

HIGHLIGHTS

To create the Beloved Community by inspiring and empowering all souls to live bold and compassionate lives.

Remember The Question Box Sermon? Our Answers.

By Rev. Kathleen Rolenz and Rev. John T. Crestwell, Jr.

On September 2, during the *Question Box* service, we promised to address your questions and publish our responses at a later date. This month, in our combined column we are offering our responses to your questions. We will be placing your remaining questions on the website when we finish answering them!



Q. What are the biggest challenges you see UUCA facing during this interim period?

A. The biggest challenge facing UUCA during the interim period will be (a) getting clear on whether or not you want to grow in size, which means changes to your building and (b) what kind of ministry will best serve your needs in the next chapter of UUCA's life? I've heard a great deal of ambivalence about growing the congregation, which surprises me. Many congregations say they want to grow, but actually are unlikely to do so given their size limitations, the dynamics of the congregation, the locale, etc. UUCA has already outgrown its existing building, and yet there still seems to be conflicting feelings about growth. The second point – what kind of ministry you want is different than asking “what kind of **minister** do you want. That's the wrong question to ask. Looking at who you are now, what's important to maintain and what you hope to accomplish in the future is part of the next challenge for UUCA during the interim time. (KR)

Q. Can I be my best self as a UU and not explore, not live my spiritual beliefs?

A. No. Imagine this. You were given a healthy body at birth, which has always functioned for you. You never took care of it, you never invested in your health and you grew increasingly weak through lack of use. You may certainly be alive with such a body, but what is your quality of life? So it is with developing our best self; what I like to call growing in spiritual maturity. We like to say that being a Unitarian Universalist is about “deeds, not creeds.” While it's also true that deeds, i.e, how you live your life is crucial, your spiritual beliefs are what frame your actions. (KR)

Q. In your opinion, what is the biggest challenge facing the UU Church today?

A. Accepting and empowering the generational shift is the biggest challenge for our faith in the years ahead. There are over 1,000 UU congregations across the United States. Most of them are small—less than 150 members—mostly white, racially, and aging—with average ages consisting of mostly Baby Boomers. There is a huge generational gap—a crises really because we don't have generational diversity—not enough Gen X and Y leadership. In her workshop and books, non-profit guru, and author, Kim Klein shared the trajectory and development of religious and social institutions as a result of the Baby Boom. Hundreds of thousands of liberal religious and secular not-for-profits emerged over the last fifty years. However, without transitioning their wealth, power, and authority to new talent, many of these progressive institutions will eventually close their doors. Investment is required by those in authority, which means hiring and training new talent that will bring fresh eyes and new ways of thinking; ways focused on new forms of communicating, financial resource stewardship, member maintenance, as well as recruitment of new members. The diversity we seek in our pews will come from future generations. Most UU churches lack in racial diversity because the generation leading was not very diverse, socially. That barrier, will not be as great with future generations. Additionally, new generations will be browner and this too is a challenge facing our liberal faith. (JC)

Q. What causes people to hate other groups of people?

A. Tribalism. Look that word up. It's innate in human beings to choose your tribe or group that is most like you. Family is a tribe, as is favorite sports teams, affinity groups, neighborhoods, etc. *Like attracts like* and this is why diversity is so hard. It's not normal for our species to seek out that which is different and sometimes wholly different. We are animals at our core and in some ways tribalism will always exist. What we as UUs seek to do is to get people to *draw the circle wider*. I like to say, *Increase the circle of privilege* so that our UU family becomes the human family. This is our most daring vision and will take many reincarnations and evolutions to come to fruition. I believe it will someday. My best advice is to *be the change* and be a bridge-builder wherever you are no matter what tribe you find yourself in. May it be so. (JC)

What does it mean to be
a people of MEMORY?



Sunday Services at UUCA - Two Services 9 AM & 11:15 AM

November 4 - *Mind the Gap* with Guest Minister, The Rev. Dr. Kate Walker

The *Mind the Gap* campaign in London was created to alert people to the gap between the cars of the London Underground and the side of the platform. It's meant to protect people from injury. Yet, serving as a metaphor, the gap is often exactly where people find themselves all too often, and exactly where moments of growth and change can bring deeper meaning in life. Rev. Walker is the Senior Minister of the Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church in Alexandria, VA and serves as UUCA's Transitions Coach. Music by UUCA Choir.

Christmas Eve Services

This year, we will have two Christmas Eve Services instead of three; one at 5:00 PM which is especially geared for children and families and a more traditional service at 7:00 PM.

See you then!

November 11- *Remembering Democracy* with Revs. Kathleen Rolenz & John Crestwell

Unitarian Universalists 5th principle encourages us to affirm and promote: The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large. In a joint sermon following the mid-term election, Revs. John and Kathleen will reflect on the meaning of democracy in a nation divided by the threat of tribalism. Can this election serve as a wake-up call for new era of civic engagement? Or, is democracy in deep peril? Music by Joshua Long and the Pop-Up Choir.

