
SUNDAY WORSHIP

May Theme: Roots & Branches

Sunday, May 15, 10:00 a.m.
Buddha Belly: Theology of Joy

In this service led by **Rev. Rebekah Montgomery**, we welcome the infectious joy that comes from deep within. In the midst of challenges and despair, we find hope. In the midst of strife, we find ways to harness and radiate joy. Come and get your Buddha Belly on! The Adult Choir will sing, with **Justin Furnia** on piano. **Jenny Fei**, voice and piano, will offer special music. Our Partner Plate recipient is Community Ministries of Rockville.

Preschool-5th grade will gather in Founders Hall for Children's Worship. Sixth grade-Sr. High will go directly to classes. Nursery in Bldg. 3, Room 33.

Sunday, May 22, 10:00 a.m.
Nothing is Created, Nothing is Destroyed

Rev. Joseph Priestley was both a Unitarian minister and a scientist, widely considered the parent of modern chemistry. Over 250 years ago, he believed and supported the dual tracked journey of understanding the world through faith and science. This sermon, by **Rev. Rebekah Montgomery**, will explore the eternal and the sacred, balancing our minds and our souls.

(continued on page 2)

May 11, 2016

Quest

The Newsletter of the
Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of Rockville:
A Welcoming Congregation

Spiritual Freedom Beloved Community Social Responsibility

Volume LIX, Number 9
May 11, 2016

Editor: Beth Irikura
Desktop Publisher: Nancy Gregory

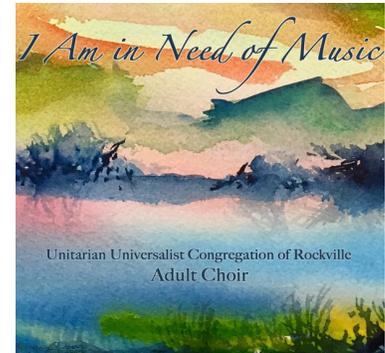
A Weekend of Music at UUCR!

by Jennifer Rodgers, Director of Music

Mark your calendar for Saturday evening, June 4 and Sunday morning, June 5, and plan to be immersed in UUCR's wonderful music program!

Throughout the year, the Adult Choir has been recording a CD as a fundraiser for our Ethier Fund for Special Music. We'll sing and sell that CD, *I Am in Need of Music*, at a concert in the Sanctuary on Saturday, June 4 at 7:00 p.m. The recording is dedicated to our former choir member, **Bill Chapin**, who died last spring. Donations from Bill's friends and family have been used to offset the production costs. Your purchase of the CD, plus your donations at the door, will go directly to funding our special music programming, allowing us to bring in a variety of professional musicians throughout the year and for our Adult Choir to present larger works with orchestra. There is a \$10 suggested donation for the CD and a \$15 suggested donation for the concert. All are welcome, however, giving what they can!

On Sunday, June 5, we will swell our morning service with UUCR's musical ensembles for a rich and varied Music Sunday service, entirely different from the evening before. The Children's Choir, Unisons (our youth ensemble), Sonaria (our women's ensemble), and WildBerry Jam (our women's quartet) will sing, along with the Adult Choir. Participants from our drumming circles will provide some rhythm and meditation. **Justin Furnia** will play. And we'll explore together how the music in our midst is a touchstone, a catalyst, and a medium. This will be a multigenerational service and we hope you'll be with us!



Quest deadline: Thursday, June 2, 2016 at 8:00 p.m.,
for mailing on June 8, 2016.
Email to **Alberta Maschal**.

Quest

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Director of Music: Jennifer Rodgers
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Sunday Worship (continued from page 1)

On **May 22**, we'll also thank Religious Education teachers and helpers, and honor our graduating seniors in the annual Bridging Ceremony. Our women's ensemble, Sonaria will sing. Our Partner Plate recipient is Community Ministries of Rockville.

First Fifteen - All children, youth, teachers, and helpers will gather in the Sanctuary for the first part of the service before going to Religious Education classes. Nursery in Building 3, Room 33.

Sunday, May 29, 10:00 a.m.

How We Got Here and the Steps Along the Way

How much of what you experienced in your youth contributed to the person you are today? Did the community you grew up in help define your values and beliefs? Take a trip down memory lane to examine where we came from and how the many stops on our journey have contributed to the people we have become. Lay leader, **Dominic Russoli** will highlight how his early years in an inner-city Italian community, and the values he learned there, led him to a twenty-year military career and eventually to UUCR. Our women's quartet, WildBerry Jam will sing. Our Partner Plate recipient is Community Ministries of Rockville.

