

U N I S O N



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March 2018

A Welcoming Congregation



MARCH IS PLEDGE MONTH AT UUCF

Designating a month as “Pledge Month” sometimes begs the question -- Why do we need to pledge at all?

A pledge is an estimate of how much money you plan to give to UUCF in the next fiscal year (this coming fiscal year is July, 2018 through June, 2019). It is not a binding contract. Circumstances can change, and your actual giving may be more or less depending on your situation. We invite you to consider what it might mean for you in this season of your life to give generously within your means.

The Pledge Total is a critical piece of information used by the Finance Committee and the Board of Trustees to develop a proposed balanced budget to the Congregation for adoption at our annual June meeting. Without pledges, we would have great difficulty effectively planning for the upcoming year.

So we encourage everyone to complete a Pledge Form. Pledge Forms were mailed at the end of February, but they are also available online at frederickuu.org/pledge, or in the atrium during Sunday services in throughout the month of March.

After you complete your Pledge Form, grab a ticket for the **Stewardship Celebration on March 24**. It will be time to have some fun and celebrate!

~~Bill Cranmer, Chair of the Stewardship Team



Stewardship Celebration “Sustaining the Light”

Saturday March 24, 2018
7:00 – 9:00 pm

*Hors d'oeuvres *** Wine *** CLC Dessert*

Free tickets available at Sunday services starting February 25
Tickets are required, seating is limited

Childcare Available – Complete online request form at frederickuu.org/childcare by March 18

If you are interested in bringing a bake sale item, please contact Nancy Roblin at 703-346-2022 or nancy.roblin@gmail.com





Senseless tragedies like the school shooting in Florida can make you feel powerless. Together we are powerful. **Advocate for commonsense laws to Prevent Gun Violence:**

Everytown for Gun Safety:
everytown.org

Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America:
momsdemandaction.org

**HELP
WANTED**

CALLING ALL GOOD COOKS, BAKERS, AND KITCHEN TEAM PLAYERS!!!!

We will be putting on a really delightful Wine, Heavy Hors D'oeuvres and Desserts gala on Saturday evening, March 24. We need a team of people who would enjoy the fun of working in the kitchen all afternoon putting together hundreds of yummy food items, and then serving it to over 100 guests. Clean-up will also, somehow, have to happen!!! Last year 10 of us had a ball doing this, so hopefully we can do it again this year.

The Kitchen will be open from 1 - 6pm that Saturday. If you could come for even 2 hours during that time, it would be most appreciated. Or more time, if you can give it. The heaviest period will be between 4 and 6, but between 1 and 4 we'll have plenty to do. Secondly, the CLC will be providing Bake Sale items as a fundraiser for the school while providing dessert for the guests. But they cannot make enough desserts for the entire crowd, and they will greatly appreciate our extra contributions. So we need volunteers who can contribute baked goods. They will need to be packaged in serving sizes, in plastic wrap or little baggies, with ingredient cards, and delivered no later than 5:30pm on March 24.

SOOO, if you can join the Kitchen Team or contribute to the Bake Sale, please contact Nancy Roblin right away. Email is nancy.roblin@gmail.com. Phone is 301 662 8506. Please state what you will be able to do, what times you can come to help, and/or what item you can bring to the Bake Sale.

**Harried
Americans
Roadshow**
Americana Music & More



Saturday, March 10 7-9 PM

Coffeehouse Concert Series
4880 Elmer Derr Rd, Frederick, MD

**Preorder Tickets Now at
ShowTix4U.com**



Lara Herscovitch

**And Coming April 14, 7pm
Lara Herscovitch —**

a gem of a modern American troubadour. A singer-songwriter-poet, performer and advocate, her highly original contemporary folk is spiced with blues, pop and jazz influences.



**THE UUCF
COFFEEHOUSE**
Open Mic Night

Saturday, March 17
MUSICIANS AND POETS WELCOME!

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

This event is free, but donations are gratefully accepted. BYOB.

UUCFCoffeehouse@gmail.com or check out our Facebook page www.facebook.com/UUCFCoffeehouse.

