



*Love is the spirit  
of this church  
And service  
is its law  
This  
is our covenant  
To dwell together  
in peace  
To seek the truth  
in love  
And to help  
one another*

**Unitarian Universalist Church of Tippecanoe County**

[www.uuctc.org](http://www.uuctc.org)



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Wabash River

## Acknowledgements

The members of the DRE Search Committee would like to thank the following people for their assistance:

Rev. Jennie Barrington  
Barney Dunning  
Skip Eads  
J.T. Hoke  
Brent Jesiek  
Beth Misner

Monty Myszak  
Lisa Pantea  
Christine Schertz  
Christina Wright  
UU Youth

Contributions from these individuals were invaluable — many thanks.





*UU Church of Tippecanoe County*

## Welcome to Our Congregation!

Welcome to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tippecanoe County. We are like many other UU churches — we have members who consider themselves Christian; we have others who are Humanists, and others who are Pagan. We have members who have been active for more than 50 years, and we have families who have only just discovered the congregation. We have a cross-section of the local population; we have a fairly high number of members who are affiliated with Purdue University, given our proximity to the campus, but we also have members who have lived in Lafayette their entire lives. We have lifelong UUs in our midst along with members who grew up in other faiths, only to discover Unitarian Universalism as adults.

Like other congregations, COVID times were challenging. While we pivoted quickly to online services with the extraordinary help of tech-savvy church members, our membership still declined. We are slowly rebuilding but acknowledge that this will still take time. During all these changes, we try to remain a beacon, a voice for liberal religion in the community, speaking out for truth and justice any way we can.

We hope that this information packet describes who we are and where we are right now in our spiritual and religious journey. We feel that we are properly positioned to expand our membership, our programs, and our place in the larger community; and we seek a director of religious exploration who will help guide us and soar with us.

Thank you for taking the time to explore our community. The UU Church of Tippecanoe County is a religious community in which we take great pride — we hope that after getting to know us, you will agree.





The Rev. Jennie Barrington  
Settled Minister for  
**THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF TIPPECANOE COUNTY**  
West Lafayette, Indiana | [www.uuctc.org](http://www.uuctc.org) | 765-743-8812 | [rev@uuctc.org](mailto:rev@uuctc.org)

September 7, 2023

Dear Candidate for our DRE position,

I am so pleased that you are interested in applying to be our church's next director of religious exploration! Unitarian Universalist religious exploration for children and youth is one of the greatest things we offer as a denomination, and it's unique! No other faith tradition nurtures the religious and spiritual development of young people the way we do.

UU religious exploration for children and youth was created by a woman named Sophia Lyon Fahs. Her philosophy was that we are here to help them awaken their sense of wonder and awe. We are not here to give them passages to memorize and recite back to us. Instead, we should start with their questions, interests, and ideas, especially as those questions and ideas are age-appropriate to their age group and stage of development. In engaging in learning opportunities with them in that way, Sophia Fahs recognized that our children and youth are simultaneously teaching us. In fact, she often said that children were her best teachers.

As our director of religious exploration, you would help the children have fun while learning, you would help them feel comfortable in their own skin, and you would help them feel that this is their church home. Together, you and I would help them take part in worship services, including Time For All Ages and several all-ages services during the church year. And there will be opportunities for multi-generational activities connected to holidays, holy days, and seasonal celebrations, at our church and in the wider community.

Social action is also an important component of RE for children and youth. We teach our young people that they can make a positive difference in their communities by collaborating to create a more peaceful, fair, and loving world.

Our church's religious exploration program has been well-established for many years. It would be a pleasure to help you become familiar with the DRE's office, and the many books, curricula, and other resources and supplies, including crayons, Play-doh, and Legos.

We have attached a separate job description outlining the responsibilities of the position. And we also recognize that any DRE will bring their own strengths, gifts, and new ideas to our RE program. I look forward to hearing ways that you envision implementing and expanding on what we have done in the past.

So, again may I say that I look forward to meeting you, getting to know you, and answering any questions you have about this appealing opportunity. It is the chance to help make the world a better place, one child at a time.

Sincerely,

Rev. Jennie Barrington

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"The Church Where Everyone is WELCOME!"

**Join us on Facebook: UUCTC**

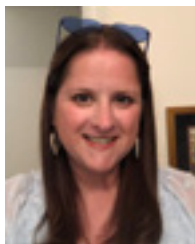
## Search Committee



**Kat Braz** has been affiliated with UUCTC for nearly 20 years. Although not a member, she serves on the worship and RE committees, is the youth group team leader and an OWL instructor, and has organized youth trips to cultural religious sites in Chicago. After 22 years at Purdue, she now runs her own boutique creative agency. Kat and her husband, Skip, live in an 1855 brick house in the country with two cats and a dog. Her hobbies include reading, playing board games and video games, gardening, traveling, and performing with the local improv comedy troupe, One Size Fits All. An avid Frank Lloyd Wright buff, she's a volunteer tour guide at the West Lafayette Samara House and was formerly at the Robie House in Chicago.



**Kathy Coder** has been a member of UUCTC since before it was even called that! She joined when it was still called a "Fellowship" back in 1980. She became active as a volunteer in RE fairly soon after she joined, and has been involved with the program almost every year since then. As a former teacher and elementary school counselor, she especially enjoys working with elementary-age students. She wants all of our children and youth to feel valued in our church, to connect with others, and to enjoy the RE program.



**Erin Hoke** has been attending the UU Church for almost 13 years. Erin is active on the RE committee and head of the greeter committee. She and her husband, J.T., have two young boys, Alex (10) and James (6), who attend RE classes. They also have a very lazy greyhound, Momentum. Erin works for Lafayette School Corporation as the Title 1 Lead Teacher at Oakland Elementary. This is her 21st year teaching, and she has experience teaching 1st grade, 3rd grade, and 6th and 7th grade social studies. In her free time, she likes to read, hike, travel, and spend time with her family.



**Julie Jesiek** has been an active member of UUCTC for over 10 years. She currently serves on the welcoming and membership and personnel committees. Julie has three children that have grown up in RE, Preston (20), Paige (14), and Lila (8), and became a member of the church because of the religious exploration program. Teaching children about all religions, the UU principles, and being better humans is important to her. Julie has volunteered for RE throughout her time at UUCTC. She is employed at Purdue as an academic advisor.



**Linda Prokopy** and her husband, Josh, have been Unitarian Universalists for over 25 years and members of UUCTC for 16 years. Their three children all attended RE at UUCTC and their youngest, 16 years old, is still active in the youth group. Linda has volunteered as a teacher in the preschool room in the past and has helped to organize the annual Halloween party and annual church retreat. She also has past service as church president and chair of the membership committee. During the week, you can find Linda at Purdue where she is department head of the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture. Her hobbies include reading fiction, hiking, and playing games.





## Liberal Religious Educators Association Code of Professional Practices (Revised June 2016)

### **Preamble**

*We, the members of the Liberal Religious Educators Association, affirm this Code of Professional Practices. LREDA members who are professional religious educators pledge to hold themselves ethically accountable to the code.*

### **I. Individual Member**

I will be familiar with and advocate for LREDA's Code of Professional Practices. I will stay informed of any rule or policy changes. I have the responsibility to read and understand this Code and to live in accordance with its contents.

