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## SUNDAY WORSHIP

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**August Theme: Curiosity**

**Sunday, August 14, 10:00 a.m.**

*Labels that Bind, Labels that Free*

UUCR member **Nick Kohout** won the Action Auction for a sermon topic with **Rev. Rebekah Montgomery** and asked her to explore with him how labels are a powerful force in our lives. The power of words is apparent in how we name and identify people and things around us. Labels can limit both our consciousness and our compassion; they also provide a much needed source of empowerment and freedom.

**Christin Green** and **Laura Congdon** will provide special music, with **Justin Furnia** on piano.

Summer Religious Education continues through September 4 in Founders Hall. This summer's theme is "World Religions: Stories to Live By," focusing on stories from the Hindu, Buddhist, and Islamic traditions. The nursery will be open in Building 3, Room 33.

**Sunday, August 21, 10:00 a.m.**

*Seeking Beauty as a Spiritual Path*

Consider your life as a work of art and seek beauty in all things. What if we lived each day as a page in our own novel or memoir?

*(continued on page 2)*

August 10, 2016

# 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 11  
August 10, 2016

Editor: Alberta Maschal  
Desktop Publisher: Adrian Graham

### *DeLynnecations*

*Hope inspires the good to reveal itself.*

~ Emily Dickinson

I had a vision upon waking  
Or was it a dream  
Seemingly nostalgic, in a garden or grove  
I wandered, senses alert  
Remembering an ancient time,  
Another garden...and in the center, a tree



Then, from deep in the earth,  
The sound of universal grief,  
Sorrow once buried, spreading over distant lands  
Children keening over broken bodies,  
Cacophony of despair, crushing the landscape  
Yet, still standing in the center, a tree

The tree of knowledge, limbs bent from  
The weight of truth, the flow of tears  
Still standing, offering shade and comfort  
Though the storm of human hate  
Walking barefoot through the nightmare of our time  
Reaching up, I begin to climb . . . slowly, painfully,  
Following the light of hope.

*(continued on page 5)*

*Quest* deadline: Thursday, September 1, 2016 at 8:00 p.m.,  
for mailing on September 7, 2016.  
Email to **Elizabeth Sullivan**.

# Quest

**Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation of Rockville**  
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Church Administrator: Donna Taylor  
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## Sunday Worship (continued from page 1)

What if we crafted each relationship in color and tone with the intention of a great painter? Imagine what title might be given to the symphony or requiem or jazz riff of your life. **Rev. Lynn Strauss** will speak of finding beauty in grief, and in pain, and in the dark places. What if, as songwriter Peter Mayer suggests, “Everything is Holy Now”? **Jenny Lyons**, voice, and **Matthew Holsen**, guitar, will provide special music, with **Justin Furnia** on piano.

## Sunday, August 28, 10:00 a.m.

*Curiosity: How Does Our Liberal Faith Rely On It?*

Are you curious about religion or spirituality? In what do you place your faith? Will religion have a place in the lives of our grandchildren or great-grandchildren? Will science and technology provide all the answers to life’s burning questions? **Rev. Strauss** will reflect on these questions and will invite yours as well. Come prepared with one important question. **Greg Yoder** will sing, with **Justin Furnia** on piano.

## September Worship Theme: Reflection

## Sunday, September 4, 10:00 a.m.—Labor Day

*Where Were You on September 11, 2001?*

Sunday, September 11, 2016 will mark the 15th anniversary of the terrorist attacks in New York, in DC, and on the field in Pennsylvania. **Rev. Strauss** will consider how our lives and the world have been changed by that fateful day. Have we healed? What have we learned? **Sonaria** will sing, with **Justin Furnia** on piano.



## OPENING SUNDAY IS COMING! WATER CEREMONY AND JAZZ

Remember to gather *water* from sacred places this summer,  
and don’t miss our special  
**INTERGENERATIONAL SERVICE**  
on **September 11, 2016.**

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.”



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## LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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### *RE Ruminations*

*Faith development is all we do.  
Unitarian Universalism is the faith we teach.  
The congregation is the curriculum.*  
~ Connie Goodbread

Thank you to all who have given me such a warm welcome as I begin my journey as the Director of Religious Education here at UUCR. Your enthusiasm and love of your faith community is contagious! Please allow me a few sentences to introduce myself.

