

# UNISON



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*A Welcoming Congregation*



Photo by Meg Menke

In our inaugural issue of the 2017-2018 newsletter you will find information about many of the offerings and opportunities waiting for us to enjoy and participate in this year. So read on. Find out what's coming up.

## *Chalice Community* Fall Registration

Also known as "covenant groups," "chalice circles," and "Small Group Ministry," Chalice Communities are a vital part of UUCF. Groups of 8-12 people meet twice per month to reflect on and discuss significant life topics.

UUCF Chalice Communities are great places to get to know other people and to get to know yourself. Over time, participants build deep connections with one another, with the congregation and with the sacred.

Whether the topic is "good and evil," "mindful living" or "letting go," the conversation is respectful and caring and leads to greater understanding. In each session, facilitated by members of the congregation, all participants have the opportunity to share their perspectives, tell their stories, and listen deeply.

The time together is structured: Groups begin and end with centering, readings and include a time of silence before the sharing begins. Groups also put their faith into action through service projects.

New Groups are now being formed. To be part of this spiritually enriching program, register now. Registrations are being accepted through September 17th. You may register online at [frederickuu.org/cc](http://frederickuu.org/cc), via email to [cc@frederickuu.org](mailto:cc@frederickuu.org), or in the atrium via the sign-up sheet in the RE cabinet.

You are invited to participate in a sample session in Room 125 after the second service on September 10th. The session will be led by Nancy Pace and Emma Lou Comstock. Questions may be directed to chairperson Tina Whims via email to [cc@frederickuu.org](mailto:cc@frederickuu.org).

**Sunday Service Times**  
September 3: 10:30am  
From then on: 9:30 and 11:30am

### **UUCF 101: Pathways to Membership**

Saturday, September 23, 9:00am to 1:00pm.

Sign up on Sundays at the RE cabinet in the Atrium.

Light refreshments will be provided. Childcare can be provided with one-week's notice to DRE Lora Powell-Haney at [education@frederickuu.org](mailto:education@frederickuu.org).



## THE UUCF COFFEEHOUSE Open Mic Night

Saturday, Sept 23, 7-9:30  
MUSICIANS AND POETS WELCOME!

We're ba-a-a-a-ack...Hope you had a nice summer!

Performers can do two or three pieces, depending on how many sign up.

This event is free, but donations are gratefully accepted. As always, you may BYOB.

[UUCFCoffeehouse@gmail.com](mailto:UUCFCoffeehouse@gmail.com) or check out our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/UUCFCoffeehouse](http://www.facebook.com/UUCFCoffeehouse).

If you can, please come at 6 pm to help set up tables and chairs.



## CARL'S COLUMN

Rev. Carl Gregg

Summer is almost over. After holding one service at 10:30 am since Memorial Day, the Sunday after Labor Day (September 10), will be our first weekend back on our regular schedule of two identical services at 9:30am & 11:30am. That Sunday will also feature the return of our adult choir! I will say, however, that as amazing as our choir is (and they are incredible!), we are fortunate to have a deep bench musically at UUCF these days. Thank you to everyone who has helped provide great music this summer. And thank you to everyone who has attended. We have had remarkably high attendance throughout June, July, and August.

As always, with the return of the fall come opportunities for special programs. On Tuesday evenings, starting in mid-September, I will be facilitating a six session class on Bioethics. If you are feeling especially avid, you can start reading "Bioethics: Principles, Issues, and Cases" 3rd Edition by Lewis Vaughn (Oxford University Press, 2016). But that textbook weighs in at 832 pages, so although it is the background material for the course, it is very much *not* required reading. Another fine option is to read the PDF of the bioethics case studies (only a few pages per week) that will be provided free of charge to those who sign up for the course.

Major themes of the course will include (1) Human Research, (2) Reproductive Technologies, (3) Genetic Choices, (4) Dividing Up Health Care Resources, (5) Ethics for Medical Professionals, and (6) Contemporary Issues such as the revolutionary new genome editing technology CRISPR. I'm intentionally skipping the chapters on abortion, euthanasia, and animal rights since we have covered those topics heavily in recent Tuesday courses.

This fall, I will also be teaching another course at Frederick Community College on "What is Evil?: Religious & Philosophical Investigations" (Thursdays, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m., September 7 - October 12): "We all know evil when we encounter it, including the villains of history, routine brutality in the news, the hateful violence of sociopaths, and more. Using a twenty-first century, postmodern perspective, we will investigate what evil is, why it exists in history and the human heart, and how we might best respond." For more information or to register, visit: [ilratfcc.com/portfolio/new-what-is-evil-religious-and-philosophical-investigations](http://ilratfcc.com/portfolio/new-what-is-evil-religious-and-philosophical-investigations).