November 18 - *A Table Together* A Multigenerational Service for all ages

Revs. Kathleen Rolenz, John Crestwell, Leika Lewis Cornwell, Intern Minister

At many Thanksgiving tables there is the "adult" table and there is the "kids" table. This service will look at the ways in which being part of a multigenerational community is not only a blessing, but an opportunity to learn, grow and deepen. Music by UUCA Choir

November 25 - *The Long Goodbye* with Leika Lewis Cornwell

The holidays can be a time of joy and also a time of struggle. This service will open space for all the complicated feelings we carry during this season of light and darkness.

Music by Sara Jones.

Middle Hour Sessions November 2018

| November 4 | November 11 | November 18 | November 25 |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| Inquirers 6 - Social Action & Justice LIBRARY 8th Principle Practice Session Micro-aggressions - SANCTUARY Therapeutic Collage MACLEAN ROOM Hearing the 2019 Budget YOUNG ROOM | Inquirers 7 - Pastoral Care & Small Groups - LIBRARY 8th Principle Practice Session Tools for Being a White Ally SANCTUARY Therapeutic Collage MACLEAN ROOM | Inquirers 8— Membership 101 (req) LIBRARY Orchestra Performance Practice SANCTUARY Therapeutic Collage MACLEAN ROOM Board Conversation/Governance YOUNG ROOM | New Members Ceremony— LIBRARY |

Book Study on Robin DiAngelo's *What Does it Mean to be White*

By Thornell Jones

The opportunity to participate in a study group of Robin DiAngelo's book *What Does It Mean To Be White-Developing White Racial Literacy* (revised edition) is being offered again beginning on November 5 and every 1st and 4th Monday from 7-9 PM until the book is covered. This is the 4th time this is being offered as an opportunity to explore our personal experience with race, not just what we explicitly remember but what we have been socialized to *know* and hence act out of. If you have been reluctant to talk about race, or just never had an opportunity to have extensive conversations about it, this is your chance to break through that barrier. Understanding our experiences and daily *training* through family, the media, and images needs to be explored and sorted out. This in-depth

Monthly Book Club on *Unconscious Bias and Race*

By Thornell Jones

Another opportunity for in-depth study of unconscious bias and how US history has helped us develop it, is the Monthly Book Club starting on November 8 and held on the 2nd Thursday of every month from 7-9 PM.

Discussing a new book every month, we will be starting in November with Robin DiAngelo's *White Fragility*. This book will help us understand why it is so hard to talk about race and pave the way for our in-depth conversations about the books that follow.

The book for December is Richard Rothstein's *The Color of Law* which will help us understand how our patchwork housing, and hence schools, developed and the role conscious and unconscious bias played in that. In trying to solve the present day

Q. As a person of color, how can I be sure our members will all be diligent about working on the 8th Principle?

A. Other than mandating a certain level of 8th Principle competence for all members, both long-time and new, and insist that they take an anti-racism literacy test which they must pass before engaging with the church, you can't. What you can do is to ask that the group most active in this area, the BBC, and the leadership and staff at UUCA continue to agitate for active involvement and engagement with the 8th principle in all that we do. You can partner with other people of color in the congregation to form a caucus which can request action items to be led by the Board and/or the Executive. Finally, you can talk to fellow members in groups and during social time and middle hour, to determine where people are (or aren't) on their journey towards racial awareness. You can encourage them to stretch themselves. You can ask for help and support from other people of color or allies in the Congregation. (KR)

Q. What does UUCA offer those of us who get the most from intellectual, thoughtful services over spiritual & emotional ones?

A. Things that are intellectual are also emotional and things that are spiritual can also be intellectual. We often create false dichotomies around things that make us uncomfortable. It is better to ask, "Why do I feel this way? Am I referring to the music, speaker, mood in the room, or something else? Your ministers only have four and sometimes five Sundays a month to find the right balance for a very theologically diverse audience. It's not easy but we try script the entire 60-65 minutes of the worship to embody both the intellectual and emotional because they are interconnected. (JC)

Q. When do I know that I am doing the work that the spirit wants me to do especially when it is painful and difficult?

A. There is no precise answer for this question, but I can tell you what I've discovered from 15 years as Spiritual Director and in Spiritual Direction myself. When I am faced with a difficult or vexing problem, I take it into my meditation and prayer time. I say "meditation and prayer" because I do both – have a zazen sitting practice and a prayer practice. I present the concern, and then I wait, and watch and listen for the answer. More often than not, when I feel directed to confront something that is painful, I look for whether or not that pain is coming from my fear of confronting the issue, or my fear of NOT confronting it. I've found in the past that the hardest work that the Spirit is calling me to attend to is painful, because there usually is a truth which I don't want to face. If I am in doubt about whether or not "the Spirit" is asking me to do something or whether or not it's my own will or ego or desire, I check it out with my own Spiritual Director. It's a process that takes some time – usually the truth that I need to hear cannot be revealed in one session. I can say, however, that after many years of doing the work that I believe the spirit wants me to do, I have suffered more by NOT confronting difficult and painful truths. I'm here if you need to talk more about this. (JC)

Where's the New Website?

Rev. Kathleen is working with Yurich Creative, a web designer she has used in the past. The basic design for the site is done; now the laborious process of populating the site, making sure all the information is up to date and the web links work is in process. We are now looking at a launch date of December 1st. Thank you for your patience.