The quote above, by religious educator Connie Goodbread, is the foundation for my philosophy of religious education. I believe that religious education happens everywhere, and all the time. You might hear me say from time to time, that “the congregation is the curriculum.” To me, that quote means that our children and youth are watching us as a faith community and learning how to be religious people all the time, not just during the one hour of RE on Sunday mornings. We, as the adults of the congregation, are “faith transmitters” and we transmit our UU faith to the next generation in everything we do, every relationship we nurture, and every decision we make.

Another important factor to me in religious education is relationships. In a covenantal faith like Unitarian Universalism, being in right relationship with each other, with the sacred, with ourselves, and with the Earth, is what binds our faith together. In the book *Sticky Faith* by Drs. Kara E. Powell and Chap Clark, the authors’ research show that a teenager is 30-50% more likely to remain engaged with the church if he or she has at least five adults invest time with them personally and spiritually. One of the parts of my job that brings me the most joy as a religious educator is creating a space for all of the people of the congregation to develop and cherish healthy multigenerational relationships.

I feel a sacred calling to be a religious educator in the Unitarian Universalist faith and to lean in to the three sentences above intentionally in the work that I do. If you want to know more about me personally, you can check out [my bio](#) on the UUCR website, or check out my 25 day spiritual journey during my [#UUadvent spiritual practice](#). Thank you, again, for the warm welcome and I look forward to getting to know each of you.

In faith,

*Dayna Edwards*

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## LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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Attention Returning  
and New Volunteers!

# RE Volunteer Orientation

Come learn about new happenings in RE

Sunday, August 21, 2016, 11:30am - 1:30pm

Founders Hall

Bring your lunch, light snacks provided

RSVP: [dedwards@uucr.org](mailto:dedwards@uucr.org)



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## SHARING THE MINISTRY

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### **TELLING OUR STORY: A DAY OF REFLECTION ON OUR FUTURE!**

*by Reverend Lynn T. Strauss*

Sunday, September 25, will be the first of three all-congregation events in the Year of Reflection. The day is intended to give the participants a felt sense of the heartbeat of the congregation, its values, its feeling of community and what being a part of the congregation offers to members and friends.

Join us at 10:00 a.m. for Opening Worship and stay until 1:00 p.m. for a morning of sharing stories, memories, lunch, ideas, and fun! There will be activities for the children; our youth in 6th grade through high school will participate in a reflection process as we consider our unique UUCR story.

*What chapters of the UUCR story have you helped to write?*

*What does our history tell us about our future?*

As we prepare to celebrate our 60th Anniversary as a congregation on October 16, 2016, Telling Our Story is a good place to start.

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## SHARING THE MINISTRY

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### The Art on Our Walls

By Liliane Blom and Sherry Dittmann, Aesthetics Committee

Our new artist is Jamie Peterson. Jamie grew up in Minnesota and attended the Air Force Academy and the University of West Florida. Her work investigates the nature of personal narratives and how capturing a fleeting moment can tell an entire story. To do so, she often uses children to joyfully represent the courage, wit, and innocence that are present in all of us.



About her most recent series, titled “Levity,” Jamie says, “This work reflects my personal efforts of self-acceptance and spiritual growth and my discovery that the most positive growth occurs, ironically, when I learned to stand still in contentment. My hope is to simultaneously acknowledge the highly emotional journey that accompanies change to my viewer and to encourage lightheartedness and even amusement when faced with the weight that transition can bring.”

Her wonderful paintings will be on display until September 30 and Jamie will host a reception on August 21 in the Corridor after the service, and she will present a talk about her work on Thursday, September 22 at 7:00 p.m. in Founders Hall. She hopes you will come and share your reactions to her work and learn more about her inspirations. More of Jamie’s work may be seen at her web site, [www.jamiepeterson.com](http://www.jamiepeterson.com).

