

UNISON

Published by the UU Congregation of Frederick, MD (www.frederickuu.org)

◆ DECEMBER 2017

A Welcoming Congregation



Christmas Eve at UUCF

Lessons & Carols

“Unwrapping the Inner Gifts of Christmas”

December 24, two services,
5 and 7pm.

There will be no morning services.



CHILI POTLUCK & CAROL SING



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

Save the date, and plan to come and bring family and friends. We will start at 5pm with supper and then sing carols until about 7.

If you require child care for small children, please make your request to Lora Powell-Haney at education@uucf.org.

This is a chance for people of all ages to enjoy a delightful supper of various chili dishes, corn-bread, desserts and hot cocoa and cider, OR

BYOB. Then we'll all join in singing carols, with Nick Int Veldt at the piano.

We need lots of chili dishes and lots of desserts! Please let Nancy Roblin know if you're coming, how many will be with you, and what dish you can bring, so we can plan on a well-balanced Potluck Dinner. Her contact is nancy.roblin@gmail.com.



If you shop at Amazon.com, please use <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-1161535> as your link. It costs you nothing, but we will receive a small percentage of your purchase. Two gifts in one!



Sunday, December 3rd, 6 pm
Indoor Full Moon Labyrinth
Walk and Divination Practice

Come enjoy the beauty and peace of the Labyrinth by the light of the full moon! The labyrinth will be illuminated from 6 - 8pm. Everyone is welcome. During the cooler months, we take our Labyrinth practice indoors, and will be walking the Rainbow Seed Labyrinth, a canvas Classical-pattern Labyrinth. Please remember clean socks or slippers to walk the Labyrinth in. If you haven't walked a Labyrinth before, there is no ceremony or ritual. A Labyrinth Walk is safe, open Sacred Space for personal exploration. Please plan to arrive by 7:30pm to allow enough time for your walk. For an in-depth article on Labyrinths and what to expect at one of our open walks, visit this link: [Labyrinth-walking.](#)

Divination practice is welcome - please feel free to bring your preferred divinatory tool (runes, tarot, ogham, etc) to practice/trade readings.

Recommended donation of \$5. Please help support Labyrinth Walks at the UUCF.



Friday, December 22nd, 7:45 - 9pm
Frederick CUUPS Yule Ritual

Join Frederick CUUPS for an open, family-friendly Yule Ritual! Yule, the Winter Solstice, falls on the shortest day and longest night of the year.

Pagans welcome the rebirth of the Sun with feasting, dancing, music and festivities. Decorations include wreaths, boughs of holly, mistletoe, evergreens, and lots of lights. We will share a Yule celebration (led by Lora and Sea Raven).

Snack/dessert potluck to follow, please clearly LABEL any offerings with the ingredients included.




**THE UUCF
COFFEEHOUSE**
Open Mic Night

3rd Saturday: December 16

MUSICIANS AND POETS WELCOME!

7-9:30 pm

3rd Saturdays thru June 2018

Performers can do two or three pieces, depending on how many sign up.

This event is free, but donations are gratefully accepted. BYOB. Free cookies and snacks!

UUCFCoffeehouse@gmail.com or check out our Facebook page www.facebook.com/UUCFCoffeehouse.

If you can, please come at 6 pm to help set up tables and chairs. ☺

Brad Calhoun, Mark and Elaine Gleaton, and Roy Greene, hosts



CARL'S COLUMN

Rev. Carl Gregg

I am writing this column a few days before Thanksgiving. And in this season of gratitude, I would like to highlight a few thoughts that I am continuing to reflect on regarding bioethics, which has been one of our themes this fall at UUCF. In this holiday season, there will be many sources urging us to spend lots of money buying the latest gadgets. Regardless of what purchases you ultimately do (or do not) make, I am interested in equipping us to make the discernment wisely.