I will advocate for fair compensation and working conditions that support my work as a professional religious educator and the religious education professionals that follow me.

I will keep current in my knowledge of faith development by maintaining collegial contacts and participating in continuing education opportunities.

I will maintain healthy boundaries, especially keeping aware of my rights and limits, and those of my family.

I will seek personal assistance and counseling, when needed, from a professional outside of my congregation.

I will be aware of and observe the legal requirements of my State or Province regarding reporting of physical or sexual misconduct.



I will not engage in sexual contact, sexualized behavior, or a sexual relationship with any person I serve as a religious professional.

When I am concerned about a colleague's adherence to the Code of Professional Practices, I will follow Section V "Accountability Guidelines" or contact a LREDA Good Officer.

*I will stand in support of my professional colleagues in religious education, ministry, music, administration, and membership.*

## **II. Colleagues**

I will stand in support of my professional colleagues in religious education, ministry, music, administration, and membership.

I will respect confidences given me by colleagues.

I will speak respectfully of any colleague in public or private.

Should I become aware that a LREDA colleague is or might be engaged in practices that violate the Code of Professional Practice, I will speak directly to them and endeavor to be of help. If necessary, I will bring such matters to the attention of a Good Officer or the LREDA Board Trustee for Professional Support or President. See Section V.

It is important to the well-being of any congregation, agency or enterprise, that the staff are in a healthy relationship. I will seek to be part of mutually cooperative and consultative relationships as we carry out our shared and separate responsibilities. When difficulties arise, I will seek help judiciously and express my concerns professionally, keeping in mind the worth and dignity of all parties involved.

I will share leadership opportunities and responsibilities with my colleagues openly, honestly, and ethically. In particular, I will consult with colleagues in advance of any professional or public engagements that I may be asked to undertake in their communities or congregations.

When leaving a position of religious education leadership for any reason, I will refrain from being involved in the process of selecting my successor. I will support my successor by leaving room for them to establish their own identity and leadership in the congregation. I will refrain from accepting positions on policy-making bodies in the congregation or community (such as the Board, Religious Education Committee, Finance Committee, or Personnel Committee) for two years after my professional leadership has been concluded in that congregation. For two years, I will not accept or volunteer for roles in the religious education program, and will encourage members of the congregation to speak to the current religious educator or other appropriate persons for answers to all current religious education issues or concerns. I will refrain from discussing any church/congregational matters on social media with congregants from a former church for a period of two years.

*I will uphold and honor the practice of congregational polity. I will respect the traditions of the congregation or community I serve.*

## **III. Congregation/Organization**

I will uphold and honor the practice of congregational polity. I will respect the traditions of the congregation or community I serve.

I will demonstrate respect and compassion to each individual without regard to age, race/ethnicity, class, gender, gender identity, physical/mental ability, and sexual





orientation. I will work to confront attitudes and practices of unjust discrimination and to challenge them within myself and individuals, congregations, and groups I serve.

Within the limitations of law and collegial covenant, I will honor the confidences shared with me by members of the congregation or place of employment, keeping in mind that such confidentiality should not contribute to personal or professional misuse of power.

In the case of planned or forced resignation or significant change in role or responsibility, I understand that best practices are to consult with a LREDA Good Officer for counsel and assistance in executing a well-managed departure or change. I will refrain from actions or public statements that intentionally initiate or foster divisiveness.

I will be a good steward of the resources allocated to my position and program. I will act with integrity in all instances of professional spending and will not misappropriate the money or property of the congregation(s) or organization(s) I serve.

#### **IV. Movement and Association**

As a LREDA member, I understand my responsibility to educate lay and professional colleagues about the qualifications for and dimensions of religious education and faith development leadership.

I will support and participate in activities and programs of the Unitarian Universalist Association and/or the Canadian Unitarian Council and encourage the participation of others in such events.

As a professional religious educator, I understand that whenever I participate in the wider Unitarian Universalist community, I represent LREDA and should provide a living model of ethical and religious leadership.

#### **V. Accountability Guidelines**

The LREDA Code of Professional Practices identifies standards of behavior for members of LREDA. Violation of these standards by any member is a matter of concern to other members and may result in disciplinary actions.

The following procedure is to be followed when a member of LREDA becomes concerned about a colleague's adherence to the Code of Professional Practices.

In most instances, a member who believes a colleague's behavior to be inconsistent with the Code should express their concern directly. Should the direct approach not achieve the desired result, a LREDA Good Officer (GO) should be consulted. A GO is initially neutral, advising the member, and exploring the possibility of an informal resolution of the concern. In the event that a GO cannot settle a concern between members, the religious educator or the GO will seek advice or intercession with the LREDA Board Member holding the Good Offices portfolio. If the concern is still unresolved, the concerned religious educator should write a letter of complaint to the LREDA Board of Trustees, fully specifying the nature of the concern making it a formal complaint. See LREDA by-laws, Article 2, Section D.

*As a LREDA member,  
I understand my  
responsibility  
to educate lay  
and professional  
colleagues about the  
qualifications for  
and dimensions of  
religious education  
and faith development  
leadership.*





## Once Upon a Time ...

### A History of the Lafayette/West Lafayette UU Church

#### Early Universalism

Universalism in this area of Indiana dates back to about 1828, when the Rev. Hiram Curry came from Ohio to Dayton township, immediately to the southwest of Lafayette. A church was built there in 1839, and itinerant preachers went out to the surrounding townships. Rev. Erasmus Manford made Lafayette his headquarters, serving as the only Universalist minister for all western Indiana. In 1841, he started publishing a 24-page monthly, the *Christian Teacher*. By 1849 there were 55 Universalist Societies in Indiana, 29 preachers, 15 meeting houses, 10 associations, and two periodicals. Over 150 years later, there are 16 Unitarian-Universalist congregations in the state.

The early Universalist phase of our current congregation formally began in November 1850, when a group that had been meeting at various locations joined to form "The First Universalist Society of LaFayette." Subscription papers for \$3,500 were obtained and a new building completed in 1952 at the corner of Ninth and Main Streets (later sold to the German Reformed Church and now a parking lot). By 1856, the church was in debt; by 1861, there was dissension on the board and the building was sold in 1863. A revitalization in 1867 resulted in a new building on Ninth Street between Cincinnati and Elizabeth Streets and a call to the Rev. Albert Bruce the next year. Synchronicity: 1867 was also the year the Lafayette Jewish congregation erected their temple at 17 S. Seventh, which was our home for 30 years, from 1977-2007. By 1887, under the leadership of Rev. Albert Wilgus, the membership was 75 and the church was out of debt. Ten years later, the society "went down for lack of members." The denominational history attributes it to "internal disputes." The building was ultimately sold to the Lutherans and is now a parking lot.





*This house on Wood Street in West Lafayette housed the Fellowship from the early 1960s to 1975.*

### **A New Era**

In January 1949, a group of mostly Purdue faculty met at the home of Dorothea and Raymond Girton; the Unitarian Fellowship of West Lafayette, Indiana, was established. After a temporary disbanding the following year, the group reactivated. They first met in people’s homes, then at the Hillel Foundation building, at the Episcopalian Canterbury House, and over a music studio, with its use of our folding chairs (our only “infrastructure”) during the week in lieu of rent. In 1956-57, a housing committee was formed and a congregational survey made. The next season, a residential property at 439 Harrison Street in West Lafayette was purchased for \$15,000 and became our Fellowship House. Some of our continuing activities had their start there, such as the Art Fair and Shared Hearth Suppers. Our name was changed to Unitarian Fellowship of Greater Lafayette to represent more accurately the area from which members came.

