
SUNDAY SERVICES

September Theme: DEPTH

Sunday, Sep. 10, 10:00 a.m.

INGATHERING WATER COMMUNION

*How Do We Deepen Our
Courage to Love?*

We gather this day, with all ages, to celebrate Life! Water is a symbol of communion, a sign of sacred covenant and intention. We pour water from sacred places, acknowledging its power to sustain life as well as its power to overtake life. We dedicate our service to the cities and families flooded by Hurricane Harvey and its aftermath. May we be conscious of the gift of each day and of each person we meet. May the water we bring this day be a blessing and reminder of the life we share, a sign of the heart of UUCR. Led by **Revs. Lynn Strauss and Rebekah Montgomery. Justin Furnia** on piano.

Special music by **Bronson Hoover**, piano; **André Enceneat**, vocals; **Thomas View**, bass; **Art Cobb**, drums.

Multigenerational Service—All gather together in the Sanctuary for the entire service. Loving care is provided to the youngest members of our community (infant - 3 years) in Building 3, Room 33.

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Quest

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

Lifelong Spiritual Discovery Beloved Community A Just World

Volume LXI, Number 1
September 6, 2017

Editor & Publisher:
Adrian L. H. Graham

Seeking Refuge

by Rev. Lynn T. Strauss

In these times of storms,
amid threats of disaster to come
We search for refuge.

I let the wind transport me
to the freedom of biking
to the arc of a childhood swing

The sun warms my skin
And I am at the beach
Searching the horizon of endless possibility

What will come
In this time of return
As the cycle of life brings us around again

Here we are
Holding our breath
Holding one another

Here we are
In prayer, in song, in hope
Children, householders, elders
Refuge for one another.

Bring your courage and your faith. Enter, Rejoice, and Come.

Blessings,
Reverend Lynn



Quest deadline: Thursday, September 28, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.,
for mailing on October 4, 2017.

Email to quest@uucr.org

Quest

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

(*Sunday Services continued from page 1*)

Sunday, September 17, 10:00 a.m.

Into the Depths of the Sacred

Author Edwin Cole wrote, “You seek the heights of humanity when you seek the depths of God.” With science, technology, and political mores challenging us to have continued ethical and moral conversations, how do we understand and honor the sacred in our lives? Led by **Rev. Montgomery. Justin Furnia** on piano.

Chapel for Change (C4C)—Once a month, children and youth have a fun, multi-age worship service. All children and youth report directly to Founders Hall. Parents of Preschool through 3rd Grade are asked to collect their children prior to 11:15 a.m. Nursery care in Building 3, Room 33.

Sunday, September 24, 10:00 a.m.

True Forgiveness

On this Sunday between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, **Rev. Strauss** will explore the theological and spiritual call to forgive. Who has the power to forgive? Who stands in need of forgiveness? What models of forgiveness inspire us to deeper knowing?

Justin Furnia on piano.

First Fifteen—Three to four Sundays a month, children and youth spend the “First Fifteen” minutes in the Sanctuary for the multi-generational portion of the worship service, after which they follow their teachers to their classrooms. Parents of Preschool through 3rd Grade are asked to collect their children from classrooms prior to 11:15 a.m.

October Theme: PRACTICE

Sunday, October 1, 10:00 a.m.

The Practice of Forgiveness: 77 Times

When Peter asked Jesus about how many times he should forgive someone who wrong him, Jesus responded that Peter should forgive not just seven times, but seventy-seven times. Jesus extended our human forgiveness to the grace and acceptance from God. How do we practice forgiveness as a spiritual gift in our lives? Led by **Rev. Montgomery.**

Justin Furnia on piano.

First Fifteen—see above.

**New: Check out our monthly
Spiritual Theme Sheet
on page 9!**

FAITH FORMATION

Reflections

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

Being a “dance mom” has been a spiritual experience for me that I didn’t expect. It is the opposite of what you see on the TLC show. The relationships are deep, and the opportunity for my own spiritual growth – even deeper.

