

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

# **Sunday Services**

03 With guest Scott Russell Sanders

# **Letter From The Minister**

**05** From Rev. Nic Cable

# **Splinters From The Board**

06 by Carol Kostrzewsky

# **Music at UUCCI**

07

by Louise Hillery

# Children & Youth

**08** Programs for kids and families!

# **UUCCI Events**

12 How to Find "Your People"

# **Interfaith Events**

14 Celebrate Together





#### **NOVEMBER 3: NEVER TURNING BACK**

On April 19, 2020, Rev. Nic offered a service titled Never Turning Back. One year later, a part two was offered. Now four and a half years since the original, Rev. Nic will reflect on the courageous journey we have been on in the years that have passed, the threshold we will cross in the coming days, and the future that is before us. On this day in which we will hold our 57th Annual Congregational Meeting, we will cast forward a vision for justice worthy of 57 more.

#### **NOVEMBER 10: E PLURIBUS, PLURIBUS**

UUCCI's vision is to be a beacon for diverse religious thought and courageous action. In a word this a vision of pluralism. Interfaith community building and the work of justice are two sides of the same coin. To build bridges is to fight for justice. To live courageously is to foster a world where all cultures, religions, and life is celebrated. To conclude our six-part 2024 Fall Sermon Series, Rev. Nic will explain how the vision of UUCCI is interwoven with a national, global, and universal spirit of pluralism, one that we embody in all that we do together at UUCCI, on the interfaith campus, and wherever our lives take us.





#### **NOVEMBER 17: PETE SEEGER SUNDAY (ALL AGES)**

Join us for music and story as we draw inspiration from Pete Seeger's commitment to Justice.



# All Ages Service!

#### **NOVEMBER 24: DEFENDING THE TREES OF LIFE (SCOTT RUSSELL SANDERS)**

In this time of political and military strife, it's good to be reminded of our capacity for kindness and cooperation. That's what Scott Russell Sanders seeks to do in Small Marvels, his book featuring the Mills family, three generations from kids to grandparents, who live under one roof in the quirky town of Limestone, Indiana. He will share a story from the book about people coming together peacefully and creatively to defend what they love.

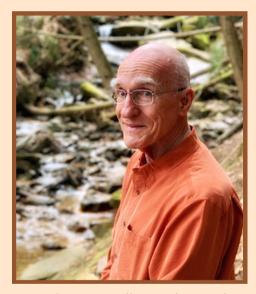


# SPECIAL SERVICE



#### MEET OUR GUEST SPEAKER

# Scott Russell Sanders



American novelist and essayist

Scott Russell Sanders was born in Memphis, Tennessee. His father came from a family of cotton farmers in Mississippi, his mother from an immigrant doctor's family in Chicago. He spent his early childhood in Tennessee and his school years in Ohio. He earned his undergraduate degree from Brown University and his Ph.D. in English from the University of Cambridge. He spent his teaching career at Indiana University, where he was a Distinguished Professor of English.

Among his more than twenty books are novels, collections of stories, and works of personal nonfiction, including Staying Put, Writing from the Center, Hunting for Hope, and A Private History of Awe. In the past decade he has published A Conservationist Manifesto, his vision of a shift from a culture of consumption to a culture of caretaking; Earth Works, a selection of his best essays from the past thirty years; the novel Divine Animal; Dancing in Dreamtime, a collection of ecoscience fiction stories; and Stone Country: Then & Now, a new and enlarged edition of his documentary narrative co-authored with photographer Jeffrey Wolin. His children's books include Aurora Means Dawn, Warm as Wool, Meeting Trees, and The Floating House.

Home is not where you have to go but where you want to go; nor is it a place where you are sullenly admitted, but rather where you are welcomed – by the people, the walls, the tiles on the floor, the followers

beside the door, the play of life, the very grass."

e . / Sanders has received the Lannan Literary Award, the Associated Writing Programs Award in Creative Nonfiction, the Great Lakes Book Award, the Kenyon Review Literary Award, the John Burroughs Essay Award, and the Indiana Humanities Award, among other honors, and he has received support for his writing from the Lilly Endowment, the Indiana Arts Commission, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Guggenheim Foundation. The Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature named him the 2009 winner of the Mark Twain Award; in 2010 he was named the National Winner of the Glick Indiana Authors Award; in 2011 the Fellowship of Southern Writers presented him with the Cecil Woods, Jr. Award in Nonfiction; and in 2012 he was elected to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences.

