
SUNDAY WORSHIP

November's Theme: Bread

Sunday, Nov. 15, 10:00 a.m.
Cultural & Culinary Competency: Twenty-Four Pages of Bread

Rev. Lynn Strauss will reflect on the world of bread. No matter what culture or tradition one explores, bread is the heart and soul on the family table. In this age of global boundary-crossing, let's consider the stories of bread and what they might teach us. Our women's ensemble, Sonaria, will sing. Partner Plate recipient is Hospice Caring.

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

Sunday, Nov. 22, 10:00 a.m.
Multigenerational Thanksgiving Service
Giving Thanks for the New

We will celebrate our annual bread communion, as the children and youth join us for the service. Come and consider all the gifts and blessings in our lives. **Rev. Strauss** will offer a homily, and the children and youth will create a "Gratitude Garden." The Adult Choir sings.

This is also **New Member Recognition Sunday** - please join us to welcome UUCR's newest members.

(continued on page 2)

November 11, 2015

Quest

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

Spiritual Freedom Beloved Community Social Responsibility

Volume LIX, Number 3
November 11, 2015

Editor: Beth Irikura
Desktop Publisher: Nancy Gregory

The Holiday Season Begins at UUCR!

First, join UUCR members and friends for our popular **Thanksgiving Day** celebration at UUCR on November 26 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Sign up to attend on the bulletin board in the Building 1 lobby or at the table in Fellowship Hall after Sunday services through November 22, telling us how many you will be and what dish you will bring. Vegans, too! Cost is \$3 per person/\$7 for families of three or more to buy a turkey and paper goods. Can you help organize this event? Please contact **Ken Sandin** at ksandin@verizon.net.



Then, all are welcome to a **Holiday Open House** at UUCR on Thursday, December 3 from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. Join the Pastoral Care Team for relaxed conversation and light refreshments in this busy season. **Andy Zatman** will be back again this year to play favorite holiday tunes on the piano – come to listen or to sing along! We'll gather in Founders Hall.

Finally, the holidays would not be complete without our annual **Getting Ready for the Holidays** event! Everyone is invited to this multigenerational potluck right after the service and religious education classes on Sunday, December 6. Please bring a dish to share, remembering that we strive to be a "nut-free" environment. If your last name begins with the letter A-I, bring a main dish; J-Q, bring a dessert; R-Z, bring a side dish or salad. After lunch, the children will dive into an afternoon of holiday merry-making as they move station to station, creating crafts. Just think, all of this plus our Tuba Noodle Casserole musicians playing holiday favorites! What a perfect way to start the season.

Quest deadline: Thursday, December 3, 2015 at 8:00 p.m.,
for mailing on December 9, 2015.

Email to **Alberta Maschal**: amaschal@gmail.com.

Quest

**Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of Rockville**
100 Welsh Park Drive
Rockville, MD 20850
301-762-7666
UUCR@UUCR.ORG
WWW.UUCR.ORG

Staff

Minister: Rev. Lynn Thomas Strauss
Assistant Minister: Rev. Rebekah Montgomery
Interim Director of Religious Education:
Andrea Spencer-Linzie
Youth Coordinator: Emma Falley
Director of Music: Jennifer Rodgers
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Editors: Beth Irikura, Alberta Maschal,
Elizabeth Sullivan
Desktop Publisher: Nancy Gregory

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Sunday Worship *(continued from page 1)*

Sunday, November 22 is a multigenerational service - All ages will gather in the Sanctuary for the entire service. No religious education classes this morning. The nursery will be open in Building 3, Room 33.

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

Becoming Bread

This lay-led service will be coordinated by Lay Minister for Worship & Music, **Cynthia Shires-Thurston**. Come and learn about the simple complexities of bread baking and why it is a healing activity. Our Partner Plate recipient is Hospice Caring.

Preschool-5th grade will gather in Founders Hall for Children's Worship. Sixth grade-Senior High will go directly to classrooms in the lower level of Building 5. The nursery will be open in Building 3, Room 33.