Finally, thank you to the twenty or so people who have participated in the first few Meditation-Yoga Mini-Retreats that have been co-facilitated by Irene Glasse and myself the past few months. They have been a joy to lead and experience. The next opportunity will be Saturday, October 14 (9:00 a.m. - Noon) in the UUCF sanctuary: \$15 in advance / \$20 at door (split between the instructors & UUCF). For more information or to register, visit [frederickuu.org/retreat](http://frederickuu.org/retreat).

Here at the beginning of another congregational year, it is perhaps also significant to note that July marked the beginning of my sixth year as your minister. I'm grateful to be with you on this journey.

# SUNDAY SERVICES

**One service, 10:30am, September 3**  
**Two services, 9:30 and 11:30am from then on**

- Sept. 3:** *Beyond \$15*, the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg
- Sept. 10:** *Bioethics*, the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg
- Sept. 17:** *American Islam*, the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg
- Sept. 24:** *Sinai and Zion*, the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg

**The 3rd Annual  
Frederick Pagan  
Pride Day**



**Saturday, Sept 16th**  
10 am - 6 pm

**Workshops,  
Vendors, Rituals,  
Live Music,  
Drumming & More!**

Admission:  
One nonperishable food  
donation for The Foodbank  
Program

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**September Full Moon  
Labyrinth Walk**

WEDNESDAY SEPT. 6, 8:30 – 10:30PM

Come enjoy the beauty and peace of the Labyrinth by the light of the full moon! The labyrinth will be illuminated from 8:30pm till 10:30pm. Everyone is welcome.

Weather permitting, this will be an outdoor, drumming walk. The first hour will be a quiet walk, the second hour drumming, so feel free to bring hand drums and other percussion instruments. If you haven't walked a Labyrinth before, there is no ceremony or ritual. We put out the little flickering LED tea lights and keep the space open.

**UUCF Library Expands with Pagan Literature**

By Stephen Berté, President, Board of Trustees

The UUCF is the fortunate recipient from The Open Hearth Foundation of a library of Pagan related literature at no cost to the congregation. Rev. Carl and your Board of Trustees see this donation as a good news story. Here are some of the details on how this all came about.

The Open Hearth Foundation was a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that operated out of Washington D.C. for many years with the established purpose of creating a pagan Temple space and Library in the nation's capital. They were most successful with the library part of their project, but now the foundation is dissolving and they need a new home for the library. The Open Hearth Foundation no doubt thought of UUCF primarily because of Irene Glasse's wonderful efforts on behalf of Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) and UUCF. The Board ensured the donation process clarified that the donor relinquished any hold on the donation, which becomes the property of the UUCF to do with as it sees fit. Finally, the library (valued at \$37,827) is being donated and moved free of cost to UUCF.

We anticipate the library will be integrated with our existing library and will be placed on shelves along the left-hand wall (as you walk in) of Room 124 and Room 125 (the two rooms just before the chapel.) Because the shelves are mostly vertical space, these wall shelves will not make any significant difference in the usable capacity of either room. The new, expanded library will continue to be organized around books from all Six Sources of Unitarian Universalism, technically including a 7th section of "UU History and Heritage."

This is a wonderful opportunity because as you likely know, UUCF has a large and growing Pagan group with 100+ people often showing up for the eight (8) major holidays on the Pagan Wheel of the Year, strong numbers monthly for the labyrinth walks, and 300+ at the two annual Pagan Pride Days (with a third one coming in September.) The first annual Masquerade Ball was also highly successful, and another is in the works. We greatly appreciate CUUPS/UUCF member Irene Glasse's dynamic role as the prime mover behind catalyzing this growth that led to this fortuitous donation. Speaking of CUUPS, it will maintain volunteers who will keep the entire library maintained, keep people accountable for returning books, keep the stacks straight, etc. It is amazing and fortunate that we are to receive a library representing one of our Six Sources of UUism. Our growing (CUUPS) group (and others of course) will no doubt make good use of it!

I think this is just one more indication of how vibrant and meaningful our congregation can be to the community at large. It is also a perfect example of how we encourage spiritual growth and work to build a beloved community while acting for peace and justice.

# COMING SOON



## Irish Set Dance Ceili

Think Green and plan to come!

Our next Social Event is Sunday, October 8. It's our second *Ceili*, or Irish Set Dance and Potluck. No experience needed since all ages and aptitudes are most welcome. From 3 to 4pm on Oct 8 we will offer a Beginners Workshop. At 4 the *Ceili* will start for everyone. Then dinner, then more dancing, and we will finish by 8 pm.

We need to know who is coming and what supper dish you will bring. Sign-up sheets will be in the Atrium by late August, and you can also contact Nancy Roblin at [Nancy.roblin@gmail.com](mailto:Nancy.roblin@gmail.com).