By 1961-62, a statement of philosophy for the Religious Education program had been formulated. Another congregational survey resulted in the call of a part-time minister. There were about 50 adult members and 50 children in the RE program. Having outgrown the Harrison Street house, the congregation purchased another residential property in West Lafayette at the corner of Wood and Chauncey. Rev. Ed Wilson became the part-time minister. Under his tutelage, the use of hymns and our covenant became part of the service.

By 1966, there were 100 active members and 80 children in the RE program. A fund drive to construct a new building at Wood and Chauncey was successful; however, the architect died, leaving behind an inspired and aesthetically pleasing design, which proved structurally unworkable. Revisions were determined to be cost prohibitive. An adjacent lot was purchased in 1973 to add space for future construction.



*Fellowship members restored the former Temple Israel in Lafayette, now listed on the National Register of Historic Places.*

In 1968, the Rev. Charles Slap came as a part-time minister while he finished his studies at Meadville-Lombard Theological School. He became full-time in March 1969 but resigned in June 1971 to accept a call to Davis, California. The Rev. Kenneth Hurto was called in May 1972. By 1975, support for the Fellowship had dwindled. Many of the original founders and active members of the congregation had moved out of the Lafayette area or had become inactive. The Wood and Chauncey property was sold to the West Lafayette Park Board, and Rev. Hurto resigned in August to accept a call to First Church of Des Moines, Iowa.

### **A New Home**

In 1976, the congregation took part in the Unitarian Universalist “Sharing in Growth” program. The congregation purchased the former Temple Israel at 17 South Seventh Street, Lafayette, from the American Red Cross, which had used the building for storage. Initial work went to bringing the building back from the years of vandalism and neglect, as well as converting the sanctuary to our worship style and taste (with the usual UU discussion/dissension/ultimate consensus-capitulation on such matters as pews, stained glass windows, and similar items of decor and usage). Much of the work was done by fellowship members. A grant from a local foundation enabled exterior cleaning and preservation of the brick structure, which was dedicated in April 1979 and is now on the National Register of Historic Places.

In 1980, the Rev. Will Saunders came to us for six weeks on the UUA Minister-on-Loan program, and with his stimulus and encouragement, a search committee was formed. This resulted in the Rev. Libbie Stoddard accepting our call in December of that year.



*In April 1997, the congregation voted to become a Welcoming Congregation.*

### **Period of Growth**

The 1980s and '90s were periods of great growth for the congregation. The building on Seventh Street underwent further extensive remodeling, making the second-floor sanctuary accessible and providing a second exit and fire stairs. The main floor was also renovated to make more room for RE and better office space. The music program was upgraded with the purchase of a Yamaha grand piano, and in 1994, we hired our first paid Director of Religious Education. By 1995, we had 135 members and 60 active friends, with an RE program with 98 children and an annual budget of \$94,370. In December 1996, the congregation officially changed its name to "Unitarian Universalist Church of Lafayette." In 1997 we authorized two new staff positions, a Sunday child care supervisor and a Sunday child care assistant. And in April 1997, the congregation voted to become a Welcoming Congregation.

By the mid-'90s, the sanctuary was filled to capacity. The RE program was now meeting in our own RE rooms, the Red Cross next door, and Central Presbyterian Church across the street. The Future Space Committee was formed to study our options for finding a new church home, as it was clear we had outgrown the Seventh Street building. An interim solution resulted in double services being offered from 1997-1999.

Ideally, the church wanted to remain in downtown Lafayette, but it quickly became clear that no space was going to become available. Thus the congregation purchased property at 2239 Union St. in Lafayette with the intention of building a new church home.

In May of 1998, Rev. Stoddard announced her resignation due to family illness. The Rev. Robert Flanders served as our interim minister, and the Rev. Hilary Landau Krivchenia was called in August 2000. The congregation worked with a local architect to design a building for the Union Street property; a three-year Capital Campaign raised more than \$700,000 toward the planned construction of a two-phase building. Ultimately the plans to build were abandoned, as the project proved too costly and was going to have too great an environmental impact on the property as well as the surrounding neighborhood.



*Our Meridian Street church was dedicated in October 2007.*

In 2007, the church was able to purchase the former St. Andrew's United Methodist Church building at 333 Meridian Street, West Lafayette. The building was dedicated in October 2007, with a parade leading the way from the former building on Seventh Street to our new location. UU President William Sinkford was here for the festivities. In April 2008, Rev. Krivchenia resigned to take a call with Countryside UU Church in Palatine, Illinois. The Rev. Dr. Marlene Walker served as interim minister for two years. In 2010, the church called the Rev. Charlie Davis who served our congregation for eight years before returning to North Carolina where he is now the contract minister for the UU Fellowship of New Bern.

An interim minister, Rev. Rosemary Morrison, joined us in March 2019. Our current settled minister, Rev. Jennie Barrington, was called in August 2021. Today the church has 110 signed members with many additional active friends. We have approximately 20 children registered in RE, and additional part-time staff including an office administrator, pianist, and nursery coordinator. The current (2023) annual budget for the church is \$264,427.





*UUCTC Sanctuary*

## The Church

The Greater Lafayette area has but one Unitarian Universalist Church. Thus we must meet the varied needs of many people, providing opportunities for each member's search for truth and meaning, working for social justice, and fostering relationships among like-minded people.

In order to meet all these needs, we must function as an organization. Our bylaws and our current organizational structure address the many policies necessary in running an organization of this size.

Among our highest ideals is the use of the democratic process in all decision-making. By working with everyone's needs in mind, electing and appointing lay leadership that will best work for our common goals, we have a team of paid staff and volunteers who work diligently with this end in mind.

Our Covenant for a Healthy Community outlines every individual's responsibility to treat all members and our staff with dignity. It goes without saying that the people are what make this church what it is; in collaboration and partnership, we hope to achieve these goals.

Thus we work together to create a church where both individual and group desires are recognized, guiding each of us in our spiritual life.



## Membership Data

*Our average Sunday attendance is about 65 people of all ages.*



Sunday attendance averages 55 people in the worship service and approximately 20 people attend the monthly Forum adult discussion group. Average Sunday attendance in religious exploration classes is currently 9 children and youth. Our pre-COVID RE attendance was much higher and we want to engage more families and return to larger group sizes.

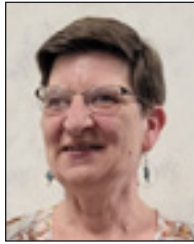
Since moving to online services during COVID-19, we typically have 15 devices logged into Zoom each week, and we estimate that this represents about 20 attendees.

