

U N I S N



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A Welcoming Congregation

MORTGAGE DROPS BELOW \$1 MILLION SPECIAL DONATION BRINGS A NEW YEAR'S GIFT



UUCF on a spring day in 2008.

Photo by Carl Kruhm

For ten years we have worked and given to construct our impressive church and lovely grounds and then struggled to pay for that building with a mortgage that began at around \$1,400,000. We have repaired faulty parts and faulty workmanship and meanwhile diligently worked on the normal upkeep of the building. Through it all we have faithfully paid our mortgage, dollar by dollar.

We can be proud of what we achieved. Our financial team at every turn looked for re-financing and ways to bring our mortgage down. We gave sweat labor and hard cash to upgrade and beautify while lowering the mortgage. And then came the gift that finally dropped the mortgage below the \$1 million mark.

A donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, made a gift of almost \$10,000 to reduce the mortgage to under \$1 million! This is a big morale booster for us and a wonderful way to enter into 2015.

To quote Rev. Carl, "Our beautiful building and surrounding land is one of our greatest assets that makes possible many of our ministries and programs. It is also our greatest annual expense. This generous gift directly to the principal of our loan means that we finally owe less than a million dollars on our mortgage. Each step toward reducing the principal frees funds to expand our ministries, staff, and justice work."

If you would like to make an online tax-deductible donation to UUCF before the end of the year, please visit the "Give" page of our website up until midnight, December 31:

[To Donate Online, Click Here](#)

Meet the Committee on Ministry

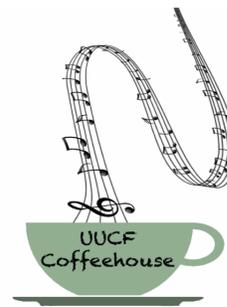
The Committee on Ministry's purpose is to strengthen the quality of the ministries within the UUCF Congregation by serving in an explicit, trusted, and impartial relationship with the whole Congregation and with the Minister. Their role is advisory to both the Minister and to the Board of Trustees. It is not a decision-making body.

The committee will strengthen the quality of the ministry in the whole Congregation by developing and advocating for a deepened understanding of and support for the roles of professional and lay leadership within Congregational life.

The current members of the Committee on Ministry are: Scott Norris, Rick Holt, Joan Deacon, Penny McDougal, and David John.

~~Penny McDougal

**NEXT
Open
Mic**



**Saturday
January 10
7 - 9:30pm**

Performers can expect to share two pieces, perhaps more depending on the number of participants. Performance times are first come, first served!

If you're not up to taking a turn in the spotlight, never fear - every performer loves an audience! Come out and enjoy a variety of music and poetry as well as desserts, coffee, and other beverages.

Admission is free, but free will donations are always gratefully accepted - and donations in the form of desserts are welcome, too!!

~~Elaine Gleaton

At the end of 2014, we're well into my third year serving as your minister. And I'm particularly grateful to everyone who has helped make our move to two services this fall a success. **Our goal was to have approximately 50 people at the early service, and our average has been 47** for September through December! And now that we are four months into having two services, I continue to welcome feedback, questions, and suggestions about how you are experiencing the move to two services. (For anyone curious, we'll consolidate into one service at 10:15 am for the summer months from Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend.)

CARL'S COLUMN

Rev. Carl Gregg



Looking to 2015, January 17-31, we will have our second quarterly round of helping host the Family Emergency Shelter. Thank you to everyone who is part of our Shelter Team. For anyone interested helping, more information is available at frederickuu.org/FES.

Also, this quarter, **our turn hosting the shelter intersects with the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Beloved Community Annual Potluck on Monday, January 19, 2015, 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** The dinner will be across the street from the shelter site (Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ, 11 West Church St., Frederick), and the shelter residents are invited. (RSVP, helpful but not required, to Mary Bowman-Kruhm: SAC@frederickuu.org.)

For many other ways to connect at UUCF in the new year, visit frederickuu.org/connect for opportunities ranging from our various spiritual practice groups to music, social and environmental justice, and more or frederickuu.org/ase (which stands for "Adult Spiritual Education") for upcoming classes that include Transcendentalist Poetry, Writing Letters to the Editor, Ethical Wills, and Yoga. More information will be coming soon about the Frederick School of Religion (frederickschoolofreligion.org), which UUCF will be hosting this year. I'll be teaching a class as part of this year's FSR on "Banned Questions about the Bible."

