Love:** Love is the spirit of our church. We celebrate each other's joys, help one another through challenging times, and practice compassion in all human relations.

**Respect:** We honor the inherent worth and dignity of everyone by respecting one's right to be oneself.

**Diversity of Belief:** We affirm the right to a free and responsible search for truth and meaning. We encourage the loving expression of the truths we find.



**Community Service:** We work toward social justice in our communities and around the world. We encourage each other's individual efforts as well as provide opportunities to serve together.

**Environmental Responsibility:** We are part of the interdependent web of all existence; therefore we are stewards of the earth.

# Our Vision



We are committed to Lifespan Religious Exploration that focuses on religious, cultural, and social diversity and leads to spiritual growth

We employ a full time minister and RE Director as well as administrative support and custodial services. We are a congregation of more than 150 members.



We provide diverse and inspiring worship services that are both minister and lay led.



We are in a central Hendricks County facility that accommodates our growth and welcomes newcomers.



We have an accessible green sanctuary. We have adequate meeting, office, and classroom space. Our church will have room for outdoor activities, events, and gardening.



We are recognized as an active participant in the Heartland District and the UUA.



We provide a venue for cultural and educational events that are well attended by the larger community.



# Giving

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Philanthropy is the voluntary contribution of time, talent and treasure. Philanthropy addresses societal needs not served by government and corporations.

We give thanks for our willingness to give to others, to share our time, talents and treasures to make the world a better place.



## Wisdom

*The wise handling of money can be as spiritually enriching as prayer.*

It is more blessed to give than to receive.

– Christianity



The Wise Man doth not hoard. The more he giveth the more he hath; the more he watereth, the more is he watered himself. – Taoism



In the minds of the generous, contentment is produced.

- Sikhism



Those who give in charity have lent to Allah a goodly loan.

- Islam



The giving of a gift is superior to the acceptance of a gift.

- Hinduism

Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble.

– Judaism



## Church

Church is the lifeline of any society. UUCC strives to serve as a unique place providing a safe haven for spiritual exploration that instills positive change in people's lives. This momentum is then spread out beyond the walls of the church and incorporated into the community. UUCC sponsors programs and services not provided by any other organization in Hendricks County as well as partners with other organizations on projects.

### Making a Difference

UUCC has a 15-year history of transparency and activism within the community. Church members have been instrumental in starting the county park system and involved in a number of community efforts

- **The Christmas Day Dinner** – Providing a hot meal and toys to needy families
- **Shared Blessings Cooperative Food Pantry** – providing food to the needy in Hendricks County
- **Keys, Strings and Other Things**-a concert series that brings international talent to Hendricks County
- **Rally on the Square** – Supporting our LGBTQ friends and neighbors
- **Lion's Den** – Serving hot meals at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Plainfield for seniors
- **Guest at Your Table** – Raising money for local and international humanitarian efforts
- **Hendricks County Alliance for Diversity (HCAD)** - Intercultural group of citizens committed to fair and equal treatment of all people. Its mission is to work toward smoothing the way for the increasing ethnic, religious and racial diversity of Hendricks County
- **Welcoming Congregation** - The Welcoming Congregation Program is a volunteer program for Unitarian Universalist congregations that want to take intentional steps to become more welcoming and inclusive of people with marginalized sexual orientations and gender identities.
- **Shoe Drive**- Collect shoes and distribute at our church to any person in need in Hendricks County
- **Underneath it All We are the Same**-Underwear and sock collection at the beginning of the school year for distribution to needy people.

The world is broken—on that I think we can all agree. To fix it, the limitations of Doctrine and Dogma need to be replaced with lenses of love and mutual respect. To succeed, we need systems like our wonderful church to help facilitate that change.

You see, UUCC stands as a working model for the community, steadfastly demonstrating how the larger world can do it better. We offer a unique perspective that has been a long time coming and will most assuredly and swiftly gain following—I believe this with every ounce of my being.



