

# UNISON



Published by the UU Congregation of Frederick, MD ([www.frederickuu.org](http://www.frederickuu.org)) ◇ **October 2014**

*A Welcoming Congregation*

**LIVE AUCTION  
SILENT SALE**

Sponsored by  
*The THIN MAN*  
**DETECTIVE AGENCY**



## Our Biggest Fundraiser Our Biggest Social Event

**Date:** Saturday, October 25  
**Silent Sale:** 4:30 pm  
**Dinner:** 5 pm  
**Entertainment:** 6 pm  
**Live Auction:** 6:30 pm

Turkey Dinner Tickets are on sale now in the Atrium, \$10 ages 16 and older, \$5 for under. Special dinner tables for young children. Childcare Provided before and after dinner. Dress in 30's Style if that sounds fun, 20's or 40's style will do, or come as yourself!

### Your help is needed for our success

**Donate:** You can donate all Auction and Sale items online now until October 11th.

**Drop off** donated Silent Sale items to Room 124 beginning October 21st until Noon on October 24th. Be sure all dropped off items are labeled with the price. If your Silent Sale donation does not sell, please take it home with you at the end of the night! You can find the donation form for Silent Sale and Live Auction items at: [frederickuu.org/auction/donate](http://frederickuu.org/auction/donate). **The catalog of Silent Sale and Live Auction items will be distributed at services on October 18th.**

**Volunteer:** Many of you have already volunteered to make this event a stellar experience. Since so much is happening that evening there are many jobs to do and many opportunities for us to help out. Contact Susan Berte <[susanjb52@gmail.com](mailto:susanjb52@gmail.com)> 301-788-2325 and lend a hand to help for a time during the day or evening.

## Nationally Acclaimed Speakers Coming to UUCF

**Michael Dowd** is an evolutionary theologian, bestselling author, guest of CBC, CNN, ABC News, and Fox News, and has been written about in major newspapers and magazines. He has spoken in UU churches nationwide.

**Connie Barlow**, his wife, is also an acclaimed writer and evolutionary educator who helps to spread the message of religious naturalism and one-story spirituality.

\*Sunday, October 26 Michael will preach at both services and Connie will tell the "Story for all Ages."

\*Tuesday, October 28 at 7pm they will present "The Future is Calling us to Greatness." The public will be invited to attend.

<http://thegreatstory.org/michaeldowd.html>  
<http://www.thegreatstory.org/leaderpraise.html>

## Pancake Breakfast



Date: October 12  
Time: 7:45-8:45am

All-you-can-eat pancakes, bacon, fruit, yogurt, coffee and tea. Donations gratefully accepted. UUCF's Social Events Committee needs helpers for this event, and, even more important, your RSVP, so we can plan the food.

Contact: Jane Ladner ([jeladner@hotmail.com](mailto:jeladner@hotmail.com))  
[301 865-5975](tel:3018655975)

# **THE 22ND ANNUAL UUCF AUCTION** **Sponsored by the** **UUCF THIN MAN DETECTIVE AGENCY**

Saturday October 25, 2014



Master of Ceremony:  
"Nick Charles" Berte (Steve)

**4:30 pm** Silent Sale Begins



Detective Chef: Ed Mordan

**5:00 pm** Dinner is served  
(Thanksgiving-style dinner)



UUCF Thin Man Musicians:  
Scarlett Fannin, Danielle Grace &  
Nick Int Veldt

**6:00 pm** Music Show and Dessert



UUCF Thin Man Auctioneer: Jeff Ingle

**6:30 pm** Auction Begins



Tickets

\$10 Ages 16 and older

\$ 5 Ages under 16 (includes meal,  
entertainment & a caring, safe,  
environment for the entire evening.)

On sale each Sunday in the Atrium.

Thank you to everyone who has made our move to two Sunday services a success so far. Please continue to let me know if you have questions or suggestions, but I'm already grateful to all our pioneers at the first service. We've had approximately 50 people each Sunday, which was our goal! And thank you as well to all the wonderful Religious Education teachers, who have stepped up to anchor our 10:15 a.m. "Middle Hour." More information about our new schedule is online at [frederickuu.org/TwoServices](http://frederickuu.org/TwoServices).

## CARL'S COLUMN

Rev. Carl Gregg



And for those who are curious, our current plan for next summer (Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend) is to move to one worship service at 10:15 a.m. For that one summer service, we will continue to "sing out" children ages 3rd grade and younger for "Arts and Exploration," but we are leaning toward a summer break for R.E. as many UU congregations do to give our teachers time to rest. Our many other groups (Friendly Forum, Atheists/Humanists/Agnostics, and all the spirituality groups) will be welcome to meet either before or after the one summer service at 10:15 a.m. We'll then move back to two Sunday services on the Sunday after Labor Day.

I have also enjoyed the recent Tuesday evening sessions using the UUA's new outreach and branding curriculum on "Aligning Identity & Signals for UUs." If you were unable to attend those three sessions, and are curious to learn more, the slides are posted online ([frederickuu.org/learn/Branding](http://frederickuu.org/learn/Branding)). Next, on Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m., starting September 30, I will be facilitating a six-session course on "Building Your Own Ethics": apply your beliefs, values and convictions to particular ethical situations in dialogue with other UUs. All are welcome to join us.

