## **WORSHIP SERVICES**

January Theme: MYSTERY

**Sun, Jan 13, 9 & 11:15 a.m.** Part 1 of 2: *Where Do We Come From?* 

In 1897, Paul Gauguin painted a piece he titled *D'où Venons* Nous / Que Sommes Nous / Où Allons Nous, which translates as "Where do we come from? What are we? Where are we going?" Composer Bryan Tate visited the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston and then wrote a round, which is now included in our UU hymnal. The round's last line is "life is a riddle and a mystery." Rev. Rebekah Savage will reflect on the mystery of where we came from, both historically and spiritually.

Special music by **Bonfire of the Mannakeys**; **Justin Furnia** on 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.

(continued on page 2)



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

Lifelong Spiritual Discovery Beloved Community A Just World

Volume LXII, Number 5 January 9, 2019 Editor & Publisher: Adrian L. H. Graham

### #BeholdHERStory—2nd ArtsConnect event!

by Sarah Jebian, Director of Music



UUCR's second *ArtsConnect* event will take place on Sunday, January 27 beginning at 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The theme is #BeholdHERStory.

Since the election of 2016, America has seen unprecedented numbers of girls and women sharing their stories, taking to the streets, running for public office (and winning!), and demanding the respect and care they deserve. *ArtsConnect* would like to lift up their stories and show the strength and diversity of our mothers, sisters, daughters, and friends.

The event begins with a concert starring the Uptown Vocal Jazz Quartet (UVJQ). Critics have declared UVJQ "as versatile and entertaining as any hear"... "electrifying"... "pure vocal will fun"..."sensational"..."exceptional"..."old school moving to new cool"... "vocalese at its best." Countless reviewers, broadcasters, and listeners worldwide have praised them as a standout for their creative originality and superb musicality. For more than two decades, UVJQ (Ginny Carr, Robert McBride, Holly Shockey, and UUCR's own André Enceneat) backed by their jazz rhythm section (Alan Blackman, piano; Max Murray, bass; Steve Herberman, guitar: Frank Russo, drums) have built a loval audience across five continents with their stylized arrangements of head-turning original songs and harmonically rich renditions of American Songbook classics. With their tight harmonies, engaging presentation, and vocal sass, UVJQ has put their creative signature on the group vocal style that mixes great fun with great art. They have been highly celebrated for extending the vocal jazz repertoire beyond standards and made their own songbook of originals the spotlight of their ear-popping arrangements.

(continued on page 7)

Quest deadline: Thursday, January 31, 2019 at 8:00 p.m., for mailing on February 6, 2019.

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 RE & Youth Assistant: Anne Chernikoff

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)



D'où Venons Nous / Que Sommes Nous / Où Allons Nous by Paul Gauguin

### Sunday, January 20, 9:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.

Part 2 of 2: Where Are We Going?

In 1897, Paul Gauguin painted a piece he titled *D'où Venons Nous / Que Sommes Nous / Où Allons Nous*, which translates as "Where do we come from? What are we? Where are we going?" Composer Bryan Tate visited the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston and deeply connected with this painting. He went on to compose a round, which is now included in our UU hymnal. The round's last line is "life is a riddle and a mystery." **Rev. Rebekah Savage** will reflect on where we are going as a people of faith and conscience.

The Adult Choir will sing; Justin Furnia on 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.

### Sunday, January 27, 9:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.

LAY-LED SERVICE

The Mystery and Spirituality of Our Elder Years

Our Lay-led Service will offer reflections by three of our members who participated in the Adult Faith Formation class, "On Elderhood." **Kent Hancock**, **Marsha Luce**, and **Bruce Baskett** will be our speakers, and **Paulette Campbell** will guide the service. The focus of our learning was that aging can be a deeply vital part of our lives. The elder years can be a time of growth and surprises.

We are joined for this service by **Uptown Vocal Jazz Quartet** for special music. **Justin Furnia** on piano.