One of the writers that regularly comes to mind when I reflect along these lines is Wendell Berry, who can be considered conservative in the *best sense* of the word: caring about conservation of nature, upholding the beauty of traditions and rituals, reminding us of the importance of community, authority, sanctity, and loyalty. I want to amplify Berry's words because I have no doubt that techno-optimists such as the "big four" tech companies known as GAFA ("Google, Apple, Facebook, and Amazon") will do everything in their power to sell us

on the *advantages* of buying the latest technology. Although I agree with them in part, technopessimist Berry offers a vital counterbalance that the GAFA companies do not want you to hear. Berry writes: "I knew a man who, in the age of chainsaws, went right on cutting his wood with a handsaw and axe. He was a **healthier** and a **saner** man than I am. I shall let his memory trouble my thoughts."

In the words of Michael Bess, author of the excellent book *Our Grandchildren Redesigned* (Beacon Press, 2016), the creators of all new products want us to ask, "What does this allow me to do that I couldn't do before?" But the more important question may be "**How does this new capability contribute to my overall quality of life?**" Marketers wants us to ask, "What shall I do next with my newfound powers?" But the more important question may be, "**Do I really need these, and what are their indirect or hidden drawbacks?**"

There is a real risk of technology—particularly forthcoming biotechnology—turning each of us human beings into "just another product struggling to keep up the pace of performance amid a seething market of rival products." But our UU First Principle

calls us to a different worldview: remembering that each of us *in this present moment* is already a human being with "inherent worth and dignity." **As radical as the coming biotechnology will be, I promise you that embracing your own inherent worth and dignity will remain the even more radical choice.**

Can you feel that tension within yourself? On one hand, the *dissatisfaction* advertisers are constantly trying to make us feel? (Take a moment to remember the latest new device or product you have been tempted to buy.) On the other hand, take a deep breath in—and *breathe out the advertising propaganda!*—and open your heart to the many ways in which *you* are enough, right now. In this season of gratitude, open your mind to the ways in which you already have what you need. In this season of Thanksgiving, know that *you* are already a blessing.

I am grateful to be with you on this journey.

Peace to you,

Carl

minister@frederickuu.org

SUNDAY SERVICES

9:30 and 11:30am

Note: December 24, the two services will be held at 5 and 7pm

December 3: *The Meaning of Life: from Confucius to the Dalai Lama*, Scot Hull, UU Seminarian

December 10: *Waking, Dreaming, Being*, the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg

December 17: *The Spirituality Wars*, the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg

December 24: *Lessons and Carols: Unwrapping the Inner Gifts of Christmas*, the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg;

December 31: *On Saying Yes*, the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg

UUCF GROUPS



UU PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

For information contact Interfaith Minister Rev. San Rogers <sanrogers314@yahoo.com>.



AHA: ATHEISTS, HUMANISTS, AGNOSTICS

Third Sunday of the month, following 2nd service. Discussions in room 124.

The group has selected *Religion without God*, by Ronald Dworkin, as the first read. Discussion will be group-based, in round-robin style.

Requests have been made that we devote some of the time at the next meeting to continued discussion of recent topic, "History of Socialism in the U.S."

All are welcome.

~~Phyllis Liddell



EARTH-CENTERED SPIRITUALITY

Facebook link: [CUUPS](#)

**2nd Sunday, December 10,
10:30—11:20am**

Our Earth-centered Spirituality Group meets on the 2nd Sunday of each month in the Chapel at 10:30 am. This time provides an opportunity to focus on the Sixth Source of Unitarian Universalism: "Spiritual teachings of earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature." Join us for our December meeting (led by Lorinda).



UUCF BUDDHIST FELLOWSHIP

First and Third Sundays (Dec. 3 & 17). Our Sunday morning meetings, 10:30 – 11:20am, in the chapel will focus on Jack Kornfield's new book, *No Time Like the Present*. The book is in Jack Kornfield's usual accessible style with stories for illustration and suggested practices in each chapter. Everyone is welcome, whether or not you choose to read the book. You may contact buddhist@frederickuu.org for more information.