7-9:30 pm 3rd Saturdays thru June 2018 If you can, please come at 6 pm to help set up tables and chairs.



CARL'S COLUMN

Rev. Carl Gregg

Those of you who have been around for a while may remember that the first sermon I preached at UUCF was on July 22, 2012, on “Pluralism, Pragmatism, Progressivism: My Journey to Unitarian Universalism.” (For anyone curious, the text is posted in our sermon archive, available at frederickuu.org/sermons.) Prior to becoming the minister of UUCF, I served in Progressive Christian congregations for nine years.

To transfer my ministerial credentials from the Alliance of Baptists, I submitted my first piece of paperwork to the Unitarian Universalist Association on April 5, 2012. (Some of you might be surprised how liberal the Alliance is. They describe themselves as “A prophetic voice in Baptist life. We are a faith community comprised of male and female laity and clergy, people of diverse sexual orientations, gender identities, theological beliefs, and ministry practices. We combine progressive inquiry, contemplative prayer and prophetic action to bring about justice and healing in a changing world.”)

I completed the transfer process as fast as humanly possible—which is another way of saying that I have completed it as fast as the process itself allows—and it has taken slightly less than six years. On February 1, 2018, I received a letter announcing that I am (finally!) in what is called “Final Fellowship” with the Unitarian Universalist Association. (If you are interested in what it takes to become a UU minister, more information is available at: uua.org/careers/ministers/becoming.)

I’m also excited to report that we met the challenge goal for helping fund Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism (BLUU). As you may recall if you attended our recent “The Promise and the Practice” service a few weeks ago when Paula Cole Jones preached, BLUU is a national ministry for and by black-identified Unitarian Universalists. To fund BLUU’s mission, two generous Unitarian Universalists, Julie and Brad Bradburd, have offered to match up to one million dollars in donations toward BLUU for every UU congregation that reaches the threshold of \$10 per member.

In our July split-plate here at UUCF, we gave almost \$1,100 to support BLUU. An additional \$1,441 from our February split-plate helped us reach that goal of \$10 per member, meaning that our congregational contribution to BLUU will be doubled! To learn more about BLUU, visit blacklivesuu.com.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as your minister for the past six years, and I look forward to being with you on this journey for many more years to come.

Peace to you,
Carl

SUNDAY SERVICES

9:30 and 11:30am

- March 4:** *Into the Woods: Broadway Sunday*, Deb Int Veldt, Nick Int Veldt and the UUCF Musicians
- March 11:** *The Second Half of Life*, the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg
- March 18:** *James Baldwin*, the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg
- March 25:** *Throwing Rocks at the Google Bus: “Adventures among Cyborgs, Utopians, & Hackers,”* the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg

UUCF GROUPS

FRIENDLY FORUM

Every Sunday, 10:30-11:20am, Room 113-115

March 18: Our guest is Lee Popkin, director of the JOHN MUIR SCHOLARSHIP. The scholarship is sponsored by the Sierra Club, Catoctin Group. A young member of UUCF, Stephanie Letourneau, was a scholarship recipient in 2016! The program has encouraged the next generation of environmentalists and wildlife conservationists.

On other Sundays we learn more about our Split-Plate recipients and discuss congregational and/or current events.



AHA: ATHEISTS, HUMANISTS, AGNOSTICS

Third Sunday of the month, following 2nd service. Discussions in the Chapel.

The AHA Group is a place to discuss issues of interest unencumbered by expectations of traditional theistic ideas. Our intent is to focus on the reality of life here and now.

All are welcome.



EARTH-CENTERED SPIRITUALITY

Facebook link: [CUUPS](#)

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

Our Earth-centered Spirituality Group meets on the 2nd Sunday of each month in the Chapel at 10:30am. 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 March meeting.



UUCF BUDDHIST FELLOWSHIP

Please see (frederickuu.org/buddhism) for a concise list of the many Buddhist Meditation and non-denominational contemplation offerings at our church.

