

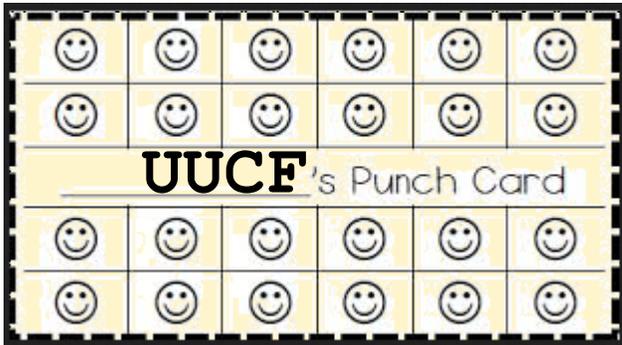
UNISON



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A Welcoming Congregation

We have your ticket to 2016!



★★

DOTTIE HALL'S RETIREMENT LUNCHEON — January
Dottie has been our Congregational Administrator for years. She is now ready to relax and we will miss her help and always cheerful manner. The *Unison* will do a feature on Dottie in February. The luncheon date for January will be announced soon.

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OPEN MIC COFFEEHOUSE — January 16, 7pm

The next coffeehouse is less than 3 weeks away. Please join us with a song or poem (or two or three) and a friend (or two or three!). This is the perfect opportunity to share your talents with an appreciative crowd! Hope to see you there.
As always, BYOB and please feel free to bring a treat or beverage to share.

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ODARA: A Celebration of Women's Voices in Song
Saturday, March 5, at 7:30pm
Tickets are \$10 -15 for adults Proceeds to benefit the UUCF

Featuring performances by 9 extraordinarily gifted female vocalists: Scarlet Coleman, Irene Glasse, Elaine Gleaton, Danielle Grace, Deb Int Veldt, Julia Jones, Martha Jones, Calvert Thompson, and Louise VanGilder. The extraordinarily gifted pianist Nick Int Veldt accompanying.

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STEWARDSHIP/FELLOWSHIP DINNER
MARCH 15 AT DUTCH'S DAUGHTER
\$10 per person, buy at UUCF in February 2016

- Members and Friends of UUCF over 18 (Child care will be provided at UUCF)
 - Choice of 3 entrees including a vegetarian selection, served buffet style; cash bar
 - Music by the UUCF Choir
 - Hopes and Visions from Rev. Carl
- ★★

★★

SECOND ANNUAL SQUARE DANCE
APRIL 16, 7:30-9:15PM
\$5 per person for adults and teens over 16. Kids free.

- Famous caller Slim Harrison and his friends will be here with us again.
 - Amazing collection of homemade band instruments for the kids.
 - Great fun for ALL ages.
- ★★

Dear UUCF Members and Friends,

Dottie Hall retired as our Congregational Administrator on Friday, December 18. In early January, we will host a lunch in Dottie's honor to recognize her nine years of service to UUCF. Everyone who would like to celebrate Dottie is welcome to join us. (More information coming soon.) Along with the departure of our bookkeeper Nita Stone, who had to resign for family reasons, we have two job openings. Applications for the Bookkeeper position are due by 1/4/16 (see frederickuu.org/bookkeeper), and applications for the Office Administrator position are due by 1/16/16 (see: frederickuu.org/administrator). Please spread the word to all who may be interested and qualified.

CARL'S COLUMN

Rev. Carl Gregg



I am also extremely grateful to everyone who contributed to our Mortgage Reduction Fund. We have raised \$110,000 to date, exceeding our \$100,000 goal! Your generosity is helping us get back on track with our debt. This significant reduction in the principal on our loan greatly increases the likelihood that we will be able to pay off our mortgage in fifteen years or less! It is encouraging to see so many people who share — and are willing to give generously to — a long-term vision for UUCF. Thank you to everyone whose time, talent, and treasure makes possible our collective work for living out our UU values of religious freedom, building the Beloved Community, and acting for peace and justice in the world.