# LETTER FROM THE MINISTER

#### DEAR BELOVEDS,

I hold you all in my heart as we enter November. With the election just days away, the anxiety, uncertainty, and emotions regarding what is to come may feel too much to bear at times. Even the anticipation of when we will find out the result opens new questions of what will happen next—between that point and the inauguration, and then beyond the inauguration. With all of this uncertainty and fear, I want to offer a few reflections on how I am thinking about our community and ministry in the days ahead.

First, in all times, but especially in precarious ones, it is critical to be in touch with your body, your emotions, your soul. When we are in touch with how we are feeling, when we can articulate these feelings, we are able to shape our actions with greater integrity and purpose. I have found a lot of meaning in the book, The Quaking of America: An Embodied Guide to Navigating Our Nation's Upheaval and Racial Reckoning by Resmaa Menakem. The emphasis is on the word embodied. Each chapter includes a series of body practices that can, among other things:

- Build presence and discernment in our bodies
- Settle our bodies during the heat of conflict
- Maintain our safety, sanity, and stability in dangerous situations
- Turn toward instead of on one another

This leads to my second comment which is that while I hope you will all be able to engage in practices that can ground you in these destabilizing times, I hope that we will not forget to turn toward one another in the process. Simply put, we need one another. Regardless of the outcomes and unfolding of the next few months, we will continue to need one another. Likely more than ever. No matter what outcome you hope for, our ministry—this community—UUCCI is a community that must exist, persist, and thrive in a post-election America where the work of love and justice, peace and bridge building will require a doubling, tripling down of our commitments.

Indeed, I want us to remember that we cannot take for granted what will be asked of us in the days ahead. As former UUA president and now minister of the UU Church of Bloomington, the Rev. Susan Frederick Gray, says, "This is no time for a casual faith." The full quote of this oft spoken mantra comes from her Sunday morning sermon at the 2018 General Assembly, which lays out a two-prong reminder:

"Two things are absolutely clear to me right now. Number one, this is no time for a casual faith or a casual commitment to your values, your community, your congregation, your soul, and your faith. No time for casual faith. And number two, this is no time to go it alone or to think that we are in this alone."

Beloveds, I believe a great confluence is gathering, a social, political, religious/pluralistic, and moral flowing from multiple points across space and time to meet us in this time and the space. Together we can and I believe will build upon our great history of celebrating love and working for justice in south central Indiana. Together we can and I believe will harness hope and courage to continue to strive toward our vision of being abeacon for diverse religious thought and courageous action. Friends, this is our time and our work; even as we teeter on the brink, we know deep in our bones that our journey is just beginning.

Finally, please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you need anything. I am here to listen. to accompany, and to support you all as we make sense and our way through whatever challenges and blessings are to come.

With Gratitude,

REV. NIC CABLE

**UUCCI** Minister

Carol Kostrzewsky November 2024

# SPLINTERS

# FROM THE BOARD

This past month your Board of Trustees spent considerable time working, along with the Treasurer and the Finance Committee, to create a budget that reflects the rising costs of building maintenance and utilities and provides adequate funding for our excellent programs and services. We also held an executive session to go over the UUA annual compensation recommendations and make a determination for salary adjustments for our minister and staff.

We hope you will join us on Sunday, November 3rd, when we will have our annual congregational meeting where we vote on bylaws changes, the 2025 budget and new board members. Interested in becoming a voting member? Check with a current board member or Rev. Nic about becoming a member in time to vote at this important meeting.

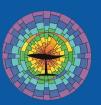
The change to the bylaws this year involves the inclusion of the Ends, or as we now refer to them, the Strategic Plan - Imagine 2030. Upon reflection, the board decided that it is not necessary to include the strategic planning as part of the bylaws as these change every 5 years. In fact, Imagine 2030 is a living document that will be added to and revised as the 5-year period evolves. Thus, the vote on the bylaws will be about removing the Ends/Strategic Plan from the bylaws.

