



HIGHLIGHTS

Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis

Volume 57, Issue 12

December 2014

Intercultural Competency Workshop

—Dayna Edwards

On November 7 & 8, members and friends of UUCA as well as UUs from the greater Washington, D.C. area had a transformative experience through their participation in an Intercultural Competency Workshop held here at UUCA. Professional facilitator, speaker, and trainer, Phyllis Braxton, led us through two days of inquiry and exploration on the topic. In the workshop, we learned about and discussed a developmental model of intercultural competency which all people move through in their lives. The developmental spectrum is fluid, and no one is ever finished learning. Intercultural communication is like an ocean; the deeper you go, the deeper there is to go.

We delved into the meaning of culture specific to the context of faith communities. In a church setting, each person comes to the faith community with his or her own cultural norms. At the same time, a church has its own culture that is sometimes expressed as “that’s just the way we do things around here”. The challenge comes in integrating the culture of newcomers into the established culture of the church.

Churches in general, and UUCA in particular, has the capacity to become an intentional intercultural organization, but it is not always easy. To paraphrase the Christian minister Rev. Jaqui Lewis, *worship is the playful rehearsal for the creation of the Beloved Community*. Rehearsal is the key word in that phrase; rehearsal means we are going to make mistakes. We are going to need to start over. Our intentions will not always match our impact. In this messy work of intercultural communication, we must embrace the cycle of recognizing a miscommunication, making amends, and trying again. For those of us who face the sometimes painful impact of someone’s actions or words (regardless of their intentions), we must forgive, accept apologies and try again, knowing that someday, the proverbial shoe will be on the other foot.

As we embark on the beginning of the holiday season, let’s take a moment to reflect on how we can align our impact with our intentions. Let’s have some open discussions about how we can make our organizational culture transparent so that each person who walks through our doors not only feels welcome, but feels like they really matter.

Join the conversation and practice intercultural competency with

(con’t)

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***Next Highlights Deadline:
December 15.***

AWAKE life coach, Alethea Shiplett, on the second Tuesday of each month, at 6:30 PM in the library. Also, for an interactive, intercultural worship experience join us for the AWAKE Ministries Sunday night service. We begin with a simple potluck meal at 4:00 PM with worship following from 4:30-6:00 PM.

Yours in Faith,

Dayna Edwards

Lead Life Coach,
AWAKE Ministries





**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!


Holiday Gifts - - Fourth Friday Concert Tickets

—Sally Ehrle

The Fourth Friday Concert Series continues into 2015 with more spectacular performance by Brian Ganz and friends. Consider giving a friend or family member the gift of music this holiday with a series concert ticket good for five performances! Cost is \$60; tickets can be purchased at concerts, or in the narthex on the Sunday before each monthly concert. The ticket-bearer can use the series ticket for five separate performances, or bring up to four guests to one concert. Of course, series tickets are available all year long, so you could also purchase them for birthdays, anniversaries, etc.

Contact Sally Ehrle [sehrle@verizon.net] if you have questions about purchasing a series ticket.





Year End Contributions

The end of the year will be here before we know it. If you are planning to make a year-end donation this year for tax purposes, please note that it must be postmarked, transacted electronically, or hand-delivered to the Office by close of business on December 31. IRS rules do not allow for back-dating contributions received or postmarked after December 31.

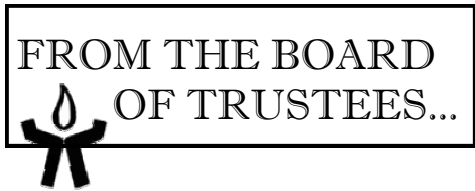
Green Sanctuary Team

—Paul Jorgensen

The Green Sanctuary committee is being resurrected as the Green Sanctuary Team! Paul Jorgensen has agreed to lead the group and is looking for interested church members to join. The emphasis will be on climate change and how our church can influence the debate and set an example of what can be done at the local level. Other areas of concern will include storm water management, the new rain gardens, potential solar energy system for the church, an annual green fair, and exploring LEED certification for the church among other topics. Re-certification of our Green Sanctuary status will also be addressed. If these topics are of interest to you please consider being a part of the 'Green Team'! The first meeting is scheduled for Saturday, **December 6**, at 9:00 AM in the Angebrannt Room. See you there!