First Fifteen - All children, youth, teachers, and helpers will gather in the Sanctuary for the first part of the service before going to Religious Education classes. Nursery in Building 3, Room 33.

June Worship Theme: Wings

Sunday, June 5, 10:00 a.m.

Multigenerational Music Sunday—*The Pied Pipers in Our Midst*

Come and worship through music this Sunday! Amid the sounds of our adult and children's choirs, Sonaria, Unisons (our youth ensemble), meditative drummers, WildBerry Jam, and **Justin Furnia's** flurrious fingers, come explore what we might do with the energy that we feel in musical moments.

Multigenerational Service—All ages will gather together in the Sanctuary for the entire service. Nursery in Bldg. 3, Room 33.

For the most current information on upcoming events, visit the UUCR calendar online at uucr.org. At the top of any page, click on the light blue box labeled "Calendar."



DeLynneciations

We covenant to affirm and promote: Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

It is my commitment to our 7th Unitarian Universalist Principle, stated above, that motivates me to write to you even as I am enjoying my non-linear sabbatical. With so much staff transition happening at UUCR during the next few months, I am caught in a web of interdependence that just won't let me go...won't let me go very far, or for very long. I write to encourage you to say "thank you" to **Andrea Spencer-Linzie**, our Interim Director of Religious Education (DRE), who will be leaving us in June, and to reassure you that our new DRE is ready to begin serving our congregation on July 1.

This month we are honoring Andrea, who began as our Interim DRE on January 1, 2015! Andrea has carried forward the Religious Education program that **Deborah Kahn** built so lovingly over her many years of service. Andrea has done what "interims" are supposed to do—she kept the program functioning well, and she instituted creative change. Some highlights of her work include:

- Instituting a trimester system for our RE classes, which expands the number of adults interacting and caring for our children and youth;
- Co-leading the RE Transition Team, which gathered feedback from parents, teachers, and helpers and proposed an RE staffing plan to the Board of Trustees;
- Crafting a needed RE Safe Congregations Policy according to Unitarian Universalist Association guidelines and presenting it to the Board; and
- Offering her musical talents and leadership skills, participating in LREDA, the professional organization of DREs, and joining in the work of racial justice.

Thank you, Andrea, for being a part of our staff team and giving so much of yourself to UUCR. We wish you well as you go forward in your path toward ordination as a UU minister. Stay in touch, and visit often.

Don't miss the special reception in Andrea's honor following the service on Sunday, May 15!

Blessings,

Lynn



Newcomer Brunch with the Minister on June 5

All newcomers, new RE families, and visitors are warmly invited to a light brunch with **Rev. Rebekah Montgomery** following the service on Sunday, June 5. We'll meet in Building 4, Room 44 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We hope you'll join us so that we may get to know you and answer any questions you might have about Unitarian Universalism or UUCR. Children are welcome and child care is also available. Please sign up to attend at the Welcome Center in the entrance corridor, or contact **Nancy Gregory** at ngregory@uucr.org.

LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

RE Ruminations

Some seem to be born with a nearly completed puzzle.

And so it goes.

Souls going this way and that

Trying to assemble the myriad parts.

But know this. No one has within themselves all the pieces to their puzzle.

Like before the days when they used to seal jigsaw puzzles in cellophane. Insuring that all the pieces were there.

Everyone carries with them at least one and probably

Many pieces to someone else's puzzle.

Sometimes they know it.

Sometimes they don't.

And when you present your piece

Which is worthless to you,

To another, whether you know it or not,

Whether they know it or not,

You are a messenger from the Most High.

- Lawrence Kushner, in *Honey from the Rock*

My good friends, my time here at UUCR is coming to a close. From the beginning when we looked at history, bared our souls, and cried at my start-up event, to this last Sunday when I had the privilege to lead the worship service, I have felt that some of my puzzle was being completed here at UUCR.

I treasure your hospitality and welcome after the long tenures of your previous Director of Religious Education (DRE) and Youth Coordinator. You've been open to new ideas, and willing to hang in there as we moved forward, not always sure that we were going in the right direction.