Our annual Stewardship Campaign to fund our operating expenses for 2025 will begin November 10th. You will soon be hearing more about our goals, and our hopes to meet those goals through the generosity of our members and friends. Every gift matters, and if everyone gives as they are able, we will have what we need.

Carol Kostrzewsky President, Board of Trustees



# MUSIC AT UUCCI



# How do we learn our religion?

# **By Louise Hillery**

When you're looking for something in an alphabetical list, do you find yourself singing in your brain, "A-B-C-D-E-F-G...H-I-J-K-LMNOP...QRS...TUV...W...XYZ. Now I've said my ABCs. Tell me what you think of me." What else did you learn from songs?

I learned the books of the Bible, the names of Jesus's disciples, the life story of Davy Crockett, the history of the Battle of New Orleans, the phone number of Chicago's largest rug-cleaning service (588-2300-EMPIRE!) and the hope that "We shall overcome someday."

It has been said that people learn more about their religious beliefs from the hymnal than from other sources. I think the reason is that the words we sing stick in our brains much longer than the words we hear. What ear-worm is running through your head today?

#### From UU hymns I have learned that

- All we kindred pilgrim souls [are] making our way by the lights of the heavens.
- When our heart is in a holy place, we are met with love and amazing grace.
- Sometimes in our lives, we all have pain, we all have sorrow. But if we are wise, we know that there's
  always tomorrow.
- No one can fill those of your needs that you won't let show.
- Where is our holy church? Where race and class unite as equal persons in the search for beauty, truth, and right.
- We are a justice-seeking people, and we are singing for our lives.

I'd love to hear what great truths you have learned from singing hymns. If you don't like to sing, at least whisper along, and let the words enter your soul. you.





Seedling and Sprouts (infants-preschool) meet every Sunday in the Earth Room with our caregivers to meet new friends, share stories, sing, and play!

Undivided Isle Questers (Kindergarten-4th Grade): We have successfully navigated the Cave of Echos, Fire Mountain, and Serpent's Cove. We have found the second piece of our map and will be spending our last 5 classes of this year strengthening our problem solving skills, integrity, and increasing our emotional awareness. Join us for games, puzzles, and challenges that we work together to solve.

Do we have what it takes to navigate the challenges, find what is lost, and bring harmony back to the island? Join us for our next adventure and find out







Join us for music and story as we draw inspiration from Pete Seeger's commitment to Justice.

Sunday, November 17th All Ages Musical Service

**Interested in volunteering?** There are so many ways you can have fun and volunteer to support a vibrant children and youth ministry here at UUCCI. Find out more by visiting our Volunteer Form or by contacting Adrienne Summerlot via email at children@uucci.org she would be thrilled to talk on the phone, grab a cup of coffee, or meet via zoom.

We register children and youth annually for our programs at UUCCI so that we have the most accurate information to share information with parents/caregivers, ensure communication, and to provide support to those we serve. We appreciate you taking a moment to **REGISTER!** 



# STH GRADE AND UP!



Questions?

Contact Sunny Currier

Youth Coordinator

youth@uucci.org

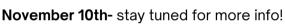
Our tweens and teens need their own space together to play games, explore spiritual and religious topics, cultivate fellowship and engage in social justice projects. UUth meet regularly in their room, aka the library. When UUth group doesn't meet they are always welcome to join kids in Roots and Wings or Makerspace. We are committed to fostering leadership opportunities for them.



We meet on Sunday mornings after the Wonderbox in the youth room for fun, friends, and fellowship!

#### **November 3rd**

Youth friends from Sri Ganesh Mandir will join us to share about the Hindu festival of lights, Diwali.



**November 17th-** NO UUth group- attend the All Ages Pete Seeger Music and Story Service. See info below about Mega Youth Group for 6th-12th graders.

November 24th - stay tuned for more info.

Plan to stay after service for a shared friendsgiving meal with our whole UUCCI community!

MEGA YOUTH GROUP
6th-12th Graders
Sunday, November 17th
Bring one of your favorite foods to share.
Friendsgiving Meal and Thanksgiving Fun

Mega Youth Group meets a few times a year with 6th-12th graders from First Presbyterian, First United Methodist, Sandy Hook United Methodist, and Unitarian Universalist Congregation. This group is open and affirming, and a safe space for all youth.