By supporting this church through the capital campaign, I help give more than a fresh building; I help give hope. It may sound cliché, but, like few others can, we offer hope with the ability to bypass yet another bandage and finally heal Humanity's deepest wounds.

The world is desperate for reconciliation; how beautiful and crucial that we continue to play a major role in that healing. Join me, and let us continue to exemplify what it means to be human. Together, let us be that beacon on the hill and continue the work of mending this world. Our future is bright. Let's make it brighter.

Mike Hartley  
Advance Commitment  
Team Leader

## Spirituality

*At UUCC, we are the church of the open mind, the loving hearts, and the helping hands. Together, we work toward peace and friendship in the world.*

Each week the youth of this congregation gather together downstairs and recite these words.

Our dedicated teachers empower them each Sunday to think about how their words, thoughts, and actions each day of the week impact the world.

The Religious Exploration program provides a safe place, in developmentally appropriate environments, for our youth to grow, dream, and better understand religion, culture, and community.

Our children deserve a space that is inviting, clean, and bright. It should encourage reflection, promote thinking, and foster interaction. Imagine our classrooms with natural light streaming in through new windows. Picture the beautifully painted walls, displaying evidence of our thinking and learning. Let us use our open minds, loving hearts, and helping hands to ensure our youth have a place to work toward peace and friendship in the world."

*Renee Bowman, Director of Religious Exploration*



### *Religious Exploration*

Our RE program offers the opportunity for students to engage in inquiry-based learning as a way of developing and exploring their own ideas about faith, spirituality, and holiness.

### *OWL Program*

Our Whole Lives helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior. It equips participants with accurate, age-appropriate information.

### *WICKS*

A group of self-organized young men and women from roughly ages 12-18 that meet regularly every second Sunday to participate in activities, play games, hang out and volunteer in the community.

### *Worship Associates*

This behind the scenes group organizes the speakers and the services.



# Creating Community-Traditions

## Weekly

Social Hour After Service  
Mindful Meditation  
Sunday Service Greeters

## Quarterly

Host Keys Strings & Other Things Concerts



## Spring

Beltane Festival  
Easter Egg Hunt  
LGBT Rally  
Invasive Plant Removal-Blanton Woods



## Summer

Annual Rummage Sale  
Annual Pool Party

## Fall

Samhain Festival  
Water Ceremony  
Annual Church Auction

## Winter

Winter Solstice Service  
Christmas Eve Service  
Christmas Day Dinner  
Cake Auction & Chili Supper  
Annual Family Game Night  
Host Martin Luther King Day Celebration in  
Partnership with Hendricks County Diversity Alliance  
Host Annual Keys, Strings & Other Things Fundraiser Concert



## Grateful to Our Founders

1995-In May, a small group of people began meeting in homes. Soon after, the meetings moved to a local retirement home with about 20 people. Rev. Ed Harris presented us with our first "singing bowl which is still in use today."

1996-Purchased Presbyterian Church

1997-Employed Rev. Calvin Knapp as a contract minister  
Initiated Christmas Day Dinner

2002-Contracted Rev. Bruce Larkin as an advising minister

2007-Rev. Andy Burnette came to us as a contract minister  
Hired part-time Religious Education director

2011-Organized first LGBT Rally in Hendricks County

2012-Rev. Lynda Smith joined as interim minister  
Served more than 800 Christmas Day Dinners

2013-Began search for new settled minister

2014-Launching first capital campaign





**Building on the side of love.**

# Campaign

**F**rom backyards to childhood homes, hometowns to first apartments, schools to places of worship, places play a significant role in shaping our relationships, social lives, dreams, spirituality and memories.

**F**or congregations, the church building serves as a symbol of collective identity, a vessel to contain the congregants, a chalice to hold the flame that is the energy of the congregation.