What a joy it has been to get to know the RE teachers and helpers, Children's Worship leaders, OWL facilitators, the musicians and singers who bring joy to our children and youth, and the parents and other adults who make sure the Holiday Pageant and other RE events happen.

It has been my privilege to have walked this journey with you for the past year and a half. I have learned from you. My puzzle is now more complete. I hope I have left some of my puzzle pieces here for you.

My next puzzle piece will come in Belmont, Massachusetts, where I begin my full-time ministerial internship in September as part of my journey towards ordination.

June 30 is my last day with you. Thank you for your generosity of spirit, time, and treasure.

The next puzzle begins July 1 when your new DRE, **Dayna Edwards**, becomes part of the UUCR picture. I know great things will continue to be in store for UUCR.

In love and gratitude,

Andrea

LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Peace Camp for Ages 4 to 14 ~ August 1 - 5!

by Rena Geibel, Religious Education Assistant

Are you the parent of a child 10-14 years old? They can become a camp counselor! Yes, that's right. At UUCR's Peace Camp, Junior Counselors in Training (ages 10-11) participate in all camp activities and have the opportunity to receive extra training and guide younger campers. Counselors in Training (ages 12-14) work alongside experienced counselors and build leadership skills through self empowerment exercises.



How is Peace Camp unique? Every day, campers ages 4-14 do art, music, nature exploration, storytelling, and participate in cooperative games. Campers are taught skills to deal with their problems in a peaceful manner and encouraged to create their own solutions to the challenges they see in their schools, community, and the world. At Peace Camp, campers discover that peace begins with them!

UUCR's Peace Camp, from August 1 through 5, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., will again be presented by Little Friends for Peace (LFFP). Visit the LFFP website at www.lffp.org/peace-camp.html to learn more and register today!

Reception to Honor Andrea Spencer-Linzie on Sunday May 15

Our Interim Director of Religious Education (DRE), **Andrea Spencer-Linzie** joined us in January 2015 and has led us through an exciting journey of sharing our vision for UUCR's Religious Education program. As we prepare to welcome our new DRE on July 1, we want to thank Andrea for all she's done to build the foundation of growth and change in our RE program. We are grateful for her leadership and wisdom through this year-and-a-half of transition. Please join us in Founders Hall following the service and RE classes on Sunday, May 15 for a reception to honor Andrea and thank her for her service to UUCR.



Emerson's Sunrise Coffee Circle Begins Sunday, May 15!

To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment. ~ Emerson

In honor of the theologian and expansive, radical thinker, Ralph Waldo Emerson, the Adult Faith Formation Committee offers

Emerson's Sunrise Coffee Circle. All ages are welcome at these early morning open conversations.

Rev. Rebekah Montgomery or another leader will guide these collective reflections on Sundays, May 15, 22, 29, and June 5 from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m., in Room 44 in Building 4. Each session, we will select a different spiritual, theological concept. If you'd like to join in, bring a question for the group to consider, and we'll see where the discussion takes us. Come share convo of the soul with fellow UUCRers. For child care, sign up at the Adult Faith Formation table in Fellowship Hall after the Sunday service. To learn more, contact **Bonnie Bloomquist**.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Forum on the UUA General Assembly Resolution on Divestment

by Susan Brandt

UUCR's Social Justice Committee and Peace Study Group invite everyone to the Sanctuary on Sunday, May 22 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for a "Forum on Israel, Palestine, and the UUA GA Resolution on Divestment," with speakers Seth Morrison and Jamal Najjab. Light refreshments will be served.

At the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) General Assembly (GA) in June, delegates will be discussing a business resolution to divest from four companies that profit from the Israeli occupation of the West Bank. To increase understanding of this complex issue, we have invited two speakers who recently presented a similar program at the Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church.

Seth Morrison, a former Zionist, and Jamal Najjab, a Palestinian-American, will share their perspectives on the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, and how, despite their very different backgrounds, they have come to agree on the need for a major change in US policy towards the Israel/Palestine divide. UUCR member, **Susan Brandt** will give a brief introduction about the UUA GA resolution, then our guests will share their stories, followed by Q&A and general discussion. For more event information, please contact Susan.



Support the Manna Food Center!

by Dolores Barnes

We live in one of the most affluent counties in the country, yet one in three of our public school students receive free or discounted school lunches, and 40,000 individuals each year rely on Manna for support. How can you help Manna's mission to eliminate hunger in Montgomery County?

