

# OUR COMMUNITY



Sunday, January 21, 2024

Community United Church of Christ—CUCC, UCC Campus Ministry—UCC-CM

## PRAYER & AWARENESSES

### Ongoing Prayer Concerns

- We pray for an end to the gun violence across the United States and for healing and hope for those families affected. May all our weapons be turned to plowshares.
- We pray for an end to escalating violence against LGBTQ+ people.
- We pray for an end to racially charged violence.

### Prayer Requests shared in worship Sunday, January 7

#### We pray for:

- **Jan Dobson and her doctors** who have gotten her Parkinson's under control enough for Jan to return to a near normal life.
- **Toni and her family**, Connie's friend, upon the death of her husband Stan.
- **Friends of Larry** experiencing stress and loneliness as they adjust to life with a new baby far from home and family.
- **Stu Merkel**, Laura Stevens' cousin. Stu is a Congregational pastor and found out he had stomach cancer just before Christmas. His congregation has wrapped around him and prayers are working.
- **Emily**, Kathy's friend who has been diagnosed with breast cancer, and gratitude for its early detection.
- Please pray for the **people of Texas** to mobilize for justice, as they are stuck under the rule of a few who are buying and selling the laws and safety of the rest.
- **Leon and his friends**
- **Ann and her brothers and their families**, Pastor Leah's friend upon the death of their mother this past week.

## CUCC BY THE NUMBERS

**48** Adults, **5** Kids, **8** Zoom Users **6** Facebook Users for a Total of **67** people/devices participated in worship on Sunday, **01/07**

**0** Adults, **0** Kids, **0** Zoom Users **0** Facebook Users for a Total of **0** people/devices participated in worship on Sunday, **01/14 (worship canceled due to inclement weather)**

**39** eat in meals, **17** heat-at-home meals, for a total **56** meals were served to our Jubilee Café guests by **20** volunteers on Monday, **01/08**

**40** eat in meals, **17** heat-at-home meals, for a total **57** meals were served to our Jubilee Café guests by **20** volunteers on Monday, **01/15**

**11** people gathered for Pub Theology, **01/09**

**15** people gathered for Pub Theology, **01/16**

**9** folks gathered for Just 4 Fun BREFFAS Group breakfast at Perkins, **01/10**

**17** folks gathered for the CUCC Retiree's Lunch Gathering at Bunny's Tavern, **01/16**

**3** AA groups met in our space this week

## TAKING DOWN THE GREENS

What goes up, must come down. Please plan to stay after worship today, **Sunday, January 21** and help us take down the Christmas decorations immediately following worship. We hope many of you will stay and participate. Many hands make for light work! Contact Rocio or Dennis with questions about this event.

## CUCC ANNUAL MEETING AND POTLUCK IS JANUARY 28

Please join us for the annual meeting and potluck immediately following worship on **Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>**. Please bring a dish to share with serving utensils. Hospitality will provide drinks, plates, and silverware. Drop off your dish to share in the Fellowship Hall/Kitchen prior to worship, as early as 9:00am.

## OUR WHOLE LIVES FOR OLDER ADULTS BEGIN JANUARY 21

If you are planning to attend or thinking about attending the Our Whole Lives for Older Adults, those over age 50 or those who have spoken with the leaders — Pastor Leah and Parish Nurse Johnalene Radek, please complete the registration form by clicking on the link or scanning the QR Code.

<https://forms.gle/VbJPNi3AvB75KEMd9> Classes begin Sunday, Jan. 21.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CUCC?

**01/21, SUNDAY, CUCC Offices Closed**

**10:15am** Traditional Hybrid Worship — Epiphany

**1:00pm—3:30pm** OWL for Older Adults

**8:00pm—9:00pm** Manhattan AA Group (Parlor)

**01/22, MONDAY**

**9:00am** Articles for February eCommuni-gram due

**2:00pm** Jubilee Café Prep

**5:00pm—6:30pm** Jubilee Café

**6:30pm—7:00pm** Jubilee Café Clean-up

**7:00pm** Inclusive Campus Ministry (Fellowship Hall)

**01/23, TUESDAY**

**7:00pm-8:30pm** Tuesday Night LGBTQ+ AA Group (Parlor)

**7:00pm-8:00pm** Pub Theology (Fellowship Hall)

**01/24, WEDNESDAY**

**12:00pm** Items for Bulletin & weekly email due (for 01/28/24)

**01/25, THURSDAY**

**8:00pm-9:30pm** Denver AA Meeting (Parlor)

**01/26, FRIDAY CUCC Offices Closed**

**01/27, SATURDAY CUCC Offices Closed**

**01/28, SUNDAY, CUCC Offices Closed**

**10:15am** Traditional Hybrid Worship — Epiphany

**8:00pm—9:00pm** Manhattan AA Group (Parlor)

**01/29, MONDAY**

**2:00pm** Jubilee Café Prep

**5:00pm—6:30pm** Jubilee Café

**6:30pm—7:00pm** Jubilee Café Clean-up

**7:00pm** Inclusive Campus Ministry (Fellowship Hall)

**01/30 TUESDAY**

**7:00pm-8:30pm** Tuesday Night LGBTQ+ AA Group (Parlor)

**7:00pm** Pub Theology (Fellowship Hall)

*Did you know that CUCC sends out a weekly email announcements and a monthly newsletter? If you would like to be added to the distribution list, email: [info@community-ucc.org](mailto:info@community-ucc.org) and ask to be added to the list!*

RAISE RIGHT RELOAD PHYSICAL GIFT CARDS

Using the RaiseRight app is super easy. (Please let us know if you'd like some help learning to do this!) But sometimes using and reloading a physical gift card can be useful. Some church members keep a physical gift card loaded with funds so that they can send their teenaged or young adult children to the grocery store, to get gas, or pick up a pizza. Or you can keep a loaded card in your wallet instead of using the app. First, check to see whether the card you are interested in has the option for shipping a physical card to your home *and* for the ability to "reload." Purchase a physical gift card and have it sent *to your home* (please remember that given the high costs of doing so, CUCC does *not* have cards shipped to the church). Once you have the card in hand, you can add money to it at any time by clicking the "Reload" button and following the instructions.

