

## WORSHIP SERVICES

**June Theme:**  
**PRACTICE COURAGEOUS LOVE**

**Sunday, June 10, 10:00 a.m.**  
**FLOWER CEREMONY**

HONORING THOSE WHO ARE MOVING AWAY.

Join in celebration of this program year! Be present to say farewell and thank you to our outgoing Director of Religious Education, Dayna Edwards, and also to lay folks who are moving away. Picnic on the grounds after the service! Bring a flower to share, and a salad or dessert, too!

Special music by **André Enceneat**, piano and vocals.  
**Justin Furnia** on piano.

**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.

**Sunday, June 17, 10:00 a.m.**  
**FATHER'S DAY**  
*About Fathers*

Members of the **Worship Arts Team** will reflect on the meaning of fathering and fatherhood. Stay after the service to share stories about the role of father in your life.

Special music by **Jeremy Schuhmann**. **Justin Furnia** on piano.

**Summer RE**—Children 0-4 go to Nursery in Building 3, Room 33.

*(continued on page 2)*

# Quest

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

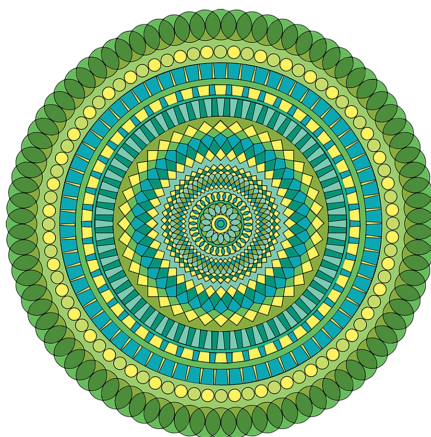
***Lifelong Spiritual Discovery Beloved Community A Just World***

Volume LXI, Number 10-11  
June 6, 2018

Editor & Publisher:  
Adrian L. H. Graham

## **Staffing Changes and Celebrations**

*by Rev. Lynn Strauss*



As Senior Minister and Head of Staff, a part of my ministry is hiring, supporting, and supervising congregational staff. All of the staff and intern ministers I have been privileged to hire and work with in my 14 years as your minister have joined us eager to serve the vital, growing, financially solid congregation that we are. I am grateful for the contributions of all who have been a part of our staff team over the years. And I am grateful for the financial and hands-on support that UUCR members, friends, and volunteers so generously offer in support of the implementation of our vision and mission.

In the last couple of years, we have seen staff members leave and we have welcomed both new interim and settled staff and Assistant Ministers. As we come to the close of this Program Year, we will welcome Sarah Jebian as our settled Director of Music, and we will say farewell to Dayna Edwards, our Director of Religious Education. Dayna leaves us to continue her seminary study leading to a Master's of Divinity and ordination as a UU minister.

Please join in our **end-of-year picnic on June 10** as we will be thanking and wishing farewell to Dayna, along with some of our members who are moving away. Take a moment to write a card for Dayna and thank her for her time with our children and youth and with all of us. She will be missed.

In Gratitude,  
*Reverend Lynn*

*Quest* deadline: Thursday, **July 26, 2018** at 8:00 p.m.,  
for mailing on **August 1, 2018**.  
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

Senior Minister: Rev. Lynn Thomas Strauss  
Associate Minister: Rev. Rebekah A. Savage  
Director of Religious Education:  
Dayna Edwards, M.A.  
Interim Director of Music: Sarah Jebian  
Director of Communications & Membership:  
Adrian L. H. Graham  
Church Administrator: Donna Taylor  
Pianist: Justin Furnia  
Building Sexton: Justin Onyeador

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*(Worship Services continued from page 1)*

Rising K-5th graders go to Room 51 for quiet contemplation or Room 52 for more active MakerSpace. Rising 6th-12th graders go to Room 50 for Spiritual Exploration Boxes.

**Sunday, June 24, 10:00 a.m.**

*Tough Love*

Guest Preacher **Rev. Anthony Jenkins** serves as Associate Minister at the UU Congregation of Columbia, MD. Rev. Jenkins will explore the more ‘nosy’ (and less cozy) expressions of love in our personal lives—when love is the social justice of our families and friendships.

**WildBerry Jam** will sing; **Dick Gilbert** on piano.

**Summer RE**—see above.

**July Theme: INDEPENDENCE**

**Sunday, July 1, 10:00 a.m.**

Led by **Rev. Erik Martínez Resly**. Special music by **The Sanctuaries**. **Justin Furnia** on piano. **Summer RE**—see above.