Administrative Update By Susan Eckert, Business Administrator

November brings a flurry of activity with building improvements – look for flooring upgrades in the Sanctuary, Foyer and Narthex and an opening up of the Foyer/Narthex area to create more room for fellowship. The Executive Team and Finance Committee are digging into the challenge of creating a draft budget for next year, with opportunities for your review, questions and feedback before it goes to a congregational vote in December. And don't forget the Annual Holiday Basket Auction that kicks off November 18. We need your participation to make this FUNdraiser a success!

Finances are looking good heading into 4th Quarter. As of September 30 revenues are ahead of expenses by \$9k for the year. We have come through the (often sluggish) summer months with strong pledge income currently ahead of budget by \$4k and expenses continuing to remain in check for the year.

November 2018



The not-so-good news is that cash available for operating expenses is at \$39k. We need closer to \$60K in order to pay bills and meet payroll. We often see a dip in cash at this time of year, but it can't continue if we expect to maintain normal operations – inspiring worship, a vibrant RE program, meetings and forums for social justice. The Executive Team and Finance Committee will keep an eye on this number for the next few months. On another positive note, overall pledges on the books is up to \$549,199 – that's \$9k over our target of \$540,000 for 2018. Having 12 new pledge units in September certainly helps, as does your response to the request for your pledge form for the coming year.

Thank you to Charlotte Wallace, Phyllis Culham and Dianne Moreau who jumped right in to address problem storage closets in the Fahs House and to coordinate a haul-away of discarded items in both buildings.

Preparations for the December 2nd Congregational Meeting

On **December 2 at 10:30 AM** we are scheduled to gather for our **Congregational Meeting** with the main business being the adoption of our 2019 Budget. Because the congregation voted in 2017 to become a Sanctuary Church and this year to approve the Resolution to Support the 8th Principle, the Sanctuary Team and BBC will provide brief updates on their work and plans.

THE BUDGET is the main business of the meeting. Staff, Finance Committee and the Board are devoting much time and energy to develop a budget that reflects our principles and End Statements. The cost of funding our programs including staff and building maintenance exceeds our pledge commitments. Because we have passed the Resolution to support the 8th Principle *to accountably dismantle racism AND OTHER OPPRESSIONS in ourselves and our institutions*, it is important that we pay staff commensurate with their responsibilities and experience. Therefore the proposed budget includes salary increases. Please consider increasing your pledge, if possible at this time, and setting up electronic payments if you have not already done so.

There are three times when the proposed **budget** will be discussed before the Congregational Meeting: **November 4 Middle Hour, November 11 After Hour at 12:30 PM. and November 13 at 7:00 PM.**

Additional information will be provided during the Congregational Meeting. The Governance Team will propose Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws and arrangements to acquaint the congregation with their work and seek comments about the

documents and related topics. The Board will present the current timeline for transition to settled ministry. The Nominating Committee will confirm positions to be filled in April, Rev. Kathleen will report on facility usage.

The next **Board Meeting** is scheduled for **November 19 at 6:45 PM** in the Library. *Note this is a change from the usual second Monday meeting time.*

The board is frequently asked to provide opportunities to share updates and receive input from the congregation. In response to those requests, the Board of Trustees is offering the following opportunities, please plan to participate:

Interim Senior Minister Tasks

- November 2 & 3—*Telling Our Congregation's Story*

Budget Discussions

- November 4 - Middle Hour
- November 11 - 12:30 PM
- November 13 - 7:00 PM

Governance Team Discussions

- November 18 - Middle Hour

(January - March Middle Hours, After Hours, evening and Saturday meetings)

Congregational Meeting

- December 2 - 10:30 AM to 12:15 PM

Transition to Settled Ministry Sessions

- January 8 - 7:00 to 8:30 PM
- January 9 - 8:00 to 9:00 PM (zoom)
- January 13 - 12:30 to 2:00 PM
- January 13 - 3:00 to 4:30 PM (zoom)
- January 19 - 9:00 to 10:30 AM
- January 19 - 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM (zoom)

Keeping Our Space Beautiful Update

By Dianne Moreau

The Keeping Our Space Beautiful Committee is creating a roomier Narthex by offering a relevant communication tool.

The Committee has been meeting with Rev. Kathleen and Susan Eckert to find hidden pockets of space in the Narthex, (where crowded coffee hours and big cardboard displays are currently the norm), our findings revealed that UUCA's time for 21st century communicating is now.

There are many other UU churches choosing to communicate events, meetings, church updates and other information via a monitor instead of cardboard displays. Leika Lewis-Cornwell has researched this possibility for UUCA and found that our entrance and Narthex will truly open up by scaling down the display tables and putting up a monitor.

Together, after much discussion and research, the combined group agreed to place a monitor in the Narthex area and remove the big tables. Groups will be advertising events, meetings and updates by submitting slides containing their

Out and About the Building

By Rev. Kathleen Rolenz

Space usage. Attendance has been high this fall – which is a great problem to have! At the same time, demands for space are at a premium. This is a reminder to always book a room with [Maurita](#) and if you are not going to need the room, please let her know asap. Don't assume a room will be available, especially on Sunday mornings.