March 4 – MEETING, 9:30 – 10:20am, room 125: Discussion regarding future plans for UUCF Buddhist Sunday programs. Anyone who attends regularly or hopes to do so is welcome and encouraged to attend. For information: buddhist@frederickuu.org.

March 4 - MEDITATION AND SHARING/DISCUSSION, 10:30 -11:20am in the Chapel as usual. We continue to use *No Time Like the Present* by Jack Kornfield as the basis for our discussions. We will focus on chapter 8, and all are welcome. Reading ahead is encouraged but not necessary.

March 18 - MEDITATION AND SHARING/DISCUSSION, 10:30 – 11:20 AM in the Chapel. Chapter 9

Thursday Evenings. Weekly meetings are held on Thursdays, 7:00-8:30pm in the chapel. The group explores a variety of teachings, with a longer period for meditation, usually 30-40 minutes. Everyone is welcome; no experience necessary. For more information, or to be added to the e-mail list for weekly notices, contact Lynn Wagner at lwagner4@mac.com

Check our website periodically for updates or information on specific programs.

www.frederickuu.org



RE World

education@frederickuu.org

AN ORGANIZING TOOL TO USE!

Looking for an easier way to have people sign up for events, actions, potlucks, projects? UUFrederick now has a Sign-Up Genius (signupgenius.com) account that lets you do just that, and more! Organizers can create grids with the number of people needed to accomplish a portion of an organizing team's task, Automatic email reminders can be sent a week or less before the event, recipes can be embedded in the description of the event, and the information about who signed up to do what is in one place. If your UU-Frederick group needs a simple way to organize sign-ups, contact Director of Religious Education, Lora Powell-Haney, (education@frederickuu.org) for log-in information and how-tos!

Special Request from our Director of Religious Education:

Annual Easter Egg Hunt, April 1, during Middle Hour

DRE Lora Powell-Haney will be back at Meadville Lombard Theological School the last two weeks of March (18-31), so is looking for bunny helpers to get things ready for April 1—no joke!

If you always wanted to wear the bunny ears, please contact Lora at education@frederickuu.org. There will be a Sign-Up Genius later!

Our Whole Lives Sexuality Education

We began this congregational year with two new OWL levels—K/1st grade and 5th/6th grades. I have just confirmed a joint project with the UUColumbia congregation for 10th-12th grades on April 13-14, 2018, and OWL facilitator training here at UUFrederick August 10-12 for Young Adult/Adult/Older Adult level leaders.

More details to come regarding registration and parent orientation for the 10-12th grade OWL and more detailed information about adult OWL in next month's Unison and Mid-week announcements, as well as on our Religious Education page: (frederickuu.org/OWL).

~Lora Powell-Haney

Blanche Ames Gallery Presents

POTOMAC RIVER ARTISTS GUILD

Potomac River Artists Guild was founded in 2000. The purpose of the group is to support emerging artists, display their creations for the public and foster members' art knowledge through educational experiences and sharing of art information.

PRAG holds a show each December at the Old Opera House in Charles Town and holds two shows each year at the War Memorial Building in Shepherdstown.



The eight exhibiting artists' paintings feature diverse styles and mediums. Carol Wilks' animal studies in pastel capture wild beasts as well as family pets. Don Athey shows a light airy landscape along with a dark abstract in watercolor. Other watercolors come to us through the work of Donna Ashbaugh, Jane Horst, and Ronda Albright. Joanna Athey combines mixed media to bring flowers to life. Monica Wilkins' touch of spring is painted with acrylics, and Ziggy Wolodkewitsch will catch your eye with oil paintings.

THE ART TALK AND OPENING RECEPTION IS MARCH 4, 12:30-2:00.
Artist talk, "The Secret Life of Color," presented by PRAG member Ziggy Wolodkewitsch.

Notes from the President

Steve Berté

President of the Board of Trustees
March 2018



Our Board of Trustees met on February 16th to carry on the business of helping UUCF support our spiritual growth, build a beloved community, and act for peace and justice.