Finally, looking way ahead to the summer, **please let me know if you have interest in joining me for either of two exciting opportunities this summer to connect with the larger UU movement.** The first is the annual UUA General Assembly, which this year will be June 24-28 in Portland, OR (see: uua.org/ga). The second is the Southeast Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute, July 19 - 25, on a college campus to be announced soon (see: suusi.org and check their Facebook page as well). SUUSI is a multigenerational UU summer camp for all ages. Last summer, the 64th annual SUUSI drew more than a thousand participants, about 80% of them return visitors, many several times over, and some for decades.

It's going to be a great 2015 at UUCF! And I'm grateful to be on this journey with you.

Peace to you,

Carl

<minister@frederickuu.org>



President's Corner

Bob Ladner

<board@frederickuu.org>

One of the joys of being president of the Board of Trustees is working with such good diligent people. Nancy Hutchins has essentially written my message for the December/January *Unison*, which you will find in the Board Notes on p.8.

Another joy is that Jane and I are going to Kenya with Mary Bowman-Kruhm for the dedication of the well that she and Carl Kruhm worked so hard to fund. The well is now working and we will get to witness the fruit of their labors as well as see elephants being elephants.

The dedication will take place in February and members and friends who would like to share this trip of a lifetime with us are encouraged to come too. As well as the opportunity to witness the dedication of the well, those of us who wish to and are able to may extend the trip to include a safari, complete with comfortable lodging along the way. More on this trip can be found in the newsletter on the next page.

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME



Saying “trip of a lifetime” is a cliché, but traveling for the well dedication (or commissioning, as the Kenyans call it) is the right term here. For the first time in their history, the women of Oltorotua no longer have to carry heavy water containers and spend most of every day walking 4-6 miles to fetch unclean water. For the first time in their lives, the water they now drink and cook with is clean and conveniently available. The Maasai of Oltorotua are deeply grateful for the miracle of clean water that we helped give them and want to personally thank us at the February 14th ceremony and ***you are invited!***

There are Options for the travel

Since you are in Africa attending the dedication, you can also visit the Maasai Mara, Kenya’s huge wildlife reserve near Oltorotua. Though alternative two below is priced on very few days in Kenya, even that selection can perhaps be extended.

Here are the Options:

1. Bob, Jane, and I will begin our safari on February 5 at the historic Norfolk Hotel in Nairobi (<http://www.fairmont.com/norfolk-hotel-nairobi>) and then travel to Sweetwaters Safari Camp (www.serenahotels.com/serenasweetwaters), and the Kericho Tea Hotel (www.kenyahotelsltd.com/place/kericho-tea-hotel), with return February 16, after the dedication. Look online at these locations and you will see no resemblance to camping when you were young! Jackson Liaram, the Maasai junior elder whom you met when he visited in 2013, will be our guide part of the time. In this option you arrange air transportation; the cost of excellent lodging with most meals and transportation within Kenya will be about \$5000.00. Contact me (writer@marybk.com, 301-712-6828 if you want to know more.
2. Rotary members invite UUCF members and friends to join a shorter trip that will leave Dulles February 11 and return February 15. Anticipated cost will be about \$2000, including airfare (a fantastic price if they can make those arrangements). These arrangements are not finalized and Lori Wentworth of Travel Leaders, the travel agency working with Rotary, plans to offer options that allow a longer stay in Kenya and possibly other African destinations. Contact Lori at (lori.wentworth@travelleaders.com, 301-863-6012).

No matter which option you choose, groups will meet at a lodge near Oltorotua on Feb. 13 and 14 for game drives and a chance to experience life in the Maasai village of Oltorotua before the dedication ceremony.

Updates on both plans will be tracked on <http://uusocialjustice.org/news> and in midweek announcements.

~~Mary Bowman Kruhm

SUNDAYS AT UUCF

Sunday Services

Sundays at 9:15 and 11:15am

January 4: *Thrive: The New Year and Fire Communion*, the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg

January 11: *Building Your Own Ethics (with 100 word statements?)*, the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg

January 18: *Rosa Parks: The Rest of the Story*, the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg
Choir at 11:15

January 25: *Joseph Priestly*, the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg

Friendly Forum

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

January 4: TBA

January 11: UULM-MD, What is it, Why it Matters

January 18: (Dick Menzer)

January 25: TBA



UU PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

UU Progressive Christian Fellowship meets on the first Sunday of the month at 10:15 am for Christian worship that is 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.