Cheryl O'Brien and Steve Buckingham will again host this event. They are hoping to offer some beginners' classes during September so look for announcements about this.

Each participant will be asked contribute \$15.00 at the door. Kids under 12 are free. Babysitting services can be arranged.

## We're Keeping the Irish theme going with our Fall Auction!



2017 UUCF  
Annual Auction  
Saturday, November 11th!  
Auction Theme -

### Saint Patrick's Day Bringing in The Green



**Tickets will go on sale September 10th!**

**Due to Space Constraints, Ticket Sales will be limited.**

Tickets Will Be On Sale in the Atrium after each Sunday Service

for only \$10, Ages 15 and Up.

Kids are Free!

Watch for Announcements!

- **4:00 - 6:15 pm. Silent Auction**
- **5:00 - 6:30 pm. Dinner (BYOB) Nick Int Veldt on the Keys!**
- **6:45 pm. Cashier opens for early check out**
- **6:45 - 9:00pm. Live Auction**

Plan your donations for the 2017 UUCF Auction; **Silent Auction donations are needed: Jewelry, tools, household goods etc.** We also need Events for the Live Auction! Dinners, Parties, Tours, Vacations, Let your Imagination Run Wild!

Menu (may change):

Fresh Garden Salad, Dinner Rolls with Butter

Entree: Old World Chicken Marsala with Green Beans Almondine & Rice Pilaf

or Vegan entree: Pasta de Renaissance - baby penne pasta w/olive oil, toasted garlic, sun-dried tomatoes, cremini mushrooms, cracked black pepper

Dessert Bake Sale to support the CLC pre-school

If you would like to help with the Live or Silent Auction, please do not hesitate to contact: John Menke

<[john@menkescientific.com](mailto:john@menkescientific.com)>,

or Scott Norris <[senorris1@icloud.com](mailto:senorris1@icloud.com)>

# UUCF GROUPS



## UU PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, September 3, 9:30am (Chapel)

We will discuss possibilities for the coming year, including forming a reflection group, continuing study, discussion, worship, contemplative prayer, meditation.

All are welcome.

Please contact Sea Raven  
([searaven.morse@gmail.com](mailto:searaven.morse@gmail.com)).



## AHA ATHEISTS, HUMANISTS, AGNOSTICS

First and third Sundays  
following last service.  
Discussions in the Chapel.



## EARTH-CENTERED SPIRITUALITY

Facebook link: [CUUPS](https://www.facebook.com/CUUPS)

**2nd Sunday, September 10, 10:30—11:20am**

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."



## UUCF BUDDHIST FELLOWSHIP

Everyone is most welcome to join us at any of our sessions. No experience or prior preparation is necessary.

In September the Buddhist Fellowship will begin meeting on the 1st and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month, 10:30 – 11:20am, in the chapel. (No meeting on Sept 3, Labor Day weekend). We begin with a brief meditation, followed by discussion, usually around a book we have selected. We are still reading/studying *Living Beautifully* by Pema Chodron and should be up to chapter 7 when we meet Sept. 17. Members of the group take turns facilitating.

Special Session on Meditation, Sunday, Sept. 24, 10:30 – 11:20am, facilitated by Lynn Wagner. We will practice several approaches to meditation in a series of short meditations. If you are new to meditation, you are especially invited to attend.

Thursday Evening Meditation, in the chapel, 7:00 – 8:30pm, facilitated by Nancy Gordon and Lynn Wagner. There is time for a longer meditation in this time frame (usually about 30 minutes). All welcome.

Questions to [buddhist@frederickuu.org](mailto:buddhist@frederickuu.org).

## FRIENDLY FORUM

**9:15-10:20am September 3**

**10:30-11:20 from then on**

Each Sunday the Friendly Forum meets in room 113 for fifty minutes to discuss congregational and/or current events.

Tentative Schedule:

- Sunday, September 3 at 9:15am, (Labor Day)
- Sunday, September 10 at 10:30am, Split-Plate Presentation
- Sunday, September 17 at 10:30am, Dismantling Racism
- Sunday, September 24 at 10:30am, Nancy Abrams, Beacon Press author of *A God That Could Be Real: Spirituality, Science, and the Future of our Planet*
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Check for updates:

[frederickuu.org/FriendlyForum](http://frederickuu.org/FriendlyForum)

We had a successful first year for the new children's choirs last year so we will be continuing those (see information below) AND adding a choir for teens. Yes – that's right a TEEN CHOIR! They will rehearse during the second service on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays each month (starting Sept 24). The performance schedule hasn't been decided on yet, but we're aiming for every other month. ALL teens are welcome (ages 13-19).

