



Directory of Shared Ministries

August 2022

Welcome! Get Started: 2 Things

Inquirers. Meet ministers and church leaders while learning about ORUUC basics, from where to find the kitchen to why we worship as we do.

Sundays, 11:15am-12:15pm

Leadership positions are available. Contact office@oruuc.org to learn more.

Considering Commitment. Share some of your spiritual journey with fellow newcomers, hear our ORUUC Story, & learn about ORUUC's essential organization and practices. This is 1 of the 3 requirements for membership (2--meet with a minister & 3--make a financial commitment.) 1st

Sundays of even months, 11:15am-12:15pm, Hearth Room.

Leadership positions are available. Contact office@oruuc.org to learn more.

Come on in! Get Established: 2 Things

Circles of Trust. These gatherings fulfill two basic needs of faith community seekers—intimacy and ultimacy. 8-10 people commit to come together twice a month to reflect on the month's spiritual theme in ways that promote deep sharing & listening.

David Savoie calsav@gmail.com

Ann Miller amiller.ixd@gmail.com

Circle I: 1st & 3rd Sundays, 11:15am-12:15pm

Circle II: 2nd & 4th Sundays, 11:15am-12:15pm

Circle III: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 5:30pm-6:30pm

Circle IV: 1st & 3rd Sundays, 11:15am-12:15pm

Circle V: 2nd & 4th Sundays, 12:30pm-1:30pm

Circle VI: 2nd & 4th Sundays, 1pm-2 pm

Circle VII: 2nd & 4th Mondays, 7pm-8pm

Circle VIII: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 11am-Noon

Circle IX: 1st & 3rd Sundays, 11:15am-12:15pm

Circle X 1st & 3rd Sundays, 5:30pm-6:30pm

Circle XI 1st & 3rd Sundays, 4:30pm-5:30pm

Inquirers Team. Assist Membership Coordinator with refreshments, set-up, group time, and clean up for welcoming sessions for newcomers. 1 Sunday/month, 11:15am-12:15pm, Sanctuary.

Leadership positions are available. Contact office@oruuc.org to learn more.

Greeters. Greet people as they arrive for Sunday services. Escort newcomers to the Host Table. 1 Sunday/ month, 9:30-10:00am.

Leadership positions are available. Contact office@oruuc.org to learn more.

Hosts. Welcome newcomers at the Host Table. Assist with sign-in, nametags, and answer questions. 1 Sunday/month, 9:30-10:00am.
Leadership positions are available. Contact office@oruuc.org to learn more.

Ushers. Welcome people as they enter the Sanctuary. Hand out orders of service. Assist with seating. Collect the offering & bring it forward to be blessed. Tally the offering total. 1 Sunday/month, 9:30-11am
Leadership positions are available. Contact office@oruuc.org to learn more.

Maintenance Team. Assist with general church maintenance to keep our building safe and functional. All skill levels welcome. 1
Saturday/month, 9am-Noon.
Martin Bauer bauermlb@gmail.com

Sunday Coffee Team. Prepare, serve, and clean up coffee and other refreshments for the social time after Sunday services. 1
Sunday/month, 9:15am-12:30pm.
Michael Bjerke michaelbjerke@comcast.net

Branch Out: "Learn-Serve-Care" Groups

"Learn, Serve, Care" groups fulfill the three functions of all healthy ORUUC groups--learning together, serving the wider church &/or civic community, & caring for fellow group members. Members gain a sense of belonging—of knowing & being known—as they build authentic relationships & grow together.

Circles of Trust Support Group. We coordinate with the Worship Team or Minister for worship theme of the month, create two sessions of Circle of Trust for each month, and send sessions for each month to each member of Circles of Trust.

David Savoie calsav@gmail.com

Ann Miller amiller.ixd@gmail.com

Clinch River Habitat for Humanity Volunteer Crew. Volunteer with the Clinch River Habitat for Humanity building houses and other work as needed in Anderson and Roane Counties.

Hal Hoyt halhoyt@hotmail.com

Steven Barker swbarkertn@gmail.com

Community Education and Development. We offer opportunities for members of our community to come together to examine and discuss history and current events to deepen our humanity and understanding of

how history and events shape the state of our world and how society can change in ways that uplift or degrade humanity.