All that being said, I also want to address the recent robbery of the safe in the UUCF Office. (If you have not heard about this incident previously because you are not on our email list, you can sign-up at frederickuu.org/email.) We cannot comment on the details of the ongoing police investigation, but it is likely that approximately \$2,000 was lost that is unrecoverable. Both our Finance Committee and Board of Trustees met the next week, and one of the most important agreements they reached was that it is important not to overreact. We have had many important security measures already in place for years — such as our practice of stamping every check immediately with a “For Deposit Only” stamp, which prevents them from being deposited anywhere but our UUCF bank account. As far as we can tell so far, the thief was only interested in the cash that was stolen, not the checks.

If you wrote a check to UUCF on Sunday, December 13 (for the offering, the atrium gift cards, etc.), we humbly ask that that you reissue another check. This crime is heartbreaking, but we remain committed to living out our UU values in the world. We are 100% supported by your donations, and we have further tightened our procedures to protect us further from theft and to ensure that there is far less even available to steal in the future. If you have any questions about a specific check number, please contact our treasurer Janice Schlepp (treasurer@frederickuu.org).

Thank you for your continued support of UUCF. I'm grateful to be with you on this journey.

Carl

<minister@frederickuu.org>

Frederick CUUPS Third Annual New Year's Day Purification Ritual Friday, January 1st, 7pm

Enter 2016 from a centered place of peace. Release the energies of the last year, and set a harmonious tone for the year to come. Sacred Space will be held from 7 to 9 pm in the Sanctuary of the UUCF.

Attendees are invited to move through the Elements, releasing the shadows of 2015 as they 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.

This ritual is an opportunity to move through Sacred Space. As such, there is no set start and finish time -- it does not have a formal ritual structure.

Your journey will be self-guided. We will hold the space open from 7 to 9pm, and you should expect to spend somewhere between a half hour to an hour on your journey :)

All are welcome to attend.

Contact: Irene Glasse (irene.glasse@gmail.com) (240) 405-6389
Link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1064292470261229/>

SUNDAYS AT UUCF

Sunday Services

9:30 and 11:30am

Jan. 3: *Are You Fully Charged? The New Year and Fire Communion*, the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg

Jan. 10: *Richard Rorty*, the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg

Jan. 17: *The Radical King*, the Rev. Carl Gregg

Jan. 24: TBA, the Rev. Mike Morse

Jan. 31: *The Spirituality of Groundhog's Day*, the Rev. Carl Gregg

Friendly Forum, in room 113
10:30am

Each Sunday the Friendly Forum meets for 50 minutes to discuss Congregational and/or Current Events.

Weekly topics are listed in the Mid-week Announcements.

Our tradition of discussion is long-lived and much loved. Join in!



UU PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

UU Progressive Christian Fellowship
First Sundays throughout the Year

UU Progressive Christians 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.

Join us Sunday, January 3 from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. in the Chapel for a celebration of Epiphany.

Communion will be served. All are welcome.

~~Sea Raven, D. Min.



EARTH-CENTERED SPIRITUALITY WITH FREDERICK CUUPS

Our Earth-centered Spirituality Group meets on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 10:30am 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." Join us for our January 17 meeting (led by Irene and Cat) as we honor the lessons of winter.

For more information, please contact Irene Glasse irene.jericho@gmail.com or Charles Haney chazhaney@yahoo.com.



UUCF BUDDHIST FELLOWSHIP

Our sessions begin with meditation at 10am, followed by a brief break and a time for discussion and sharing from 10:35 - 11:15am. Sessions are generally led by volunteers from within our group. You may find it helpful to read ahead, but it is certainly not a requirement. All are most welcome at either or both parts of our meeting.

On Sunday, January 10, we expect to discuss the final two chapters of *Buddhism without Beliefs* by Stephen Batchelor, who is a "secular Buddhist."