December's Theme: Offering

Sunday, December 6, 10:00 a.m.

Can We Give the World What It Needs?

As we move into the Christmas season, **Rev. Strauss** will reflect on the yin and yang of giving and receiving. Often we focus on Christmas lists that prioritize what we want, or what we think others might want. Let us consider what it is we have to give and ask, "What is it the world needs?" Both the Children's Choir and the Adult Choir will sing.

This is also **Mitten Tree Sunday** - please bring new winter hats, scarves, gloves, and mittens to donate to those in need in our community.

First Fifteen - Children, youth, teachers, and helpers will gather in the Sanctuary for the first part of the service, before going to classes. The nursery will be open in Building 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."



DeLynnecations

Our Community of Care

Love and care take many forms within religious community. On Monday, November 2, **Rev. Rebekah Montgomery** and I drove out to Asbury to visit some UUCR folks. What a pleasure it was to introduce Rebekah to **Fred Beckner, Betty Prestemon, and Lee Bachrach**. Three long-time members who have given so much to the church over the years. I had been to visit **Peggy and Hunter Jones** a few days before, and they look forward to Rev. Montgomery visiting soon.

Rebekah was fascinated to hear some of Fred's stories and see his apartment filled with mementos of his many travels and interests as well as his collection of family photographs.

Our homes, however large or small, however full or simple, array the chapters of our lives on shelves and walls and bookcases. Sometimes we even see one of the UUCR quilts on the bed or displayed on the wall. It is an honor to be invited into one another's homes, into one another's lives.

It has been a privilege in my 26 years in ministry to visit congregants in their homes. At times the visits come because of a crisis, at other times it is a fundraising reception or a search committee interview, or an Action Auction dinner. Like all communities drawn together through shared values and commitments, over the months and years of living together within Beloved Community, we share our lives, we come to know one another's children, and we grow in respect and affection for one another.

I only wish there was time to visit each and every member and friend in their home; but until then, I imagine all the myriad gatherings that do happen within our network of relationships, and it makes me smile.

Joyful Blessings,

Lynn

Honest Conversation About Racial Justice

Monday, November 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Continuing our "Honest Conversation" series, Rev. Lynn Strauss and Rev. John T. Crestwell, Jr., Associate Minister of Outreach, Leadership, and Evangelism at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis, will hold an open discussion on racial justice on Monday, November 16 at 7:00 p.m. Join us in Founders Hall to listen to their conversation with one another, and to ask questions of your own.

Rev. Crestwell is the former minister of Davies Memorial Unitarian Universalist Church in Camp Springs, Maryland, where he assisted the congregation in expanding into a multiracial church. Under his leadership, Davies was 40% racially diverse (4 out of 10 congregants were people of color). Rev. Crestwell is author of the books, *Conversations: The Hidden Truth That Keeps The World From Being At Peace*, published in 2001, and *The Charge of the Chalice*, published in 2007, which tells the story of Davies Memorial's growth in racial diversity.

LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

RE Ruminations

When you work with love you bind yourself to yourself, and to one another... Work is love made visible. — Kahlil Gibran

Every week, members and friends of the congregation create works of love as they volunteer in so many ways to create love in our community, by seeking truth and inner peace, teaching, creating justice, worshipping, leading, making music, caring for our buildings and grounds, and holding and supporting one another. Our collective work does bind us one to another. There is little that is more satisfying than a labor of love done in community. Over the last year, I have been privileged to see a lot of work truly turn into a labor of love, binding one to another.

The Religious Education Transition Team started its work in October 2014 and made its final proposal to the Board in October 2015, presenting at the Town Hall Meeting on November 8. So much work! Creating time frames, goals, task lists, gathering data, collating data, analyzing data. I will confess that at times I wasn't sure all the work was worth it or necessary. But a tiny miracle occurred. The work truly became a labor of love. After countless long meetings, interviews, telephone calls, and research, we were bound to one another, and we were excited! The work turned into love – for our children, youth, and adults seeking truth through Religious Education (RE). We are energized by the possibilities for RE, the youth programs, and our congregational community.