Finally, as I shared on Sunday, I have now passed the biggest hurdle of my transition from being a Progressive Christian minister to being in fellowship with the Unitarian Universalist Association — a process that takes a minimum of five years to complete. On Saturday, September 20, the UUA's Ministerial Fellowship Committee interviewed me, and awarded me a "Category I: Qualified for Unitarian Universalist ministry with no contingencies." There remain three more years of paperwork to complete before I can be in "Final Fellowship." But I am now in Preliminary Fellowship, which clears the way for me to be called by UUCF as your "Settled Minister" instead of my current status as a "Contract Minister."

In many ways, this shift would make little practical difference. My work at UUCF would continue as it has since July 2012, when I began serving as your minister. Rather, the shift from contract-to-call is related to Unitarian Universalism being a "covenantal" rather than a "creedal" tradition: our focus is more on *right relationship* than beliefs, more on *deeds* than creeds. Now that I am in Preliminary Fellowship with the UUA, the UUCF Board of Trustees will call a special congregational meeting sometime this fall in which UUCF members will be invited to vote on whether to formally call me as your Settled Minister. That vote is an opportunity to affirm a covenant of mutual trust and support in our shared ministry. I am grateful to be on this journey with you.

Peace to you,  
Carl  
The Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg

# Have you donated yet?

## DONATIONS NEEDED FOR OUR AUCTION:

We fill up our personal social calendars with good time events with good people but we need your donations to do this. So donate dinners, excursions, swimming or golf dates, parties, home or yard work dates, child or pet sitting, visits to gardens, wineries or breweries, whatever you think will give us a chance to get to know each other more, have good conversations, and at the same time bring in lots of needed money for our church. Thank you everyone. [frederickuu.org/auction/donate](http://frederickuu.org/auction/donate)

Deadline, October 11.

# SUNDAYS AT UUCF

## Sunday Services

Sundays at 9:15 and 11:15am

**October 5:** *The Future of Islam*,  
the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg  
Choir at 11:15

**October 12:** *Speaking Parabolically*,  
the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg

**October 19:** *The Daode Jing (or the Tao de Ching)*,  
the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg  
Choir at 11:15

**October 26:** *Religion 3.0: The Evidential Reformation*,  
the Rev. Michael Dowd

## Friendly Forum

Sundays at 10:15-11:05am  
in room 113

**October 5:** Climate Change March in NY City, UUCF Represented

**October 12:** UU-UNO and the People's Climate March in New York (Monica Greene)

**October 19:** Open Discussion, Bring your Topic

**October 26:** Economics: "Policies and Forces, and the Purpose Is . . . ?" (Dick Menzer and Dick Roblin will tell us the Truth.)



## EARTH-CENTERED SPIRITUALITY

The Earth Centered Spirituality Services provide a forum to explore the UUA's 6<sup>th</sup> Source and 7<sup>th</sup> Principle. Join us in the Chapel on Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:15am to reconnect to the Web of All Existence.

### Wheel of the Year Concert

October 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

"The Wheel of the Year" is a term used to describe the 8 holy days often celebrated by modern pagans. Throughout the calendar year pagans honor the changing seasons marked by the solstices, equinoxes and the cross quarter days between them. This calendar is uniquely expressed with song and poetry at this rare performance.

The Frederick CUUPS chapter is proud to host The Voices of the Season Ensemble from the Unitarian Universalists of Gettysburg on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> for a dynamic concert and performance to honor the Pagan Wheel of the Year.

Doors will open at 6:30pm and the concert will begin at 7. We will be accepting free will love donations that will serve as a split plate with the The Voices of the Season Ensemble.

### Samhain

Samhain is an ancient harvest festival celebrated now as All Hollow's Eve or Halloween. Come join our CUUPS chapter as we honor this special day with ritual and feasting. We will gather Thursday, October 30 at 7:30pm in the Chapel. Bring food for feasting after, drums, rattles, and harvest items for the altar. All are welcome! Minors must be accompanied by an adult. Free will donations gratefully accepted.



## ATHEISTS, HUMANISTS, AGNOSTICS

**AHA meets at 12:30pm on the following dates:**

October 5: Discussion of *Religion without God*, the latest book written by legal philosopher Ronald Dworkin. This topic is of great interest to AHA UUs (and maybe to other UUs??). Let us rejoice.

October 19: Burning Issues

~~Phyllis Liddell



## UUCF BUDDHIST FELLOWSHIP

Our UUCF Buddhist Fellowship meets on the second and fourth Sundays. We continue to meet at 9:30am for meditation and will adjust our presentation/discussion to begin at 10:15am, so that others may easily join us for that part of our program. You are welcome to attend either or both parts of our program. Newcomers are always encouraged and welcome.

Various members of our group will be leading the sessions, which are currently discussions of *True Refuge* by Tara Brach. We expect to discuss Chapter 10 on October 12 and continue from where we leave on October 26. Reading the material is encouraged, and you are welcome whether or not you have done so.

