
SUNDAY SERVICES

August Theme: REST

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

*Grounded in Resilience and
Courage*

Facing the ordinary and the extraordinary challenges of our days is simply what we must do. Finding sources of resilience and courage is central to the religious task. Searching and practicing together is what it means to be in religious community. The **Rev. Mary Katherine Morn**, Director of Stewardship and Development for the UUA, considers it a privilege to join UUCR for this hour of worship to do a little searching and practicing with us.

Special music by **Wayne Crump**, guitar & voice, and **Grace Cho**, voice; **Justin Furnia** on piano.

Summer RE—Children 5 and under may go to the Nursery in Building 3, Room 33. Ages 5-11 will gather in Founders Hall. Ages 12-17 will gather in room 50.

Sunday, August 13, 10:00 a.m.

*Liberation Theologies in
Dialogue*

What sources do you pull from to build your theology? Let's explore how theological questions can be answered using non-traditional sources. Led by **Dayna Edwards**, Director of Religious Education.

(continued on page 2)

August 2, 2017

Quest

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

Lifelong Spiritual Discovery Beloved Community A Just World

Volume LX, Number 12
August 2, 2017

Editor & Publisher:
[Adrian L. H. Graham](mailto:adrian@uucr.org)

The Courage of Conscience

by Rev. Lynn T. Strauss



Do you sometimes find that you cry for “no apparent reason”?

Are there times when you “lose it” and lash out in anger, even at those you love?

Do you wake in the morning and turn to your cell phone rather than to the birdsong at your window?

Do you long for an afternoon nap or search for one more podcast to get you through the day? Could it be that your conscience is calling you? Listen—can you hear it, that still, small voice?

It seems to me that good-hearted Americans are being worn down and worn out by the immoral and immature actions of President Trump. I find it difficult to muster appropriate anger at the continued cruelties of the Trump agenda. I am stunned to exhaustion by the bully in the White House who builds a wall instead of a bridge; who uses repressive immigration laws and government agencies to force parents to abandon their children; who disrespects women again and again; who fuels prejudice and hatred against Muslim Americans; who publicly tweets hate toward transgender people; who proposes taking healthcare away from millions of Americans, and fills the halls of power with White Men Only.

(continued on page 3)

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Email to quest@uucr.org

Quest

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(Sunday Services continued from page 1)

Special music by guest vocalist **George Singleton**; **Justin Furnia** on piano.

Summer RE—Children 5 and under may go to the Nursery in Building 3, Room 33. Ages 5-11 will gather in Founders Hall. Ages 12-17 will gather in room 50.

Sunday, August 20, 10:00 a.m

The Limits of Authenticity

The **Rev. John T. Crestwell, Jr.**, tackles the complicated relationship between individuality, authenticity, and embodying the holy in our lives.

Special music by **Niambi Powell**, voice; **Andy Zatman** on piano.

Summer RE—see above.

Sunday, August 27, 10:00 a.m

Rest in Peace: The Power of Ritual in Different Faith Traditions

Sometimes it seems the most clarity we find as Unitarian Universalists comes during a memorial service as we contemplate death and its meanings—as we honor the life of those we love and learn the limits of human agency. Are there universal lessons learned only through grief, only through the acceptance of the end of a life? What does our liberal tradition teach us? What do other faiths offer in the face of death? **Rev. Lynn Strauss** will speak on these matters.

Special music by **Corinne Blackford**, violin, and **Karl Irikura**, viola; **Andy Zatman** on piano.

Summer RE—see above.

September Theme: DEPTH

Sunday, September 3, 10:00 a.m.

Beloved Conversations

In today's service, leaders and participants from the *Beloved Conversations* program share their stories of personal struggle and transformation on our journey towards racial justice as we practice courageous love. Led by **Rev. Rebekah Montgomery** and member **Lisa Fredin**.

Justin Furnia on piano.

Summer RE—see above.

