

---

---

## WORSHIP SERVICES

---

---

**September Theme:**  
**EXPECTATION**

**Sunday, Sept 8, 10:00 a.m.**

INGATHERING & WATER  
COMMUNION SERVICE  
*Returning to the River*

**Rev. Linda Olson Peebles** and  
**Rev. Rebekah Savage** invite  
you to bring water from your  
summer experiences, to share in  
our traditional UU ceremony,  
“Water Communion.” The  
service will be enjoyable for  
people of all ages, as we listen  
to the choir’s beautiful music  
and hear a story of a journey on  
the waters...

The **UUCR Choir** will sing;  
**Justin Furnia**, piano.

**Multigenerational Service**—  
All\* gather together in the  
Sanctuary for this service.  
\*Nursery care for infants—3-  
year-olds is available during the  
entire service in Building 3,  
Room 33.

**Sun, Sept 15, 9 & 11:15 a.m.**  
RETURN TO TWO SERVICES  
*Covenant and Jazz*

We dedicate our teachers and  
leaders to the ministry ahead,  
and we affirm the covenant we  
have with each other, and with  
our faith. The music will  
include jazz, and Rev. Linda’s  
homily will explore the different  
expectations covenant can bring  
to our lives.

Special music by **André  
Enceneat**; **Justin Furnia**,  
piano.

*(continued on page 2)*

September 4, 2019

# Quest

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

---

---

***Lifelong Spiritual Discovery Beloved Community A Just World***

---

---

Volume LXIII, Number 1  
September 4, 2019

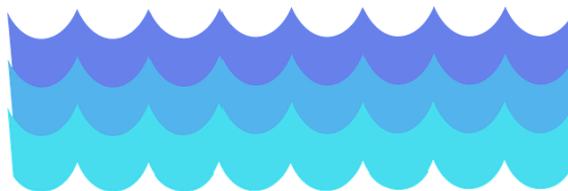
Editor & Publisher:  
Adrian L. H. Graham

### *In the Interim...*

*by the Rev. Dr. Linda Olson Peebles*

Welcome to a new church year! It may feel a little strange for me, a newcomer to UUCR, to be saying “welcome” to you, members and friends whose home this congregation is. But since the new year will be new to all of us, I feel excited and happy to welcome us *all* to something totally new to us all—our dawning shared future!

We will gather our waters on September 8 at 10:00 a.m. And then on September 15 at 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. we fully launch a new year of religious education learning groups for children and youth, and programs for adult faith formation and all our ministries; and we will dedicate ourselves anew to the year ahead.



**BRING WATER SEPTEMBER 8 FOR UUCR WATER COMMUNION AT 10:00 A.M.!**

The September theme is “Expectation.” That word has so many different feelings and meanings: hope and anxiety, trust and the unknown, excitement and dread. And “expectation” is a perfect theme for us to ponder as we share a ministry that for the first time in 14 years has not included the leadership of Rev. Lynn—with all our sadness and wondering and hopefulness for the future.

I’m excited, and I cannot wait to stand in front of you all in September, with Rev. Rebekah and your Board leadership, and say “Welcome!”

*Quest* deadline: Thursday, **September 19, 2019** at 8:00 p.m.,  
for mailing on **October 2, 2019**.  
Email to [quest@uucr.org](mailto:quest@uucr.org)

# Quest

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

## Staff

Interim Senior Minister:

Rev. Dr. Linda Olson Peebles

Associate Minister: Rev. Rebekah A. Savage

Director of Religious Education: Carla Miller

Director of Music: Sarah Jebian

Director of Communications & Membership:

Adrian L. H. Graham

Church Administrator: Donna Taylor

RE & Youth Assistant: Anne Chernikoff

Pianist: Justin Furnia

Building Sexton: Justin Onyeador

## Board of Trustees

Mary Carvajal, President

Elsa Powel Strong, Vice President

Peter Shaw, Secretary

Christy Shannon, Treasurer

Dana Alzouma

Glenn Griffin

Brian Haugen

Colleen Dolak, Immediate Past President

## Officers

Secretary: Peter Shaw

Treasurer: Christy Shannon

Assistant Treasurers: Eric Burch

Barbara Harrison

## Quest Staff

Editor-in-Chief/Coordinator: Adrian Graham

Desktop Publisher: Adrian Graham

*Quest*, the regular newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville, is published monthly at the UUCR office at 100 Welsh Park Drive, Rockville, MD 20850, and distributed without charge to members, guests, and friends.

Postage is paid at Rockville, MD.

All rights reserved.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Circulation Manager, *Quest*, 100 Welsh Park Drive, Rockville, MD 20850

*(Worship Services continued from page 1)*

**First Fifteen**—Three to four Sundays a month, all ages\* join in worship in the Sanctuary for the “First Fifteen” minutes, after which those in pre-K through 5th grade follow their teachers to their classrooms. Parents of pre-K through 3rd grade are asked to sign their children out from classes promptly at the end of worship; children in 4th grade and up will be dismissed to find their parents at the end of class. \*Nursery care for infants—3-year-olds is available during the entire service in Building 3, Room 33.

## Sunday, September 22, 9:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.

### *Expecting the Unexpected*

What happens when we let go of expectations? Is it because of past disappointments? Or can letting go help us arrive at destinations beyond our hopes and dreams? Or maybe we can just finally see what has always been here? **Carla Miller**, Director of Religious Education, offers a story for all ages, and **Rev. Linda** preaches.

We will be treated with music from **WildBerry Jam**; **Dick Gilbert**, piano.

**First Fifteen**—see above.

## Sunday, September 29, 9:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.

### *And Then Some...*

When our expectations of life are generally met, we are content—happy even. When our expectations are exceeded and showered with good fortune, we are elated—grateful even. American moral and social philosopher Eric Hoffer wrote: “The hardest arithmetic to master is that which enables us to count our blessings.” Grace is when we are bestowed with unexpected, unearned, and “un-asked for” blessings, even in the midst of heartbreak and spiritual despair. We are called to be stewards of blessings—and then some. Led by **Rev. Rebekah**.

Special music by **Justin Furnia**, piano.

**First Fifteen**—see above.



---

---

## CONGREGATION WORKS

---

---

### Fall Town Hall Meeting

by Mary Carvajal, UUCR Board President

Please join us for the Fall Town Hall Meeting on Sunday, October 6 during Middle Hour. We will give updates on congregational goals and activities, and discuss plans for evaluating the two services schedule. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Please feel free to contact me at [president19-20@uucr.org](mailto:president19-20@uucr.org) with any questions or concerns.



---

---

## SHARING THE MINISTRY

---

---

### Congregational Engagement & New2UU

by Adrian Graham, Director of Communications & Membership

Welcome to a new year!

For many of us, summer is a time when we are away more than other times of year. Sometimes, away means physically leaving the area; other times, being away simply means less frequent participation in congregational life. With our Ingathering service on September 8, we “gather in” our community after this time of being away and recommit ourselves to co-creating religious community and engaging with it.

In what ways have you committed to co-creating community here at UUCR in the past? What commitments do you imagine you will make this year? There are so many ways to serve, to make this the most vibrant worshipping community it can possibly be. Have you considered joining the Greeters and welcoming folks as they arrive on Sunday mornings? How about serving as an Usher, often one of a newcomer’s first points of contact in worship. Would you be willing to help make a great first impression? Perhaps you’d like to help with coffee hour? Or...? Let me know! These are just a few of the many ways to be *actively* engaged—there are so many more. *And I am here to help you get connected.* In those moments when you just don’t know how to get involved, please feel free to reach out to me and begin the conversation. Let us all create beloved community together!