Contact Paul Jorgensen; p_jorgensen@verizon.net if you have questions.





Questions or comments for the Board?
Contact Larry Werner, Board Secretary
at board@uuannapolis.org.


As John Woolums stated last month in *Highlights*, the UUCA Board of Trustees together with the Ministerial Team have been working on re-visioning the interpretations of our three Ends Statements. We are continuing the work on the Faith Development Ends Statement: *UUCA creates meaningful opportunities for deepening spirituality for all persons within a safe and challenging environment.*

Terri Werner, Diane Goforth, Linda Rhoads, and Larry Werner have been working with Rev. Christina, the rest of the Ministers and the Board to help establish a process for this work which will be the blueprint for how we proceed on the remaining Ends Statements. The interpretations of these Ends Statements are 3-year plans for the way UUCA reaches toward our vision reflected in the Ends.

Another committee has recently formed in our church that is focused on developing options for our future building needs, including the Fahs House. They are working hard to develop multiple options, including costs, regarding the Fahs House from renovating and upgrading it, all the way to tearing it down and building a new structure which will better meet our needs. They are also exploring options for other building needs such as a larger coffee area. Members of the Building Expansion Exploratory Committee are Paul Jorgensen, Carol Denny, Dianne Moreau, Diane Ratcliff, Jan Sprinkel, and Cheryl Wise. Please thank them for their time and effort the next time you see them.

Our church committees and teams are doing vital work on our behalf. It is great to see all the wonderful things going on in our vibrant church community. If you haven't already done so, please get involved and become part of the improvement movement.

—Larry Werner,
Secretary, Board of Trustees



***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.

UPCOMING CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7 10:30 AM

Please make note of the Congregational Meeting scheduled for Sunday, **December 7**, 10:30 AM-12:15 PM . The primary purpose of the meeting is to review and approve the proposed budget for 2015. We will also vote on a change to the by-laws in support of the addition of an Operating Reserve Fund. The importance of attending the meeting is not only to provide the quorum necessary to conduct business, but also to join together in the process of endorsing the proposed budget to sustain the wonderful work being done by UUCA through 2015.

There will be only one service on Sunday, December 7, at 9:00 AM. There will be no Middle Hour or RE classes. Childcare will be provided for the meeting.

If you have any questions about the meeting or any of the agenda items prior to the meeting, contact the Board; board@uuannapolis.org.



SUNDAY WORSHIP
AT UUCA

**December's Theme:
Hope**

Sunday, December 7:

"Hope Is a Verb"

9:00 AM SERVICE ONLY

Rev. Christina Leone Tracy

Hope isn't a weenie emotion! It's an active process, and it requires skills to do well. Let's become a hopeful community.

Music by the UUCA Choir.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
FOLLOWS AT 10:30 AM.**

Sunday, December 14:

**"Shaped by Epiphanies
(large & small)"**

Rev. Fred Muir

The people who produced the traditional, biblical Christmas narrative were part of a culture wishing for and expecting a religious revelation - an epiphany of some sort that would fill them with hope, set their world right, and make everything OK. Since then the narrative has been edited so that now the holiday story is much broader and expansive (and deeper?). Whether you like it or not, agree with it or not, the Christmas narrative is true to the human spirit and epiphany. Let's explore the hope found in this epiphany.

Music by the Spirit Singers and the UUCA Orchestra.

Sunday, December 21:

**"Where is the Light?"
MULTIGENERATIONAL
SERVICE***

Rev. Christina Leone Tracy

On the darkest day of the year, we contemplate where the light is in our lives, with the help of four candle-friends (UU Chalice, Christmas, Kwanzaa Kinara, and Hanukkah Menorah) and Grandmother Yule. This service will be lots of fun for ALL ages. There will be nursery care for up to age 4 - everyone else stays in the service for story, song, ritual, and fire!

Music by the UUCA Choir.

NO MIDDLE HOUR/RE TODAY

Sunday, December 28:

"A Village of Hope"

**Patricia Owen,
Intern Minister**

There is a Nigerian proverb that reads, "It takes a village to raise a child". Today we will celebrate and contemplate the Kwanzaa celebration of child rearing as a community effort.

Music by Sara Jones.

December AWAKE Services

December 14: *The Arc of Hope*

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., paraphrasing a Unitarian minister, said "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." Let's explore this quintessential quote of hope in light of today's current events.

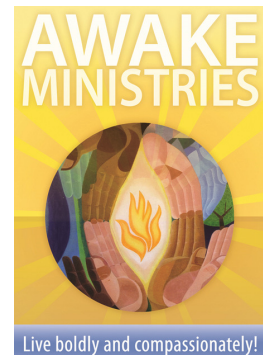
December 21: *Finding Hope*

What does hope look like in the holiday season. Is it the picture on a holiday greeting card? Is it a moment of quiet in the midst of the chaos? Let's take a moment to hope.

December 31: *New Year's Eve Interfaith Service*

AWAKE joins with GAIN (the Greater Annapolis Interfaith Network) at Eastport United Methodist Church to celebrate New Year's Eve. 7:00 PM

Please note that AWAKE services are now on Sunday afternoons; potluck at 4:00 PM and worship 4:30 - 6:00 PM.



Podcasts of weekly sermons are available online at www.uucamd.libsyn.com.



Rev. Christina Leone Tracy
Faith Development Minister

'State of the Middle Hour' - An Early Assessment

In mid-September we implemented Middle Hour - having Religious Exploration for all ages during the hour between our two Sunday services. When we began this experiment, the staff agreed that we would wait until January to make any formal evaluation or any significant changes. As we're coming up on January, and will be advertising ways to seek formal feedback about your experiences of Middle Hour. We have now had Middle Hour for two months, and here are some early observations:

~ Many families with youth (ages 11+) are attending worship, but not by any means all of those families. Not very many youth have volunteered to serve as ushers, greeters, Lay Ministers, choir singers, musicians, or sound booth techs. If your youth has any interest in those opportunities please contact Rev. Christina so she can connect you with the right leader.

~ Childcare attendance is higher than anticipated, with typically about 30 kids per Sunday. Childcare attendance is still higher at 9:00 than 11:15, but has evened out more than it was in the past, since R.E. is in the middle. Childcare volunteers have really enjoyed their experience leading activities and found it to be much easier and more fun than they expected. Children are, for the most part, seeming to really enjoy the activities.

~ The services are usually starting and ending on time, and Middle Hour is usually a whole hour, which makes planning for the R.E. classes much easier, especially for the younger grades where schedules and consistency are very important. In order to keep the services on time, some changes have been made to the Sunday order of service, and we've heard lots of feedback, positive and negative, about those changes. That will likely be an area we thoroughly investigate in January.

~ Middle Hour offerings for adults are going very well! We have about 50-60 adults participating every Sunday, and there are so many people who want to volunteer to lead a session that we are now FULL for the rest of the year, unless or until the MacLean (Purple Cow) Room downstairs becomes available.

~ Coffee Hour is less-crowded because a big portion of adults are volunteering with R.E. or participating in an adult session. This makes informal connection more possible. The downside is we need to make sure that people are on-hand every week to reach out to newcomers... so, if you're interested in being part of our new "coffee hour greeters" team, please let me know (Our intern, Patricia, says we should call it the 'Mingle Ministry').

So far, things are going well. There might be some need for tweaks and adjustments, but to see people connecting across generations, building beloved community through learning and connection, is an incredible thing.

REMINDERS:

December 6 - OWL Diversity Workshop 2:00-8:00 PM

December 7 - Stone Soup 4:00-8:00 PM; a family, holiday tradition at UUCA

December 14 - URUU trip to First Unitarian in Baltimore. Meet at 9:30 AM in the URUU room; depart at 10:00 AM.

December 21 - Holiday Spirited Worship 9:00 & 11:15 AM. No Middle Hour/RE or childcare. Nursery only (0-3 yrs old).

December 24 - Christmas Eve services 5:00 PM Family-friendly service; 7:00 & 9:00 PM Traditional services.