**T**hrough the Building on the Side of Love Capital Campaign, UCC seeks

to raise the needed funds to update and improve our current space to enhance the sense of familiarity, hope, appreciation, comfort and peace enjoyed by the congregation and visitors alike while at the same time taking steps to plan for future growth.

**O**ur congregation, on November 24, 2013, voted to move ahead with a joint-purpose capital campaign aimed at addressing building upgrades and repairs with an eye toward growth to \$200,000.





### **Needs and Opportunities Goal-\$160,000**

The funds raised during the 2014 capital campaign will provide a unique opportunity to address immediate needs, while at the same time, planning for the future.

### **Welcome**

We want a building that welcomes the long-time members and makes a warm impression for the first-time visitor. Renovations to the building that can help us with this include providing a safe, easy-to-navigate ADA compliant ramp into the sanctuary, handicap accessible restrooms on the sanctuary and basement levels, a stair lift, and new carpet and ceiling tiles in the social hall and religious education rooms.

### **Green and Safe**

We want to fulfill our Seventh Principle which honors, "respect for the interdependent web of which we are a part." Currently, the HVAC system is in need of upgrading and mold remediation. The lower level windows are nearing the end of their useful life and are not energy efficient. The roof will soon need to be replaced or redesigned. Replacing deteriorating and inefficient structural elements with "greener" options fulfills our mission and is a responsible stewardship practice.

### **With an Eye To the Future \$200,000 Challenge Goal**

After careful consideration, the 2014 Campaign Team of Twelve determined that the \$160,000 goal to be paid over three years is realistic for our congregation. And, with discernment and inspirational giving, we can reach \$200,000.

In the November 24, 2013, vote, we decided the first \$100,000 will be used to make building repairs. Funds raised toward the second \$100,000 will be designated to buy land for expansion.

In April, when we as a congregation know how much money we can raise, we will refine and prioritize the needs in a plan for review.

UU Community Church is a well-spring of decency and a beacon of free religion in Central Indiana. As your Interim Minister I am proud of the energy flowing through this congregation, continuing a legacy of boldness and strength. An inclusive congregation built of



many beliefs exemplifies how shared values can be transformative. Lives are changed; communities are changed. It is a special joy to see the character, mind and spirit of children and youth enliven the space of UUCC. UUCC makes a home for the spiritual journey of religious freedom and free inquiry—a space comfortable with reason and science—a space that actualizes values of fairness, love, and compassion. Renovating the physical space of UUCC is a testimony to the legacy of its founders for the next generations of seekers—a place where gratitude abounds for values that touch and change lives. We are a religious tradition that respects and challenges the individual and works to change the world for the better. Building community always takes intentional renewal. Renewal and renovation will greet UUCC's new minister as the next exciting chapter unfolds in the story of UUCC's journey of standing on the side of love.

Rev. Lynda Smith

Building on the side of love.

## This Year is Different

There are many ways to make a gift for the Capital Campaign...

- Write a check today
- Make a written pledge today-you have three full years to pay your commitment
- Donate stocks, bonds, mutual funds, real property, paid up life insurance policies, tangible personal property, other assets
- Charitable Trusts
- Include UUCU in your estate plans
- Your tax advantage

When you make a gift to the church and you itemize your deductions, you will not have to pay income tax on the amount of your gift. This means, for example, if your gift is \$10,000 and you are in the 28 percent tax bracket, you will save \$2,800 on income tax for the year. This being so, you might consider giving your tax savings of \$2,800 along with your gift.