All are welcome to join us on **January 4** – the second Sunday after Christmas – to consider: *O Sapientia – Finding Wisdom & Light for the New Year*. Led by Sea Raven, D.Min. Communion will be served.

~~searaven.morse@gmail.com



EARTH-CENTERED SPIRITUALITY

Our Earth-centered Spirituality Service will be held on January 21st at 10:15 in the Chapel. This time provides an opportunity to focus on the Sixth Source of Unitarian Universalism: "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."

Brightest Blessings,

~~ Cosette Blackmer



UUCF BUDDHIST FELLOWSHIP

The **January 11** meeting of the UUCF Buddhist Fellowship will be led by Fanny Johnsson. The discussion portion will wrap up our time with Tara Brach's *True Refuge*.

On **January 25**, we will begin basing our discussions around *The Wise Heart: A Guide to the Universalist Teachings of Buddhist Psychology* by Jack Kornfield, led by Brian King.

We continue to meet for meditation together at 9:30 am, followed by discussion and sharing at 10:15 am on the second and fourth Sunday. You are welcome to attend either or both parts of the program. Reading ahead in the material is encouraged but not a necessity. Discussions are open and based on our own experiences and practices.

For questions regarding our Buddhist Fellowship, email buddhist@frederickuu.org or contact Nancy Hutchins.



ATHEISTS, HUMANISTS, AGNOSTICS

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

January 4: Burning Issues

January 18: Discussion of Existentialism, Rae Wiseman

~~Phyllis Liddell

Adult Spiritual Enrichment

Transcendentalist Poetry

Herb Wolf

Tuesdays, December 30-February 3 (6 sessions), 7:00-8:00 pm

This study, which will be a combination of lecture and discussion, will include five major poets of the modern time; Ralph Waldo Emerson, William Wordsworth, Henry David Thoreau, Walt Whitman, and Robert Frost. Recommended text: *The Poets of Transcendentalism: An Anthology* compiled by George Willis Cooke, which can be found on Amazon. Space may still be available for this class!

Writing Letters to the Editor

Jack Topchik

Mondays, January 12, 19, and 26 (3 sessions), 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

Writing a letter to the editor is easy. Writing a good letter to the editor is harder. Getting it published is the hardest part.

Letters to the editor can take a position for or against an issue, or simply inform, or both. They can convince readers by using emotions, or facts, or emotions and facts combined.

So why write a letter to the editor?

- First: You are angry about something, and want others to know it.
- Second: You think that an issue is so important that you have to speak out.
- Third: Part of your group's strategy is to persuade others to take a specific action.

Let's meet to develop the skills to do it right.

Ethical Wills

Penny McDougal

Sunday, January 25, (1 session) 12:30-2:00 p.m. A traditional will transfers material possessions. An ethical will bequeaths wisdom, vision, values, life lessons, moral guidelines and personal reflections to family members and other loved ones.

Writing an ethical can help you clarify your identity and life purpose, be known, be remembered, and have your life make a difference.

This is an ancient tradition for passing on personal beliefs, blessings and advice to the next generation.

Come and explore how to make the most significant bequest you can to your children, grandchildren, family, or friends.

Have an idea for a class? Contact committee members Tara Scibelli (chair), Penny McDougal, and Carol Gosnell at enrichment@frederickuu.org, or simply catch one of us before or after a Sunday service.

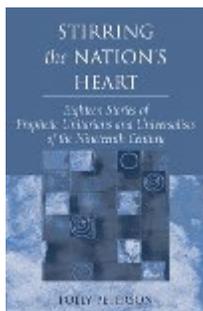
RE World

Lora Powell-Haney
Director of Religious Education

As I have sent greetings out on Facebook, Twitter, email and kept in touch via posts of various kinds, it occurs to me that what I am really craving is some face-to-face time, unencumbered by tiny glowing screens. So, in this new year, I would like to try something new and invite you for coffee or tea at your favorite local hangout. Would Wednesdays work for you? Morning or teatime? Let's talk about faith, justice, mysticism, moonlight.... We can call it community ministry cup by cup, if you like. Wear your best UU garb and a smile. Let me know: Lora at education@frederickuu.org.