CHILD CARE THIS MONTH:

12/7: Ornament-making
[Michele Reese]

12/14: Caveman* [Cliff Andrew]

12/21: NO CHILDCARE

12/28: Caveman* [Cliff Andrew]

**Be sure to dress warmly on 12/14 and 12/28 as we will be outside, weather permitting!*

MIDDLE HOUR (ADULTS):

12/7: *NO Middle Hour/RE*

12/14: Holiday Sing-a-long, New Member Ceremony, Adult Neighboring Faiths-Neopaganism and 'Going Deeper' discussion

12/21: *NO Middle Hour/RE*

12/28: Coffee, Conversation & Jazz with Sara Jones, Our Seven Principles, Third Principle Practice Group and 'Going Deeper' discussion

From Congregation to Coffee Shop to Community: Poetry Old, New, Borrowed, and Bluesy

—Phyllis Culham

On October 24, about a dozen sangha-friends of UUCA's Mindfulness Practice Group and their friends joined several dozen others in standing-room-only for "The Poet's Experience" at Zü Coffee's monthly poetry night at the Bay Ridge Plaza shop. The event was hosted as usual by the inimitable Rocky Jones. The "featured poets" were Sue Ellen Thompson and the MPG's own Grace Cavalieri, internationally acclaimed poet and playwright produced on Broadway and at the NYC Theater Festival.

The MPG readers enjoyed presenting the UU Seven Principles and related Buddhist values "outside the congregation." Bob Ertman led with his only published *haibun*, a sequence of prose and haiku from the MPG's Street Retreat in which he and others were voluntarily homeless for a weekend. Taking off from 17th century Japanese Basho's "Fleas, lice/a horse pissing/by my pillow," Bob offered "no horse pissing/by my pillow/no pillow," illustrating both multicultural heritage from another tradition and the modern experience of itinerant sleeping on the streets on cardboard rather than in a stable. While Bob brought together past and present, Susan Cofer's verse offered aspiration to future simplicity in a "Little House" and envisioned her sons' reactions to a choice to cast off conventional conceptions of home.



Bob Ertman

Grace Cavalieri read from both her recent books, *The Mandate of Heaven* and the collected *The Man Who Got Away*. The second of these books exemplified practice with the Buddhist Five Remembrances of loss and mortality. *The Man* collects her earlier poetry from life with her husband Ken juxtaposed to very recent poems Bearing Witness to the experience of surviving his death. The lead poem, "Letters," in *Heaven* might have been offered in spiritual poetry practice at UU General Assembly:

*If you ask what brings us here
staring out of our lives
like animals in high grass
I'd say it was what we had in common
with the other--the hum of a song
we believe in which can't be heard...*

After an intermission, Max Ochs "covered" some poems by Billy Collins, former Poet Laureate, who bears frank witness to his own aversions, attachments, and wonder about American life, including dogs, children, and aging, making meaning by engaged attention to the mundane.



Bob and Grace Cavalieri

Mindfulness Practice Group/UUCA participation called for Buddhist compassion, evoked the Second Principle, and exemplified writing practice for spiritual growth as in the Third Principle. Susan, Grace, and then Max particularly pursued "meaning" as in the Fourth Principle. Bob's poetic practice rested in the "world community" of the Sixth, which Grace and Susan also sought. All our participants pointed toward Thich Nhat Hanh's Interbeing, indistinguishable, really, from the "interdependent web of all existence" in the Seventh Principle. Dubois Road brought to Bay Ridge!



INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY



In the event of inclement weather, visit www.uuannapolis.org where a pop-up box will appear with any relevant cancellations. You can also call the office at 410-266-8044 for a recorded announcement. On weekdays, you should contact the individual responsible for the meeting or event you plan to attend. Often, those cancellations are made on a case-by-case basis. If you have questions about the policy, contact the [Church Office](#).

Tuesday Lunch Group Serves Dinner

—Jacque Pulsifer

The Tuesday Lunch & Video Discussion Group met at the Light House Shelter on Saturday evening, November 8, to prepare and serve dinner for the 43 residents. Seven 'chefs' donned aprons and sharpened knives to prepare carrots, green beans, potatoes, fish, and a luscious banana dessert. We took turns serving the residents and sitting down to eat and talk with them. Some stories were heart-breaking, and we came away feeling blessed that we each have a home and the means to share a meal with those less fortunate. The residents enjoyed the meal and the company. They came back for seconds and thirds, enjoying the fish and fresh veggies. UUCA's "Lunch Bunch" has served a meal for the Light House clients many times, and it is always a fulfilling project for everyone who participates.