The most fascinating part of bearing witness to my daughter’s ballet journey is watching the relationships that she has been able to develop with both older and younger children. There is a time for taking ballet in age-segregated classes, but there are also “company classes,” community outreach performances, and two yearly stage productions. The latter offers an opportunity for the various ages, from 4 to 18, to learn from each other, be responsible for each other, and connect with each other. When my daughter had just started, she had to rely on an “older girl” to sew her ribbons on her shoes, make sure she got on stage, and make sure she had all of the pieces of her costumes. Now *she’s* the older girl, helping the little ones! And she is still being mentored by the girls she met when she began. One of the “older girls” who used to help her is now in college and her summer camp teacher and will help fit her in a few weeks for pointe shoes.

I am sure many of you who have watched a child in team sports have seen similar phenomena. Bringing children of different age groups together can provide powerful growth opportunities for both the youngest child and the oldest youth. My hope is that we can offer that same type of nurturing relationship for our children and youth at UUCR by combining youth worship and children’s worship and creating *Chapel for Change*. Including the youth gives the younger children something to which they can aspire. Including the children give the youth an opportunity to share their expertise and share responsibility for our faith community. The relationship is reciprocal.

What is Chapel for Change?

Chapel for Change is a participatory worship experience that is designed specifically to engage “[iGen](#),” also known as “[Gen Z](#),” also known as the children and youth of this congregation. I will be seeking the input and ideas of our youth in creating each worship, and will rely on their help for music and readings, etc. We will be following the congregational worship themes and explore them in an age-appropriate way. Each worship will also have a justice or community service component to it. Are you ready to join us on this journey? Consider becoming a member of the Chapel for Change Worship Team. Contact me, at dedwards@uucr.org for more information.



FAITH FORMATION

Sunday School

Sept 17th 2017 -
May 27, 2018

SENIOR HIGH
LOWER LEVEL
ROOM 50
"GOING DEEPER"

.....
EXPLORE THE
MONTHLY WORSHIP
THEMES THROUGH
TED TALKS AND SMALL
GROUP MINISTRY

MIDDLE SCHOOL
LOWER LEVEL
ROOM 51
"JEDI ACADEMY"

.....
AN OPPORTUNITY TO
DEVELOP PRACTICAL
SPIRITUAL SKILLS AND
BECOME A
JEDI KNIGHT

4TH - 5TH GRADE
BUILDING 2
ROOM 23
"MINDFULNESS"

.....
LEARN ABOUT BRAINS,
YOUR OWN BEHAVIORS
AND GROWING AS A
SPIRITUAL BEING

2ND - 3RD GRADE
LOWER LEVEL ROOM 53

K-1ST GRADE
LOWER LEVEL ROOM 52

"SPIRIT PLAY"

REFLECT ON A UU STORY THROUGH THIS
MONTESSORI-BASED MODEL OF FAITH FORMATION

PRESCHOOL
BUILDING 3 ROOM 32
"CELEBRATING ME & MY
WORLD" FOR 3 - 4 Y.O.

NURSERY
BUILDING 3 ROOM 33
LOVING CARE FOR
INFANT - 2 YEAR OLDS

CONGREGATION WORKS

Yes, We Are Expanding to Two Services!

by Cynthia Shires-Thurston

By now you may have heard that UUCR will be having a six-month trial of having two services each Sunday. The trial period will start next January and run through June. With all our wonderful new members, friends, and families, the sanctuary, parking lot, and RE classes are reaching their limits—and we need to see more clearly how and if we can implement a permanent shift to two services to accommodate our growth, as well as leave space for more new UU's to join us!

Large UU congregations such as ours often have two services, and UUCR did this for years when faced with the same situation, before the congregation's "new" sanctuary was built. Some of you will remember the easy ebb and flow of activities on Sundays when you could choose which service to attend in order to fit in with your other plans. Our always amazing professional staff has done a fantastic job (as usual!) of coming up with a plan which they believe will accommodate everyone, and we are getting ready to try it out.

We are convening a Two Services Transition Team to lead us toward this change. The Team so far includes Cynthia Shires-Thurston, Melissa Moore, Jim Blue, and Sherry Dittmann. We're in process of recruiting a youth member and a representative from the Faith Formation Committee.