January 24, we expect to begin reading and discussing *The Heart of the Buddha's Teaching: Transforming Suffering into Peace, Joy, and Liberation* by Tich Nhat Hanh.

Bonus Meeting January 31: We will meet an extra Sunday when Amie LaPorte, who has taken on an Animal Rights Ministry at UUCF, will help lead a discussion of "Ahimsa and the UU First Principle." All are invited to join us for this discussion of whether the first principle should include "every being" instead of "every person".
~~Nancy Hutchins



ATHEISTS, HUMANISTS, AGNOSTICS

Always challenging discussions!

January 3 at 12:45pm

January 17 at 12:45pm

Phyllis Liddell at phyllis.elaine@comcast.net.

RELIGIOUS REFUGEES, RUNAWAYS AND REBELS

January 10 at 12:45pm — Sharing our ideas/experiences around "judgment."

January 24 at 12:45pm — Superstition, Serendipity, Spirituality.

Nancy Pace njcpace@icloud.com

FISCAL NOTES as of November 30, 2015

General Operating Fund	Month of November	Fiscal Year To Date July through November 2015	% of Annual Budget – 42 % through the year
Contributions:	\$22,786.80	\$189,992.48	50%
All Other Income:	\$6,046.55	\$ 53,276.91	62%
Total Income:	\$28,833.35	\$243,269.39	52%
Employee/Staff Expense:	\$18,948.70	\$ 83,705.62	37%
Facilities Expense:	\$37,808.22	\$ 98,200.57	57%
All other Expenses:	\$ 1,229.61	\$ 18,071.37	28%
Total Expenses	\$57,986.53	\$199,977.56	43%
Difference(Net):	(\$29,153.18)	\$ 43,291.83	

Did you know?

For the month of November, we spent \$29,153.18 more than we took in. Our available cash in the General (Operating) Fund is \$121,489.66 as of November 30, 2015, less the \$60,000 reserve which leaves us \$61,489.66. The reason we were so far off this month is that we fronted the deposit money for our “all building generator” that we are having installed. This money will be replaced by a very kind donation in December or January.

We will be handing out the 2015 calendar year donation statements in January. If we do not find you in the Atrium some Sunday, we will “mail” them (whatever that is these days). If you have any questions or concerns about your statement, please don’t hesitate to ask or email me (treasurer@frederickuu.org). Keep in mind, the “calendar year end” statement can look different than you expect because our pledges are on a fiscal year (July-June) basis and this statement is for tax purposes and covers the period January through December, so the contributions cross pledge years.

I wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season and a very Happy New Year!
Janice

Thanks to all who became Pioneers of our Future!

and Contributed to our Mortgage Reduction Fund

EUREKA

\$114,155.50



\$114,155.50

EUREKA

WE GOT THERE!

Our total amount includes \$26.42 that the RE kids collected via piggy banks, pockets, etc. It also includes many of our newer UUCF members who showed their commitment to our community. We feel a special gratitude for their faith and for the matching gift of \$40,000 offered by one of our members.

We thank **everyone** who contributed to the MRF this year.

It is still not too late to contribute: all donations to MRF have gone and WILL go to reducing the mortgage as we go into negotiation with the bank in January and February. We will all benefit from the MRF for years to come.

~~John Menke, MRF Chair

At its December meeting, the Social Action Committee finalized an updated mission statement. Below is the new and improved version.

Social Action Committee Mission Statement

The goal of the UUCF Social Action Committee (SAC) is to act as a resource and network for both individuals and groups who are working for social justice—particularly within the greater Frederick community, but also regionally, nationally, and internationally. We usually meet at least monthly to review ongoing projects and assess proposals regarding how individuals, groups, or UUCF may best act on various justice issues.

- We challenge members of our congregation to:
- Generously support our monthly split-plate recipients.
- Partner with other faith communities and community service organizations.
- Collaborate with social action projects.
- Volunteer as a liaison for a project with high personal interest.
- Participate in social justice causes individually and collectively, particularly causes selected by the larger UU movement at the annual Unitarian Universalist General Assembly.

