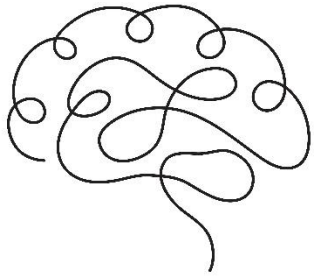
Adult Religious Education Opportunities starting In February

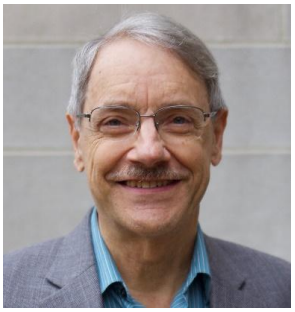
Adult Religious Education: Drugs, Mind and Society
Facilitator: Brian O'Donnell
6 Thursdays starting February 24, 4:00-5:30 p.m.



This is a 6-week course meeting on Thursdays from 4:00-5:30 starting on Thursday, Feb 24, 2022
A short orientation will be held on Thursday, February 17th at 4:00 PM

Psychoactive drugs can alter perception, consciousness, alertness and mood. The United States population consumes a vast spectrum of psychoactive drugs, both legal and illicit, recreational and medicinal. This course will examine several psychoactive drugs including psychedelics, cannabis compounds, caffeine and opioids. Topics addressed will include psychological and biological effects, subjective experiences, religious perspectives, medicinal uses, social and criminal policy and addictions.

Class requirements: Readings and other media will be used as background for each class.
This is an online course offering.
Register here. This class is limited to 12 participants.



Brian O'Donnell is a Professor Emeritus in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at Indiana University. He received a B.A. from Oberlin College and his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from SUNY Stony Brook. He has investigated the psychology and biology of psychoactive drugs and psychotic disorders for several decades, supported by the National Institutes of Health, the Brain and Behavior Research Foundation and Indiana University. Email: bodonnel@indiana.edu

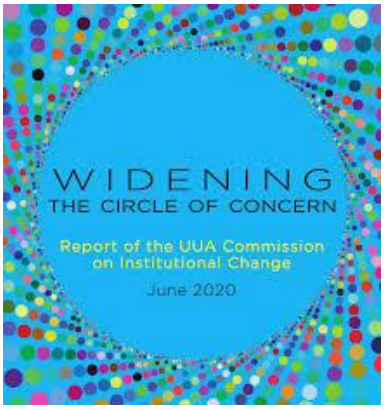
Embracing the Interim:
Exploring our Religious Education Identity

In January, folx had the opportunity to gather and tell UU Bloomington Religious education stories. The warmth of this trip down memory-lane built relationships between the generations. In February, everyone has the opportunity to gather and look at today's UU Bloomington lifespan religious education identity. What does lifespan religious education look like today? What are our religious education core values? How will these core values inform our future? We need you in this conversation. Join one of the following sessions as we continue to discern the next steps of our religious education identity.

Beth Lodge-Rigal, Drew Schrader, Stephanie Kimball and Michele Townsend Grove will serve as facilitators.

Session #2 will be held in person on Sunday, February 27, 2022 Noon to 2:00 PM
Register here for this in person listening session

Adult Religious Education: Widening the Circle of Concern



Online Sunday evenings from 7-8:30

February 27, March 6, March 27, April 3 and April 24

There will be one chapter to read for each session from Widening the Circle of Concern. They are not long chapters.

The Unitarian Universalist Association of congregations empowered the Commission on Institutional Change to research, analyze and document issues of inclusion and racism within Unitarian Universalist congregations and denomination. Out of their work came the report: Widening the Circle of Concern. You are invited to join this program which will look at the first 5 chapters of the study. We will utilize large group and small group discussion as we study and reflect. Then in the fall, another course that looks at the last six chapters will be offered.

We will meet online using zoom video conference.

Facilitators include Martha Oakley, Ruth Aydt, Michele Grove, Rev. Emily Manvel-Laite, Stephanie Kimball and more!

Register here for this amazing opportunity! If you have any questions, you can reach out to Michele at grove@uubloomington.org

Get your PDF copy of the book here (easy download).

Use this link if you wish to order your own copy of the book.

Adult Religious Education Starting in March

(only a few weeks away):



"Still Building Our Own Theology"

An Adult Religious Education Opportunity for Every Tuesday Evening in March, 7-8:30 p.m. with Rev. Barbara Child

This series of conversations will take up some of the questions we are likely to keep on asking ourselves even if we would like to think we have worked out the basics of our personal beliefs. Up to 15 (plus me) will gather online March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29, meeting from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Click here to register.

[When someone clicks on the link for more details, here is the text for them to read:]

Here are the topics we will take up during each session of "Still Building Our Own Theology":

March 1 Our Own Spiritual Odysseys: The Varieties of Our Religious Experience

March 8 Human Nature: How We Understand Ourselves

March 15 Good, Evil, and Eschatology: To Thicken the Plot

March 22 Ethics: The Importance of Being Good for Nothing

March 29 Making Meaning: A Credo for the Time Being

Just in case you are used to my "Writing as a Spiritual Practice" group, which operates as a drop-in group, I want to make clear that if you register for this series, I ask you to commit yourself to being present for all five sessions--except in case of unforeseen circumstances, of course. –Rev. Child

Adult Religious Education in April



Adult Religious Education: An Invitation to UU History April 29-30, 2022

Tour Guide: Stuart Yoak
Email: sdyoak@iu.edu
Cell: 314-566-9059.

In person at UU Bloomington for 4 sessions.
Come for one or all sessions and learn in community.

REGISTER HERE

- **UU Historical Beginning in Europe**
  - **Friday afternoon 2hr session: (1pm – 3pm) or**
  - **Friday evening (6pm – 8pm)**

- **UU Historical Beginning in America**
  - **Saturday morning 2hr session: (10am – Noon)**

- **Lunch**

- **UU Today or How our history shapes us today.**
  - **Saturday afternoon 2hr session (2pm – 4pm)**

Ever wonder how the Unitarian Universalist church evolved? Where this way of doing church came from and who were the leaders and founders of the Unitarian and Universalist movements in Europe and North America?

Our journey begins with the religious controversy of 325 CE; in 1531 we meet a Spanish theologian and physician who argued that the concept of the trinity was not biblical; learn about the first anti-Trinitarian King who decreed tolerance for all faiths; and why the English Parliament's Anti-trinitarian law, with the penalty of death, caused Unitarians and Universalists to flee to a new world across the ocean.

In North America we meet the Unitarian signers of the Declaration of Independence; founders of the first Universalist convention in 1790; a Unitarian minister and poet who was at the center of the transcendentalism movement in American literary, political, and philosophical thought; UU activists and social reformers; and the first woman to be ordained as a minister of any denomination in the United States.

We are the beneficiaries of amazing women and men who, because of their courage, determination, and a commitment to the inherent dignity and worth of all people, we today have the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana.