



# HIGHLIGHTS

Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis

Volume 58, Issue 8

August 2015

## Intern Farewell

Wow! It really is hard for me to believe that a year ago we were preparing to leave our home in Richmond. I was getting ready to move to Annapolis, and Chris and I watched as our house was tucked into a storage unit. Now the intern apartment is filled with boxes. A now familiar tradition for this space is coming to yet another end. Another intern year is almost over.

This has been a wonderful year and I offer my deep appreciation and thanks to all those who walked these days with me. It was a formative and busy year as well... Ministerial Fellowship Committee, entering search, pre-candidating, candidating and being called (WOOHOO!) to the UU Church of Tampa, FL. All of my experiences here in Annapolis helped to continue my formation as a minister. Thank you!

You allowed me the freedom to preach, and for that I am grateful. I have loved worshipping with you, welcoming you on Sunday morning and witnessing the hospitality you offer to all who enter your space.

A special shout out to the Tuesday Lunch Bunch! Thanks for your presence and generosity of spirit! Much appreciation to Susan and Michele who work harder than most folks know to keep the wheels turning. Many thanks to my intern committee, who supported me through a very busy year.

From Phyllis Braxton to Camp Beagle, from the Wonder Box to microphones that just seemed to have it out for me, I was witness to the heart and soul that drives this community forward. My hope is that in the years to come I will hear wonderful news from my friends here at UUCA!

I don't know how many other interns (and their partners) shoveled snow as diligently and Chris and I, but I can tell you that we shoveled the last big snow with a certain amount of glee – knowing that it would be a while before we had to do that chore again!

Nancy Shaffer's poem "Prayer for This Church" sums it up:

*May our doors be so open it is drafty inside, and people sometimes shout because noises without come also within. May those sheltered here sometimes cry, all at once, letting tear water clean what words by themselves cannot. In silent times, may every one present hear every one else breathing, and know this is not separate from how the world breathes all night.*

*May we always have enough room for those many who want to come in. May those who cherish this church be so glad they can*

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**Next Highlights Deadline:**

**August 15**

**[highlights@uuannapolis.org](mailto:highlights@uuannapolis.org)**

*not stop speaking, stop asking, and may that crowding itself be a gladness as we keep adding rooms. May we notice each one who is new and invite her to stay. May our list of names for the Holy not ever be finished, and may we hear God chuckling with us as we find still more.*

May each of you be well, and know peace.

Rev. Patricia Owen



(con't)



**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!

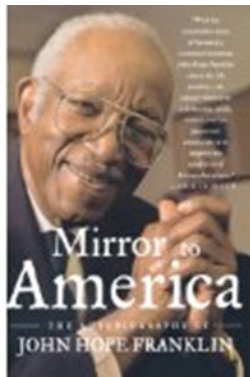


From the  
UUCA LIBRARY

**Book Review by Rusty Vaughan -**

One of the challenges today in our increasingly multicultural world is to understand life through another's eyes and to come to see their experiences as they differ from ours. As a white male, I have lived in a white-only world thinking I was living among and understanding the black community. It was only a few years ago that I began peeling back the layers that revealed my prejudices. Only then did I come to understand that this peeling will likely continue for the rest of my life.

Several books have led to my growing understanding but one that I read recently made it instantly to my list of Best-Books-I-Have-Ever-Read. That book is *Mirror to America* by **John Hope Franklin** (1915-2009). When I closed the cover after reading the last page I felt I had lived my life with a new friend and mentor, Dr. Franklin. *Mirror to America* is his amazing autobiography.



This was an interesting book to me in several ways. I read a review from someone who did not finish the book because they said that Franklin's ego got in the way of their enjoyment of the book. Contrary to that in my opinion, his ego was his survival mechanism. His belief in himself is what helped him achieve incredible heights not only in his career but as a cited scholar, historian, author and professor. His career achievements are incredible for anyone but, reading this, one can understand the difficulties he had to surpass to the best. He transcended all odds. John Hope Franklin saw his obstacles as well as anyone else of his race but he refused to empower those obstacles. He refused to acknowledge them thus he soared to such great heights while enduring adversity.

Recently I learned that Dr. Franklin was a friend of our UUCA member Jane Burns. I learned that my cousin, a minister at Duke, had known him. The path he traveled likely touched a lot of my friends yet I never knew of him until I read his book.



FROM THE BOARD  
OF TRUSTEES...



Questions or comments for the Board?  
Contact Heather Millar, Board Secretary  
at [board@uuannapolis.org](mailto:board@uuannapolis.org).

The UUCA Board of Trustees gathered for a Board retreat this summer. Our focus was to get to know one another (as most members are new to the Board) and to explore what is most important in our work on behalf of the congregation.