Please see the UUCF Mid-Week Announcements for specifics of upcoming sessions. If you would like to be added to our email list, contact us at <[Buddhist@frederickuu.org](mailto:Buddhist@frederickuu.org)>.

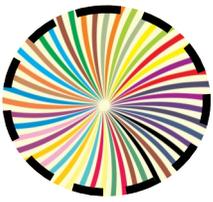


## UU PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

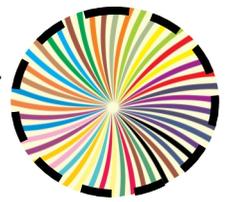
UU Progressive Christian Fellowship (formerly the Servetus Society) will meet at 10:15 a.m. on Sunday, October 5. Our UPCF meets on the first Sunday of the month for Christian worship grounded in progressive Christian theology. We are followers, not worshipers of Jesus; we explore in worship the meaning of a Cosmic Christ that embodies the UU principles and respects the fourth source of Unitarian Universalism.

Our October 5 service will concentrate on the story in Matthew's gospel, "Murder in the Vineyard" – a parable that reflects both first and twenty-first century economic realities. Communion will be served. All are welcome.

[searaven.morse@gmail.com](mailto:searaven.morse@gmail.com)



A BIG *HELLO* AND *WELCOME* TO OUR LATEST NEW MEMBERS.  
WE LOOK FORWARD TO KNOWING YOU AS FRIENDS.



Andrea Finucane, Ashley Finucane, Kay Anderson, Michelle Mitchell

On September 28<sup>th</sup> UUCF welcomes 10 new members into our congregation. They are: Kay Anderson, Ron Baviello, Andrea Finucane, Ashley Finucane, John Grastorf, Michelle Mitchell, Bob Simonoff, Brandel Simonoff, Mike Stockman, and Teresa Bell-Stockman. All 10 took UUCF 101: Pathways to Membership on Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> and signed the Membership Book at that time.

They will be recognized during the worship services on September 28<sup>th</sup> and honored at a New Member Reception following the late service.

Our new members represent the range of age and experience that characterizes Unitarian Universalism.

~Ann Foard

Andrea Finucane teaches nature preschool at the Fountain Rock Nature Center, she loves exploring outdoors & sharing her love for nature with children. She was drawn to UUCF by the full moon labyrinth walks & the CUUPS group.

Ashley Finucane attends Frederick Community College and would like to become an elementary school art teacher. She loves art, animals, jewelry-making and belly dancing.

Kay Anderson recently moved to Shepherdstown after 40 years in Ohio. She has a Masters degree in Mental Health counseling, and is passionate about listening to people and their stories. She is an avid reader, loves to sing, and is a talented calligrapher.

Michelle Mitchell returns to UUCF after living in the Southwest for several years. She has worn several hats—teaching driver education, owning a day care center, and working as an emergency medical technician. Today she works for a local driving school as a teacher and fleet manager. Her many interests include science, teaching, writing, and yoga.

Mike Stockman and Teresa Bell-Stockman have been attending UUCF on and off for years and have decided this is where they want to be. Mike is a Nurse Practitioner and is currently chief nurse of Occupational Medical Science at NIH. He's interested in congregational health and wellness, social justice, and community outreach. Teresa worked at the Frederick News-Post for 26 years and is currently a freelance journalist who is also interested in art. She is retired and spending a lot of time with her elderly parents.



Mike Stockman, Teresa Bell-Stockman, John Grastorf

John Grastorf's career includes the U.S. Army and the CIA. He has been a construction manager and business owner. Currently retired, he is interested in political action, music, family, and shamanic practice. He is Irene Glasse's dad.



Brandel Simonoff, Bob Simonoff, Ron Baviello

Bob Simonoff and Brandel Simonoff live in Middletown. He is interested in photography, computers, travel, music, art and theater. She majored in art with a minor in psychology. She owned her own interior design firm, but is now loving being a stay-at-home mom. Her interests include art, creative writing, animals, photography and sculpture.

Ron Baviello is a retired medical technologist living in Frederick. After retirement Ron returned to his first love—art. He does portraits and landscapes and has connected with the Visual Arts Committee at UUCF.

We welcome all these new members and encourage the congregation to seek them out and get to know them better.

Charles Haney greets Alex Hamill, Isaac Whitaker and Sea Raven at the door.



We can all extend Charles' welcome inside the building. We want you new folks here. We need you here. We are happy you joined our UUCF community.

# Adult Spiritual Enrichment

“**Building Your Own Ethics**,” led by Rev. Carl Gregg, began on September 30 and runs through November 11 (six sessions, skipping October 28). This course uses Volume 3 of the *Building Your Own Theology* series by Richard S. Gilbert. You can obtain the book being used in the class through the UUA bookstore at <http://tinyurl.com/ocnwgve>.

“**The Future is Calling Us to Greatness**,” led by Evolutionary Evangelists the Rev. Michael Dowd and his wife Connie Barlow. Please set aside the date of **Tuesday, October 28, from 7:00-8:30 p.m.** This interesting event will be held in the sanctuary and light refreshments will be served after the event. Please also remember to bring your cash, credit card, or a check, as books and DVDs by the presenters will be on sale!

