
WORSHIP SERVICES

October Theme: GRACE

Sunday, Oct 7, 9 & 11:15 a.m.

The Shock of Grace

The worship theme of the month is *Grace*, and taking a line from the familiar hymn “Amazing Grace,” we will explore the spiritual nature of how grace moves through our lives. When we can’t navigate towards forgiveness of ourselves or of others, grace may appear...what a shock that can be! Led by **Rev. Rebekah Savage**.

Special music by guest musician **Winston Davis**, violin; **Dick Gilbert**, piano; and **Justin Furnia**, piano.

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.

Sun., Oct 14, 9 & 11:15 a.m.

Filled with Grace

How has Unitarian Universalism brought the gift of grace into your life?

(continued on page 2)

October 3, 2018

Quest

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

Lifelong Spiritual Discovery Beloved Community A Just World

Volume LXII, Number 2
October 3, 2018

Editor & Publisher:
Adrian L. H. Graham

DeLynnations

by Rev. Lynn Strauss



What I Learned in My Growing-up Church:

- ◇ I belonged to something larger than myself
- ◇ My siblings and I were part of a church family
- ◇ My mother could teach Sunday School even before she earned her GED
- ◇ My minister would visit my brother in jail
- ◇ I was accepted into an adult Covenant Group
- ◇ I was supported in my desire to become an elementary school teacher
- ◇ My minister was available to listen to my questions
- ◇ My church was a place to have fun
- ◇ My church made a home for people in need of medical care
- ◇ My church supported local artists
- ◇ I was included in serious theological study groups
- ◇ My minister went to Selma, AL, to protest segregation and violence against people of color
- ◇ Faith was a serious exploration
- ◇ Worship is beautiful
- ◇ Dave’s and my marriage vows were blessed by the church in spite of our religious/secular differences
- ◇ Forgiveness is possible
- ◇ Justice matters
- ◇ We are loved

What are you learning at UUCR?

Quest deadline: Thursday, **November 1, 2018** at 8:00 p.m.,
for mailing on **November 7, 2018**.

Email to 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: Carla Miller
Director of Music: Sarah Jebian
Director of Communications & Membership:
Adrian L. H. Graham
Church Administrator: Donna Taylor
Pianist: Justin Furnia
Building Sexton: Justin Onyeador

Board of Trustees

Colleen Dolak, President
Mary Carvajal, Vice President
Peter Shaw, Secretary
Christy Shannon, Treasurer
Dana Alzouma
Glenn Griffin
Aaron Pied
Steve Eckstrand, 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)

In my 28 years of ministry, I have heard story after story of the saving grace of our faith. How has our liberal faith saved you? How has Beloved Community blessed you? Does grace freely given require something of us? **Rev. Lynn Strauss** will preach.

The **Adult Choir** will sing. **Justin Furnia** on piano.

First Fifteen—see above.

Sunday, October 21, 9 & 11:15 a.m.

How Sweet the Sound

Oftentimes, truth-telling comes at a high cost—jobs, relationships, social and political standing—and yet, grace abounds in its wake. How are we called to truth-telling as a part of being in right relationship with ourselves, our community, our society? When are we called to offer grace? Led by **Rev. Savage**.

Special music by guest musician **Wendel Werner** on piano.

First Fifteen—see above.

Sunday, October 28, 9 & 11:15 a.m.

10,000 Years

“When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’d first begun.” How long will our faith thrive and change lives? Unitarian minister Theodore Parker delivered a sermon at a controversial ordination in Boston in 1841; it was titled “The Transient and Permanent in Christianity.” Parker stood in solidarity with essential truths outliving the latest forms or fads of religious practice. He wrote: “What is of absolute value never changes; we may cling round it and grow to it forever.” What is permanent in UUism, and how do we know? **Rev. Strauss** will preach.

WildBerry Jam will sing, with **Dick Gilbert**, piano. **Justin Furnia** on piano.

Chalice Chapel—One Sunday in most months, children and youth gather in Founders Hall for worship where they will sing, share, and create together. Nursery care for infants—3-year-olds is available during the entire service in Building 3, Room 33.

