



# HIGHLIGHTS

Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis

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May 2014

## The End of UU Elitism

—an excerpt from Rev. Fred Muir's blog

Like many of you, I was thrilled when I found Unitarian Universalism (or did it find me?). I've told the story many times; suffice it to say that the day and hour are branded into my memory (April 22, 1970 at 2:00 PM). I knew that here was finally a way of faith that lived up to the promise of religion (*root meaning "to bind together"*). Unitarian Universalism took the disparate parts of my life – intellect and spirit, probability and possibility – and pulled them together into one. What a great feeling! What a relief to feel whole.

So you might understand why I was shocked and dismayed when I read these words in Abraham Maslow's classic study *Religions, Values, and Peak Experiences*: "Nineteenth-century objectivistic, value-free science has finally proven to be a poor foundation for atheists, the agnostics, the rationalists, the humanists, and other nontheists, as well as for the 'liberal' religionists, e.g., the Unitarians and Universalists [who] leave out too much that is precious to most human beings." Maslow – one of the great progressive and positive psychologists of the twentieth century – goes on to deliver a strong indictment of our way of religion which he describes as cold and unfulfilling.

I was upset and angry and couldn't believe these words were coming from someone whose work I admired so much...Where did he go wrong, I wondered? Why didn't he see and know the Unitarian Universalism I was experiencing? It was years later when I realized that there was truth to what he said: "rational religion" had never done a meaningful and public job of "binding together" head and heart, intellect and spirit. For as long as I can remember, our way of faith has been experienced by many and viewed by most as only a rational one, a religion of the head where people were reluctant to get into the messy and often raw places of life – much better and safer to stay above the ruffraff of feelings, spirituality, hope and possibility...

Which is to say, we come across as elitist and club-like, a faith for only a few. 250 years ago, when Unitarians were largely the Boston Brahmins (the white, wealthy, and educated who subscribed to an elitist orthodoxy), this seemed to work – at least it worked for them. But a funny thing happened over the centuries: UU evolved, as did the nation, as did the world...

As you've heard me share many times, I believe that our UU and UUCA are at a turning point. Please understand that I am not suggesting that we abandon educational thoughtfulness and the blessings of intellect which are important to faith development and a deepening spirit. This is what initially attracted me to Unitarian Universalism and I have no desire to

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***Next Highlights Deadline:  
May 15.***

leave these behind. Nor am I suggesting that we become a faith of only raw emotion, spirited feeling, and embodied practice ...What I'm seeking – what the future awaits – is a balanced, complete religion. I want us to share what we think and what we feel; I love knowing that you are led by your head and your spirit; I am deepened knowing that we feed the mind and nourish the soul. I want a faith that brings all of me/us together, binds life as one, binds us as a community. In short, I seek a way of faith that is not elitist; I want to share a religion that honors the whole person and welcomes all people.



**WHO WE ARE  
AND  
WHAT WE BELIEVE**

At the Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis, we are seekers of the truth.

We invite all persons of every faith, creed, culture and background to engage in a search for truth with us. We believe in the dignity and worth of every human being and in freedom of expression. We welcome and celebrate all people, be they straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender.

We are committed to this church as an institution, to social justice, to liberal religious exploration and education for all ages, to mutual caring and support, and to the value of diversity.

We strive to care about each other and the health of our community and the world. We are an environmentally sensitive, "green" community.

This church is a place of safety for each person's mind, body and spirit. Toward that end, we covenant to affirm and promote: Honesty and authenticity in our relationships; words that are supportive and caring, not belittling or demeaning; a welcoming and non-judgmental attitude; respect for each person's boundaries of mind, body and spirit; and listening to one another.

In order to serve the congregation and the greater community, we also strive to create an environment that challenges, inspires, encourages and supports the quest for religious fulfillment.

Please join us!

**Endowment Fund Supports Youth Arts Fellowship**

—Al Pulsifer

Last April, the UUCA Endowment Board provided \$5,000 to Creating Communities, an organization established by Rob Levit, to support the Youth Arts Fellowship (YAF). YAF is an arts-based, alternative education opportunity that provides arts instruction, mentoring, and experiential learning at no cost for twenty 10th-12th graders who reside in the City of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County. Direct access to the arts is used as a vehicle to motivate low-wealth, underrepresented teenagers to succeed at school and beyond. About 70% of the students are African American or Hispanic. Students meet once a month on a Saturday for ten months for an all-day retreat that harnesses the power of dramatic, creative, and visual arts as a means of building a host of practical and life-enhancing skills. Interwoven into the program is a community service component that encourages the belief in "giving back" to strengthen the social fabric of the community. Along with fine art and music activities, this year's students wrote life stories and poetry. The following poem comes from a student named Eric:

*The sorrow engulfed me like a snake  
The great constrictor had me in his unbearable grip  
Everyday his grip got stronger and stronger  
Trapped, can't move, can barely breathe  
All I can do is sit here  
Brace the pain  
Hope for it to be over  
My vision blurs  
All I see is the snakes now  
About to put me out of my misery  
Then the snake weakens I can move, breathe  
Help has arrived  
To remove the snake from my life  
He isn't gone yet  
But he doesn't have the hold on me He once had  
Now day by day he weakens as I grow stronger  
The prey has become the survivor*

If you would like information on the church Endowment Fund, or would like to make a gift to the fund, please contact Al Pulsifer; [ajpulsifer@verizon.net](mailto:ajpulsifer@verizon.net).



Rob Levit, Jeff Huntington, Jimi Davies, and students of Creating Communities.

FROM THE BOARD  
OF TRUSTEES...

Questions or comments for the Board?  
Contact the Board of Trustees at [board@uuannapolis.org](mailto:board@uuannapolis.org).

The Congregational Meeting held on April 6, 2014 featured reports on church finances, the 12-month canvass initiative, the ongoing ministerial survey, recently completed church facilities improvements, ongoing development of the Religious Exploration proposal, and the recognition of Shining Lights.

Actions included the election of the slate of 2014-2015 officers and trustees and as well as members of the nominating and endowment committees. The church also voted to approve “spending up to \$450,000 of capital campaign funds for the construction of a geothermal heating and cooling system for the main building”.

The church voted to adopt the slate presented by Jan Bird, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, as follows:

**Board of Trustees** -President: John Woolums; Vice President: Michael Willis; Finance Officer: Annie Thornton; Secretary: Larry Werner; and At-Large Members: Linda Rhoades. (*Continuing At-Large Members: Charles Gross and Alethea Shiplett*)

**Nominating Committee** -New Members: Marlene Browne, Tiffany Hipszer, Tony Hipszer (*Continuing Members: Jan Bird (Chair); Kari Bichell, Jodi Delaney, Heather Millar, Dianne Moreau, and Darrell Nash*)

**Endowment Committee** -New Members: Robert Ertman, Phyllis Marsh (*Continuing Members: Janette Gearing, Jackie Heimbuch, Irene Jordan, Jan Lucie, Al Pulsifer, and Dick Roop*)

Following the election, John Woolums thanked the outgoing Board Secretary Bryan Barrett, and committee members Louise Huddleston and Stuart Bailey, for their service.

Rev. Muir presented the finance report, on behalf of Annie Thornton. The report highlighted the positive performance of pledge receipts in the first quarter, the growth of the operating reserve fund, and described the 12-month canvass initiative as promising so far. Rev. Muir encouraged members to participate promptly when contacted by the canvass team.

Rev. Christina Leone Tracy discussed her “RE for all Ages” proposal, in which RE would be held at 10:00 AM. Rev. Christina emphasized that she sees this as a great opportunity to enhance youth and adult RE services, but that no decision has been made, several open discussions have been scheduled, and any inputs or suggestions are welcomed. You can read more details about the proposal online; see details below for accessing Board documents on our website.

Rev. Muir thanked the Building Committee for all their work. He indicated that the foundation work is completed, and that we are close to a final geothermal contract. The congregation engaged in a lengthy, lively, and respectful question and answer period, followed by the vote to overwhelmingly approve the necessary expenditure of capital funds to install the geothermal heating and cooling system.

In recognition of their great work and contribution to UUCA, Shining Lights Awards for 2014 were made to Jacque Pulsifer, Al Pulsifer, Marlene Browne, and Mickey Lund.

The congregation is once again indebted to the dedicated service of the Congregational Meetings Committee, especially Win Decker and Diane Goforth, who moderated the meeting.



**\*To view Board Documents online:**

Board items are stored on a special password-protected page of our website. To gain access, you must [contact the Church Office](#) and request the password. *Please note:* this is *NOT* your ACS Access password.



## SUNDAY WORSHIP AT UUCA

### Sunday, May 4:

#### **“Can’t Go Back”**

**Rev. Christina Leone Tracy**

This Sunday Rev. Christina will lead worship on a topic chosen by the winner of her 2013 “Auction & Harvest Dinner” sermon-- Darrel Nash. Darrel has been a UU (and a "U" before that) for decades and he has seen many changes in our liberal faith. As we grow into the future, he wants us to remember, we can't go backward. And even if we could... Would we want to?

Music by the UUCA Choir.

### Sunday, May 11:

#### **“The Mission-Driven Congregation”**

**Rev. John Crestwell**

The Freedom Riders in the Civil Rights Movement taught us what a mission-driven congregation looks like. Their teachings may surprise you!

Music by Betsy Kraning.

### Sunday, May 18:

#### **“Missional”**

**Seth Fisher  
Intern Minister**

“Missional” is a big buzzword for churches in recent years, and the idea of “incarnation” is a central part of missional church. What does it mean to embody Unitarian Universalism?

Music by the UUCA Choir.

### Sunday, May 25:

#### **“Mission Impossible”**

**Rev. John Crestwell**

Trying to create a space for ALL souls is hard. Some might even say that we are on an impossible mission; that we are dreaming of a time that will never come to pass. Today we will look at why it takes an impossible mission to make the possible occur every day in our lives.

Music by the Sounds of Spirit Choir and Band.

### **Summer Schedule begins Sunday, May 25.**

**One service at  
10:00 AM only.**



*Podcasts of weekly sermons are  
available online at  
[www.uucamd.libsyn.com](http://www.uucamd.libsyn.com).*

## ***May’s Theme: Mission***

### **May AWAKE Services**

**May 6:** Join Life Coach Ale’ Shiplett at 6:30 PM for an emotional literacy workshop entitled “Communication That Blocks Compassion”. The regular AWAKE worship service will resume next week.

#### ***May 13: Your Mission...If You Choose to Accept It***

Sometimes life can seem like "Mission Impossible." This week we will inspire you to not only accept your mission, but also define, embrace, and achieve your mission.

**May 20:** Join Life Coach Ale’ Shiplett at 6:30 PM for AWAKE’s third emotional literacy workshop “Engaging Your Brain for Connection”. AWAKE is on the road in Columbia, and will return next week.

#### ***May 27: Mission Trip***

Have you taken a trip with a mission? What does a "mission trip" look like from an inter-faith perspective? Let's find inspiration in what we have learned from, about and with other cultures.





**\*Affirmation for Children Ages 6-8\* May 17-18**

Each year in the springtime, our Coming of Age (8th grade) youth embark on their annual pilgrimage to Boston. The trip and their follow-up worship service are the highlights of the COA year. By completing COA, the congregation recognizes that the kids have passed a milestone in their faith development and are now "responsible youth".

Another age of transition and growth, that UUs often overlook, is the age around 2nd grade, or about 6-8 years old. This is the time when children begin the first steps in taking responsibility for one's own faith... the age of "Accountability". This is often the age of the First Communion in the Catholic Church, the age of Baptism in the LDS Church, and the age when children receive a first Torah in some Jewish Synagogues.

**At the Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis, we recognize that there are stages in faith development, and we want to highlight and celebrate those stages communally.**

So, join Rev. Christina and acting CMC Debbie Cole Saturday, May 17, for a day of "Affirmation". Parents will participate for a portion of the morning and then return for a community potluck lunch! Kids will be recognized for their achievement on Sunday, May 18 at 9:00 AM.

**When:** Saturday, May 17, 9:30 AM—1:00 PM and recognition during the 9:00 AM service on May 18.

**Who:** Children ages 6-8 and their parents or guardians -- parent(s) attend from 9:30-10:30 AM, then return at noon for a potluck lunch.

**What:** Children will learn more about Unitarian Universalism and their own congregation, UUCA. They will explore the 7 Principles, the Flaming Chalice, and UU History in fun and meaningful ways. They will learn with their family and on their own. On Sunday morning they will be recognized by the congregation and be given a small gift to symbolize their accomplishment.

**Bring:** A potluck lunch item to share when families return at noon.

**RSVP:** By May 14, 9:00 AM to Rev. Christina; 410-266-8044 x101, [cleone@uuannapolis.org](mailto:cleone@uuannapolis.org)

**Water Day**

**Dates to Remember:**

**May 17 & 18:** "Affirmation" for 6-8 year-olds

**May 18:** 9:00 AM - RE Orientation for 5th-8th graders, parents welcome

**May 25:** Begin 10:00 AM services. "Water Day" for younger kids; No RE for youth.

**May 29 & 31:** COA worship service rehearsals

**When:** Sunday, May 25, 10:00 AM

**Who:** Children ages PreK-5th grade

**What:** A morning of water play fun, bringing the RE year to a close.

**Bring:** Swimsuit, towel, sunscreen



## We Are Too Open-Minded!—Claude AnShin Thomas

—Phyllis Culham



*Claude AnShin*

Did that grab UU readers? What AnShin actually said in his opening call to mindfulness was that “We are too open-minded to what our brains are telling us and closed-minded to reality.” Attendance at the four events from Thursday, April 10, through Sunday, April 13, with AnShin and Wiebke KenShin Andersen totaled over 140 seats, although UUCA’s Mindfulness Practice Group did not track how many of those were repeats. Maryland attendees came from St. Mary’s County through Carroll County, and others were from as far away as southern West Virginia.

AnShin and KenShin offered Zen Order of Interbeing approachability and addressed western concerns like stress. That’s not surprising, since AnShin was initially converted to Buddhism by Thich Nhat Hanh and spent years in residence at Plum Village. Those westernized elements were uniquely combined with AnShin’s core message from within the Zen Peacemakers, the Soto Zen order which ordained him: the necessity of a Disciplined Spiritual Practice. AnShin emphasized at all events that his priestly robe, his creation of altars, and his shaved head were not constraints but powerful girders supporting mindfulness, the living presence of eighty-one generations of Soto dharma teachers enveloping him. “The altar is my body and mind integrated,” he said, explaining why his altar elements are always present at the scheduled events and carefully tended. Three dozen people at a previously unannounced appearance in the Emerson Room on Sunday, April 13, met the highly-instructive “Buddha Pillow,” a nondescript UUCA cushion drafted to sit on the center of the table at the front of that room, making it an altar, reminding us that our own Buddha-natures were always present to rest in.



*Rev. John and AnShin*

The initial talk on Thursday, April 10, was the largest session with fifty people. At that and subsequent events, the Mindfulness Practice Group was able to generate interest in UUism, although the table displays in the entrance to the church helped too in provoking questions (answered only after Noble Silence!). We were able to tell many of the forty people who attended the public retreat on Saturday, April 12, about the fairly new sitting group at First Unitarian Church in Baltimore, and several were interested in that option. AnShin’s farewell message at the retreat told people to see Bob Ertman to find out more about UUCA and other UU opportunities. AnShin and KenShin’s interest in UUism was further developed the next day, Sunday, by Rev. John’s sermon which featured such topics of mutual interest as relative and absolute truth and impermanence. AnShin emphasized these connections in his subsequent remarks in the Emerson Room.

Both the Friday retreat for veterans and families only and the public retreat on Saturday featured oral directions and offered reasons for these practices which are rarely spelled out in Soto Zen, which eschews words and concepts. This was a unique opportunity to hear highly disciplined Soto practices explained rather than depending on modeling. Both retreats incorporated the Soto feature of Work Practice. KenShin told us that Soto Zen required “leaving no traces,” but that the forty in attendance Saturday ought to be able to leave UUCA’s building and grounds better than they had found them. KenShin beamed with joy on Sunday when Susan Eckert commented on how “absolutely spotless” everything was. Both retreats also featured Zen Order of Interbeing-based, small-group Deep Listening practices. Listeners were not allowed to influence others’ narratives by oral acknowledgement, touching, or even offering a Kleenex. Many commented at the closing ceremony on how they were stunned at the depth of sharing drawn out by the practice.

Too many people to list helped materially with these events. The Mindfulness Practice Group especially thanks Mark Chapin from the West Annapolis Vets’ Center; he’s a vet, LSW, and wise man. Sangha-friend UUCA members included: Sarah Conway who so beautifully designed the flyer and poster and served as ino, maintainer of order in the meditation hall for the public retreat; Lois Fussell who set

*con’t on p. 7*

con't from p. 6

up, broke down, supplied tea, and made emergency shopping trips; and John Nikata, new member in both church and sangha, who was the first to arrive for everything and last to leave, setting up, breaking down, heavy lifting of trash and cushions, astutely chosen by AnShin to serve as both *chiden*, altar attendant for both retreats, and as his right-hand man through Sunday.



John Nikata as *chiden*.

AnShin shared a new vision with us. As an itinerant monk walking (over 45,000 miles) and homeless, he has never acquired property let alone built anything. Now he aspires to have a center for veterans where PTSD will be treated as a spiritual injury. If you want to learn more about AnShin's Zaltho Foundation which has supported grass-roots efforts at non-violence in neighborhoods and now aspires to have a haven for veterans of combat, see <http://www.zaltho.org/>. To contact the Annapolis Vets' Center for yourself or others, see <http://www.va.gov/directory/guide/facility.asp?ID=5936> (there is another Center at AACC). You do NOT have to have a specific need to go to a Vets' Center. You may just be looking for people of similar experience. For more information on/to contact UUCA's Mindfulness Practice Group visit [www.mpgannapolis.org](http://www.mpgannapolis.org).

### 1,500 Pounds of Food for the Light House!

—Carrie Kotcho

Great job UUCA! In the month of March, our congregation donated 1,509 pounds of food; that's between 150-200 bags! Thanks to everyone for a great effort! The need for help at the shelter continues all year round, so please consider helping to cook a Second Saturday dinner with us, make bag lunches, or drop off food donations. Summer is a particularly difficult time to get volunteers at the shelter so please consider helping out May-August to make a big impact on the quality of life at the shelter. Contact Carrie Kotcho for more information; [ckotcho@verizon.net](mailto:ckotcho@verizon.net).



**Sign Up for Second Saturday Dinner:**

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A4BA5AF2EA13-light>

### CONGRATULATIONS!!

To Elise Berrocal, our Children's Ministry Coordinator, and her husband, Juan. They welcomed **Angelo Berrocal** to the world on March 31. Big sister Aurelia is thrilled!

*UUCA has seen the births of several babies this winter and spring...*

**Welcome to all our newest friends:**



**Irving Mateyka**

**Dax Smith**

**Nina Jones**

**Connor Emerson**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

A **Parent Practice Group** in applying emotional literacy strategies will be offered on Thursday, **May 1** at 6:30 PM & Tuesday, **May 6** at 10:30 AM. Sponsored by AWAKE ministries and led by life coach Ale' Shiplett. Appropriate for parents with children ages 12 and under. Child care is shared by participants on Tuesday, and not provided on Thursday. Contact Ale' Shiplett; [feymeadowsfarm@gmail.com](mailto:feymeadowsfarm@gmail.com).

**UU Humanists** continue their group viewings of *Cosmos: A Spacetime Odyssey* on **May 5, 12, 19 & 26**. All sessions begin at 6:30 PM. The series ends June 2. Contact: Cliff Andrew; [neurol@verizon.net](mailto:neurol@verizon.net).

**Dignity Players** presents *The 39 Steps* on **May 2-3, 8-10, 15-17** at 8:00 PM and **May 4** at 3:00 PM. A mystery described as a riotous good time with inventive stagecraft, this final Dignity Players performance is sure to be a crowd-pleaser. Purchase tickets by calling 410-266-8044 x127

**Gallery 333** presents "*Colorful Expressions*" with paintings by Parie Willis and the sea glass jewelry of Paulette Hardy, on display for May and June. Meet the artists on Sunday, **May 4** after the 11:00 AM service. You may find a fun, unique Mother's Day gift! Contact: Deb Boudra; [dancindebart@comcast.net](mailto:dancindebart@comcast.net).

**Getting to Know UUCA;** Sunday, **May 11**, following both services. Meet at the water sculpture in the sanctuary

where a member of the Newcomer Support Team will answer questions about UUCA.

**UUCA Choir Rehearsal** will end on Wednesday, **May 14**, 7:30 PM. This will be the final rehearsal before summer break. Rehearsals resume in August. Contact: Stephen Mulligan; [smulligan@uuannapolis.org](mailto:smulligan@uuannapolis.org).

The **Outdoor Club** will meet Saturday, **May 17** for a walk at Soldiers Delight Natural Environmental Area, Owings Mills, MD. Meet at the Park & Ride at I-97 & Benfield Blvd at 9:00 AM to carpool. Contact: Eloise Hoyt; [eloisehoyt@verizon.net](mailto:eloisehoyt@verizon.net).

The **Tuesday Lunch and Video Discussion Group** will hold its final meeting before summer break on Tuesday, **May 20**. The group will resume meeting in September. Contact: Phil Tawes; [pwtawes@aol.com](mailto:pwtawes@aol.com).

Tuesday, **May 20** at 7:00 PM, the **Book Club** will meet to discuss *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein. This selection was postponed from last month. Contact: Jean Gruber; [grubers@netzero.com](mailto:grubers@netzero.com).

**"Fourth Fridays" Concert Series with Brian Ganz** continues Friday, **May 23** at 8:00 PM. This performance features the **Sara Jones Quartet**. Not only the UUCA choir accompanist, Sara is known for her elegant jazz style and has appeared in concert halls across the country. Tickets are \$15 at the door; series tickets can be purchased as well (\$60/5 performances).