For further information or to register for the events mentioned above, go to <http://www.frederickuu.org/ase/register.php>.

## Looking for New Committee Members!

The ASE committee would very much welcome having a couple of new committee members. Committee tasks include: seeking out people to teach new classes; coordinating with presenters on logistical matters; writing up class announcements for the Order of Service, Mid-Week announcements, and Unison; occasionally providing set-up and opening the building for presenters; and conducting post-class evaluations, among other things. If you are interested in being on the committee, please e-mail [enrichment@frederickuu.org](mailto:enrichment@frederickuu.org) or speak to one of the current committee members – Tara Scibelli, Carol Gosnell, or Penny McDougall.

~Tara Scibelli, ASE Chair



## RE World

[education@frederickuu.org](mailto:education@frederickuu.org)

Lora Powell-Haney  
Director of Religious Education

### Our Whole Lives, coming January 2015 for 7th-9th graders!

"Parents are children's primary teachers, but what is society teaching our children about sexuality? Our Whole Lives is an antidote to sexualized media messages, peer pressure, misinformation and prejudice. It provides accurate, age-appropriate information, puts sexuality in the context of values and personal responsibility, supports healthy decision-making, and strengthens social skills. These skills and values help prepare youth to make healthy choices in life."

Watch for more announcements about Parent Orientation sessions in October midweek announcements, in the order of service, in the Religious Education cabinet in the atrium, and on UUCF's website.

For more detailed information about what is covered at the 7th-9th grade level, see:

[uua.org/re/owl](http://uua.org/re/owl)

And for general information about sexuality education as part of faith development see:

[uuworld.org/ideas/articles/188371.shtml](http://uuworld.org/ideas/articles/188371.shtml) "Forty years of UU sexuality education"

### Come play with us in Arts & Exploration!

The new Arts & Exploration time for preschoolers through third graders during each of the worship hours has been full of fun and creativity! We've learned pieces of a movement meditation, made paper airplanes and built with Legos and other things. Won't you join the fun? This unstructured time lets our children try new skills, work together or separately, and explore what can be done with familiar objects.



Adults, get together with a buddy to supervise an early or late group (with help from DRE Lora: [education@frederickuu.org](mailto:education@frederickuu.org)). Here are some ideas for the next few months: you can do something completely different if you have a great activity!

**October: The Universe Story** is our theme, in honor of our special worship guests in late October, Michael Dowd and Connie Barlow: easy-to-spot constellations and star gazing, create a solar system, wonders of the galaxy, My Universe Story: a beaded time line of evolution, etc.

**November: Yarn Month:** Finger knitting, arm knitting, weaving, cat's cradle, sheep to shawl?

**December: Light in the Darkness or What Do We Find In The Dark:** make rolled beeswax candles, make a lantern, create stories and play quiet games, simple snacks to make; meditation, make a simple doll or stuffed animal, and hibernate!

### Looking for even more ways to practice your UU faith at home?

Check out all the resources for UU families at the Church of the Larger Fellowship's Quest for Meaning website ([questformeaning.org/page/reflection/for-families](http://questformeaning.org/page/reflection/for-families)). Find further links to YouTube videos and a Pinterest page, as well as an online parenting group, and pintables.

# Noteworthy

## 2ND SATURDAY GARDEN WORK PARTY

The first UUCF "2nd Saturday" garden work party found Dick Menzer, Diane Shuey, Russel Rogers, Nancy Hutchins, Dave Hutchins, and Nancy Pace pruning willow trees, trimming shrubs, weeding flower beds, and brightening up the Memorial Garden with mums donated by the Chronologically Gifted. Then we dined at the wonderful Little Red Barn in Jefferson. Earlier in the week, Carol Topchick weeded and mulched the whole courtyard area around the labyrinth! Thanks to all of you, everything looks beautiful!



Photo by Meg Menke

For exercise, fun, nature, friends and service to UUCF, why not join our next "2nd Saturday" gardening work party on October 11, 9 - noon, rain or shine, followed by an overalls-friendly lunch (if you have time) at nearby Jefferson's "Little Red Barn." No experience necessary! Questions? Call Nancy Pace, 301-788-6642.

## IN OUR HEARTS

Since last month we have mourned the death and celebrated the life of **Bill Sydnor**. Bill received the Unsung Hero Award this year at our church. Judging from the overflow crowd at his memorial service, he was an unsung hero to many, everywhere he went. Our love goes out to Bonny and Bill's family and friends.

On October 11 at 2pm we will say good-bye to **Eileene Butler** at her memorial service. Eileene led a distinguished life, contributing to a better world in many capacities. We will celebrate her and support Bill and their family in their loss. The Butler family thanks the many fellow UUs for their caring and their kind words about the loss of Eileene

We are enriched by having known these two wonderful people.



## Book Club

The UUCF book club will meet Friday, Oct. 24 at 7:30 at the home of Dave and Nancy Hutchins. The book we will be discussing is *Rocket Boys* by Homer H. Hickham, Jr. This is a memoir about some young men in West Virginia dreaming of launching rockets into outer space. This book inspired the film "October Sky". This book gives a vivid picture of life in the coal mining region of West Virginia. If you need to get directions to the Hutchins' home, you may reach them at [nhutchins471@comcast.net](mailto:nhutchins471@comcast.net) or [301-668-8213](tel:301-668-8213).



