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## SUNDAY WORSHIP

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### April Theme: Wellspring

**Sunday, April 17, 10:00 a.m.**  
*Digging Within: The WellSpring of Good*

Our worship theme this month is "Wellspring," where we are inspired to seek the original and bountiful sources of our spiritual path. In this service, **Rev. Rebekah Montgomery** will reflect on fearlessly turning within to harness the good, despite the challenges of the world around us. We'll also honor UUCR's newest members today - please plan to welcome them at a reception after the service. The Adult Choir and Unisons will sing. Our Partner Plate recipient is Community Ministries of Rockville (CMR).

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. The nursery will be open in Building 3, Room 33.

**Sunday, April 24, 10:00 a.m.**  
*Our Life on Earth*

People become environmentalists for a variety of reasons. Some see the Earth as Divine and want to honor the planet through Earth-based spiritual practices. Others because of education - when science and math show the grave direction we are headed. And there are those who discover the joys of

*(continued on page 2)*

# Quest

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

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**Spiritual Freedom   Beloved Community   Social Responsibility**

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Volume LIX, Number 8  
April 13, 2016

Editor: Elizabeth Sullivan  
Desktop Publisher: Nancy Gregory

### **Don't Miss the Action Auction Fiesta Cruise - Saturday, May 7!**

*by Marsha Luce*

At this year's Action Auction, you'll have the chance to bid on over 100 services and events offered by UUCR members and friends, including a Hungarian dinner, geocaching, a spa afternoon, a family pool party, a bourbon and wine tasting, a Chinese dinner, and paddling and hiking events.



This year, you will again have the opportunity to donate "on the spot" through the "Help Wanted" category. A congregant describes a need for skilled or unskilled assistance and the price s/he is willing to pay. You can donate your services, and the person needing the help pays the fixed price to UUCR.

Bid on delicious items offered by your fellow congregants – wonderful baked goods, gourmet food items, and brunches/lunches/dinners with friends. Win a soufflé cooking demo or a public health seminar, a Williamsburg brunch or a holiday cookie swap.

There's more - much more - from yoga to flower planting to landscaping. And how about your own convenient UUCR parking space for a year? See it all in the Auction catalog, available online and in Fellowship Hall after the service on Sunday, April 24. Many of the events are a great way to meet UUCR members and friends, especially for those who are new to the congregation.

Tickets are on sale now! You may purchase yours at the Auction table in Fellowship Hall, or online through the secure link on the Auction web page: [uucr.org/2016-uucr-action-auction-fiesta-cruise](http://uucr.org/2016-uucr-action-auction-fiesta-cruise).

*(continued on page 3)*

*Quest* deadline: Thursday, May 5, 2016 at 8:00 p.m.,  
for mailing on May 11, 2016.  
Email to **Beth Irikura**.

# Quest

**Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation of Rockville**  
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Rockville, MD 20850  
301-762-7666  
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## Staff

Minister: Rev. Lynn Thomas Strauss  
Assistant Minister: Rev. Rebekah Montgomery  
Interim Director of Religious Education:  
Andrea Spencer-Linzie  
Religious Education Assistant: Rena Geibel  
Youth Coordinator: Emma Falley  
Director of Music: Jennifer Rodgers  
Pianist: Justin Furnia  
Church Administrator: Donna Taylor  
Director of Communications &  
Membership: Nancy Gregory  
Facilities Coordinator: Bryant Taylor

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## Sunday Worship (continued from page 1)

sustainability when they make the choices that benefit our future. Whatever path we walk, our journey as UUs leads us to a deep knowing that our relationship with our planet is a critical part of our commitment to the interconnected web of all existence. On this Earth Day weekend, join lay leaders, **Christin Green**, **Jon Facemire**, and **Wayne Crump** to celebrate our life on Earth! Christin Green, **Laura Congdon**, Wayne Crump, **Julie Graf**, and **Justin Furnia** will offer special music. Partner Plate is CMR.

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. Nursery in Building 3, Room 33.