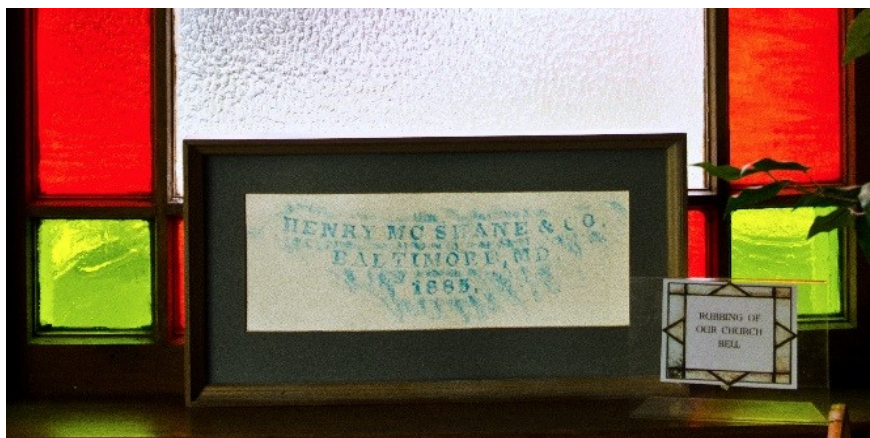
First, please fulfill your commitment to support the life and operations of the church. Pledges help keep the lights on and allows us to act on our principles.

**A successful \$160,000 campaign (\$200,000 challenge goal) drive requires gifts at many levels. Capital Campaign pledges can be paid over a three-year period.**

Second, please consider your commitment to our capital development and the future of UUCU. All of us benefit from the investments of the founders, now we have an opportunity to grow the legacy.

### Here's a Path to Success

Number of Gifts Anticipated	Amount of Gift
1	\$20,000.00
1	\$15,000.00
2	\$9,000
4	\$6,000
8	\$30.00 per week (for 3 years)
10 (1 movie night)	\$20.00 per week (for 3 years)
12 (2 lattes)	\$10.00 per week (for 3 years)



## Guide to Giving

Amount per Week	Amount per Month	Amount per Year	Amount per 3 Years
\$3.50	\$14.00	\$182.00	\$546.00
\$10.00	\$40.00	\$520.00	\$1,560.00
\$23.00	\$92.00	\$1,196.00	\$3,588.00
\$37.00	\$148.00	\$1,924.00	\$5,772.00
\$55.00	\$220.00	\$2,860.00	\$8,580.00
\$80.00	\$320.00	\$4,160.00	\$12,480.00
\$111.00	\$444.00	\$5,772.00	\$17,316.00
\$185.00	\$740.00	\$9,620.00	\$28,860.00
\$250.00	\$1,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$39,000.00
\$338.00	\$1,352.00	\$17,576.00	\$52,728.00
\$397.00	\$1,588.00	\$20,644.00	\$61,932.00
\$450.00	\$1,800.00	\$23,400.00	\$70,200.00

### Ministerial Staff

Rev. Lynda Smith - Minister

Renee Bowman - Director, Religious Exploration

### Board of Trustees

Bill Sutton - President

John McCoy

Jim Ferrell - Treasurer

Dian Moore

Pat Pollack - Vice President and Secretary

Christian Axiom

### Volunteer Staff

Newsletter-Susie Poole & Jim Ferrell    Facebook-Christina Brummet

### Campaign Steering Committee – The Team of Twelve

Lynda Smith, Pastor and Spiritual Emphasis Team Leader

Jim Powell, Consultant

Gary Wilhite

Adam Bowman, Co-Chair

Melissa Buller, Co-Chair

Jim Ferrell, Finance Director

Mary Huber

Erin Kimble, Campaign/Administrative Team Leader

Tasha Ritter

Annie Johnson

Anne Burget, Communications Team Leader

Mike Hartley, Advance Commitment Team and Major Event Team Leader

Dave Giltner, Youth Team Leader





Find *your* path.

## Come join us!

Credo Discussion	9:00 am
Sunday Services	10:00 am
Coffee & Conversation	11:15 am



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of Hendricks County  
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[www.uucchc.org](http://www.uucchc.org)



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Would you like to receive our Newsletter?  
 YES | NO  
 Can we contact you about our events and social gatherings?  
 YES | NO  
 Would you like to know more about volunteering?  
 YES | NO