(The Courage of Conscience continued from page 1)

I am reminded and encouraged by the words of Frederick Douglass:

Power concedes nothing without a demand; it never did and it never will. Find out what people will submit to, and you have found out the exact amount of injustice which will be imposed upon them. The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress.

I pray that our UU faith will inspire us to resist oppression by the administration in Washington. I pray that all of us will refuse to endure the immoral policies and the slow wearing-away of our energy for justice. I give thanks for the leadership of the Reverend William Barber II and all who continue to demand moral leadership from this President of the United States.

I pray that each of us will find a way to stay awake and to act with courage and hope. I close with the words of poet Mary Oliver: “What will you do with this one wild and precious life?”

Keeping the faith,

Reverend Lynn



LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Reflections

by Dayna Edwards, M.A., Director of Religious Education

What's Ahead?

Here's a look ahead at some of the exciting innovations we have planned for UUCR for the fall of 2017! For more information on any of these programs, please contact Dayna Edwards, Director of Religious Education, at dedwards@uucr.org.

First Fifteen: Starting in September, the children and youth will be invited to remain in the Sanctuary for the first fifteen minutes of the main service three times per month. This is a great opportunity for us to live into our values of being a welcoming congregation by being welcoming to people of all ages.

Chapel for Change: One time per month, the children and youth will gather together in Founders Hall for an hour long service that is geared toward their particular interests and needs. This service will be engaging, high-energy, and involve the youth in meaningful ways. Each “Chapel for Change” will have a social justice theme that will include a hands-on way to *change* the world we live in for the better.

(continued on page 4)

LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

(Reflections continued from page 3)

Spirit Play: The K-1 and 2-3 class will be using a Montessori-based model of faith formation. This includes the adult telling a story with props and then allowing the children to respond to the story in a self-directed way.

UU Family Ministry Playgroup: On Monday mornings, UUCR will offer a space for families with children ages 3-8 years old to connect and play together. The goal of this group is to create a community of like-minded parents and children who can support each other spiritually and socially.

RE Safety Policy: The Board approved RE Safety Policy will be fully implemented. You can find a full copy of the policy [on our website](#). If you are planning to volunteer more than 4 times per year, with the children and/or youth, you will get a link for a background check early in the fall. If you do not want to have a background check, but want to volunteer, please contact me directly to discuss the most appropriate way to proceed.

OWL (Our Whole Lives): We will be expanding our offerings of OWL—the human sexuality curriculum developed by the UUA and the UCC. In addition to offering 7th-9th grade OWL, we will also offer K-1 OWL in the fall and 4-6 OWL in the spring.

Coming of Age: We have updated and expanded our Coming of Age Program [CoA] so that is developmentally appropriate for 8th and 9th graders. Our CoA programming will take place in a series of retreats throughout the year. Each youth will be paired with a mentor; if you're interested in mentoring, please reach out to me through email.

Taking it Home: Each month we will offer resources for individuals and families to take their faith home and practice it in various ways. Keep an eye out in the order of service for ways to access these resources.

Creative Listening Table: We piloted the “creative listening table” in the back of the Sanctuary at the end of the last church year and it was a resounding success. We will continue to offer ways each Sunday for people of all ages to keep their hands busy while listening to the service. Each classroom is also equipped with a creative listening box, so feel free to make use of it if you are having a meeting.

In faith,

[Dayna](#)



www.tinyurl.com/info4coa

CONGREGATION WORKS

Draft Future Plan

by Terrie Barr and the UUCR Future Planning Team

On July 30 at the morning service, a copy of the **draft** future plan for UUCR was shared. Our new ***Practice Courageous Love*** banner was hung for the first time. The values of lifelong spiritual discovery, beloved community, and a just world give this mission life as we are inspired to *practice courageous*

- ◇ **change**
- ◇ **giving**
- ◇ **faith**
- ◇ **community**



The service was led by members of the Future Planning Team introducing these four new goals. Afterward, over forty of us discussed the preliminary direction of our future plan in small groups. Team members took notes on what congregants liked and what their concerns were. The Team will revise the plan and provide a final draft to the Board of Trustees for their action.