As a result, we decided that the focus of our work this summer is to create a covenant statement that would guide how we will work together in the coming term. We decided to meet twice a month for several months in order to take careful time and thought into the meaning and development of our Board covenant. This is what we created:

As members of the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis, we covenant the following:

- to interact with honesty, authenticity and compassion;
- to assume positive intentions of one another;
- to learn to practice forward thinking and language;
- to release ownership of our ideas for discernment and ownership by the board as a whole;
- to model our relationships to reflect our vision of UUCA and our greater faith community;
- to keep the best interests of the congregation at heart and to carry out the trust placed in us as guardians of UUCA's mission and vision; and
- to hold ourselves accountable for our words and actions.

But we did not stop there! We agreed that it was critical to the functioning of the work we do and our interface with church staff that we develop a second covenant. We will meet with the members of our staff to develop a covenant between the Board and staff. In this way, we believe, we will create an environment of mutual respect and reciprocity between those charged with overseeing and carrying out the policies and work of our beloved faith community.

I love our church! And this is one of the reasons why...because of our intentional, careful and nurturing work done on behalf of the precious relationships we have here at UUCA.

*Alethea Shiplett*  
Trustee-At-Large



**To Access Board Documents Online:**

Visit [www.uuannapolis.org/board-meeting-minutes](http://www.uuannapolis.org/board-meeting-minutes), which is protected by a password. Contact the Church Office for the password; [mreese@uuannapolis.org](mailto:mreese@uuannapolis.org).



**SUNDAY WORSHIP  
AT UUCA**

**Sunday, August 2**

**“Why Darwin Matters”**

**Rev. Fred Muir**

Charles Darwin initiated a cultural revolution that started 156 years ago and shows no signs of stopping. Politics, science, religion, families and school systems have all been caught up in the tumult – in the applications & misapplications of Darwin's "little secret". Where do you stand in this ongoing conversation?

Music by Betsy Kraning.

**Sunday, August 9:**

**“Stopped By a Brick”**

**Rev. Patricia Owen**

We live in a very busy world. What is the cost of this busyness and how do we slow down?

Music by Marlene Browne, Guin Sherlock, John Patterson & Linda Patterson, with hymn accompaniment by Betsy Kraning.

**Sunday, August 16:**

**“The Best Advice I Ever Got”**

**Rev. Patricia Owen**

What is the best advice anyone ever gave you? Did you listen? We'll hear from some members and from our Drumming Circle.

Music by the Drum Circle with hymn accompaniment by Betsy Kraning.

**Sunday, August 23:**

**“Awakening to Our Bodies”**

**Rev. Christina Leone Tracy**

Join us for an all-ages AWAKE service. There will be no RE today, but instead our whole community will celebrate life, and living in these magnificent bodies we have-- all shapes, sizes, and colors, with so many different abilities! There will be story, music, ritual, and lots of ways to engage our bodies.

Music by Josh Long & the AWAKE musicians.

**Sunday, August 30:**

**“What’s In A Name?”**

**Rev. Fred Muir**

In many cultures - including ours - a change of name has signified a change of identity, a maturing, a time of deepening. Names are important symbols of who we are and what we want to be. Join me this morning in this valuable exploration.

Music by Sara Jones.

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



**A Note from the  
Pastoral Care Team...**

The Pastoral Care Team would like to thank the following UUCA members for assisting others in our church family during the months of May & June:

- Becky Morris
- Max & Suzy Ochs
- Dianne & Dan Moreau
- Terri Werner
- Ed Adams
- Darrel Nash
- Pat & Lisa Fleearty
- Al Pulsifer
- Jim Horstman
- Steve Haiman
- Phil Tawes
- Maury Marks
- Lynann Rudert

We are grateful for their generosity of time and spirit.

**Welcome New Members**

The following people recently signed the Membership Book. Please welcome them to our community!

- Heather Hurtt
- George Hurtt



## BEEC Summer Update

The Building Expansion Exploratory Committee (BEEC) has spent the past month making great forward progress on the Capital Improvement project for the lower level and the elevator.

The following tasks are just some of our work this past month:

- discussing final plans with church staff for moving the administrator's office to the upstairs copy room area
- reviewing plans and design options with Murphy Dittenhafer (architectural firm)
- working on engineering and final choice of elevator
- meeting with contractors for bids
- writing contracts and scope-of-work documents for each contractor
- applying for county building permits to begin approved work
- finalizing committee approved contracts
- selecting furniture (with staff input)
- taking final measurements for painting, ceiling repairs and replacements, and new backing for all bulletin boards.

You can see BEEC members have had a busy summer!

Please feel free to contact [BEEC@uuannapolis.org](mailto:BEEC@uuannapolis.org) for more information.



## SHARE-THE-PLATE COLLECTION

The **June** Share-the-Plate raised a total of \$1,421.75 to benefit **We Care & Friends**, an Annapolis inner-city center of activity for assistance, classes, community events, and counseling. The **July** collection, for our **International Partners**, will be reported in the next issue.