Here is our report card for 2015, which lists some notable achievements (but not all) of our Social Action Committee's work toward our mission:

Generously supported our monthly split-plate recipients. **Our UUCF treasurer sent recipients \$8,521,84 from January-December 2015 split-plate collections.**

Partnered with other faith communities and community service organizations. **We worked with Healthcare is a Human Right, CCSC/ Alternatives to Violence Project, Rotary International, Religious Coalition, Frederick Peace & Justice Network, Advocates for Homeless.**

Collaborated with social action projects. **We participated in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Potluck Dinner, 3 Soup Kitchen dinners, Friends Student Peace Awards, Pachamama.**

Volunteered as a Liaison for a project with high personal interest. **We have 14 "official liaisons," UUCF members who volunteer to work on an SAC-supported project and who periodically report to the SAC. See list.**

Participated in social justice causes individually and collectively, particularly causes selected by the larger UU movement at the annual Unitarian Universalist General Assembly. **UUCF members attended UU General Assembly, UULM-MD, UU-UNO, and UUSC events, participated in local charities and NGOs, lobbied for Death with Dignity in Annapolis, supported a Kenyan student in medical school, and wrote many Letters to the Editor of local papers.**

SAC Liaisons

Nancy Hutchins (Criminal Justice/Prison Volunteers, UULM-MD)

Ben Gaffigan (UU UNO)

Susan T. Holt (Mental Health Resources & Publicity)

Pat Skidmore (Compassion & Choices)

Dorothea Mordan (Web/Graphic Design)

Mary Fletcher (Kenya UU Partnership Congregation)

Irene Zmitrovic (Frederick Immigration Coalition)

Bill Butler (UUSC)

Patricia Cronin (Fred'k. Emergency Shelter)

Monica Greene (UU UNO, Healthcare Is a Human Right, FP&JN, Pachamama)

Phyllis Liddell (League of Women Voters, FP&JN)

Lora Powell-Haney (Religious Ed.)

Joanne Spivey (Food Bank)

Mary Kruhm (UULM-MD, FP&JN)

Here are some ways *you* can play an active role in UUCF's social action work:

- Join the SAC.
- Become an SAC Liaison.
- In April nominate a split-plate recipient.
- Support SAC projects and events.
- Tell us about a group for which you volunteer so that we can publicize its work.



#blacklivesmatter

The second in a series of articles written by UUCF members, sharing their thoughts and ideas about the social revolution that is taking place in our country.

See uua.org (Black Lives Matter) and showingupforracialjustice.org.

Dismantling White Privilege

essay by Carol Antoniewicz

As a feminist it has been easy to relate to the concept of male privilege – that men often have an advantage, simply based on their gender – for certain jobs, income, making major purchases, etc. So I was intrigued to attend a seminar on white privilege, where we read Peggy McIntosh’s now classic article, “White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack.” It was painful to acknowledge that I would very likely be looked at more favorably simply because I am white if I applied for a job, a mortgage, advocated for my child at school, encountered the police, etc.

I didn’t ask for this privilege, I didn’t want it, I couldn’t really give it back... but I did have a choice – I could feel guilty for this unearned privilege or I could stand with integrity and join those working for system change, to dismantle white privilege and work for racial justice. As Dr. McIntosh says “I was taught to see racism only in individual acts of meanness, not in invisible systems conferring dominance on my group.”

From Rev. Joshua Pawelek: <http://revjoshpawelek.org/the-failure-of-diversity> ... “the simplest definition of institutional racism I know: the failure of historically white institutions to hold themselves accountable to people and communities of color. ‘To hold oneself accountable’ is an important but vague phrase. I also define institutional racism as the failure of historically white institutions to serve the interests of people and communities of color *as determined by them*. Institutional racism is not necessarily a situation where people intend for racist things to happen. It is often simply the case that an institution was never designed to serve the interests of people of color, and nobody realizes it until someone offers resistance to the status quo.”