Have questions? Want more detailed information? Come to an Information Session. The first one will be held as part of the Town Hall Meeting on Sunday, September 24, after the worship service. Others will be: Sunday, October 1 from 9:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. before the service; Wednesday, October 18 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, November 4 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.; and Sunday, November 19 from 11:15 a.m. to 12:00 noon as part of the Conversation Circle that day.

Thank you for your support for growth at UUCR.



With Much Appreciation...

Things slow down a bit around UUCR during the summer months, and the staff gets to have some time away to rest and refresh. *Many* UUCR members stepped up this summer to cover responsibilities while staff members were on vacation—and we want to offer a big THANK YOU to all of you volunteers whose contributions allowed us to have some R&R. We appreciate you very much!

☪ Lynn ☪ Rebekah ☪ Dayna ☪ Grace ☪

☪ Adrian ☪ Donna ☪ Rena ☪ Justin ☪

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Manna Food Collection—Thanks for your efforts!

by Dolores Barnes

Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, 2100 pounds of food were delivered to [Manna](#) from September 2016 through August 2017. Thanks to everyone who supported our efforts through this last church year. Please continue to think of those less fortunate in our community by dropping off nonperishable food (no glass containers, please) in our white Manna collections bins located in the lobby outside of Founders Hall, and in the courtyard entrance to the Sanctuary. A list of most requested food items can be found by the Founders Hall bin.



Service at the Gaithersburg Soup Kitchen—Calling all youth!

by Dolores Barnes

UUCR Youth will have an opportunity again this year to serve meals at the Gaithersburg Soup Kitchen. This is a great way to help those less fortunate in our community! Our service day is the 3rd Monday of the month, after school, from September through May. If you are a youth in grades 6 through 12 and would like to help us, please contact **Dolores Barnes**. It's okay to come just once or twice during the year, as your schedule permits. Our first two Soup Kitchen days are Monday, September 18, and Monday, October 16. The kitchen is located in the basement of Saint Martin's Catholic Church on the corner of Summit and Frederick Avenues in Gaithersburg. Participants should plan to arrive as close to 3:15 p.m. as possible to go over our game plan, wash hands, and set up. We work until approximately 4:45 p.m. **Student Service Learning hours are available!** Please note that our January and February service days fall on holidays.

Adult volunteers are also needed to commit to one day a month to prepare food. Shifts from 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., with some flexibility, are available Monday through Friday. Please contact the church organizer, Mary Canapary, directly at 301-869-7609 to volunteer.



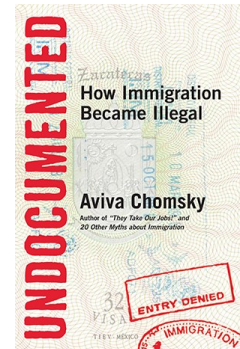
SOCIAL JUSTICE

Immigration Study Group

by Maude McGovern

Curious, concerned, interested about immigration issues? Join the Immigration Action Group's study group of *Undocumented: How Immigration Became Illegal*, by Aviva Chomsky (hardcover, softcover, and electronic formats) for insight into the history, causes, and effects of classifying some immigrants as illegal. Meeting in Room 51, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. September 10, September 17, October 1, and October 8.

Contact **Gail Schmitt** to sign up and receive further information.



SHARING THE MINISTRY

UUCR Raffle Quilt—Coming Soon

by Louise Friedenberg

The year's quilt, "American Heritage," is inspired by a quilt from 1880. It's composed of classic nine-patch squares, with contrasting light and dark fabrics that create strong diagonal patterns. The hand quilting reinforces the diagonals in the design. Many of the fabrics come from The White Swan in Hagerstown, which specializes in reproduction Civil War era fabrics. The colors are soft with a few bright ones for liveliness. The overall feel is comforting and designed to induce a good night's sleep. You'll want to buy plenty of raffle tickets for a chance to own "American Heritage."