Coming soon, to a Religious Education program near you

February: African-American Unitarian and Universalist History month. In preparation for the March Youth Art Show in the Blanche Ames Gallery at UUCF, we'll offer some resources and lessons on African-American spiritual ancestors, both Unitarian and Universalist. Below are some book resources, available through the UUA Bookstore online at <http://www.uuabookstore.org/>.



Arts & Exploration Grows Up We've been enjoying our Lego ministry for several months now, and will certainly continue to do so, but it's time to add some other activities to the mix! Patricia Cronin has offered to lead a photography session in February, January would be a lovely time for some fabric or fiber arts, and wouldn't music in March be fun? Have a passion to share for 40 minutes or so for our younger children? We have time during early and late worship for simple activities, and you will have assistance! Contact Lora with ideas and for more information: education@frederickuu.org; loraphaney@gmail.com, 301-473-7680.



On December 14th we welcomed 11 new members into our congregation at UUCF.

We celebrate their decision to sign the membership book. Please make all these new members welcome as they become part of our congregation.



Scott Hull, Julia Jones, Scarlet Fannin, Geoff Coleman, Ellen Johnston

Not pictured below, but warmly welcomed, are *Bill and Peggy Greene*. The Greens have been attending UUCF for years and many of us assumed they were already members!

They divide their retirement time between Frederick and Naples, FL.



Liz Buhrman, Jeremy Hutton

Liz Buhrman is currently lab manager at an analytical chemistry lab. She holds a degree in philosophy and has significant background in outdoor/adventure education and working with youth. She is married and has a 3 year old son.

Jerry Hutton is a retired lawyer living in Harpers Ferry with his husband Warren. Jerry has joined the UUCF choir and is also interested in politics, history, gay rights, and his 3 beagles.

Scott Hull was raised in a UU church in Kensington, MD, but reports that it didn't "take" until he started attending UUCF. Scott is interested in philosophy, the history of religion, music, and creative writing.

Julia Jones (married to Scott Hull) was raised in Silver Spring and Takoma Park. A former social studies teacher, she moved to Frederick in 2007. Julia and Scott have two children in the RE program at UUCF. She also sings with the choir and plays guitar.

Scarlet Fannin has sung many solos during service and her voice, like Julia's, has enriched our choral music program. She is a nurse and a certified practitioner of the *Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT)*.

Geoff Coleman is a physician specializing in hospice and palliative care. He comes to us from an upbringing in the Seventh Day Adventist Church and still finds it odd to be coming to church on Sunday.

Ellen Johnston is a mother of five. She is a seeker who feels she has found her spiritual and ethical home. She attends Frederick Community College.



Katy Lorenz, Marie Wright

Kathleen Cain Lorenz teaches psychology at Gettysburg College.

Marie Wright is new to this area, having recently moved from Severna Park to Hagerstown a little over a year ago. She has found her niche at UUCF by joining the greeters who welcome members and visitors every Sunday morning. She has retired from a career in hospitality and customer service and is adjusting to retirement.

Lilian Ochieng: Our Help Is Paying Off, Update from Mary Bowman Kruhm

If you have been a member of UUCF for several years, you may remember we supported Lilian Ochieng through the *Kenya Self-Help Project (KSHP)* during her high school years. Her academic record at a very prestigious Kenyan school won her a scholarship at Moi University's School of Medicine. Mary Fletcher and family visited with her in Kenya and then Carl and I spent a day with her on our 2012 trip but we lost touch after she began college. Through LinkedIn, Lilian and I made contact. On December 4th she e-mailed she was glad to reconnect and had just started her pathology classes. She sent her first year report, is doing well and wrote:

I really appreciate the support I have been receiving from you and the church since I started my university studies. I promise to maintain the hard work and discipline and look forward to hearing from you. Receive greetings from my mother and friends. Please pass my warmest regard to Mrs Mary Fletcher and the family and the congregation of Unitarian church.

