



HIGHLIGHTS



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

Let the Mystery Be

By Rev. Kathleen Rolenz



What is it about this time of year that feels both so familiar and so mysterious at the same time? Of course what's familiar is the return of Christmas carols in department stores and shelves filled with "holiday stuff," gift buying, plans for parties and gatherings, special foods. Many families develop rituals around Diwali, Hanukkah or Christmas; grounding children in a sense of time and place. Our Wiccan/pagan members know this intimately, as they create rituals to celebrate the Winter solstice to recognize the shortest light/longest night of the year. The mystery of the Christmas story is one that resonates with all of us for when we look upon the face of an infant – something inside of us says "this one is Holy." Although everything seems to accelerate in December, the season itself, with the encroaching time of darkness, invites us to slow down, to go internal, to reflect even more deeply on why we are here, what we're about and what is holy for us.

UUCA is a very busy place. In a separate newsletter (available on-line and for hand-out at the Congregational meeting) I've tried to document all of the upcoming changes that are either already in place or on the horizon. I wrote this newsletter because I was having trouble keeping up with all the change – and I suspected that you would too. Yet, my hope is that this month we can all take a collective breath together. Let some things lay fallow for a little while. Come to church without an agenda and just "be." Be with one another. Notice, speak to, and appreciate our children and youth. Gravitate towards those things which nourish your soul. And then, in the words of singer songwriter Iris DeMent (and the title of the first Sunday's service in December), "Let the Mystery Be." Blessings, dear UUCA members and friends. See you in church. Rev. Kathleen



Giving to Sustain Our Living Tradition

By Rev. John T. Crestwell, Jr.



In this time of uncertainty, we can be certain that the UUCA will continue providing a diverse community of love and support for you and yours. We've been through many changes over the years but one thing remains the same—we are still here as a congregation of hope, compassion, love, and generosity in Annapolis and Anne Arundel County, Maryland.

It's important that we remain even more vigilant to protect our liberal tradition. Giving is critical to support our good work during a time when truth, freedom, and civility are under fire. Preserving and protecting our free-faith and its values for present and future generations requires more today.

Giving our time and talent is important in moving the moral arc—but equally, giving our treasure is vital to sustain our programs and institution as a whole. It costs almost \$800,000 annually to keep us in business, meaning that if every member gave \$160 per month (\$40 per week) we would easily take care of our needs. It has long been my vision for UUCA to be the largest philanthropic congregation in Maryland. With every one giving generously, as you are able, we can take our message and work deeper and further to have greater impact.

Two things: Your pledge. Members must fill out a pledge form as part of our covenant together. Use this link to complete your annual pledge if you haven't already: tinyURL.com/pledgeuuca.

Second, please give something to our end-of-year appeal. Our goal is to raise \$15,000 to help finish 2018 strong. We can accomplish this easily if everyone gives something. You can give your year-end gift online, drop it off in the church office, or mail-in a check.

We are a congregation and country in transition, but if we keep our spirits on all that is good and the good we do together, we will continue to thrive even when all around us is tenuous.

With your help, we will continue our mission of creating beloved communities inside and outside our doors. Thank you, sincerely. Happy Holidays!
Love, Rev. John

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

December 2 - *Let the Mystery Be* with Rev. Kathleen C. Rolenz - ONE SERVICE AT 9 AM

We spend much of our life trying to figure things out – where we came from, who and what are we and where we are going; yet woven in and amongst all of these questions persists randomness, uncertainty and deep mystery. This sermon will explore the spiritual practice of engaging with the unknown. Music by UUCA Choir and Joshua Long. **Congregational Meeting @ 10:30 AM.**



December 9 - *Does God Exist* with Rev. John Crestwell, Associate Minister

Perhaps we've all thought about this question? I have, often, and have drawn a few conclusions. Are you atheist, deist, theist, or none of the above but still believe in a greater good? How do you celebrate the holidays when they are based upon a narrative that says God entered the world through the birth of Jesus to lead humanity to salvation? In this holiday service, Rev. John will tackle the mystery of God and posit that everyone believes in a higher power. Music by Len Langrick and the UUCA Philharmonic Orchestra.

December 16 - Choral Sunday - A UUCA Choir & Instruments Presentation of Conrad Susa's *Lullabies and Carols: Christmas in the Southwest*. Conrad Susa's work is a Nativity celebration of the Americas. The choir will be accompanied by guitar, marimba, and harp as they sing a medley of traditional Spanish carols from Spain, Mexico and Puerto Rico.