Please contact Deb Int Veldt ([d.intveldt@myactv.net](mailto:d.intveldt@myactv.net)) if you have a teen who is interested in participating.

## Singing Opportunities for UUCF Young People



The children's choirs include a group for K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade and a group for 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade. The younger group rehearses on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays (starting September 17) during the first service and the older group rehearses on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays (starting September 24) during the first service. The performance schedule is yet to be determined, but they will sing approximately every other month.

Please contact Deb Int Veldt ([d.intveldt@myactv.net](mailto:d.intveldt@myactv.net)) if you have a child (or children!) who would like to participate.



## RE World

Lora Powell-Haney  
Director of Religious Education

Unitarian Universalist (UU) children's programs build resilience, offering support through life's tough times and encouraging each child to connect with their own quest for purpose and meaning. Kids learn respect for others and respect for themselves. They experience spiritual practices and learn ways to center themselves, whether by sitting cross-legged and taking a few deep breaths, giving thanks before they eat a meal, or looking up at the stars in wonder. Our programs create peer connections that break the patterns of a school or neighborhood social scene, allowing children to build genuine friendships across differences.

UU religious education is goal-oriented in one way: We seek an outcome of respectful, responsible, life-loving kids who know they are valued for all of who they are and are ready to show others the same deep acceptance.

Unitarian Universalist Association

Lora's experiences in seminary, on her way to the ministry!



I want to share an image from my time in Chicago-- two weeks in July--for my first classes at Meadville Lombard Theological School. Staying over a weekend meant I could visit one of the local UU congregations for Sunday worship, so some classmates and I went to Unity Temple, the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Unitarian Universalist church. For summer RE, they offered these Flat Franks! This year is the 150th anniversary of Frank Lloyd Wright's birth. The idea is to take Flat Frank with you on your summer travels, take a photo with him, and either post it on social media with the appropriate hashtag or email the photo to the FLW Foundation. I wonder what famous Maryland Unitarian or Universalist or UU we could find for next summer?

Fall semester for me begins soon, with lots of reading and writing to come, and eight hours a week volunteering at a local community agency. I'm looking forward to sharing my journey with you each month!

Find descriptions of our 2017-2018 religious education classes for children and youth at this link: <http://www.frederickuu.org/re/20172018REFlyer.pdf> and a registration form to print here: <http://www.frederickuu.org/re/20172018RegForm.pdf> (copies of the registration form are also available in the Religious Education cabinet in the Atrium).

Whether this is your first year with us or your tenth, please register your young people, so we have updated emergency information, allergy information, and can get you notifications of events and changes in programming. Our first Sunday back to two services with Middle Hour religious education, is September 10, 2017.

## Notes from the President

Steve Berté  
President of the Board of Trustees  
September 2017



Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful summer. Your Board of trustees has continued meeting throughout the summer. Subsequent to the Annual Meeting in June, we published the updated Bylaws you approved on our website. They are in the Members' Documents and Records section. [http://www.frederickuu.org/records/UUCF Bylaws 20170611.pdf](http://www.frederickuu.org/records/UUCF_Bylaws_20170611.pdf).

You may recall that one of the changes in the Bylaws update was the move from a 9 to 7 member Board. Alice Wong took advantage of that change to depart the Board and move over to help out on the Membership committee. We thank her for her service to the Board and appreciate her willingness to remain engaged in our community as she does the important work of the membership team.

In July, we held our annual retreat and discussed our goals for the upcoming year. We'll be updating our Policies and Procedures as well as reviewing the UUCF 5 Year Strategic Plan. We'll be both monitoring our progress and starting to prepare to develop a new planning document to replace the current one expiring in 2019. We also discussed other key topics such as enhancing our ability to communicate and execute our mission of joining together to encourage spiritual growth, building a beloved community, and acting for peace and justice.

At our August meeting, we initiated our review and update of the Strategic Plan with a review of the RE program. Lora Powell-Haney provided an update and was present to discuss the progress she continues to make in enhancing one of our key programs. We also discussed, in coordination with Rev Carl, initiating a new segment in Sunday services that will enable us to share some of the wonderful things we are doing to achieve our mission. Stay tuned for more information as we flesh out the concept.

Our second UUCF 2020: Planning for Growth team formed over the summer (UUCF 2020 II) and has had an initial meeting. With summer ending, they'll be able to dig into the important work before them. We look forward to the progress they will surely make in the coming months.

Thanks for all you do to support our beloved community,

Stephen Berté  
President, Board of Trustees

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## PARKING ISSUES AT UUCF

By Dick Roblin



As attendance at our Sunday service(s) continues to increase, adequate space in our parking lot is increasingly an issue. UUCF (represented by Rick Anderson, Dick Roblin and Stan Schlepp) is in discussions with the Frederick County Department of Planning and Permits about increasing the number of parking spaces in ways that are consistent with the limitations of our original site plan. While we are getting County approval for parking space changes, there are several things that users of our building can do to help with this issue.