I passed her letter on to Mary Fletcher, who is working to provide Lilian with a new computer and we would like to give her some additional funds, since the scholarship provides only the basics and the Social Action Committee is no longer in contact with KSHP since she graduated. If you would like to contribute a small amount (not tax-deductible), please give me a check and I will wire Lilian the money, with an e-mail that gives names of contributors (sort of a free-will wire!) or hopefully deliver it in person with a dinner meet-up at the Tea Hotel on February 11 while on our Kenyan safari.





Stan Schlepp updates us on the accomplishments of our fabulous Facilities Management Committee

1. Little Red Engine - that can't/can/could/might/just not sure/it's a problem!!! In seven paragraphs!

What am I talking about? It's the diesel engine that provides power to drive the fire pump for our wet (water filled) fire suppression sprinkler system. It has been a bit cranky lately. We perform a weekly test run and keep a log to provide detail on the operation and function of the system and components.

In March we noticed that the engine was running a little cool and rougher than usual. Oil analysis indicated that diesel fuel was diluting the oil in the crank case. We changed oil, ran the engine another month, performed another oil analysis and tested the oil again and yes it was diluted with fuel.

We consulted with diesel engine technicians and they said the injectors were likely the problem. Checked the injectors and 2 out of 4 looked bad. Replaced the injectors and the engine ran better but colder and began to run rougher each time we tested.

Called Western Branch Diesel to fix the engine. The main problem was a faulty thermostat which allowed the engine to run colder than it should. This is bad for most engines and is particularly bad for diesel engines.

Replaced the thermostat and ran the engine. It runs smoother now but if the engine continues to dilute the oil we will need to replace oil after every third or fourth run. It is not easy to change the oil in this engine, of course. So, I am waiting for Western Branch to send me a quote on an oil change kit to make the job much easier to do.

The cost of this attempted repair is \$2,938. If the engine has been permanently damaged, the cost of replacement would be @ \$16,000. Yes folks, \$16K. Bottom line, we can change a lot of oil for \$16,000.

BTW, did you know that diesel fuel can become "buggie." Little organisms can live in the fuel and degrade it severely. Part of the cost of repair was \$450 to polish the fuel (filter it down to 5 microns). About 4 gallons of sludge was removed from the fuel. Anyway, the engine runs OK for now and time will tell if the engine will be OK to continue to power the pump or if it will need to be replaced.

2. Windows - Had to buy two more upper and two more lower sashes to replace ones that are falling apart. Each sash costs \$325. The windows in the building are made by Pella. The warranty is 10 years and guess how old the windows are? That's right, our windows are no longer covered by the warranty. I estimate we have 40 to 60 more that will fail. We have a lot of windows. Well, just how many do we have? Please have fun with this. I would be happy if anyone cared to provide me with a count of each type and size. Thanks in advance.

3. Big Boy Toys - We have reduced but improved the quality of our inventory of yard machines. We are now the proud owners of a 9-horse power, self-propelled, 28 inch "YARD MAN" snow blower complete with heated handles, halogen light and power assisted turning controls. A friend of mine decided to clean out his garage and we were the beneficiaries. Dick Menzer purchased a new, 21-inch, light weight, variable speed, self-propelled grass mower for the church. It is a delight to operate. Lessons are free and you can help mow the grounds any time you feel the need. Thank you, Mr. Menzer. We also have a nice selection of weed whackers and trimmers. They can be used by left handed or right handed grounds keeper types or not.

Last, but not least, is the Kubota. Say it slowly and with the proper emphasis on the vowels. What a machine! It hauls, mows, spreads salt and sand, and plows snow! It also has its own shed, roll bar, seat belt, racing lights and horn. It has a 3-point pick-up system, 2-speed PTO (power take off), 4-wheel drive, and a 2-speed hydraulic transmission. You can drive it at no charge for any use, on the property of course.



4. Rain barrels - Free for the taking. UUCF has four of them I will help move them.

5. Next Issue - Painting (yes there is more to do), pavement repairs, down spouts and the auction. Exciting huh?

~~Stan Schlepp, FMC
slschlepp@gmail.com

Note-worthy



Photo courtesy of
The Frederick News-Post

Gun Violence Rally Expresses Hope for a Safer World

A small crowd gathered December 14 in a vigil seeking a reduction in gun violence in conjunction with National Gun Violence Sabbath Weekend.

The event, held at Evangelical Reformed Unity Church of Christ, was led by Rev. Carl Gregg, president of the Frederick Area Ministerial Association. Magin LaSov Gregg noted that there had been an increase of violence since the shooting at Columbine High School in Colorado in 1999.