In addition to bringing in your non-perishable, healthy food items every week for our Manna collection (1,900 pounds so far on our way to our August goal of 2,500 pounds), please consider donating your time. Manna has many volunteer opportunities for individuals, students, and families throughout the year, both in the warehouse at 9311 Gaither Road in Gaithersburg, and in the community. Volunteer opportunities include monthly Family Box Packing Days, assisting with daily food distribution, participating in food drives, joining the Manna Ambassador team, harvesting produce, helping at area farmers markets, participating in community outreach events, and more! Daytime, evening, and weekend hours are available. Group warehouse opportunities include pre-sorting donated food items and packing boxes of non-perishable items for Manna's clients. During daytime hours, Monday through Friday, volunteers must be 17 years of age or older for safety reasons, as Manna is a working warehouse. On evenings and weekends, volunteers as young as 7 years-old can volunteer.

Community Food Rescue (CFR) is the coordinated food recovery network for Montgomery County. CFR is in need of Food Runners – individuals, families, or groups to transport donated food from the food donor to recipient organizations. Please visit Manna's website at www.mannafood.org to see driver requirements and other ways you can help our neighbors in need. Let's also step up our collection efforts these next few months when donations tend to be at their lowest—one can, can make a difference!

SOCIAL JUSTICE

The Black Unitarian Universalist Organizing Collective

by Alonzo Smith

The Black Unitarian Universalist (BLUU) Organizing Collective is a group of African Americans around the country who hold online Town Hall meetings, and who are planning a number of events at the forthcoming Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly (GA) in Columbus, Ohio for black people, other people of color, and white allies. BLUU hopes to increase the already-growing diversity of the GA by attracting over 300 African Americans. BLUU is calling on *all* UUs to promote Black Lives Matter issues within their congregations and to support its work by making a donation. You can learn more about BLUU by visiting Twitter - [@BlackLivesUU](#), and Facebook - [facebook.com/BlackLivesUU](#). You can support the movement with a donation through The James Reeb Fund for Multicultural Ministries and Leadership at [giving.uua.org/james-reeb-fund](#).



SHARING THE MINISTRY



A Warm Welcome to UUCR's New Members!

by Nancy Gregory, Director of Communications & Membership

On Sunday, April 17, the congregation welcomed eight new members to UUCR. They have a range of life experiences, which you can read more about on the membership bulletin board outside the workroom in Building 1. You'll also find photos posted there. Please be sure to check it out and introduce yourself to these new members of our community. In the meantime, read on for a brief biographical snapshot.

Angie and Glenn Watts are the parents of **Sydney**, age 8, and **Samantha**, age 5. Glenn is the Chief Operating Officer at HZDG, Inc., a full-service advertising, branding, and interactive firm in Rockville. Among other pursuits, he enjoys spending time with family and relaxing on the beach listening to Jimmy Buffett. Angie is a long-time animal lover and, prior to becoming a full-time mom, she spent six years working at the Washington Animal Rescue League in DC as the Director of Marketing and as an Adoptions Manager. In her spare time, Angie volunteers with the Fields Road Elementary School PTA. Angie and Glenn are very excited about raising their daughters in the UUCR family and Religious Education program.

Jon Facemire works as a nuclear engineer, doing risk assessments to improve plant safety and performance. In his free time, Jon rock climbs, camps, hikes, and travels as much as possible. He through-hiked the Appalachian Trail in 2009, climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in 2012, and attempted Aconcagua in 2014. Jon is fairly new to Unitarian Universalism and is enjoying having an open place to discuss philosophy. He participated in the lay-led Earth Day service, *Our Life on Earth*, on April 24, and you can hear his reflection on the UUCR website at [uucr.org/sermons/our-life-earth](#). Jon looks forward to continuing Adult Faith Formation classes and joining in volunteer opportunities.

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SHARING THE MINISTRY

Welcome UUCR's New Members *(continued from page 7)*

The parents of three daughters, **Susan Culbertson** and **Steve Wright** have two grandsons, with a third due in July. They are often traveling to visit family and enjoy taking two or three trips for pleasure each year. Steve is retired from the federal government, where he worked as an IT project manager. Susan spent most of her career in the field of academic technology, working with teachers. Steve is an avid swimmer and has broken several swim records in the Maryland Senior Olympics. Susan loves the performing arts, especially anything to do with theatre and acting. For many years, Susan and Steve have been members of a discussion group which ponders the greater questions of life, and they look forward to exploring ways to become involved with the larger community at UUCR.