Thursday Evenings. A group continues to meet Thursday evenings, 7:00 – 8:30pm in the chapel. The group is grateful for the leadership of co-coordinator Nancy Gordon, who has had to step away from this responsibility. Therefore, Lynn Wagner and the group have discussed the following changes to the program.

For the most part, the changes are minor. We'll keep our current balance of meditation and dharma without the need to call on volunteer facilitators (though the option is always open if anyone is inclined to step into that role).

Dharma talks or readings may stretch over two or more weeks.

Dharma pot-luck. One Thursday a month, starting in December, the sangha will be invited to provide the dharma by bringing short readings, brief audio or video talks, a chant, song, poem or other 5-10 minute dharma presentation. We're calling this Dharma Pot Luck, and while individuals will not be required to bring a "dish," I hope this is a format we can get creative and have fun with, as we continue to grow in our practice. These evenings will include our usual period of meditation. We'll talk more about this over the next few weeks, but we are excited to see what arises!



FRIENDLY FORUM

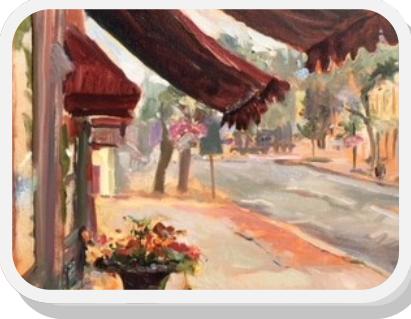
10:30-11:20am

Each Sunday the Friendly Forum meets in room 125 for fifty minutes to discuss congregational and/or current events.

Check for updates:
frederickuu.org/FriendlyForum

Blanche Ames Gallery Presents

Anne Gibson Snyder



On Paper and Canvas

Anne, a plein-air artist, begins her painting process by becoming familiar with the site and the subject. She then paints the atmosphere of the day along with the scene that inspired her. She goes back again and again during different times of the day. "Scenes I've painted before become new again, while the trek to the spot, the gear needed for the terrain and the travel time remain the same." Her portable painting kit allows her to paint wherever and whatever takes her breath away. Her work will take YOUR breath away.

Anne is well-known in the Frederick area as an art educator, a gallery owner, a framer and an art consultant. Anne founded the first "Easels in Frederick," a week-long plein-air event that attracts artists from around the nation. Her work in progress can be seen at www.annegibsonsnyder.com.

The show opens with artist's talk and reception at 12:30 —2pm on Sunday, December 3. The show runs through January 14. Please call 301-473-7680 if planning to visit the gallery at times other than the opening.



AUCTION SURPASSES EXPECTATIONS

Our auction raised just over \$31,000. The budget expectation, which was what we had hoped for when we approved our budget in June, was \$29K, so \$31,000 is a cause for celebration. We owe special gratitude to Scott Norris, John Menke, Nancy Roblin and everyone who worked with them to make our auction fun and successful.

25% of the revenue came from ticket sales and the silent auction, the remainder from the live auction.

Auction expenses were under the expected budget of \$4,000, which included the catered meal and other anticipated costs.

**THANK
YOU
EVERYONE**



All-in-all, the work of our volunteers and the generosity of our congregation made this happen. Thank you all.

Adult Spiritual Enrichment

Rewrite Your Story: Change Your Past to Live a Better Present and Future

We all have stories about who we are, what we have to do, and what we can and cannot accomplish. These stories keep us from living a life we love. **But it doesn't have to be this way.** In this workshop, fellow member and certified Life Coach Julia Jones <www.juliajones.com> will show you a way out. Participants will leave with tools and strategies for examining life events: tools that encourage growth, acknowledge and celebrate strengths, and create the freedom to help you find and live your best life. **December 9, 10-11:30am.** Free.