Our congregation has shown steady growth over most of its history. A marked pattern is that we have grown substantially and quickly when we have improved our facilities, so that we were less constrained by space. During the first two decades in which we occupied our former building in Lafayette (roughly the 1970s and 1980s), we had a signed membership of under 100 people, and averaged 50–60 adults per Sunday. During the same period our RE enrollment ranged from about 20 in the early years up to 50 children by 1990. In 1991 we renovated our former building to improve RE space and accessibility to people with disabilities. Our membership immediately increased to more than 100 and adult average attendance increased to 80-90. RE enrollment showed even more of an improvement, with enrolled children and youth of 80-90. At this point we reached capacity: for instance we routinely were at more than 80 percent capacity at Sunday services and held several RE classes in a neighboring building (one year one class even met in the Presbyterian church down the street!).

The lack of growth capacity is visible in our stagnant membership numbers in the early 2000s and initiated our decision to seek new space. In 2007, this search for space resulted in our purchase of our current facility, where we have double the capacity in our sanctuary, more RE classrooms, a dedicated fellowship hall and enormously improved office and work space. Our membership numbers began to increase accordingly, though we have seen a decline in membership in recent years. In 2010, we had 174 members. We currently have 110 signed members in the congregation.



## Meet the Staff



### **Minister • Rev. Jennie Barrington**

A lifelong Unitarian Universalist originally from New England, Rev. Jennie has been a UU minister for 23 years. She earned her Master of Divinity from Bangor Theological Seminary in May 2001. Before moving to Lafayette, she was the interim minister for The UU Fellowship of Wayne County, in Wooster, Ohio. She especially enjoys her work in RE for children and youth; church finances, fundraising, and capital campaigns; theme-based worship services; and social justice and community organizing.

Jennie was raised with an appreciation of our UU heritage's Humanist roots in Unitarianism, and spirit-filled influences in Universalism. She was also inspired by the foundational ideas of RE for children and youth, and by spending time outdoors with extended family. Her personal theology is essentially process theology. She believes there are forces in the universe that want beauty, truth, fairness, and compassion. But those forces are not omnipotent. We have to work with them. We have to do our part.



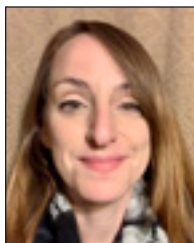
### **Office Administrator • Monty Myszak**

Monty moved to West Lafayette from Greenville, North Carolina, where he had lived all of his life. He and his husband, Steve, had considered moving to this area for many years to be closer to family, so when a great job offer at Purdue University came available for Steve, they decided to make the huge move. Monty gave up his career as the merchandising coordinator at Practicon, a dental catalog/website company, where he had been for 29 years. Monty and Steve adopted their son, Sonny, from Vietnam — and he is the center of their universe. Monty enjoys spending time with family, gardening, and being on the water. He is excited to be a part of this welcoming community.



### **Pianist • Richard Maddux**

Richard is delighted to be the pianist at UUCTC for a third time. He was the church pianist in 2005 under Hilary Krivchenia and again in 2014 under Charlie Davis. He is a versatile pianist/accompanist with formal classical training from instructors at Wabash College and the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University. While at IU, he obtained a BS in kinesiology with an emphasis on biomechanics, neuroscience, and the psychology of performance. He has performed works by Bach, Chopin, Ravel, Brahms, and Rachmaninoff. Currently, Richard studies jazz & blues piano with Amy Protscher out of Berlin, Germany. He has been an accompanist for Lafayette School Corporation, Lafayette Master Chorale, and Lafayette Chamber Singers. And for 10 years, he served as a music director at the Vanity Theater in Crawfordsville, Indiana. In his free time, Richard enjoys collaborating with Greater Lafayette's various musical talent and rocking out with UUCTC's own house band, Spontaneous Hopeful Monster.



### **Nursery Coordinator • Christina Wright**

Christina has been working with children for over 20 years. She holds an associate's degree in early childhood education and is CPR certified. Her classroom time has been focused on work with children aged infant through kindergarten.



## The Campus

*Our Meridian Street church features a spacious private office for the DRE.*



The Meridian Street building was built in 1957. Several renovations and additions later, our congregation was excited to move into a building with a beautiful sanctuary, a fellowship hall with a roomy kitchen, many RE classrooms, meeting rooms, and closets, not to mention a spacious private office for the DRE.

The main part of the mid-century building, which includes the sanctuary and RE classrooms, was completed in 1957. A renovation in the mid-'60s added the kitchen and fellowship hall, which included more restrooms, closets, and two classrooms; Phase III in the early 1980s added the "Education Wing," which includes the church offices, large meeting room that is used for the Sunday Forum, extra restrooms, and additional RE classrooms.

The sanctuary, finished in wood and flooded with natural light from the many windows, is not only attractive but also known for being acoustically "live" and inviting to musicians. The attractive pews provide a seating capacity of 220, with additional seating in the balcony. The room is furnished with a pulpit, and music is provided by a Yamaha grand piano. The room is often used for concerts and special performances, as well as for Sunday services.

The addition of entrance ramps between the sanctuary level and an adjacent hallway, as well as widening of doors and doorways to make the area fully accessible, were among the very first projects undertaken once we moved into the building.

The fellowship hall was upgraded and renovated shortly after we moved into the building, including new flooring and paint. The lighting was improved and the room de-cluttered. The roomy kitchen features ample storage. Two separate sink areas and a commercial-grade dishwasher make for a versatile workspace.

Religious exploration classrooms and meeting rooms line two long hallways. The largest meeting room, where the Sunday morning Forum meets, is busy most nights and many afternoons each week, hosting outside groups as well as church functions. The office suite features a private office for the minister and the director of religious exploration. The administrative assistant works out of the main office area. A workroom just behind the main office houses the copier and printer, with plenty of storage and project space. New computers and printers facilitate the work that takes place there. Just outside the office is room for a receptionist.

A courtyard, surrounded by offices, RE rooms and the fellowship hall, features a wooden play structure, curved seats, and a sandbox. A fence, built by church volunteers, surrounds the area. The playground offers children and adults a comfortable, safe, shaded place to mingle, play, and relax. Rain barrels harvest roof water for plant care. The Green Sanctuary Committee has done an energy audit and improvements continue to be made to move us along a path to greater sustainability.



*Church volunteers built the fence that encloses our courtyard and playground.*





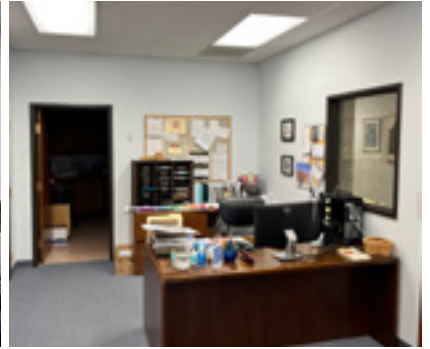
DRE's Office



Workroom



Main Office



Youth Room



REsource Room



Nursery



Fellowship Hall



Kitchen



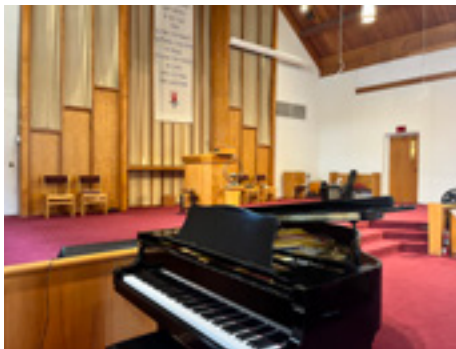
Playground



Library



Chancel



Narthex



## Lay Leadership Relevant to Director of Religious Exploration

*As the primary governing body, the board makes policy and financial decisions for the church.*

### **Board of Trustees**

The Board of Trustees is elected at the April annual meeting of the congregation and takes office June 1. The board consists of the president, president-elect, immediate past president, secretary, treasurer, assistant treasurer, and three trustees, each serving two-year terms. As the primary governing body, the board makes policy and financial decisions for the church. It also establishes new committees and approves some committee chairs. It submits a preliminary operating budget for approval by the membership and provides ongoing support for our programs.