Rev. Carl asked that people, whether they bear arms or not, join in opening hearts and minds to the destruction that gun violence wreaks on our whole country.

During the interfaith vigil, Lora Powell-Haney, our Director of Religious Education, read a Muslim prayer.

[Lora was mistakenly identified as a Church of Christ member in the Frederick News-Post. The entire article can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/mv1xtdz>.]

New Year's Day Purification Ritual

Enter 2015 from a centered place of peace. Release the energies of the last year, and set a harmonious tone for the year to come. Move through the Elements, releasing the shadows of 2014 as you go.

Elemental Guides will be available at each Quarter to offer a way to move into the energy of a new year.

End your Purification journey with a walk to the center of the Labyrinth to receive any messages for the New Year. All are welcome to attend. Free will donations are welcome.

Date: 1 Jan 2015
Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Contact: Irene Jericho
(irene.jericho@gmail.com) [2404056389](tel:2404056389)

Chronologically Gifted (CG) Post-Holiday Party

Date and Time: Wednesday, January 14@11:30am

Restaurant: Ayze Meze on Shab Row/East Street

Reservation, Meal Choices and Payment to: Sue Thomson by January 5, informst@gmail.com or 240-818-8899

Cost: \$20 per person, includes soda, tax and gratuity

- First Course -

Hummus

Freshly baked pita bread

- 2nd Course -

Choice of:

Greek salad

Red Lentil Soup

- 3rd Course -

Choice of:

Shrimp saganaki

shrimp, feta, tomatoes, garlic, oregano, brandy

Moussaka

eggplant, spiced lamb, tomato, feta, bechamel

Spanakopita

spinach, feta, scallions, dill, phyllo pastry

Adana kebab

spiced ground lamb, red onion yogurt

Sheesh tawook

chicken thigh, peppers, onions, garlic toum

Imam bayildi

stuffed eggplant, tomatoes, onions, bell peppers

All served with rice pilaf

- 4th Course -

Baklava with whipped cream

Book Club

The UUCF book club will meet on Friday, January 23, at 7:30pm at the home of Thia Wood in Spring Ridge. We will discuss *The Master of Rain* by Tom Bradby. "It is by turns a historical novel, a romance, a thriller, and a mystery" says Book Reporter, and is set in the polluted and evil milieu of 1920's Shanghai.

Thia's address is 9532 Kingston Pl, Frederick, 21701. If you need to contact Thia for directions, her phone number is 203-554-4700 and her e-mail address is thia.wood777@gmail.com. All are welcome and we hope you will be able to join us.

Joys & Concerns

A Story in 30 Words
by Mary Bowman Kruhm

The minister spoke gently. No pain now. No chemo. No pills. Soon, his funeral will bring you closure. No, she said. After 35 years there is no closure. Only survival.

[Ed. Note: the "minister" is not Rev. Carl]

FISCAL NOTES as of November 30, 2014

General Operating Fund	Month of November 2014	Fiscal Year To Date July through November 2014	% of Annual Budget— 42 % through the year
Contributions:	\$24,166.68	\$146,202.25	44%
All Other Income:	\$ 6,532.36	\$ 70,631.52	84%
Total Income:	\$30,699.04	\$216,833.77	52%
Employee/Staff Expense:	\$17,218.01	\$ 80,358.88	42%
Facilities Expense:	\$18,825.94	\$ 58,725.30	35%
All other Expenses:	\$ 9,355.00	\$ 22,534.45	41%
Total Expenses	\$45,398.95	\$161,618.63	39%
Difference (Net):	(\$14,699.91)	\$ 55,215.14	

Did you know?

For the month of November we spent \$14,699.91 more than we took in. This negative difference for the month was mostly due to the Operating Fund transferring the balance of the \$10,000 budgeted to the Capital Reserve Fund — a sum budgeted for and simply transferred in November. I hope you remember the Capital Reserve Fund is the building fund and is used for major building expenses, such as painting the building, replacing air conditioners, new windows, a new roof, water treatment system, etc. The balance in that fund is now \$35,326.06. We also paid our second quarter UUA dues and some miscellaneous professional expenses.

Our available cash in the General (Operating) Fund is **\$115,441.73** as of November 30, 2014.