The UUCF 2020-II Team delivered a written report to the Board for consideration in advance of the meeting. The Team then presented an initial overview of their work at our meeting followed by much in-depth discussion with the Board on a variety of issues. Although this was intended to be their final report, some new information has been coming to light in recent days that is relevant to some recommendations so the Team will continue to work those issues. The Board provided some additional guidance to the Team and we look forward to their continued superb work for the congregation. Once their work is completed we will, as we did with the first 2020 Team's report, post it to our Documents and Records section on the UUCF website.

The Board greatly appreciates the in-depth analyses and recommendations coming from this hard working Team on how we might make changes to our facilities and/or operations to help us adjust to our growing community. I particularly want to point out that although the Board asked for a 6 month commitment, the Team believes some more work needs to be done and is willing to serve the additional time it will take to finish the job properly. We are grateful for their dedication.

Although the UUCF 2020 studies are resulting in some near term actions, ultimately these studies support some long term fiscal decisions. Based on the 2020 Teams' recommendations, the Board will be developing a proposed path forward for consideration by the Congregation at our Annual Meeting in June. Prior to that meeting, we intend to offer opportunities to share our recommendations with the community so you can cast an informed vote at the meeting. We will be voting on, but not debating, any proposed plans at the Annual Meeting as those discussions will have occurred in congregational meetings prior to that day.

In other news, the Board developed some guidance for the Stewardship Committee as it prepares for our 2018-2019 pledge drive. Be looking for notices about that important event and participate as best you can.

Thanks for all you do to support our beloved community,

Stephen Berté
President, UUCF Board of Trustees

Final Fellowship Festivities

March 18, 2018

10:30-11:30am

Party time! We are planning an important celebration at UUCF on March 18th so please mark your calendars and plan to make it to Elmer Derr Road that day! We will be celebrating the fact that Reverend Carl has achieved Final Fellowship status with the Unitarian Universalist Association! This is a huge accomplishment and we want all who can to turn out to show their appreciation for Carl's dedication and service to our community. We'll have an expanded selection of treats during the middle hour "Coffee and Conversation." If you attend the early Service, please count on staying after to express your thanks to Carl. If you attend the late Service, please set your alarms a bit earlier that day and join the middle hour celebration.

Steve Berté
President, UUCF Board of Trustees

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



Tell SAC About Worthy Charities with Your Split-Plate Nomination

Beginning March 1st, SAC will be accepting nominations for 2018-2019 split-plate recipients. Each of the 12 recipients will be given a month in which to highlight to the congregation its work, to hold a FriendlyForum on the second Sunday of that month, and to receive half of the collection given on the third Sunday of that month.

SAC wishes to choose nonprofits whose missions are meaningful to our congregation and reflect our Second Principle of working toward justice, equality, and compassion. Please share with SAC a worthy nonprofit organization that could benefit from the generosity of the UUCF congregation. A nomination form may be retrieved at frederickuu.org/splitplate, completed, submitted or copied, left in the office, or sent as an email attachment to

SAC@frederickUU.org. SAC will accept nominations through April 15th.

At our May meeting, SAC will select the 12 recipients for next year after careful vetting and discussion of each nominee. Immediately afterward, our selections will be shared with all those who submitted nominations and those organizations which were selected.

Those who make nominations that are selected help promote the organization by sharing information in the Mid-week Announcements, the Unison, the SAC cabinet, and the services at which the split-plate collection is taken. Call Betsy Bainbridge at 703.581.2995 if you have any questions.

SAC thanks you for your effort and interest in this important program.

~~Betsy Bainbridge



Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland

Shared voices for liberal religious values in Maryland

www.uulmmd.org

The congregation supported the work of the Legislative Ministry by donating \$1,342 at the split plate in January. The UULM-MD educates and advocates for a more just, inclusive and sustainable Maryland. If you live and vote in Maryland, consider joining the effort.

The priority issues:

- The environment
- Economic justice
- Criminal justice reform and police accountability
- Death with dignity
- Gun violence
- Healthcare
- Immigration
- LGBTQ

Please go to the website to see what the current action items are in these areas. Or, better yet, go to the website and become an individual supporting member of UULM-MD and you will receive (some, not every day) email regarding current hearings and bills that you may want your legislators to support.