### **Religious Exploration Committee**

The core of the RE committee is comprised of the team leaders for each grade level. This group focuses on the implementation of the religious exploration program, such as reviewing curriculum, recruiting teachers and volunteers, planning and organizing special events.

### **Program Council**

The committees and interest groups of the church are overseen by the Program Council. The purpose of Program Council is to promote communication and to link church committees, interest groups, the Board of Trustees, and the congregational community. The council consists of a facilitator, committee representatives, and a representative from the Board. The council helps coordinate scheduling of major events, maintains the list of committees, interest groups, and contact persons; gathers reports from each committee for inclusion in the annual report; and offers leadership training within the church and identifies individuals with special expertise. Monthly meetings are open to all interested persons.

### **Personnel Committee**

The personnel committee consists of a member of the Board, a member of the finance committee, and two congregants familiar with daily church operations. The minister serves as an ex officio member. The committee has general responsibility for advising the Board on all personnel policy matters and the hiring and firing of non-program staff members, such as the office administrator and nursery coordinator.

### **Worship Committee**

The worship committee is the lay committee responsible for Sunday morning services. It works both to support the minister's services and separately to create the lay-led services. It facilitates those Sundays when the minister leads the services by providing support as worship associates.

### **Healthy Community Team**

The healthy community team has been charged with assisting our church community with appropriately managing conflict when it arises between or among congregants, or between congregants and staff.

*The healthy community team assists our church community with appropriately managing conflict.*





Annual church retreat

## Program Areas

### Community Within

#### **The Lighted Chalice**

The Lighted Chalice, our newsletter, helps fulfill the ministry of bringing our members together and in touch with one another. Published monthly, it contains information on upcoming services and events, news and updates on church business, and updates on members. The newsletter is available online at [www.uuctc.org](http://www.uuctc.org).

#### **Welcome and Membership Committee**

The welcome and membership committee seeks to help create a warm, friendly environment for newcomers and to help them find a way into the spiritual and communal life of the church. Each year the committee sponsors several “Getting to Know UU” new member classes. The group operates a newcomers’ table each Sunday during coffee hour and once a month offers a “talk and tour” 30-minute guided walk through the building in order to learn a bit about Unitarian Universalism and our congregation. Twice a year, the committee helps to organize new member Sundays, where new members are welcomed during the service.

#### **Retreat**

Held at the church each fall, the annual retreat is an opportunity to commune with nature and get to know fellow UUs. Evenings usually feature a campfire and music; Daytime activities include workshops, a bird walk, yoga, board games, puzzles and socializing — or, if you prefer, hiking or golf. And Sunday morning there is a worship service. It’s a great opportunity for young and old to spend time together.



### Potlucks

Held on the first Sunday of each month pre-COVID our monthly potlucks provide congregants with an opportunity to share a meal and engage in multi-generational fellowship. We hope to reinstate them when we are able.

### Interest Groups

We have a number of interest groups at any given time, the types of which fluctuate according to volunteer leadership. Over the years, we've have interest groups organized around people who identify as men's night out, people who identify as women's night out, meditation, feminist book club, movie group, book club, and UU Flames softball team.

*We have a number of interest groups at any given time, such as the people who identify as women's night out.*



### Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care Group is responsible for coordinating the "care and feeding" of the congregation. The group monitors the status of members and friends of the congregation and provides general support to those in need. Activities include: supporting funerals and memorial services by organizing food and refreshments, and bringing food to peoples' homes. The group also provides comfort and support to many people struggling by sending cards, providing transportation to appointments, making phone calls, and visiting congregants at home or in the hospital.

### Fellowship Teams

Service is followed by coffee/snack and social time in our fellowship hall, typically for 30-45 minutes. Once a month, a larger potluck is held after the service. Fellowship teams have the rotating responsibility of providing snacks and making coffee each Sunday, as well as setting up (and cleaning up) after monthly potluck. Everyone is invited to be on a fellowship team, even if they aren't able to work with the hope that they can contribute in some small way.

### Outdoor Group

The UU Outdoor Group plans outdoor activities for members of the congregation. The group has gone cross country skiing at the amphitheater, picked up trash along the Heritage Trail, canoed at Wildcat Creek, removed invasive plants and trash at the Wildcat Park, taken bike rides and camped at the retreat, hiked at numerous nature preserves and state parks, and gone ice skating in West Lafayette.

*The Outdoor Group has remained active during the pandemic, organizing small, socially-distanced outings to explore local trails.*



### Worship and Music

#### Worship Committee

The Worship Committee is responsible for coordinating Sunday morning services. It works both to support the minister's services and to create lay-led services. It facilitates minister-led services by providing support as worship associates. It also helps make sure the sanctuary is prepared as the minister sees fit and provides any preparation during the week prior to the Sunday service.



*The Worship Committee supports the minister's services and creates lay-led services, such as the solstice circle.*



Lay-led services are fully planned and led by the committee members and have included a wide variety of services. These have included all-music services, Spiritual Journeys (where members of the congregation share their personal journeys that led them to Unitarian Universalism), multigenerational services, many in-house speakers, and guest speakers from other UU congregations or from the local community. The committee also is responsible for organizing and providing the music for all services. We are a congregation rich in musical talent that includes instrumental, solo vocal, and choral talent as well as a house band.

### **Choir**

From Latin to folk, gospel to UU, and even the occasional original piece, the choir sings music for many occasions, from many traditions. First organized in 1994, the choir has been led by a series of directors, both volunteer and paid, often members of the congregation. The last choir director resigned her position about six years ago and we are waiting (very impatiently for some) for available funding to fill this position. There are also long-range plans to hire a music director who would coordinate the music talents of the church, including providing regular music for Sunday services. When the choir was active, it included approximately 15 singers of mixed levels. A smaller ensemble of more experienced singers periodically tackled more complicated music. With the capable leadership and the extremely skilled accompaniment of staff pianists, the choir learns and grows each year.

### **Spontaneous Hopeful Monster**

Another way of harnessing the exciting musical talent within the congregation, Spontaneous Hopeful Monster is a house band that primarily plays for Sunday services. The leaders are eager to work with ministers to select songs appropriate for the theme of a specific service. While the band's roots are in hard rock and folk music, the range of pieces they play are surprisingly contemporaneous for a group of (mostly) "old people." The band includes percussion, piano, lead and bass guitar, and vocalists.