Included on pages 6-7 of this issue of *Quest* is a copy of the draft that was shared on July 30. Please let us know what you like and what concerns you might have by Sunday, August 6. Team members include UUCR's executive team—Rev. Lynn Strauss, Steve Eckstrand, Colleen Dolak, and Ellen Rohan—as well as José Clemente, Lisa Reed, Bill Newhouse, Christin Green, and Terrie Barr.

We may collectively be reached via email to futureplanning@uucr.org.

SHARING THE MINISTRY

The Art on Our Walls

by Liliane Blom and Sharrill Dittmann, Aesthetics Committee



Our new artist is [Emily Pearce](#), who will take us from Ellen Cornett's whimsy into the digital age. Emily began her training as an artist in Hillsborough, North Carolina. She studied woodworking, pottery, and painting from a variety of North Carolina artists and developed an interest in folk art and botanical drawing.

Emily holds a B.A. in History of Art from Yale University with a focus on the ancient Mediterranean. After graduating from Yale in 2003, she spent extensive time abroad, living and working in South Korea, Turkey, Germany, and Egypt.

Emily moved with her family to Rockville, Maryland, in 2013, where she works as an artist and cares for her two young daughters. She creates digital “finger painting” using her iPad and her fingertips, a practice she considers to be folk art for the digital age. She employs this medium to capture a variety of subjects, including street scenes, landscapes, botanicals, and culinary creations.

Emily's award-winning artwork has been exhibited in galleries in Tennessee, North Carolina, and Maryland. It is available for sale through gallery shows and at her website.

There will be a reception for Emily on August 27 in the Corridor after the service, and a discussion/demonstration of Emily's technique and work on September 17 at 7:00 p.m.

DRAFT 5-YEAR PLAN

Draft 5-year Plan Implementing the Practice of Courageous Love and our Values of Lifelong Spiritual Discovery, Beloved Community, and A Just World

Practice Courageous Change as we strengthen our beloved community

- **Increase Membership by 25% by 2020/21; Transition to two services this fiscal year, 2017/18.**

Attendance at Sunday services has increased beyond the recommended 75-80% full level, some classes are full, and parking is a challenge. We want to make room for individuals and families who wish to join our beloved community **and** to support our full time associate minister.

- **Develop a lay leadership recruitment and development plan by 2019/20 to be implemented in 2020/21.**

We commit to recruit, support and encourage leadership to use our values to drive vital programs of our beloved community.

- **Develop a Comprehensive Facilities Plan to support the staff and future needs during 2018/19.**

We will need changes in the UUCR facility to enhance our activities and programs in the next five years. Items mentioned at the leadership summit include: a permanently installed video projection system in the Sanctuary, a dedicated music room, and integration of congregational IT systems.

Practice Courageous Giving in support of our Mission and our beloved community

- **We will plan a Capital Campaign in 2019/20 to implement the Comprehensive Facilities Plan.**

A growing congregation with added programs, facilities and trained leaders and aging buildings will require additional resources to maintain and expand.

- **We will create a Stewardship Committee in 2018/19 to coordinate all fundraising events, to expand and to encourage additional fiscal support, for example, grants and to ensure adequate support for operations and programs.**

UUCR's present methods for giving will be improved to offer a full range of year-round opportunities and options.

DRAFT 5-YEAR PLAN

Practice Courageous Faith as we continue our lifelong spiritual discovery

- **We will increase by 10% each year, the variety of programming offered to support faith formation at home and in daily life for individuals and families in all of their diverse forms.**

We will transition to a model of family ministry and faith formation of all ages by encouraging living faith in our homes. This will emphasize that the whole congregation is a teaching resource.

- **We will deepen and modify 25% of current programming by 2020/21 to further engage and foster inter-generational relationships within the congregation.**

We recognize that all of the adults of the congregation are faith transmitters to the younger generations regardless of their direct interaction with children and youth. We also recognize that faith formation is a reciprocal process in which generations learn from and are inspired by each other.