Our mortgage continues to decrease by about \$2K per month and we now owe \$1,011,436.37 on the building... and WATCH IN JANUARY 2015!!! We are expecting a wonderful year end donation taking us to below ONE MILLION DOLLARS!!!! Thank you, Thank You, Thank You!

Hope your holidays are/were happy and healthy. Stan and I are expecting our first grandchild in January. It will be a wonderful month!

~~Janice

Board of Trustees Notes

The Board of Trustees (BOT) is moving forward with plans for the installation of Rev. Carl Gregg on March 29 at 4 pm. Put the date on your calendar!

At the December meeting, the BOT accepted changes and edits to the Personnel Policy Manual, which has now been made available on the our website. The BOT also passed revisions to two policies that required action to meet our goals on our Strategic Plan. The two policies are now titled: “Policy Respecting UUCF Social and Environmental Justice Initiatives” and “Policy on Taking Public Positions in the Name of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Frederick (UUCF).” The revisions should make it clearer to everyone how we can be socially active as individuals, committees, or teams, and what must take place if the Congregation is to take a position.

The BOT is working to fill a vacancy on the Nominating Committee and another on the Endowment Board.

The January BOT meeting has been rescheduled for the fourth Thursday, January 22. Our meetings are open, and we expect to have as a guest in January David Pyle, the new Executive Director of the Joseph Priestly District.

~~Nancy Hutchins, Board Secretary

Social Action → Social Justice

JUSTice + ACTION = JustAct

<http://uusocialjustice.org>

Mary Kruhm, Chair

The January Split-Plate is the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland

WHO WE ARE

The Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland is a collective voice of liberal religious values in our state. UULM-MD is comprised of anyone interested in making their voice heard in Annapolis on issues that advance freedom, equality and justice.

UULM-MD is YOU!

Our work is grounded in the belief that everyone should be able to exercise their basic human rights to achieve their fullest potential and to live in a clean, sustainable environment.

In the last decade, UULM-MD has played a significant role in statewide education about and advocacy for marriage equality, death penalty repeal, preventing gun violence, transgender civil rights, increasing the minimum wage, clean energy, the DREAM Act and advances in health care for all. Unitarian Universalist voices and sensibilities are now an integral part of the dialogue in Annapolis, due to dedicated advocacy through this legislative ministry.

Website: www.uulmmd.org

Facebook: www.facebook.org/uulmmd

Twitter: www.twitter.com/uulmmd

INVITATION TO OUR ANNUAL MEETING

January is especially important to UULM-MD because its annual meeting is **Saturday, January 17, 9:00am-1:30pm, at the UU Church of Annapolis.**

Please join Reverend Carl and UUCF members car-pooling to Annapolis. At the January 17th meeting, UU activists, elected officials and advocates from across the state will discuss and plan for UULM-MD Priority Issues that will come before the Maryland General Assembly in 2015. We'll have lunch after the meeting to share what we learned in our different groups and consider a direction for our work at UUCF. To pay both the annual membership fee and Annual Meeting registration (\$35), [click here](#).

Remember: UULM-MD depends on individual memberships and congregational collections like our split-plate. If you can't attend the January 17 meeting, please [click here](#) to join (\$25). Or [make a donation now](#) to help support UULM-MD's work! Donations to UULM-MD are tax-deductible.

[Thanks to UULM-MD Co-Chairs Margery Knight, Rev. Lisa Ward (Minister of the UU Fellowship of Harford County), and Steve Buckingham (Goodloe Memorial UU Congregation) for help with this article.]



RSVP Helpful but not required: Mary Bowman-Kruhm:
SAC@frederickuu.org

Martin Luther King, Jr. Beloved Community Community Leaders and Homeless Together

Annual Potluck
Monday, January 19, 2015
6:00 - 8:30 p.m.
(Please bring a dish to share, if possible)

Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ (ERUCC)
11 West Church Street, Frederick, MD

Speaker: Roger Wilson – “A New Frederick”

Roger, the Government Affairs & Policy Director under Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner, will share a broad vision for a beloved Frederick community.

Discussion: “Addressing Homelessness Together in Frederick”

Attendees will include individuals and families in need of homes, as well as members of our government, business, nonprofit and faith communities. During the potluck and following our speaker's presentation, we will discuss some challenges of homelessness and what we might do together to address the challenges.