*Our house band, Spontaneous Hopeful Monster, performs during worship services and special events both at church and in the community.*



## Religious Exploration

*The annual youth-led worship service is one of the most anticipated services of the year.*



The religious exploration program for children and youth is thought by many to be the heart and soul of our congregational life. The program uses the Pillar method (UU, Jewish & Christian Heritage, World Religions) for its four classes (currently nursery, pre-K-1st grade, 2nd-5th grade, and 6th-12th grade). The K-12 students normally begin the service with the adults and leave after the Time For All Ages. In the past, when we've had children with special needs attend RE, we've relied on a team of trained volunteers to help accommodate these children.

The RE program runs 15 minutes longer than the service to give the teachers a full hour with the children and youth. There are occasional multigenerational services where all of the children, with the exception of nursery and preschool, stay for the entire service.

Our Whole Lives (OWL), age-appropriate lifespan sexuality education, for seventh through ninth grades is offered every three years. Other OWL curricula for younger and older age groups have been offered in the past and may be offered in the future.

Maintaining a vibrant religious exploration program is a priority for our congregation and a necessity for its growth. Our religious exploration program provides children, youth, young adults, and adults an opportunity to explore, reflect, and learn in a nurturing spiritual community, inspiring:

**Ethical growth** – internalizing enduring values like justice, equity, and compassion, and gaining tools to act on them in everyday life.

**Social growth** – connecting with peers and people of all ages on a deeper level. Finding acceptance among people who see beyond the superficial.

**Spiritual growth** – feeling a connection with the sacred within, among, and beyond us.

Youth group is self-directed, with a team of adult advisors who take turns providing guidance on Sundays and chaperoning special events and trips. Children and youth raise money to support Lafayette Urban Ministry's Jubilee Christmas, a program that provides holiday gifts for families in need. An annual all-church Halloween party features a costume contest and a haunted house put on by the youth for younger children.

The church has a thriving adult Forum group that meets monthly. While the group includes many long-time members of the church, newer members also attend the vibrant discussions. The group has discussed a variety of subjects over the years; recent topics include health care, ethical eating, and genocide.

"Paganism 101," "Spirit in Practice" (a Tapestry of Faith program), and "Cakes for the Queen of Heaven" are examples of adult RE classes that have been offered in the past.

*The thriving adult Forum group meets weekly for vibrant discussions.*



## Outreach and Social Justice

### Social Justice Committee

The mission of the Social Justice Committee is to promote and support equality, justice, and compassion in the local community and beyond through education, advocacy, and activism.

This mission is promoted by the committee through its support of local community agencies who assist those in need of social services. Each week change collected in the offering goes to a social service agency identified by the Social Justice Committee as one working to meet community needs. The committee also works with other local groups to educate our community about peace, injustice, and inequality at the local, national, and international level by sponsoring panel discussions, speakers, and films. And, finally, the committee has spearheaded the church's involvement in a number of local programs providing direct support to those in need. Examples are the Family Promise program, which we support by taking meals to the shelter, and Lafayette Urban Ministry Jubilee, a community-wide event in which churches provide gifts for parents to wrap and present to their children for the holidays.

### LUM Food Pantry

In partnership with Lafayette Urban Ministry, we operate the LUM Westside Food Pantry on Friday mornings. Local families in need are able to select canned and frozen meats and fish, fresh fruits and vegetables, beans and legumes, peanut butter, paper products, and more.

## Facility Management

### Building Committee

The physical plant of the church is maintained by a network of volunteers drawn from members and friends. The group is coordinated by a committee chair who urges people to adopt projects, trouble shoots emergencies, and decides when to call for outside expertise. The congregation includes people with expertise in electrical repair, plumbing, and construction skills, and a wider group can be called upon for light cleaning and smaller tasks. The committee maintains a list of needed repairs and improvements. Several times per year workdays are scheduled to tackle larger projects. New members of the group are solicited during church-wide committee fairs. The church leadership acknowledges the need for a paid part-time caretaker to handle building maintenance more efficiently, and this will be a high priority when the operating budget allows.

### Grounds Committee

Yard work and upkeep of the property's appearance is maintained by a group of volunteers who handle mowing, raking leaves, weeding, and other regular tasks. Scheduled workdays allow a larger group to help with upkeep. Improvements in the property's appearance and upkeep have been coordinated by a congregant with experience in landscaping. New members of the volunteer network are solicited during committee fairs.

*The Social Justice Committee hosts a booth at the annual OutFest.*



*Yard work and upkeep of the property's appearance is maintained by a group of volunteers.*



## Major Fundraisers



*Our annual Art Fair brings hundreds of people into our building each December.*

### Service Auction

The Service Auction is held every February, featuring services and talents offered by members of the congregation. Members have purchased such goodies as a refillable cookie jar, a reserved church parking space, dinner parties, dancing lessons, an evening with UU movie critics, a “how may I help you?” service, vacation condos, and much more. The evening includes food, music, and entertainment as well, raising as up to \$10,000 for the congregation.

### Art Fair

Our annual Art Fair, an amazing 57 year old fundraiser, brings hundreds of people into our building each December. By invitation, over 50 local artists showcase their work, and keep the larger percent of what is taken in. It’s an all-hands-on-deck sort of project, so it unites the congregation as well. The fellowship hall is transformed into a cafe, art gallery, and live performance venue where people not only shop but meet up with friends for dinner. A handful of our more computer savvy members created a database for inventory and sales, so the event proceeds smoothly and artists are paid in a timely manner. Due to the pandemic, the 2020 Art Fair was held online. The Art Fair is a well-respected tradition in the Lafayette area.

### Football parking

Because of our proximity to Purdue’s Ross-Ade Stadium, the church sells parking spaces for Purdue’s home football games. By selling the parking spaces in the lot, as well as by parking cars on the lawn beside the church, up to \$800 can be earned for each home football game.

*Selling parking spaces for Purdue’s home football games raises up to \$600 on each gameday.*



### Corn Booth

The Feast of the Hunters Moon is a re-creation of the annual fall gathering of the French and Native Americans which took place at Fort Ouiatenon, a fur-trading outpost in the mid – 1700s. It is held annually in early autumn on the banks of the Wabash River, four miles southwest of West Lafayette, Indiana. UUCTC runs a corn booth where members and friends of the church dress in period garb and roast corn over an open fire.







## Money Matters

As our congregation has grown, we have, like most congregations, had to educate our membership and our leadership about the real costs of running an organization of this size. Although our move to a larger building increased costs in terms of staff hours, utilities, and maintenance, a successful capital campaign and steady increases in annual pledging have allowed us to stay solvent in spite of the national economic downturn. We have expanded our paid staff in order to improve and increase our programming. Expanded programming has costs, as we offer a variety of classes and interest groups. Furthermore, our commitment to social justice in the community has not waned.

As our budget and spending suggest, we are making modest increases. We are pleased to note that, even in the time of an economic downturn, we were able to meet several of the budget initiatives. We have worked to make our DRE's compensation competitive for a church of our size and location.

The church is in good financial shape overall. Thanks to several knowledgeable members of our congregation, we have learned much about fund raising and about effective budgeting.

Remaining financially solvent and continuing to increase our annual budget helps to sustain our principles and meet the needs of our congregants, insuring the growth and vitality of our church.