Daytime Meditation Group

Wednesdays at 11:00am in the Chapel, starting December 6, facilitated by UUCF member Alice MacDonald (<starryskies516@yahoo.com>, 240-815-5406). We will begin with 45 minutes of silent meditation, but anyone is welcome to meditate for less time, then quietly slip out if that is your preference. Then, after a short break, there will be open discussion about our experience, either as needed or until 12:30pm.

Meditation/Yoga (or Meditation-only) Mini-Retreat with Irene Glasse & Carl Gregg

Saturday, December 16 (9:00am - Noon, UUCF Sanctuary): \$15 in advance / \$20 at door. Please contact instructors <minister@frederickuu.org> in advance if accommodations needed; we will offer adjustments to be as accessible as possible. To register or for more details, visit <frederickuu.org/retreat>.



RE World

education@frederickuu.org



Lora Powell-Haney
Director of Religious Education

Our Whole Lives Sexuality Education

Five facilitators and twenty-four children completed UUFrederick's first elementary Our Whole Lives programs, one for Kindergartners and first graders, one for fifth and sixth grades. Deep gratitude to our facilitators Ashley Lynn, Carrie Jean Rathmell, Allison Butler, Diana Hunt, and Josh Rathmell, who did tremendous work to make this special offering from our religious education program happen.

Sunday Religious Education Classes

Our regular Sunday religious education classes serve 40 or more children per week, from preschool through high school. Our preschool and Kindergartners have explored the outdoors looking for changes in seasons and practiced recognizing and giving gratitude; our first through fourth graders completed eight weeks of mindfulness and movement and are preparing to explore signs, symbols, and rituals. Our fifth to eighth graders are looking forward to their Padawan initiations into Jedi Academy, and our high

schoolers are exploring social movements and the impact of protests, as well as making more microloans through their Kiva account (kiva.org).

Childcare for UUFrederick Events

As more people have been requesting childcare for more events, there is now a short form to fill out as part of the process. We want to keep our younglings safe, so strive to staff appropriately. For each event, please complete the form at frederickuu.org/childcare. Request childcare at least one week in advance!



Notes from the President

Steve Berté

President of the Board of Trustees

December 2017



Your UUCF Board of Trustees met on November 9th to carry on the business of helping support our spiritual growth, build a beloved community, and act for peace and justice.

The UUCF 2020-II team is continuing to study on how we can best meet our growing need for more space in our facilities. Some of you may have already been involved in their focus group approach which allows them to reach out to the congregation as they investigate specific needs and solutions. We look forward to their recommendations in the new year.

Meanwhile, we continue to improve some aspects of our facilities. I'm sure you've all seen our new ADA parking spaces and the road markings at our entrance. We are excited about this improvement. However, parking is growing ever more challenging as we continue to grow. As a result, the Board approved funds to engage with an engineering firm to conduct surveys of our property to determine how large a parking lot addition we may be able to add. Another facilities improvement for which funding was approved is to expand the capacity of the tractor shed in the parking lot. Ten feet will be added which will enable our staff and volunteers to store additional equipment out of the weather, as well as attach snow plow equipment when needed, while being protected.

The Board continues to move forward to bring the UUA's Beloved Conversations training to UUCF. This training is an intensive learning and workshop series on race and ethnicity. The Board approved funding that will enable us to bring in the necessary trainers. Rev. Carl has already engaged with UUA and is waiting to hear back about when we can get on the training team's schedule.

The Board is also reviewing its policies and procedures manual this year. The finance committee is engaged in reviewing the financial section and the Board continued to review other sections.

The new Testimonies segment of our Sunday Services is off and running. We hope you appreciate hearing from individuals about how our work to accomplish the UUCF mission has helped them. Look forward to also hearing from committees about their wonderful accomplishments on our behalf.