Practice Courageous Relationship Building as we work for a Just World

- **UUCR will become recognized as a community leader in Rockville in all four of our major programs, Racial Justice, Immigration, Environment and LGBTQ in 2020/21 – 2022/23.**

More than ever before, UUCR will be called upon to support our local and global community in the struggle for social justice and human rights.

- **Continue Ministerial leadership and enhance lay leadership and participation by 2017/18.**

UUCR will continue to take a leadership role in building connections among the diverse and dynamic faith communities in Montgomery County and the Washington, DC area to address social and political issues.

- **The Coming of Age program will be revised to be more formal and include Mentoring across social justice areas in 2018/19.
UUCR will create more options for community and diversity by adding additional small ministry groups and continuing to sponsor Beloved Conversation groups in 2018/19.**

Perhaps one of the most powerful beacons of UUCR is our fellowship. We wish to strengthen the bonds that create our vibrant community, build our diversity and continue to address larger social justice issues and navigate change.

SHARING THE MINISTRY

Green Team Hike

by Julia Santerre

Experience the beauty of the plant world together at an all-ages friendly walk around [Brookside Gardens!](#)

When: 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, August 20

Where: Brookside Gardens, 1800 Glenallan Ave, Wheaton MD 20902



We will meet in the Children's Garden, directly outside the back door of the visitors center.

This is a great opportunity to build community while enjoying our beautiful earth. Contact Julia Santerre with any questions, and look for the event on [Facebook!](#)

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Back to School Supplies

by Alberta Maschal



Back to School time is around the corner. Children and youth served by Beacon House need school supplies and backpacks. There are a couple of ways to help: one is to go to the website www.kitsforkidz.org, click on virtual options, then select Beacon House. Kits are still \$13.50 and are available for all grade levels. The advantage of donating a Kit is that it contains all of the supplies the student needs to start school and comes with a box in which the student can store the supplies. And, the kits are delivered directly to Beacon House! Another way is to donate loose school supplies. For those who prefer to shop, below is a list of needed supplies. Your donated supplies may be placed in the white Beacon House bin in the lobby of Building 1.

Pencils
Crayons
Glue Sticks
Elmer's Glue
Kleenex
Erasers
Markers
Scissors
Pencil Case
Spiral Notebooks (1-subject, 2-subject, and 3-subject or more)
Notebook Paper (wide rule)
Binders
Pocket Folders
Composition Books

Pens (Blue and Black)
Rulers
Highlighters
Book Bags
Pencil Sharpeners
Dividers
Calculators
Correction Fluid
Correction Pens
Mechanical Pencils
Sharpies
Flash Drives
Color Pencils
Project Boards

SHARING THE MINISTRY

Thinking of You

compiled by Judy Eisenhauer on behalf of the Pastoral Care Team

Peggy Jones is currently in the rehabilitation section of The Village at Rockville, following an unfortunate fall resulting in a badly broken leg. The plan is for her to remain there until about August 2, when she hopes to return home to Asbury. Cards sent to her home address would be appreciated.

Stephanie Joseph had ankle surgery in mid-July and is at home until mid-August. Stephanie welcomes visitors to her home. Please call her to schedule a convenient time.

Teki Fabian had hand surgery in mid-July and is working from home. She will be starting physical therapy in August. Teki would appreciate cards and phone calls.

Bill and Kay Newhouse, along with their children, **Johnny and Stella**, are mourning the death of Bill's mother, Margo Stiles Hicks Newhouse, who died July 12. Margo was a member of River Road Unitarian Universalist Church and the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Southern Maryland, where she was active in choirs and supported musical events and social justice causes. She had a career in computer-aided design and computer graphics, and was an avid gardener and sailor. Her family requests that any contributions be made to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.

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

(Members and congregants of UUCR will find contact information in the printed directory. If you do not have a directory, please contact Adrian Graham at agraham@uucr.org or at 301-762-7666 ext 5.)



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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
Practice Courageous Love.

Our Values

- Lifelong Spiritual Discovery
- Beloved Community
- A Just World