## **Policy for Conducting a Criminal Background Check**

The standard practice for screening all personnel consists of the following steps:

1. A conditional offer of employment is tendered to the individual.
2. The offer is conditional based upon a satisfactory result from a limited criminal history check, verification of an absence on the listing of the national register of sex offenders, and a satisfactory result of any financial history background.
3. The candidate for employment signs a waiver acknowledging the background check will occur and giving permission for the background check
4. The resulting background check is offered to the board for review and also becomes a part of the individual's personnel file.
5. Based upon the information from this background check, the board decides whether to render the final offer of employment.





*Historic Main Street, downtown Lafayette*

## Welcome to Greater Lafayette!

Greater Lafayette, here in the middle of Indiana, is divided by the Wabash River into the cities of Lafayette and West Lafayette. This medium-sized city (pop. 130,000) is noted for its many cultural opportunities without the hassles of a major metropolitan area. Yet its proximity to bigger cities — just two hours south of Chicago and an hour north of Indianapolis — makes those attractions easily accessible.

The city's major employers include Purdue University, Franciscan Health Lafayette East Hospital, IU Health Arnett Hospital, Caterpillar Inc. (large engine manufacturer), Arconic (aluminum extrusions), Evonik Corporation (pharmaceuticals/specialty chemicals), Subaru (automobiles/trucks), Oerlikon Fairfield (custom gear shafts/drives), Purdue Discovery Park (various research/technology businesses), and Wabash National (commercial semi-trailers).



## LAFAYETTE

*With its century-old downtown, historic neighborhoods, and variety of manufacturing, Lafayette is a blend of industry and elegance.*

Lafayette, the county seat, has a population of 72,000 people. With its century-old downtown, historic neighborhoods, and variety of manufacturing, the town is a blend of industry and elegance.

### Downtown Lafayette

Lafayette has grown up around its historic downtown. The **Tippecanoe County Courthouse**, built in 1882 and restored in 1993, has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Other notable buildings include the **Long Center**, formerly the Mars Theater, a former local Vaudeville house, which now features performances by the Lafayette Symphony, Opera de Lafayette, and the Lafayette Master Chorale; the **Lafayette Theater**, a restored Art Deco theater; and the **Wells Center**, the former downtown library, now home to the The Arts Federation.

Downtown is also home to several notable restaurants, such as **Lafayette Brewing Company**, a family-friendly micro-brewery; **La Scala**, for fine Italian food; **Red Seven**, with its upscale, metropolitan menu and patio seating; **Bistro 501**, featuring French country cuisine; **Wine Cellar Bistro**, a gourmet tapas restaurant and wine bar; and **East End Grill**, gastropub and craft beers in an industrial-chic space. Many other smaller bars, restaurants, and coffee houses line the streets.

From April to October, a downtown **Farmers Market** offers fresh produce, flowers, and crafts for sale every Saturday.

Several art galleries are located downtown, featuring various media by local artists. Among them are **Art with a Happy Heart**, **KL Art Gallery**, and **Artists Own**, a cooperative of local artists (including several members of the UU congregation), offering a boutique of fine wearable and display art.

**Pride Lafayette**, a LGBTQ+ community center, has its headquarters in downtown Lafayette and features the work of local artists in a variety of media.

Downtown is also home to **Riehle Plaza**, featuring an authentic depot still in use, and an outdoor plaza, used for local festivals and as a performance venue. The restored depot has a community room that is available for local events, and it leads to the **John T. Myers pedestrian/bicycle bridge**, linking Lafayette to West Lafayette. Or the downtown **CityBus Connector** can take you through downtown and all the way across the river to West Lafayette, all for free.

### Outdoor festivals

Downtown Lafayette plays host to a variety of outdoor festivals and gatherings. Friday night **Gallery Walks** encourage patrons to step into the local art galleries after hours, often to the strains of local musicians. One of the premier juried fine art fairs in the Midwest, **Round the Fountain** showcases up to 100 artists from around the nation. The **Taste of Tippecanoe** features live music and samplings from many area restaurants. **Mosey Down Main Street** draws crowds to the far eastern end of Main Street, also to enjoy local bands. Late each summer, the annual **OutFest** celebrates LGBTQ+ pride in the streets of downtown. UUCTC sponsors a table at OutFest.



*OutFest, Lafayette's annual pride festival hosted by Pride Lafayette, aims to increase public awareness of the LGBTQ+ community in Tippecanoe County and beyond.*



*Victorian England comes to town during the annual Dickens of a Christmas.*



And in December, **A Dickens of a Christmas** kicks off the holiday season, turning the downtown into a Victorian English village, with holiday shoppers enjoying costumed carolers and roving actors.

### **The Arts**

Lafayette is home to a thriving arts community. **The Arts Federation** ([www.theartsfederation.org](http://www.theartsfederation.org)) is an umbrella group that promotes the arts in the region, facilitating the arts activities of member organizations while working to model arts advocacy. Members include: Lafayette Symphony Orchestra, Lafayette Chamber Singers, Lafayette Citizens Band, Lafayette Master Chorale, Lafayette Ballet Company, Civic Theatre of Greater Lafayette, Jazz Club, Wabash Artists Alliance, and Tippecanoe Chamber Music Society.

The **Greater Lafayette Art Museum**, located just south of downtown in the Historic Ninth Street Hill neighborhood, exhibits the work of Indiana and American artists. Just behind it sits the **Moses Fowler House**, a 19th-century mansion that is now a restaurant and events venue. The **Tippecanoe County Historical Association** offices are located across the street. The **Haan Art Museum** on State Street showcases work by historic and contemporary Indiana artists.

### **Historic Neighborhoods**

Lafayette boasts much noted historic architecture in the neighborhoods that abut the downtown. A variety of housing styles line the streets, and an interest in historic preservation has helped to preserve many of these architectural landmarks that might otherwise have been lost. The **Wabash Valley Trust for Historic Preservation** draws attention to buildings that might be lost, issuing an annual list of endangered structures. It also recognizes restored historic buildings with its Sycamore plaques, awarded each spring. Notable historic neighborhoods near downtown include: Ninth Street Hill, St. Mary's, Ellsworth-Romig, Highland Park, Centennial, Perrin, Downtown Lafayette, and Upper Main Street.

### **Outdoor Recreation**

Riverfront trails on both sides of the Wabash River are part of the 18-mile scenic walking **Wabash Heritage Trail** that begins at historic **Battlefield Park**. Walkers also enjoy **Clegg Botanical Gardens**, which features wildflowers and lush trees, and is open daily until dusk.

Lafayette's park system offers a variety of recreational opportunities. **Columbian Park**, in the heart of the city, is a 40-acre park, featuring a zoo, playground, Tropicanoe Cove water park, Loeb Stadium, and picnic areas. The newly opened **McPaw Park** is a dedicated dog park. **CAT Park** has several sports fields, and other parks scattered throughout the community offer playgrounds, walking trails, swimming pools, and tennis courts.

### **Health Care**

Two full-service hospitals provide healthcare to the area: **IU Health Arnett** and **Franciscan Health Lafayette East**. Both offer state-of-the-art medical care. Major healthcare groups include **IU Health Arnett**, **Franciscan Health**, **Unity Healthcare**, and **Signature Healthcare**. The **Riggs Community Health Center** serves low-income residents. **River Bend**, **Sycamore Springs**, and **Valley Oaks** offer mental health care.