Thanks for all you do to support our beloved community,

Stephen Berté
President, UUCF Board of Trustees



Notes from the President

December 2017

Reflection on #MeToo

by The Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, UUA President

Over the past several weeks, I have been listening to and reading the many #MeToo stories unfolding in the news, in social media, in private conversations and in public ones. The conversations have been happening nationally, but also within Unitarian Universalism. I have been witnessing privately the anger, the pain, and the truth-telling, and through it have been reminded of my own “me too” stories. The courage of the conversations is an inspiration and challenge about how we are called to do better within Unitarian Universalism to build a culture based on models of power that are liberating, life-giving and that honor a multiplicity of voices and experience.

It is tempting to want to believe that sexual harassment and assault do not happen within our own faith tradition, among our leaders, or within congregations. But this is naïve and false. Just as we are being asked to confront the culture of white supremacy within and beyond Unitarian Universalism, we have much work to do to understand the way that patriarchy and sexism operate in society and in ourselves. In all of these forms of oppression, we see the ways that dominant forms of power – consciously and unconsciously – can discount, distort, and even seek to destroy those who speak truth in the face of abusive power.

As President, and as the first woman elected to the role, I am deeply aware of the spiritual and theological challenge before us in confronting patriarchy inside and outside our faith communities. I take the commitment to examine and improve our processes around sexual harassment and assault seriously. We also must not isolate gender, but take up this issue intersectionally, understanding the multiple layers of race, class, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, and role, and how they serve to make it even more difficult for people to name their truth and be believed.

As a people of a living faith who value the search for truth and meaning, we can learn to listen with our full selves to the truth and the challenge that is being named and be willing to be changed by what we learn. May we also be bolstered by the resiliency and power of the human spirit, so profoundly on display in so many places across our faith and the world.

We have good work before us, and hard work too, within ourselves and beyond – to affirm and live and actively struggle for equity and dignity and honor for everyone. And we have a faith that is strong enough to hold us and keep calling us forward as we journey to create individual and collective wholeness, justice, and accountability.

Learn more about the #MeToo movement and its creator Tarana Burke at nytimes.com/2017/10/20/us/me-too-movement-tarana-burke.html

The Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray is the ninth president of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). She was elected in June 2017 to a six-year term. She previously served as lead minister of the UU Congregation of Phoenix since 2008.



Social & Environmental Action Issues

Betsy Bainbridge,
Chair, Social Action
Committee (SAC)

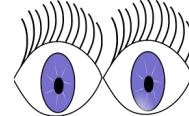
JUSTice + ACTion = JustAct
<http://uusocialjustice.org/news>

Karen Russell, Chair,
Climate Change
Working Committee



Taking Off My Sunglasses

by Carol Gosnell



The events of the last few years have been deeply unsettling to me, as I am sure they have been for many, many people. At times, it feels like just too much to deal with. But I have always leaned toward confronting problems rather than closing my eyes and looking at the faraway horizon. I don't always live up to my own expectations of myself, but the tendency remains. I have begun to recognize that this tendency pulls me to Unitarian Universalism. We may not agree on a lot of things; but I have observed that ignoring injustice and rationalizing inaction don't hold sway for very long in any group of UUs.

Over the last year or so, I have had the privilege of working with the Dismantling Racism Team here at UUCF. I have gone to workshops and seminars, and begun to learn more about how racial injustice affects even those who uphold the Seven Principles. But important conversations are happening here and elsewhere in our region and the world. Part of the struggle is to realize that the past does matter, and to remember and honor the struggle some have faced every day of their lives.

Slowly, I have begun to realize that the systemic racism in our culture and its institutions has created the isolation that leads to the critical defensive myth that *anyone* can be unaffected by White Privilege. This was crystalized when Robin DiAngelo used the analogy of racism and white privilege as the water we fish swim in. We cannot avoid the reality that White Privilege is a constant in our culture.

An important resource in broadening our understanding has been published by the UUs of Color Story Project, entitled *Unitarian Universalists of Color: Stories of Struggle, Courage, Love and Faith*. The Dismantling Racism Team has a few copies available for purchase (\$15) in the office.