**Hot Meals**Fridays from 4-6pm at
First Presbyterian

# **Sunday Services 10am**

Youth are especially encouraged to attend these Sunday Morning services and/or be involved directly in helping play a part in them!

**November 17th**- All Ages Pete Seeger Sing a Long Service

December 15th- All Ages Worship Service- The Grinch

December 22nd- All Ages Holiday Sing-A-Long

# Green Sanctuary 2024 Update By Richard Boyce



We worked closely with Energy Matters to develop a submission for "Columbus, Indiana Solar for All Project Proposal, A Neighborhood Reliability and Resilience Hub Suitable for Sustainable and Affordable low. & Moderate Living", and obtained a Solar for All Grant for \$7.4M as part of the Grant given by the EPA to the State of Indiana. Unfortunately, the Grant was reduced by 38%, and then "redistributed" with our current Grant level of \$5.4M. We are working closely with Energy Matters to try & obtain funding by year end & make the United Way Center "energy independent, saving almost \$90K per year in electrical billing, providing electrical subsidies to 3 low income apartment complexes (saving each renter 20% of their bill monthly), and helping to save 7 low income homes at least 20% on their electric bills".

#### On Saturday Sept 28th we held the 1st Climate Justice Revival @ UUCCI, we:

- Joined in spirt with thousands of UU's reimagining together a world where all communities thrive
- Created a shared vision of our community thriving to guide our actions
- Collaboratively mapped the challenging realities and possible solutions in our community
- Clarified our individual priorities for action, identified our skills and what brings us joy, grounded in our individual hopes for the future and centered in love.
- Created a clear list of potential actions and individual commitments to joyfully and faithfully transform our communities

After our revival, UU's together will breath life into our reimagined future through faithful, joyful, and impact actions.

What we did together at the Revival will allow us to take our work out into the World in a transformative way putting LOVE at the center of our Climate actions. We also had a Climate Panel discussion on Community Solar & how we were working to further the adaption on Solar in Columbus, IN

We have also made major progress in developing a Wild Flower Pollinator area at the church & have supported other efforts in the City. Finally, we are continuing the process of putting together our submission for Green Sanctuary Recertification.



# Open Mic Lunch Sunday, November 10th at noon

In honor of Transgender Day of Remembrance (November 20th), we will be holding space for everyone to share their voice and be heard. Join us for an Open Mic Lunch where singers, poets, and all other voices are welcome.





# Talent (Not Required) Show Sunday, December 8th at noon

Have you ever wanted to try your hand at stand-up? Do you love singing (or lip-syncing)? Curious about drag? Are you good at bird calls but never have an excuse to show off? Now is your chance to shine! The best part is... you don't need to be talented to have a fun time! Click this link if you're looking for ideas. Donations will be taken at the door to support a good cause chosen by LGBTQ+UU





# Community Dinner and Care Wednesday, November 6th at 6pm

we invite you take a deep breath, exhale deeply after the tense times of election cycle and find comfort in one another.

Join us for an evening of Community & Care bring a nut free dish to share there is room at the table for everyone!

Columbus Interfaith Campus 7850 W Goeller Blvd Columbus, IN 47201











# Holiday Market



# SHOPPING & SOUP LUNCH



December 7, 2023 Open 9am - 3 pm



at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbus, IN

7850 W. Goeller Blvd. Columbus, IN

ARTISAN VENDORS COOKIE WALK HOMEMADE SOUPS

CHILDRENS CRAFT ROOM

BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY FOR FOOD, FUN, AND FESTIVE GIFTS!





# Holiday Market

IN NOVEMBER, UUCCI INVITES ALL TO BEGIN PARTICIPATION IN THE EXCITING RETURN OF OUR HOLIDAY MARKET ON DECEMBER 2ND. THE HOLIDAY MARKET IS A WONDERFUL CONGREGATIONAL EVENT THAT IS HEARTWARMING FUN FOR ALL AGES. IT'S A DIFFERENT WAY FOR OUR COMMUNITY TO COME TOGETHER I REALLY LOVE THE HOLIDAY MARKET. IT'S FUN. IT'S FESTIVE. THERE ARE INTERESTING THINGS TO LOOK AT AND BUY. THERE'S SOME TERRIFIC TASTING SOUPS AND TREATS. IT'S KID FRIENDLY. MOSTLY WHAT I LOVE ABOUT IT IS IT'S A DIFFERENT WAY FOR OUR COMMUNITY TO JOIN TOGETHER AND TO SHARE WITH THE WIDER COLUMBUS COMMUNITY. THE HOLIDAY MARKET GENERATES GOOD WILL. THERE IS A WAY FOR EVERYONE IN OUR CONGREGATION TO PARTICIPATE.