December 23 - *The Brilliant Darkness* - A Multigenerational Service

"Where do we come from? What are we? Where are we going?" Scientists throughout the ages have explored permutations of these questions, perhaps none more so than those who look to the stars to plumb the mysteries of life. This service will explore the mystery of the "final frontier" and the ways we are all connected through, and to, the universe. Music by Sara Jones.

Special Advent Service Led by Rev. Kathleen Rolenz from 10:10—11:10 AM (Middle Hour) Young Room

This simple ritual includes welcoming Advent with the lighting of Advent Candles and a Transylvanian Communion Service, in honor and in recognition of our connection with our Hungarian partner churches.

December 24 - Christmas Eve Services @ 5 PM & 7 PM

5:00 PM – A Family Service designed especially for children and youth of all ages.

7:00 PM – A Lessons and Carols service which will be a more traditional Christmas Eve service telling the Christmas story through scripture, modern readings and carols.

December 30 - *Ice Cream for Astronauts* with Leika Lewis-Cornwell, Intern Minister

From the cold vacuum of space to the lush wilds of earthly jungles, wanderers have been heading out to explore the unknown since the dawn of time. No matter how intrepid these explorers, though, some of the small—some might say silly—reminders of home have traveled with them on their journeys. This multigenerational service will examine the ways we strike out to know mystery, and the things that keep us grounded on the way. Music by Josh Long.

Religious Exploration

By Dayna Edwards, RE Consultant



This time of transition in our congregation and our religious education program is kind of like an extended snow day – the perfect time for us as a faith community to show gratitude, reflect, and prepare.

I am grateful for our RE staff team. As a group they have jumped right in to ensure that our children and youth get everything

they need on Sunday mornings and beyond. It has been a blessing for me to support them as they learn about the sacred work of religious education.

As a team we have been reflecting on our personal philosophies of religious education. As a professional religious educator, I have found it much easier to make decisions with my philosophy of religious education clearly articulated in my head. Could our ministry to children and youth be even more powerful and transformative?

Soon, it will be time to prepare as we start preparing for the next church year (recruiting, making programming decisions, deciding where to put resources) in January. If you'd like to have a voice in these preparations, please consider joining the Religious Education Task Force. Contact [Julie Burman](#) for more information.

Stone Soup & Thank You from RE Team

By Julie Burman, Director of RE Youth



Our beloved annual Stone Soup will be taking place on **Sunday, December 9th @ 3:00 PM.** Thank you to all of the volunteers that have offered to make this event happen; Chelsea Harrison, Jennifer Hurst, TJ Rouse, Hannah Thomas, Ellen Gaston, Nancy Kules, and Kathryn Para. The committee, lead by Intern Minister Leika Lewis-Cornwell, are busy planning and YRUU has volunteered to help as well. Thank you all for supporting this holiday event. Looking forward to sharing soup and holiday cheer in beloved community.

A huge thank you to all of our RE Volunteers! The RE year has had a wonderful start thanks to all of the committed and caring volunteers that show up to care for, guide, and support our children and youth. Each Sunday morning about 22+ volunteers come to church ready to devote their time and talents to lead Children's Chapel, hold little ones in the Nursery, and lead RE sessions from Little UU's (2 year old's) through YRUU (high schoolers). In addition to Sunday mornings, we've had successful overnights / weekend lock-ins for both COA and YRUU as well as some meaningful outings to engage our youth. Building

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In the Gloaming

By Leika Lewis-Cornwell, Intern Minister



I've always been fascinated with the gloaming. The time of the day when afternoon just begins to step into evening, and everything is poised for the transition, the gloaming holds an air of mystery and possibility. In the fairy tales I loved as a child, it was often at dusk—when the

world was neither here nor there—that the magic came out to play. The shifting half-light softens details, obscuring some of the harsh angles of full sunlight, but bringing into stark relief the things we may not notice at any other time of day: the soft splash of water dripping, the call of a nesting bird, the rush of our own breath and blood. The gloaming, like the limning of its morning counterpart, is a time for pausing to see the seldom-seen.

We encounter this transitional half-light in the cycle of the year and our lives as well. As we shift from fall into winter, neither quite here or there, the earth calls us to stop and notice—the shuffle of rain-softened leaves under our feet, or the crunch of those crisped by the cold. The mist of breath on frosty morning air, the crystalline stars echoed as winter lights come out one by one, string and candle and lantern's glow. The wonder of the in-between time.