~~Monica Greene

Climate First!



Climate First! helped to pressure Morgan Stanley and PNC Bank to begin moving away from financing mountain-top removal coal mining.

Now actions are being organized against Wells Fargo Bank. The bank is funding the KXL pipeline, ignoring the horrendous global warming impact. Actions against Wells Fargo Bank branches are organized monthly in the Mid-Atlantic states.

If you would like to participate in a #DefundKXL peaceful direct action, contact Monica Greene, monica.greene@yahoo.com, or go to the website, [Climate First!](http://ClimateFirst!) Monica will lead an action on Friday morning, March 23.

~~Monica Greene

SPLIT-PLATE OFFERING MARCH 18

Healthcare is a Human Right – Maryland



With the goal of universal healthcare, HCHR-MD was launched in 2012. We are a Maryland-based public education and advocacy campaign for National Improved Medicare for all (HR - 676), a single payer solution to our failed for-profit healthcare system.

We have seven active local chapters with regular organizing meetings. Visitors and new members are welcome at our Frederick County chapter, which next meets Thursday, March 8 at 7pm, at Friends Meeting Place, [723 North Market Street](#) in Frederick.

Please support Healthcare is a Human Right - Maryland as the split plate beneficiary on March 18. For more information, see our website, [Home](#) -- Monica Greene



CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP IS NOW PART OF THE ENVISION FREDERICK COUNTY WEBSITE

With a new logo, the Climate Change Working Group is now part of the [Envision Frederick County](#) website. Many thanks to Kai Hagen, Executive Director of Envision Frederick County for agreeing to host the Working Group on the site and to Patrice Gallagher of Gallagher Design for the logo. Visit [Envision Frederick County](#) for informed public discourse. Find information about the Working Group by clicking on "Other Organizations" in the menu across the top. Contact: Karen Russell ClimateChange@Frederickuu.org.

Friends and fellow Master Naturalists,

I'm contacting as many people as I know who recognize the ecological and economic importance of maintaining our local environment, to ask that you support the [Monocacy Scenic River Plan](#) by attending a County Council Public Hearing to be held on **Wednesday, February 28 at 7 p.m. in Winchester Hall (12 E. Church St., 21701)**.

There is much opposition to the plan from adjacent landowners and the Farm Bureau and they have heavily attended each public hearing along the approval process. Frankly, a recognition of their responsibility to protect a shared public resource would lead to cooperation, rather than opposition. But they are fighting that responsibility every step of the way by claiming that the plan violates their private property rights.

The Monocacy River is not private property. Those lucky enough to own land along the Monocacy have a heightened responsibility to employ land management practices that protect public health and safety, as well as wildlife habitat. In recognition of that, the plan identifies sources of money to plant riparian buffers via various programs and offers assistance in accessing them.

Frederick City was settled and the county has become what it is because of the existence of the Monocacy River. Seventy thousand people drink water from it. If you belong to a kayaking, canoeing or fishing club and use the river, how about contacting members and ask them to come? Together, we can protect the Monocacy River by showing up at the hearing and outnumbering opposing voices! Please come and support the plan.

Sincerely,
Karen Russell



THREE REASONS FOR APPROVING THE PLAN:

1. Some friends and I paddled canoes from Riverside Park to Pinecliff Park, in April 2017. We saw an active Bald Eagle nest with chicks, several other birds, turtles and deer. I also saw scouring, which occurs when there's a lack of riparian buffer.
2. Nitrogen runoff from farms is a major pollutant.
3. The Maryland Commission on Climate Change predicts heavier rain storms in the spring and periods of drought in the summer. This will further stress an ecosystem that is already stressed.

Meet some new members of our congregation

On February 25, 2018, our congregation recognized six new members. They bring a variety of interests and talents with them. Here are some details about our new members who took our Pathways to Membership class in February. Please take time to welcome these folks to our congregation.



Robert Strasser attended UUC Rockville as a child and found UUCF in recent years. He is most passionate about the environment, wilderness, music, arts (ceramics) and economic justice.