The RE Committee also works its labor of love to create new and innovative programming and structures of how we do RE. We're re-thinking Coming of Age – youth will culminate their Coming of Age in 8th grade rather than in 6th grade. We are putting together a task group to re-imagine what Coming of Age could be over a 2-3 year process...world religions, UU heritage, social service, mentoring with adults in the congregation, and more. We're re-thinking RE curriculum and structure – there are many new curricula that have been written in the last few years and new ideas on how to structure Religious Education. We are forming a task group to see what's out there and what might be energizing and right for UUCR. We're re-thinking how to run RE in the summer -- Could we do an arts program? A play that culminates in a performance in the fall? Music as spiritual practice? We are forming a task group to explore the possibilities.

We're starting to build comprehensive youth programs for middle and high school youth. We're considering adding an OWL (Our Whole Lives) program for the elementary level. We've restructured RE classes and are using a trimester model for teaching and helping. It's new and we are still working on getting the kinks out, but it is exciting to see new people volunteering in RE.

Energy and freshness abounds. It is an exciting time in Religious Education. Every week, volunteers create loving community through teaching. We do all this as a labor of love to support and encourage exploration, spiritual development, and growth in our children and youth. Please consider if you can join a task group, or volunteer to teach or assist in a class. You don't have to be a trained teacher. You'll be working with a team. The second trimester begins December 13, with training on November 30. Call me (301-762-7666 x3), email me (aspencer-linzie@uucr.org). I'm happy to answer your questions. Religious Education is truly a labor of love. You will gain more than you give. Will you join us? There is a place for you to “bind yourself to yourself and to one another.”

Andrea

LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

What is Worship?

by Gwen Rowe, Chair, Children's & Youth-led Worship Committee

What does Worship mean to a raised UU? How do we help grow our children and youth into adult UUs?

Children's Worship is an entire worship service that is child-scaled and only 15 minutes long! Our message coordinates with the monthly worship theme, or with holidays or current events. Congregants can share with the children about their own experiences and how they put their faith into action.

Youth-led Worship is part of an arc of progressive independence, responsibility, and leadership. Adult mentors create a safe and sacred space where the youth can explore and develop their own spirituality. Every year, the entire congregation witnesses the powerful culmination of the youths' explorations at the Senior High-led Worship Service.

We need your help to make this happen! Please consider joining the Children's & Youth-led Worship Committee. If you have any questions about what we do, or how you can join us, please email **Gwen Rowe** at gorowe@gmail.com.

Comfort Cases for Children

by Gwen Rowe

Thousands of children enter the foster care system each year and most have little more than the clothes on their backs. They are often forced to carry what few belongings they might possess in a trash bag.

From November 1-15, the Children's & Youth-led Worship Committee is collecting small suitcases and other essential supplies. We will be supporting Comfort Cases, a Rockville-based charity which works to provide children in the foster care system with suitcases and necessities for their comfort and dignity. The greatest need is for supplies for children age 10 and older. Please bring your donation to the Children's Worship table in Fellowship Hall after the Sunday service. Items requested:

- ◆ a small suitcase, duffle bag, or back pack
- ◆ a toothbrush and toothpaste
- ◆ deodorant, lotions and soaps, hair brush or comb
- ◆ pajama set or athletic shorts or sweatpants
- ◆ a stuffed animal or a book or journal
- ◆ coloring books and crayons, pens and pencils

New Testament Introduction: Theology and Advice

by Shira Ehrlich, Chair, Adult Faith Formation Committee

Glenn Griffin will lead the second session of the New Testament Introduction: Acts, Epistles, and Revelation. These are the books that describe the theology and advice of the apostles after the death of Jesus. Glenn, who studied at a seminary, will lead us in the UU tradition of affirming and promoting wisdom from the world's religions, as we seek the wisdom within the New Testament. Newcomers and experienced students are welcome to attend this class in Room 51 on Sunday, November 15 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. So, bring your questions and join the discussion.