Rebecca Bowman Rebecca.R.Bowman@gmail.com

Jason Fishel solarmanj@gmail.com

Depression and Anxiety Support Group. We gather together regularly in order to support each other in our mental health journeys.

Tuesdays, 6-7pm, Zoom

Bill Moore akitaz@mac.com

Martine Sumter martine.sumter@protonmail.com

Improving Democracy. Our purpose is to effectively support others working on improvements in democracy, and create projects we perceive to eliminate violation of the UUA principles, particularly the UUA 5th. Our first large project will include asking our fellow UUA groups in the USA to petition their state government to join the National Popular Vote Compact.

Ferrell Tim Holt timholt39@comcast.net Francis Tobin tobinf@bellsouth.com

Line Dancing. We learn and dance a variety of line dances together, including country, waltz and cha-cha. Beginners welcome! Open to the wider community. \$3 suggested donation per person per session. Sundays, 3-5pm, Social Hall.

Jo Curran joacurran@gmail.com

Steven Albright peanutsdad1958@yahoo.com

Meditation Groups. We gather to practice mindfulness and support each other in this endeavor. Mondays and Thursdays, 7-8pm, Library & Zoom

Bill Moore akitaz@mac.com

Mighty Choir. We lead worship two Sundays a month by singing a variety of choral music and encouraging congregational participation in song. We learn about music and worship and share ours joys and concerns. We also promote UU values in the community by performing at interfaith events, with other area UU congregations, and at local cultural events.

Sundays 9:00-9:45am; Wednesdays 6:30-8:00pm, Sanctuary

Anne Scott, Music Director music@oruuc.org

Mighty House Band. We lead worship by playing and singing music with a more contemporary flavor and encourage congregational participation in song. Our repertoire includes everything from contemporary arrangements of classic hymns to the latest indie-pop. We promote UU values by performing at interfaith events, at cluster events with other area UU

congregations, and at local events such as the Taste of Anderson County and the Lavender Festival.

Sundays 9:00-9:45am; Wednesdays 8:00-9:00pm, Sanctuary

Anne Scott music@oruuc.org David Dunkirk dunkirk1234@att.net

Multigen Fun Team. We support faith formation group leaders and host events that bring people of all ages together for fun and connection.

Christine Rehder crehder@oruuc.org

ORUUC Book Group Our purpose is to foster conversations through selected book readings and build relationships and trust among church members.

1st Sundays, 1:30-3pm, Hearth Room

Heidi Brenner Heidib.314@gmail.com

Rose Williams rosewilliams0484@gmail.com

Pastoral Care Team. We are matched with people in the congregation who are going through challenging situations. We meet 1:1 with our congregants once or twice a month to be a listening ear and a caring presence. We come together for training and support at monthly team meetings.

2nd Tuesdays, 5:30-7:00pm, off-site

Heidi Brenner Heidib.314@gmail.com

Reflections. We gather after the service to “reflect” on the meaning of the sermon through respectful discussions. We have lively interactions that lead in many different directions, such as interest in social action and religious quest.

Sundays, 11:15am-12:15pm, Library & Zoom

Mary Uziel maryuziel@comcast.net

Softball Team. We provide a great opportunity for anyone age 18 and over to get some exercise, play against other teams in the Oak Ridge Co-Ed Softball League, and learn/improve skills. April, May, June, August, and September: Games are Tuesday (and some Thursday) nights at Jefferson and Carl Yearwood park.

Christina Elliott christina.r.elliott@gmail.com

Stone Soup Community Meal. We provide a home-cooked meal once a month for the food-insecure, cooking-challenged and those in search of fellowship. In addition, at times we have distributed winter clothing and shoes, and arranged for free flu shots. We also offer information on community resources and voter registration. We foster connections with the

greater Oak Ridge Community.

Last Friday of every month, 5:00-6:00pm, Social Hall/Kitchen.

Tai Chi. We minister to health & stability through learning & practicing the 108 choreographed movements of tai chi. Tai chi has helped individuals maintain & improve their balance, strength, & blood pressure, & reduce knee, arm, shoulder & back pain. It has helped with MS, Alzheimer's, dropped cervix, bunions, & more.

