

# Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Cleveland



## Small Groups Ministry

*Updated as of 7/2024*

We recognize that one of the ways a large congregation can stay engaged and connected to the community is by interacting in smaller groups focused on a shared purpose or activity.

The Small Group Ministry Committee invites you to participate in one of the many available groups. Each in some way, supports our shared vision to pursue community, spirituality and/or justice.

The most current information about our offerings will be updated on our website <https://uucleveland.org/> on the Small Groups page under the Community Menu.

Contact us at [smallgroups@uucleveland.org](mailto:smallgroups@uucleveland.org) if you have questions!

*Please visit our website ([uucleveland.org](https://uucleveland.org/)) to check the enrollment status of these and other small groups. You can enroll for open groups via the Sign Up Genius links provided.*

### **A Novel Idea (All Fiction Book Group)**

Each month, we will vote as a group on the book to read and discuss for the next month. We will read some classic literature and some new books just for entertainment or escape. Reading fiction gives us the optimism and the hope that our tiny reading lights can be enough to start covering our entire horizon. Meets Last Monday of the month @ 7 PM in Room 215.

### **All Around Town**

This is a group for adventurous diners who enjoy eating out at restaurants throughout the Greater Cleveland area. We welcome all adults, any gender, single, partnered, etc. Each person must register separately due to space limitations. This group meets the 3rd Saturday of most months throughout the year, 6:30-8:30 PM-ish.

### **Artist's Hive**

This group offers dedicated time to immerse in your art projects in a shared, supportive space with other creatives. Bring your painting, drawing, beading, collaging, handsewing or other work-in-progress and be inspired by or just be in community with others who value and thrive on creative energy. This is not a "how to," though we may freely share ideas and techniques organically. We will meet in the conference room on the 2nd floor where there is some table space, a couch, and a counter where one could put a tabletop easel. This group will meet on second Fridays of the month 7:00-9:30 PM beginning in September 2024.

### **Authentic Diversity**

This covenant group creates space to support each other in doing the personal and congregational work to manifest the Beloved Community that welcomes everyone. This group meets on third Mondays from 7-9pm.

### **Cancer Survivor Support Group**

This group is for those who have had a diagnosis of cancer, with or without treatment, and their partners. The meetings will start with some kind of structured discussion from a list of topics which have been co-created by the group. The goal of the group is to offer a supportive, confidential community during treatment and recovery. This group will meet monthly at a mutually agreed upon time beginning in September 2024. Times under consideration include a Tuesday or Thursday evening, or a weekday morning. Please comment on your preference when you sign up.

### **Circle of Friends**

Circle of Friends is a friendly, welcoming group of women in all stages of life. We share and discuss a chosen topic at each meeting. Typical topics have included gratitude, resilience, dealing with change, stages of life and spirituality. We rotate the group leadership in keeping with our mission of sharing. We contribute to the church or community through a project selected by the group. Meets 2nd Wednesdays 7:00 PM in the church library

### **Couples Connecting**

Couples take turns hosting the group either in their homes (potluck), a restaurant, a park, or other agreed-upon venue for friendship and meaningful conversation. This is a great opportunity to form deeper relationships than there may be time to enjoy during structured activities on Sunday mornings. (Limited to 5 couples.) Monthly on a Friday or Saturday evening, time TBD by group

### **Couples, Cuisine and Conversation**

Our couples groups are so popular we are looking to start a third group. Group members have the opportunity to develop deep, meaningful friendships over shared meals in each other's homes, or out at restaurants. Please sign up to express your interest and we will keep you apprised when we reach critical mass to form a new group.

### **Friendship for Women**

Women's group to deepen friendships and discuss topics chosen by a different member of the group each month. Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays from 2:00-3:30 PM.

### **Laughter In Our Lives**

Women gather for breakfast as they share experiences, poetry, music, books, articles and humor that reflect the lighter side of life. Bring your positive energy to learn, laugh, and smile together. Meets 1st Saturdays 9:30-10:30 AM.

### **Men's Group**

The Men's Group provides an opportunity for men to discuss common issues. *Meets on the second Monday from 7:00- 9:00 PM (10 Maximum).*

### **Needlers: Knitting, Crocheting and Other Handiwork**

Do you enjoy doing hand work with others? Want to learn a new skill, or get advice from others with more experience? Do you just want to gather with others, meet new people, have a lively conversation? This is an open group. We welcome UUCS members as well as people who just want to gather. Bring a friend. Meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. in the UUCS library.

### **Poetry**

Each month we meet on the second Tuesday from 7-9 in the UUCS Library to share poems. Participants bring their favorite author's work to share, or poems they are working on, or have written in the past. We welcome diverse community, ranging from beginners to professionals.

This group is always open to new members.

### **Post-Retirement (Women)**

This group is for women of post-retirement age who would like to explore together the issues relevant to their lives and society from the vantage point of life experiences and wisdom gained. Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Mondays at 3:00 PM, usually at church.

### **Pride For All Ages**

This intergenerational LGBTQ+ group is a social group that includes activism and serves as a congregational resource. The group is open to all who identify as LGBTQ+, regardless of age. The group meets monthly to socialize, discuss topics, and plan activities. The group will additionally sponsor events, engage actively in UUCS and the broader community, and serve as a resource to the congregation on LGBTQ+ issues, and/or other goals and activities as set by the group. 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays @ 11:30-1:00, and other events as scheduled.

### **Second Saturday Walking Group**

This group is for folks who are lovers of the outdoors and walking and would like to participate in moderate hikes at local parks and woody areas. 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays from 9:30-11:00 AM, locations as agreed to by the group.

### **Third Saturday Walking Group**

This group is for folks who are lovers of the outdoors and walking and would like to participate in moderate hikes at local parks and woody areas. Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays from 9:30-11:00 AM, locations as agreed to by the group

### **Tuesday Readers**

The group gathers to discuss a monthly book selection, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays at 7:00 PM via Zoom

### **Wisdom Seekers**

We are a group of men on the back nine of our lives. There is no stated age limit and we welcome anyone who wishes to seek and share wisdom with older men. Members range from 65 to 95 and we certainly would welcome some younger men. Meets 2nd Wednesday of each month at 10:00 am to 12:00 via Zoom or in person.