*Columbian Park Zoo features a small Family Farm petting zoo.*



*Home to Purdue University, the city of West Lafayette is a mix of more than just students and faculty.*

*Purdue Convocations is the centerpiece of the university's wide range of cultural offerings.*



The Opera Show

### Vocational Education

Greater Lafayette Career Academy and St. Elizabeth's School of Nursing both help to meet vocational education needs. Ivy Tech Community College, part of the state community college system, occupies a 50-acre campus on the east side of town.

### Shopping

Much shopping and many new restaurants are located on the south and east sides of town. Major "big box" stores like Target, Home Depot, and Lowe's edge the city, with the Tippecanoe Mall, at Route 38 and U.S. 52, housing many popular chain clothing stores. On Lafayette's north side, Market Square is a smaller shopping center.

## WEST LAFAYETTE

West Lafayette has a population of 29,000 people. Home to **Purdue University**, the city is a mix of more than just students and faculty.

### Purdue University

Founded in 1869, Purdue has an enrollment of 50,000 students 8,000 are graduate students. Popular majors include business, pharmacy, and engineering. The 2,400-acre campus is composed of red-brick buildings surrounding grassy quadrangles. Purdue fans cheer on the Boilermakers in Big Ten athletics — especially football and basketball. Mung Chiang, the university's 13<sup>th</sup> president, has made student affordability and student success top priorities, pledging to keep a Purdue education within reach for students and families. **Purdue Convocations**, which invites visiting performers from around the world, is the centerpiece of the university's wide range of cultural offerings, from the Dave Brubeck Quartet to the Martha Graham Dance Company, to Broadway shows like *Waitress* and *Avenue Q*. Noted speakers on a wide range of topics are also brought to campus, from Condoleezza Rice to Michael Pollan. The **Birck Boilermaker Golf Complex** includes a new clubhouse and two golf courses designed by world-renowned architect Pete Dye.

### Village/Wabash Landing

The area surrounding Purdue, the Village, boasts many small shops and restaurants. **Von's Shops** sell everything from books to videos to CDs, cards, clothing, and jewelry. Next door to Von's is **Harry's Chocolate Shop**, a legendary student hangout. Other ethnic eateries line the streets near campus. The public library, built in a Frank Lloyd Wright-esque design, is nearby.

Within walking distance of campus is **Wabash Landing**, along the Wabash River at the foot of the John T. Myers pedestrian bridge. An impressive gateway to the city, Wabash Landing has various shops and restaurants, including **Wolfies Grill**, **Evan Todd Salon & Spa**, **LaTea Bubble Lounge**, and the **Wabash Landing Movie Theater**.

Just across the street from Wabash Landing lie several other shops and restaurants, including **Nine Irish Brothers** (which often features local bands, such as UU favorites Travelers Dream), **Taste of India**, **Bruno's**, and **Town & Gown Bistro**.

### Festivals

**Global Fest**, held in the fall in West Lafayette, is an international extravaganza featuring food, arts & crafts, and music from all over the world, and culminating in a mass naturalization ceremony.



The **Starry Night** street festival, held in September, draws thousands of people with its unique blend of excellent music, a variety of merchants, interactive creativity, and delicious food. Artists from 15 counties show their art along the beautiful Wabash River during the **Art on the Wabash** juried fair. More than 100 beers from 25-30 Indiana craft breweries are available to sample at **Beers Across the Wabash**. Greater Lafayette's premiere craft beer tasting experience is held in a most unique location — the John T. Meyers Pedestrian Bridge over the Wabash River.

### Outdoor Recreation

**Happy Hollow Park**, 68-tree-shaded acres, is a favorite recreation spot for adults and children alike to walk trails, play games, eat at picnic shelters, or explore playground equipment. A municipal swimming pool sits just outside the former Happy Hollow Elementary School. The **Celery Bog**, just off Lindberg Road, combines wetlands with a hands-on nature center.

The **Tippecanoe Amphitheater** on North River Road, which seats 1,500 people, is the site of outdoor entertainment in warmer weather, such as MuddFest, Ouibache Music Festival, and a flea market.

## OUTSIDE GREATER LAFAYETTE

Additional attractions are available in Tippecanoe County.

**Wolf Park**, in nearby Battle Ground, is a unique wildlife park where wolves live alongside American bison. Friday night is Howl Night for animals and humans. In the same area, the 2,000-acre **Prophetstown State Park** celebrates our Native American heritage. Park facilities include campgrounds, a nature center, fishing lakes, hiking trails, waterpark, and a sizable restored tallgrass prairie. The **Museums at Prophetstown**, a private-public partnership based in Lafayette, opened the Eagle Wing Visitor Center, Wabash Valley Living History Farm, and Prophetstown Village.

The **Indiana Fiddlers' Gathering** is a three-day acoustic music festival featuring the best in old-time, bluegrass, swing jazz fiddle, string band, Celtic, and ethnic music on one stage. Past performers have included John Hartford, Alison Krauss & Union Station, Johnny Gimble, Mike Seeger, and Robin & Linda Williams.

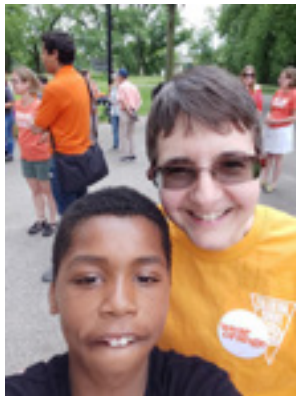
Every fall, more than 40,000 people gather along the Wabash River for the **Feast of the Hunters' Moon**, a re-creation of the annual fall gathering of the French and Native Americans that took place at Fort Ouiatenon, a fur-trading outpost in the mid- 1700s. UUC of Tippecanoe County hosts a corn booth to support the event and raise funds for the church.

*The Celery Bog combines wetlands with a hands-on nature center and walking/biking paths.*



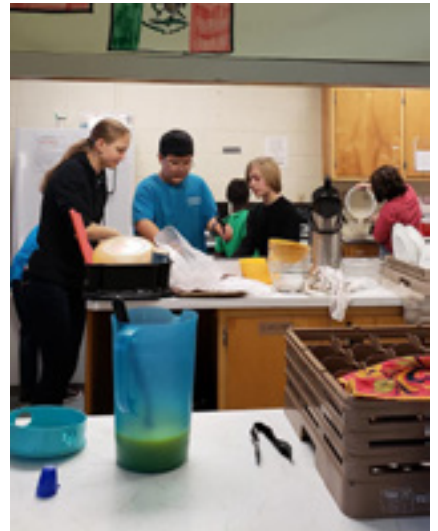
*The annual Feast of the Hunter's Moon is held on the grounds of Fort Ouiatenon Historic Park, four miles southwest of West Lafayette.*

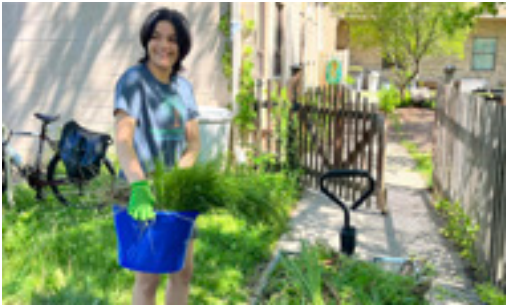












UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH of TIPPECANOE COUNTY