Janet Hoegler JanetHoegler@comcast.net

Theater Group. We enjoy a range of theatrical activities for self-expression and entertainment, as well as increased awareness on topics that promote thoughtful discussion. Open to adults and youth.

Michael Bjerke michaelbjerke@comcast.net

Margaret Durgin margaretdurgin@yahoo.com

Ukulele Group. We come together to learn and practice playing the ukulele.

2nd and 4th Saturdays, 3-4pm, Sanctuary

Abbie Moore bam109@comcast.net

Linda Osborne lindadrlu@bellsouth.net

Volleyball Team. The volleyball team is open to anyone age 14. We play in the Oak Ridge Co-Ed League, and games are typically Tuesday nights in January and February at the Civic Center.

Christina Elliott christina.r.elliott@gmail.com

Pitch In: "Serve" Volunteers Wanted

These are opportunities, both within and without the church, to serve that do not involve gathering regularly as a group so much as taking a turn to accomplish a shared endeavor.

Auction Team. We coordinate a fundraising auction every year to help finance the church and its many charitable works. Past silent auction items have included social opportunities such as a wine tasting, services such as computer repair, and much more! In addition, we host a live auction with fun, fellowship, and unique items for bidding.

Leadership positions are available. Contact office@oruuc.org *to learn more.*

Caring Coordinators. We coordinate volunteers who provide caring support to the members & friends of ORUUC by providing meals, transportation, medical and/or child care, equipment, notes of encouragement & caring. Volunteer Coordinators serve two months each

year, and current coordinators meet each month. Volunteers are empowered to share their gifts with congregants in need, whether by making/delivering home cooked meals, accompanying someone to the doctor, making minor home or electronics repairs, and much more!

Freddie Nechtow FreddieN123@gmail.com

Fresh Fruit for Kids. Since December 2012, we deliver fresh fruit to supplement Second Harvest's backpack program in Oak Ridge Public Schools. In providing nutritious and delicious fruit to at-risk children, we demonstrate, through our actions, that these children are a valued part of our community. After limited deliveries during COVID restrictions, our weekly deliveries will resume this fall!

Rebecca Bowman RRBowmanTN@gmail.com

Lynda McLaren lhmclaren@comcast.net

Grounds Team. We monitor, maintain, and improve the health, beauty, and utility of the church grounds. Volunteers welcome.

Nancy Starr starroakridge@gmail.com

Memorial Garden Team. We maintain a Memorial Garden to provide an appropriate place for the interment of ashes of ORUUC members and their families, as well as friends of the church. The Memorial Garden Committee accepts applications, assigns plots, and maintains the garden as a place of beauty. *Anne Child* childanne@gmail.com

Jimmy Groton groton87@comcast.net

Memorial Services Team. We provide logistical support to the Minister and families before, during, & after Memorial services. We also host the reception following services.

Mary Uziel maryuziel@comcast.net

Jane Flanagan janevlana@comcast.net

Rummage Sale. We plan and organize two rummage sales each year. We offer to our church community and the community at large wonderful items to buy at a wonderful price. We donate leftovers to other non-profit organizations.

Christina Elliott Christina.r.elliott@gmail.com

Amanda Fishel amsfishel@gmail.com

Safety Team. We protect the safety of the congregation while in the church. We can provide first aid and CPR as needed.

Betsy Bauer bauerec@gmail.com

Jenni Keeler justice8675309@gmail.com

Sanctuary Church Movement. The Sanctuary Team implements the December 2017 Congregational Resolutions, expressing the Congregation's active part in the Sanctuary movement, and pledging to provide shelter to people facing unjust deportation or support for those who are being transported to stay with a sponsor. The Team will build a network able to faithfully implement these Resolutions.

Abbie Moore bam109@comcast.net

Kathleen Alexander alexkd18@att.net

Tech Crew. We provide audio-visual support for worship services and other events.

Martin Bauer bauermlb@gmail.com

Hang Out: "Care"

All-Church Spring Retreat. We plan & coordinate the annual weekend retreat. Activities at the retreat include various hikes, a bonfire, games, puzzles, and more!