The Share-the-Plate recipient for **August** will be **Anne Arundel & Annapolis Scholarship Trust**, which serves low-income, first-generation-to-college students with programs emphasizing mentoring, vocational exploration, college prep and planning, financial scholarships and career networking. Over 60 scholarships have been awarded to date (including one in UUCA's name), with a *graduation rate of 70%* -- more than six times that of first-generation-to-college students according to Pell Research. Currently, there are seven Annapolis Trust students enrolled in college and two just graduated this May. This fall, seven students will be supported with financial assistance and mentoring. Since 2002, the Annapolis Trust has provided scholarships for over 23 high school students to attend Gordonstoun International summer camp in Scotland.

**Contact:** Linda Mundy ([lmundy@annapolistrust.org](mailto:lmundy@annapolistrust.org)). You can also visit [annapolistrust.org](http://annapolistrust.org).

Every Sunday, the plate collection will be **divided evenly** between the chosen recipient **and** UUCA's operating budget. Therefore, **if you place a check in the offering plate, you must indicate pledge or outreach on the memo line**. If a check is without notation, it will automatically be applied to the plate share. Once the funds have been transferred to the charity, your contribution cannot be reallocated to your pledge. Thank you for your generosity.

If you have any questions about Share-the-Plate charities, contact Diane Goforth; [dsgoforth@aol.com](mailto:dsgoforth@aol.com); for questions about Share-the-Plate policies, contact the Church Office; [mreese@uuannapolis.org](mailto:mreese@uuannapolis.org).

### A Message from Rev. John Crestwell...

Hello Church Family,

I have chosen to take a month's study leave, beginning August 3, through September 3.

During this time I will rest, write and reflect. I will not be available for any church meetings and will not be responding to congregational e-mails. I expect to come back refreshed and ready to serve the first week in September.

Thank you for this time, and respecting my opportunity to rest and reflect.

Blessings,

*Rev. John*



### RE Volunteers Needed!

Before you know it, the new church year will be upon us.... and that means the start-up of RE classes! We are still in need of quite a few volunteers for the elementary-aged children; our youth classes are already fully staffed (and, thanks to everyone who agreed to help out there!).

If you are interested, please reach out to Elise Berrocal; [eberrocal@uuannapolis.org](mailto:eberrocal@uuannapolis.org) or 410-266-8044 x 104. Elise's summer office hours are Wednesday & Thursday, 10:00 -2:00.

The commitment is typically once a month; you can choose to be a lead teacher or the assistant. You can also indicate the age of the children with whom you'd prefer to work. The volunteer schedule is set for several months in advance, which helps you plan around the days you are expected to be here.

If you have questions, please contact Elise or the church office. Thanks to those who have already committed to helping this year!



### UUCA Events Calendar

Those of you who lead a church group, committee, church event, or covenant group... It's that time of year again!

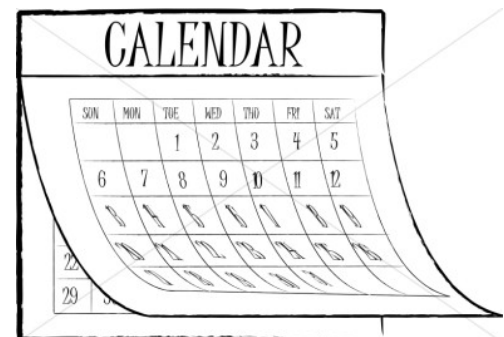
Please watch for an email from the church office, which will request that you fill out the yearly "Church Program Update" form so that your group, event, meeting, committee, etc. can get reservation space on the UUCA Calendar.

Simply return the form to Michele Reese; [mreese@uuannapolis.org](mailto:mreese@uuannapolis.org) or drop it off in the church office.

Be sure to indicate **when and where** you would like for your group to meet (ex. second and fourth Monday at 7:00 PM in the library). We will do our best to see that everyone gets their first choice.

If you have any questions about this process, contact the office (410-266-8044) or the email above.

**Forms are due no later than August 31.**





# UPCOMING EVENTS

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

**Camp Beagle Celebration & Debrief** on Sunday, **August 2**, after the service. Rev. Fred will be giving his "Darwin" sermon, which was snowed out in February. Afterward, stay for coffee hour snacks and the Camp Beagle 2015 slide show. We will have a debriefing discussion as well. Bring your evaluation forms!

**Contact:** Elise Berrocal; [eberrocal@uuannapolis.org](mailto:eberrocal@uuannapolis.org).

**UU Humanists** will meet Monday, **August 3 & 17** at 6:00 PM for a potluck in the narthex and then discussion of Mark Twain's *Letters from the Earth*.

