

The Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Harford County



Building Liberal Religious Community – Please Join Us!

October 2018

Our Sunday Schedule

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

October Sermons

No Human Being Is Illegal

Rev. Maria McCabe

October 7

If we take seriously our First Principle which calls us to honor the inherent worth and dignity of every individual, how should we participate in a debate that designates hundreds of thousands of human beings as “illegal”?

Guest preacher in the pulpit.

To be announced

October 14

Watch the NUUwsbytes and the Order of Service for information on this Sunday’s service. Information not yet available at press time but it’s certain to be wonderful.

Social Justice Collection this Sunday!

A potluck luncheon follows the service.

Sanctuary

Rev. Maria McCabe

October 21

In medieval England, folks fleeing from the law could take refuge for 40 days near the altar of any church they were able to reach without being apprehended. The congregation was bound to feed and host that individual until the end of the 40 days. Is there an opportunity or even an obligation for today’s faith communities to offer a place of safety for those living on the margins of society?

Samhain

Worship Committee

October 28

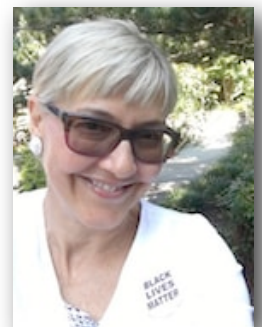
As October turns to November, thousands of Witches, Wiccans, Druids, and other Pagans across America, Canada, Europe, and elsewhere observe the sacred time of Samhain. Samhain is a festival of the Dead. Meaning “Summer’s End” and pronounced saah-win or saa-ween, Samhain is a celebration of the end of the harvest and the start of the coldest half of the year. For many practitioners Samhain is also the beginning of the

spiritual new year. Come explore the ritual of Samhain with us. Cindy Curry, Laura Paligo, Stacey Syvarth and Bess Hutt will lead today’s service.

From Our Minister

“We are all longing to go home to some place we have never been.”

- Starhawk



HOW OFTEN DO WE LONG

FOR that place where we will

feel safe and protected from all harm? How often do we long to return to a time in our lives when everything might have seemed simple and uncomplicated? Our theme for October is “sanctuary” and it is a theme that has particular meaning for those of who participate in religious community.

A sanctuary is not per se a safe place, it is a holy place, much as a “saint” is a holy person. When Christian churches in medieval England began to offer a place of safety to folks fleeing from arrest, the practice came to be known as “sanctuary.” If the individual was able to reach and touch the altar of a church without being arrested, they could not be taken into custody for 40 days. The church community was legally bound to keep them safe and feed them for the entire time.

The practice saved lives, and as some historians point out, offered time for negotiation. At the end of the 40 days, the accused would often be forced to give up all of their worldly goods and go into exile for the rest of their lives. But if the negotiations had been successful, there might be pardon and even restitution.

Today’s New Sanctuary Movement, which is a full partner with the Unitarian Universalist Association, engages congregations of many faiths in the practice of offering support to undocumented immigrants who face

increasingly harsh penalties in our current political climate. This support can take many forms, up to and including the actual housing of an undocumented individual or even a family while negotiations proceed with ICE, the office of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

How might a congregational conversation about sanctuary engage us at UUFHC? Does it offer us an opportunity to live more deeply into our faith and build community partnerships with a growing network of congregations and organizations committed to immigration justice?

It is a complex and most pressing issue. And there are numerous ways of becoming involved and making a genuine impact. Let's talk!

- Warmly, *Rev. María*

From Our President

No one can whistle a symphony. It takes a whole orchestra to play it.

- *H. E. Luccock*

UUFHC is a fabulous "orchestra," but we do need all our players participating to make this beautiful music! The new church year is the perfect opportunity to get involved in the many activities, committees, adult and child education programs or our social justice opportunities.

- Do you want to help with the Holiday Bazaar? Contact Noreen Anderson.
- Do you like to organize, decorate and paint? Checkout the Aesthetics Committee with Darlene Rothwell.
- Willing to donate flowers or make coffee? Sign up in the front lobby.
- Want to get involved in social justice? Contact Tammy Gappen.
- Interested in attending a retreat? See Beth Wood-Roig.
- Looking for spiritual enrichment? Pick up a brochure in the front lobby.
- Would you like to help with the auction (April 13)? See Diana Rudolph.
- Like to plan social activities? See Allison Ehrman.