September 30 – October 2, 2023 at Fall Creek Falls, Cane Creek Group

Christy White christy_white@comcast.net

Sara Wieland saraweiland@yahoo.com

Coffeehouse Talent Show Team. We produce Coffeehouse Talent Shows at ORUUC approximately four times a year, as fun intergenerational social events.

Michael Bjerke michaelbjerke@comcast.net

Thursday Night Potluck. We promote fellowship/community among members by sharing food, drink, and conversation.

Thursdays, 5:45pm

Betsy Speed speedybetsy@gmail.com

Faith Formation Hour for Adults |Sundays 11:15am - 12:15pm

Circles of Trust I & IX 1st and 3rd Sundays

Circles of Trust II & IV 2nd and 4th Sundays

Reflections every Sunday

Together in Spirit every Sunday

Represent: Elected, Appointed, Recruited Church Positions

Board of Trustees. (elected by the congregation) We set & provide oversight for the vision & mission of the church. We also have fiduciary responsibility for ORUUC.

3rd Tuesdays, 6:00pm, Conference Room

Michele Thornton, President michele.thornton105@gmail.com

Jim Nutaro, Past President nutaro@gmail.com

By-Laws Committee. (elected by the congregation) We review the existing by-laws annually for accuracy and relevancy and make proposals for updates that are voted on in the June meeting of the congregation.

Amanda Fishel amsfishel@gmail.com

Aubrey Wick-Sebastian aubreywick@comcast.net

Finance Committee. (recruited by the treasurer) We propose financial policy and strategy and monitor financial performance in light of budget and policy.

Brandon White, treasurer brandonwhite9@comcast.net

Giving Campaign. We ensure that every member and friend of the church is contacted through multimedia (postal mail, electronic means, and personalized phone calls) in an effort to encourage members and friends to pledge financially towards ORUUC's mission and vision of ministry.

Robin Naughton naughtonr5@gmail.com

Money Counting Team. We count & record the Church's income for weekly deposit.

Martin Bauer bauermlb@gmail.com

Nominating Committee. (elected by the congregation) We recruit & nominate candidates for elected offices.

Robin Naughton naughtonr5@gmail.com

Personnel Committee. (appointed by the Board) We ensure annual performance evaluation of all paid church employees. We also review and recommend personnel policies.

Come Together : Community Endeavors

These are community groups with which ORUUC is actively engaged in leadership.

PFLAG. We are friends and families—straight allies—of people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, & transgender. We meet monthly, rotating among 4 churches and the synagogue, 2-3 times a year at ORUUC. We advance equality and societal acceptance of LGBT people through support, education, & advocacy. 1st Mondays, 6:45pm

Marty Adler-Jasny adlerjasnym@bellsouth.net

Jimmy Groton groton87@comcast.net

Oak Ridge Interfaith Partnership. The vision of the Oak Ridge Interfaith Partnership creates beloved community by fostering understanding and relationships between our neighbors of different faiths. Our mission is to foster an understanding in our local area that our neighbors of different faiths are not some abstract other, but friends with whom we can build lasting relationships. We want to celebrate the myriad voices and faiths of the Oak Ridge area together as a borderless community in word and deed, as neighbors' part of a wider beloved community of our most ethical selves.

Rebecca Bowman RRBowmanTN@gmail.com

Jason Fishel solarmanj@gmail.com

Youth Faith Formation Groups

These groups meet during Faith Formation Hour, Sundays, 11:15am-12:15pm. With regular attendance, young people find belonging, develop a sense that they matter, and grow in wisdom and understanding of themselves, others, and our shared world.

Nursery: Birth to 3 years. Susan Rosenbaum, Nursery Coordinator and long-time church member, capably and lovingly cares for our tiniest ones, with the help of a weekly nursery assistant. We honor each family's readiness to separate. Parents are welcome to remain in the nursery with their children. Our aim is to help the children get comfortable enough for the parents to leave when they are ready.