1. Park straight in and as close as convenient to the car next to you. If you park your car at an angle, it can take up more than one parking space. In addition,

you encourage others to follow the angle of your car when they park.

2. Car-pool where possible.
3. The UUCF 2020 Group I report suggested the possibility of running a shuttle service to UUCF from the parking lots at the corner of Elmer Derr Rd and Mt. Zion Rd. If you would be willing to try such a service let any of the above mentioned people know. If we get enough interest, we will try it out.
4. Be on the lookout for people from UUCF directing parking as you enter the parking lot. We may have to use some overflow parking areas to deal with the increasing number of cars.

# FISCAL NOTES as of JULY 31, 2017

General Operating Fund	YTD through July (8% of year)	% of Budget	2017-18 Approved UUCF Operating Budget
Contributions:	\$69,015		\$440,583
All Other Income:	\$7,999		\$98,893
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$77,014</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>\$539,476</b>
Employee/Staff Expense:	\$35,344		\$276,000
Facilities Expense:	\$9,313		\$185,029
All other Expenses:	\$1,754		\$67,980
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$46,411</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>\$539,281</b>
<b>Difference (Net):</b>	<b>\$30,603</b>		\$195

**New Fiscal Year – FY 17-18:** UUCF members adopt a new annual operating budget every spring. The approved budget governs financial operations for twelve months beginning July 1. Approved expense lines in the budget are regarded as “permission to spend” by staff members and committee chairs who are the people leading work to achieve our mission.

Numbers in the chart above give you a quick way to see UUCF’s monthly progress in gathering revenue and paying our bills. In the coming months, we’ll share more about what the money does to encourage spiritual growth, build a beloved community, and act for peace and justice.

**About the Year Just Ended:** We ended the prior fiscal year on June 30 with a surplus of revenue over expenses compared to the approved budget. This was due partly to higher revenue and partly because of lower expenses. The Board of Trustees in July decided to move \$40,000 of the surplus to our Capital Reserve Fund (money we hold for future expensive building maintenance projects). Another \$20,000 will be used for a “New Initiatives Fund - 2020” – targeted for projects being considered by the 2020 Committee. This is a working group established last spring by the BOT to look at strategies for accommodating growth in membership (additional parking for example.)

**Split Plate donations – July:** Your split plate gifts in July (\$1099) supported the Black Lives Matter-UU project. On the fifth Sunday of the month, the plate was split again, this time to increase our own Minister’s Discretionary Fund (\$160). The Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs was August’s split plate. Donations may still be submitted and I will report the total amount given in October.

Thank you for your interest!

Meg Menke, Treasurer  
[treasurer@frederickuu.org](mailto:treasurer@frederickuu.org)

## Join UUA, UUSC and UUSJ at Immigrant Rights’ Vigil Sunday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>

**White House sidewalk facing Lafayette Park, Washington D.C.**

For 24 hours, on Sunday, September 3, UUs in the DC area will be participating in a DREAM vigil to defend the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (aka DACA) and Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designations for Haitians and other immigrants from troubled lands.

UUCF's Social Action Committee encourages you to participate. More information at <http://tinyurl.com/yce2ecj6>. If you would like to carpool to and from the church, email Betsy Bainbridge at [betsybainbridge@yahoo.com](mailto:betsybainbridge@yahoo.com). Let her know when you would prefer to leave and to return and if you would be willing to drive.

# Social & Environmental Action Issues

Betsy Bainbridge,  
Chair, Social Action  
Committee (SAC)

**JUSTice + ACTION = JustAct**  
<http://uusocialjustice.org/news>

Karen Russell, Chair,  
Climate Change  
Working Committee



## Social Action Committee Welcomes a New Chair



One unchangeable fact is the inevitability of change. After serving 10 years as the chair of the SAC, Mary Bowman-Kruhm is passing the responsibility of committee chair into the capable hands of Betsy Bainbridge. Mary's is a hard act to follow, but Betsy is qualified and ready to assume this leadership role. Thank you, Mary, for all you have done and thank you, Betsy, for helping us keep up the good work.

From Mary — some history:

2007: Carol Antoniewicz and I taught "Race: The Power of an Illusion" and, with Sandi Smith-Gill and Cynthia Kuske, formed the Social & Environmental Justice Committee, an unwieldy name that combined thrusts for action aimed at people and planet. Within a few years I became chair by default. We garnered attention when we sponsored a Maasai troupe that danced at UUCF on their way to President Obama's first inauguration. Growth allowed us to eventually become today's Social Action Committee (SAC), with a separate group looking at the environment.