Rev. Pawelek goes on to state that most UU congregations were founded by white religious liberals to meet the needs of white religious liberals. He issues a call to action: “Instead of ignoring the way institutions privilege white identity, we can choose to educate ourselves about the reality of white privilege. Instead of knowing only the history of white America ... learn the history of peoples of color in the U.S., and ... the legitimate basis for the ongoing complaints people of color make about discrimination, segregation, exploitation, deportation and violence.” And take action to change the status quo.

This is spiritual work, it is personal-relational work, it is collective-institutional work. It may at times feel scary yet it is part of the Journey toward Wholeness, building the world we dream about. <http://www.uua.org/re/tapestry/adults/btwvda>.



**Next Social Action Committee Meeting—January 19, 2015, 5:30pm,
brown bag meal at 5pm**

Email SAC@frederickuu.org if you would like copy of draft agenda

Successful Year at the Emergency Family Shelter Changes Coming for 2016

The EFS had its first anniversary in September 2015. From September 2014 to Sept 2015, 36 households totaling 102 people have been served by this program. In addition to housing, support services are mandatory for participation in the program. The goal is for each family to move into market-rate or subsidized housing and for the adults to have sufficient employment to be self-supporting.

Originally, 13 churches were used as shelter sites. UUCF and several other churches participated by partnering with host-site churches. Unfortunately, one church dropped out as a shelter site and another church will drop out in 2016, as their rented space will no longer be available. Religious Coalition management is in discussion with several more potential host churches. The intention was that each church would host the residents about 2 weeks per quarter.

Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ (our partner church) stepped up to fill the gaps several times by offering their space and volunteers. With the participation of UUCF & Kol Ami, ERUCC hosted more weeks than other churches.

A new Day Site at the corner of Bentz and All Saints streets is expected to be operational by February 2016. At that time, residents will be able to – and be expected to – prepare their own meals at that location. This will eliminate the need for volunteers to prepare meals for the shelter families. All residents have sufficient funds for this through employment or SNAP (“Food Stamps”).

If you would like to volunteer at the shelter contact Bruce Gourley at 301-631-2670 or bgourley@thereligiouscoalition.org

You will need to complete a volunteer application and a brief training.

**The 2016 dates for ERUCC & UUCF:
Jan. 2-8th; March 26-April 8th; July 9-15th; Oct. 1-14th**

Please note that the January 2-8 session is for one week. This will probably be UUCF’s last opportunity to provide the dinner meal for the residents.

~~Patricia Cronin <abcpec@comcast.net>

Our Split-Plate offering for January 17



Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland

Shared voices for liberal religious values in Maryland

We need your help to continue the vital work of making voices heard speaking out for fairness and justice in the public arena.

You can help champion positive changes on crucial issues--such as slowing climate change, promoting environmental justice, supporting economic justice, advocating for fairness and justice for all by contributing on split-plate Sunday.

The primary financial support for the work of UULM-MD comes from individual contributions and from the support of our Maryland UU congregations.

Help make UU voices for liberal religious values heard in Maryland!

You can Make Your Voice Heard in person at the UULM-MD Annual Meeting

Saturday, January 23 (Snow Date: January 30)
8:30am - 1:30pm
UU Church of Annapolis
333 Dubois Road
Annapolis, MD 21401

Keynote Speaker: Paula Cole Jones (Founder of ADORE: A Dialogue on Race and Ethnicity) You can read more about her approach to race and ethnicity in the article [Reconciliation as a spiritual discipline | UU World](#)

To attend with our group, contact Mary Bowman Kruhm <writer@marybk.com>

For more information about UULM-MD, past accomplishments and future goals, click on this link: [UULM-MD](#)



SPECIAL EVENT

AN ARGUMENT FOR *DEATH WITH DIGNITY*

Speaker: Geraldine Lloyd,
Artist, Writer, Activist,
Cancer "Recipient"

Location: Delaplaine Art
Center

Date: January 17

Time: 2pm



Geraldine Lloyd, painter and performance artist, writer, speaker, sculptor, former Key West art gallery owner and present Frederick resident has not let the removal of her larynx 20 years ago stop her from speaking on addiction and Death with Dignity.