SOCIAL JUSTICE



How Can I Help Manna Fight Hunger in Montgomery County?

by Dolores Barnes

In addition to bringing your nonperishable healthy food items into UUCR every week for our Manna collection, please consider donating your time. Manna has many volunteer opportunities for individuals, students, and families throughout the year, both in its 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, serving at 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 Monday through Friday daytime hours, volunteers must be 17 years of age or older for safety reasons, as Manna is a working warehouse. On evenings and weekends, younger volunteers age 7 and older can serve. Please go to www.mannafood.org/volunteer-with-us/ and fill out a volunteer questionnaire!

Join Manna at the Montgomery County Fair Grounds for the Sugarloaf Craft Festival, Friday through Sunday, November 20-22 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Bring a \$5 donation to the Manna booth and receive a ticket to the Fall Craft Festival. That's a \$5 discount! Volunteers at Manna's booth will be collecting nonperishable food items. One hundred percent of all donations will go directly to Manna!

UUCR Hosts Second Montgomery County Food Security Collaborative Event

by Dolores Barnes

On October 8, UUCR was once again honored to host the second forum and first annual update of the Montgomery County Food Security Collaborative (MCFSC). When the MCFSC started one year ago, its goal was to significantly reduce hunger in Montgomery County by 2020 by redistributing fresh, perishable food and increasing collaboration among businesses, non-profits, food providers, and families in need. Here's an overview of what has been accomplished, per Chairman, Andy Burness:

- ◆ Partnerships with existing and new leadership organizations, including The Montgomery County Food Council's Food Recovery Working Group, Community Food Rescue Network, and the Interfaith Hunger Relief Committee, to set common goals and discuss how to meet them.
- ◆ Now positioned to introduce a web-based application that uses modern technology to make it easier for surplus food from local businesses to get to county residents experiencing hunger.
- ◆ Currently engaging businesses and philanthropy to raise \$2 million by 2020 (\$542,750 to date).
- ◆ Helping to raise the profile of hunger in the county through publicity and public forums.

In 2016, MCFSC will contribute to a Community Food Rescue Network, coordinated by Manna Food Center, and will involve at least two dozen other food assistance groups. The goal is to change the way food rescue happens by building community capacity, and redirecting food from landfills to dinner tables. MCFSC wants food pantries, volunteer-led social service agencies, and hunger organizations to share data to drive decision making. By using mobile markets, pop-up pantries, and a possible "food depot," MCFSC hopes to eliminate hunger by 2020 in five zip codes with the highest need. For more information, visit www.mocofoodsecuritycollaborative.org.

SOCIAL JUSTICE



Thanksgiving Service Food Collection

by Antonio Carrillo, Social Justice Committee

During our multigenerational Thanksgiving service on Sunday, November 22, we will collect food for distribution by our local Manna Food Center and Community Ministries of Rockville. Our goal this year is to have enough food for 13 baskets. Please bring the following food items, according to your last name. You are also encouraged to bring extra canned or boxed goods for Manna.

Please bring these food items, if your last name begins with the letter:

- A or B: Box of stuffing
- C, D or E: Cans of gravy and cranberry sauce
- F, G or H: 5 pounds of potatoes (or box of instant potatoes)
- I, J, K or L: 5 large sweet potatoes (or 2 cans of yams)
- M, N or O: 3 pounds of apples or oranges
- P, Q or R: 3 16-oz cans of vegetables – green beans or corn
- S, T, U, V-Z: Package of dinner rolls or dessert (pies are a good choice) or ingredients for a pumpkin pie (2 cans of pumpkin, 2 boxes of pie crust, 2 cans of evaporated milk)

Another option is to purchase a \$20 Giant gift card for the recipient family to buy a turkey, dairy products, etc. Giant gift cards may be purchased in Fellowship Hall after the service on November 15 and 22. If your family, small group, or committee wants to assemble a complete Thanksgiving basket, please sign up at the Thanksgiving Food Collection table in Fellowship Hall after the Sunday service, or email **Antonio Carrillo** at amcarrillo4@verizon.net. When you sign up, you'll be giving a list of ingredients to include in the basket. The total cost for one basket is approximately \$40.