For those of you who have been contemplating a shift from *congregant* to *member*, and for those newcomers to UUCR and/or to Unitarian Universalism, our **Fall New2UU series** will be offered in three Thursday night sessions from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (Oct. 17, Oct. 24, and Nov. 7). This class is a great way to get your toes wet and learn about our faith tradition broadly speaking, as well as our particular expression of it here at UUCR. Those who are interested in joining the congregation as members will be invited to do so after completing these three sessions, and will be formally welcomed into membership on Sunday, November 14. More details will be made available in upcoming issues of *UUCR E-Weekly* and in our Order of Service on Sunday mornings closer to the start date. Questions in the meantime? Reach me at [agraham@uucr.org](mailto:agraham@uucr.org).

---

---

## SHARING THE MINISTRY

---

---

### Music & Arts

by Sarah Jebian, Director of Music

That moment when...

You're sitting in a dimly lit concert hall and the orchestra begins to tune. You know the show is about to start but you don't know exactly what to expect, do you? You hope the music will be wonderful. You hope you'll leave the hall feeling like you've been transported to a magical place or at the very least, that you've had a nice break from the grind of day-to-day life.

Although the music never stops in our worship services, the beginning of a new church year always feels like an orchestra tuning except instead of being part of the audience, I'm on the conductor's podium hoping that I've done my work well enough to transport you—my beloved community. The atmosphere in the office is positively vibrating with expectant new energy!

So, what can you expect from your Music and Arts program this year? Well... Excellent musical offerings on Sunday morning from a variety of groups—both in-house and outside special guests.

*ArtsConnect* at UUCR will focus on racism in America and look closely at our current immigration policies. Never again is now and *ArtsConnect* will use music, visual art, and the written word to bring these issues into sharp contrast. We're also planning another "**Battle of the Bands**" in addition to a few other special music events throughout the year. The **Visual Art Program** has some gorgeous art shows in store for you as well. More information about these and all the Music & Arts programming can always be found on [our website](#), in *UUCR E-weekly*, at the Music & Arts program table during Middle Hour, or on the bulletin boards in Fellowship Hall.

And now, the house lights dim as I tap my baton on the corner of my music stand. Let us begin.

In harmony,

*Sarah*



---

## SHARING THE MINISTRY

---

### Thinking of You

*compiled by Judy Eisenhauer and Staff on behalf of the Pastoral Care Team*

**Jewell Golden**, member of our congregation since 1959, died on August 11. She had a long career as a social worker and was the longest serving member of UUCR's Pastoral Care Team. Jewell, who was predeceased by husband Ralph Golden, is survived by son John and daughter Jill. All are welcome to attend a celebration of Jewell's life at UUCR on Sunday, October 27, at 2:00 p.m.



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

---



---

### Candles of Joy & Concern

*by Rev. Rebekah Savage*

As you may have noticed or heard, we introduced a new element to our worship and Sanctuary on Sunday, August 11, with the candles of joy and sorrow, and a "Book of Life." The candles are now at the front of the Sanctuary by the chancel, and during the offertory, people were invited to come forth and light a candle in recognition of a joy or concern on their hearts. Worship attendees are also invited to write in our Book of Life and to share a joy or sorrow, a name or prayer request (and also include your name if you'd like a minister or someone from the Pastoral Care Team to follow up).

Everyone is free to either simply light a candle without leaving a note in the Book.

For now, we will plan on including the candles/Book *during the offertory* beginning with services on September 15, while people are invited to continue to light a candle (as our usual practice) *before and after worship* through the September 8 Ingathering service. We'll try it out as an experiment and see how the practice feels during worship. This is a wonderful invitation to a deeper spiritual practice and broader community holding of space for those with both joys and sorrows.



## Quest

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville  
100 Welsh Park Drive  
Rockville, MD 20850

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
ROCKVILLE, MD  
PERMIT NO. 121

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

September 4, 2019

DATED MATERIAL

---

---

### Unitarian Universalist Principles

As a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association, we covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

In addition to these Seven Principles drawn from the Principles and Purposes of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), we as a congregation have also elected to affirm and promote a proposed Eighth Principle:

- Journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.

### Our Mission and Vision

The mission and vision of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville is to  
*Practice Courageous Love.*

### Our Values

Lifelong Spiritual Discovery ~ Beloved Community ~ A Just World