We have many opportunities for involvement at UUFHC and we need **you** to keep this beautiful symphony playing! If you are just not sure what you would like to do or just want more information, please contact me and

I will help point you in the right direction! Thank you for helping us grow as a congregation.



- *Diana Rudolph,*
Board President

Religious Education

No matter our age, we do better with friends. Friendship is a kind of sanctuary we build together. I have the privilege of watching children meet for the first time in the Nursery. Through the years they look forward to seeing each other every week and cultivate friendships that will last them a lifetime. The same friendships develop with the parents as their kids get to know each other. What a relief it is to have someone who understands us! What a comfort it is to know your friend will laugh at the same jokes and cry the same tears.

Becoming friends isn't difficult—just watch the kids. They exchange names and talk about Minecraft and **BOOM!** Friends! I'm kidding, but it's true that children are generally open and ready to become friends. I wish I could say it was as easy for adults. Somewhere along the line, we lose the thread. There are those who are overwhelmed and don't feel they have the energy to nurture a new friendship. Some have lost touch with friends and they've forgotten how much friendship adds to their lives. Whatever the reason, we can find ourselves living a lonely life.

Parenting can be especially lonely. Childcare, transporting children, correcting behaviors, managing a household, and working can take up a parent's energy so all they want to do is collapse at the end of the day. Forget reaching out to a friend! This is even more true for single parents, yet this is the time a friend is needed most. If a parent's well runs dry, they have nothing left to give. In the end, we need to treat ourselves as a friend, too. If you saw a friend ploughing through a series of endless tasks, you'd say, "Hey, friend, let's take a break and get a cup of coffee/see a movie/take a walk together." They might resist at first but soon they would see that they desperately needed your friendship and care. We can do this for ourselves, too. Speak to yourself gently as a friend would. You will feel lighter in the end and energized.

UUFHC provides many opportunities for friendship. On any given Sunday, there will be someone who will be

glad to get to know you. There are many Adult Education programs with childcare available, so don't let that stop you, parents! Parents Support Group is the second Friday of the month and you are welcome to join us. I know what you're thinking, "The last thing I want to do on a Friday evening is load the kids into the car and go somewhere!" but I promise you won't regret it. First of all, dinner is provided, so you don't have to cook. Second, we have childcare so after dinner, the children head to the RE Wing and the parents circle up in the Sanctuary. We do a check-in with everyone and discuss a topic that is important to us as UU parents. By the time everyone leaves, they feel less stressed and ready for the weekend.

Life is hard and we struggle to do our best. Friendship carries us through the tough times and is the added sparkle during the good times. I'm happy to know you and call you my friend.

Here's what's happening this month in Religious Education:

October 7: The **RE Committee Meeting** will follow the service. Do you have a question or concern? Ask one of the committee members and we will discuss it during a meeting. Members: Candace Crew (Chair), Brenna Kupferman, Alison Rainey, Emily Whaley, Emily Knowles, and Susan Lang.

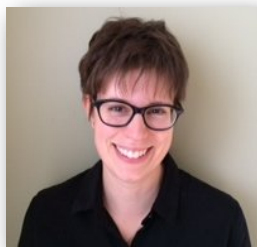
October 12: Parent Support Group will meet from 5:45 pm to 8:00 pm. We will share a light dinner of pizza, salad, and dessert. After dinner, the kids will go with caregivers to the RE Wing and the parents will talk. The cost is \$5 per family—unless you'd like to bring a salad or dessert, and then there will be no charge! Please RSVP dre@uufhc.net

October 14: Children's Worship for PreK-3rd Grade: Children's Worship provides an opportunity for students in preschool through 5th grade to interact through music, stories, games, and crafts. **Young Leaders for 4th-5th Grade:** Young Leaders is an opportunity for makerspace and service activities. **JYG (6th-8th Grade):** Junior Youth Group is a chance for middle school youth to build community through different activities. The **Youth (9th-12th Grade)** will join the adults in the service. Classes end at 11:30 am.