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Membership Matters

By Joshua Long, Membership & Growth Coordinator



We continue to welcome new members to our community. Thank you for making this your spiritual home.

One thing that I want to highlight is the small group ministry. While we have been promoting small groups for a while now, there are many folks who are curious about what goes on in a small group. I invite you to try one out a few times. I ask that you give it some time. Small groups are about building relationships, and relationships aren't formulated in one 2 hour setting. Connection takes time and commitment.

- Annapolis - 3rd Tuesday 7-9pm
- East Annapolis - Alt. Mondays 7-9pm
- Arnold - 3rd Wednesdays, 6-8 pm
- Broadneck - 3rd Fridays, 5:30-8:30 pm
- Crownsville - 4th Mondays 7-9pm
- North County - 1st Wednesdays, 6:30-9 pm
- Severna Park - 2nd Tuesdays 7:30-9pm
- South County - 4th Wednesdays, 7-9 pm

We Need 4-5 people to commit to meet once a month in the following areas: Bowie, Crofton, Eastern Shore, Pasadena Peninsula. Happy Holidays! Josh

Administrative Update

By Susan Eckert, Business Administrator

November always seems to fly by and all of a sudden we find ourselves on December's doorstep. It's the time of year some refer to as the "holidaze". Urban Dictionary defines this term as the feelings of confusion and excitement people have between Thanksgiving and Christmas. It's a joyful and inspiring time at church as we prepare for a congregational meeting and special events, music, and worship. It's also a time of transition, when we come to the end of one year and get ready for the next. Hopefully, you now know that January 13 marks a major transition for me personally, when I will retire from my position as your Administrator. So, not only will the staff be busy with the usual holiday hustle and bustle; we will also be in search mode for my replacement – busy times, indeed!



The number for overall pledges on the books is tracking with our target of \$540,000 for the year; however, this number should be much stronger. There are approximately 40 pledge units that have not turned in their pledge forms this year. The majority of these folks are attending services and participating in church activities. If you have been asked to make a pledge and not done so, expect a follow up

contact from Rev John or a Board member and please respond! A current pledge of record is required to maintain active membership and to have a voice at the upcoming congregational meeting on December 2. Make it easy on yourself and on the staff during this busy time of year – use this link to complete the pledge form online: tinyURL.com/pledgeuua.

Thank you to the many volunteers who helped clear the Sanctuary, Narthex and Foyer areas on Sunday Nov 11 in preparation for the week-long carpet and tile installation, and to Ken & Carly Piel and Eric & Carleen Petterson for sanding and staining the chancel steps to match the new carpet. By the time you read this, I hope you will have had an opportunity to appreciate the new look in these areas. And, thank you to John Balano who diagnosed the image problem with the Sanctuary's digital projector and who climbed a very tall ladder to fix it!

On that note, let's take a look at the financial picture as of October 31. Revenues remain ahead of expenses by \$7.6k year-to-date. Our largest source of revenue, pledge income, is ahead of budget by \$8k. Expenses continue to remain below what has been budgeted for the year, so far. Cash available for operating expenses took another dip from \$39k in September to \$33k in October. Ideally, this number should be closer to \$60k. November could be a very tight month requiring a dip into the operating reserve fund in order to cover regular expenses like utilities and payroll.

Board of Trustees - Search Process

by Heather Millar, Board President

The seven members who eventually serve on the Search Committee for our next called minister have a huge responsibility. But first, we all have the obligation to be sure that our Search Committee consists of a diverse group of dedicated members who have the vision and interest of UUCA in their minds and hearts. In January and February each member will be contacted by a member of the Board or Nominating Committee to solicit the names of members who are trusted to serve on the Search Committee. From these contacts with members, a list of those most frequently mentioned will be compiled and contacted to be sure they are available from April 2019 through June 2020 to engage in the extensive work required of Search Committee members. During our April 2019 Congregational Meeting, members will vote from the list of those nominated who have said they are able to serve. The 4 members receiving the most votes will be on the Search Committee. From others on the list, 3 additional members will be selected by the Board to round out the Committee membership to best represent the congregation and skills needed on the Search Committee.



