



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF LITTLE ROCK

Monthly News & Updates

October 2025 | VOL. 74
ISSUE 9

Worship Services

Oct 5: "75 Years of Cultivating Compassion" - We celebrate UUCLR's 75th Anniversary through our Soul Matters theme and New Member Recognition.

Oct 12: "Blessing the Animals" - Bring your beloved animal companion(s) to church to be loved on and blessed.

Oct 19: "Peace and Cooperation" United Nations Day, marking the 80th year of the UN Charter and its mission of international peace and cooperation. What will it take?

Oct 26: "Samhain" (pronounced sow-in) - This ancient Celtic holiday signals the beginning of winter and offers a thin space where we honor our ancestors. Coordinated by our Worship Arts Team & the Coven of UU Pagans.



How will you honor this milestone?

UUCLR will turn 75 on October 5th. Over the next several months, we'll be celebrating by looking *back* and looking *ahead*. Individuals, classes, and teams are encouraged to think of creative and thoughtful ways to mark this occasion. Send your thoughts and ideas to Debbie Goolsby.

10 am Forum Topics

Oct 5: Arkansas Art Pottery - a historical perspective with Arkansas Historian, Edwin Gifford

Oct 12: 2nd Sunday Share the Plate Guest: Mary Olson will share with us about the exciting new Hummingbird Organic Farm and Community Garden which is in partnership with the Elaine Legacy Center.

Oct 19: Congregational Safety - The Health & Safety Team will host this forum to share information about our policies and procedures and to hear feedback from attendees.

Oct 26: "What's on Your Mind?" - Clyde Bailey



Young at Heart

Tuesday, October 14 @ 11:45

Join us for a delicious luncheon of chili and salad, under the direction of Joanne Kriehn. Many helpers will be invited to bring parts of the meal. A suggested donation of \$10 helps to defray expenses. Following the meal, Jeanne Brown and her crew will present a Readers Theater production. Hope to see you all there!



Upcoming Events

- 10/1 Religious Trauma Group
- 10/3 Card Night - Come Play Hearts! (6pm, Pehrson)
- 10/4 Poster-Making Party (1pm, Mehta)
- 10/5 75th Anniversary Sunday Service
- 10/5 Book Exchange & Recycling
- 10/5 New Member Recognition
- 10/5 Vegetarian Potluck
- 10/6 Between the Lines Book Club (7pm, Zoom)
- 10/8 Program Council Mtg. (5:15pm, Zoom/Pehrson)
- 10/9 Site Ops Council Mtg. (12:30pm, Zoom/Pehrson)
- 10/12 Blessing of the Animals Sunday
- 10/14 Young at Heart Luncheon (11:45am, Mehta)
- 10/18 Grounds Workday (8am @ church)
- 10/18 Central AR PRIDE Fest (offsite)
- 10/18 Small Group Dinners
- 10/21 Our House Meal Serving
- 10/21 UUCLR Board Meeting (5pm)
- 10/25 Intergenerational Halloween Party! (5pm)
- 10/26 LUUnch Out!
- 10/26 Samhain - All Hallows Sunday
- 10/26 Memorial Woodland Walk & Service (12:15)
- 10/31 Short Story Discussion Group (Noon, Pehrson)

View the online calendar to see times and locations of all the upcoming summer events.

**UUCLR
Calendar**

You're invited to a...



FOR ALL AGES!

On October 25th, in conjunction with our regular Parents Night Out, all are invited to a night of Halloween fun and festivities in the Mehta Wing, 5-8pm. Costumes are encouraged!

PARENTS - You are welcome and encouraged to join in the fun! Use the online [PNO link to register](#) for this event ONLY if you will NOT be staying at the party. The deadline to register is October 19th.

Grounds Workdays

Save the dates and come enjoy a morning of nature, homemade snacks, and fellowship with fellow church friends. Starts at 8:00am.

Saturday, October 18

Saturday, November 15

Contact Joanne Kriehn for more info.



Come play Hearts!

Friday, Oct 3, 6-8pm, Pehrson

Do you like playing cards and want to spend more time with our UU community? Come play Hearts! It's the easiest trick-taking (or trick avoiding!) game to learn and play. Beginners are welcome. 6-8 pm at UUCLR in Pehrson. Bring your own beverage and a snack to share. Please [fill out this form](#).

