



Inspire. Create. Transform.

Our Ministries

Inspire:

Last year the Board voted to increase funding to our High School Youth Group (YRUU) to attend one youth conference per year and one trip to Boston every four years. This is how we inspire our future generations

Our Children's Religious Education Program is the fastest growing component of our congregation under the leadership of our Director of Lifespan Faith Development (DLFD) and her assistant. Our DFLD continues to write new curricula to educate, inspire, and create discussion amongst our young people such as the new Hatred Horocruz.

Other youth programs include coming of age for eighth graders, Our Whole Lives (a sexual education curriculum) and Middle school youth group. These programs create safe, fun places for development of spiritual identity.

We have had only one on-going Adult RE program this year: *Conversations on our Faith*. However, we have had a few short series such as *Building Your Own Theology*. We hope to increase our Adult Religious Education programs by increasing the hours of our DFLD.

Create:

UUC currently supports a literary magazine featuring our members, revolving art shows, an adult and youth choir, monthly coffee house, annual Youth coffee house/art show and a fabulous music program.

Our Caring Network provides meals and care for members of our congregation during times of illness, a new baby, or other life transitions. Our Lay Pastoral Care Ministry offers a listening presence to those going through difficult times.

Transform:

Our Mental Health Justice Ministry hosts monthly support groups for family members of people with mental illness and a second support group for individuals with mental illness. Our Community Services Team supports the *Interfaith Food Pantry*, *To Our House* (hosting homeless men), the *Christmas Store*, the *Linus Project* and others.

We support many local, national and international programs through our half-plate collection including, but not limited to, the *Women's Shelter*, *NAACP*, *Blacksburg Refugee Partnership* (helping to support several refugee families), *Literacy Volunteers*, *The Mountain* (a UU retreat center), and our sister church in Transylvania among others.

These are but a few of the things we do together as a congregation in our many ministries as led by our minister and many other dedicated members. Our budget only has a 5% allowance for our ministries with the other 95% being for fixed expenses including paying our staff, our mortgage, taking care of our facilities, utilities, etc. Imagine what we could do with our ministries **if we were able to increase that 5% to 7% or even 10%...a little could go a long way!**