Unlike many UUCF committees, whose work changes little from year to year, the SAC responds to current issues. Listing our work over the past 10 years would be dull, but we have rolled with the roiling times. One constant are our split-plate collections. These provide a focus for UUCF social action work and, in doing so, monthly advertise a well-vetted charity that receives half our offertory the third Sunday of each month.

I happily turn over to new chair Betsy Bainbridge a committee with a core group of about seven members and 16 Liaisons whose work is sponsored by SAC. Many thanks for continuing support from Reverend Carl and UUCF members for split-plate contributions, UUsed Book Sale support, and help with our projects.

From Betsy — some plans:

In addition to offering me a home on my religious journey, UUCF has provided me with a way to become active in social peace and justice issues that I haven't readily found in my own community. I have participated in governance issues throughout my adult life, and although the issues I have worked on were important, I've continued to feel that they were too far removed from people in need to provide a feeling that I might be actually helping individuals.

The Social Action Committee has served that purpose for me. Participating in SAC keeps me aware of peace and justice issues in the UUCF area and nationally, informs me of where I might volunteer my time and energy, and highlights which organizations providing help to marginalized populations need support. Through information-sharing, the SAC keeps its members and the congregation updated. Mary Bowman-Kruhm's blog and members' articles in the Unison and Midweek Announcements inform the congregation about current peace and justice activities. The split-plate program identifies 12 local, national, and international efforts to address the needs of those unable to help themselves. After careful vetting, SAC selects these non-profit organizations from candidates proposed by the congregation after careful vetting. Not only do the organizations benefit from receiving half of the third Sunday's offering, but the congregation learns about these organizations and how to become involved in them.

SAC and I welcome new members wishing to join with others to maximize our impact working toward peace and justice.

# SPLIT-PLATE OFFERING SEPTEMBER 17



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

*The Positive Place For Kids*

## Why supporting the Boys & Girls Club of Frederick County is a worthwhile investment from a parent who needed them

In our world with economic disparity, children are the most at risk. Challenges that the modern environment creates are unsupervised after-school time, unengaged or busy parents/guardians who are often struggling to balance work, school, multiple jobs, parenting responsibilities, personal challenges, economic challenges, and a host of other factors that may contribute to adverse childhood experiences. Children are our representation of hope in these troubled times. Children will take what they learn during their youth and apply these experiences to their adult world and impact the entire community in which they live.

BGCFC seeks to engage youth in the community to become citizens that care for others, gather confidence to enable them to do great things, support their character and ambitions through relationships with adults who care and understand their needs. BGCFC program assistants role model compassionate behavior and provide opportunities for youth to experience new things. BGCFC provides children from elementary to high school a safe and extremely affordable environment to go to after school



and during summer vacations when parents are working. Some parents would have to choose to leave their children in unsafe environments in order for them to stay employed if it were not for BGCFC. Parents can concentrate at work without the worry of their children's safety.

BGCFC provides supervision with caring and committed adults that help youth with such things as homework, supportive guidance, future goals, healthy living, and character development. The club believes in the intrinsic value of each individual youth and supports the development of that worth for the greater common good.



To allow for expansion of the number of children served, BGCFC is actively seeking to form public partnerships and purchase transportation, increasing the amount number of children that can be served in Frederick County. We will be honored for you to help us achieve these goals.

<http://www.bgcfc.org/>



A reminder: The UUSC is our denomination's organization for advancing social and economic justice in our nation and abroad. UUSC accomplishes its mission by identifying and partnering with responsible local organizations engaged in combatting injustice, coping with natural disasters, and working for human rights.

UUSC is currently working with more than 70 organizations in 17 countries in such areas as workers' rights, disaster recovery, coping with the effects of climate change, meeting the needs of refugees and asylum seekers, and other matters of humanitarian and social justice.

UUSC has a top rating from Charity Navigator and a program to overhead ratio of 82:18. A number of UUCF members are also members and supporters of the UU Service Committee, and you can be too! To join or for more information, see Bill Butler, our local UUSC representative, in the atrium between or after Sunday services.

WILLIAM N. BUTLER  
[wb6566@gmail.com](mailto:wb6566@gmail.com)



# Climate Change Working Committee

Report from Karen Russell, Chair

Pictures from river inspection on following page.

## Monocacy Scenic River Plan Leaves River Vulnerable to Climate Change

As the climate changes, so will Frederick County. The Maryland Commission on Climate Change predicts dry spells from 15-17 days and longer periods without rain, after 2050. At the same time, when it does rain, the Commission predicts more extreme events producing higher flows of water and flooding. Droughts and floods degrade aquatic ecosystems and the Monocacy River is particularly vulnerable. It's a rather shallow, slow moving river whose many bends meander toward the Potomac. In addition to supporting wildlife, the river provides drinking water for 27% of the population of Frederick city, approximately 70,000 people.