Here is some information to think about as you consider whom to suggest for the Committee. Members of the Search Committee should: Work well with others; Be aware of the strengths and weaknesses of UUCA; Serve the whole congregation including the interests of children and not just a faction of the congregation; Have been or be an active member and demonstrated responsible participation and leadership.

To help you know what you are looking for in your nominees, here are some of the tasks for which the Search Committee is responsible: Data gathering and organizing; Communications with candidates and to our congregation; Interview candidates; Organize and lead "Cottage Meetings." There will be meetings scheduled where you will be able to get more details about the search process. These dates will be announced at the December 2nd Congregational Meeting and others added as necessary.

Begin now, look around, notice the contributions of others as we seek a Search Committee that is representative, trusted, in touch, and responsible to the entire congregation.

YRUU Christmas Tree Fundraiser

By Laura Schrank, Youth Coordinator



Hemlock Farms has kindly agreed to donate a portion of their proceeds of Christmas Tree sales to the YRUU. When you purchase your tree, just tell them that you are part of the UUCA youth group fundraiser. The youth will also be organizing a UUCA night at Hemlock Farms, so that church members can enjoy an evening together purchasing trees and wreath, enjoying wintery treats, and supporting our youth. More information on this event will be coming soon!

(Hemlock Farm is located at 31 Old South River Rd, Edgewater Md. They offer North Carolina Fraser Firs, wreaths, garland, mistletoe and more. Check them out on Facebook or you can reach them at 410-353-8919.)

2nd Wendi Winters Memorial Blood Drive

February 16, 2019

On February 16, 2019, we will be holding the Second Wendi Winters Memorial Blood Drive in conjunction with The Red Cross at Pip Moyer Recreation Center from 10 AM to 4 PM. Wendi always liked to have a blood drive around Valentine's Day, so in that spirit our theme will be Bring a Plus 1! So, grab a friend and come donate for a good cause. #ForWendi

Mark Your Calendar!

Special Events in January 2019

Special Coffee Hour on January 13

The Wheel of Life service celebrates milestones and transitions. One major milestone to be recognized in the service is the retirement of member and Business Administrator Susan Eckert. We will be honoring her ministry of administration with us during a special potluck/coffee hour that Sunday. More details will be in upcoming "In-the-Know" e-news, but mark your calendar now.

Child Dedication Ceremony on January 13

We will be hosting a child dedication ceremony on Sunday, January 13, at both the 9:00 & 11:15 AM service. Please contact [Rev. Kathleen Rolenz](#) by December 30th if you would like to participate in this important ritual of recognition & celebration.

New Day Rising Conference

New Day Rising Conference: Identifying Your Congregation's Next Steps in the Struggle with White Supremacy Culture
Saturday January 26th 9 am - 4:30 PM

Join with Central East Region staff and UU congregational leaders for a day of learning, growing and rising. Hear from each other about what has worked and why, assess your congregation's next fruitful and faithful step, and see some of the great resource options available. Send your congregational team! There is something for everyone when a New Day Rises!
Costs: Sliding Scale fee of \$20-\$30-\$40. You may request a waiver for a \$10 fee as needed on the registration form. Lunch is included. Child care is available at \$5 per child, but must be requested in advance. Register [HERE](#).

BBC 8th Principle Middle Hour Series

By Linda Mundy

The BBC Committee's middle hour classes provide opportunities for members of our congregation to practice and live UUCA's resolution for the 8th Principle: We covenant to affirm and promote: journeying toward spiritual wholeness to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.

Please mark your calendar and join us:

December 9: #3 White Privilege & Unconscious Bias

December 16: #4 Race & Ethnicity in our Society

December 23: #5 Racism as a System

January 6: #6 Cycle of Oppression

January 13: #7 Microaggressions

January 20: #8 Tools for Being a White Ally: Exploring Ways to Fight and Heal from Racism

The series will repeat - the goal of the BBC is for every member of our congregation to complete this important series.

Contact: [Don Patterson](#) or [Olga Pabon](#).



UUCA's BUILDING THE BELOVED COMMUNITY (BBC)

THE 8TH PRINCIPLE FILM SERIES

An award-winning documentary on immigration. Special screening and Q&A with co-director, Eduardo López.

Friday, December 7, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

HARVEST OF EMPIRE

UUCA's New Sanctuary Carpet & Coffee

The new carpet in the sanctuary and narthex is now installed bringing a fresh new look to this area we love so dearly. The old carpet served UUCA well enduring years of normal wear & tear and quite a few coffee spills. Let's welcome our new carpeting by trying our best to keep it free of coffee and other spills.