## Full Moon Labyrinth Walk

Wednesday, October 8

Come enjoy the beauty and peace of the Labyrinth by the light of the full moon! The labyrinth will be illuminated from 7:00 pm till 9:00 pm. If we have rain, we will unfurl the indoor labyrinth.

Everyone is welcome.

[http://frederickuu.org/worship/UUCF\\_Labyrinth.php](http://frederickuu.org/worship/UUCF_Labyrinth.php)

# Blanche Ames Gallery Presents

## BARBARA KENNY ART EXHIBIT AND RECEPTION "Impression to Abstract"



The UU Congregation of Frederick, MD  
4880 Elmer Derr Road  
*Sunday, October 5, 2014*  
*12:30 - 2:00 pm*

There will be forty new paintings on display representing two years of work since Barbara Kenny's previous show at Blanche Ames Gallery. Please come and see the paintings and enjoy the refreshments.



The show will continue throughout the month of October. Please call the church office for additional days and times (301)473-7680.

Barbara Kenny employs a palette of color and light that will treat your eyes to beauty in myriad ways. Her paintings have always been "spiritually loaded." One feels something deep when seeing her work: it's like a meditation on canvas. Faces and forms may appear, moods will change. Even after buying a painting or two, one never tires of looking at them because there seems to be something new with every change in the light, every time of the day.

~~Ruth Golden



## FUTURE EVENT WORTH CHECKING INTO



The Southeastern Unitarian Summer Institute at Radford College is a summer vacation that is not just for kids of all ages; it is also for adults of all ages. Activities and events can be tailor-made for each person. Check it out and find what participants are saying about their experiences of being there.



Next SUUSI July 19 - 25, 2015  
Building Bridges

<https://www.suusi.org/>

# FISCAL NOTES as of August 31, 2014

General Operating Fund	Month of August 2014	Fiscal Year To Date July, through August 31, 2014	% of Annual Budget – 16% through the year
Contributions:	\$23,587.00	\$75,481.00	23%
All Other Income:	\$ 4,777.69	\$10,674.70	13%
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$28,364.69</b>	<b>\$86,155.70</b>	<b>21%</b>
Employee/Staff Expense:	\$14,135.51	\$32,694.38	17%
Facilities Expense:	\$12,478.47	\$25,546.20	15%
All other Expenses:	\$ 2,142.21	\$ 7,645.26	14%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$28,756.19</b>	<b>\$65,885.84</b>	<b>16%</b>
<b>Difference(Net):</b>	<b>(\$391.50)</b>	<b>\$20,269.86</b>	

## Did you know?

August was almost a break even month. Our expenses were \$391.50 higher than our income for the month. Not bad for the last month of summer.

Our available cash in the General (Operating) Fund is \$81,312.40 as of August 31, 2014.

The painting and repairs on the outside of the building have begun. The balance in the Capital Reserve Fund is now \$44,176.42.

Have you thought about purchasing gift cards recently? This is a win-win for everyone. We purchase gift cards at a discount and sell them at face value. We just had a person who made a large purchase for a home improvement project at Home Depot and paid for it with gift cards! Please, please see Jane, Joan and Ann in the Narthex this Sunday!

Janice



**Holiday Time.....  
or Anytime.....**

Use Amazon from our web link.

You will be on your own account, but UUCF will receive a percentage of the sale.

<http://tinyurl.com/kozsvan>

## Board of Trustees Notes

The Board of Trustees is extremely happy that Rev. Carl Gregg has been admitted to Preliminary Fellowship by the UUA's Ministerial Fellowship committee! It is nice to have that hurdle behind him and us.

At the September Board of Trustees Meeting time was spent monitoring our progress on our Strategic Plan, and we are pleased to say that many of the actions which we hope to accomplish are in process, including UUCF's involvement in the Family Emergency Shelter, which meets our objective of initiating a new social action or environmental justice project. We are also pleased that some new social events are being planned under Nancy Roblin's leadership and that the new "Religious Education Committee" has scheduled its first meeting.

Repairs and painting of the building are well underway, and we hope to receive reimbursement from our insurance company for much of the expense of repairing the water damage discovered this summer. Facilities management passed along kudos to Nancy Pace for her organization of the "garden club."

The Board has approved a plan for making the Minister's Discretionary Fund more visible and more viable. On any "fifth Sunday," the offering will be a split-plate for this fund. In the meantime, under the leadership of Mike Morse, research on best practices and other models for such a fund will be investigated. There is concern that the name of the fund may be misleading, for example, as the fund is intended as an emergency fund and the present name does not emphasize that.

~~Nancy Hutchins, Secretary

## **STRATEGIC PLAN: First there were WORDS, now there are DEEDS**

by Steve Schatken, Board of Trustees Member

Following many conversations and written words over an extended period, on June 8 the congregation adopted a new 5-year strategic plan for UUCF. The plan sets three broad goals: **1. to strengthen and improve our religious education program. 2. to increase involvement by our members in UUCF's community, programs, and ministry. 3. to expand our social and environmental justice initiatives.** The plan also includes specific actions that are intended to help us reach our goals. We've talked the talk. Now it's time for us to take action. The following is a report on our progress thus far in carrying out our strategic plan. (You may view the complete strategic plan at [frederickuu.org/Strategic Plan](http://frederickuu.org/StrategicPlan).)