### *DeLynnecations*

*(continued from page 1)*

*Dear Friends, Join me in search of hope in these difficult times.  
(See Reverend Strauss’ sermon “[Showing Up for our Brothers and Sisters](#)”)*

*Pay attention to the opportunities offered in our programs, in our Beloved Community,  
in the deepening relationships among us . . .*

*May we reach together in the coming days and months, always climbing together toward the light of  
hope.*

Blessings,

*Lynn*

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## SHARING THE MINISTRY

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### *Membership Musings*

My first six weeks here at UUCR as your new Director of Communications & Membership (aka “the new Nancy”) have been wonderful! I have enjoyed meeting members and friends of the congregation, learning your personalities, involvement, and interests, and engaging with visitors and newcomers. It has been a true blessing to me to have joined the staff of such a warm and vibrant community of fellow and sister Unitarian Universalists, and I thank you for your embrace.

A little bit of my background:

I was raised primarily in the United Methodist Church, but left that faith community sometime after graduating from high school. Within about two years, after much soul-searching and research, I became a UU and have been a member or active participant in UU communities ever since. Since 2003, I have been a member and lay-leader of the First Unitarian Church of Baltimore, where I reside with my husband, Joel, and our Bombay cat, Loki. My story may be a familiar one—so many of us UU’s share a similar trajectory. What are your stories?

My main interests include language study, comparative religion and theology, and music. I am an amateur musician, playing keyboard instruments and woodwinds. If you haven’t already, you can look up [my bio](#) on the staff page of the UUCR website. A good way to get inside my brain is through my writing! Check out my blog at [uuxmnr.blogspot.com](http://uuxmnr.blogspot.com) for a closer peak at my spiritual journey. I can’t wait to learn more about yours.

Stay tuned to this space for my thoughts on membership, and for updates on UUCR communications. For now, have you “liked” our [Facebook page](#)? Joined our [Facebook group](#)? Do you follow [UUCR on Twitter](#)? Want to do some (or all!) of those things, but aren’t sure how? Don’t hesitate to ask! Jump in on the fun, and stay up-to-date on all things UUCR.

I’m looking forward to all the conversations that will ensue...

In faith,

*Adrian Graham*

*We bind ourselves to walk together in the paths of love  
to grow our own souls and to stand against everything  
that would diminish the Human Spirit.*

~ Burton Carley, UU minister

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## SOCIAL JUSTICE

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### **Just a drop in the Bucket - for our MANNA food collection this summer!**

*by Dolores Barnes*

Did you know that the Summer months are the slowest time of the year for food donations? Each day, Manna Food Center provides an average of 179 families in Montgomery County with nutritious food. Please help our neighbors in need by continuing to bring your nonperishable food items to UUCR each week. In fact, get out that can of fruit, box of cereal, or bag of beans right now! White collection buckets are located outside of the Fellowship Hall and the Courtyard entrance to the Sanctuary. **Food collection will continue through the summer, so please drop off your donations when you are in the vicinity of UUCR!** Need a shopping list of the most needed food items? Here you go! <http://www.mannafood.org/give-food/manna-food-center-wish-list/>

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### **Backpacks for Beacon House**

*by Alberta Maschal*

The staff at Beacon House has told me that the Washington football team is conducting a school supply drive as is Edgewood Commons hosts. To quote Lisa Tabor, Development Director, “while it's still a gamble as to whether or not we'll get enough supplies of the right kinds, the essentials are generally easier to come by versus backpacks. Thus, . . . we are asking for high-quality backpacks for our kids instead of more of the other kinds of supplies. Backpacks are such an important means of connecting home and school life, and the kids are very hard on them. There are backpacks on the KitsforKidz for site, but they tend to be less durable.”

Lisa has put together a wish list on Amazon and has chosen a variety of colors but all of the same size/brand, to eliminate too many options from which kids would have to choose. The Jansport backpacks she chose are about \$32 each.

If you are able to donate a backpack rather than supplies, go to the Amazon link: <https://amzn.com/w/37VGXP6BFI0H2>. You may have your donation shipped to Beacon House, just as you do with KitsforKidz. As she said, school supplies are always needed as well; we are all grateful for whatever you are able to donate.

There will be a Back to School BBQ on August 21, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. when the school supplies and backpacks will be given out. Please have your donations sent by that date.

The address is:

Beacon House Community Ministries, 601 Edgewood St., NE, #15, Washington, DC 230017.

### **You are invited...**



To the Beacon House Back to School BBQ on Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup> from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. This will be a wonderful opportunity to see Beacon House and meet the children and their families.