First Fifteen—see above

(continued on page 4)

*Quest* — 2 January 9, 2019

## **FAITH FORMATION**

## REflections...

by Carla Miller, Director of Religious Education

### SUUmer Camp, anyone?

If you or your family would be interested in the possibility of participating in a UU Summer Camp, please plan to attend an informational meeting during Middle Hour on January 20 – 10:15 a.m. in Room 34/35. The SUUmer camp is being held at the UU Congregation of Frederick, MD, from June 24-28 for children entering Grades 1-6. Junior Counselor and Counselor positions are available to Middle School and Senior High Youth. We have an opportunity to work with UUCF in co-hosting this camp and hold it next year here in Rockville! Adult volunteers can choose to help on one or more days. We can carpool, or rent a van and charge a



small additional fee. The camp plans focus on themes of core UU values like building community, peace, and joyful living! Come learn more on January 20 or speak with me directly.

### Special Children's Activity during Middle Hour on January 27

Spark your child's imagination! During the congregational meeting on January 27, children ages 4 and up are invited to explore the mysteries of the universe with a slide-show of photos from NASA's Hubble Telescope, presented by special guest Kevin Miller, who is a program manager at Goddard Space Flight Center and space-education enthusiast. Hands-on "maker" activities will also be available for individual expressions of this mysterious universe.

### Faith Explorers: UUCR's 9:00 A.M. Children's Faith Formation Begins!

This new program of faith development for children grades PreK-6 is a multi-age, thematically-based platform for the children's creative exploration of that which gives meaning and purpose to their lives. "Faith Explorers" will encourage each participant to seek, create, explore, act, and practice, allowing for multiple expressions. This program is designed to fit the needs of smaller group sizes at 9:00 a.m., and of the child who enjoys independent exploration. Does this seem like a good fit your child's learning style? Join us in the 9:00 a.m. timeslot! Our 11:15 a.m. classes will also happily welcome any children who were attending at 9 but might now prefer to attend during second service in which our full program of faith formation classes continues. To indicate a preference to attend the 9:00 a.m. group, please go to <a href="https://tinyurl.com/UUCR-9AM">https://tinyurl.com/UUCR-9AM</a>. As our congregation explores the theme of "Mystery" in January, the children in the 9:00 a.m. Faith Explorers group will be exploring the Mystery of the Cosmos. Volunteers are needed to teach and assist in Faith Explorers, even on an occasional basis.

### **January Coming of Age Happenings**

- The 7th & 8th Grade Coming of Age class is swinging into full gear, with a heritage trip to Boston on the horizon for spring break! Our focus for January is "What Does it Mean to You to Be UU?"
- Saturday, January 12 Overnight 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. with Parent Meeting 5:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. We will begin plans for the Heritage Trip to Boston discussing options for transportation, lodging, and other activities.
- Friday, January 25 "Biobash" Dinner 5:30 pm to 8:00 p.m. Youth and their adult guests/mentors enjoy dinner while teaching one another more about U's, U's, and UU's! (Unitarians, Universalists, and Unitarian Universalists). Participants choose a famous UU and come dressed in character to introduce themselves to the group. Dinner will be a potluck.

(continued on page 4)

## **FAITH FORMATION**

(**REflections** continued from page 3)

### **Senior High**

- January 19-20, 5:30 p.m. to 11:15 a.m., Senior High Youth Overnight! Come to play games and have fun! This overnight will also help to bring together plans for the annual Youth-led worship service on Sunday, February 24.
- Our Whole Lives (OWL) Human Sexuality Class for Grades 10-12 begins January 13 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with a required Parent Orientation as well at the first youth session. The purpose of this program is to help the youth gain the knowledge, life principles, and skills they need to express their sexuality in life-enhancing ways. Unique opportunity for teenagers to get honest, helpful information. You can bring up ANY questions, concerns, or opinions in this group and they will be addressed and respected. The following sessions will be held Sundays, 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. approximately every other Sunday through March, with two overnights. Contact Carla Miller for more information and the full schedule.

To learn more about any of our programs for children and youth, please contact Carla Miller, DRE (<u>cmiller@uucr.org</u>), or Anne Chernikoff, RE Assistant (<u>achernikoff@uucr.org</u>).



(Worship Services continued from page 2)

**February Theme: POWER** 

Sunday, February 3, 9:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.

Dilemma of Masculine Power

With our worship and spiritual theme for the month of *Power*, we consider the words of Abraham Lincoln: "Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power." **Rev. Rebekah Savage** reflects with others on what it means to be a man or male-identified in today's society? What does this say of our faith as a community?