Sanctuary renovations: The new carpet and tile area will be installed between November 12 – 16. The staff wants to thank Carly and Ken Piel who led the effort to refinish and stain the chancel (stage) steps!

November's Share the Plate

The recipient for November's Share the Plate is the [Conflict Resolution Center](#). On Sunday, November 4, staff member Leah Berry will introduce the offering and let the congregation know about the Center's work.

Intern Minister Update

By Leika Lewis-Cornwell, Intern Minister



We've likely all experienced it: that moment of sudden familiarity in a place, or with a person, we wouldn't expect. Scientists don't quite understand why we experience déjà vu, and while I look forward to learning more as they discover more, the truth is that in a way,

it doesn't matter.

Déjà vu is our brains telling us, for whatever reason, that we've already experienced this moment. And yet, no matter how many familiar elements we can identify, this moment is still new, with new opportunities, new challenges, and new potential to create something beautiful. As we head into the holiday season, many people feel like they're repeating old patterns: complicated family dynamics, tensions new and old, the weight of expectations and, underlying it all, the joy and sorrow that can come from that come along with being human together.

No matter how familiar those old patterns may feel, though, together we have so many opportunities over the next few months, to build a new narrative, to create something beautiful. On November 6th, we have the opportunity to make our voices heard by voting in the midterm elections and continuing to shape a new set of conversations in our county. I've heard people say, "what if this is just like 2016 again?" Déjà vu. Just a few weeks later, we have the opportunity to reflect on gratitude at Thanksgiving, while recognizing the complicated stories and experiences that brought us here. "As soon as I go back home," other people say, "I fall back into the same old patterns." Déjà vu. Or, "the holidays are always such a hard time." Déjà vu. But this time, this year, this moment is new, and holds new hope and new possibilities. Take those, then, and make memories.

Holidays & The Mindfulness Practice Group

By Phyllis Culham

UUCA's Mindfulness Practice Group will be discussing topics from *The Book of Joy* by the Dalai Lama & Archbishop Desmond Tutu with meditations during the holidays. All Thursday sessions are 7-8:30 PM with, usually, 40 min. of silent meditation in the sanctuary. Sunday sessions are 8:30-9:30 AM in the Emerson Rm. & offer 20 min. of guided meditation.

Thurs. Nov. 22: Mapping the Kingdom of Joy: "Exalted States"

Sun. Nov. 25: Loneliness, Envy & Gratitude

Thurs. Nov. 29: Thanksgiving: No session

Sun. Dec. 2: [Hanukkah starts] Sadness, Grief, Despair

Thurs. Dec. 6: Fear, Stress, Anxiety, Frustration, Anger

Sun. Dec. 9: [Hanukkah ending] Perspective, Humility

Thurs. Dec. 13: Suffering, Adversity, Acceptance

Sun. Dec. 16: Loneliness & Compassion

Thurs. Dec. 20: Forgiveness & Generosity

Sun. Dec. 23: Illness & Fear of Death [Death Café XIII follows in Middle Hour]

Membership Matters

By Joshua Long, New Member Coordinator



On September 23rd, our Intern Minister (Leika Lewis-Cornwell) led a beautiful service on the harvest celebration as we welcomed 12 new members to our congregation. I'm happy to report our next new members class is going to be just as large.

The growth taking place at UUCA is remarkable. New members - we welcome you, we are your congregation, you are home. As UUCA continues to grow & receive new members, let's agree that growth isn't easy. We outwardly proclaim that UUCA is a welcoming environment for ALL while we are unknowingly sending people away because of church culture. We are holding onto memories of how things used to be. Our constant attempts to revive the past are futile for focusing what's behind us is causing us to miss the beauty that lies ahead. Numerous opportunities to create phenomenal new memories are found by focusing forward, let's embrace them.

Our congregation is growing and our edifice remains exactly the same. Now is the time to make room for ALL by doing our best to accommodate all. Creative accommodating may include room rearrangements, shared meeting spaces, designated spaces for larger groups, and a true sense of flexibility. Our commitment to live by our Universalist heritage where all souls are truly welcome, where we are all redeemed, where we are all enough - we must be willing to actively engage newcomers, sincerely welcome our new members, and enthusiastically embrace UUCA's growth by carving new memories with new members and truly growing our circle wider.

Small Group Ministry. The Crownsville/Parole group & the Young Adult groups are up and running.

Thank you to those who came out to the AACC Coming Out Fair to represent the church.

Welcoming & Membership department. Help is needed. If you have an hour or two once a week to come help out in the office, please send me an [email](#). It is a great way to help our community as we continue to transform and grow.

Join the UU Humanists this Autumn

By Cliff Andrew

Enlightenment NOW - the Case for Reason, Science, Humanism and Progress by Steven Pinker

1st & 3rd Tuesdays: November 6 & 20 December 4 & 18

Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis Narthex

6:00 PM - Potluck Dinner (bring a potluck dinner item to share)

6:30 PM - Discussion

UU Humanists: Science, Reason, Integrity, Naturalism, Wonder, Humility, Respect, Compassion, and Community

Our meetings are open to all, and we welcome newcomers.