Susan Rosenbaum, Nursery Coordinator msclued@aol.com

Preschool: Age 3 to 5 years. Preschoolers will spend the Worship Hour in the Nursery with Ms. Susan. During the Faith Formation Hour, a Class

Leader and an assistant will introduce children to a more intentional UU journey through an introduction to the Spirit Play model. Group goals are to be safe, have fun, make friends and learn. Everyone is guided to honor the group covenant, which was developed with group participation: *Respect each other & things. Pick up. Ask to play. Choose what to do.*
Christine Rehder, Director of Faith Formation crehder@oruuc.org

Spirit Play: Ages 5-10 years. Spirit Play develops each child's innate spirituality within the nurturing and broad-minded community that is the Unitarian Universalist faith. Children learn narratives of the history, religion, and shared human experiences that shape our world. A trained Storyteller tells these stories, using props and vivid language. The weekly Story is followed by Wondering—open-ended questions about the story's meaning & how it pertains to the children's lives. During Work, children may choose to play with the story props or choose from a variety of art and other open-ended materials to derive their own meaning from the stories. The hour concludes with Feast and Blessing, a time to share a small snack, each other's company, and best wishes for the week ahead.
Christine Rehder, Director of Faith Formation crehder@oruuc.org

Create and Connect: ages 5-12. The Create and Connect Room provides some ritual but offers a more relaxed and open-ended option for children. Elementary children can choose between Spirit Play and the Create and Connect Room. Each week a craft or activity based on the Worship theme is offered along with supplies for free crafting. Children are encouraged to explore their own spirituality through a variety of mediums while experiencing the connection and ritual of our UU community.
Whitney Cole, Multigenerational Coordinator whit.cole79@gmail.com

Middle School: ages 11-14. Adapted from our Spirit Play model, the Middle School examines our Worship Themes through group interaction and personal reflection. Youth engage in lively discussion about how to live their UU values in today's world, and to see how people of Faith lived their values and faced the challenges of their time. Following discussion, the Group has time for individual or small group reflection with art materials or small group games. Integrating into the congregation will be another goal of this group. The group works with the ORUUC Groundskeeping Crew monthly to learn about and help maintain the church's grounds. The Middle School meets outdoors when weather permits in an Outdoor Classroom, an idea that originated and came to fruition as part of their efforts.
Christine Rehder, Director of Faith Formation crehder@oruuc.org

Senior High: grades 9-12. The curriculum for 2022-2023 has a current events focus. Topics could include any major event appropriate for the age level, provided that the event might serve to not only better understand what is happening in the world, but to understand it through the lens of the youth's own incarnation of UU values. The aim is to help the youth to develop a better understanding of UU values, themselves, and how all of that fits together with the world. Through reflection, our youth are empowered to make choices in their lives that are aligned with their values and their understanding of who they are and intend to be. The group also spends time talking about things happening in their lives and the broader world/community.

Jason Fishel, High School Coordinator solarmanj@gmail.com

Additional Activities for Children and Youth

Milestones Rites of Passage. Children/youth in grades K, 4, 9-10 and 12 meet with the Minister of Faith Formation to deepen their Unitarian Universalist identity and mark their progress as a maturing member of the congregation. Participants are given the chance to reflect on their faith individually and in groups at age appropriate levels.. Milestones are shared with the Congregation as part of Worship.

Christine Rehder crehder@oruuc.org

Our Whole Lives (OWL). OWL is comprehensive lifespan sexuality education, reflecting the belief in a lifelong process of acquiring information and forming attitudes and values about identity, relationships, intimacy, and health. Curricula are available for grades K-1, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12 as well as young adults and adults.

Christine Rehder crehder@oruuc.org

Michael Raymond j_michael_raymond@comcast.net

Rainbow Camp. Rainbow Camp is joint effort with Blossom Center whose aim is to create fun experiences and build relationships across our community.

Christine Rehder crehder@oruuc.org Jason Fishel solarmanj@gmail.com

Youth Hiking and Nature Group. The purpose of this group is to be a resource to the older youth at ORUUC and provide opportunities to be outside and get connected to the natural world. We plan to lead 4 hikes per year.

Aubrey Wick-Sebastian aubreywick@comcast.net

Jimmy Groton groton87@comcast.net