October 28: The **Halloween Party** will take place during the service. Costumes are encouraged!

See you around the RE Wing!

- Stephanie Kalka, DRE



Corner on Finance

Nothing Spooky about UUFHC Finances

Sometimes being responsible for a big part of the finances of an entire congregation can feel spooky. I sometimes wake up in the middle of the night from a nightmare in which I forgot to make a deposit, I didn't get the finance report out on time, some catastrophe gobbled up all of our reserves, or all your pledge information was lost due to a crashed computer. What a relief to wake up and realize that, instead of the Halloween spooks playing havoc with financial records, I am actually the treasurer of a fiscally healthy and responsible congregation, with no money goblins lurking in the shadows. However, be assured nothing spooky happens with UUFHC finances.

Well, to make sure that the goblins are held at bay, the Finance Committee has decided to move the financial record keeping into the cloud. Now, in case of a fire or computer crash destroying our financial records, we have the information outside the Fellowship in a backed-up, secure location with easy access when we need it. In addition, the team who maintains those records can now access them anytime, day or night, from any secure location – the church, their home, or even their laptop while away from home. This is a great convenience for our volunteers. Up to five people can have access to the cloud site from any secure device anytime they wish.

So, the good news is that things are fine. In addition, as we grow and become more complex, the financial team is improving the shape of our fiscal processes to keep us healthy, better informed and ready for the future.



- Rob Lieb, Treasurer

Holiday Bazaar

**Remember the Dates: Friday
November 30, 9:00 am to
8:00 pm and Saturday
December 1, 8:00 am to 2:00
pm at UUFHC**



Time to collect some beautiful Christmas things you love but do not need and donate to the Bazaar. We are in need of lots of items for the White Reindeer table. Also, we can use other items that are gently used and not Christmas related. Things such as

dog or cat items, cooking items, jewelry, bird things and games, anything that you think might sell.

The committee is looking for people willing to bake cookies for the Cookie Walk. Last year the Cookie Walk was very successful. In October there will be sign-up sheets for anyone interested in helping with the two days of the Bazaar and anyone interested in baking cookies.

If interested in donating items, please leave them at the Church in the coat area behind the curtains and put your name on the items. Thanks in advance for helping.

If you have any questions please contact Noreen Anderson at nor_33@yahoo.com.

Exploring Membership Information Sessions

Frequent Visitors: Interested in becoming a Member of UUFHC? The Membership Committee will offer three "Exploring Membership" sessions this year for individuals considering membership to learn more about Unitarian Universalism, our congregation, our religious education program, and our collective beliefs and values. Membership in our Fellowship of free faith is open to all who find it in their hearts to embrace the work and ministries of Unitarian Universalism. Interested people may sign up at the Greeters' Table in the Lobby. Childcare is available upon request.

First Session:

- Session I: October 28, 12 noon to 1:30 pm, Board room
- Session II: October 30, Tuesday, 7:00 to 8:30 pm with Rev. María
- Session III: November 4, 12:30 to 1:30 pm, Board room
- Signing the Membership Book, November 11

Second Session:

- Session I: January 13, 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm, Board room
- Session II: January 20, 12 noon to 1:30 pm, Board room
- Session III January 23, Wednesday, 7:00 to 8:30 pm with Rev. María
- Signing the Membership Book, February 3

Third Session:

- Session I: March 24, 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm, Board room

- Session II March 27, Wednesday, 7:00 to 8:30 pm with Rev María
- Session III March 31, 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm, Board room
- Signing the Membership Book, April 7

Questions? Please see Beth Wood-Roig or Hazel Hopkins for more information.

Volunteer of the Month

Despite being one-handed this summer, **Jessica Brockmeyer** still worked hard to make sure that Culture Camp was another resounding success! She researched recipes, crafts, games and the history of each country and Jess even used her creativity and dedication to make the Power Point presentations. She has been a fantastic volunteer presence in the RE wing and the RE Committee is truly grateful for all that she has done to help make the program so successful.