This book is available for purchase in the UUCA bookstore.

Stone Soup is a beloved magical holiday experience that is completely unique to UUCA. There are holiday themed crafts in the afternoon followed by a telling of the story of Stone Soup and then the eating of the Stone Soup that has been lovingly made throughout the day. The youth contribute the Christmas Tree which is decorated using the crafts made by the children. It is a beautiful moment of living into Beloved Community.

Another example of our congregation living into Beloved Community occurs at our multigenerational Passover Seder. The Seder used to be coordinated and organized by the RE staff. It has become more meaningful and robust as the lay-people of the congregation have taken ownership over the Seder. We would like to try the same model with Stone Soup. A committed group of three volunteers will form the Stone Soup task-force and take leadership for the event. There will

be a good amount of planning and volunteer recruiting to do leading up to the event and it will be over after December 9 with no long-term commitment. Stone Soup can be as awesome as ever, we just need a few volunteers to step in and coordinate the evening's festivities. If you are the life-of-the-party and love hosting large gatherings, this is the volunteer gig for you. If you are a craft fanatic and can't wait to break out the glitter glue, this is the volunteer gig for you. If Stone Soup is the event that you look forward to every year and you couldn't bear to see a year pass without it, this is the volunteer gig for you.

We need three people to commit to the Stone Soup task-force by November 1, to continue with our cherished Stone Soup celebration this year. Make sure Stone Soup happens by contacting [Leika Lewis-Cornwell](#) or [Dayna Edwards](#) today and let them know you want to be on the Stone Soup task-force.

YRUU Youth in Action at The Wendi Winters Memorial Blood Drive

By Laura Schrank, Youth Coordinator

This September, The American Red Cross and Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis co-sponsored the first Wendi Winters Memorial Blood Drive. It was a day that was both moving and empowering, as we celebrated Wendi's life by sharing stories and giving a small part of ourselves to an organization Wendi dearly loved.

Another of Wendi's passion was working with the youth in the congregation. It was inspiring to see so many young people at the drive! Ella Wallace took charge of the Kids Corner by recruiting volunteers and planning activities for the children. Ella spent the entire day Saturday volunteering, and was joined by faithful helpers Carlena Hall, Simone Wallace and Willow Whitaker. Over the course of the day, they supported families by caring for over 30 children. Sixteen year-olds Bryce RiceWoolf and Owen Fleming also showed amazing leadership by stepping up to actually donate blood.

We are so thankful to everyone who volunteered and donated. It was wonderful to see so many members of the church come together with the greater community to honor Wendi. Endless thanks to all who participated.

UUCA Outdoor Club & Green Sanctuary Walk

By Eloise Hoyt

Come join us on Saturday, November 17 from 9:00AM to 12:00PM for a walk at Bacon Ridge Natural Area in Crownsville, MD. We'll be meeting at UUCA at 9 AM to carpool. Following our walk we'll enjoy a group lunch at a local restaurant. For additional information contact [Eloise Hoyt](#) via email or by calling 410-768-4932.

Volunteer Positions in the Church

By Rev. Kathleen Rolenz, Interim Senior Minister

The church is a busy place and is run by volunteers and supported by its staff. As we look ahead to 2019, here are some specific volunteer opportunities I anticipate needing. I'd love to talk to you about any or all of these opportunities to connect, grow and serve. Contact [Rev. Kathleen Rolenz](#), Interim Senior Minister.

- **Becoming a Worship Leader.** Applications are being accepted now to join the Worship Leader Team for the 2019 church year. Worship Leaders assist the ministers in the creation of the service, learn about sermon writing, liturgy, and music and may have the opportunity to offer a sermon during the summer. Applications for worship leaders can be found on the website ([link here](#)), paper copies can be found in the church office. Please return them to [Rev. Kathleen Rolenz](#) by December 1st.
- **Fundraising – The Service Auction.** To make our budget and goals, we need to raise at least \$25K. I'd like to see UUCA do a more robust service auction next Fall. Part party, part celebration, part fund-raiser, yes, it's work – but it's also a lot of fun. Seems to me that UUCA needs to have some fun – why not raise money in the process?
- **Leadership Development Team.** UUCA needs to develop a process by which leaders are recruited, nurtured, trained and sent forth! Are you interested in being part of a leadership development team? You know what to do.
- **Facilitators.** UUCA will be in need of people experienced in, or willing to be trained in group facilitation for 2019. There is an excellent training already in place at UUCA – but I'd like to see the pool of potential facilitators expanded this year. Interested?
- **Building Expansion & Space Analysis.** If trends continue, UUCA will soon outgrow its building. Can we begin to prepare for that possibility now?
- **Religious Exploration.** Camp Beagle will be here before you know it. WE will begin the process of recruiting volunteers for Camp Beagle in February. **Stone Soup** – see article above. This is a beloved tradition at UUCA, but has relied heavily on staff, particularly the DRE to happen. We need volunteers to assist with this important multigenerational event. Contact: [Dayna Edwards](#)

Anne Arundel Connecting Together (ACT!)