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

Led by **Rev. Russ Savage** of the UU Church of the Shenandoah Valley. **Sonaria** will sing; **Justin Furnia** on piano. **Summer RE**—see above.

**Sunday, July 15, 10:00 a.m.**

Led by **Rev. Lynn Strauss**. **Sarah Jebian** will sing. **Summer RE**—see above.

**Sunday, July 22, 10:00 a.m.**

Led by **Rev. Doug McCusker** of the UU Fellowship of Fredericksburg. **Dick Gilbert** on piano. **Summer RE**—see above.

**Sunday, July 29, 10:00 a.m.**

Led by **Rev. Rebekah Savage**. Special music by **Wayne Crump**. **Summer RE**—see above.

**August Theme: SONG**



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## FAITH FORMATION

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### *Reflections*

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

Dear UUCR,

We have grown together in many ways in my relatively short time here. We have expanded the Our Whole Lives ministry by training three new people in Junior and Senior High OWL and three people in Elementary OWL. We have participated in Beloved Conversations and explored ways to dismantle oppression both within UUCR and in the larger world. Together we moved from one hour of programming for our children and youth to three hours of programming as we transitioned to two services. We have explored and grappled with what Family Faith Formation might look like here at UUCR. Many of you have made use of the creative listening table in the back of the Sanctuary and have welcomed



our youngest members into the main worship service more frequently. It warms my heart to see a young one sitting on a parent's lap and swaying to a hymn in the service. We progressed to a student-centered learning model with both Spirit Play and MakerSpace, giving our children an opportunity to fully experience the 4th Principle – that each person must be free to search for what is true and right in life.

Thank you! Thank you for being a part of my forming ministry and for bearing witness to my growth as a person in the last two years. It has been a great gift to watch this community grow and change, too. I will leave you with this parting meditation from one of my favorite authors, Octavia Butler:

***“All that you touch  
You Change.***

***All that you Change  
Changes you.***

***The only lasting truth  
is Change.***

***God  
is Change.”***

May you find blessings in the changes to come at UUCR and in your personal life.

In Faith,

*Dayna*

June 6, 2018

*Quest — 3*

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## SHARING THE MINISTRY

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### ***What's in Store?—Musings from your Incoming Director of Music***

*by Sarah Jebian*



Serving as your Interim Director of Music over the last five months, I've enjoyed getting to know the wonderful singers and musicians at UUCR. There is so much talent within these walls and I know there are more artists that I don't even know about yet! Jennifer Rodgers, your former Director of Music, is a close friend of mine so I already feel like I've known you for years. As I told the choir at our first rehearsal together, I walked in the door loving you. Entering into our beautiful Sanctuary felt like coming home.

I didn't expect to stay with you for very long but Dear Ones, I'm beyond thrilled to have been asked to remain on staff as your permanent Director of Music. I couldn't be happier! I know the congregation has been through a lot of changes in recent years and will continue to evolve as we adjust to a new Religious Education staff. Rest assured, I have no plans to make any radical changes to our music program just yet. Justin Furnia will continue to gift us with his exquisite music (thank all things holy!!!). Our Adult Choir and Bonfire of the Mannakeys will continue to rock our souls. Sonaria & WildBerry Jam will continue to sooth our hearts. The individual musicians and singers that you know and love will continue to share their gifts with us and grow as music leaders.

That said, I do have two new music ministries to share with you that I hope will deepen your connection with the music program, with each other, and with the larger Rockville community. These programs are scheduled to begin in the fall of 2018 and continue throughout the church year:

- The Family FUUN Choir is a music and arts ministry geared toward families with school-aged children (elementary through high school suggested but younger children are welcome too!). We will eat together, make music together, dance together, make art together, and have a ton of FUUN doing it. This program will replace both the Children's Choir & Unisons and will be co-led by Barbara Weis and myself, with occasional help from other volunteers.
- ArtsConnect is a community outreach ministry in which I hope to combine live music with spoken word and visual art. I envision this program as a way to connect with communities outside of our faith as well as using the program to lift up some of the justice issues that matter most to UUCR. This program is still in development but I hope to present a total of four events throughout the church year. Stay tuned for more updates on this intriguing new adventure!

I hope these new ministries are as exciting to you as they are to me! I can't wait to get started and I hope you'll get involved too.