Way to go, Jess! You are truly appreciated! Enjoy that special parking place!

- Diana Rudolph

October Birthdays

Alix Ann Callan	October 4
Kimberly Roberts	October 6
Candace Crew	October 12
Dale Simpson	October 12
Brian Dillard	October 13
Sheila Terry	October 16
Jim Stewart	October 20
Beryl Fleming	October 22
April Fritts	October 22
Inez Buis	October 23
Stuart Bohnet	October 25
Tanya Lynn Tag	October 25
Hazel Hopkins	October 28
Stacey Syvarth	October 30
Susan Knause	October 31

Note that Inez Buis, one of our founding Members, will be celebrating her **100th birthday** this year!

Upcoming Events

The Sharing Table

October 6, 10:00 am to 1:15 pm

Prince of Peace Church, 2600 Willoughby Beach Road, Edgewood

This is UUFHC's turn to host the luncheon. We need 8-10 volunteers to help set up and serve the guests and eight people to make a pasta salad from a one pound box of pasta. Please contact Maureen North (mnorth417@gmail.com) for more information or to volunteer.

Lunch Bunch

2nd and 4th Thursdays beginning October 11

Facilitator: Rev. María McCabe at UUFHC

This year we will explore what it means to live up to our Unitarian Universalist values in this moment of history. Bring your lunch, your mindfulness and your curiosity.

Movement and Meditation

Saturday, October 13, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Bon Secours Retreat and Conference Center in Marriottsville

Beth Wood-Roig will lead this retreat which will help participants explore the relationship between movement, body awareness and mindfulness meditation. This retreat will offer several different movement practices to quiet the mind and pay attention more deeply to the moment to moment experience. Bon Secours has a labyrinth, a peace garden and a koi pond. Lunch and snacks are provided. The cost is \$50 for everything. Contact Beth Wood Roig (bwoodrol@gmail.com) for more information and to arrange car pooling. Register by October 1.

Holly's Hope 5K Run and 1 Mile Walk

Saturday, October 13, 8:00 to 11:00 am

Harford Equestrian Center, 608 N. Tollgate Road, Bel Air

Join the UUFHC to join the team to help SARC end domestic abuse. Register online at www.charmcityrun.com/calendar/hollys-hope-5k-run1-mile-walk

Contact Mark Petrequin for more details (mcpetreq@gmail.com).

End of Life Planning for UUs

Sunday, October 14, 1:00 to 3:00 pm at UUFHC

Have you ever wondered how to navigate the many medical and logistical decisions that come as we face the end of our lives? In this workshop, the Rev. Sage A. Olnick, community minister and long-term Chaplain grounds us in our UU values as we plan for this challenging time for us and our loved ones. Register as

soon as possible at office@uufhc.net. Childcare is available with adequate notice.

Ongoing events include:

Building the World We Dream About - Third Wednesday of the month, September to June, 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

Soul Matters Sharing Circle - First and Third Tuesdays, September through May, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm.

Older Wiser Loving Souls Circle - Second and Fourth Tuesdays of the month, 10:00 to 11:30 am in room 4.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Did you ever wonder why our Silent Witness figures are displayed during the month of October? It's because October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM). This month of remembrance evolved from the "Day of Unity" held in October 1981. The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence intended to connect advocates across the nation who were working to end violence against women and their children. The Day of Unity soon became an entire week, and in 1987, this evolved to a month of awareness about Domestic Violence. Yet there is still a "Day of Unity" within the month—the first Monday in October.

Three themes remain key focus of DVAM events today:

- Mourning those who have died because of Domestic Violence
- Celebrating those who have survived
- Connecting those who work to end violence

In Harford County, our Silent Witness Figures remind us of the toll Domestic Violence takes. One in four women is a victim of severe physical violence by an intimate partner, while one in seven men experiences severe Domestic violence sometime during their lives. But violence can also come in the form of emotional, verbal, sexual abuse and controlling behaviors. Our silent witness figures remind us that domestic violence can be deadly.