Using a Servox to replace her voice, Lloyd will share her story and her insights in person. She has periodically done so in the *Frederick News-Post*. Now, you can see her in person.

"Compassion and Choices," our liaison group which works for the passage of "Death with Dignity," along with the UU Legislative Ministry of Maryland, meets the first Saturday of every month at UUCF.
January 5 at 11am.

You are Invited...

Martin Luther King, Jr.

“Beloved Community”
Annual Potluck

This year's theme based on King's last book –
WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE
CHAOS or Community

Join us as we bring King's Vision to Frederick County!



Welcome by Bud Otis, President of Frederick County Council
Panelists from Asian, Black, Latino, and Muslim Communities
With Interactive Discussions!

Monday, January 18, 2016
6:00 - 8:30pm

Social Hall

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

Sponsors

Frederick Friends Meeting
Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Frederick
Frederick Peace & Justice Network + Frederick Immigration Coalition
Asian American Center of Frederick + The Faith Striders of Frederick
Frederick County Human Relations Commission + Muslims of Frederick

COMMON READ

Every year our UU Association chooses a pertinent book to suggest to all congregations to read and discuss.

This year the Common Read is *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson.



“Unfairness in the Justice system is a major theme of our age. DNA analysis exposes false convictions, it seems, on a weekly basis. The pre-dominance of racial minorities in jails and prisons suggests systemic bias. Sentencing guidelines born of the war on drugs look increasingly draconian. Studies cast doubt on the accuracy of eyewitness testimony. Even the states that still kill people appear to have forgotten how; lately executions have been botched to horrific effect

This news reaches citizens in articles and television spots about mistreated individuals. But *Just Mercy*, a memoir, aggregates and personalizes the struggle against injustice in the story of one activist lawyer.”

[~The New York Times](#)

Each year we discuss the UUA Common Read book. You may participate in the discussion even if you have not read the book. It may be more meaningful, though, if you have.

April 3rd congregational discussions will follow both services.

Thank You!

Soup Kitchen Volunteers



Our work December 26th to prepare, serve, and, of course, clean up at the Soup Kitchen was very successful! The diversity of our group—age, new/old members, male/female—provided a way to know our UUCF community better and also help our larger Frederick community. About 80-100 hungry folks enjoyed the food the Social Action Committee provided.

Thanks go to Betsy Bainbridge, Matthew Gary, Barbara Gordon, Roy Greene, Monica Greene, Bonnie Gregg, Carl Gregg, Magin Gregg, Charles Haney, Lora Powell-Haney, Dave Hutchins, Nancy Hutchins, Lubitz family, Susan Mason, Jennifer McAndrew, Faithe McCreery, Penny McDougal, John Menke, Meg Menke,

Lynne Wolf, and Meg and Kathryn from Mount Airy. (Please send me your last names, Meg and Kathryn.) If I have missed anyone, please let me know so my post on our blog <http://uusocialjustice.org/news> is correct.

Lilian Ochieng, December's Split Plate Recipient

UUCF's December split-plate collection went to Lilian Ochieng, who begins a new academic year (trimesters run January-December 2016) and enters her clinical program. We have supported her through her high school years and watched her mature into a capable young woman whose goal is to become a doctor in Kenya and give back for the help she has received. The \$1075 we sent her will have a ripple effect as she provides care in a country with limited medical options.

Lilian wrote a "Thank You" to us which appears on the last page of the newsletter.