*(continued on page 9)*

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## SHARING THE MINISTRY

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### *DeLynnecations*

by Rev. Lynn T. Strauss

Dear Ones,

I offer these beautiful words of wisdom from the Reverend Mansfield “Kasey” Kaseman for your reflection. We have been blessed to work alongside Kasey and so many of our Montgomery County Faith Partners for these many years. Kasey has crafted a version of Dr. King’s dream of Beloved Community right here in our county, and it is a continuing privilege to learn from him and to be his colleague in community ministry. He embraces and lives the values that we and all faiths hold dear. He is a leader among leaders; his heart holds us together with a deep and faithful spirit.

Let us send Kasey our gratitude, praise, and blessing on his 50th Anniversary of Ordination! Thank you Kasey.



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

I seek your indulgence as I reflect on the 50th anniversary of my ordination this Saturday. It was preceded by my organizing a Center for Theological Education in the Urban Setting that in turn helped organize the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s first initiative in the North. A picture of his speaking on the steps outside the locked doors of a deplorable intercity school remains in my office.



My theological studies included reading the sacred texts of major world religions, studying Hebrew scripture with rabbis and taking classes at Jesuit, Episcopal, Methodist, Baptist and United Church of Christ seminaries. My ordination service was interracial and included clergy from Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox and Protestant faith traditions. They participated in the rite of ordination by the "laying on of hands" as did a laywoman from an inner-city human service program because I wanted to celebrate the Holy Spirit moving through laity as well as clergy.

It was avant-gard at that time and unfortunately remains the same today. It seems natural to think our particular beliefs, approach to worship and claim to divine favor are more authentic than others. Some claim to being elected by God or being God's chosen people at the exclusion of others. Under these circumstances there is no reason to associate with people of other faiths except to convert them to our superior faith tradition.

As the Interfaith Community Liaison, I have the privilege of worshipping in Eastern and Western faith traditions and becoming friends with a broad spectrum of people who are immeasurably enriching my life. What I and others are experiencing is that the more we cross lines of difference, the more we realize we are the same. Our histories and approaches to the divine are different, but as we worship and work together in service of others, we discover the divine in terms that overcome our differences.

*(continued on page 9)*

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## SHARING THE MINISTRY

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### Thinking of You

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

Bobbie Karpf is recovering from hip replacement surgery at home and would appreciate phone calls and cards.

Celia Young had knee replacement surgery at the end of May and is recovering now at The Village at Rockville. She hopes to be home by the end of this week and would appreciate cards and calls.

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



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### From the Archives

*by Maude McGovern*

#### *UUCR's Pulpit*

*"Our magnificent pulpit was designed and built by Lathrop from aged walnut lumber he had been hoarding for years." -Quest, November 19, 1964*

Perhaps you haven't paid much attention to the pulpit with its spare lines and lack of ornamentation. But aside from being functional, it's part of UUCR's legacy and was a key feature in the church's sanctuary space (now Founders Hall) that was dedicated in 1964. Lathrop E. Smith, a member, designed it "to fit the architect's specifications." (*Quest*, September, 17, 1964).

If the name rings a bell, it's likely because of the Lathrop E. Smith Environmental Education Center on Meadows Lane in Rockville. Smith was a soil conservationist, a politician, and a key figure in the development of the county as farmland gave way to suburban tracts in the mid-twentieth century. He was a leader in protecting Rock Creek's watershed, an effort that included the creation of Lake Frank and Lake Needwood.



In a program written and performed for the church's 25th Anniversary celebration in 1981, the pulpit and its creator were warmly remembered. "There was our beautiful, hand-made pulpit [at the building dedication], constructed and donated by Lathrop Smith." Later in the program, the author writes that, "Another sad passing was noted in January of 1972, when Bill Moors and Bob Doss [our first minister, who by 1972 was serving in Delaware] together conducted a memorial service for Lathrop Smith. Spring picnics at the Lathrop and Marian Smith farm had been joyous annual events in several of the early years of UCR."

So take a closer look at Lathrop's handiwork, a gift to this congregation and a memorial to a man who did much for the people of the county as well as the church.

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## SOCIAL JUSTICE

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### **Manna Needs You—Food Collection to Continue through the Summer**

*by Dolores Barnes, Hunger Task Force*

As of the end of May, UUCR has generously donated over 1,300 pounds of food to Manna Food Center. As wonderful as this is, we are tracking well below our goal of 2,500 pounds (before September). The summer months are traditionally slower for food donations, even though thousands of families in our county are struggling to put food on their tables. Please bring your nonperishable food items to UUCR's collection buckets, located outside of Founders Hall and in the entrance corridor leading to the Sanctuary. Whether you attend summer services, or are just passing by UUCR, please continue to think of those less fortunate in our community.