Also in October, SARC holds the Holly's Hope 5K and 1 Mile walk. This was first organized by Ethan Brito as a way to honor his Aunt Holly who is a survivor of abuse, and to bring awareness of the SARC services to provide refuge, sanctuary, healing and hope for a better life. If you know of anybody in need of SARC's services, the help line number is (410) 836-8430.

- Kay Saucier

UU Mindful Travel

North Vietnam and Angkor Wat March 15 to 27, 2019

Rev. Wayne Walder and Joan Walder from the Neighbourhood UU Congregation of Toronto will lead a tour of Northern Vietnam and Angkor Wat. They have led over a dozen trips in the last 12 years for UUs and have found that UUs enjoy a shared travel experience with an emphasis on mindful travel. The group will seek to go deeper and to interact more directly with the people and their culture. Daily meditation and reflection are part of the travel experience.

On this trip, travelers will immerse themselves in the scenery, history and traditions of northern Vietnam and Cambodia. Included are visits to monasteries to meditate and learn about Zen and Theravada practices. The trip includes hiking in the natural environment of the Sapa highlands and the ethereal beauty of Halong Bay. At Angkor Wat, travelers will spend time at the abode of ancient gods. There is also an opportunity to extend your stay in Luang Prabang with timeless architecture, gilded temples, and saffron-clad monks.

To find out more about mindful travel and how it differs from a regular vacation, contact Joan Walder at saranac2@gmail.com. She can send you the link to the e-booklet with more information about the trip. This trip is limited to 12-18 participants.

UUSC Offers Resources for Human Rights Activism

The Unitarian Universalism Service Committee sent me an email last month to talk about their new resources for congregations who are working on social justice initiatives regarding Human Rights and Immigration. The team's email stated:

“Without a doubt, in recent months we have witnessed the depths of cruelty and absurdity from those seeking to criminalize immigrants, impede humanitarian aid, and systematically degrade fundamental rights. Yet we have also seen the boundless energy of supporters and partners who have joined us at every turn to counter these attacks.

“United in determination to defend the inherent dignity of every person, people of faith and conscience have

trekked across the harsh Arizona borderlands to leave water for migrants. They have taken to the streets nationwide to demand the White House stop separating children from their parents, and they continue to flood Congress with calls to protect U.S. foreign nationals unable to safely return home due to violence and natural disasters.

“We are inspired every day by the passion and ingenuity of human rights advocates like you, and grateful to collaborate to defend human rights. As part of our commitment to that collaboration, we continue to gather resources to support you in your human rights activism.”

For those interested in developing a social justice program on human rights for our Fellowship, go to www.uusc.org/resources/ to view their tool boxes, including:

- Solidarity and Sanctuary tools - includes webinars and information to support congregations and individuals seeking to provide sanctuary for communities at risk.
- Advocacy and Lobbying tools - tips for lobbying legislators and staff to urge action on human rights issues.
- Immersion journeys - UUSC offers the opportunity to cross boundaries, build relationships and work for justice.
- Research and publications - the research team will share information on the most pressing humanitarian issues.
- Guest at Your Table - UUSC's annual program includes a sample sermon and other tools to help become a justice partner.

To support UUSC's Human Rights programs, go to www.uusc.org.

UUA Joins Interfaith Groups Asking for Humanitarian Aid

The Unitarian Universalist Association joined other religious leaders and people of faith and conscience who are trekking through intense heat and rugged terrain in the Arizona desert to leave water for migrants who are known to cross through that area seeking safety.

This is a bold form of resistance because the Border Patrol feels justified in slashing water bottles left by humanitarian aid groups. The interfaith groups know that people who are fighting for their lives should not be treated as criminals. A link (below) to a powerful video by the group “Colorlines” shows how hard it has been

for humanitarian aid groups to help humans in one of the deadliest areas of the U.S. border with Mexico:
<https://www.colorlines.com/articles/watch-feds-crack-down-volunteers-helping-migrants-survive-arizona-desert>.

UUA Announces Common Read 2018-2019

The UUA's Common Read Selection Committee is pleased to announce the 2018-19 Common Read: *Justice on Earth: People of Faith Working at the Intersections of Race, Class, and Environment*, edited by Manish Mishra-Marzetti and Jennifer Nordstrom (Skinner House Books, 2018).