## May Worship Theme: Roots & Branches

### Sunday, May 1, 10:00 a.m.

#### *Tree of Life*

Roots hold me close, wings set me free. We stand in tension between honoring traditions and reimagining our realities, culture, and socio-economic norms. Today, **Rev. Rebekah Montgomery** will reflect on our living tradition and our thirst for justice. The Adult Choir will sing. Our Partner Plate recipient is CMR.

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. Nursery in Building 3, Room 33.

### Sunday, May 8, 10:00 a.m.

#### *Tending the Flame*

This service, led by our Interim Director of Religious Education, **Andrea Spencer-Linzie**, will explore how we “tend the flame” for ourselves, our religious home, the children and youth in our midst, and finally the world beyond. Nikki Ames, soloist, and **Justin Furnia**, piano, will offer special music. Our Partner Plate recipient is CMR.

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.

For the most current information on upcoming events, visit the UUCR calendar online at [uucr.org](http://uucr.org). At the top of any page, click on the light blue box labeled “Calendar.”



## Action Auction Fiesta Cruise - Saturday, May 7 *(continued from page 1)*

Tickets are \$15 in advance (through April 24) for adults and teens age 13 and up, \$20 after April 24, and \$10 for children who wish to eat the Fiesta Cruise dinner. Admission includes appetizers, entrees at the cruise ports-of-call (including Japanese, French, and Indian, with vegetarian options available), and the opportunity to bid on the fabulous Action Auction offerings. Wine and beer will be available for purchase. There is a family maximum entry fee of \$45. Free child care is available. To sign up for child care, let us know when you buy your ticket, or contact **Colleen Dolak** at [auction\\_lead@uucr.org](mailto:auction_lead@uucr.org) no later than Sunday, May 1. Appetizers will be served from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., dinner from 6:00 to 7:30, dessert at 8:00, and the evening concludes at 9:00. If you can't attend, ask a friend to be your proxy bidder, and let us know in advance, at the Auction table or by email, so that we can have your bidder number ready for your proxy.

Tickets for the popular wine and beer raffles are on sale at the Auction table in Fellowship Hall, too. Buy one (or more) \$10 ticket to win a case of bottles from around the world. Only 100 tickets will be sold, so your chances are much better than playing the Powerball! If you'd enjoy a dinner out with friends or learning a new skill, if your holiday table could use some delicious goodies or you need some helpful service performed, the Action Auction is for you! Come, have a great time, and bid!



### **Fire of Commitment: Our 2016 Canvass**

*by Karl Irikura, Chair, Canvass Team*

Why do we support UUCR? We have many reasons, springing from our diverse personal histories, dreams, gifts, and needs. Our beloved **Rev. Lynn Strauss** has just begun her sabbatical. Already she has a story to share, one from our former intern minister, Rev. Seanan Holland. Rev. Seanan is a Navy Chaplain in the Coast Guard station off California. As Rev. Lynn said, "Seanan's vision was to take our principles and purposes, our tradition, our understanding of world community...to those places where words and deeds of healing and hope were sorely needed..." Across the distance and years, he continues to draw strength from our congregation in Rockville. Rev. Seanan writes:

*The laying on of hands of the UU Congregation of Rockville stays with me in many of my tough moments. In that moment of ordination, I was changed through the hands of the congregation. I knew that I was accountable to my calling to ministry, to ethical decisions, to being my best self always. My internship year and ordination at Rockville is my touchstone to accountability.*

Have you had a transformative experience at UUCR? Please share your story with others of us at UUCR. Your story will enrich and strengthen those with whom you share. Your story will help to create new stories among us.

As of April 7, our congregation has made 186 pledges totaling \$502,745. We are 84% of the way towards our goal. Thank you for all that you share, including these financial investments in our congregational work! In April, the Canvass Team will reach out to members and friends who have not yet pledged. Please contact one of us (**Karl Irikura, Bruce Baskett, José Clemente, Bill Newhouse, and Christy Shannon**) if you would like to help make phone calls or hold personal conversations.

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## LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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### *RE Ruminations*

You may recall that in 2014, the Board of Trustees appointed a Religious Education Transition Team (RETT) to “protect and ensure the integrity and vitality of our religious education program” when UUCR’s former Director of Religious Education and Youth Coordinator resigned. The RETT began its work in October 2014 and, one year later, made its final proposal to the Board in October 2015. Many of you, youth and adults alike, participated in focus groups, panels, and meetings to share your sense of the challenges as well as your dreams for UUCR’s RE program. Among the recommendations from the RETT, there were four areas listed as needing targeted development: the Junior Youth program, the Senior Youth program, Coming of Age, and Youth Worship.