To create an account, go to the <https://www.raiseright.com> and click on the "signup" button to begin the process of "Joining" an existing program and then enter Community United Church of Christ's enrollment code number: **279D2C266L1L9** to complete the process. If you encounter any problems during your enrollment process, call 1-800-727-4715, option 3 for assistance or contact Jen Robbennolt at [Jennifer.robbennolt@gmail.com](mailto:Jennifer.robbennolt@gmail.com).



LITURGIST, USHERS, GREETERS FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

There are many opportunities to serve in worship at CUCC during January and February. Sign-up by scanning the QR Code, or by writing your name and checking the task you wish to fill on the paper sign-up sheet located in the Parlor or going to the Sign Up Genius at <https://tinyurl.com/cuccgul>



PUB THEOLOGY INVITES YOU TO JOIN THEM

Pub Theology, the Tuesday night book group, is beginning a new book in January. We will be reading *Poverty by America* by Matthew Desmond. If you'd like to join us for this book, show up on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. We'd love to have you join us. Contact Tom Ward [wardt508@comcast.net](mailto:wardt508@comcast.net) if you have questions or to be added to the Pub Theology email list.

OUR WHOLE LIVES FOR OLDER ADULTS BEGIN JANUARY 21

OWL is the comprehensive, inclusive, wholistic sexuality education curriculum produced by our United Church of Christ and the Unitarian Universalists. OWL for Older Adults is the newest, was published in 2019, and uses exercises and techniques designed to reduce shame, normalize age-related changes, provides information about relationships, and increases awareness of sexual choices. It may help those who are 50 and older to enjoy life-affirming sexual choices (solo or partnered) and enable them to move beyond their intellect to address attitudes, values, and feelings they have about their own and others' sexuality. There are 14 workshops which Faith Community Nurse Johnalene Radek and Pastor Leah will be offering in 7 workshops this winter and spring.

If you are interested in being part of the OWL class, take time to read the information below and reach out to Johnalene or Pastor Leah with questions.

Please note that the age cut off is lenient. If you are in your mid to late 40s and are interested in being part of the class, please see the teachers to indicate your interest.

Classes will take place in the parlor from 1 pm-3:30 pm on seven Sundays starting in January through June.

January 21	Sexuality & Values; Attitudes about Aging
February 4	You, as a Sexual Being; The Sexual Body
March 3	Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity; Intimacy
March 17	Sexual Consent & Boundaries; Family Matters
April 14	Sexuality & Loss; Reframing Sexuality, Disability, & Chronic Illness
May 5	Body Image; Dating as an Older Adult
June 2	Safer Sex; Sex Play Beyond Basics

WINTER COATS FOR TEENAGERS NEEDED

Many of you know that we are constantly looking for coat donations for our Jubilee guests. Another need for coats has come to light, courtesy of Isaac Klimasmith and his wife, Mariel. Mariel is a bilingual social studies teacher at UHS and Isaac is a bilingual math tutor after school. Many of their students are migrants and are often not prepared for the cold weather settling in. Luckily, the coats they need are different size-wise than the coats most needed by our Jubilee guests. Isaac shares that "Mariel's students are middle and high school students, so they need larger children's sizes and small adult sizes. For gender, it's a pretty even mix, but more girls tend to arrive in the winter (after their brothers arrive the previous summer), so small-sized women's coats are especially useful this time of year". Isaac also shared that many of the students love coats that are "heavily gendered!" so things in traditional female or male colors are especially prized by the students - don't shy away from those pinks and purples! They would welcome coats that are gently used, or other coats you may find in the stores. You can drop them in the donation box in the front entrance - we will sort them out once they arrive! Thanks very much.

OUR WHOLE LIVES FOR OLDER ADULTS BEGIN JANUARY 21

Beginning in February the Unitarian Universalist Church of Urbana-Champaign is excited to offer [Our Whole Lives \(OWL\)](#), a series of comprehensive, developmentally appropriate sexuality education classes for Younger Elementary (K-1), Older Elementary (grades 4 -5), and Parents & Caregivers As Sexuality Educators.

These classes will be held on Sundays from 4:00-5:30pm. There is no cost to attend and free childcare is available.

If you are interested in having your child participate in either of these classes, [Our Whole Lives \(OWL\) - UU Church of Urbana-Champaign \(uucuc.org\)](#).

If you have questions about these classes or want information on future OWL classes, please contact [religious-exploration@uucuc.org](mailto:religious-exploration@uucuc.org)

SAVE THE DATE

**Sunday, January 21, 10:15am:** Traditional Hybrid Worship  
**Sunday, January 21, 1:00pm—3:30pm:** OWL for Older Adults  
**Monday, January 22, 9:00am:** February eCommunigram articles due  
**Sunday, January 28, 10:15am:** Traditional Hybrid Worship  
**Sunday, January 28, 11:30am:** Annual Congregational Meeting and Potluck