### **Goal 1. to strengthen and improve our religious education program.**

**Required Action:** By September 30, 2014, establish a Religious Education Committee to assist the DRE in identifying priorities and carrying them out.

**ActionTaken:** The new RE Committee has been established. Many thanks to those who have volunteered to help Lora make our RE program the best it can be. This action has been completed. The next action will be for the committee to assist Lora in establishing and addressing priorities. More on that in future reports.

**Required Action:** Within the first year of the strategic plan, increase the number of RE teachers and assistants.

**ActionTaken:** This action is underway. More details to come in future reports.

### **Goal 2. to increase involvement by our members in UUCF's community, programs, and ministry.**

**Required Action:** Survey UUCF's program committees to assess their need for more members and more participants in their activities.

**ActionTaken:** On August 1, the Comprehensive Planning Committee (CPC) sent out a survey to UUCF's program committees. Fourteen have responded with information that will be useful to the Minister and the Board of Trustees in addressing the needs identified. The CPC will report the results of the survey to the Minister and Board in October. This action is well underway.

**Required Action:** Continue the Minister's program for leadership opportunities and development in UUCF.

**ActionTaken:** Reverend Carl will continue his "Pathways to Leadership" program. The next session is likely to be sometime in November. Stay tuned! This action is well underway.

**Required Action:** During the 12 months following congregational approval of the plan-- Add more social events, including ones that are family-friendly.

**ActionTaken:** There will be a (1) Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, October 12, (2) Brunch and Thanksgiving Spirit Play on Sunday, November 23, and (3) a spring event, likely a dance, probably within a few weeks after Easter. Many thanks to Nancy Roblin for chairing our Social Events Team! Thus, this action has been taken.

### **Goal 3. to expand our social and environmental justice initiatives.**

**Required Action:** The Board of Trustees will review two of its policies--(1) "Policy on taking public positions on social and environmental justice issues in the name of Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Frederick (UUCF)," and (2) "Process for Approving a UUCF Social and Environmental Justice Initiative." The purpose of the review will be to make changes that will facilitate initiation of social action and environmental action by members and groups of members.

**ActionTaken:** The Board has begun its review, and plans to consider specifications for revising these policies at its October meeting. This action is underway.

**Required Action:** By August 31, 2014, develop a "project filter" to help determine which social action or environmental justice initiatives would be most likely to succeed and to further UUCF'S mission.

**ActionTaken:** Reverend Carl has identified a model that we can use for this purpose. This model was presented at the 2012 "Justice General Assembly" by Eastshore UU in Bellevue, WA, called "How to Build Meaning-Full Social Justice Ministry Teams." The model provides guidance and structure for grassroots efforts. This action has thus been completed.

**Required Action:** By October 31, 2014-- Reconstitute the Environmental Justice Committee, including finding a Chairperson.

**ActionTaken:** Reverend Carl has begun by putting notices in the Order of Service, Midweekly, and Unison. This action is underway.

**Required Action:** During the 12 months following congregational approval of the plan, initiate at least one significant new social action or environmental justice project.

**ActionTaken:** The Family Emergency Shelter (see [frederickuu.org/FES](http://frederickuu.org/FES)) has been launched. Thus, this action has been completed.

As we continue to carry out the strategic plan, the Board of Trustees and the Minister will continue to consider whether any changes in the plan are needed, and will advise the congregation if this occurs.

# Social Action → Social Justice

**JUSTice + ACTION = JustAct**

<http://uusocialjustice.org>

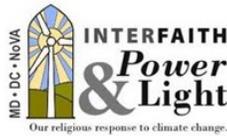
Mary Kruhm, Chair

## Social Action Is More than Talk: We Also Walk the Walk

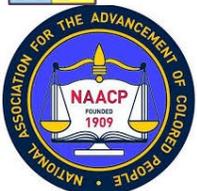
Last spring Carol Topchik asked how she could involve UUCF with a group with which she works—*Blessings in a Backpack* <http://blessingsinabackpack.org>. After she spoke at an SAC meeting, we suggested she nominate the project to be a split-plate recipient. On December 21<sup>st</sup> we'll split the collection with Blessings in a Backpack.

Next spring you can nominate your favorite nonprofit. Small charities in which UUCF members participate, especially local ones, are especially favored. Nancy Hutchins told us the *Community Correctional Services Committee* (CCSC), the umbrella group for the *Alternatives to Violence Project* (AVP), our November split-plate recipient, relies heavily on our split-plate donations. "Each chapter or group of volunteers doing work in prisons or communities anywhere in the country has to find a source of funding for the manuals and supplies that we use to present the workshops."

**To get some appreciation of how much we do on our committee and in our church, below are just a few of the organizations we have helped and supported:**



Second chances for cars... and the people who need them!



## People who are Walking the Walk

Whether you nominate a recipient or add to the collection the third Sunday of each month, being involved in the split-plate collection is not the only way you can strengthen UUCF's social action efforts.