Since November 2015, our Youth Coordinator, **Emma Falley** has been researching youth programming, resources, and structures. We’ve discussed many of the issues for UUCR, including capacity, leadership, and integration with the full congregation. At the April 7 meeting of the RE Committee, Emma presented the outline of a comprehensive UUCR Youth Program, based on the Six Pillars of great youth programs: Building Community, Social Action, Worship, Learning, Leadership, and Congregational Involvement.

The RE Committee received the proposal enthusiastically. Emma is speaking with the youth to see what they would like to see in their programs. Emma and I will be hosting a meeting in Room 50 for parents and other interested adults on Sunday, April 17 at 11:30 a.m. to review the proposal and give feedback. We will review time frames, structure, scheduling, and goals with the Six Pillars in mind. We are very excited for the development of a more comprehensive UUCR Youth Program, beginning in the fall of 2016, which will include Coming of Age programming as well.

It has been a delight for me to be part of the process of assessment and discernment by the congregation, as well as the work of the RE Committee, volunteers, and staff over the past year and a half that lead us to this time of ripening fruit...implementing a comprehensive Youth Program.

As we affirmed in the Child Dedication during the worship service a few Sundays ago, it really does take a village to raise a child. There are many parts to play in the development, support, and love of our children and youth - teachers, mentors, advisors, supporters, partners, coaches, and more.

Yours in faith and commitment,

*Andrea*

### **UUCR Poetry & Music Coffeehouse Returns**

*by Shira Ehrlich, Chair, Adult Faith Formation Committee*

The next Poetry & Music Coffeehouse needs singers, musicians, poets, readers, storytellers - and audience members. On Friday, April 22 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., in Founders Hall, UUCR members and friends can share their talents, and enjoy an evening of entertainment. Those who want to perform may contact **Celia Young**, or sign up at the Adult Faith Formation table in Fellowship Hall after the Sunday service. Come to the next Poetry & Music Coffeehouse for a night of fun and community! For more information, contact Celia.

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## LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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### Wisdom Wednesday Rocks with The Sanctuaries!

by Shira Ehrlich

The Sanctuaries of DC is ready to rock the next Wisdom Wednesday, May 11! The Sanctuaries is a collective of young artists from different religious backgrounds who promote justice as they create. Their art speaks to children, youths, and adults. This Wisdom Wednesday begins at 6:30 p.m., in Founders Hall, with a vespers service led by **Rev.**

**Rebekah Montgomery**. At 7:00, we'll enjoy socializing and dessert, compliments of the Adult Faith Formation Committee. Then, at 7:30, artists from The Sanctuaries will share their talents with us! To learn more, contact **Shira Ehrlich** at [adultfaith@uucr.org](mailto:adultfaith@uucr.org).



## Emerson's Sunrise Coffee Circle

*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. Contact **Bonnie Bloomquist** to learn more.

### Adult Faith Formation Survey Results

by Shira Ehrlich

Last November, the Adult Faith Formation Committee distributed a survey to UUCR members and friends. We are reviewing the top two classes requested by survey participants: *What We Choose: Ethics for Unitarian Universalists*, and *Spirit in Practice*. We are looking at the calendar for next year to decide the schedule for these classes. The three most popular topics of survey participants were spirituality, social justice, and UU history.

*(continued on page 6)*

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## LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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### Adult Faith Formation Survey Results *(continued from page 5)*

The most requested class, *What We Choose: Ethics for Unitarian Universalists*, offers different philosophical frameworks for ethics. Participants explore ethical dilemmas presented in various scenarios and stories, and then clarify and expand their own ethical and moral frameworks after examining them from different perspectives. Then, participants learn how to apply these frameworks to their lives by considering Unitarian Universalist values and ethical ideas.