13th Annual PRIDE Fest & Parade

The 13th Annual Central Arkansas PRIDE Fest and Parade will take place on **Saturday, Oct. 18th, 2025**—and this year with a bold **NEW** location: Capitol Avenue in Downtown Little Rock!

UUCLR is proud to participate in this annual event, showing our support, as we continue to serve and create safe spaces for the LGBTQIA+ community with our allies.

The event is from 11am-6pm. We are in need of individuals willing to help with set up and take down, being present at our booth during the event hours, and walking in the parade (with UU-gear!).

If you can be there to represent UUCLR, please contact the office.



This year's theme is more than just words—it's a movement. **UNITED IN PRIDE** reflects the strength of our shared history, our cross-generational resilience, and the power of solidarity in the face of adversity. As our community continues to stand strong—from the legislative halls to the dance floor—this theme reminds us that we are stronger together.

Make a Donation to Support this Event

Each year, the event accepts applications from individuals who would like the honor of walking with the large pride flag in the parade. You can put your name in the running by filling out the application (button link below).



Flag Volunteer Application



REFLECTIONS: “The War Department”

It took the development of the atomic bomb to inspire the original change from “the War Department” to “the Department of Defense.” The President who dropped that bomb on Japan – *twice* – proposed the change.

Pete Hegseth said the change is about “restoring the warrior ethos.”

First it was kings, then it was warriors; where have I seen this sequence before?



Back in 1990, Robert Moore and Douglas Gillette, building on Carl Jung’s concept of psychological archetypes, proposed “King-Warrior-Magician-Lover” as the four archetypes of a mature male psyche. Their idea was that viewing one’s life through a lens – a progressive lens, I suppose – that focuses on these four archetypes can help one navigate a path to maturity and spiritual growth. (I pause to note that their work, like Jung’s, assumes a conventional gender binary; I think these archetypes would be equally useful for women – especially if we substitute an equivalent gender-neutral term for “King” – *and* I think there might be an archetype or two missing from their progressive lens.)

Here’s the gist of it:

ARCHETYPE	THEMES	HEALTHY EXPRESSION	SHADOW VERSIONS
King	leadership, order, judgment, wisdom	good judgment, responsible leadership, orderliness	Tyrant controlling, demanding Weakling <u>unenergetic</u> , cowardly
Warrior	assertiveness, good boundaries, courageous action	assertiveness, good boundaries, courageous action	Sadist enjoy others' suffering Masochist enjoy own suffering
Magician	knowledge, skill, using knowledge and intention to foster healing and transformation	access to special knowledge, ability to channel energies for common good	Manipulator use knowledge for selfish gain Victim lacking agency, skill
Lover	passion, desire, connection, embracing the fullness of life	sensuality, passionate engagement, deep connection	Addict uncontrolled desire Impotent suppresses desire, passion

The Shadow expressions divide into opposites because – in Jung’s conception – the Shadow is where we put all the aspects of our human selves we refuse to own. So, for example, if you *must* see yourself as a “strong man,” then you reject, dislike, and may be prone to speak ill of those you perceive as having the qualities of Weaklings, Masochists, Victims, or Impotents. The dangers (to oneself and others) of that sort of unbalanced self-concept – especially when granted social power – are reflected in the qualities of the Tyrant, Sadist, Manipulator, and Addict.

Open (and unreflective) celebration and performance of the King and Warrior archetypes have been a feature of the current administration (if not its earlier incarnation). Will lauds in Washington for the Magician and the Lover be forthcoming? Probably not. Their “strong” shadows are too proximate to things we commonly view as crimes (which might explain past concerns about financial conflicts of interest and current bipartisan interest in the Epstein files).

To me, all of this suggests that our hope rests in balanced, mature (not merely elder) leaders who, whatever their rank and responsibilities, embody and perform the qualities of healthy leadership.

Submitted by Rev. Paul Beedle

Animal Blessing Service - Oct. 12th

This annual service includes an invitation to bring your beloved animals to the 11am service, which will be held in the Mehta Wing. Please be sure to bring a leash, crate, or other helpful items to "keep the peace" as best we can.

