

The Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Harford County



Building Liberal Religious Community — Please Join Us!

June 2017

Our Sunday Schedule

Childcare 9:00 am - 12 noon
Worship and Church School 10:30 am

June Sermons

Sharing Our Stories and Songs

UUFHC Sunday Service Choir and Members June 4
Join us for a morning of Stories and Songs. This is a special service featuring the UUFHC Sunday Service Choir and several UUFHC members. We will learn a bit more about these members of our community and hear several of the lovely pieces, which the choir added to their repertoire in the 2016-2017 church year.

RE Service Bridging and Volunteer Recognition

Stephanie Kalka June 11
Today is our annual RE Volunteer Recognition and Bridging Ceremony. We celebrate the multi-generational culture of our community, interweaving the wisdom we share and the stages of life we companion.

Today is the Social Justice Collection.

Stay for the fabulous UUFHC annual picnic!

Just Like My Dad Did

Rev. Carol Thomas Cissel June 18
In the rush of spring's arrival, Mother's Day, Graduation celebrations, Flower Communion Sunday and the school year drawing to a close, we can lose sight of Father's Day. A tie or a gift card—or a phone call, may be all that mark it. This morning we will honor and remember our Dads and the special place they hold in our lives—with words and music.

Annual Poetry Service

Hazel Hopkins and Carol Bindel, leaders June 25
All writers of poetry and/or poetry lovers are invited to participate in this service. Readers are invited to read one or two poems: poems others have written, poems they have written, or one of each. Consider sharing favorites you turn to for comfort or laughter, in sorrow or delight. Please notify Hazel Hopkins

(hazelhopkins2@gmail.com) or Carol Bindel (carol.bindel@gmail.com) to indicate interest in participating.

Rev. Carol's Corner

Dear Ones,

WE'VE BEEN UNITED as a community for one Intentional Interim year; and our time together is nearing its natural end. It will officially draw to a close on July 31, 2017. It has been challenging and meaningful sharing the past year with you. I feel certain that we are all headed forward with open hearts and minds, and ready to take the next steps on our different spiritual journeys.



My last Sunday preaching in the pulpit will be June 18, 2017. I will spend July physically away from UUFHC on vacation and study leave—but I will be available to you via email and phone. I'll also pack and move out of the Minister's office in July. Your new minister will begin on August 15.

For UUFHC to enter new ground, it's important that I am not present as you plan next steps, find new ways of being together; and welcome new visitors and members to this community. Additionally, as many of you may know, in order to clear the way for new ministerial leadership in a congregation, the UUA recommends that I not be in contact with UUFHC members for at least a full year after my departure.

Please know this: I will always hold you in my heart. I believe that our chosen religion, Unitarian Universalism, and the UUFHC community have enriched my life. I hope the same is true for you too. I deeply respect the work we have done together, and

I have no doubt that each of you and this congregation will continue to grow and prosper.

Love and Blessings.

See You In Church!
- Rev. Carol

From Our President

As I start down this new path, I would first like to thank Bob Blackstock for his years of leadership. We had many changes during his tenure—physical, spiritual, some sad, many joyous. Bob worked tirelessly to do what was best for UUFHC and I am grateful for his dedication, long hours and ability to keep us moving forward.

“I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.”

- Mother Teresa

How do I feel as the in-coming board president? I can truly say that I feel full of promise. We have many exciting times ahead of us at UUFHC and I am delighted to undertake this challenge! Our Board has a great deal of work to tackle this year as we begin to examine our working operations and explore areas that may be ready for change and growth and begin some serious planning and goal setting.

How can you help the board continue to move our congregation forward during this time of transition? As a former middle school principal (yes, I survived that career!), I felt very strongly about shared leadership and honest, open and two-way communication. If you have suggestions, concerns, feedback or just have an idea, please feel free to contact me about any of it. E-mail or text will get a faster response, but I do occasionally check the old landline! I am grateful for your trust in me and look forward to beginning this new journey together: president@uufhc.net or dlrudolph@zoominternet.net, (443) 553-1093 (cell phone) or (410) 658-3909 (land line).