Special music by **Bronson Hoover**, piano.

First Fifteen—see above.

Sunday, February 10, 9:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.

*Untitled: A Message Unfolding* 

<u>Do not miss this important sermon</u>. Assist **Rev. Lynn Strauss** in crafting a powerful Sunday experience.

The **Adult Choir** will sing. Special selection by the **Family FUUN Ensemble**. Justin Furnia on piano. **First Fifteen**—see above.

Quest — 4 January 9, 2019

## **CONGREGATION WORKS**

### From the Archives

by Maude McGovern

### **Charlie Byrd**

Depending on your musical tastes, the name Charlie Byrd (1925-1999) may mean nothing to you. But even if you're familiar with this virtuoso guitarist who melded classical guitar techniques with jazz and popularized Brazilian *bossa nova* in North America, you may not realize that he was an early member of our church.

Born in Virginia, Byrd began studying music before serving in WWII. Afterwards, he settled in this area, resumed studying classical guitar and jazz, and established a performing career. In 1957 he joined the Unitarian Church of Rockville, barely a year old, and remained a member into the 1960s.

On a tour of South America in 1961, Byrd encountered the emerging bossa nova movement. Later he recorded *Jazz Samba* (as it happens at All Souls Unitarian Church), the album that introduced bossa nova to the U.S.

Although Charlie Byrd was an in-demand performer, he shared his talents with the church. In 1959 he played for the combined ordination/installation of Reverend Robert Doss, our first minister. He went on to give at least eight benefit concerts for UCR at the Rockville Civic Center and Montgomery College. The 1969 performance netted \$815 (\$5,575 in today's money) – much appreciated at a time when the church's finances were precarious.



Charlie Byrd concert benefiting UCR, January 1969, Montgomery College.

Photographer: Wade Palmer

## SHARING THE MINISTRY

## DeLynneations

by Rev. Lynn Strauss

"A Conversation Among Poets"

Poet Joy Harjo speaks of prayer as a circle of motion.

All speech requires motion, all praying postures are motion—davening, prostrating, bowing, opening or folding hands, whirling—all motion, all prayer.

All of life itself is and depends on motion. Every thought, every breath. "We are born and die soon," as Harjo writes, "within a true circle of motion."



Therefore Poet, Mary Oliver, might ask Ms. Harjo "Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?"

"Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves," Poet Rainer Maria Rilke might advise

Yes, and remember, Alice Walker responds to Rilke, "The grace with which we embrace life, in spite of the pain, the sorrows, is always a measure of what has gone before."

You think this happened only once and long ago? asks Poet, Marie Howe.

"Think of a summer night and someone talking across the water, maybe someone you loved in a boat, rowing. "You know the wind is sky moving. It happens all the time."

And Rumi reflects, "On a day when the wind is perfect the sail just needs to open and the world is full of beauty. Today is such a day."

And Poet Harjo might smile and say, "Yes".

Prayers and Blessings in the New Year,

Lynn

## **UUCR Literary Fiction Group**

by Marialyce Sherr

The Literary Fiction meetings are held on the second Monday of each month from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., except in the month of August. Monthly meetings are also noted in the Order of Service on the Sunday prior to a scheduled meeting. We have chosen the "literary" part of our title to emphasize that members respect fine literature as a formidable art form.

Members select books for discussion from published works of noted authors, both past and present. Books are usually suggested because of the author's amiable prose style, rich character development, and creation of a challenging plot. Discussions are always lively. Among the books selected in the past year were *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee, *The Bottle Factory Outing* by Beryl Bainbridge, and *Stay With Me* by Ayobami Adebayo. The group is open and welcoming to new members. Contact me, Jane Klag, or Judy Eisenhauer for additional information.

Quest — 6 January 9, 2019

## SHARING THE MINISTRY

### (ArtsConnect continued from page 1)

After the concert, guests are invited to enjoy light snacks and beverages while perusing the art gallery. This powerful art show will feature photographs of cis- and transgender girls and women in our community as they offer us a window into who they are. Guests are also invited to experience a 'human library' featuring storytellers from *ArtsConnect*'s community beneficiary: Community Bridges. There's nothing more extraordinary than sitting across from someone you've never met and listening to their story. *ArtsConnect* is all about human connections and this part of the event will move and inspire you!