The second most requested class, *Spirit in Practice*, is a multi-session class that encourages people to deepen and center themselves spiritually. Participants do this by reflecting on how various forms of spiritual practice - individual and communal - deepen faith and enrich one's life. This class also fosters awareness of the wonder and mystery of existence, and encourages sacred experiences through worship, ritual, wisdom of faith traditions, and spiritual disciplines. Finally, participants can explore how to deepen spiritual experiences here in our own congregation.

As we continue to serve the congregation, we are considering classes that respond to requests for the topics of spirituality, social justice, and UU history. If you want to work with the Adult Faith Formation Committee, or teach a class, please contact **Shira Ehrlich** at [adultfaith@uucr.org](mailto:adultfaith@uucr.org).

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## SOCIAL JUSTICE

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### Faithful Democracy - Primary Election on April 26

*by Mary Lanigan*

A recent Unitarian Universalist Association mailing encouraged us to keep heart and vote with love this election season, letting dignity, equality, justice, compassion, and conscience guide our votes. The Primary Election in Maryland is Tuesday, April 26, with Early Voting from April 14 to 21. In addition to choosing a candidate for President, we will choose candidates for Congress, the Board of Education, Judges of the Circuit Court, and Convention Delegates.

Why vote in the primary? Why not just wait until the General Election in November? Many good candidates don't make it through the primary because fewer voters vote in the primary. Make your voice heard in the primary. Note that Maryland is a closed primary state so that only registered Democrats can vote for Democratic candidates in the primary and only registered Republicans can vote for Republicans. Voters registered as Unaffiliated can vote for non-partisan races, such as the Board of Education. You should have received your *Voters' Guide and Sample Ballot* from the Board of Elections that indicates your polling place and contains a list of candidates who will be on your ballot.

Take time to learn about the candidates and their position on issues before you vote. The League of Women Voters (LWV), a nonpartisan organization that promotes informed participation in government, prepares a *Voters' Guide* that contains responses from the candidates in their own words to questions posed by the League. You can find an online interactive guide at [vote411.org](http://vote411.org), a printable PDF copy of the Montgomery County guide at [lwvmocomd.org](http://lwvmocomd.org), or a paper copy of the Montgomery County guide at public libraries, county recreation, community, and senior centers, Giant Food stores, senior living communities, and the LWVMC office. Make democracy work - vote.

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## SOCIAL JUSTICE

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### Medical Mission to Haiti

by Barbara Weis

I (**Barbara Weis**) am returning to Haiti on May 7 for my 10th medical mission with Sante Total. We saw over 400 patients in the week we went in January, so I can't wait and can use your help! I or my daughter, **Christina Stiles**, who has also volunteered with Sante Total, will be in Fellowship Hall after the service every Sunday through May 1. We can give you more information about Sante Total and a list of needed supplies, which I'm collecting in a box labeled "Haiti donations" in the Building 1 lobby. Please feel free to put items there. As you clean out your closets, please note that children's summer clothes and shoes are also needed. If you would like to make a financial contribution, you may write a check to UUCR with "Sante Total" or "Haiti" in the memo line, or donate directly at [www.santetotal.org](http://www.santetotal.org). In addition, supplies may be purchased and donated directly through Amazon at this link: [http://www.amazon.com/registry/giftlist/LMFZE20HRC2L/ref=cm\\_sw\\_em\\_r](http://www.amazon.com/registry/giftlist/LMFZE20HRC2L/ref=cm_sw_em_r). Thank you so much! Your support truly makes a difference!

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## SHARING THE MINISTRY

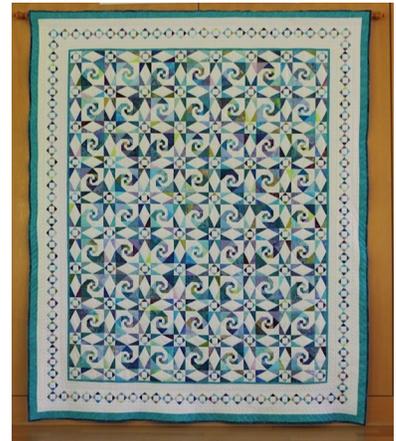
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### The Art on Our Walls

by Louise Friedenberg and Sherry Dittmann

The artists for all our exhibited quilts (currently on display at UUCR through the month of May) are members of the UUCR Quilters, a group that was started by **Carol Dangel** in 1981. Other original members are **Holly Meyer, Jo Wilson, and Margaret Chalkley**. The group spends a year dreaming, planning, and making these beautiful quilts, and then they are raffled at our fall fundraiser. The following past raffle winners have graciously loaned their quilts for this exhibit - **Elsa Tutwiler, Len Taylor, Marge Holmes, Anne Byrd, Paul Friedenberg, Laura Rhodes, Fred Beckner, Mariana Warner, Paula McGee, Gwen and Tom Rowe, Judy Eisenhauer, Sam Steel, and Barbara Weis**.