At a time when racial justice, environmental justice, and economic justice are seen as issues competing for time, attention, and resources, *Justice on Earth* explores the ways in which the three are intertwined. Those on the margins are invariably those most affected by climate disaster and environmental toxins.

The book asks us to recognize that our faith calls us to long-haul work for justice for our human kin, for the Earth and for all life. It invites us to look at our current challenges through a variety of different perspectives, offers tools to equip us for sustained engagement, and proposes multiple pathways for follow-up action. [Justice on Earth](#) is available at inSpirit: UU Book and Gift Shop, on the UUA website.

A discussion guide for congregations, offering both a single session and a three-session format, will be available online October 1.

Upcoming UUA General Assemblies

General Assembly 2019 will take place June 19-23 in Spokane Washington at the Spokane Convention Center, 334 W. Spokane Falls Blvd. Go to the UUA website, www.uua.org for information about proposed programming, networking and sessions in November. Financial aid, registration and housing reservations will open on March 1, 2019. But it isn't too early to start planning to attend now. Combining General Assembly with a Pacific Northwest vacation is the perfect way to start the summer.

Check out whether you can represent UUFHC as a delegate at GA. If you are a member in good standing,

contact Rev. María McCabe or a Board member to become a credentialed delegate and vote on issues important to UUs across the continent. You can also bring our banner and participate in the Congregational Banner parade! General Assembly is a great way to meet new friends from each state and Canadian province and will help you feel more connected to the wider UU movement.

If Spokane is too far for your travel plans, consider a future General Assembly. In 2020, GA will take place in Providence, Rhode Island. In 2021 GA will be celebrated in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and looking forward to 2023, GA will be only about six hours away in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. There is also an option of attending via the internet.

Check out the UUA's website or the next issue of *UU World* to find out about the 2018 General Assembly. Or talk to Rev. María McCabe about her experiences at this wonderful gathering of UUs across the continent.

UUSJ holds Civil Rights Conference in Frederick

The Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice will hold a talk, "The Origins of the Civil Rights Movement: A Continuum of Struggle, Hope and Triumph" with Dr. Terry Anne Scott, Professor of African American Studies at Hood College on Sunday, October 14, 2:00 to 4:00 pm at the UU Congregation of Frederick.

The focus will be on an effort to educate, understand, recognize, and with our new knowledge work towards Beloved Community including justice and opportunity for all. Dr. Scott's research and teaching interests focus largely on urban history, the intersection of sports and race, African American social and cultural history, and political and social movements. She earned her doctorate in history from the University of Chicago, where she was awarded a fellowship from the University's Board of Trustees. Besides establishing a Community Ambassadors Mentor Program at Hood College, she serves as the "historian on the bus" for Project Pilgrimage, an organization that takes a group of interracial and intergenerational people through southern states to explore the history of the civil rights movement.

The UU Congregation of Frederick is located at 4880 Elmer Derr Rd. in Frederick. Attendees will receive a free reading list and an opportunity to purchase some of the books.

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, October 14, 2018



Minister:	Reverend Maria McCabe
Director of Religious Education:	Stephanie Kalka
Church Administrator:	Karen Kurrle
Newsletter Editor:	Kay Saucier
Webmaster:	Rick Saucier

Fellowship Office Hours (Karen Kurrle):
Tues, Wed & Thurs: 9:30 am to 5:30 pm

Minister's Office Hours:
Reverend Maria McCabe: minister@uufhc.net
Appointment hours: Tues & Thurs: 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
To schedule and/or for additional times: office@uufhc.net
For private messages & emergencies: 443-390-6013

Director of Religious Education Office Hours:
Tues, Wed & Thurs: 9:30 pm to 2:00 pm

Office Phone:	410-734-7122
Office Email:	office@uufhc.net
Minister Email:	minister@uufhc.net
DRE Email:	dre@uufhc.net
Newsletter Email:	newsletter@uufhc.net
Webmaster Email:	webmaster@uufhc.net
Website:	www.uufhc.net

Wayside Pulpit

Ambitious people climb, but faithful people build.

– *Julia Ward Howe*