Please contact **Alberta Maschal** if you would like to attend this event so that we can coordinate transportation.

## CONGREGATION WORKS



### Annual Committee Budget Update

*by Kent Hancock, Chair, Finance Committee*

On June 1st, the Board approved the congregation's FY 2016-17 operating budget. UUCR's pledge drive fell 1.6% over the prior year, requiring the Board to make adjustments to balance the budget.

Unfortunately, the increases requested by several committees could not be approved. The table below shows the new committee budgets and

what change, if any, occurred from last year.

Committee	FY 2016-17 Board Budget	Change
Adult Faith Formation	\$850	\$200
Aesthetics	100	-100
Board – General	500	+200
Board – Leadership, Conferences & Training	800	-1,600
Caring Resources	600	-60
Child Care	0*	-900
Children & Youth Worship	625	0
Committee on Ministry	900**	+900
Crafters	100	0
Decorations	200	0
Hospitality	1,400	0
Lay Ministry Council	1,500**	+1,000
Membership	2,000	0
Music	3,700	0
Partner Church	650	0
Planned Giving	500	0
Pledge Drive	2,250	0
Publicity	1,830	0
Quilters	275	0
Religious Education	5,100	0
Social Justice	12,200	0
Sound System	1,160	-122
Worship	1,525	-375
Young Adults Group	200	+200
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>\$38,915</b>	<b>-\$657</b>

Funds are available for use between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017. There is no carryover of unspent funds from the prior fiscal year

\* Child care (nursery) now funded from payroll

\*\* Temporary increase for 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

### Board News

*by Ellen Rohan*

The Board held its monthly meeting in July. Topics discussed included: UUCR's upcoming 60th Anniversary, Magical Sunday fundraising priorities and plans for developing our next 5-year plan. We also had an in-depth work session regarding policy creation and writing. We are looking forward to our annual Board Retreat work session over Labor Day weekend.

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## THINKING OF YOU

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### Thinking of You

*by Judy Eisenhauer on behalf of the Pastoral Care Team*

We join **Susan Brandt** and children Ted and Elizabeth in mourning the death of **Larry Brandt** on August 1. Larry was a long-time member of UUCR and friend of many in our congregation. He loved music, played guitar and mandolin, and was a past member of the UUCR Adult Choir. He had Parkinson's for many years. Details of a memorial service to celebrate Larry's life will be shared at a later date.

**Alex Szatmary** and **Cammy Crane** are moving to Pennsylvania. Congratulations to Alex on his new position at Bucknell University, where he will be teaching Mechanical engineering. Cammy is job-hunting and interviewing now. Both Alex and Cammy were active in UUCR's Young Adult Group and Alex also was involved in the Spirit of Life Sangha. We wish them both good luck!

**Karen Whitesell** and **Bennett Rushkoff** and their children Rebecca and Jacob are mourning the loss of Karen's mother, Martha Saunders Whitesell, who died on July 14 at age 96, in Roanoke, Virginia.

**Pat and Steve Einhorn** welcomed a new grandson, born on July 19 in Houston. James Patrick Einhorn is called Jamie and he is named after his grandmothers. Jamie's parents are Jesse (former UUCR RE student!) and Amanda Einhorn and he has a sister, Annie, age 4.

**Erika and Aaron Pied** welcomed **Gavin Leroy Pied** to the world Monday, July 25, weighing 8.9 lbs. and 21 inches long. Baby is doing great and Mama is recovering well. Gavin joins his sister, Teagan.

**Jack and Judy Eisenhauer** are mourning the death on July 29 of Jack's elder sister, Lyn Eisenhauer. Lyn, who had a long career in architecture, died unexpectedly at age 61 in her home in Chicago.



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

## *Quest*

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville  
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August 10, 2016

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### **Our Vision**

The vision of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville is a strong, vibrant, and loving religious community actively engaged in nurturing spiritual freedom and working for social justice.

### **Our Mission**

The mission of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville is to engage one another in a free and inclusive religious community that encourages lives of integrity, service and joy. We aim to:

- Nurture, sustain and challenge people to grow spiritually and find meaning in their lives through worship, religious education, social and creative opportunities;
- Grow together as a multi-generational, diverse and inclusive community;
- Lead social justice, community service and outreach activities to positively transform our community.