By Linda Mundy



Anne Arundel Connecting Together (ACT!) Launches, United and in Search of Solutions that Go Beyond the Politics of Division. (reprinted from METRO-IAF)

As the multi-congregational choir raised the roof, over 1,100 people from Anne Arundel county overflowed into First Christian Community Church and into a tent set up outside. They committed to ACT and to work together to make Anne Arundel County a better place for everyone to live. Over 115 members from UUCA joined in this momentous event!

After more than two years of listening to communities, congregations and individuals, including 2,800 *one-on-one* conversations, six broad issues were identified:

- **Affordable Housing**
- **Safe and Effective Schools**
- **Efficient and Useful Public Transportation**
- **Freedom from Addiction and Mental Health Challenges**
- **Just and Fair Immigration Policies**
- **Gun Violence Reduction and Safety in our Communities**

During the action, candidates for county council, state's attorney and county executive were asked if they would pledge to work with and meet regularly with ACT. Launch and recognition of our new organization has been proclaimed a success! Email [Linda Mundy](mailto:Linda.Mundy) if you are interested in joining our UUCA Core Team; want to join an issue team or have skills to volunteer with financial management, administrative tasks.

Upcoming Green Sanctuary Events

By Scott Eden

Managing Landscapes Without Toxic Pesticides: Protecting children, families, and the environment, a talk given by Jay Feldman, being held in the sanctuary on Tuesday, October 30, at 7 PM. Mr. Feldman is the cofounder of *Beyond Pesticides*. He has dedicated himself to finding solutions to pesticide problems through *Beyond Pesticides'* capacity to assist local groups and impact national pesticide policy. The event is free but donations are accepted. Mom's Organic Market will provide light refreshments. Donations will benefit UUCA, Beyond Pesticides, and Annapolis Green. For more information, contact [Scott Eden](mailto:Scott.Eden).

A tour of St. Luke's Episcopal Church's *Restoration of Nature* project in Eastport will take place at 11 AM on Saturday, November 3. It is a 1.1 million dollar project on their 4 acres of waterfront property. They re-established a stream and are using many best practices to manage storm water runoff. There is no charge. We'll plan to have a meal together after the tour, at a local restaurant. Please contact [Scott Eden](mailto:Scott.Eden) for more information and to sign up for the tour.

Sanctuary Committee Announcements

By Anita Ramundo

November 2, 5-11PM - Dia De Los Muertos Block Party (between Edgewood Ave & Margaret Ave) Free for all ages, Latin Food and beverages for sale, Music, dancing, Costume contest, Kids zone, arts and handcrafts gallery. Dress as a Mexican Skeleton. This celebration is sponsored by the City of Annapolis, The Center of Help and the Annapolis Design District. Volunteers are needed to sell tickets, provide security during event and assist with activities during the evening. For more information contact [Adriana Lee](mailto:Adriana.Lee) at 410 570-9052.

November 8, 6:30 PM - Harvest of Empire - Public Viewing At Calvary United Methodist Church, 301 Rowe Blvd. The UUCA Sanctuary Committee in collaboration with AIJN (Annapolis Immigration Justice Network) will be showing the film entitled *Harvest of Empire*. A voluntary collection will be taken after the public screening to benefit the AIJN legal assistance fund. The film examines the direct connection between a long history of US intervention in Latin and South America to the immigration crisis we face today.

Interested in building a stronger personal connection with our immigrant neighbors? The following three Annapolis non profit organizations are looking for volunteers to help with tutoring, translating documents, drivers, tutoring/mentoring, grant writing, event planning and publicity. Share some of your time and talent with your immigrant neighbors for further information contact:

- **The Center of Help**
410 295 3434, Sean Schneider, Director
e-mail: sean.schneider@centerofhelp.org
- **OHLA (Organization of Hispanic & Latin Americans)**
410 269 4421, Tony Gamboa, President <http://ohlainc.org>
- AIJN (Annapolis Immigrant Justice Network)
410 279 7164, Kelly Price, Vice President,
e-mail: kellyquinnprice@gmail.com

Honoring Our Ancestors At Samhain

By Brenda Holley

Watching the leaves drift gently to the ground, I'm glad to see the arrival of autumn. The colorful crunchy leaves, cool nights, crisp apples, pumpkins everywhere- this is my favorite time of year. One of my favorite things is Full Circle's annual ritual honoring our ancestors. Cultures all over the world have holidays around November 1 honoring and celebrating those who have gone before, such as All Saints Day & Dia de los Muertos, that are the origin of what we celebrate as Halloween. For pagans that sacred day is called Samhain (pronounced sow-en).