Blanche Ames Gallery Presents

Kurt Kraus' digital paintings will be with us as 2016 begins, a riot of color, a new art medium on our walls. Kurt "paints" with a stylus on a specialized computer drawing pad. He can make the stylus be a brush, pencil or pen, charcoal or pastel. He can select any digital medium - watercolor, oil or acrylic and more. Making art no longer requires canvas, paper or wood. Please enjoy! As usual, all works are available for purchase.



In the second half of January, the Gallery will present three paintings with a UUCF history: colorful, large works created more than 30 years ago to honor a legendary RE curriculum written by Sophia L. Fahs, a major religious educator in Unitarian Universalism. The triptych tells the story of "Three Great Birthdays": Buddha, Jesus and Confucius. We'll share the story of how these works came to be, recollections by Dottye Ewing, who commissioned them and now has given them to our Gallery.

Starting in February, we will host ten new artists, including quilters, painters, photographers, beaders, sketchers and more. We invite you to learn more each of all our artists us by attending the Art Talk, held the first Sunday of each new show. Yes, we will hold our traditional exhibit of art by Members and Friends in July-August. It will be open also to art by the congregation's children and youth.



Meet the new members who joined us in September

Nine New Members Join Our Congregation

Our membership continues to grow at UUCF. On Sunday, December 13th, 9 more folks joined our congregation. All had completed our Pathways to Membership class on December 5th and signed the book at that time. Our new members include:



Kris and Joe Ginorio.



Adam and ErinRose Lawrence



Diana Pitcher and Michelle Meyer.



Keola Raiser



George Ruszat and Faithe McCreery

Let's make a point of getting to know these new members of our congregation and making them feel welcome.

Kris and Joe Ginorio. Kris is originally from Frederick but lived elsewhere for many years. She loves Frederick and is glad to be back. A mother and grandmother, Kris is especially interested in simple, greener ways of living. Joe was born in Puerto Rico and raised in DC. His background includes service in the Merchant Marine, the Air Force, and the Central Intelligence Agency. He is an avid genealogist with 2 published books to his credit and enjoys reading, hiking, playing the guitar and singing. The Ginorios are living in Crestwood.

Adam and ErinRose Lawrence have many interests to explore, both within and without the congregation. Both are involved in cycling and other outdoor pursuits and share an interest in social and environmental justice. Adam was a part of this congregation in the early 2000s when they met at Hood College. He works with people who have developmental disabilities. Erin-Rose is passionate about home birth, children's theater, coffee, chocolate and sewing. The Lawrences have a small son who is getting used to our nursery.

Diana Pitcher, a retired special education teacher, is relatively new to the Frederick area. She grew up in Cortland, NY, and lived for 43 years in Colorado. A member of our choir, her passions are singing, biking, hiking, walking her dog, and reading.

Michelle Meyer is a high school and theater teacher who runs an award-winning theater program. She grew up in Montgomery County and attended Salisbury University and the University of Maryland. Michelle is the mother of 2 boys who also attend UUCF.

Keola Raiser is also new to the east coast. She spent most of her adult life in Colorado and most of her childhood in Iowa. Keola is currently living in Shepherdstown, WV. She is interested in environmental and social justice issues.

George Ruszat comes to us through friends in the choir. He was born in Chicago and has lived in several states and considers Minnesota his home, but has lived in Frederick for the last 12 years. George's career was as a Certified Financial Planner. His retirement interests are singing, biking, hiking, genealogy and history.

Faithe McCreery joins us from Charles Town, WV, where she works as the Curator and Public Engagement Specialist at the Jefferson County Museum. She has degrees in anthropology and Museum Studies from the University of Washington. Moving from Seattle to Charlestown has been a bit of a culture shock, so Faithe hopes to find a new community here at UUCF.

