

# NEWCOMER NEWS

May 2026



Olympia  
Unitarian  
Universalist  
Congregation



We focus on a different theme each month, and May's theme is "Awakening Curiosity". Join us all month to explore this theme all month.

## WELCOME NEWCOMERS!

This is a special monthly newsletter that shares what is happening here at OUUC for those who are new. We are trying to avoid insider language and assumptions here, if anything doesn't make sense please let us know.

We are also happy to chat with you in general. Feel free to reach out:  
Rev Mary Gear, [minister@ouuc.org](mailto:minister@ouuc.org)  
Rev Sara Lewis, [DCFD@ouuc.org](mailto:DCFD@ouuc.org)  
Chloe, [memberengagement@ouuc.org](mailto:memberengagement@ouuc.org)



## CONGREGATIONAL POLITY



"Polity" means a system of governance, and for religious groups means how they are organized to be governed. Unitarian Universalism practices congregational polity, so every congregation is independent and organizes its own leadership and governance. OUUC, and most other UU congregations, has a Board of Trustees who are elected by the congregation after being nominated by our Leadership Development Committee. Our Board meets monthly and sets policy and vision for the congregation.

The membership of the congregation meets annually for the "Annual Meeting", when they vote for the next year's budget and for new Board members. This year's meeting will be on June 14<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome to attend, although only members will vote.

## SUMMER CAMPS

We will be offering three summer camps at OUUC this year and supporting another camp held at United Churches. Our camps are all pay what you can on a sliding scale of donations, and open to everyone in the larger community.

July 13-17 Our Whole Lives for K-1<sup>st</sup> grade  
July 6-10 OUUC Chalice Camp for ages 5-11

Learn more at:

<https://www.ouuc.org/summer-camps/>



## CHILDRENS PROGRAMS ON SUNDAYS

Children and youth are always welcome in the worship service, and we have a comfy corner with toys and other items to keep hands busy. We also offer a nursery for children four and under, and a children's class for ages 5 and up each Sunday. Pre-registration is not required but a grown up should sign children in and out. For more information, contact Anissa at [reassistant@ouuc.org](mailto:reassistant@ouuc.org)



## VOLUNTEERING AT OUUC

Join our team of volunteers that serves coffee and treats on Sundays. This can include bringing treats (homemade or store-bought) on Sundays, setting up for coffee service, and/or serve coffee after services.

To sign up or if you have questions, reach out to Chloe, [memberengagement@ouuc.org](mailto:memberengagement@ouuc.org)

## COME EAT WITH US FOR FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP



A great way to get to know us is to come to one of our weekly dinners. We put on a dinner on Thursday evening almost every week, 5:30pm. All are welcome, it's not a potluck, just come! We have dinners all of May and the first two weeks of June, then take a break for the rest of the summer.

We have many activities after dinner: spiritual practice groups, a kids class, game nights on the 2nd Thurs of the month, and more.

Questions? Email Rev Sara at [dcfd@ouuc.org](mailto:dcfd@ouuc.org)