Elizabeth Rohring is a former advertising executive turned marine ecologist and social scientist focused on getting people to respect the environment and each other. She is currently working on her Ph.D. in Climate Change Engagement and Communication.



Terry Lushbaugh is a busy new grandma. She is a gardener and is looking forward to Spring.



James Erard is a teacher, artist, father and husband. He enjoys hard labor, childcare, and gardening.



Elaine Entersz was raised on Long Island, NY. She joined a UU Congregation there in 1985. She was part of UUCF before we had our current building. She likes creating, crafting, music, nature/environment, reading and she is a sports fan.



Lily Clay is an elementary art teacher who grew up in Frederick. Her interests include the environment, gardening and art.



The next Pathways to Membership Class will be held April 7, 2018. Look for the sign up sheet in the atrium.
Susan Berté

General Assembly 2018 June 20-24, Kansas City, MO



ALL ARE CALLED

Interested in attending General Assembly this year? Registration, housing requests and financial aid applications open on March 1.

Grounded in a deep belief that we are all prophets, Unitarian Universalists ask, "How can we faithfully meet the demands of our time?" The call to witness and act for justice in our society and in the world is clear. So, too, is the call to examine our structures and practices, dismantling and transforming those which fail to recognize the full humanity of all people and to honor the interdependent web of life. Join us in Kansas City as we dive deeply into questions of mission for our Unitarian Universalist Association, for our congregations and communities, and for each of us as individuals.

New this year you can propose a Networking Session or apply to present a poster. Deadlines for both are March 15th. See the [GA webpage](#).

Deadline for Financial Aid Application is March 31, and early bird registration ends April 30. Off-site delegate options are also available to those who are unable to travel to Kansas City. Learn all the details at www.uua.org/ga.

FISCAL NOTES as of JANUARY 31, 2018

General Operating Fund	YTD through January (58% of year)	% of Budget	2017-18 Approved UUCF Operating Budget
Contributions:	\$336,300		\$ 440,583
All Other Income:	\$ 74,605		\$98,893
Total Income:	\$410,905	76%	\$539,476
Employee/Staff Expense:	\$166,531		\$275,997
Facilities Expense:	\$ 111996		\$187,529
All other Expenses:	\$ 47,335		\$75,752
Total Expenses:	\$325,862	60%	\$539,278
Difference (Net):	\$85,043		\$195

Who keeps track of all this financial information? My job as treasurer is feasible (and even easy) because I have such competent help. Janice Schlepp is UUCF's Assistant Treasurer (in prior years, she has been treasurer). She fills in if I am out of town or when we need extra help with a project. She is a wiz at spread-sheets, databases, budgets and financial procedures. Wendy Smith is our part-time bookkeeper, a UUCF staff member now for two years. She's on duty Sundays and Mondays and welcomes getting to know more and more members and friends. Finance Committee members provide monthly review and guidance on all matters financial. The Board of Trustee has overall fiduciary responsibility for all UUCF physical and cash assets. Occasionally, more volunteers pitch in with audits and other tasks. Want to join us? Please get in touch. It's satisfying work.

Split-Plate donations: Thank you for generously sharing your resources through UUCF's Split-Plate project. At the end of January, we sent \$1342.40 to our UU legislative lobbying team in Annapolis, UULMD. The Frederick Center will receive our split-plate gift in February, helping this organization provide support and outreach to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer community of central Maryland

Thank you for your interest and support! Meg Menke, Treasurer

UUCF Budget Requests Due 3/12:

As we seek to align our spending with our mission ("We gather to encourage spiritual growth, build a beloved community, and act for peace and justice"), the UUCF board requests that committees and programs include in their budget request a brief description of how each requested amount of money will enable your group to help us support one or more areas of our mission in the next congregational year (July 2018 - June 2019).

Although the board understands that new opportunities sometimes develop during the year--such that what you propose may not match what you eventually can accomplish—to the extent possible, please specify not only the activities planned, but also the results hoped for. (For example, \$XXX for YYY trips/activities to effect change in legislation affecting ZZZ justice issues).