## UUCA Shower of Love May 11-June 1

*Sponsored by the Keeping Our Space Beautiful Committee*

You have probably noticed the new walkways and landscaping as you enter the church. Recent improvements continue inside as well with new flooring, updated toilets, and freshly painted walls throughout much of the building. These are the first of a series of improvements on the path to keeping our space beautiful and welcoming.

There is still much to be done. Looking around, it is easy to find projects, and the Keeping Our Space Beautiful Committee is working on a list. Ordinarily, these repairs would be paid for with money from our annual improvements budget. However, tight funding this year has put them beyond the scope of our regular spending. Completing any of these projects will mean an additional contribution from you *over* your annual pledge. This is what our **Shower of Love** is all about. Think of it as you would any shower – a celebration complete with gifts. Through your generous giving, we can ensure that our church will remain the sacred space that is the basis for so many works of justice and love.

Watch for more information in *In the Know* as well as in the narthex beginning May 11, including a "registry" of projects you can donate toward. On June 1 we will "open" the gifts during an ice cream social after the 10:00 AM service.

Contact Dianne Moreau: [diannemarie1@comcast.net](mailto:diannemarie1@comcast.net)



## May 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				6:30 PM Parent Practice Group 7:00 PM Mindfulness Practice Group	8:00 PM Dignity Players performance	6:00 PM Nifty Fifty + potluck 8:00 PM Dignity Players performance
9:00 AM Worship/RE 11:00 AM Worship/CC 11:00 AM Intro to Mindfulness 12:15 PM 'RE for All' conversation 12:30 PM Meet the Artist 3:00 PM Dignity Players performance	6:30 PM UU Humanists	10:30 AM Parent Practice Group 12:00 PM Video Discussion Group 6:30 PM AWAKE Worship	7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM Mindfulness Practice Group 8:00 PM Dignity Players performance	8:00 PM Dignity Players performance	8:00 PM Dignity Players performance
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:00 AM Worship/RE 11:00 AM Worship/CC 11:00 AM Intro to Mindfulness	6:30 PM UU Humanists	12:00 PM Video Discussion Group 6:30 PM AWAKE Worship	7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM Mindfulness Practice Group 8:00 PM Dignity Players performance	7:00 PM Full Moon Celebration 8:00 PM Dignity Players performance	9:00 AM Outdoor Club 8:00 PM Dignity Players performance
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:00 AM Worship/RE 11:00 AM Worship/CC 11:00 AM Intro to Mindfulness	6:30 PM UU Humanists	12:00 PM Video Discussion Group 6:30 PM AWAKE Worship 7:00 PM Book Club		7:00 PM Mindfulness Practice Group	8:00 PM 'Fourth Friday' concert – Sara Jones Quartet	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30 AM Intro to Mindfulness 10:00 AM Worship RE Water Day for younger children	Church Office Closed 6:30 PM UU Humanists	6:30 PM AWAKE Worship		7:00 PM Mindfulness Practice Group	7:30 PM Bridge Club	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



## MUSIC NOTES

*Betsy Kraning, Music Director*

Cabaret is just around the corner! The past two years have been so much fun, and quite successful. Want to participate this year? Consider putting together an act! In the past, we've had singing, dancing, instrumental performances, drumming, with musical styles ranging from jazz ensembles to oldies, to Top 40. Get the idea? Or, if you're not the performing type, maybe you create arts and crafts. Why not sell something either you or even your children make? It's fun to see everyone's "hidden" talents. If you're not an artist or a performer, you can still help with the evening in other ways. There's lots for everyone to do!

The best part is watching the evening come together through the hard work and efforts of everyone... Our Beloved Community at work!

Mark your calendar now: **Cabaret Family Night** with Dinner and Performances; Saturday, **June 14**, 5:00 to 9:00 PM. Cost is \$10/adult and \$5/child.

If you are interested in performing, selling your arts and crafts, or just volunteering to help, please contact Betsy Kraning; [ekraning@aol.com](mailto:ekraning@aol.com) or sign up at our table in the narthex.

## SECOND SUNDAY OUTREACH COLLECTION

The April Second Sunday Outreach Collection totaled \$884.00 to benefit the Light House, a homeless prevention center located in Annapolis. The mission of the Light House is to rebuild lives by providing shelter and services to help people transition toward self-sufficiency. The Light House provides temporary housing for 45 single clients (30 men, 15 women), and it has 4 apartments for families.