INVITATION

All UUs are welcome to join the "Sharing Our Stories -- the Transformative Value of Caucusing" workshop on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 9am - 12:30pm at River Road congregation in Bethesda. The workshop will focus on learning and reflection based on the themes of the book *Unitarian Universalists of Color*, and will be facilitated by book contributors Yuri Yamamoto and Takiyah Nur Amin. The session will include time dedicated to caucusing as people of color and white-identified Unitarian Universalists. Participants are encouraged to read the book before arriving for the day's shared learning.,

Registration is now open through Eventbrite -- www.eventbrite.com/e/sharing-our-stories-the-transformative-value-of-caucusing-tickets-39353877507?aff=es2

SPLIT-PLATE OFFERING DECEMBER 17

Kenya Connection

Update on Lilian Ochieng and Oltorotua Well and School.

Lilian Ochieng: Lilian reports she will now graduate July 2019 because a long strike by doctors followed by nurses' strike caused all medical courses to cease for a semester. "I was so close to finishing but too bad the strike interfered." She also wrote that graduation is "a big deal," with thanksgiving ceremonies and parties with friends and family to honor this great day and she invited any UUCF members who can make the trip. "I really will appreciate your presence, we have come this far together we should celebrate together, all are very welcome."

Many of us who have been on Lilian's educational journey tentatively plan a July 2019 safari to Kenya. Start a safari saving account and join us! In addition to Nairobi, we'll visit Moi University in central Kenya and travel south to view wildlife in the Masai Mara. There we'll see, as Bob Ladner says, "elephants being elephants" and see other sites and sights.

Olturatua: We'll visit Olturatua village, where we helped build a well, meet the girls we sponsor to attend Enturoto Primary School, and see books and materials purchased, all through your support of split-plates and UUsed Book sales that provide funding through the Social Action Committee.

Some of you may remember when Liaram Jackson visited our church to tell us about the needs of his villagers. He has now been able to build a house. There will be a big housewarming. He thinks he will need one cow and several goats for meat for the occasion. You are invited. Contact Mary Kruhm if you would like to attend along with her.

Please give generously to the December 17th split-plate so our Kenya efforts can continue to dramatically change the lives of Lilian O'Chieng and her family and the villagers of Olturatua.



Lilian



Liaram's New House



Carrying water before the well was built



Dedication of well: Mary Kruhm and Liaram; (Bob Ladner in back among villagers of Olturatua)

FISCAL NOTES as of OCTOBER 31, 2017

General Operating Fund	YTD through October (33% of year)	% of Budget	2017-18 Approved UUCF Operating Budget
Contributions:	\$190,187		\$ 440,583
All Other Income:	\$40,464		\$98,893
Total Income:	\$230,561	43%	\$539,476
Employee/Staff Expense:	\$95,515		\$275,997
Facilities Expense:	\$52,457		\$187,529
All other Expenses:	\$29,153		\$75,752
Total Expenses:	\$177,125	33%	\$539,278
Difference (Net):	\$53,426		\$195

Zoning, Frederick County: The land on which UUCF sits is zoned for “Agriculture” on Frederick County’s Zoning Map. (That won’t surprise you – just look around at who are our neighbors.) This zoning comes with certain rules and regulations that affect us: As a faith institution, we are a “permitted use,” but prior to any construction, we were required to go through a County process called “site plan approval.” Even today, when we make changes to the property (e.g., the three new handicap parking spaces just installed), we must seek approval for site plan modifications. The goal is to make sure we are not using our property in a way that conflicts with the agricultural uses all around us, and we support that purpose. Nevertheless, the procedures can be time consuming, and sometimes expensive. We pay fees for some but not all site plan change requests, as well as every County building permit.