Each year, Full Circle's Samhain is centered around walking a large labyrinth that takes up most of the sanctuary floor. There are tables around the edges, where participants are welcome to create altars in honor of their ancestors. Yet each year, the experience of walking the labyrinth and meditating in

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Arts in the Woods Features Solo Pianist Jennifer Nicole Campbell

By Paula Degen

Award-winning pianist and composer Jennifer Nicole Campbell brings Beethoven's music to life in a creative program titled "Lineage to Ludwig" on Sunday, November 4, at 3:00 p.m. In this Arts in the Woods concert, Campbell explores her musical lineage back to Ludwig van Beethoven in a program that includes Beethoven's Piano Sonata Op. 22, a rarely performed Barcarolle by Theodore Leschetizky, and two world premiers of her original compositions, among other selections. She will offer insights into the meaning of the works through vivid descriptions of the music and personal letters of the composers.

Campbell is a graduate of Peabody Conservatory where she studied with Brian Ganz, who serves as artistic director for the UUCA concert series. She has also worked with Leon Fleisher, Seymour Lipkin, Richard Goode, and Matti Raekallio, among others. Her diverse awards include two first prizes in the Rosalyn Tureck International Bach Competition (2010), first prize in the 1000 Islands International Chopin Competition, and both the Presser Scholar Award and Alumni Award from Peabody Conservatory. She has performed at concert halls in New York, Philadelphia, and Denmark; and her compositions for solo piano have been performed in Vienna, Zurich, and the Ukraine, as well as in the U.S. She serves as composer in residence for the Academy of International Ballet and as adjunct faculty at Cecil College and the Music School of Delaware, while maintaining a private piano studio outside Philadelphia and an active performance schedule.

The Arts in the Woods concert series provides outstanding professional performers at affordable prices. Tickets for the November 4 concert are \$15 at the door; free to youth 16 and under. Next month, jazz vocalist Sara Jones will close out the 2018 series on Sunday, December 2. The 2019 series kicks off on Sunday, January 6, with an all-Chopin concert by classical pianist Brian Ganz. For information, visit www.uuannapolis.org or contact the church office.

Arts in the Woods concerts are a music ministry to the community and an opportunity to support UUCA. We hope to see you there.

Monthly Book Club on Unconscious Bias & Race

By Thornell Jones

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lack of adequate housing for everyone, this book will help us see the role various entities in our communities played in setting the patterns we have today. To avoid similar actions in solving the problem we are faced with, we will see clearly how difficult it will be to do so without knowledge of prior government and community actions.

This monthly book club sponsored by the Building Beloved Community Team is an adjunct, not a substitute, to the 8th Principle Practice Sessions being held weekly during Middle Hour. It is being facilitated by Thornell Jones.

Please let [Thornell Jones](#) know that you are planning to participate via email or by calling 301-332-1864.

The Caribbean is Coming to UUCA!

By Len Langrick, Director of Music - Choir

As part of our *Arts in the Woods* series the Catonsville High School Steel Drum Band is coming to UUCA. On February 10, 2019, at 3:00 PM the sanctuary will be filled with sounds of the islands, bringing warmth and cheer to our winter! Could the event include food/beverages? Youth activities? A fundraising component? Consider being part of a short term task force to brainstorm ideas for this mid-winter family-friendly event! Contact [Len Langrick](#) or the [UUCA office](#) to volunteer.

Emma's Revolution - Huge Success

By Jan Bird

The concert on Friday, October 12 by Emma's Revolution with Josh Long for the benefit of our UU Legislative Ministry of Maryland was a huge success enjoyed by about 150 folks. The music was fun, serious and uplifting. Many thanks to the youth and adult volunteers who made it possible! They are: publicity-Sally Ehrle; tickets - Carrie Kotcho, Lee Irving, Paula Degen; parking-Thornell Jones, Craig Beyler, Scott Eden; ushers- Ginny Klocko, Sally Wood, Margaret Wolff, Marty, Emily and Natalie Eгна; reception-Becky Morris, Debby Masterson, Diane Ratcliff, Dianne and Dan Moreau; refreshments-Kathy Higdon, Tori Davis, Azalea Clickenger, Charlotte and Ella Wallace; sound booth-Sean Woolums assisted by Jeffrey Wood. The UULM organizing team was Margery Knight, Ashley Egan and Jan Bird.

Pop-Up Choir Sunday

By Joshua Long, Director of Music - Ensembles

Sunday November 11

- Rehearsal 8 AM, Performances @ 9 & 11:15 AM
- All are welcome to sing, no prior experience necessary.

UUCA Philharmonic Encore Performance!

by Len Langrick, Director of Music-Choir

Performances: Sunday, December 9 at both the 9:00 AM and 11:15 AM services (no participation at Stone Soup this year)

Practice: Middle Hour (10:15-11:00 AM) on Sunday, Nov. 18

Join in the fun of making music with your fellow instrumentalists. All levels are invited! Contact: [Len Langrick](#)

Book Study on Robin DiAngelo's What Does it Mean to be White

By Thornell Jones

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study group sponsored by the Building Beloved Community Team is an adjunct, not a substitute, to the 8th Principle Practice Sessions being held weekly during Middle Hour. This offering is being facilitated by Thornell Jones & Gwen Schindler.

Please let [Thornell Jones](#) know that you are planning to participate via email or by calling 301-332-1864.

Events & Happenings at UUCA

African Diaspora Identity Group: A relational group of adults that meet monthly to share experiences, perspectives, and challenges particular to individuals of African descent. Newcomers welcome. Contact: LE Gomez; le_for3@yahoo.com.