In addition, we are exhibiting the "12 Days of Christmas," not a raffle quilt, and the "Crazy Quilt" wall hanging the group created and gave to Margaret Chalkley and Stephen Webber for their wedding on February 14, 1982, a tie dye quilt by **Mark Stiles** and Barbara Weis, and several small pieces by **Virginia Cook**.

Current members of the group include Carol Dangel, Holly Meyer, Jo Wilson, Margaret Chalkley, Gwen Rowe, **Alberta Maschal, Barbara Harrison, Anne Spicknall, Lynne Goss, Marge Holmes, Christina Ginsberg, Lisa Reed, Pat Chapin, Florence Wyand, Louise Lovell, and Louise Friedenberg**. Although these quilts are not for sale, the current project will be raffled this fall. Over the years, the quilt raffles have raised \$46,000 for UUCR. Plan now to buy your tickets so you, too, can be a winner! And, please thank Louise for her work coordinating this show and thank all our quilters for bringing so much beauty into so many homes.

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## SHARING THE MINISTRY

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### Do It Day is Sunday, April 24

by Sue Hedges and Mary Lanigan

Every year around Earth Day, we come together as a congregation to take care of our own little piece of the earth. Known as Do It Day, our annual afternoon devoted to church stewardship will be held this year on Sunday, April 24.

It's up to all of us to help maintain our buildings and grounds, and on this day we do it with fun and fellowship. Come to the morning worship service dressed to work. We plan to work from 11:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Vegan lunch foods will be available at 1:00.

Many of our Do It Day activities involve outdoor work. Some are strenuous, but many are not so tough. If you are not able to work outside, we also have some indoor jobs. This year, our tasks include weeding flower beds, removing invasive plants all over the property, planting flowers, digging wild onions out of the flower beds, picking up sticks, tree limbs, and trash from the lawns, and cleaning windows inside and outside.

We need many hands (and backs, and tools) to make Do It Day a success. If you have them, bring garden gloves and tools (e.g., pruners, loppers, rakes, shovels, and spades). Bring squeegees for cleaning windows.

We strongly encourage families to come and work with their kids; there are jobs that children can participate in along with adults. Some of the RE classes may choose a project of their own. It's a day of great satisfaction in large and small accomplishments, and we like to teach our children the joy of working in a community toward a shared goal.

On Do It Day, our work yields immediate, tangible rewards. When we're done, the place looks great! Please plan to join us. For more information, contact **Mary Lanigan** or **Sue Hedges**.



### Newcomer Brunch with the Minister on May 1

All newcomers, new RE families, and visitors are warmly invited to a light brunch with **Rev. Rebekah Montgomery** following the service on Sunday, May 1. 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](mailto:ngregory@uucr.org).

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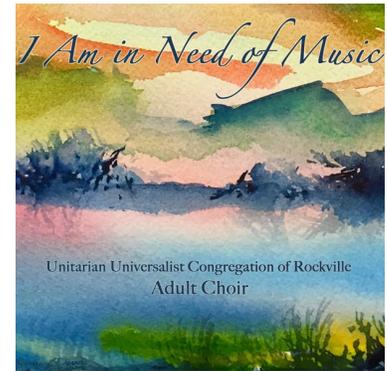
## SHARING THE MINISTRY

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### Concert and CD Recording Featuring UUCR's Adult Choir