~~Ann Foard

WhaleCoast Alaska 2016

Have you ever dreamed of visiting Alaska? If so, **WhaleCoast Alaska 2016** is for you! Four Alaska UU fellowships invite you to experience our eco-cultural and spiritual program next summer! See Alaska through the eyes of local UUs in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Seward, and Sitka with friendly homestays and unique tour activities. See wildlife, including moose, bears, caribou, whales, bald eagles, seals, and otters. Visit Denali National Park. Experience Native Alaskan culture. Forget the cruise ships – our program is the best way to visit Alaska! Programs led by Dave Frey, member of the Fairbanks UU congregation and Alaska travel expert. Find out more about this Alaskan trip of a lifetime. Visit www.WhaleCoastAK.org, email dfrey@whalecoastak.org, or call 907-322-4966. We would love to share our Alaska with you!

Editor's note, If this interests you — move fast! Spaces are limited.

DISCUSSION OF 1ST PRINCIPLE CHANGE

**January 31, 10-11am
Buddhist Fellowship**

All are invited to join us for this discussion of whether the first principle should include "every being" instead of "every person."

Amie LaPorte from the Animal Rights Ministry will be leading the discussion.

Contact: Amie LaPorte
(gwendylyne77@gmail.com) [630-930-2282](tel:630-930-2282)

The **UUCF BOOK CLUB** will next meet on January 22 at the home of the Hutchins. The book we will be discussing is *Wild Swans* by Jung Chang.

This book is not about birds, but about three women, a grandmother, the mother, and the author as they lived in China. It is a grim story about how difficult it was for the Chinese families, especially the women, to live in China. It was especially grueling during the Japanese occupation.

This is an interesting memoir about growing up "middle class" China. [*Editor's note: you'll find out how lucky your life really has been.*]

We hope to see you on the 22nd at the Hutchins. Their contact information is 301-668-8213 and nhutchins471@comcast.net.

INDOOR FULL MOON LABYRINTH WALK

Come enjoy the beauty and peace of the Labyrinth by the light of the full moon! During the cooler part of the year, we take our Labyrinth practice indoors. We'll be rolling out a beautiful Classical pattern canvas Labyrinth in the Chapel of the UUCF. The labyrinth will be illuminated from 7 pm till 9 pm. Everyone is welcome. The Labyrinth is very sensitive to soot and moisture, so please either plan to go barefoot or bring socks or clean slippers to wear while walking.

Date: 23 Jan 2016

Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Contact: Irene Glasse (irene.glasse@gmail.com) [\(240\) 405-6389](tel:240-405-6389)

CLASSIFIEDS

If you have a **personal, sales, or service ad** you wish to share with our mailing list, please send it to me by **January 20**. With a request, ads may run for two consecutive months. Classified ads should not exceed 100 words and may be accompanied by a picture. No business cards or display ads, please. Tibby Middleton, Editor midken@comcast.net.

HOUSE FOR SALE: Mary Kruhm is selling her house prior to moving to Home-wood at Willow Ponds in the spring. If you, or anyone you know might be interested, please share her information with them. It is located in a quiet but very convenient location. Click [here](#) to view the listing and then click ML# for photos and description.



Lilian Ochieng's Thank You Letter

Hello all,

Wow, am so happy to receive this email. Thank you Mary, Bob and the entire UUCF congregation for making the collection a success. I know thank you does not seem like just nearly enough, my deepest heartfelt thanks for the assistance in helping me pursue my studies. I highly appreciate your confidence in me.

I am also glad that I am going to meet all my financial requirements, pay my school fees, buy the required textbooks and have pocket money for my other basic needs.

I will always keep in touch and let you know how I fare with my studies. May God bless you all abundantly. Pass my gratitude and my warmest regards to everyone. May you be well, happy and peaceful too.

With much love, Lilian



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 – Marge Mansfield; 15th – Carole Smith; 16th – Peggy Greene; 18th – Anne Wright; 19th – Cat Szafran, Meg Bergman; 20th – Eamonn Law-Knotts; 21st – Dottye Ewing; 22nd – Amber Frazier, Ethan Letourneau; and 29th – Jeff Wilson.

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Publications

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Submission address: frederickuu.org/announce