- Diana Rudolph,
Board President

Religious Education

Being a Family

There was a golden retriever named Hugo and a parrot named Mrs. Skittles. They lived with their person. They enjoyed each other's company and spent their days playing and looking out the window. One day, their person brought home a new member of the family: a kitten named Gizmo.

Gizmo made a great addition to the family. Hugo and Mrs. Skittles took good care of her and made sure she was safe. After a couple weeks, Gizmo had to go to the vet for a check-up.

In the waiting room at the vet's, while sitting in her carrier, she saw an adult cat in a carrier across from her. "Good morning!" she said, "I'm Gizmo. What's your name?"

"Mmmmeow. Margaret." replied Margaret.

"Have you been to the vet before, Miss Margaret? I haven't! I bet it's going to be fun!" Gizmo exclaimed.

"Well, you certainly are polite if not well informed, Gizmo." answered Margaret.

"My mom tells me to remember to say, 'please and thank you.' She also says to be friendly and kind."

"Your mom sounds like a smart cat," said Margaret.

Gizmo clarified, "Oh, she's not a cat at all. She's a parrot and her name's Mrs. Skittles."

Margaret was shocked. "What? A **Parrot**? But a parrot can't be your mother!"

"Yes, she can. She and Dad have been taking care of me since I was adopted," Gizmo responded.

"Well, this is just too much. Your father is a cat, yes?"

"Nope! He's a dog."

"A.... dog?"

"A big one, too! His name is Hugo and he weighs 105 pounds!" Gizmo proudly declared.

"How can a dog and a parrot be your parents?" Margaret was incredulous.

“Well, when I was adopted, Hugo and Mrs. Skittles said they’d take care of me and keep me safe and be my forever family. They love me.”

“But they’re not your **Real** parents!” said Margaret.

Gizmo spoke the honestly and clearly, “They **Are** my parents—just not my birth parents.”

“But, but, but... who teaches you to...” Margaret whispered, “use the litter box?”

“My foster mom taught me that weeks ago.”

Margaret continued to question Gizmo. “Who teaches you to ignore the humans?”

“Why would I want to do that?” Gizmo asked.

“Good gracious, who teaches you to hate dogs and birds? Who teaches you to puke on the rug?” Margaret demanded.

Gizmo happily replied, “Dad was happy to show me that trick. And he snuggles me at night so I don’t get cold. Mom sings to me in the morning and Dad showed me how to make my eyes wide and glassy so our person will give us a snack. They’ve shown me so many things.”

“Well, it sounds like a family...”

“We are a family! One **kind** of family. Mom says there are many, many kinds of families.” Even though she was a kitten, Gizmo appeared to be much more informed than Margaret.

“But how is that possible?”

“A family is possible when you can depend on each other for caring, guidance, and support. My parents said they’ll always be there for me.” Gizmo felt very happy to be able to educate her new friend, Margaret.

Margaret had to admit, “That sounds... amazing.”

“It is. I’m very lucky and so are they—they told me so.” Gizmo smiled.

Looking toward the exam area, Margaret heard Gizmo’s name being called. “Well, it looks like it’s your turn to see the vet.”

Gizmo was elated. “Oh boy! Yay!”

“Tell your parents...” Margaret paused and smiled at the tiny kitten, “they’re doing a fantastic job.”

Here’s what’s happening in RE:

- **June 4:** The last class of the regular RE calendar year! Please join us!
- **June 11:** The **Bridging Ceremony/RE Volunteer Thank You**, 10:30 am to 11:30 am **The UUFHC Picnic** begins immediately following the service. There will be games and a bouncy house!
- **June 16:** **Parent Support Group** 5:45 pm to 8:30 pm
- **June 18:** Father’s Day Lesson and Rev. Carol’s Last Sermon
- **June 25:** Summer programming begins



- *Stephanie Kalka, DRE*

Corner on Finance

My introduction to my role as UUFHC Treasurer could not have been more pleasant. We have such a strong financial team and all seems to be in great shape. There is a large group of people involved in running the fiscal health of our community under the leadership of the Finance Chair, Kay Saucier. All work together to make sure everything is in order. My part will be to ensure that income resources (pledges, rentals, fundraisers, etc.) properly get from the source to the expense in a manner that is fiscally responsible and understandable to everyone.