SHARING THE MINISTRY

Membership Musings

by Adrian L. H. Graham, Director of Communications & Membership

This past July, we held the third set of Path to Membership sessions in the twelve months (at the time) that I had been on staff here at UUCR. To my knowledge, it was the first time that we've found ourselves compelled to make such an offering over the summer. We are blessed with a steady stream of visitors, many of whom become "newcomers" and embark on the journey toward membership. For some, coming to UUCR is a continuation of a Unitarian Universalist path that was begun elsewhere; often, newer folks find their way to this congregation having come from other faith traditions, or with no experience whatsoever of religious community. I have found UUCR to be a welcoming place where it's easy to get plugged in, and so have they! Continue to be open to newness, to difference, to growth, as we welcome folks of many backgrounds, experiences, and expectations into the beautiful, expansive mosaic that we are building here at UUCR.

I am very pleased to report that we have received 16 additional newcomers into membership over the course of the summer – and the program year is just beginning as you read this! Their names are:

Carson Bennett, Rachel Bennett, Haley Besner, Benjamin Callison, Norma Navarro Noreikis, Jay Olsen, Niambi Powell, Ashley Rhinehart, James Rhyne, Susan Rhyne, Carla Rodriguez, Breinn Hoff Rosenfeld, Nicholas Rosenfeld, Kathy Rupp, Kara Schmidt, and Kendall Watson.

We will have another Path to Membership class this fall, at the end of which you will have an opportunity to covenant with all new members in worship and continue getting to know them in fellowship.

Thinking of You

compiled by Judy Eisenhauer on behalf of the Pastoral Care Team

Condolences to **Susan Wilson** and **Mary Hoferek** on the passing of Susan's father, Joseph Gray Wilson, at age 86. He served in the US Air Force from 1949-1952 as a trombonist in the Tactical Air Command Band at Langley Air Force Base. Upon discharge, he went to work for the Daily Press, retiring in 1993 as a Plate Maker after 42 years of service. At that point, he took up painting and became a respected local artist, exhibiting some of his work in local galleries and at the Hampton Roads Convention Center.



Ed Garbe had a fall at his home and was hospitalized briefly. Fortunately, he did not sustain any serious injury. He is still at The Village at Rockville for some rehabilitation, and hopes to be able to return home soon.

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



Reflection Questions

- Where in your life do you find deep connections with people? With nature? With Spirit?
- How does technology help you go deeper? How does it disconnect you?
- How can you “get proximate to the poor,” as suggested by Ware Lecturer Bryan Stevenson?
- With whom could you cultivate a deeper relationship? What are you willing to give up to nurture that relationship?
- What fear keeps you from exploring the next deep opportunity?
- What might you discover in your depths?

Chalice Lighting

We are all here to grow in wisdom and learn how to love better. As we each do this in our own ways, we slowly become a blessing to those around us and a light to the world.

–Rachel Naomi Remen

Children’s Books

In order from youngest to more advanced

- *Good Night Moon*, Margaret Wise Brown
- *Frog and Toad are Friends*, Arnold Lobel
- Magic Treehouse Books with Research Books, Mary Pope Osborne
- *A Handful of Quiet*, Thich Nhat Hanh
- *Eleventh Hour*, Graeme Base
- *The One and Only Ivan*, Katherine Applegate

To access websites embedded in this sheet, please visit www.uucr.org/all-generations and scroll to the bottom of the page. You may also click above on this page if accessing electronically.

Inspirational Videos

• • •

- [Bedroom in Arles in VR!](#) | Art Attack Master Works
- [The Coffinmaker](#)
- [Hidden Miracles of the Natural World](#) | Louie Schwartzberg

Playlist

• • •

- [I Gave My Love a Cherry](#), Laurie Berkner Band
- [Formation](#), Beyoncé (clean version)
- [What About Me](#), Snarky Puppy
- [Blowing in the Wind](#), Joan Baez
- [Inner City Blues](#), Rodriguez

Books and Readings

• • •

- *The Book of Awakening*, Mark Nepo
- *For the Time Being*, Annie Dillard
- *Letter to My Daughter*, Maya Angelou
- *The Warmth of Other Suns*, Isabel Wilkerson
- *Psalm 42*

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September 6, 2017

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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