Amnesty International: The Annapolis Chapter of Amnesty International meets on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 1PM in the Reeb 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.

Beacon Program: Designed for new members to be partnered with a current UUCA member (Beacon). A Beacon will follow up with new members for the first year, offering support, and notifying of events. Contact: Ellen Gaston; ekgaston@sbcglobal.net

Coming to the Table: meets on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary. Dissolving racism with understanding through conversation. Contact: Jane Carrigan; janecarrigan54@gmail.com.

Drum Circle: A spiritual and meditative practice group open to all levels, no experience necessary. Bring a drum if you have one or use one of the group's drums. Meets on 2nd Mondays and 4th Tuesdays from 7:30—9 PM. Contact: Kate Holmes; k3holmes@gmail.com

Fiber Arts Fellowship: needle crafters who meet on the second Thursday and fourth Sunday in the Young room. [Summer sessions vary] Contact: Ginger Parsons; ginparsons@aol.com

Full Circle: meets monthly at 7:30 PM on the Friday night closest to the full moon. An experiential earth-based celebration open to all women over age 18. Contact Keely Longo; klongo@uuannapolis.org

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.

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; mpg@uuannapolis.org.

"Inquirers" Series - Classes for Newcomers: A program to educate and integrate newcomers and to serve as a refresher for long-timers. The series is 8 one-hour classes led by ministers, staff and church members during Middle Hour or after church service in the summer months. Contact: Josh Long; jlong@uuannapolis.org

Light House Shelter Meals: UUCA members and friends prepare and serve dinner to shelter residents on the second Saturday of the

month. If you are interested in helping with meals for the Shelter, contact Rob Malone; rmalone68@gmail.com.

Mindfulness Practice Group: meets every Thursday in the sanctuary at 7:00 PM for meditation and dharma discussion.

Contact: Phyllis Culham; mpg@uuannapolis.org.

Outdoor Club: Holds monthly outdoor activities and outings for nature observation, companionship, spiritual sharing, and exercise.

Contact: Eloise Hoyt; eloisehoyt@verizon.net

The Tuesday Noon Lunch Bunch: Meets weekly mid-September - May in the narthex. Bring your lunch to eat during the half-hour social time, watch episodes of *CBS Religion & Culture News* as well as local & UU material suggested by the lunchers. Discussion follows. Contact: Bob Ertman; robertertman@msn.com.

UUCA Choir: with director Len Langrick; rehearses September-May every Wednesday at 7:00 PM. Provides relevant music twice a month for Sunday services. New members always welcome.

Contact: Len Langrick; llangrick@uuannapolis.org

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. Contact: Margery Knight; margeryknight@gmail.com or call 410-266-8044, ext. 111.

UU Humanists: Naturalism-Science-Reason-Wonder-Compassion-Community-Respect. Book discussions and film viewings. Meets the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month; 6:00 PM potluck and 7:00 PM discussion; in the narthex.

Contact Cliff Andrew at 410-404-7170 or neurol@jhmi.edu.

UU Theists: A group of people interested in a UU perspective of theism. Meets the second Sunday of the month before the first service. Contact: John Fischer; jwlfischer@gmail.com.

Women in Transition: A covenant group of women meeting to support each other with change and its adjustments and to build affiliations with UUCA members and community.

Contact: Sara Moulton; saramoulton33@gmail.com

Young Adult Group: Ministry that is focused on the spiritual formation and well-being of people ranging from ages 18-35. This group meets once a month at the church and does particular social events and social justice works throughout the year.

Contact: Devan Costello-Mays ; dcostellomays@gmail.com

Keeping Our Space Beautiful Update

By Dianne Moreau

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information in lieu of cardboard displays. Detailed information about this process is forthcoming. The Narthex monitor should be up and running by early December.

We are looking for a tasteful, slim sofa table to display handouts when needed. *Pop-up/temporary* tables advertising activities will still be available. These *pop-up/temporary* tables will be going up and coming down after each usage.

These changes require patience and communication as we transition. Thank you for your support as we continue to improve our communication for this Beloved Community!

Honoring Our Ancestors At Samhain

By Brenda Holley

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the center is personal, profound, and unique. It is a beautiful, healing way to be present in loss and to honor our beloved dead.

Our Samhain ritual is taking place on November 3-- altar building starts at 5 PM, ritual at 6 PM. This ritual is open to adults and older children/teens with a parent/guardian. We don't recommend small children attend because it is very quiet and introspective - they are likely to get bored and be disruptive to others' private journeys. Please bring a canned good to add to post-ritual soup. For more information contact [Brenda Holley](#) or visit the [Full Circle Facebook page](#).



HIGHLIGHTS

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

Return Service Requested

Dated Material; Please deliver by
11/1/2018

Next Issue Deadline: 11/15/2018

PROFESSIONAL, PROGRAM, AND CHURCH STAFF

Church Office Hours:

Monday –Thursday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM; Friday 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Closed Saturday and Sunday

Phone: 410-266-8044 www.uuannapolis.org

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| Sara Jones | Accompanist | |
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