I have spent the last month learning the system and understanding my part in it. The members who make up both the former and current team are here to help. All seem to be doing their best to make the system work for you. What we will be immediately focusing on is setting up the new books (our fiscal year runs from May 1 to April 30), closing out the old, and putting in place the many actions needed to make that happen.

One major effort is to reconcile pledges from last year. Members with unpaid pledges will be receiving a letter from me reminding them of any balance due to the

Fellowship. Members who have satisfied their last-years pledge won't receive a letter. Those that do will be informed of their pledge, and what we have recorded as paid. When paying, be sure to indicate that the payment is for the previous year pledge.

As I learn my job, I will be learning how to keep you informed. We have great prospects for growth in this year of abundance. Our membership is growing, our willingness to support our Fellowship is evident, and we are poised to venture forth with a new minister. It is an exciting time to be part of UUFHC.



- Rob Lieb,
Treasurer

Building and Grounds News

There are so many good things happening around the Fellowship, and Buildings and Grounds is no exception. As you enter, gaze to the right and you will see 700 hundred little plants peeking at you from our new environmental demonstration garden. These are native plants that are meant to grow into a lovely ground cover. The county gave us grant money for the plants, and in return we are to weed, water and allow people to see the results. This we hope will bring people to the Fellowship as well as beautify our surroundings. The fact that it is to become maintenance free won't hurt either. The work involved a day of preparation and general grounds clean-up and a day of planting and more general yard work. It was all made possible by the contribution of the following people:

Julie Akers, Carol Bindel, Dick Calvert, Leigh Faunce, B. Hopkins, Marty, Sara Morton, Bob Veidt, Ami Silberman, Jim Stewart, and Nick Waldron. And working both days were Noreen Anderson, Bob Blackstock, Pat McQuate, Rick Saucier, Trish Tatam and Cindy Veidt.

It was really wonderful to have so many people respond to the call, and we couldn't have done it without all hands on board. Thank you!

The yard isn't the only area to receive a facelift. We have our Esthetics Committee to thank for all their touches inside. I'm sure you have noticed the curtains which have greatly enhanced the look and feel of the coat room hallway. We have matching tablecloths, "stylish" recycle bins, and little touches like picture

placement. The committee also deliberated on colors for our new siding. Joy Mullen came out in the rain using her walker to study colors. When you see them, also thank Judi Walkley, Darlene Rothwell and Noreen Anderson. The Fellowship has a new look outside too, one made necessary by the deterioration of our old siding. While we loved our "old" home, we hope the new will be just as loved.

The mason who was going to repair our old sign base is unable to do so. I hope by the time you read this, a replacement will have been found and our new sign will greet you as you enter.

And last but not least, work will begin in early May on our new furnace and air conditioning for the sanctuary. It is to be placed in a closet constructed in the Children's Library. Space will remain for the library. This location will allow the furnace to be maintained and operate more efficiently and will not necessitate tearing out the ceiling of the coat room hall.

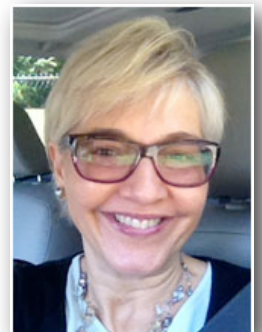
One more "last." Rob Lieb has resigned as B&G co-chair to take on the Treasurer's position, and Jim Stewart has agreed to fill his shoes on B&G. Thank you, Rob, for all your help and a big "welcome" to Jim.

- Cindy Veidt

Welcome to Our New Minister

Great News! The interim minister search team has found a minister! We are excited to welcome Maria McCabe to UUFHC starting August 15.