November Theme: STRUGGLE

Sunday, November 4, 9 & 11:15 a.m.

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

The Struggle for Justice for All

(continued on page 9)

FAITH FORMATION

REflections...

by Carla Miller, Director of Religious Education

Our “It’s a New Day” Start-up Celebration became a weekend of heartwarming stories and courageous conversations, with your active participation. Many thanks to all who attended, especially those who provided food and other support!

Friday night’s multigenerational potluck was welcoming and filled with your touching stories of special moments at UUCR and in Religious Education; and the opportunity to share some of my own story with you. I came to know the unique character, and “characters,” of this congregation on a more personal level. I heard about so many of your meaningful moments at UUCR; even the fairy tale romances of couples who met and then married at UUCR. Who knew?



Listening to your tales, I learned that this congregation’s RE program holds a very special place in many hearts. Over the years, many families have come, and keep coming, to provide a strong foundation for their children’s faith development. RE classes are important here, and are supported by the volunteer involvement of long-time teachers and newer young parents as well. In recent years, UUCR’s perspective has grown to understand faith formation as a lifelong process, happening both in and beyond the RE classrooms, and deepened through intergenerational connection.

A more focused discussion with parents and teachers on Saturday morning named the challenges of faith formation at this time. When Lynn asked to hear hopes for the future, I learned that if we could wave a magic wand we would:

- Offer meaningful content and engaging learning experiences for all ages
- Build community through family-focused multigenerational activities
- Engage in social action as multigenerational groups
- Revitalize Middle School and Senior High Youth programming
- Open communications to foster consensus and build collaboration

This last – a collaborative effort to realize our shared vision and goals – is the real “magic” that will create the rest. A coalition of RE staff, parents, teachers, and youth, with the active support of the whole congregation, is both the means and the ends for a vibrant future for Faith Formation at UUCR.

The re-formation of an actively engaged Family Faith Formation Committee will be one key component of this collaboration. The “FFF” leadership team works closely with the DRE to articulate a vision, shape programming, and build connections between religious education, the entire congregation, and the wider community.

Other leaders who are passionate about particular projects are emerging as well, to kick-off more family fun events and to develop intergenerational social action projects. These project-centered, shorter-term teams are a great way to engage and to accomplish specific goals.

Our Start-Up Weekend was invaluable to me. Your visions, values, and yearnings resonate deeply with my own as a religious educator! I look forward to engaging together in Faith Formation to create a connected community where children, youth, parents, and families learn, grow, and thrive!

Blessings,

Carla

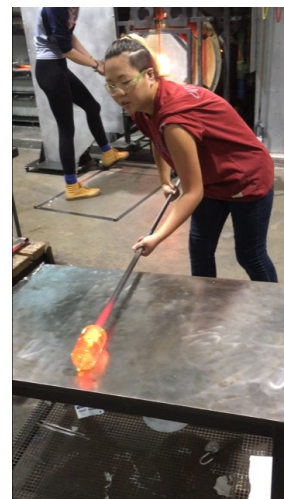
CONGREGATION WORKS

FALL FUUNRAISER! Saturday, November 3.
Sales include quilts, jewelry, books, bicycles, toys, baked goods, and more.
Volunteers needed. Contact Christy Shannon or Glenn Griffin.
Have FUUN and support your UUCR community!