NOTE: The vegetarian potluck has moved to 1st Sunday



Board President's Message

Submitted by Laurie Smith Prud'homme

This month marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of UUCLR. I am looking forward to all of the ways that we will celebrate this milestone together. And I hope we will spend time thinking about our future – what are our dreams for the next 75 years?

What a gift to be a part of this congregation – and to be a place for others looking for belonging and inclusion and community. What could be more necessary – more essential – especially at this time? Our church is a place of safety and love, of acceptance and peace, of curiosity and learning. A place to rest and renew our souls. We all create this beloved community together – with our care and love, our participation and commitment. Thank you for joining in this beautiful work as we support and love each other. As we see and hear each other – as our whole selves.

I believe Rev Michelle Collins describes us perfectly:

Come into Our Circle

Come in from the margins. Come into our circle.

Here, we stretch wide a doorway of belonging.

No need to polish your edges or hush your truth.

We gather not in sameness, but in shared seeking.

Take a breath. Set down what you carry.

You are welcome, wholly and wildly, in this place.

With love and gratitude,
Laurie Smith Prud'homme

August Board Meeting Summary

Following approval of the minutes, we heard reports from Rev Paul, Finance Committee, Program Council, Site Operations Council, and Executive Committee. We reviewed reports from the ad hoc committees including 8th Principle, Outdoor Spaces, Governing Docs, Technology, and OWL Feasibility.

In old business, we finalized our board goals for the 2025-26 church year and discussed plans for the upcoming 75th anniversary.

In new business, we discussed potential plans for future DEI trainings, a possible long term outside rental, and next steps for determining the congregation's thoughts on becoming a teaching congregation.

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, October 21st, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, Oct. 21st



UUCLR is a Welcoming Congregation

Each of us has worth and dignity, and that worth includes our gender and our sexuality. As Unitarian Universalists (UUs), we not only open our doors to people of all sexual orientations and gender identities, we value diversity of sexuality and gender and see it as a spiritual gift. We create inclusive religious communities and work for LGBTQ justice and equity as a core part of who we are. All of who you are is sacred. All of who you are is welcome.

RSVP for Volunteer Reading Day - November 18th

Reading Day is the big event for the Little Rock Elementary Schools where every classroom has a community volunteer come in and read to the class for 30 minutes. This November event has been happening for over 50 years and is so much fun!

Wouldn't it be great if every classroom had a reader from UU Church? [Sign up today](#) and request McDermott as your school. Don't delay because these slots fill quickly. The event is Tuesday, November 18, in the morning. The librarian will have books ready for you to select or you can bring a favorite book from your home. It is not necessary, but sometimes readers will purchase a book and leave it for the class.

**VIPS JANE MENDEL READING DAY
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18**

**Sign Up to
Read!**

Ciao for Charity @ UUCLR - Oct. 25th

The West Little Rock Civitan Club is hosting CIAO FOR CHARITY lunch and silent auction to support the annual Christmas Party for students at the Arkansas School for the Deaf. For more than 25 years, the West Little Rock Civitan Club has sponsored this annual celebration which includes a bowling party and Christmas gifts presented by Deaf Santa!



Attend Ciao for Charity

Buy tickets and attend the fantastic spaghetti lunch! Best spaghetti!
\$20

Guests under 16 attend free

To Go/Take Out meals are available

11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Saturday October 25, 2025

Unitarian Universalist Church
1818 Reservoir Rd, Little Rock

Armed Intruder Workshop - Oct. 23rd

At the invitation of the UUCLR Health & Safety Team, from 5:30pm - 7:00pm on October 23rd, FBI Agent Kimberly Granich will conduct a workshop on ways congregations might respond to an

Food Pantry Impact & Honor

The UUCLR Food Pantry successfully moved to McDermott Elementary at the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year. In the first full month over four weeks, they distributed 110 food bags which have supported a total of 154 neighbors! You can see the September numbers below.

Children (0 - 17) in Assisted Households:	92
Adults (18 - 59) in Assisted Households:	59
Seniors (60+) in Assisted Households:	3
Other (unknown) in Assisted Households:	0
Total Households Assisted:	40 households with a total of 154 members

This hard working group of UUCLR volunteers was recognized at the LSRD Board Meeting on September 25th as a Partner in Education. Margot Cameron gave a lovely acceptance speech. You will notice a yard sign recognizing this important new partnership in front of the church's main entrance.