Escalating Inequality Group

by Shira Ehrlich, Social Justice Committee

The Escalating Inequality Group invites UUCR members and friends to challenge economic disparity. This social justice group has grown out of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) Congregational Study Action Issue (CSAI) of Escalating Inequality. The UUA resolution for this CSAI states, "Half of all Americans are impoverished or struggling, as the middle class shrinks and billionaires take the profits. Where's our commitment to the Common Good?"

How do we commit to the Common Good? We can do this Sunday, November 22, at the Escalating Inequality Group meeting. We will discuss how we at UUCR can act locally to challenge this global issue. Some ideas are: 1) Support county, state, or national legislation for a living wage; 2) Do advocacy work with local organizations, such as Interfaith Works or Community Ministries of Rockville; 3) Offer a six-session curriculum on Escalating Inequality, designed by Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic Community.

Join us November 22 and bring your own ideas. The meeting will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Building 4, Room 44. To learn more, contact **Shira Ehrlich** at carol_ehrlich@yahoo.com.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Support UUSC

by Ken Sandin, Social Justice Committee

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) advances human rights and social justice worldwide. The winter holiday season features several gift-giving opportunities to support UUSC:

- ◆ You may see and order UUSC holiday greeting cards online at www.thegoodbuy.com/collections/holidays/holiday-cards.
- ◆ The UUSC Good Buy website (www.thegoodbuy.com/) offers many other items selected to support environmental sustainability and ethical shopping.
- ◆ UUSC's Guest at Your Table (GAYT) program, designed for families with children, provides a visual tool for sharing our bounty with those who have less. The box is a "guest" at your table where your family shares a meal. You "feed" your guest coins, cash, and checks for the UUSC. Available envelopes may also be used for donations to the UUSC. GAYT gifts of \$40 and more earn UUSC member benefits, and those of \$125 or more are eligible to be matched dollar for dollar by a grant from the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock in Manhasset, NY. Pick up GAYT boxes and envelopes at the Social Justice table in Fellowship Hall on Sundays, November 29 through December 20. They will be collected at the Christmas Eve services on December 24 and on Sundays, December 20 and 27.



You may also donate to GAYT and join the UUSC online - visit the website at www.uusc.org/. To learn more, contact **Ken Sandin** at ksandin@verizon.net.

Partner Church

by Louise Friedenberg

UUCR has had a partner church relationship for more than twenty years with a Unitarian church in Magyarszakod, Transylvania, Romania. We recently sent \$500, our annual stipend for the minister, and also \$800 for the Village Caretaker Program, with special emphasis on the youth and elderly. A traditional dance group was formed for the children and they perform for special occasions. They would love to have some visitors from UUCR. Your housing and hospitality is guaranteed. For more information, contact **Louise Friedenberg**.

Beyond Partisan Division—UUSJ's November 14 Program

Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice (UUSJ) invites you to "Beyond Partisan Division" on Saturday, November 14 from 12:00 to 4:30 p.m. at Channing Memorial Church, 3220 Corporate Court, Suite C, Ellicott City, Maryland 21042. Tickets are \$12 and includes vegetarian lunch and materials. Visit www.uusj.org to register. This program will help us to compassionately witness a seldom-challenged bias that often exists in our congregations and Association. We'll learn how to deepen the conversations about partisan division that exists around labels like "liberals" and "conservative." Presenters include Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael and Paul Roche, Board Chair, of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Sterling, and Rev. Scott Sammler-Michael of the Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church.

SHARING THE MINISTRY

Let's Hold the Energy *and* the Applause

by Jennifer Rodgers, Director of Music

Every Sunday morning, we have many times when we might express our appreciation, enthusiasm, welcome, love, and congratulations. Lately, we've been turning more to applause to express our joy and care - be it for music that raises the roof or touches our hearts, for messages that stir up our passion, for good news from one of our own, or for a way to say hello to visitors to let them know we are so glad they are with us.