Judy Toth has been married to Les for 36 years, and they have four children and seven grandchildren. She currently is a substitute teacher and a retired member of the clergy. Judy has been looking for a warm, welcoming community and looks forward to participating in such things as drumming and the Sunday morning program.

Prior to joining the congregation this spring, **Terry Zetts** had been a long-time friend of UUCR. She is a nurse and hopes to use her experience and expertise in a volunteer role here. **Jessica Gardiner** and her children first came to UUCR in early 2015. Her daughter, **Sadie Lulei**, and sons, **Wyatt** and **Sawyer Lulei**, are all active in the RE program and Sadie and Wyatt participated in the annual Senior Youth-Led Service on February 7. You can hear Sadie's reflection on the UUCR website at uucr.org/sermons/annual-senior-youth-led-service-maturity-growing.

Many thanks to **Rev. Rebekah Montgomery, Rev. Lynn Strauss, Jill Asman, Terrie Barr, Jennifer Rodgers, Andrea Spencer-Linzie, Terri Fritz, Mary Lanigan, April Pulvirenti, and Colleen Dolak** for their help with our Path to Membership sessions and new member recognition this spring. Welcome to all of our new members—we are very happy to have you and your families join us!

Join UUCR's Fantastic Usher Team!

by Patty Walker

Ushers contribute an invaluable service to UUCR each week by providing a warm welcome to all who attend the Sunday morning service - visitors and congregants alike. Among other duties, ushers distribute the Order of Service to those entering the Sanctuary, collect the offering, and perform other tasks as requested by the ministers. Most importantly, ushers truly enjoy their opportunity to 'meet and greet' each Sunday.



We currently have ushering opportunities on the third and fourth Sundays of each month. Although ushers volunteer for a specific Sunday, substitutes are readily available when needed. If you have any questions or are interested in an usher position, please contact **Patty Walker**.

CONGREGATION WORKS

Annual Congregational Meeting & Potluck

Sunday, May 15 ~ Potluck at 5:00 p.m. & Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Please plan to attend our community potluck, at 5:00 p.m., and the 2016 Annual Congregational Meeting, at 6:00 p.m., on Sunday, May 15. The potluck will take place in Founders Hall and the meeting in the Sanctuary.

We will elect new Board of Trustees and Nominating Committee members as well as the Assistant Treasurer for Deposits and UUCR's representative to the Capital Cluster of the Unitarian Universalist Association Central East Region. (You may read statements from the slated candidates beginning on page 11.) We'll also hear about preparations for developing our next five-year strategic plan—Choosing Our Future. We'll celebrate this year's accomplishments, and look forward to plans for the year ahead — UUCR's 60th anniversary year! While only those who have been members of UUCR since before February 15, 2016 may vote, per our bylaws, all members and friends are encouraged to attend to learn about the issues and join the discussion.

You may use the following alphabetical guide to decide what to bring to the potluck. If your last name begins with the letter: A-F, bring salad or bread; G-P, bring a main dish; Q-Z, bring dessert. Even if you cannot contribute a dish, please come anyway! We always have plenty of food.

For more details, visit the Annual Congregational Meeting web page at uucr.org/2016-uucr-annual-congregational-meeting.

A Reminder About Parking at UUCR

by Cynthia Bauerle

As discussed at the April 10 Town Hall Meeting, the gravel overflow parking area on the west side of UUCR's campus was found to be in violation of the City of Rockville's building code, and will be dismantled soon. In order to accommodate all of our busy Sunday parking lot traffic, we're asking everyone to consider the following:

- Help each other! Please reserve the parking spaces closest to the building for families with small children and people with mobility issues.
- Welcome visitors! Please observe the signs so that visitors to UUCR will have a place to park.
- Share a ride! Offer someone a ride to church to conserve the number of parking spaces we need.
- Alternative parking options! Consider parking on Mannakee Street – a brief walk to our campus is a great way to begin the day!