Spills are going to happen, it's inevitable, and when they do, please clean up by blotting the area with a paper towel immediately. Thank you to Dianne Moreau and the entire committee for their hard work.

December 2018

Worlds in Transition - MPG

By Phyllis Culham

The Mindfulness Practice Group meets twice weekly:

- **Every** Thursday from 7-8:30 PM in the sanctuary, for Introduction to Mindfulness & Meditation.
- **Every** Sunday from 8:30 to 9:30 AM in the Emerson Room of the Fahs House, with 20 minutes of guided meditation before brief remarks.

For contemplation in stability of the changes which surround us, we feature these annual iterations from our seasonal liturgy & some additions:

- Thursday, December 27: Annual Group Reading of Zen Master Seung Sahn's "The New Year Comes & Takes His Seat."
- Sunday, December 30: Chanting of the Metta [Loving-Kindness] Sutta, practice for Greater Annapolis Interfaith Network's New Year's Eve Service.
- Thursday, January 3: Annual Beginning Anew Ceremony from Our Practice Book.
- Sunday, January 20: Day Before Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, Day: Thich Nhat Hanh & Dr. King.
- Thursday, January 24: Jim Chance leads a program on his use of the Holocaust Memorial Museum in legal training & what people learned from it.
- Sunday, January 27: UN, EU Holocaust Remembrance Day & Israel's Yom HaShoah: Sensei Bob Ertman leads a program on his recent Bearing Witness trip to Auschwitz with the Zen Peacemakers.

Fiber Arts Fellowship - Scarf & Hat Sale

By Anita Ramundo

The **UUCA Fiber Arts Fellowship** is sponsoring a **Scarf & Hat Sale**, in support of the UUCA Sanctuary Committee, on **Sunday, December 9th & 16th** during Middle Hour and after the 2nd service. All proceeds will go to the Annapolis Immigration Justice Network's Legal Assistance Fund. Mark your calendar, consider purchasing a beautifully knitted scarf or hat for yourself, as a gift, or to be donated to [Haley's Helping Hands of Maryland](#), a 501c3 a local non-profit providing clothing to families & children.

Did You Know?

By Susan Eckert

DID YOU KNOW...Transfers of appreciated stocks or mutual funds can be a tax efficient way to contribute to the church since neither you nor the church pays tax on the capital gain. Also, transfers for next year's budget can be made now to give you the tax deduction in 2018. For further information contact the UUCA broker, Lee Derrick at lee.derrick@ffgadvisors.com or call (410) 263-9708.

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.

Happy Holidays and Updates!

By Josh Long, Director of Ensemble Music

I Love the holidays. I enjoy the traditional carols. I love the history. I love the meals, and even the sales (to an extent), I love the ritual of advent and singing silent night and hearing a story of a mysterious savior coming into the world to create a new way of ordering the world based on love, justice, and peace for all. I love and appreciate the miracle of Hanukkah, the celebration of the solstice, and my own cultures observance of Kwanzaa. This is a wonderful time of year. (pun intended)

As a UU and a Christian, I wrote the song "Mystery" because if I try to comprehend intellectually what the universe is I will drive myself insane. So there is a beauty in that God or source or life is a mystery. I look up at the stars and I just wonder. I think about the span of billions of years and somehow we are here in the moment. Unitarian Universalism is a place where I can find awe and love and justice in that mystery.

So for the month of December, I want to reflect on the music of the season. The tension of the happy holiday music, the traditional carols, the imperfection of religious traditions, family disagreements and resolutions, and how singing together is one way in which the world heals. Happy Holidays!

Upcoming Music Events at UUCA

✦ UU Philharmonic Performance

When: Sunday, December 9 @ 9 & 11:15 AM

✦ Children's Choir

We will be doing a children's choir for Christmas Eve. This will be primarily 3rd-8th grade but all are welcome. YRUU teens are invited to help as well.

Performance: December 24, 5 PM

Rehearsals: December 16 & 23, 9 AM - RE Sanctuary

Piano Update

Thanks to the generosity of several pledges & donors, we are at 25K that will go towards the purchase of a newer piano. Rev. Kathleen has been in touch with Brian Ganz who will help find the right instrument for our space and for future artists. We are still accepting donations! Pledge forms available at all concerts, or be in touch with [Rev. Kathleen Rolenz](#)

Share the Plate Recipient - December



Charting Careers is a newly-founded Annapolis nonprofit established to collaborate with families living in public and subsidized housing to help youth ages 8-24 envision their futures, aspire to succeed, and achieve pathways to independence and career success.