UUCA members and friends provide dinner at the Light House on the **second Saturday of every month** and there is a **critical need for people to prepare meals**. If you, or your group, want to enjoy the camaraderie of a special evening at the Light House Shelter, contact Carrie Kotcho; ckotcho@verizon.net. If you need help paying for groceries for the meal, the Endowment Board has set up a fund for that purpose.



Jan Sprinkel cooking.

ORDER OF SERVICE COVER CONTEST*

**Calling all artists!
Adults! Youth! Children!**

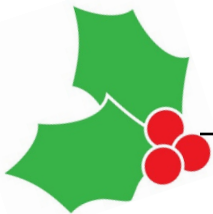
We want **YOU** to design the order of service cover for January!

Depict what "Justice" means to you, and turn the entry form into the office by **December 28**. Winning art will be displayed on the cover for the entire month. Entry forms are located in the narthex and in *In the Know*.

***CONGRATULATIONS TO
DECEMBER'S WINNER -
CHARLOTTE WALLACE**

INREACH COLLECTION

The November In-Reach collection raised \$1079.11 for UUCA's music program - which includes sound booth improvements. In-Reach Collections will continue throughout the year, as a means to supplement particular budget items whose funds may have been reduced for 2014-15.



Christmas Eve Worship

5:00 PM "The ABCs of Christmas"

Patricia Owen, Intern Minister

This family-friendly worship service will be interactive for everyone! Come prepared to listen and join in the celebration of Christmas Eve. Young and young at heart are welcome! Featuring music by Betsy Kranning and Marlene Browne.

7:00 & 9:00 PM Traditional Christmas Eve

Rev. Fred Muir, Senior Minister

Familiar Christmas carols and candle-lighting are a part of these traditional Christmas Eve services.





UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit our [online calendar](#) for more events and scheduling information.

UU Humanists join the **Mindfulness Practice Group** for discussion of & meditation on *Waking Up: A Guide to Spirituality Without Religion* by Sam Harris. Both groups welcome! Monday, **December 1**, 6:00 PM - Potluck dinner and discussion; Sunday, **December 7**, 8:30 AM - meditation; Thursday, **December 11**, 7:00 PM - meditation; and Monday, **December 15**, 7:00 PM - discussion. **UU Humanists** Contact: Cliff Andrew; neurol@verizon.net. Mindfulness Contact: mpg@uuannapolis.org.

Chair Yoga, led by Dick Roop, meets on Thursday, **December 4 & 18**, 11:30 AM, in the Angebrannt Room. All are welcome! Contact: Dick Roop; dickroop@verizon.net.

Nifty 50+ Holiday Potluck- Saturday, **December 6**, at 6:00 PM Contact: Claire Morgen; cfriday@aol.com to RSVP.

UUCA's family holiday tradition, **Stone Soup**, will be held Sunday, **December 7**, 4:00-8:00 PM. Bring an item for the soup to church in the morning, then return in the afternoon to enjoy a bowl! Vegetarian, gluten-free, vegan options will be available. Holiday music, crafts, and the Stone Soup fable are all a part of this beloved family event. Tickets \$3/person or \$5/family. Please bring eating utensils and bowls as well as a side dish, like salad, or bread. Contact Elise Berrocal; eberrocal@uuannapolis.org.

Young Adults- NEW Coffee & Conversation at Baltimore Coffee & Tea, Bestgate Rd, Sunday, **December 14**, 1:00 PM. Contact: Winters Geimer; wgeimer@gmail.com. [Connect with Young Adults on Facebook](#).

The **Book Club** will not meet in December. Join us again on January 20, when we will be discussing *I Am Malala*. Contact: Jean Gruber; grubers@netzero.com.