Save the Date: No Kings Day 2.0 - Oct. 18th

Mark your calendars for a protest opportunity in October. Watch [THIS VIDEO](#) to learn more.

Technology Team Update

Scott Lee, chair of the Technology Committee, is happy to report that we have completed the first phase of the

approved upgrades. The church's network is fully up and running! The second phase of this work involves the installation of security cameras. Equipment has been purchased and the work is moving ahead, beginning with a new monitoring system in the office which will connect to each of the cameras. Thank you to everyone who assisted with the cable pulling and other tasks which have brought us to this point!

UUCLR needs multiple people who understand how our network and camera systems operate in order for this work to be sustainable into the future. If you are interested in helping manage this equipment—or simply want to learn the basics so you can serve as a backup when needed—please be in touch with Scott or Rebecca.



New Members!

With joy we share that Marty & Chalina Mora have signed the book as our newest members. The Mora Family includes three amazing daughters (Marzia, Maya, and Amber) and one on the way. We love having each of you as part of our beloved community. Welcome!

Also pictured, Lisa Brents (Membership Chair) and Rev. Paul Beedle.

Are you getting all the news you need?

[We have several ways of communicating!](#)

Friday Email Blast

Sunday Morning Email Blast

Sunday Order of Service Insert

Bulletin Boards (Thomson & RE Wing)

Outer Circle - Monthly Newsletter

New! - Parent GroupMe Chat

Website - www.uuclr.org

Facebook - /UUCLR



So many beautiful people! If you'd like to take a photo for your directory listing, please contact the office. Thank you, Membership Team, for your work to keep our records up to date!

October Birthdays

October 2 - Nell Matthews
October 4 - Sarah Hyndman
October 5 - Patricia Hambrick
October 12 - Crystal Amos
October 13 - Larry Swindle
October 14 - Amber Storment
October 15 - Janet Bowen
October 18 - Michelle Nowlin

October 19 - Terry Bean
October 23 - Philia Hill
October 23 - Timothy Mellor
October 25 - Sherman James
October 25 - Roy Mellor
October 25 - Patrice O'Donoghue
October 28 - Amber Triplett
October 31 - Rachel Hollander

See a birthday that is missing or incorrect?
Please let Membership or the office know!

CHURCH ADDRESS:

1818 Reservoir Road
Little Rock, AR 72227

WEBSITE:

www.uuclr.org

OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday-Friday, 8am-1pm

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Contact for appointment.
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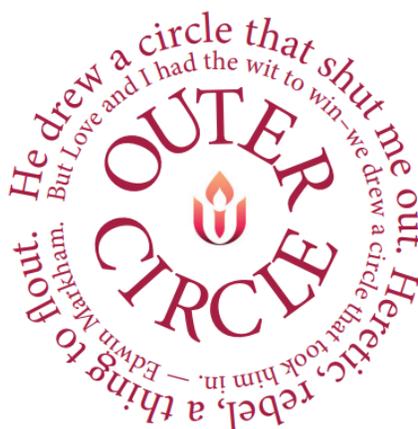
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Kendi Jensen-Loving

AV DIRECTOR:

Chad Loucks



WORSHIP ARTS TEAM LEADS:

Margot Cameron

FACILITIES TEAM LEAD:

Michael Roetzel

GROUNDS TEAM LEAD:

Joanne Kriehn

MEMORIAL WOODLANDS:

Margaret McLellan

CARING TEAM LEAD:

Sue McDonald

FELLOWSHIP TEAM LEAD:

Kater Reynolds

MEMBERSHIP LEAD:

Lisa Brents

FORUM COORDINATOR:

Jan Bowen

RE-QUESTORS COORDINATOR:

Joe Meehan

RECONNECTIONS COORDINATOR:

Zenyth Propst

CUUPS COORDINATOR:

Stephanie Webb

COMMUNICATIONS & RENTALS:

Rebecca Roetzel

HEALTH & SAFETY TEAM LEADS:

Phil Peters & Sherman James

TECHNOLOGY TEAM LEAD:

Scott Lee



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