#### *Need some donation ideas?*

**Grains:** instant oatmeal packets, brown rice (16 oz.), whole grain pasta (16 oz.)

**Protein:** tuna, salmon or chicken in water, dry or canned beans, natural nut butters

**Fruits & Vegetables:** canned vegetables (low sodium), canned fruit in juice, fruit cups

**Other:** shelf-stable individual milk boxes, cooking oils and spices, infant formula and baby food

If you are interested in volunteering for one of Manna's many wonderful programs, please visit their website at [www.mannafood.org](http://www.mannafood.org). The Hunger Task Force thanks you for your support!



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### **Summer Reading Suggestion: *Breakthrough* by Richard Forer**

*by Steve Lapham, Social Justice Committee*

During coffee hour, peruse a copy of Richard Forer's *Breakthrough: Transforming Fear into Compassion—A New Perspective on the Israel-Palestine Conflict*. Then, in September, join us for a book discussion over two Sundays (3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.) in a living room. In October, we plan to host a Sunday "Potluck and a Movie" event at UUCR right after the service. Six short documentaries about life in East Jerusalem today will be shown, as provided by *B'Tselem* and *Voices from the Holy Land* film series. Exact dates TBA.

*"To my knowledge, there has never been a book that takes on the daunting challenge of describing and deconstructing the unbelievably complex emotional and intellectual journey from prejudice to compassion on this issue... until now!"* –Anna Baltzer ("The Danger of Neutrality," TEDxOcala) from the foreword of *Breakthrough*.

## CONGREGATION WORKS



### 2018 UUCR Directory and Annual Report Now Available

The 2018 Directory and 2018 Annual Report are both now available at UUCR. You may pick up a copy in the workroom in Building 1, or in Fellowship Hall during Middle Hour on Sundays in March. Please take only one directory per household. The Annual Report is also available [online](#).

Notify the church office — email to [uucr@uucr.org](mailto:uucr@uucr.org) — of any omissions or corrections to name, address, phone number, or email address in the directory so that we may keep our records up to date. Periodic addenda will be published throughout the year.



*(DeLynneations continued from page 5)*

I think this is why interfaith alliances among faith leaders are growing in Montgomery County, Interfaith Dialogues on Cultural Bias are being planned for a third year, some 60 interfaith communities are assimilating refugees, Muslims are inviting others to celebrate the breaking of their daily fasts at lifter dinners, faith leaders are inviting colleagues from other faiths to pray, teach and preach in their houses of worship.

The greatest benefit is discovering, that regardless of the name we attribute to the creator and sustain of life, we are sisters and brothers of one human family. The more we are together, the more we experience the unifying power of love dissolving our sense of superiority and leaving us humble and deeply grateful.

50 years ago I could not have imagined being an Interfaith Community Liaison in a place like Montgomery County. My brother, Martin Luther King, Jr., had convinced me of the universal power of love, but its context was largely ecumenical. Today it is profoundly interfaith. I cannot envision the next 50 years, but I'm optimistic thanks to my Zoroastrian, Buddhist, Hindu, Unitarian Universalist, Bahá'í, Muslim, Sikh, Jewish and Christians sisters and brothers.

Thank you,  
Rev. Mansfield "Kasey" Kaseman

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*(What's in Store? continued from page 4)*

So what's next? I know I've barely scratched the surface of all there is to learn at UUCR. If you're an instrumentalist and haven't yet connected with me, please get in touch! Singers (high school and older) are always welcome to join the adult choir. You do not have to read music (although it helps). I'm also interested in meeting visual artists, poets, and dancers for possible future projects. Families – please keep an eye out for more information about the Family FUUN Choir!

Don't have an 'artsy' bone in your body but still want to be involved in the Music & Arts program? Fantastic! I need volunteers in the following areas:

- ⇒ Music Librarians (2 to 4 people)
- ⇒ Event planners/coordinators
- ⇒ Graphic designers
- ⇒ Marketing volunteers
- ⇒ Front of house for special events (ticket sellers, ushers, concession stand managers)
- ⇒ And much, much more...

I look forward to a long and beautiful music ministry with you. I'm honored to be here and so grateful for your trust in me. Let's make some music!

With love,  
*Sarah*

## *Quest*

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June 6, 2018

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### **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.

### **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