The Light House also offers job training in culinary arts, retail management, and facilities management through its on-site B.E.S.T. program, as well as GED and parenting classes.

There are many volunteer opportunities available. UUCA provides dinners on the second Saturday of each month, as well as bag lunches. Every March, we stock the pantry—see the article on page of this Highlights edition about this year's collection.



If you are interested in applying for a Second Sunday Outreach Collection for your project or program, request an application in the church office or contact Diane Goforth at [dsgoforth@aol.com](mailto:dsgoforth@aol.com); 410-544-2244.

## Our church depends on YOU to build our Beloved Community!

"I want to be involved, but nobody ever contacts me"... Have you said or heard this about UUCA? We are trying to fix this! The Nominating Committee has revised a survey of interests and skills that was developed by the Newcomer Support Team; we plan to use the information gathered to connect individuals with people already involved with committees and activities.

The survey may be accessed by going to [tinyurl.com/uucasurvey](http://tinyurl.com/uucasurvey) or by clicking on the "Interests Survey" box on the UUCA homepage banner. If you need a paper copy, they will be available in the narthex beginning **May 4**.

YES, it's another survey...but it's IMPORTANT to UUCA and YOU! Thank you for taking the time, about 10 minutes, to complete the survey and thank you for your gift of time, talent and service. Together we are building Our Beloved Community!

If you have questions or comments, contact Heather Millar; [heathermillar@gmail.com](mailto:heathermillar@gmail.com).

## INREACH COLLECTION

The In-reach Collection from Sunday, April 20 totaled \$1,591.50 which will benefit training opportunities and conferences for Religious Exploration leaders. Examples of this include training for Our Whole Lives facilitators and Spirit Play training.



## ONGOING EVENTS

**Amnesty International:** The Annapolis Chapter of Amnesty International meets on the second Sunday of each month at 1:00 PM in the Emerson Room of the Fahs House. All are invited, especially members of the UUCA congregation who believe that one person can make a difference. Come check us out.

**Book Club:** meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the church library. Contact Jean Gruber 410-216-9575 .

**Bridge Club:** meets the third Friday each month at 7:30 PM in the Emerson Room of the Fahs House. Contact for more information.

**Full Circle:** meets monthly at 7:00 PM on the Friday night closest to the full moon. An experiential earth-based celebration open to all women over age 18. Contact Jodi Delaney; [jodimonkey@verizon.net](mailto:jodimonkey@verizon.net).

**Gallery at 333:** The Gallery at 333 is open Mon.-Thurs. from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Sundays from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Contact Debbie Boudra; [dancindebart@comcast.net](mailto:dancindebart@comcast.net).

**GLBTQ Group:** If you identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning join us for fun, fellowship, and advocacy. Contact Marie; [balanceseeker@comcast.net](mailto:balanceseeker@comcast.net).

**Introduction to Mindfulness and Meditation:** Beginner-friendly session every Sunday at 11:00 AM (8:30 AM during Summer Schedule) in the Emerson Room. For those who want to learn the basics of meditation and those who just want another opportunity to practice with a group. Contact Phyllis Culham at [jcbluejay@live.com](mailto:jcbluejay@live.com).

**Light House Shelter Meals:** If you are interested in helping with meals for the Shelter, contact Carrie Kotcho; 410-451-1844; [ckotcho@verizon.net](mailto:ckotcho@verizon.net).

**Mindfulness Practice Group:** meets every Thursday in the sanctuary at 7:00 PM for meditation and dharma discussion. Contact Phyllis Culham at [jcbluejay@live.com](mailto:jcbluejay@live.com).

**Nifty Fifty +:** A social group for seniors, that meets periodically for dinners, game nights, and other outings. Contact Claire Morgen at [cfriday@aol.com](mailto:cfriday@aol.com).

**Partner Church Ministry:** Based upon our common religious principles and ideals, this multigenerational group develops and sustains a relationship between UUCA and the communities of our partner congregations in Transylvania; the Unitarian Church of Homorodalmás (Almas) and the Unitarian Church of Rava. Contact Jacque Pulsifer, 410-626-1163 or [ajpulsifer@verizon.net](mailto:ajpulsifer@verizon.net).

**Spirit Choir & Band:** This group, led by Rev. John Crestwell, primarily provides music for Spirited Worship services. Rehearsals are as announced. If interested, contact Rev. John at [jcrestwell@uuannapolis.org](mailto:jcrestwell@uuannapolis.org) .