[María E. McCabe](#) served the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Restoration as intern minister and Director of Social Justice and Community Ministries. A graduate of Lancaster Theological Seminary in May 2014, María will be ordained to the Unitarian Universalist ministry on June 4, 2017 at First Unitarian Church of Wilmington.



María fell in love with Unitarian Universalism almost thirteen years ago, after a lifetime of spiritual seeking. She has been a television journalist, Leadership Communication consultant, homeschooling mom and lifelong social activist. She will tell you that serving as a minister is what she was always meant to do.

She brings to ministry a deep passion for the work of social justice, especially in the areas of economic and racial justice. A native speaker of Spanish, María grew up in a bilingual, bi-cultural and biracial home. Her personal history fuels her vision of inclusive and just community.

María also serves as liturgist on the Lancaster Theological Seminary Worship Team where she feels privileged to work with a talented team, dedicated to spirit-filled worship.

She lives with her husband Mike and her elderly cat Nemo in Kennett Square, PA. Her daughters Morgan and Alix frequently come home for a good meal and help with their laundry.

You can find out more about her ministry at www.mariauittimccabe.com.

Unitarians and Universalists in Maryland Education: Don Speed Smith Goodloe (June 2, 1878-September 2, 1959)

American history recounts many UUs through the last 200 plus years whose vocation was to educate America's children. Many names: Horace Mann, Elizabeth Peabody, and Bronson Alcott are but three.

In this account, we highlight an African American from Lowell, Kentucky “founding principal of what is now Bowie State University, [who] was the first African-American graduate of Meadville Theological School, the Unitarian seminary in Meadville, Pennsylvania. He began his post-secondary education at Knoxville College in Tennessee, a segregated normal school founded by Presbyterians for the training of black teachers, ministers, industrial craftsmen, and farmers. At Knoxville, Goodloe observed first hand the implementation of Booker T. Washington's educational philosophy, which he would later follow in Bowie, Maryland. Blacks should receive moral training and a practical industrial education, learning skills such as brick making, carpentry, and agriculture along with training in teaching and business. At Knoxville, students built most of the buildings on campus, cut the timber, and made a million bricks on site. There Goodloe met



his future wife, a local woman named Fannie Carey, who would graduate from Knoxville.”

We quote from the UUA Dictionary of Unitarian Universalist Biography which can be found at www.uudb.org. This biography was authored by Richard Morris. Goodloe's story continues: “After studying at Knoxville, Goodloe moved on to Berea College, a racially integrated school in Kentucky. This college was established in 1855 by Presbyterian abolitionist John Gregg Fee, who believed in true equality among the races. Fee opened Berea's doors to all races, genders, and classes, and never charged tuition – all students were expected to work. About half of Berea students were black and half white until 1904 when Kentucky passed a law requiring schools to be segregated, as permitted by the 1896 landmark U.S. Supreme Court *Plessy v. Ferguson* decision, which upheld the constitutionality of ‘separate but equal.’ Goodloe and Fannie were married in 1899, and he began his career as principal of a black public school at Newport, Tennessee, fifty miles east of Knoxville, from 1899-1900.”

Have I piqued your interest? Do you want to know how Goodloe became the founding principal of Bowie State University in Maryland? I hope so! Allow the lives and words of many Unitarians and Universalists to speak to you as they have to me over the years. Good summer reading!

Respectfully,
- JoAnn Macdonald

[Editor's note: In fact, the UU church in Bowie is called the Goodloe Memorial Unitarian Universalist Congregation.]

Holiday Bazaar Planning in May!

We are starting our planning early so everyone has time to collect items for the White Reindeer Table and make crafts.



By the time you read this article we will have had a meeting of volunteers who will help with the planning. We can always use more people for help in planning and any ideas you may have for this event.

When is it?
Friday, December 1 and Saturday, December 2

What can I do to help?