Sponsors: Frederick Friends Meeting; Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ; Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Frederick; Frederick Chapter, Healthcare is a Human Right-MD; Frederick Peace & Justice Network



Auld Lang Syne

Should auld acquaintance be forgot
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot
And auld lang syne.

For auld lang syne, my dear
For auld lang syne
We'll take a cup o' kindness yet
For auld lang syne.

And there's a hand my trusty friend?
And gibe a hand o'thine!
And we'll take a right good-will draught
For auld lang syne.

For auld lang syne, my dear
For auld lang syne
We'll take a cup o' kindness yet
For auld lang syne.

Something to Look Forward to from our Social Events Committee

On Saturday night, April 18, we will have a delightful Square Dance at UUCF for everyone younger and older, including friends who enjoy square dancing and also including those who don't dance and just want to watch and tap their toes!

This is going to be a raucous event, so break out your new calendars and make this the first date you reserve for 2015!

~ Nancy Roblin, Social Events Chair

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



1st – Mark Gleaton; 4th – Erick Singley; 7th – Allison Butler, Robert Hudgins, Maria Scobie, Deacon Withers; 8th – Emma Rene, Sandra Smith-Gill; 9th – Libby Gaffigan; 11th – Abby Hoague; 12th – Marj Mansfield; 15th – Carole Smith; 16th – Peggy Greene; 18th – Anne Wright; 19th – Cat Szafran, Meg Bergman; 20th – Eamonn Law-Knotts; 21st – Dottie Ewing; 22nd – Brianna Feifer, Amber Frazier, Ethan Letourneau; 26th – Evan Thompson; and 29th – Jeff Wilson.

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Frederick, MD
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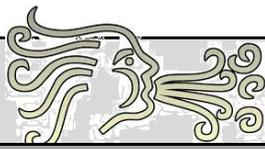
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Webmaster, Rick Holt <webmaster@frederickuu.org>

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



January 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>** This calendar is not all-inclusive of UUCF'S building use. Please go to http://frederickuu.org/calendar/ for a complete schedule.</p>				1 7pm New Year's Day Purification Ritual	2 12:30pm Level One Prana Flow Yoga Class	3
4 9:15am Worship Service 10:15am UU Christians (Chapel) 10:15am Friendly Forum (113) 10:15am RE Classes 11:15am Worship Service 12:30 AHA Discussion	5	6 7pm Transcendentalist Poetry Class	7 8am RUUMEO (IHOP at Westview Promenade) 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	8 10am Communications Team Mtg. 1pm Social Action Comm. Bag Lunch 2pm SAC Meeting	9 12:30pm Level One Prana Flow Yoga Class 7:30pm Worship Associates Mtg.	10 10am-1pm CLC Open House 7pm COFFEE HOUSE
11 9:15am Worship Service 9:30am Buddhist Fellowship (Chapel) 10:15am Friendly Forum (113) 10:15am UU Parenting Forum 10:15am RE Classes 11:15am Worship Service 12:30pm Committee on Ministry	12 10am Writing Letters to the Editor Class	13 7pm Transcendentalist Poetry Class	14 11:30am Chronologically Gifted Luncheon at Azye Meze 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	15 12:30pm UUCF Staff Meeting—Minister's Office	16 12:30pm Level One Prana Flow Yoga Class	17
18 9:15am Worship Service 10:15am Earth-Centered Service (Chapel) 10:15am Friendly Forum (113) 10:15am RE Classes 11:15am Worship Service 12:30pm AHA Discussion	19 10am Writing Letters to the Editor Class 	20 7pm Transcendentalist Poetry Class	21 8am RUUMEO (IHOP at Westview Promenade) 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	22 7pm Board of Trustees Mtg.	23 12:30pm Level One Prana Flow Yoga Class 7:30pm Book Club (Off-site)	24
28 9:15am Worship Service 9:30am Buddhist Fellowship (Chapel) 10:15am Friendly Forum (113) 10:15am RE Classes 11:15am Worship Service 12:20pm Ethical Wills/Legacy Letters	26 10am Writing Letters to the Editor Class	27 7pm Transcendentalist Poetry Class	28 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	29	30 12:30pm Level One Prana Flow Yoga Class	31