Applause, however, is a one-dimensional response and we have the opportunity to express ourselves much more fully without it. Applause has a built-in element of measuring - who receives it and who doesn't? Is it a wild outburst or a polite clap? If applause doesn't feel like the right response to some, does that mean that they aren't appreciative?

Sunday morning services are a unique setting of shared sacred space. In a single hour, we hold the energy of all our lives - joys and sorrows, challenges and inspirations of the world we live in, and our intentions as we walk through that world. Holding all that energy could be a very powerful thing, indeed. In other atmospheres (concert halls, theaters, sports arenas), we disperse our energy into applause. What if we were to breathe in those moments instead? Will the musicians know that you appreciate them? Yes, and even more in the fullness of that moment after a piece has ended. Will visitors know that you welcome them? Yes, and even more when you introduce yourself, say hello, and invite them to join you at coffee hour. Will those at the pulpit know that you are present with them? Yes! - with your sighs and laughs (and maybe the occasional murmur or shout).

Of course, there will be the occasional can't-help-it moment (when the kids sing, when something wonderful is announced). For our general practice, however, let's hold the applause and, in doing so, hold the energy that we have collectively created by being together.

A Cappella Night at the Tree of Life Cafe!

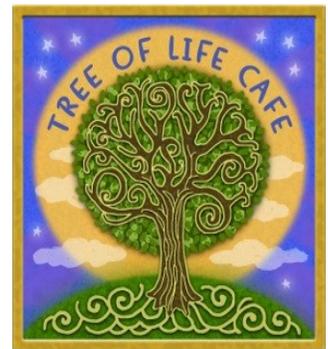
by Mike Holmes, Chair, Music Committee

The next Tree of Life Cafe features two talented local a cappella groups. Join us in the Sanctuary on Friday, November 13 from 8:00 to 10:30 p.m. for a celebration of vocal harmony.

The Glen Echoes quartet are members of the Barbershop Harmony Society and have been performing in the Washington, DC area since 1997. Performing in the barbershop style, they sing everything from traditional barbershop to doo-wop and modern classics from the rock-and-roll era. The group includes UUCR's own Mike Holmes, singing tenor.

The Bethesda Chamber Singers have been making a cappella music with panache for more than 25 years. Their repertoire ranges from medieval music to rock-and-roll, with intermediate stops for renaissance madrigals and motets, 19th and 20th century art songs, and the Great American Songbook.

Suggested donation is \$15; \$10 for students. No charge for coffee, and other drinks and snacks will be available. Visit www.uucr.org/tree-life-cafe for updates and details.



CONGREGATION WORKS

Summary of the October 2015 Meeting of the Board of Trustees

by Terrie Barr, President, Board of Trustees

The UUCR Board met for its monthly meeting on October 20. **Julie Robinson** presented the monthly financial report. Our investment income was down compared to projections; the operating budget is in good shape. **Richard Chitty, Aaron Pied** and **Julie Graf** shared their fun plans for the Halloween Hullabaloo. October 31's fundraiser is a huge effort; we thank all who are helping make it a success. The Board approved the Memory Board installation proposal. We approved expenditures from the Capital Improvement Fund to buy a new 70" TV, sound bar, and cart.

Rev. Lynn reported on ministerial efforts, including the first meeting of the Racial Justice Working Group on October 5, and an October 7 meeting of Montgomery County Unitarian Universalist colleagues to coordinate racial justice work. She expressed her gratitude to the congregation for supporting her mini-sabbatical to nourish herself, her daughter, son-in-law, and new twin grandsons.

Ellen Rohan briefed the Board on our long-term Strategic Plan that is broken into yearly segments called Annual Implementation Plans (AIPs), and the budget process that supports it. In the AIP, we plan the work we will do in the next fiscal year, the last one of our five-year plan. Then, we request the budget needed for FY 2016-17 by the end of December. We will report on the work done next year in the 2017 Annual Report. Ask Ellen if you have any questions.