I'm thrilled to be working with a wonderful local non-profit that is doing tremendously good work for the girls in our greater community. Community Bridges is based in Silver Spring, MD, and their mission is to empower girls from diverse backgrounds to become exceptional students, positive leaders, and healthy young women. They have been serving girls and families in Montgomery County since 1997, and their Girls Program supports the growth of young women over a nine-year continuum, from 4th to 12th grade. Executive Director Shannon Babe-Thomas will be on hand to tell us more about their work, and we will be taking a goodwill offering during the event to help support the work of Community Bridges. If you cannot attend *ArtsConnect* but would still like to support their work, please visit their website (<a href="https://communitybridges-md.networkforgood.com">https://communitybridges-md.networkforgood.com</a>) to make an online donation. (\*Please write *ArtsConnect* at UUCR in the "Note for the Donor Scroll" section).

Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased in advance at the *ArtsConnect* website (<a href="https://uucrmusic.weebly.com/artsconnect.html">https://uucrmusic.weebly.com/artsconnect.html</a>), at the music table during Middle Hour on Sundays, or at the door on the day of the event. We are suggesting a \$15 minimum donation per person but invite guests to pay what they can. Revenue from our ticket sales is used to sustain the *ArtsConnect* program. Thank you for your generous support of this work! Don't miss HERstory in the making! See you there!

Check out our Facebook event page: <a href="www.facebook.com/uu.rockville/events">www.facebook.com/uu.rockville/events</a>

### Many Hands Make Light Work!

We need about 14 volunteers to make *ArtsConnect* happen! Each task will take about an hour of your time and all volunteers receive FREE admission to the event. We need folks to help set up food & beverages, sell tickets, usher, and clean up after the event. Visit the sign-up sheet at <a href="https://tinyurl.com/ArtsConnect-help">https://tinyurl.com/ArtsConnect-help</a> to learn more about specific jobs and to add YOUR name to the list. Events as large as ArtsConnect absolutely CANNOT happen without a team of volunteers. On behalf of everyone on the Music Team, thank you for the generous gift of your time and for serving our community in this way!



### Calling Cis- & Transgender Females of All Ages!

ArtsConnect is currently seeking photographs or original art from cis- and transgender females of all ages to participate in our art show opening on January 27. We want you to create a framed photo of yourself that you feel embodies the spirit of who you are, decorated with an "I Am..." statement (i.e. I Am... brave; a survivor; a warrior; a mother; vulnerable; exceptional; the face of mental illness; an addict; a free spirit; angry; joyful; etc.). Feminist men and trans-masculine people may submit a photograph of a girl or woman who has inspired your feminism, decorated with a "She Is / Was..." statement.

ArtsConnect Please visit the website at https:// uucrmusic.weebly.com/art-submissions.html for submission guidelines and art samples to give you a clearer idea of what we're looking for. Prefer to create in a group? Join me in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, January 13 from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. for an afternoon of creativity and reflection. Bring a photograph of yourself and a photo frame and mat (at least 8" x 10" with hanging wire on the back). UUCR will provide various decorative materials but if there's something specific you have in mind, please bring that as well.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

## **Racial Justice Education Programming at UUCR**

by Fran Lowe and Marie Reed

Do you want to develop a better understanding about racial justice issues in the US and what you can do? Watch and discuss interesting movies that deal with race in America? Participate in bystander training? Learn about the Underground Railroad in Montgomery County? The Racial Justice Education Group has planned a full winter program addressing these topics:

- History Lecture: The Underground Railroad, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 30. You've heard of it, but do you know how it really worked? Join UUCR's resident historian Maude McGovern for an illustrated overview of the Underground Railroad and her favorite stories of Underground Railroad escapes from right here in Rockville. Find out how the young Ann Maria Weems was spirited to safety in spite of the best efforts of a slaveholder to keep his valuable "property." Learn about two sisters from a prominent Rockville family who exemplified the differences between slaveholders. Hear about Josiah Henson (the model for the title character of Uncle Tom's Cabin) who risked all for freedom. Maude, formerly a member of the Montgomery County Historical Society's Speakers Bureau, has spoken on the Underground Railroad at the Maryland State Archives, the Josiah Henson Special Park, and at numerous other sites.
- **Book Discussion:** *So You Want to Talk About Race* by Ijeoma Oluo, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays February 13, February 27, and March 13. This three-session workshop centered on this important short book will be led by Rev. Lynn and Rev. Rebekah and members of the Racial Justice education team. We'll talk about white privilege, racism, police brutality, microaggressions, and more. The book is an easy read with many illuminating antidotes from the author's life. We ask that you read the book ahead of time and plan to attend all three sessions if possible.
- **Films / Discussion / Bystander training**: Two films, two discussions/trainings, and food! Saturday mornings 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
  - February 9 **Do the Right Thing**. Thirty years after the release of Spike Lee's early masterpiece, we are still grappling with the charged questions of race relations. On the hottest day of the summer, tensions erupt between the Italian American pizza shop owners and the largely African American and Hispanic community. What lessons can we learn about how we deal with hate and bigotry from this 1989 classic? Come for the movie, stay for the uncomfortable conversation.
  - March 9 *My Name is Khan*. Rizwan Khan is autistic. He is also an Indian Muslim man living in post-9/11 America. After his stepson dies in a race-related schoolyard fight, Rizwan sets off on a journey across America to find the President of the United States and give him a simple but powerful message: "my name is Khan and I am not a terrorist." As the flames of anti-Muslim sentiment are fanned in our current environment, how can we become positive allies in racially charged situations? Come for the movie and stay for the uncomfortable conversation.

More Information, Sign Ups, Book Purchase: Stop by our table in Fellowship Hall during Middle Hour on Sundays. You can also contact **Marie Reed** or **Fran Lowe** by email or phone.



## SOCIAL JUSTICE

## **Eyewitness Palestine: Travel to Connect Many Perspectives**



by Karla Timmons, Steve Lapham ,and Alonzo Smith

As a result of our book discussions and video series last year, many of you have expressed an interest in visiting Palestine/Israel as part of a tour. The Peace Studies Group has heard your request, and we've booked Emily Siegel, Program Director of Eyewitness Palestine (formerly Interfaith Peace-Builders), to show a short film and host a discussion about their tours to the Middle East on Sunday, February 10, 2019 in Room 51 at 12:30 p.m. after the second service. We'd love to have you join us as we explore this further, and as extra enticement, there will be snacks! Bring your energy, questions, and enthusiasm as we all learn about connecting with Palestinian and Israeli peacebuilders. Even if Palestine/Israel are not in your future travel plans, this educational event with Q&A will be an opportunity to learn more about the area and about creative people whose nonviolent efforts at reconciliation are rarely reported in the news. Please mark your New Year calendars, and we'll see you then!

## **New Day Rising Conference**

by Marie Reed and Fran Lowe

Saturday, January 26, 2019 | 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. UU Congregation of Fairfax | 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton, VA 22124

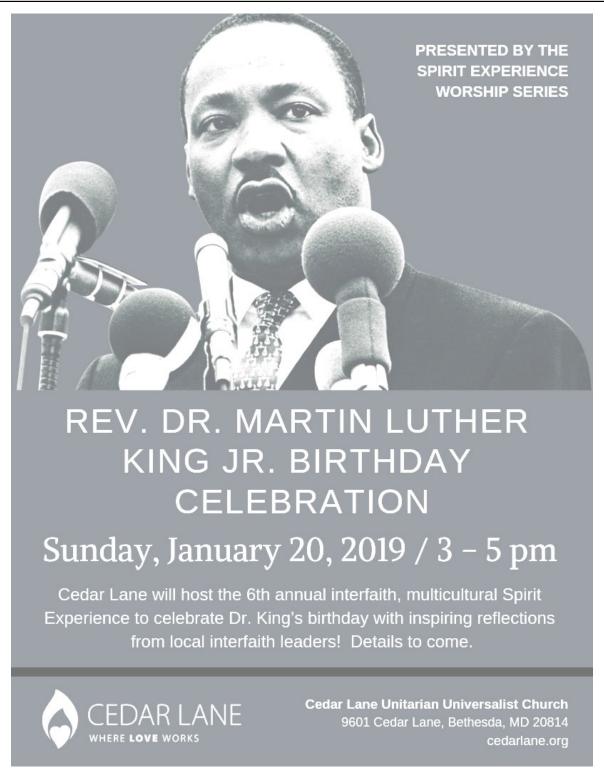
We hope you can join members of our UUCR Racial Justice groups to attend the UUA Central East Region's *New Day Rising Conference: Identifying Your Congregation's Next Steps in the Struggle with White Supremacy Culture*. You can register at <a href="https://tinyurl.com/newdayrisingva">https://tinyurl.com/newdayrisingva</a>.