**Contact:** Cliff Andrew; [neurol@verizon.net](mailto:neurol@verizon.net).

**UUCA Red Cross Blood Drive** will be held Sunday, **August 23**, 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM in the Fahs House parking lot. Bring photo ID if donating. To schedule an appointment or to volunteer baked goods, etc....

**Contact:** Wendi Winters; [wendi@wintersgeimer.com](mailto:wendi@wintersgeimer.com)

**Coming to the Table** (CTTT) invites you to a "trial" session of this social justice initiative. The initial gathering was held in July; a second is scheduled for Monday **August 24** at 7:00 PM. Attendance will determine the frequency of future gatherings. One does not have to be a UUCA member to join us. All souls are welcome. Bring a friend.

Coming to the Table is a non-profit organization founded by the descendants of both slaveholders and enslaved people in partnership with the Center for

Justice and Peacebuilding at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, VA. The work of Coming to the Table is to acknowledge and heal wounds formed by racism that are rooted in the United States' history of slavery.

Visit [ComingToTheTable.org](http://ComingToTheTable.org) and click on "About" for more information.

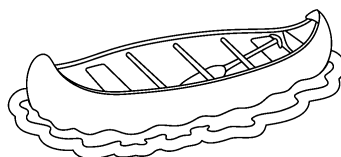
**Contact:** Rusty Vaughan; [rusty@solutionreps.com](mailto:rusty@solutionreps.com) to RSVP.

**"Fourth Fridays" Concert Series** continues on Friday, **August 28** at 8:00 PM. **Brian Ganz** continues *Chopin's Epic Journey* with *Sonata No. 3 in B minor, Op. 58*. Brian began his quest in 2011 to perform all of Frédéric Chopin's 250 works over the span of a decade. Considered a leading pianist of his generation, Brian is also the artistic director and founder of this concert series.

Tickets \$15 (at the door only) or purchase a \$60 series ticket good for five performances.

The **Outdoor Club** will meet on Saturday, **August 29** at 9:00 AM in the church parking lot to carpool to Chestertown, MD. There they will enjoy a kayak/canoe trip on Morgan Creek. You must provide your own boat for this trip, as well as paddles, PFD, lunch, and water.

**Contact:** Eloise Hoyt; [eloisehoyt@verizon.net](mailto:eloisehoyt@verizon.net).



**There are many groups choosing to NOT meet in the summer, including:**

- Book Club**
- Bridge Club**
- Community Forum**

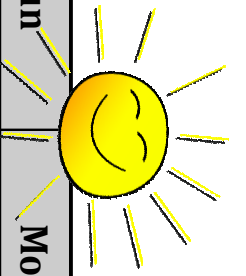
Regular meetings of these groups will resume in September. Watch publications or check the church calendar for more information.



### **Save the Date:**

**Ingathering Service & Picnic** - Sunday, **September 13**; service at 10:00 AM, picnic to follow.

**UUCA Family Carnival** - Saturday, **September 19**, 5:00-8:00 PM. Watch for volunteer information; without enough help, this fundraising event will be cancelled.



# August 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
8:30 AM Intro to Mindfulness 10:00 AM Worship/RE 11:15 AM Camp Beagle Meeting	6:00 PM UU Humanists					
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8:30 AM Intro to Mindfulness 10:00 AM Worship/RE				7:00 PM Mindfulness Practice Group		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8:30 AM Intro to Mindfulness 10:00 AM Worship/RE				7:00 PM Mindfulness Practice Group		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
8:30 AM Intro to Mindfulness 10:00 AM Worship/RE	6:00 PM UU Humanists			7:00 PM Mindfulness Practice Group		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
8:30 AM Intro to Mindfulness	7:00 PM Coming to the Table			7:00 PM Mindfulness Practice Group	7:00 PM Full Moon Celebration 8:00 PM Fourth Friday Concert	9:00 AM Outdoor Club
9:00 AM Blood Drive						
10:00 AM Worship NO RE						
8:30 AM Intro to Mindfulness 10:00 AM Worship/RE						
30	31					







## 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](mailto: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](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 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](mailto: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](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 [mpg@uuannapolis.org](mailto: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](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 Heather Millar; [heathermillar@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 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:** Naturalism-Science-Reason-Wonder-Compassion-Community-Respect. Book discussions and film viewings as announced. Meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month; 6:00 PM potluck and 7:00 PM discussion; in the narthex. 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 7/31/15

Next Issue Deadline: 8/15/15

Next Mailing: 8/25/15

## 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)**

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Paul Berry	Youth Coordinator	<a href="mailto:pberry@uuannapolis.org">pberry@uuannapolis.org</a>
Joshua Long	Director of Contemporary Music	<a href="mailto:jlong@uuannapolis.org">jlong@uuannapolis.org</a>
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