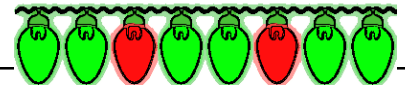
Outdoor Club - Saturday, **December 20**, 4:00-8:00 PM. Visit the *Miracle on 34th Street* in Baltimore! We'll have supper at the Hon Cafe in Hampden, then walk to see the funky, fantastic holiday decorations. Meet at the Park & Ride in Severna Park [I-97 & Benfield Blvd] at 4:00 PM to carpool. Contact: Eloise Hoyt, eloisehoyt@verizon.net.

The **Church Office** will be **closed** Wednesday, **December 24** and Thursday, **December 25** for the holiday. We will reopen on Sunday, December 28 at 9:00 AM.

Christmas Eve Services - Wednesday, **December 24**, at 5:00, 7:00 & 9:00 PM. For more information see page 7 in this issue of *Highlights*.

"Fourth Fridays" Concert Series with Brian Ganz- Mark your calendar now to unwind after Christmas on Friday, **December 26**, at 8:00 PM. Noted jazz pianist Burnett Thompson will perform his own

composition entitled *Christmas In Vienna*, a collection of spontaneously composed vignettes that reflect the vast range of Viennese culture and character, from Strauss to Schönberg; St. Stephen's Cathedral to the Vienna Woods. CDs will also be for sale. Tickets \$15 at the door (only) or purchase a \$60 series ticket good for 5 performances.



Holiday Sharing

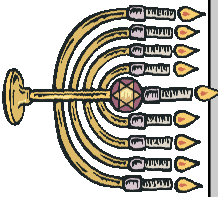
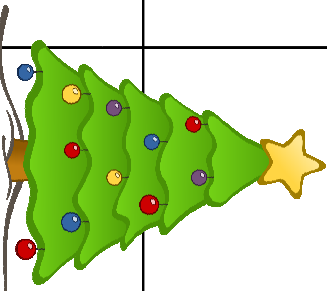
This year our Holiday Sharing program is adopting two needy families from Anne Arundel County and several needy children in Queen Anne's County. We are looking for gifts and new clothing. Check the table in the narthex for more information. Wrapped gifts should be labeled for size/age and sex of child.

Other recipients of the December Second Sunday Outreach collection are the Light House food pantry and the Arundel House of Hope.

Contact Lois Fussell (4elois@aol.com) or Diane Bedlin (dianebedlin@gmail.com) if you'd like to help or if you have any questions.



December 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 8:30 AM Intro to Mindfulness 9:00 AM Worship/CC 10:30 AM Congregational Meeting/CC 7 	7:00 PM UU Humanists 1 	12:00 PM Video Discussion Group 2 	7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 3 	11:30 AM Chair Yoga 7:00 PM Mindfulness Practice Group 4 	5 	10:00 AM Welcome to UU/CA Class 6:00 PM Nifty 50+ Holiday Potluck 6
8:30 AM Intro to Mindfulness 9:00 AM Worship/CC 10:10 AM Middle Hour 11:15 AM Worship/CC 1:00 PM YA Coffee & Conversation 14 	7:00 PM UU Humanists 15 	12:00 PM Video Discussion Group 16 	7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 17 	11:30 AM Chair Yoga 7:00 PM Mindfulness Practice Group 18 	7:30 PM Bridge Club 19 	4:00 PM Outdoor Club 20
8:30 AM Intro to Mindfulness 9:00 AM Family Worship No Middle Hour 11:15 AM Family Worship 21 	22 	12:00 PM Video Discussion Group 23 	Church Office Closed Christmas Eve 5:00 PM Family Worship 7:00 PM Worship 9:00 PM Worship 24 	Church Office Closed Christmas Day 25 	8:00 PM Fourth Friday Concert 26 	27
8:30 AM Intro to Mindfulness 9:00 AM Worship/CC 10:10 AM Middle Hour 11:15 AM Worship/CC 28 	29 	12:00 PM Video Discussion Group 30 	7:00 PM Interfaith Service at Eastport United Methodist - AWAKE 31 	31 	 	



MUSIC NOTES

Betsy Kraning, Music Director

This is a busy time of the year, and there is lots going on for musicians at UUCA! Middle Hour in the sanctuary features music almost every week, and so far has included Drumming with Ray Watkins, Voice Lessons with Peter Jacobson (our UUCA Choir Director), Meditative Singing with Pat Guyton, Gospel Music with Josh Long, and now UUCA Orchestra with Betsy Kraning. For the weeks of November, members and friends have been rehearsing holiday music. Our big performance days are Sunday, December 7 for Stone Soup, and Sunday, December 14 for both worship services. Please come out to hear us!