The board also welcomes short "wish lists" of other goals/programs/events you'd like to do if we had additional money to give you. These lists help our long-term planning and stewardship efforts by providing our community a vision of "what might be" if we had more financial support.

Please email budget submission no later than Monday, March 12 to the following three addresses: treasurer@frederickuu.com, minister@frederickuu.org, and atnberte@gmail.com.

COVENANT OF UU PAGANS HAS BIG PLANS FOR MARCH

Thursday, March 1st, 6:30 pm: Full Moon Labyrinth Walk & Divination Night

Come enjoy the beauty and peace of the Labyrinth by the light of the full moon! The labyrinth will be illuminated from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Everyone is welcome. During the cooler months, we take our Labyrinth practice indoors, and will be walking the Rainbow Seed Labyrinth, a canvas Classical-pattern Labyrinth. Please remember clean socks or slippers to walk the Labyrinth in. Please plan to arrive by 8 pm at the latest to allow enough time for your walk. Divination practice is welcome - feel free to bring your preferred divinatory tool (runes, tarot, ogham, etc) to practice/trade readings. Or, just stop by for a reading! Recommended donation of \$5.

Friday, March 9th, 7 pm: Vanir Blót (Heathen Ceremony)

Elk Ridge Kindred is a small, local group who practice the Norse traditions of Heathenry. On March 9th they will be hosting a blót (pronounced blōt), which is a traditional way of toasting and honoring Deity and our ancestors. For this event we will call to the Vanir, the Gods and Goddesses of nature, fertility and magic. While open to the public, space is limited so we are asking that people make reservations by emailing us at ElkRidgeKindred@gmail.com if you wish to attend. Ritual will be held at the UUCF and begins promptly at 7:45pm. We will also be available at 7pm for an informal information session and Q&A about Heathenry, the Vanir and how a blót works if interested!

Monday, March 19th, 6 – 8 pm: Dark Moon Drum Circle

Shake off your winter blues, connect with the rhythm and learn some new grooves with percussionist Rachel Elizabeth. The Dark Moon Drum Circle will begin with a brief workshop to help people get comfortable playing together. A drum circle is a celebration of life, community, and music-making in the moment. Please bring hand drums, shakers and other hand percussion. A few small hand drums will be available if you do not have your own.

Friday, March 23rd, 7:45 pm: Ostara Ritual

Join Frederick CUUPS for an open, family-friendly Ostara Ritual! On the first day of Spring, when day and night are balanced, Pagans honor that balance and seek it within while rejoicing in the stirrings of life in Nature. We will share an Ostara celebration (led by Irene and Chris). Potluck to follow, please clearly LABEL any offerings with the ingredients included.

Saturday, March 31st, 7:30 pm – Blue Moon Labyrinth Walk & Potluck!

Celebrate the Blue Moon with Frederick CUUPS! A Blue Moon occurs during the second full moon of a calendar month. This Blue Moon, join us for a Labyrinth walk as well as a Divination night (give or receive readings) and potluck! Please clearly LABEL potluck offerings with the ingredients they contain. The labyrinth will be illuminated from 7:30 - 9:30 pm. Everyone is welcome. During the cooler months, we take our Labyrinth practice indoors, and will be walking the Rainbow Seed Labyrinth, a canvas Classical-pattern Labyrinth. Please remember clean socks or slippers to walk the Labyrinth in. Please plan to arrive by 9 pm at the latest to allow enough time for your walk. Divination practice is welcome - please feel free to bring your preferred divinatory tool (runes, tarot, ogham, etc) to practice/trade readings. Or, just stop by for a reading! Recommended donation of \$5.

Topic: Crisis, Immigration, and Imagination

How Immigration Crises Birthed Early Jesus Movements

April 13-14, 2018
Washington, DC

What if New Testament and related texts were not written to start a new religion but to address massive dislocations of populations within the Roman Empire? Inspired by 21st-century diaspora studies, scholars from Westar's Christianity Seminar will revisit this literature as texts expressing diverse elements of resistance and imagination. What new interpretations of popular "Christian" texts result from this approach? How does the ingenuity of current migrants and refugees spark new spiritual and social inspiration now?