- Worship led by The Sanctuaries DC
- Morning workshops run by UUA staff:
  - Why Do We Use the Words White Supremacy Anyway? with Regional Leads Rev. Megan Foley from CER and Rev. Ian Evison from the MidAmerica Region
  - There's an Elephant in the Room: How to Have Difficult Conversations at Church with Rev. Dr. Hope Johnson
  - Leading Racial Justice Work as UU People of Color with Rev. Sunshine Wolfe
  - Identity Development with Children and Youth with Shannon Harper
  - Why Is It So Hard to Get Others in My Community Interested in Racial Justice Work? A Look at the Intercultural Development Inventory with Rev. Renee Ruchotzke
  - Experienced UU Antiracist Get-Together with Paula Cole Jones
- Identity-Based Caucusing: A chance to gather in identity-based groups for conversation, reflection, and building relationships
- Stories of Struggle and Success: 7-minute TED-style talks from other congregations about what did and didn't work for them
- Resource Fair and Bookstore

Cost: Sliding scale fee of \$20-\$30-\$40. Lunch included. Childcare is available at \$5 per child, but must be requested in advance.

UUCR Contacts: Marie Reed or Fran Lowe.

## **AROUND THE BELTWAY**



This service will feature inspiring music, interfaith prayers, and reflections by the DC Labor Chorus and area interfaith leaders including Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd from River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation and Imam Tarek Elgawhary from Potomac Islamic Center.

Quest — 10 January 9, 2019

## THINKING OF YOU

### Thinking of You

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

Ellen V. Menis, a member of UUCR for many years, died December 26, 2018, at age 92. Ellen was involved in fair housing activities while at UUCR and represented a Ride-On User Advisory Group as a member of the Senior Plan Advisory Committee in Montgomery County. A short video of Ellen discussing her participation in a life writing class about six years ago may be seen at: <a href="https://vimeo.com/54855715">https://vimeo.com/54855715</a>. Ellen's legacy is one of speaking and acting on strongly held values and principles. There will be a Memorial Service in the spring.



**Kathy Rupp** is home recovering after recent surgery and hospitalization. She would welcome cards sent to her home.

Dave and Lynn Strauss celebrate the birth of **Annie Lynn Strauss** born to Ethan and Jennie Strauss on December 7, 2019. Weighing in at 6 lbs 3 oz, Annie, at 2 1/2 weeks old was admitted to the Pediatric Intensive Care at University of Maryland Hospital in Baltimore with a respiratory virus. After good medical treatment and loving care, Annie is back home with her older brother Isaac and the family dog, Read. Everyone is so happy to be home together again.

Adrian Graham and his husband Joel are celebrating the birth of the newest member of their family, nephew **Reid Ryan Graham**, born in Pennsylvania on Friday, January 4. They are now uncles eleven times over, and are looking forward to meeting him in person!

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

## **Small Group Ministry**

By Rev. Rebekah Savage

Looking to meet more people at UUCR? Seeking ways to enrich your spiritual journey and learn more about other's view on the world? Small Group Ministry is a way to connect with others around the monthly worship theme with deeper reflection. It's not therapy, it's not a debate—it's a time to share comfortably and engage with others in a covenanted space.

If you'd like to try a Small Group just for one or two sessions, please email me at rev.rebekah@uucr.org. We're also planning on offering Affinity Groups, based on interest: a small group just for: people of color; parents of adopted children; parents/primary caregivers (all); single parents; women, female identified; single women (female identified); LGBTQ+; others???

"Small Group Ministry creates a sacred time where the stories of our lives are heard." ~Thandeka

Come join our relaunch of the Small Group program (with a new name...to be determined).

## 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

January 9, 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