

## CUUPS, Paganism & Earth Relating & Centered Spirituality in the UUA

The Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans, Inc. (CUUPS) began in 1986 and today is a covenanting community of the UUA and a 501 (c) 3 organization.

CUUPS celebrates many traditions and philosophies with god/dess-based, earth-centered, tribal and Pagan spiritual paths. We are a diverse theo/alogical community open to those in alignment with Unitarian Universalist purposes, values, and principles. CUUPS honors diversity and respect for all.

*"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."*

Unitarian Universalism honors the beautiful tapestry of religious diversity including Pagan spiritual traditions, EcoSpirituality, and the many expressions of nature or Earth centered spirituality.

*"Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part."*

The tenants and values of Unitarian Universalism invite us to open our hearts to the sacredness of our planet and our relationship with the world. The inclusion of a Pagan and Earth relating and centered theo/alogy like all others is debated, discussed, and celebrated.

### Clergy, Chapters & Member Resources

In recent years an increasing number of UU clergy and religious leaders have identified themselves as Pagan or Earth-centered in their spirituality. Our archives are held at Meadville Lombard Seminary for researchers and students interested in our history and contributions to the UUA.

CUUPS board members assist with information, travel to give presentations, offer support with right relations concerns, and help develop chapters in creating healthy small group ministries.

CUUPS participates yearly at the UUA's General Assembly by offering programs and opportunities to learn about Pagan, Earth relating and centered theo/alogies. Our Annual Meeting for members, book discussion groups and networking events are held online. There are educational resources on CUUPS.org for congregations, religious educators, and chapters. CUUPS produces podcasts, and social media outlets.

### CUUPS Chapters in Congregations

There are different types of UU-Pagan groups:

- **CUUPS Chapters** - These small group ministries are study and/or small worship groups facilitated by members of a congregation and CUUPS. Chapters may welcome people from outside the congregation to attend. While open to their communities, chapters covenant with the host congregation. Currently there are about 110+ officially recognized CUUPS chapters in the United States.
- **Institutional Members** - These UU congregations honor a Earth-centered liturgical structures.

### Overall Growth & Making a Difference

CUUPS has grown since its beginnings reaching parity with the largest of the other Pagan organizations in North America despite being one of the newest. CUUPS leadership and groups network with a variety of Pagan, Earth-centered and interfaith groups and events. As a small organization, CUUPS brings a new spiritual direction and perspective.