One low-cost solution to prepare for Climate Change in Frederick County is to increase riparian buffers along the Monocacy River. Riparian buffers are forested areas between aquatic and terrestrial environments with unique soils, vegetation and ecological processes.

Shade from trees in riparian buffers cools land and water, slowing evaporation. Buffers provide habitat for wildlife, whose ecological role we are still learning to appreciate and who may need to migrate, if unable to adapt to warmer temperatures.

These natural systems also filter out

pollutants and mitigate the velocity of rainfall, enabling the ground to absorb water during rain storms, which in turn replenishes the water supply. This works to prevent droughts. Water rushing into waterways without adequate buffers takes pesticides, fertilizers, road residue and trash with it, not only polluting the water, but also producing torrents too wide for the banks, which then erode. Flooding occurs.

At the county executive's request, a 10-member volunteer Monocacy Scenic River Citizen's Advisory Board, consisting of adjacent landowners, at least one scientist, a Farm Bureau representative and other interested citizens from Frederick and Carroll counties updated a 1990 Monocacy Scenic River plan and unveiled it for public comment last fall. The plan described and mapped Ecologically Significant Areas (ESAs) and proposed and mapped Resource Protection Areas (RPAs) that included wildlife habitat, fisheries, rare, threatened, and endangered species, scenic and natural areas, ecological/hydrological features, historic and archeological sites and lands suitable for future open space and recreational opportunities. Increasing riparian buffers made up a significant part of ESA and RPA recommendations, with resources identified to compensate landowners who created them.

Since then, the plan has been mired in controversy. Property owners along

the river claimed they were blindsided by the plan and viewed the ESAs and RPAs as infringing on private property rights. They succeeded in having the map lines deleted and a written section on Resource Protection Areas removed.

The costs and stress of dealing with natural disasters such as droughts and floods greatly exceed the costs of buffer creation. Riparian buffers make good economic sense.

On September 13<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 a.m., in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor hearing room of Winchester Hall (12 E. Church St.), the [Frederick County Planning Commission will review the Monocacy Scenic River Plan](#) prior to sending it on to the County Council. Click the link for a copy of the latest draft. Members of the public who attend the meetings are offered a chance to speak for 3 minutes. Written comments must be submitted to the Planning & Permitting Division ([Tim Goodfellow](#)) at least 72 hours in advance.

In addition, please talk to your County Council Representative about the plan and the need to increase riparian buffers along the Monocacy. If you would like to see the original plan, please contact Karen Russell at [Climatechange@frederickuu.org](mailto:Climatechange@frederickuu.org). She also has various testimonies for use as letter templates.

Here is a link to an [article](#) that appeared in the Frederick News Post about the River Board hearing on July 12. A caption could read: UUCF members and friends attended and/or testified at the July 12 Monocacy River Board public hearing. They included Monica and Roy Greene, Nancy Pace, Jeff Wilson, George Ruszat, Jennifer Boston, Kathleen and Irwin Rall, Diana Pitcher and Karen Russell.

More about the Monocacy River inspection from Karen Russell:

Here are photos that I took on the canoe ride down the Monocacy to assess the river for riparian buffers and erosion and pollution. We also saw the muddiness of the water from sediment. We started from Riverside Park in Walkersville and ended at Pinecliff Park. The Monocacy Scenic River Plan states, "The State of Maryland has determined, through water monitoring and computer modeling, that most waterways in the Monocacy River Watershed do not meet water quality standards."



Storm erosion. What is this pipe doing here?



Lack of buffer. Development too close to the river. Sediment clouds the water, carrying with it pollutants, such as phosphorus.

# Blanche Ames Gallery Presents



JOHN KUHN



A TASTE  
OF ITALY

The show opens with artists' talk and reception at 11:30am on Sunday, September 3. The show runs through September 24. Please call 301-473-7680 if planning to visit the gallery at times other than the opening.



SHARI KUHN



Featuring photographs, prints and watercolors, the Blanche Ames Gallery invites you to **"A Taste of Italy"** created by John and Shari Kuhn, our featured September artists. Their 2016 trip to the middle and northern regions of Italy — Rome, Florence, Venice — inspired their "delicious" range of work.

Shari and John, Middletown residents, love to travel. Shari captures the innate beauty of her surroundings with her impressionistic paintings and vibrant color. Her watercolors are a form of meditation and allow her to deeply connect with nature. John, who has studied photography for 30 years, continues to improve his vision and desire to turn his photographs into works of art. He tries not to manipulate his images beyond what could be accomplished in a traditional darkroom.