UUA College Scholarships

by Ellen Rohan

For the past four years, my daughter Abbey Uffelmann – a glass blowing major at Temple University's Tyler School of Art and a UUCR member – has been honored to receive a college scholarship from the Unitarian Universalist Funding Program. While several different types of scholarships for undergraduates are available through the UUA, she has been lucky enough to receive the Marion Barr Stanfield Art Scholarship. Around this time in her senior year of high school, our family was busy applying to colleges. I was also fretting about how I would fund Abbey's college plans. Through various UU connections, we became aware of this opportunity which is offered to undergraduates pursuing a Fine Arts degree. Abbey had to fill out the typical application and write some reflections about how her art is connected to her UU values. As is typical in the art world, she had to submit a portfolio of her work. Additionally, she was required to get a letter of reference from someone within UUCR and also to submit documentation that she was enrolled in college and studying Fine Arts. We were proud to receive her first award and have continued to be delighted each year as her scholarship continues. I'm so glad that we found the Barr Stanfield Art Scholarship. It's been both an important part of both Abbey's college funding plan and also a means for her to explore and express her liberal religious values through her art. Visit <https://www.uua.org/college/scholarships> to discover potential resources for the college-bound UU youth in your life.



From the Archives

by Maude McGovern

Alphonzo Lee: Founding Member, Civil Rights Leader—Part I



Alphonzo Lee, circa 1959

Most of the founding members of the church were young white couples with small children. Then there was Alphonzo Lee, a 73-year-old African American grandfather and president of the Montgomery County branch of the NAACP. Here in two parts is a brief look at a longtime civil rights activist who found a community of like-minded people among Rockville's early Unitarians.

Lee was born in Washington, DC, in 1883, not long after the Reconstruction era had rolled back even the most basic rights for African Americans. It was a time when lynching was common and opportunities for black citizens severely limited. His father died young, and at age ten he went to work for his uncle, a cabinet maker. After high school he began studying at Howard University but had to drop out in order to help support his mother and sisters.

By 1918 Lee and his wife had moved to Rockville where they raised two daughters and eventually built the house at 203 Martins Lane, not far from the church. He worked for decades as a mail carrier and later as a chemical assistant in a metal plating laboratory. His hobbies included gardening and hunting rabbits and squirrels. He had a lifelong love of music and was a skilled photographer. Lee was active in societies such as the Masons while at the same time playing a leading role in efforts to win rights for local African Americans.

Next month: Alphonzo Lee's civic involvement and church membership.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Manna

by Dolores Barnes

Manna served 31,710 of our neighbors in need last fiscal year, thanks to the generous donations of organizations like UUCR. Whether a neighbor is experiencing a crisis or experiencing hunger on a temporary basis, we can help Manna during this, their 35th year of service to our community. The start of the school year means we can also support Manna's [Smart Sacks](#) program, which sends home healthy food items to more than 2,700 children and their families at 59 different elementary schools in Montgomery County.



Please continue to bring your nonperishable food items to UUCR's collection buckets, located outside of Founders Hall and in the entrance corridor leading to the Sanctuary. Watch the growth of our donations on our Manna poster, and check out the list of most needed foods. To volunteer directly, visit www.mannafood.org.

Habitat for Humanity 2018

by Karen Pittleman



This summer marked the tenth year that UUCR traveled to Garrett County, MD, to spend a week building houses with Habitat for Humanity (HFH). From July 29 to August 3 our group of ten – including one teen – worked on houses in Hopeland Village, a community of homes built entirely by volunteers and designed to provide safe and affordable housing in Western Maryland.

This year we worked on three houses. Projects included painting, caulking, hanging window trim and base molding, building porch stairs, and building a deck. We enjoyed working side by side and getting to know each other better, as well as getting to know members of the local community and the HFH Board, all of whom generously provided us dinner each night.

This winter we hope to have R. Brent Stone, Executive Director of [Garrett County HFH](#), join us at UUCR to share first hand info on their projects and programs. Our expected workweek for 2019 will be July 29 to August 2. Information and sign-up will be available in February.

Life in East Jerusalem: Six Short Films

by Steve Lapham



On **Sunday, October 7**, please join us at a potluck followed by a showing of "[East Jerusalem: Six Voices](#)," produced by [B'Tselem](#) and [The Guardian](#), in UUCR's Founders Hall from 12:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. A Q&A period concludes this partner event with the Voices from the Holy Land Film Series. Organized by Steve Lapham for the Peace Studies Group. Visit voicesfromtheholylan.org.