# **VOLUNTEER!**

BAKE BREAD OR COOKIES
HELP WITH CHILD CARE
HELP CHILDREN MAKE CRAFTS
SERVE FOOD
SET UP/CLEAN UP
COLLECT MONEY
DONATE GENTLY USED ITEMS

# PARTICIPATE!

STOP BY AND SHOP ENJOY A SOUP LUNCH SELL YOUR CREATIONS TELL YOUR FRIENDS BRING YOUR NEIGHBORS



# **UUCCI PROGRAMS**

#### **NOVEMBER 2024**

## Sunday Services Meeting Friday, November 1 at 10:30 am

The Sunday Service Team organizes meaningful services for our congregation each week.

## Cooking Across Cultures Friday, November 1 at 5:30 pm

Our final 2024 Cooking Across Cultures event will take place on Friday, November 1st at 5:30 pm at UUCCI. This is a holiday themed pitch-in! Bring a dish to share, either a traditional dish from your family or a recipe you've been wanting to try. Please, no pork products! Before we eat, participants can try their hand at frying latkes, a traditional Hanukkah food. Space is limited, so RSVP to Kate Slabosky (kslabosky@gmail.com) if you want to join.

# Congregational Meeting Sunday, November 3 at 11:30 am

Members of the congregation are invited to join us in the sanctuary after service. Childcare is provided.

# Hearts and Hands Craft Circle Sunday, November 3 at 12pm

Are you a knitter or crocheter? Do you enjoy another (portable) craft? Would you like to learn a new craft? If you answered yes to any of the above questions, we would love to see you at the Hearts & Hands Crafting Circle! This will be a monthly meeting for all of us crafty types to get together and focus on the hobbies we love. Bring a snack to share if you can and your current project or come learn something new.

# Pastoral Care Team Meeting Wednesday, November 6 at 2 pm

Our Pastoral Care Team helps us to stay connected with the members of our congregation. If you would like to share a special announcement, birthday, a joy, or a sorrow in our Friday Reminder email, please reach out to Marcia Walker at <a href="mailto:mwalker@epowerc.net">mwalker@epowerc.net</a>

# Vespers Service Wednesday, November 6 at 6 pm Join us for a special evening service

#### Community Dinner and Care Interfaith Event Wednesday, November 6th

We invite you take a deep breath, exhale deeply after the tense times of election cycle and find comfort in one another. Join us for an evening of Community & Care. Bring a nut free dish to share there is room at the table for everyone!

# Choir Practice Wednesday, November 6 at 7 pm

New voices are always welcome. The UUCCI Choir rehearses 2-3 evenings a month and performs one Sunday morning a month. Contact Louise at <a href="mailto:music@uucci.org">music@uucci.org</a>.

#### **November Hot Meal**

Friday, November 8 at First Presbyterian Meal Service is from 4:30-5:30. If you would like to join your fellow UUs in this endeavor to help with food preparation, meal service, or dishwashing, please contact Patti Wade at <a href="mailto:wade.patti@gmail.com">wade.patti@gmail.com</a> or 812-343-9148.

# **UUCCI PROGRAMS**

#### **NOVEMBER 2024**

#### Hymnody discussions Sunday, November 10 at 11:30 am

Our Living Tradition explores our favorite hymns together in one-hour Sunday afternoon discussion sessions. Contact Louise at <a href="mailto:music@uucci.org">music@uucci.org</a>.

Childcare provided!

# Open Mic Lunch Sunday, November 10 at 12 pm

In honor of Transgender Day of Remembrance (November 20th), we will be holding space for everyone to share their voice and be heard. Join us for an Open Mic Lunch where singers, poets, and all other voices are welcome.