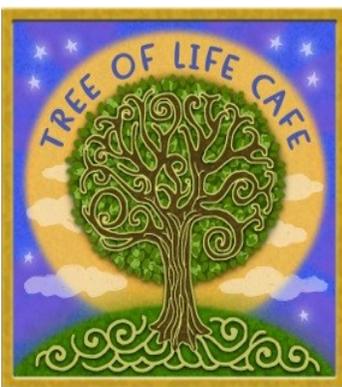
by Jennifer Rodgers, Director of Music

Throughout this program year, UUCR's Adult Choir has been working toward a special event and fundraiser for our music program. We've been recording a wonderful selection of pieces that we love, and we think you will, too! On the evening of Saturday, June 4, we'll have a CD release concert featuring all the selections. You'll be able to enjoy an evening of diverse, exciting choral music and then purchase the CD. Then, on the following morning, June 5, UUCR's entire music program will come together to present our Music Sunday - with a different array of selections and singers!



I (**Jennifer Rodgers**) have had the idea of recording a CD for a few years now, and many congregants have suggested that they'd like one. This project was finally made possible, however, because of gifts to UUCR's music program in memory of our long-time member, **Bill Chapin**, who passed unexpectedly last spring. His wife, **Pat Chapin**, designated our Ethier Fund for Special Music as a way for friends and family to honor Bill's love of singing. Their donations of \$2,700 have helped to cover the cost of producing a CD, and we are dedicating this project to Bill.

Your donations at the concert and to purchase the CD will serve as our annual fundraiser for the Ethier Fund, which allows our music programming to include bi-annual large works and professional guest musicians, such as the jazz and steel drum ensembles which have joined us for a service. Mark your calendar for the concert on Saturday, June 4 at 7:00 p.m., and plan to come back the next morning for the Sunday service on June 5. UUCR is so proud and supportive of our vibrant music program. The Adult Choir, our pianist, **Justin Fumia**, and I are very excited to give this community a way to take our Sunday morning music home with you!



### The Hula Monsters at the May Tree of Life Cafe!

by Mike Holmes, Chair, Music Committee

Join us in Founders Hall on Friday, May 13 at 8:00 p.m. for an eclectic mix of American musical styles, all delivered with a distinctly Hawaiian flavor. The Hula Monsters's repertoire includes Hawaiian, rockabilly, blues, country, and jazz standards - all with the Hula Monster Hawaiian accent. Based in the Washington/Baltimore area, they are a band of accomplished professional musicians who have played from upstate New York to the Carolinas and Tennessee. It may be difficult to categorize their music, but the common thread is fun!

The Hula Monsters have won many "Wammies," the annual awards given by the Washington Area Music Association, including six times as Best World Music Group. They have appeared at the Birchmere, Rams Head Tavern, IOTA, and Kennedy Center, along with many club appearances. Join us for an evening of eclectic music with a Hawaiian flair! Suggested donation is \$15. Coffee is free, and other drinks and snacks will be available. Visit [uucr.org/tree-life-cafe](http://uucr.org/tree-life-cafe) for updates and details.

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## CONGREGATION WORKS

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### Summary of the March 2016 Meeting of the Board of Trustees

by Terrie Barr, President, Board of Trustees

**Julie Robinson**, UUCR's Treasurer, provided her monthly report. Income is 1.6% over and expenses are 6.5% under budget, compared to where we expected them to be at this point. Our cash income is \$77,520 vs. \$56,477 last year. These figures all point to good fiscal health. **Rev. Rebekah Montgomery** attended the meeting since this was **Rev. Lynn Strauss**'s last meeting before she embarks on her sabbatical, which will run through the end of the fiscal year. Rev. Rebekah will continue to work 25 hours a week during Rev. Lynn's sabbatical.

**Karl Irikura** briefed us on the latest canvass progress and plans (see the canvass article on page 3 for more information). We appreciate that Karl will be sending individual letters of thanks to all who generously have made their pledge. We are truly grateful for every pledge. We spent most of the meeting reviewing and commenting on a revised draft Religious Education Safe Congregations Policy. We voiced some concerns and were not ready to approve the final policy. We hope to do so at our April meeting.