**THE UU MOUNTAIN RETREAT AND LEARNING**

The UUWomenspirit Fall Retreat will be held from October 11-15 in Highlands, NC at the Mountain Retreat and Learning Center (a UU facility). For more information, people can go to [UUWomenspirit.org](http://UUWomenspirit.org). If anyone wants to talk to someone who has attended in the past, they can contact me at [sher-rilp1128@aol.com](mailto:sher-rilp1128@aol.com) or 304-671-8287. I have been to several of these retreats and have found them to be a life-changing experience.

~~Sherri Philpott

**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

2<sup>nd</sup> – Ann Foard; 7<sup>th</sup> – Max Harold; 9<sup>th</sup> – Jasmine Bradley, Anne Saunders; 10<sup>th</sup> – Payson Silvio; 11<sup>th</sup> – Andrew Gribben; 15<sup>th</sup> – Christian Kloc, Emily Kloc; 16<sup>th</sup> – Pinoake Browning, Meg Menke; 17<sup>th</sup> – Joanne Spivey; 19<sup>th</sup> – Fred Stephens; 20<sup>th</sup> – Glenn Matties; 21<sup>st</sup> – Jeremiah Rene; 22<sup>nd</sup> – Rebecca Dean, Skylar Robisch; 24<sup>th</sup> – Hope Sorensen (Antoniewicz), Tegan Sorensen (Antoniewicz); 25<sup>th</sup> – Matt Mead; 26<sup>th</sup> – Denise McIntyre-Workman; 27<sup>th</sup> – David Wilson.

"I would like to thank everyone for their good wishes, encouragement, and fantastic meals sent my way during my recent surgery and recovery. I appreciate so very much all the kind thoughts, cards, visits, and help in getting through this difficult time. Thank you all."

~~Kathleen Bengali

**UUCF BOOK CLUB**

**September 8 at 7:15pm sharp, room 125**

**Kol Ami holds their service in the sanctuary this evening, so we need to be in room 125 by 7:15pm!**

*Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* by Lisa See

Hosted by Tibby Middleton

Two young women in 19th century China are groomed for good marriages — beginning with their excruciating foot-binding. They are chosen to be friends for life, but pride, misunderstanding and misadventure send them on to lives they could not choose or expect. Engaging story.

**Upcoming Book**

Friday, October 13, 7:30pm

*The Miracle Life of Edgar Mint (fiction)*, by Edgar Udall



Please set aside Saturday, **September 30** as the date for the next Adopt-A-Road.

**9:00am** sharp to get signed in and issued your fashionable safety vest. Meet in the parking lot at the green sheds.

Call/text Dave Hutchins with questions 301-667-4267.

**Retired UU Men Eating Out (RUUMEO)**

1st and 3rd Wednesday Every Month!!  
8:00am at Barbara Fritchies on Rte. 40.

**Retired UU Ladies Eating Out (RUULEO) Sept. 12, 11:30am**

RUULEO will meet on the second Tuesday of September (Sept. 12) at Wegman's lounge at 11:30 for lunch and laughter. Hope to see you there.

Call Marj at 301-693-6195 for information if needed. See you there.

**Meditation/Yoga Mini-Retreat with Irene Glasse & Carl Gregg**

Saturday, October 14 (9am-Noon, Sanctuary)

\$15 in advance / \$20 at door.

Please contact instructors at ([minister@frederickuu.org](mailto:minister@frederickuu.org)) in advance if accommodations needed; we will offer adjustments to be as accessible as possible.)

To register or for more details, visit [frederickuu.org/retreat](http://frederickuu.org/retreat).



Faith communities in Frederick gather for a musical celebration for peace.

On Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm at Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ, 15 West Church Street, Frederick, MD, faith communities and singers from Hood College will join together in a musical celebration for peace. Groups participating in this event see this concert as an opportunity to build unity and community through music. Given as a gift to our community, music heals wounds and brings peace and inspiration to our hearts. With competing voices and ideas seeming to divide us, this peaceful gathering offers fellowship and oneness for all.

The event features choirs and musicians from Hood College and the following faith communities: Trinity United Methodist, Islamic Society of Frederick, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Frederick, Metropolitan DC Baha'i, All Saints Episcopal Church, Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ, and Beth Shalom.

For more information, contact: Amy Aguilar at [aaguilar@erucc.org](mailto:aaguilar@erucc.org) or 301-662-2762.

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Frederick, MD  
4880 Elmer Derr Road  
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## Publications

**Unison Deadline**: submissions by the 20th; web posting  
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 noon; e-mailed on Thursdays  
**Submission address**: [frederickuu.org/announce](http://frederickuu.org/announce)