# Spiritual Living Circle Monday, November 11 at 12:30 pm

Spiritual Living Circle meets the 2nd Monday of each month from 12:30pm until 2:00pm in the library at UUCCI. Join us for a time of meditation, reflection, and discussion. We use the Spiritual Living Magazine and a metaphysical book of group choice as our source materials.

Choir Practice Wednesday, November 13 at 7 pm

# Womens Chalice Circle Thursday, November 14 at 10 am

Chalice Circles are facilitated, small group gatherings, which meet once a month at UUCCI. The gatherings foster conversation on Monthly Themes and build community in a small setting. Please contact Sharon Mangas for more info at docmangas@comcast.net

#### Raising Unitarian Universalists (RUUs) Sunday, November 17 at 11:30 am

Get cozy with some warm beverages and delve into parents as spiritual guides. With many holidays this time of year: How do you feel in that role? What questions do you have? How can we support you?

Choir Recording Session Sunday, November 17 at 12 pm

Band Practice Wednesday, November 20 at 7 pm

Hearts And Hands Craft Circle Thursday, November 21 at 6:30 pm

#### Friendsgiving

Sunday, November 24th at 11:30 am Gather after service for a celebration of food and fellowship! Bring a side dish to share (no nuts or sesame)

#### **Band Practice**

Wednesday, November 27 at 7 pm



# **COLUMBUS INTERFAITH**

## **EVENTS AT UUCCI INTERFAITH CAMPUS**



# Columbus Interfaith Meeting (ZOOM ONLY) Tuesday, November 5 at 6 pm

Each month, the guiding members of Columbus Interfaith meet to discuss upcoming events, organize the shared calendar for the campus space, and share support.



# Community Dinner and Care Wednesday, November 6th

We invite you take a deep breath, exhale deeply after the tense times of election cycle and find comfort in one another. Join us for an evening of Community & Care. Bring a nut free dish to share there is room at the table for everyone!



# Tree Of Knowledge Psychic Fair November 23 from 12 - 4 pm

This event is organized as a fundraiser for Tree of Knowledge Coven as a way to help fund our free classes, resources, and community celebrations. Our Psychic Fair will take place from 12 - 4 pm on Saturday, November 23rd. Stop by for a psychic reading, visit a variety of spiritual vendors, grab some sweets from the kitchen, and pick out a free book from the BCPL Express, courtesy of the Bartholomew County Public Library! Tracy Price will be joining us to offer a Sound Healing and Drum Circle Workshop from 1-2:30pm. Tickets are available for only \$20! Ticket sales available from 12-1pm.

<u>CLICK HERE</u> or visit <u>bit.ly/PsychicFair2024</u> to register as a vendor. Registration Ends November 16th Click these links to view the <u>Psychic Fair page</u> on our website or <u>Facebook</u> event page



# Gaia Gathering: Beaver Moon Saturday, November 23 at 6 pm

Each month on the Saturday closest to the Full Moon, Amanda Hinrichs leads a community gathering to connect with the Earth and ourselves. Join us as we enjoy some snacks, seasonal activities, and small group discussions. While this event includes practices and teachings of Wicca, all are welcome, regardless of their spiritual path. During the month of November, our animal neighbors begin preparing to rest for the Winter. Join us as we explore ways to surround ourselves with care and comfort during this busy time of year, and how we can embrace the peaceful months ahead.

# TREE PEKNOWLEDGE PSYCHIC FAIR

**NOVEMBER 23RD FROM 12-4 PM** 

Find One of A Kind Treasurers, Receive Spiritual Readings,
Discover Beautiful Handmade Gifts, Participate in
Workshops With Friends, Support Local Spiritual
Businesses, and Help Fund Future Community Events!

REGISTER AS A VENDOR AT BIT.LY/PSYCHICFAIR2024



DRUM CIRCLE & SOUND HEALING

With Tracy Price



We are honored to welcome Tracy Price; reiki master, shaman, and life long spiritual drummer. Learn, heal, and grow in this powerful workshop!

**20 SEATS AVAILABLE** 

TICKETS

**\$20** 



1PM-2:30PM

AT UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CONGREGATION OF COLUMBUS, IN
7850 GOELLER BLVD COLUMBUS 47201



ALL ARE WELCOME!
FOR MORE INFO, REACH OUT TO
SUPPORT@TREEOFKNOWLEDGEINDIANA.COM