Provide us with your donations of New Holiday Items and gently used items. The items you donate do not have to be Christmas things. Some examples include:

- Pottery, art work, vases, anything that is in good condition and you think would sell on the White Reindeer table
- Holiday decorations, wreaths, wall hangings
- Homemade crafts: Knits, crocheted, quilted items
- Scarves, pottery, wood items, bird houses, painted Christmas pieces
- Baked goodies. Cookies, breads, pies, jellies, jams, cakes and fudge
- Gently used books hard cover and paper back

If you are not artsy-crafty, there are lots of other jobs to do.

- Help assemble food table and White Reindeer table
- Help with the book table
- Help set up prior to the bazaar and help with clean up
- We will need table keepers, hall monitors, sales help

The Committee has lots to think about and lots to do. We will have a few planning meetings over the next few months and all are welcome to join. If you have any questions or ideas please contact Noreen Anderson (nor_33@yahoo.com) or Sara Morton (sarapmorton@gmail.com).

- Noreen Anderson

News from the UUA and the Central East Region

UUA Board Appoints Co-Interim Presidents - In light of the resignations of the UUA President, the Chief Operating Officer, and the Congregational Life Director, the Unitarian Universalist Association has appointed three Co-Interim Presidents: the Rev. Sofia Betancourt, the Rev. William G. Sinkford, and Leon Spencer. The Rev. Sarah Lammert is serving as acting Chief Operating Officers. For further news about the changes at the UUA, visit the UU World Magazine website www.uuworld.org/articles/developments-2017-04-01?utm_source=uuworld&utm_medium=front&utm_campaign=picks.

White Supremacy Teach-In - As part of these changes, the UUA has endorsed the White Supremacy Teach-in. More information is available at www.blacklivesuu.com/uuwhitesupremacyteachin/. Nearly half of all UU congregations are joining in. The UUA states: "Whether your UU community has dozens

of members and children of color or just about everyone is white, the commitment to combat white supremacy must be strong and urgent. Battling racism in its many forms are not easy. Everyone has to start somewhere, and it takes commitment to disrupt business as usual." There are also worship resources available at www.blacklivesuu.com/teach-in-resources/.

Worship Web Resources - If your worship team is struggling to find readings and other worship materials, we recommend you visit the Worship Web pages of the UUA website: www.uua.org/worship. This site is filled with readings, stories, chalice lightings and more from a variety of sources on a variety of topics. You can also find advice about copyright and technology use.

The Worship Web team has created special thematic collections that provide resources on topics such as Black Lives Matter, Standing on the Side of Love, Worship in Tough Times, Ecological Disasters, and more!

UUSJ Lists Accomplishments for the Year

The Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice (UUSJ) has been working to mobilize UUs and congregations in the DC, Northern Virginia and Maryland to advocate at the federal policy level. Currently, the group is focusing on three vital social justice areas: Environment/Climate Change, Immigration Reform, and Income Inequality.

UUSJ's recent accomplishments during the past year include

- a new volunteer UUSJ Capital Hill Advocacy Corps has discussed issues with policymakers, including members of Congress and their staffs, on the second Tuesday of each month.
- UUSJ delivered more than 1,000 letters to Capitol Hill from UUs across the nation as part of their "Write Here, Write Now" letter writing campaign
- UUSJ co-sponsored with UUs for a Just Economic Community a national advocacy conference on healthcare. There were participants from 16 states.
- UUSJ conducted advocacy trainings with four UU congregations on how to engage effectively with our elective representatives.
- UUSJ mobilized UUs for the Women's March, the March for Science, the People's Climate March, and the May Day marches.

You can become a member of UUSJ with a tax deductible donation of \$40 or more. To learn more about UUSJ and find out about upcoming events, go

to their website at www.uusj.org. You can also find out about UUSJ's presence on Facebook and Twitter.

General Assembly Meets This Month

The Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly meets at the Ernest J. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans, LA June 21-25. There is a lot going on in the five days of the convention. The first day includes orientation sessions for adults, young adults and youth, as well as the Welcome and Opening Session and the Banner Parade.