**Bill Newhouse** reported on the progress of the Strategic Plan Start-Up Team. UUCR has retained consultant, Josh Searle-White to assist us in drafting a strategic planning process. (The congregation was briefed on the draft process at the Town Hall Meeting held on April 10.) "A Year of Reflection" was suggested by Josh and whole-heartedly adopted by the team. This reflection is consistent with Rev. Lynn's intention for all of us to be more soulfully and spiritually centered when doing our work and when interacting with one another. There will be three congregation-wide events spanning three hours on Sundays next year. The first event will be held on September 25 and will supersede what would have been our first Town Hall Meeting of the new program year.

We reviewed the actions in the Board's Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) of UUCR's current Strategic Plan. At least one Board member is assigned to be the liaison for each AIP action. We reviewed the current Board assignments and discussed expectations and progress. The entire Board is reading the new, second edition of *Governance and Ministry: Rethinking Board Leadership* by Dan Hotchkiss. Board members from the last few years have used the first edition to help us be a policy driven Board. Each Board member identified something new from the book that that we wanted to try to utilize. Several liked the "Open Questions," inviting dialogue with the congregation and the use of such dialogue as an important means to influence the Board in the future. (The use of an open question was the core of the April 10 Town Hall Meeting.)

### Report of the UUCR Nominating Committee

by Karla Timmons

The Nominating Committee submits the following slate of candidates for the positions to be filled by the election at the Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 15, 2016. Short biographies will be published in *Quest* prior to the meeting.

Vice President: **Steve Eckstrand**

General Trustee: **Aaron Pied**

Assistant Treasurer for Deposits: **Eric Burch**

Nominating Committee: **Colleen Dolak** and **Antonio Carrillo**

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## THINKING OF YOU

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### Thinking of You

*Compiled by Marianne Miller on behalf of the Pastoral Care Team*

We offer our sympathy to **Brian and Libby Sullivan**. Brian's father, Paul Sullivan died peacefully and surrounded by family at his home in Medford, Massachusetts on April 10. He had fought a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Our sympathy also goes to **Ann Richards** whose husband, **Ray Richards** died at home on April 7. Plans for a memorial service are pending.

**Len Cohen** is proud to announce the birth of his new granddaughter, Ansley Marie Breslin, born on March 6. Her parents, Elizabeth Cohen and John Breslin, and the baby are all thriving. Sleep is overrated, anyway! Of course, she is the cutest baby ever.

**Victoria Williamson** broke her shoulder recently. She will be in a sling for six weeks. Calls and cards are welcome.

**Laura Huff** was thrilled to welcome her sixth great-grandchild on January 14 - Elizabeth May (Ellie). The best part is that her father, Laura's grandson, and his wife live in Chantilly, Virginia, so this is the first great-grandchild Laura can follow as she grows. "She has already changed since I first saw her, and on Easter Sunday she stared at me and smiled. With six great-grandchildren I feel truly blessed!"

Congratulations to **Abbey Uffelman** who received the Outstanding UU Youth Award at the Joseph Priestley District (JPD) Assembly on April 9! Her mom, **Ellen Rohan** accepted the award since Abbey was not able to attend. The award recognized Abbey's outstanding leadership in the JPD youth community as well as the Central East Region (CER) youth community, and her youth ministry with UUCR. Among her accomplishments, Abbey served as Co-Chair of the JPD Youth Steering Committee and on the JPD Youth Ministry Rebuild Team and the CER Youth Steering Committee. Abbey graduated last year from our RE program and is attending Temple University. Congratulations, Abbey, for your leadership and for being a loved friend and mentor among the youth of the JPD!

Warm greetings to you, **Rev. Lynn Strauss**, as you pursue your sabbatical activities and recharge your energy storage units.

A former minister of UUCR, Rev. Dr. Robert (Bob) Doss, died on February 12 at the age of 88. A memorial service was held at the First Unitarian Church of Wilmington on February 20. Rev. Doss obtained his Doctor of Divinity in 1980 from the Meadville Lombard Theological School in Chicago. After his service at UUCR, he served the First Unitarian Church of Wilmington (Delaware) for 31 years, retiring as Minister Emeritus.

**Editor's note:** Many thanks to **Marianne Miller** for her faithful service as the curator and editor of *Quest's* Thinking of You column! And, thanks to **Judy Eisenhauer** who is taking over this role from Marianne. Please contact Judy with any joys, concerns, or accomplishments you would like to share.