**The Tuesday Noon Brown Bag Lunch & Video Discussion Group:** Meets weekly mid-September through May in the narthex. Bring your lunch to eat during the half-hour social time, watch the half-hour Religion and Ethics video and join in the half-hour of discussion afterward until 1:30 PM. All are welcome. Contact Phil Tawes; [pwtawes@aol.com](mailto:pwtawes@aol.com).

**Twenty-Somethings +/-:** A social group for adults in the “twenty-something” age bracket. Contact Winters Geimer if you are interested; [wgeimer@hotmail.com](mailto:wgeimer@hotmail.com).

**UUCA Choir:** meets every Wednesday at 7:30 PM early September through May. New members are welcome. Contact Stephen Mulligan at [smulligan@uuannapolis.org](mailto:smulligan@uuannapolis.org).

**UUCA Community Drum Circle:** Looking to connect with others in a spiritual yet visceral way? Try the Drum Circle.! No musical experience necessary. Meets on the second Monday in the sanctuary and the fourth Tuesday in the Angebrannt room. Both sessions begin at 7:30 PM. Contact Jim Langston at [jimlaauu@gmail.com](mailto:jimlaauu@gmail.com).

**UU Legislative Ministry of MD (UULM-MD):** UULM-MD is a statewide advocacy network comprised of individual members and affiliated UU congregations. UULM-MD provides a voice in legislative action for UU values, principles and traditions. UUCA provides leadership, resources and support to UULM-MD. Email [info@uulmmd.org](mailto:info@uulmmd.org) or call 410-266-8044, ext. 111.

**UUCA Outdoor Club:** Weather permitting, this club meets monthly for an outdoor excursion. Contact Eloise Hoyt at 410-768-4932 or [eloisehoyt@verizon.net](mailto:eloisehoyt@verizon.net).

**UU Humanists:** Open exchange of ideas on a naturalistic worldview free of supernatural and mystical elements. Meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month at 6:45 PM in the sanctuary. Contact Cliff Andrew at 410-404-7170 or [neurol@verizon.net](mailto:neurol@verizon.net).

**UUCA UN Global Justice Committee:** Inspired by UU principles, this group is committed to peace, freedom and environmental responsibility and to social, civil, and economic justice. Contact Betty Crowley at 410-897-9417 for locations and times.



# HIGHLIGHTS

Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis  
333 Dubois Rd. Annapolis MD 21401-2123

*Return Service Requested*

Dated Material; Please deliver by 4/26/14

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Next Mailing: 5/27/14

## PROFESSIONAL, PROGRAM, AND CHURCH STAFF

### **Church Office Hours:**

**Monday -Thursday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM; Sunday 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM  
Closed Friday and Saturday**

**Phone: 410-266-8044 Fax: 410-266-6910**

**[www.uuannapolis.org](http://www.uuannapolis.org)**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Email Address</u></b>
Rev. Dr. Fredric J. Muir	Senior Minister	<a href="mailto:fmuir@uuannapolis.org">fmuir@uuannapolis.org</a>
Rev. John T. Crestwell, Jr.	Associate Minister	<a href="mailto:jcrestwell@uuannapolis.org">jcrestwell@uuannapolis.org</a>
Rev. Christina Leone Tracy	Faith Development Minister	<a href="mailto:cleone@uuannapolis.org">cleone@uuannapolis.org</a>
Seth Fisher	Intern Minister	<a href="mailto:sfisher@uuannapolis.org">sfisher@uuannapolis.org</a>
Stephen Mulligan	Choir Director	<a href="mailto:smulligan@uuannapolis.org">smulligan@uuannapolis.org</a>
Elizabeth Kraning	Music Director	<a href="mailto:bkraning@uuannapolis.org">bkraning@uuannapolis.org</a>
Susan Eckert	Administrator	<a href="mailto:seckert@uuannapolis.org">seckert@uuannapolis.org</a>
Michele Reese	Administrative Assistant	<a href="mailto:mreese@uuannapolis.org">mreese@uuannapolis.org</a>
Elise Berrocal	Children's Ministry Coordinator	<a href="mailto:eberrocal@uuannapolis.org">eberrocal@uuannapolis.org</a>
Carrie Libowicz	Bookkeeper	<a href="mailto:treasurer@uuannapolis.org">treasurer@uuannapolis.org</a>
Paul Berry	Youth Advisor	<a href="mailto:pberry@uuannapolis.org">pberry@uuannapolis.org</a>
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