

WHAT IS CUUPS?

The Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) is an organization dedicated to networking Pagan-identified Unitarian Universalists (UUs), educating people about Paganism, promoting interfaith dialogue, developing Pagan liturgies and theologies, and supporting Pagan-identified UU religious professionals.

HOW CAN I JOIN CUUPS?

Individual Memberships in CUUPS is \$25 per year (or \$60 for 3 years). This includes voting membership in CUUPS, a subscription to the CUUPS Bulletin, which is our email newsletter. You can join on our website (CUUPS.org) and pay via Paypal, or use the postal address on the back.

CONTINENTAL ACTIVITIES OF CUUPS

CUUPS sponsors events at UUA General Assemblies to educate UUs about UU-Paganism. Most years we also hold our Annual Business Meeting there as well. Some year CUUPS holds a Convocation which offers, speakers, workshops, rituals and other activities. CUUPS also produces Podcasts, and provides networking opportunities through our page on Facebook and Twitter. CUUPS also sponsors a UU-Pagan Prisoner Correspondence Ministry. For more information on these contact CUUPS via email or phone.

LOCAL CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

There are basically three types of UU-Pagan groups at Unitarian Universalist Congregations:

- **Covenant Groups** - these are study and/or worship groups for people within the congregation, usually these contain under a dozen people. We don't directly track all the congregations which have these groups, but out of the 1050 UU churches in North America, there are probably a couple hundred of these groups.
- **CUUPS Chapters** - these are also study and/or worship groups, but also include people from outside the congregation, especially for worship. These vary in size from just a handful, to some of our chapters which will regularly have over a hundred people show up for Samhain and Beltane services. While outside people are invited to events, the leadership and identify of the chapter is as part of their host congregation. Currently there are about fifty recognized CUUPS chapters in the United States.

- **Institutional Members** - there are about a half dozen UU Congregations which follow a primarily Earth-Centered liturgy, for them having an Earth-Centered covenant group, or a CUUPS chapter would be kind of redundant.

UU PAGAN MINISTRY

Many UU clergy have responded spiritually to nature for a long time. In recent years an increasing number of UU ministers have identified themselves as Pagan or Earth-centered in their spirituality. This is part of a recent general increase in spiritual interests among UUs.

PAGANISM IN THE UUA

One of the sources of Unitarian Universalism is "*Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.*"

For some UUs this means a Pagan spirituality. For other UUs it means a Humanist, Native American, or other nature honoring spirituality.

UUs are dedicated to the right of conscience, the personal search for spiritual truth and freedom from dogmatism. UUs are also dedicated to "Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part." Many UUs understand Paganism within this context while not accepting Paganism as their personal spiritual truth.

Still, opinions vary on the inclusion of a Pagan theology within the UUA. Individual congregations can be supportive or skeptical. Most congregations are tolerant, and many are even accepting, of Paganism as a spiritual expression within Unitarian Universalism.

HOW DO YOU CONTACT CUUPS?

Simply write, phone or e-mail us for more information.



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