CONGREGATION WORKS

Summary of the April 2016 Meeting of the Board of Trustees

by Terrie Barr, President, Board of Trustees

The Canvass Chair, **Karl Irikura**, and Choosing our Future Team member, **Bill Newhouse** provided updates to the Board. Bill shared the work of the team on the draft process developed thus far with our consultant. Next year, we'll develop a new strategic plan for 2017 – 21 using a new approach!

Eric Burch briefed the Board on the Capital Cluster of the Unitarian Universalist Association Central East Region. He and **Judy Rayner** have graciously represented us to this group of 13 DC and Maryland congregations that have met to plan and communicate with each other on a monthly basis. The Central East Region requested that, rather than sending a self-volunteering representative to the Cluster, we elect or appoint a representative who can speak for our congregation and make decisions on collaboration on behalf of our congregation. The Board approved having the congregation vote for the representative at the Annual Congregational Meeting. The Board suggested Eric Burch, our Denominational Connections lead, to the Nominating Committee to be our Cluster Representative.

The Board discussed the Religious Education Safe Congregations Policy and set May 1 as the date for a meeting to hear feedback from the congregation on the policy, and May 5 as the date to receive written comments.

After its meeting, the Board approved several items via email vote for:

- Allocating \$4,000 in Capital Improvement Funds to remediate the temporary gravel parking lot to meet the code requirements of the City of Rockville;
- Allocating \$3,600 in Capital Improvement Funds to correct storm water run-off near the play equipment; and
- Affirming edits to the Conflict Resolution Policy and requesting it be posted on the website.

UUCR History

by Maude McGovern

In this month of “Roots & Branches,” help preserve UUCR’s history. **Maude McGovern** is organizing our archives and has found photo albums and loose pictures with no identification. Maybe you can help with the *who*, *what*, *where*, and *when* (maybe even the *why*) of some of these pictures. Stop by the table in Fellowship Hall after services in May and speak to Maude if you think you have a great UU memory to share or an item to possibly donate to the archives. (There will be some different pictures each week.) Bonus points go to anyone who has information about some oral histories that were done with founding members about eight years ago.

Update from the Director of Music Selection Committee

by Cita Furlani, Chair

The UUCR Director of Music position has been widely published and we've received several applications. The committee is excited about the possibilities before us. If you have questions, please contact any member of the committee: **Erin Claxton**, **Steve Einhorn**, **Cita Furlani** (Chair), **Bronson Hoover**, and **Robbie Reasoner**.

CONGREGATION WORKS

Candidates for Election at UUCR

by Karla Timmons

At the Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 15, elections will be held to fill the following positions:

- Vice President
- General Trustee
- Assistant Treasurer for Deposits
- Representative to the Capital Cluster, Unitarian Universalist Association Central East Region
- Members of the Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee presented a slate of candidates to fill these positions and asked each nominee to submit a short summary of their most important past and present participation in UUCR committees and/or activities, other UU congregations, or UU denominational affairs, identifying the strengths, talents, or experience (professional or volunteer) they bring to the position for which they're seeking election.

The Nominating Committee - **Nancy Blum, Ricardo Carvajal, Karl Irikura, Clarice Julka, Andy Moore, and Karla Timmons** - submits this slate of candidates for consideration.

Steve Eckstrand - nominated for Vice President

During the past 20+ years, I have been involved in nearly every area of congregational life at UUCR. My wife and I taught elementary age Religious Education (RE) classes for several years. I also frequently worked with the Power Tool Gang. About 15 years ago, I served three years on the Board of Trustees. Since that time, I have been active on a variety of committees, including the Social Justice Committee (Freedom to Marry Task Force), the Worship Committee (including two years as Chair), and the Committee on Ministry (including two years as Chair). During the last three years, I have served as Co-Chair of the Lay Ministry Council. Before I retired last year, I was a program manager with the Department of Energy for 34 years. I managed various research programs in fusion energy research, with budgets ranging from \$8 million to \$80 million. I also served as an acting division director for three years and as an acting deputy assistant secretary for six months. I have experience in general management, budget formulation, and strategic planning.

Aaron Pied - nominated for General Trustee

Since starting to attend UUCR services in May 2013, I have volunteered with RE teaching and events, attended the leadership development workshop, and co-chaired the fall fundraiser - the Halloween Hullabaloo, enjoying these interactions with members of the congregation and looking forward to having the opportunity to work with others in the years to come. Professionally, I was originally trained to be a teacher, but later moved into operations and project management. I lived overseas for seven years and had the opportunity to work and interact with a wide variety of personalities, languages, and cultures.