Andrea Spencer-Linzie presented the recommendations of the Religious Education Transition Team. The Board is most grateful for the report and for the eight-member team's efforts over the last year. The report includes a vision, direction, and staffing for UUCR's future religious education program. The Board will make decisions on the staffing recommendations at our November 17 meeting.

The Board continued discussing ways to honor our 60th anniversary. We identified six capital improvement projects for detailed plans and costs. **Marie Reed**, Lay Minister for Buildings & Grounds, will work with stakeholders to accomplish this in time for the December Board meeting. Please stop by the Board table in Fellowship Hall after Sunday services to speak with a member of the Board about what is on your mind.

Committee on Ministry

by Cita Furlani, Chair, Committee on Ministry

Do you have suggestions, concerns, praise about UUCR but aren't certain whom to contact? The members of the Committee on Ministry want you to know our names for this very reason. The Committee on Ministry (COM) works with our minister, assistant minister, and members of the congregation to care for and strengthen UUCR's overall ministry. We serve as a communication link between the congregation and **Revs. Lynn Strauss** and **Rebekah Montgomery**. Rev. Strauss took a brief portion of her sabbatical in September and October. Rev. Montgomery began her part-time ministry with UUCR on October 1.

We want to hear from you if you have constructive suggestions to improve our congregation and if you have any issues with UUCR. We are here to listen; don't hesitate to reach out. Our contact information can be found in the UUCR Directory. We look forward to hearing from you. COM members: **Cita Furlani** (Chair), **Steve Eckstrand**, **Ricardo Carvajal**, and **Rolf Preisendorfer**.

THINKING OF YOU

Thinking of You

Compiled by Marianne Miller on behalf of the Pastoral Care Team

September was a month of sadness and joy for **Terrie Barr**. She lost her dear mother-in-law, Mollie Fein, on September 10, five days before her 100th birthday. Her daughter, Amanda Fein, son-in-law, Jake Sherkow, and granddaughter, Lilah, welcomed Caleb (Cal) on September 29 in New Jersey. All are doing well.

Rev. Strauss and **Rev. Montgomery** enjoyed visiting some of our Asbury folks in early November. UUCR greetings were brought to **Peggy** and **Hunter Jones**, **Fred Beckner**, **Lee Bachrach**, and **Betty Prestemon**. Remember, everyone loves to get a card from an old friend at "church."

It was a joy to see **Don** and **Judy Plumb** at both the Halloween Hullabaloo and the November 1 worship service.

Pat and **Ted Reuther** celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in September! Recently, Ted was in the hospital, and is now in rehab – expected home soon. Pat and Ted would welcome hearing from you.

George Hoferek, **Mary Hoferek's** brother, was hospitalized after a bad fall and is in rehab at the Wilson Center in Asbury. He hopes to be released soon.

Ed Garbe will celebrate his 102nd birthday with family members on November 24. Ed is full of stories about his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren – all adults! One grandson retired recently, and has begun a second career. He looks forward to attending his great grandson's wedding next September. **John McIlwaine** had dinner with Ed recently and attests that his wit and sense of humor are as sharp as ever. Happy Thanksgiving, Ed, and oh yes, Happy Birthday and many more returns.

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

Pastoral Care Cards

by Marialyce Sherr

Please make someone's day! Time required: three minutes. Look for the Pastoral Care Team at the back of the Sanctuary after the service on Sunday, November 15. We will have our "Post Office" table set up with all variety of cards, pens, stamps, and the UUCR Directory. Please take this opportunity to let someone know you are thinking about her or him.

Quilt Raffle Winner!

by Louise Friedenberg

Congratulations to **Barbara Weis**, winner of UUCR's 35th annual quilt, "Sea Glass," created by the 14 members of the UUCR Quilters. This quilt has 3,462 fabric pieces. It was raffled at the Halloween Hullabaloo on October 31, and brought in \$1,919 for UUCR.