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 fund-raising 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.

Arts in the Woods December Concert - Sara Jones Sings Seasonal Jazz Favorites

by Paula Degen

When you hear Sara Jones sing on the occasional Sunday morning, do you want to hear more? Do you marvel that UUCA has such a talented and beautiful vocalist in our midst? If so, you don't want to miss Sara's Arts in the Woods program, Sunday, December 2, at 3:00 p.m. She'll put us in a mellow mood for the holidays with "Winter's Greeting: A Seasonal Collection of Jazz Standards." Praised by critics for her trademark "lush vocals" and her "velvet embrace" of the music, Sara's vocal interpretations of seasonal songs by Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Irving Berlin, and Johnny Mercer will delight and charm the audience as she has done in performances nationwide since she began singing professionally in 2001.

Backing her on December 2 are veteran musicians Paul Langosch on bass and David Kane on piano. Langosch has worked with many leaders in jazz and has toured with George Shearing, Rosemary Clooney, Mel Torme, and others. He was a permanent member of Tony Bennett's trio for more than 20 years. Pianist and composer David Kane has both classical and jazz credits, among them Joshua Bell and jazz musicians Dizzy Gillespie, Woody Shaw, and the Duke Ellington Orchestra. He has composed more than 200 TV and film scores.

You can enjoy these outstanding professional musicians for just \$15 at the door; and it's free for youth 16 and under. This program of seasonal favorites is ideally suited for the entire family. Sara's concert will conclude the 2018 Arts in the Woods music series. The 2019 series begins Sunday, January 6, with an all-Chopin concert by classical pianist Brian Ganz. For information, visit www.uuannapolis.org or contact the church office. Please support Arts in the Woods, UUCA, and our own Sara Jones by joining us on Sunday, December 2 at 3:00 PM.

Inclement Weather Policy

On Sundays, cancellations will be posted on our website [be sure popups are enabled in your browser] & available via phone recording at 410-266-8044. During the week, church office closings will be posted online & on the phone message. For other meetings, please contact the group leader as decisions are often made on an individual basis.

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; janeccarrigan54@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 neuro@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

In the Gloaming

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By Leika Lewis-Cornwell

As we close out the first year and stand poised to enter the second year of this interim time, we stand in the gloaming at UUCA as well. We are offered the chance to stand together and notice the seldom-seen, to imagine together what will bloom once the time of quiet reflection is done. How will we step into it? How will we hold and honor the mystery of possibility unfolding before us?

Stone Soup & Thank You

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By Julie Burman

Bridges has attended two off-site places of worship and ALL of these activities require volunteer commitment and participation. We want to say thank you to each of you.

Successful Rake-A-Thon!



Our Coming of Age Youth completed their *Rake-a-Thon* Fundraiser and earned \$1,015.00! Thank you to all that signed up and supported COA. A big thanks to Charlotte Wallace and Ariane Hofstedt for organizing and Jack and Stephanie Anderson for providing LUNCH!



HIGHLIGHTS

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

Return Service Requested

Dated Material; Please deliver by
12/1/2018

Next Issue Deadline: 1/15/2019

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Email Address</u>
Rev. Kathleen Rolenz	Interim Senior Minister	krolenz@uuannapolis.org
Rev. John T. Crestwell, Jr.	Associate Minister	jcrestwell@uuannapolis.org
Leika Lewis-Cornwell	Intern Minister	llewiscornwell@uuannapolis.org
Joshua Long	Co-Music Director	jlong@uuannapolis.org
Susan Eckert	Membership Coordinator	membership@uuannapolis.org
Maurita Williams	Business Administrator	seckert@uuannapolis.org
Dayna Edwards	Administrative Assistant	mwilliams@uuannapolis.org
Keely Longo	RE Consultant	dedwards@uuannapolis.org
Julie Burman	DRE - Children	klongo@uuannapolis.org
Laura Schrank	DRE - Youth	jburman@uuannapolis.org
Len Langrick	Youth Coordinator	lschrank@uuannapolis.org
Sara Jones	Co-Music Director/Choir	llangrick@uuannapolis.org
Diane Bria-Wharton	Accompanist	
	Accountant	treasurer@uuannapolis.org

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