If the above link won't work, here is the actual address:

<https://www.westarinstitute.org/upcoming-events-calendar/washingtondc-2018/>

~~Sea Raven



Retired UU Men Eating Out (RUUMEO)

1st and 3rd Wednesday Every Month!!

8:00am at the Golden Corral on Rte. 355.

We are not certain of our influence, but this is the 4th restaurant we have met in. In order, these restaurants have closed since RUUMEO began: Mimi's, Barbara Fritchie's, Double TT's.

Look out Golden Corral!



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

2nd– Keith Low; 3rd – Phillip Kolb; 5th – Laurel Ady; 6th Dave Hutchins; 7th – Ned Collins-Chase; 8th – Jasmine Whims; 11th – Kathy Sargent, Peter Singley; 12th – Rick Mead; 14th – Sandra Rogers; 17th – Ivy O'Keefe; 18th – Michael Askounes; 19th – Sandy LeMessurier 20th – Elaine Lynch; 21st – Gary Hayes; 22nd – Bridget Macusi; 23rd – Karen Butler, Lila Grace; 24th – Megan John, Haven Silvio; 25th – Tom Simpson; 26th – Susan Brousseau; 27th – Jim Bryant, Alexa Gleaton, Nadia Remaley; 28th – Patricia Spicer; 29th - Sam Norris

UUCF BOOK CLUB

Friday, March 9, 7:30pm

The UUCF book club will meet this month at the home of Nancy and Dave Hutchins, 6890 Crabapple Ct, Frederick, 301-668-8213.

The book for discussion is *A Gentleman in Moscow*. Written by Amor Towles, The Washington Post describes the book as "a charming reminder of what it means to be classy."

All are welcome.

~~Diana Pitcher
djpitcher4@gmail.com

Retired UU Ladies Eating Out (RUULEO) March 13,

11:30am-1:30pm

RUULEO will meet in Wegman's Lounge at 11:30 am for lunch and good company. The have a huge buffet bar. Come join us ladies for lunch. Call Marj 301-693-6195 for more info if needed.

See you there.

IN OUR HEARTS

We deeply grieve the loss of Doug Foard, one of the most loving, giving members of our congregation. Doug taught, preached, laughed, and told the best stories we had ever heard.

No one can replace him and we hold Ann in our hearts.

A memorial service is planned for later in March.

"Sip and Stitch"

— a group of needle-crafters started by UUCF women, have been providing knitted toys and blankets to the Family Services Office at City of Frederick Housing Authority.

The hand-made items are included in "welcome baskets" for new families as they move into their homes.

~~Meg Menke



UUMAC

ADOPT-A-ROAD is March 3, 9:00am by the sheds in the UUCF parking lot. Lots to do. We could really use the help! (And a Chalice Group just might provide some snacks!)

~~Dave Hutchins

Call/Text 301-667-4267

Note: Kol Ami will be here on Saturday morning as well, so please park towards the back of the lot and be mindful of their access to the building and grounds.

~~Karen Reilly

Recharging. That's the theme for our Mid-Atlantic UU Retreat (UUMAC) this summer. What better time to let *yourself* RECHARGE than a week this summer surrounded by open, loving, insightful, inclusive Unitarian Universalists from our mid-Atlantic states? Friendships are waiting to be made.

So join us for a week which is as relaxing—or as action-packed—as you like, and RECHARGE:

*July 8 - 14, 2018 at DeSales University, just outside Center Valley, PA.

*Click [here](#) for a testimonial video about the camp.

*Talk to Ashely or Kevin Lynn, to Sabrina Smith or to Ann Andrex for first hand information.

*Or visit the [UUMAC website](#) to read all about the week. And there may be someone you know leading one of the workshops!

[REGISTRATION](#) IS NOW OPEN!

~~Ann Andrex

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Publications

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on the 28th
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noon; e-mailed/web posted on Thursdays
Submission address: frederickuu.org/announce