SHARING THE MINISTRY

Singing By Heart

by Sarah Jebian, Director of Music

UUCR is proud to host “Singing By Heart,” a workshop presented by Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout, Director of Worship & Music at First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor (MI), on **Saturday, October 27, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** This workshop is being sponsored by MUUSICA—the partnership of MD-VA-DC-based UU music program directors.

ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

Singing by heart connects us to our very earliest musical memories and instincts—the ability to understand music without a paper ‘translation.’ Singing by heart connects us to the very earliest music of America—the enslaved Africans who built sounds of hope as they built up a nation. Indeed, the first music between humans had no score. To sing by heart is to access whole worlds of sound and memory that could never be articulated on paper. This practice reminds us that our connection to music needs no intercessor. It draws powerful songs from the veteran and the novice. It affords beauty to the poor and rich. Its potential is equally alive in the gospel soprano and the operatic tenor. Its potential to bring connection amid great differences in people is undeniable; and for too many singers, largely untapped. Join Dr. Rideout for a learning exploration of the techniques, approaches, and strategies that reliably make successful, intuitive rote singing happen. In this guided community sing, singers of all abilities are invited to hone their skills of harmonization, rhythm, memory, and spirit.



ABOUT DR. RIDEOUT

A native of Baltimore, Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout holds a bachelor’s degree in voice from Vanderbilt University, and master’s and doctoral degrees in conducting from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Glen Thomas is the winner of the 2013 National Student Conducting Competition. He has conducted the University of Michigan Chamber Choir, the University of Michigan Men’s Glee Club, and the Manhattan Chorale—a professional ensemble of New York City. He served as assistant conductor for the University of Michigan Chamber Choir in the Grammy-nominated recording of Darius Milhaud’s opera trilogy, *L’Orestie d’Eschyle*.

His recent international conducting schedule has included engagements in Peru, Poland, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Finland, Iceland, Estonia, Russia, Spain, Andorra, and France. Glen Thomas served the University of Michigan Chamber Choir as assistant conductor during its 2014 tour of New Zealand and Australia.

Glen Thomas has served First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor as Director of Music since August 2007. His essay *Prodigal Songs: Reclaiming Our Voice* has been published by the Church of the Larger Fellowship. His work as a singer includes engagements with the Nashville Symphony Orchestra, the Mark Morris Dance Group, University of Michigan, the University Musical Society, and the Star-Spangled Music Project. In June 2016, Glen Thomas served as guest vocalist for the investiture of United States federal court judge Judith E. Levy.

Glen Thomas is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Musicians Network, Chorus America, the American Choral Directors Association, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity.

This workshop is presented free of charge and is open to the public. Register at uucrmusic.weebly.com/workshop-registration.

SHARING THE MINISTRY

ArtsConnect presents Wendel Werner in concert: October 21 at 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary!

by Sarah Jebian, Director of Music



Don't miss this electrifying performer in his UUCR concert debut. Based in Knoxville, TN, Wendel is an accomplished singer, director, composer, producer, teacher, clinician, and recording artist. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Tennessee, and was hired to teach at a local college before finishing his graduate studies. He has worked as the pianist or music director in ten different churches, and has taught at six colleges. Wendel has more than a dozen albums in his discography, including four with singer Alan Eleazer, four with saxophonist Terry Schmidt, and several solo albums including his gospel album titled *Spiritual*, and a blues album titled *Cool by Design*. A new album is planned for 2019. Mr. Werner is in high demand as a music director and lecturer, and travels regularly as a performer. He is also Modern Studio's 2018 Artist-in-Residence, which includes a solo performance each month in addition to curating a concert series and producing/directing several shows.

Join us after the concert for food, beverages, art, and poetry. Proceeds from this ArtsConnect event will be given to the TraRon Center (traroncenter.org/our-history), a DC-based community organization using visual and literary art to help equip victims of gun violence with strategies to healthfully endure the complexities of loss while promoting community health and solidarity.

Calling All Artists!

We Need You! ArtsConnect is calling on all UUCR artists and poets to participate in our October event - #NotOneMore. We are extending a special invitation to UU Youth artists and poets to submit their work. The **deadline** to submit your work is coming up on October 14.