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CONGREGATION WORKS

Candidates for Election at UUCR *(continued from page 11)*

Although unaware of the existence of Unitarian Universalism prior to coming to UUCR, I have since realized that my beliefs already mirror many UU traditions and principles. My experience as a teacher, a coordinator, and a project manager, coupled with my experience working with diverse populations in the US and abroad, have taught me essential problem solving skills and interpersonal diplomacy, providing for positive contributions to the Board of Trustees. My background will provide a different perspective rooted in common beliefs.

Eric Burch - nominated for Assistant Treasurer for Deposits and Representative to the Capital Cluster of the Unitarian Universalist Association Central East Region

I have been the Assistant Treasurer, keeping track of income since 1990. Over the years, I've been a member of the Finance Committee, living through a few challenging times, to our current financial situation (all-in-all, UUCR is in good shape, although we could use a few more pledges). I'm also involved in denominational affairs, working the past few years with the local Capital Cluster (and prior incarnations) and the larger Unitarian Universalist Association in some online outreach activities, and attending the General Assembly for the past several years. My recent focus has been on consolidating our various church databases into a new online system which will allow all of us members of UUCR to help coordinate our activities; watch for announcements starting this summer.

Antonio Carrillo - nominated for the Nominating Committee

I have been a member of UUCR since 2004. During this time, I have had a variety of experiences and gained knowledge of the governance of the congregation through my volunteer experiences. I have served on the Social Justice Committee (SJC), including serving as its Chair. As a member of the SJC, I represented UUCR on Community Ministries of Rockville's (CMR) Board and I organize the annual Thanksgiving food basket collection for CMR. I also coordinate the annual week-long delivery of meals to the Wilkins Avenue Women's Assessment Center, a shelter run by Interfaith Works of Montgomery County. In the past, I have served on the Strategic Planning Committee, the Director of Religious Education Selection Committee, and volunteered as an RE assistant. I have also served as a facilitator for adult RE classes. Currently I am serving as an usher and as a member of the Emergency Preparedness Team, and I continue to look for new opportunities to serve UUCR as it allows me to meet and work with new members of the congregation.

Colleen Dolak - nominated for the Nominating Committee

I have been a member of UUCR since 2013 and first attended services with my children in 2011. For the past three years, I have played an active role in planning the Action Auction, co-chairing the event for the past two years. I have volunteered for over 20 years with various organizations, tutoring with Beacon House, leading a troop with the Girl Scouts of America, chairing the Board of RPCNS when my children attended preschool there as well as championing their highest grossing fundraiser in 50 years. As Executive Associate in the Office of the Senior Vice President for Advancement and Community Engagement at Montgomery College, I bring communication, decision-making, collaboration, and strategic thinking skills to the Nominating Committee.

THINKING OF YOU

Thinking of You

by Judy Eisenhauer on behalf of the Pastoral Care Team

We send our thoughts and good wishes to long-time member, **Fred Beckner**. He is currently at Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, undergoing treatment for cancer. Cards may be sent to Fred's home at Asbury.

Bill Pepper, a long-time member of UUCR, died at age 86 on April 12 at his home in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. He was a Korean War veteran, avid outdoorsman and photographer, self-taught electrical engineer, and inventor. One of his patented inventions was a touchscreen panel which was licensed to a company making touchscreen computers. Bill is survived by his widow Elva, children David, John, and Pamela (Caplin), and five grandchildren. A memorial service was held on April 30 in Kennett Square. His family requests that any donations in Bill's memory be made to the American Friends Service Committee or Prisoner Visitations and Support Program.

Pat and **Ted Reuther** had lots of family and friends visit recently to help Pat celebrate her 80th birthday. Ted is comfortable at home and receiving weekly visits from hospice.

Mahlet Reasoner Bauerle will be joining the Meyerhoff Scholars Program at UMBC next fall. This program prepares students for careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and is nationally recognized for its success in preparing students to pursue STEM PhDs, and contributing to a more diverse leadership in the U.S. SciTech enterprise. As a Meyerhoff scholar, Mahlet will join the M28 cohort comprising students from across the country, and will spend summers conducting research and internships at partner institutions.

Please contact **Judy Eisenhauer** with any joys, concerns, or accomplishments you would like to share in this column.