Each Day there are General Sessions to discuss UUA business including By-Law Changes, the draft Statement of Conscience on Escalating Inequality and the 2017 report of the Commission on Social Witness. There may also be discussions over the recent controversy that caused the resignation of President Peter Morales and two other staff members.

On other days attendees can choose from over 100 workshops, lectures and panel presentations. Each day includes services; most notable are the Service of the Living Tradition on Day 2. The service honors newly fellowshiped ministers and credentialed religious educators as well as retiring professionals and those who have died since the last General Assembly. On Day 5, the Sunday Morning worship service is open to the public.

One highlight of the General Assembly is the annual Ware lecture. This year Bryan Stevenson, founder and Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, AL delivers the lecture. Stevenson was recently named in *Fortune Magazine's* 2016 World's Latest Leaders list.

Another highlight is the Presidential Election. On Day 3 of the Assembly there will be the Candidates' forum followed by voting. Results are announced on Day 4. This year offers three female candidates: the Rev. Jeanne Pupke, the Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray and the Rev. Alison Miller. Because there are three candidates, UUA will use a ranked choice voting process: the second choice vote may be crucial this election.

Registration is still open, however if live attendance is not an option, some of the events will be available for live streaming through the UUA website, www.uua.org. Note that times listed are Central time. The streaming will include general sessions, services, the presidential Candidates' forum and the Ware lecture. After the General Assembly streaming will continue on demand.

Remembrances of Summers Past at UUFHC

The Poetry Service on June 25 begins the UUFHC summer season. Many members look forward to hearing our resident theologians and guest speakers give talks on what's on their minds. There will be a summer newsletter listing the services in July and August. But for more than half of UUFHC's history the Fellowship was closed during the summer months. Members left in June and didn't return until September. Some of this was due to lack of air-conditioning; but many just looked forward to the break.

When the Rev. Alice Blair Wesley came to serve us, she convinced the Board to make UUFHC a year-round church and we've had summer services since about 1989.

Religious Education offerings have increased over the years. We didn't offer formal classes in the 90s –just augmented child care, but since 1996 the RE department did hold a week-long summer camp, similar to the K-5 camp offered now. RE Summer Sunday offerings increased, including Arts in August with members sharing their interests and hobbies.

Now it's hard to imagine UUFHC without summer services. And with the addition of air-conditioning, we won't have that excuse to keep us away from the Fellowship.

- Kay Saucier

Church Picnic after Service on June 11



- After our worship service, we will have our annual picnic— *Disney Castle MoonBounce* and all!
- The church will provide paper goods as well as lemonade, tea, and water.
- Please bring an entrée for your family and a dish to share with all. Tables for side dishes and a hot grill will be ready for you.
- Members are asked to bring lawn chairs and/or blankets to sit on.
- Middle school youth will provide activities for the children. Anyone care to take on family activities/games such as mother/daughter wheelbarrow races, etc.? Contact office@uufhc.net.
- This event will be held indoors if we have inclement weather.

The Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship of Harford County
2515 Churchville Road
Churchville, MD 21028

Building Liberal Religious Community
Please Join Us!

Sunday Services: 10:30 am; coffee follows

Please visit us online at www.uufhc.net



Please note: Next Newsletter Deadline: Sunday, June 11, 2017



Minister:	The Rev. Carol Thomas Cissel
Director of Religious Education:	Stephanie Kalka
Administrative Assistant:	Karen Kurrle
Newsletter Editor:	Kay Saucier
Webmaster:	Rick Saucier

Fellowship Office Hours (Karen Kurrle):
Tues, Wed & Thurs: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Minister's Office Hours:
Tues: 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
Wed: 10:30 am to 3:30 pm
Thurs: 12:00 am to 8:00 pm
and by appointment

Director of Religious Education Office Hours:
Mon, Tues, Wed & Thurs: 9:30 am to 2:00 pm
Fri: Day Off

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Wayside Pulpit

The man who wants to make me change my religion surely does so only because he would not change his, even if forced: he thinks it strange, then, that I do not do something he would not do himself perhaps for the whole world.

– Montesquieu