Our theme of #NotOneMore was inspired by the passionate outcry of the survivors of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting and the recent mass shooting at the Capital Gazette in Annapolis, which took the life of our sister in faith, Wendi Winters. As you think about #NotOneMore, here are some themes you might reflect upon:

- ◆ gun violence in our society
- ◆ mass shootings as a particularly American problem
- ◆ the Second Amendment of the US Constitution
- ◆ the cost of 'freedom'
- ◆ the Parkland students
- ◆ March for Our Lives
- ◆ the psychological and emotional toll that gun violence exacts on our communities
- ◆ the call of our Unitarian Universalist faith as it relates to gun violence in our society

To submit ArtsConnect artwork or poetry, please read through the guidelines provided on our webpage and then fill out the form at the bottom of the page. You may also download and print the guidelines for future reference. Visit the ArtsConnect Artist Submission webpage at tinyurl.com/artsconnect-submission.

Questions? Please email Sarah Jebian at sjebian@uucr.org. Thank you!

SHARING THE MINISTRY

Fall New2UU Class

by Adrian Graham, Director of Communications & Membership

Join us for the fall sessions of New2UU, our “UU101” class here at UUCR. This series of four evening classes is designed both to be a way for newcomers to get to know one another (and to be known by those of us who’ve been around a little longer), as well as a basic introduction to Unitarian Universalism broadly speaking and UUCR in particular. Come share where you are currently on your spiritual, philosophical, or existential journey, and what you hope to see yourself growing toward. See how the pieces come together to form a beautiful whole.



Also—join us for brunch on October 7! (*see below*)

We will meet on four consecutive Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., **beginning October 9**. To sign up for brunch and/or New2UU, or to ask for further details, please email rsvp@uucr.org or agraham@uucr.org.



**Newcomers Brunch
with the Ministers
Sunday, October 7
Middle Hour | Founders Hall**

SHARING THE MINISTRY

Multiracial Families Gatherings

By Rev. Rebekah Savage

Calling for all multiracial people, couples, and families! Many of our UUCR families are multiracial—individually, as a couple, have multiracial children or transracially adopted children and youth—to include me and my children! If you and/or your family are multiracial, we would like to host events this year for us to gather. As a multiracial child, I warmly recall the power and comfort of meeting other children who were also multiracial and couples/families that represented a wide diversity of cultures. Email me to be included: rev.rebekah@uucr.org.

Thinking of You

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

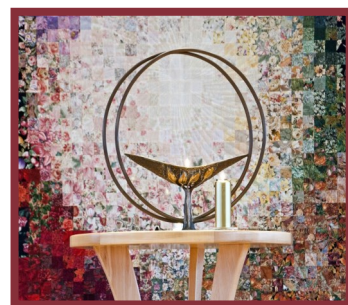
A Memorial Service celebrating the life of member **Betty Prestemon** will be held at UUCR on Friday, October 26, at 11:00 a.m. Rev. Strauss will officiate and the choir will sing. All are invited to attend.

Celia Young had a wonderful 70th birthday party. Her father was able to attend, and there was a live band and an ice cream sundae bar! Much fun was had by all.

Laura Huff is recovering from surgery at The Village at Rockville. She loves to receive cards and visits.

Welcome to a **new family**: Sarah Appleby and Curtis Winans, baby Maeve and two-year-old Maxine. Say hello when you see them!

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



(Worship Services continued from page 2)

On this Sunday before Election Day 2018, **Rev. Strauss** will introduce our November theme of *Struggle*. Will our aspirations as a nation or as a faith ever be realized? How can we continue to struggle when oppression, hate, and cynicism continue to wear us down? What are the signs of hope in this cultural moment? How do both arts and politics inspire hope? What can we learn? What can we teach? Join us as we reflect on these things and formally welcome our newest members!

The **Adult Choir** will sing. **Justin Furnia** on piano.

First Fifteen—see above.

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

October 3, 2018

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.

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