You can also become an SAC *Liaison*—members who are personally passionate about a specific project that advances social justice: Nancy Hutchins works for AVP & UU Legislative Ministry of MD (UULM-MD) and Joanne Spivey delivers our contributions to the Food Bank. Others include Ben Gaffigan (UU UNO), Susan T. Holt (Publicity & Mental Health Resources), Dorothea Mor-dan (Web/Graphic Designer), Laura Cornwell (LGBT), Dave Hutchins (Elmer Derr Road Clean-up) and Irene Zmitrovic (Frederick Immigration Coalition).

Liaisons keep us informed as well as working with the parent group. Irene Zmitrovic reports that many immigrants should be considered refugees since the situation in their countries is now extremely dangerous. At their last meeting, a Sister who works in Honduras said once relatively safe streets can no longer be travelled. Also, she said many children have simply "disappeared." The people can't go to the police as it is under the control of the gangs and apparently so is the government.

We meet Thursday October 2nd

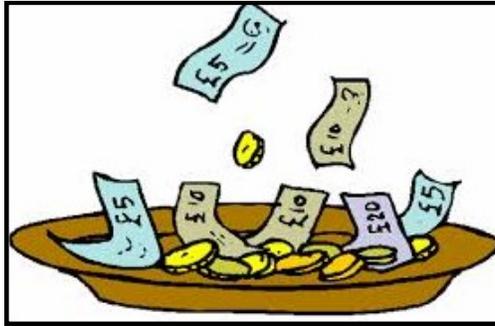
1:30pm Bag Lunch, no business

2:00pm Meeting

Come join a good group doing good work in the world..

# Social Action → Social Justice

**\$**PLIT  
**P**LATE



UU  
United Nations  
Office  
Sunday, 19th

The Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office is our Split-Plate recipient for the month of October. The UUA has maintained an office at the United Nations for decades. From that vantage point we can be a part of the humanitarian work of the UN worldwide.

Monica Greene, our UU-UNO Envoy, explains below what our New York office is working on.

The United Nations was founded in October 1945. Since 1971, many UU congregations devote one service each October to reaffirm the connections between our principles and the issues faced at the UN. The theme of this year's UN Sunday is the rights of indigenous peoples and environmental justice.

The UU-United Nations Office (UU-UNO) is part of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA.) Through education, advocacy, and direct action, the UU-UNO promotes human rights, peace and justice throughout the world. Volunteer envoys represent the UU-UNO within their local congregations. Because UUCF has an envoy team and church members have been generous in their support, **UUCF has been honored by the UU-UNO in 2014 as a Blue Ribbon Congregation.** Our envoy Ben Gaffigan accepted the award on our behalf at the UUA General Assembly in Providence, Rhode Island on June 28. The award plaque will be displayed in our church building.

With a focus on the UN Millennium Development Goals to combat HIV/AIDS, reduce poverty, and support universal primary education and gender equality, the UU-UNO developed a program of direct action in the Manya Krobo district of Ghana in Africa: "Every Child Is Our Child." The program serves orphans and other children made vulnerable by the increasing poverty and the HIV/AIDS pandemic. It accomplishes this by partnering with the village mothers who have traditionally taken in orphans to live with their own families. The program provides for school expenses and healthcare for each child and their family. Please consider sponsoring one of these children; the monthly cost is minimal, the results are life-giving!

<http://www.uua.org/international/action/children/index.shtml>

A major current initiative of the UU-UNO is the facilitation of **Climate Action Teams**, which work to uphold our principles through protection of the environment and human rights. If you would like to volunteer to lead, or be a part of, a Climate Action Team at UUCF, please speak with Reverend Carl. Climate change is involved with many issues, including biodiversity, peace, health, immigration, poverty, economic stability, and human survival.

**UUCF envoy Monica Greene joined other envoys and UNO staff in the People's Climate March (over 400,000) in New York City, September 21, 2014. She will share her experiences at the Friendly Forum on October 12th.**

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## Book Sale Tops All Expectations

Our Social Action Committee was hoping to raise money to increase our ability to respond to urgent human needs by selling some books before donating them to International Goodwill for distribution to struggling people in locations throughout our country and the world. You were asked to donate books for the sale and you turned up with boxes and bags filled to the brim with books on all kinds of subjects. Hundreds of books.

Much to our amazement, on Friday, October 26 we opened the sale and raised close to \$600!! What a success. Pat yourself on the back if you helped move UUCF's social action forward. The Social Action Committee pledges to let everyone know how the money earned through the sale will be spent.

The Social Action Committee thanks and appreciates the work of so many to help make the Book Sale successful. That said, particular mention must be made of Phyllis Liddell. Phyllis envisioned this sale, spearheaded the call for donations of books, organized all the tables and put books as carefully as possible into categories such as "History," say, or "Cookbooks" and ensured that this sale was lots of fun for the buyers and a great success for Social Action. You deserve a rest and a huge "Thank you," Phyllis.