The children have been getting involved in music too. Once a month the 9:00 AM childcare session is "Joy of The Arts". We have had drumming with Ray Watkins, singing with Betsy Kraning, and after Christmas there will be storytelling, dancing, art, and more. We've also made an attempt to get the children singing in the choir; some have been practicing during the 9:00 AM childcare hour. Those children joined the Spirit Singers in October for both services. Children are welcome to join their parents for upcoming Spirit Singers rehearsal on December 12. There will be special parts for the children involved, and they will join in during the December 14 Sunday

(con't)

SECOND SUNDAY OUTREACH COLLECTION

The November Second Sunday Outreach Collection raised \$983 to benefit the UU United Nations Office and the International Women's Convocation. Through education, advocacy, and outreach, the UU-UNO calls UUs to action on a global scale to change the world through compassion and justice.) The IWC works through global partnerships to enrich women's lives; UUCA member Phyllis Marsh sits on the Board.

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 410-544-2244 or dsgoforth@aol.com.



services.

Spirit Singers kicked off the year with a rehearsal and potluck. This group of spirited people has fun while learning to make beautiful music together. A wonderful addition to our choir is Josh Long, co-conductor, pianist, guitarist, and composer. Spirit Singers meet once a month on Friday evenings at 6:00 PM for coaching, and 6:30-7:30 PM for rehearsals and then sing on the Sunday of that weekend. We would love to add you to our growing group of singers! (See above for December rehearsal date).

Congratulations to Peter Jacobson and the UUCA Choir on a wonderful start to the church year. Our new conductor is fantastic! Choir meets on Wednesday evenings and sings twice a month, and welcomes newcomers at any time!

Music is a thread weaving throughout the life of our church, connecting us, challenging us, and healing us today and tomorrow. Be a part of this powerful energy!

Blessed be!

Betsy Kraning

Guest at Your Table Boxes

On Sunday, November 23, Rev. Christina gave out "Guest At Your Table" collection boxes. The funds collected go to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). Any money collected is due by Sunday, **December 28**. You may bring in the box with the money inside, or you can write a check for the amount you have collected. Please make the check payable to UUCA.





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 Anne Hays for information; annehays1933@gmail.com.

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.

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.

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.

Introduction to Mindfulness and Meditation: Beginner-friendly session every Sunday at 8:30 AM 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 mpg@uuannapolis.org.

Light House Shelter Meals: If you are interested in helping with meals for the Shelter, contact Carrie Kotcho; 410-451-1844; 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 mpg@uuannapolis.org.

Nifty Fifties +: A social group for seniors, that meets periodically for dinners, game nights, and other outings. Contact Claire Morgen at 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 Homorodalmas (Almas) and the Unitarian Church of Rava. Contact Heather Millar; heathermillar@gmail.com.

Spirit Singers Open to all musicians! Led by co-directors Betsy Kraning and Josh Long, this group provides diverse, intergenerational, multicultural, contemporary music once a month for worship services. Contact Betsy Kraning, Music Director at bkraning@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. Led by the intern minister. Contact Phil Tawes; pwtawes@aol.com.

Young Adults: A social group for adults in the "twenty-something" age bracket. Contact Winters Geimer if you are interested; wgeimer@gmail.com.

UUCA Choir: meets every Wednesday at 7:30 PM early September through May. New members are welcome. Contact Betsy Kraning; bkraning@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 Angebranndt room. Both sessions begin at 7:30 PM. Contact Jim Langston at 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 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.

UU Humanists: Naturalism-Science-Reason-Wonder-Compassion-Community-Respect. Book discussions and film viewings as announced. Meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month at 6:45 PM in the sanctuary. Contact Cliff Andrew at 410-404-7170 or neuro@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 11/29/14

Next Issue Deadline: 12/15/14

Next Mailing: 12/23/14

PROFESSIONAL, PROGRAM, AND CHURCH STAFF

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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

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