~Mary Kruhm, Chair

# Dates at a Glance

Highlighted below are some dates of interest to our entire community:

## October 1 - 7

Wed 1: RUUMEO at Mimi's 8am  
Wed. 1: YRUU "Hang out and Homework" begins 6pm — weekly  
Wed. 1: Choir Rehearsal begins 7:30pm — weekly  
Fri. 3: Prana Flow Yoga begins 12:30pm — weekly  
Sat. 4: Wheel of the Year Concert 6:30pm  
Sun. 5: Art Show and Reception 12:30pm

## October 8 - 14

Wed. 8: Labyrinth Walk 7pm  
Sat. 11: 2nd Saturday Garden Work Party 9am  
Sat. 11: Celebration of Life for Eileene Butler 2pm  
Sun. 12: Pancake Breakfast 7:45am

## October 15 - 21

Wed. 15: RUUMEO at Mimi's 8am

## October 22 - 31

Sat. 25: AUCTION beginning 4:30pm  
Tues. 28: "The Future is Calling us to Greatness" 7pm  
Thurs. 30: Samhain Celebration 7:30pm

## November

Sat. 8: Coffee House 7pm  
Sun. 9: Special Presentation and One Worship Service:  
10:00 — Susan Katz Miller, Beacon Press Author  
11:00 — Dr. Robert Jefferson, renowned baritone  
Sat. 15: Concert by *Two Rivers*; Fundraiser for UUCF  
Sun. 23: Thanksgiving Sunday, One Service 10 - 11am followed  
by a Thanksgiving Brunch

## December

Sat. 6: UUCF Pathways to Membership 9am  
Sun. 14: Blue Holidays Service 6pm

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



5<sup>th</sup> – Derek Buker; 6<sup>th</sup> – Raina Nance; 10<sup>th</sup> – Merrill Ady; 12<sup>th</sup> – John Menke; 14<sup>th</sup> – Ann Nathan; 18<sup>th</sup> – Tobey Ellis; 20<sup>th</sup> – Brianna Buck; 23<sup>rd</sup> – Douglas Foard; 24<sup>th</sup> – Ken Bertram, Leander Kuske, Cody Stalzer; 26<sup>th</sup> – Hannah Gaffigan; and 28<sup>th</sup> – Jessica Turner.

**The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Frederick, MD**  
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**Publicity/Marketing**, Irene Jericho  
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**Webmaster**, Rick Holt <webmaster@frederickuu.org>

## Publications

**Unison Deadline**: submissions by the 24th; web posting  
on the 28th  
**Mid-Week Announcements**: submissions by Wednesday,  
noon; e-mailed on Thursdays  
**Submission address**: [frederickuu.org/announce](http://frederickuu.org/announce)

# October 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>** This calendar is not all-inclusive of UUCF'S building use. Please go to <a href="http://frederickuu.org/calendar/">http://frederickuu.org/calendar/</a> for a complete schedule.</p>			<p>1 8am RUUMEO at Mimi's Restaurant 6pm YRUU "Hang Out and Home-work" time 7pm Committee on Ministry 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>2 1pm Social Action Comm. Bag Lunch 2pm SAC Meeting</p>	<p>3 12:30pm Level One Prana Flow Yoga Class 7:30pm Social Events Committee Meeting</p>	<p>4 6:30pm <b>Wheel of the Year Concert</b></p>
<p>5 <b>9:15am Worship Service</b> 10:15am Servetus Society, UU Christians (Chapel) 10:15am Friendly Forum (113) 10:15am RE Classes <b>11:15am Worship Service</b> 12:30pm Art Show and Reception 12:30pm AHA Group Discussion 12:30 pm RE Committee Meeting</p>	6	7	<p>8 6pm YRUU "Hang Out and Home-work" time 7pm Full Moon Labyrinth Walk—Labyrinth or Chapel 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	9	10	<p>11 9am –noon 2nd Saturday Garden Work Party 2pm Celebration of Life for Eileene Butler</p>
<p>12 7:45am Pancake Breakfast <b>9:15am Worship Service</b> 9:45am Buddhists (Chapel) 10:15am Friendly Forum (113) 10:15 UU Parents Forum 10:15am RE Classes <b>11:15am Worship Service</b> 12:30pm Membership Committee Meeting</p>	13	14	<p>15 8am RUUMEO at Mimi's Restaurant 6pm YRUU "Hang Out and Home-work" time 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	16	17	18
<p>19 <b>9:15am Worship Service</b> 10:15am Earth-Centered Service (Chapel) 10:15am Friendly Forum (113) 10:15am RE Classes <b>11:15am Worship Service</b> 12:30pm AHA Discussion</p>	20	21	<p>22 6pm YRUU "Hang Out and Home-work" time 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	23	24	<p>25 <b>Auction</b> 4:30pm Silent Sale begins 5:00pm Dinner 6:00 p.m. Live Musical Entertainment 6:30pm Live Auction begins</p>
<p>26 <b>9:15am Worship Service</b> 9:45am Buddhists (Chapel) 10:15am Friendly Forum (113) 10:15am RE Classes <b>11:15am Worship Service</b></p>	27	28	<p>29 6pm YRUU "Hang Out and Home-work" time 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	30	31	<p>12:30pm Level One Prana Flow Yoga Class </p>