Split Plate donations: Thank you for generously sharing your resources as part of our donation to UU-UNO in October (\$675). In November, our support for the Community Free Clinic in Washington County raised \$1250. Because we often get contributions within the next week, we do not mail the recipient a check until the fourth Monday of the month.

Online Shopping? You’ve heard of Amazon Smile, right? UUCF will earn a commission from all your online orders through Amazon’s Smile program if you start at this link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-1161535>. No other link will pay us a commission – just the one shown here. Bookmark it so every order you place will bring us 0.5% to support the missions of UUCF.

Thank you for your interest and support!

Meg Menke, Treasurer

STEWARDSHIP

Decembers naturally stir up feelings of reflection and contemplation. We realize another year has passed in lightning speed and it is hard to believe a new year will be coming just around the corner.

Wore did all the time go? What did I accomplish this year? Did I do the things I wanted to do?

And then, inevitably, our reflection turns from things we accomplished to something even more significant – being thankful. We are thankful for the things in our lives that are of great significance and value; and things that foster our well-being. Like friends and family.

And our beloved community.

Bill Cranmer, Stewardship Chair

WINTER COMMUNITY PAGE



TOYS FOR TOTS

Give old Santa and his elves a rest and help him gather gifts to leave for children up to 12-years old this Christmas.

You can put unwrapped gifts in our big gift donation box in the foyer. That will help.

Santa has contracted with the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve and volunteers to wrap the gifts and deliver them in time to make Christmas morning cheerful for dozens of kids in our area.

But be sure to get those gifts in our box by December 10. Santa and his elves, as well as the Marines and their volunteers, need a bit of time for a nice cup or two of our delicious organic, fair trade coffee before heading out in the cold, cold night. Ho Ho Ho.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1st – Sara Illig, Janice Schlepp, Nancy Terry, Michael Vlahos, Jr.; 2nd – Nancy Lohrey, Joshua Rippeon; 4th Barbara Kenny; 5th – Michelle Terry; 8th – Kristina Carrigan, Georgia Dean; 9th – Stan Schlepp; 10th – Madison Feifer; 11th – Joseph Petite; 13th – Darienda (Sue) Thomson; 16th – Sabrina Smith; 17th – Carole Larsen, Turner Stokes; 18th – Zakir Bengali; 19th – Maggie Hill; 21st – Alan Radonovich-Crum; 23rd – Fanny Johnsson; 25th – Steven Rau; 28th – Sean Gribben; 30th – Todd Thompson, Renee Wilson

UUCF BOOK CLUB

Friday, December 8, 7:30pm

At UUCF, Room 125

The book for our discussion will be *The Light Between the Oceans*, by M. L. Stedman. It is a novel set on a remote lighthouse island off the western coast of Australia in the years after WWII. A boat washes ashore; inside, a man is dead and a baby girl is alive. What price will Tom and Isabel Sherbourne pay, and what lives will be affected, by the couple's decisions? Come join our conversation!

The Book Club will be hosted by Beth Pulsifer. No rsvp needed, all are welcome.

~~Diana Pitcher



Town & Country

new work by

Christina Lund



THE ARTISTS
GALLERY

216 N. Market Street
Frederick, MD 21702
301.696.8187 theartistsgalleryfrederick.com

TOWN AND COUNTRY
Paintings by Christina Lund

December 1-31, 2017

Opening Reception:
First Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017, 5 - 9 pm

Friends & Family Reception: Dec. 17, 5 - 7 pm
RSVP: 301.662.9564 or 301.676.5692

Gallery Hours:
Fridays & Saturdays, 12 - 9 pm
Sundays, 12 - 5 pm
or by appointment

On the Wings of Dreams

139 W. German Street
Shepherdstown, WV



Is Pleased to Present

Live Celtic Harp Music of the Season
By

Sea Raven

With special guest Stephen Darnell on
Native American Flute

Saturday December 2nd.



12:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m.

(304) 876-0244 For Information

Retired UU Men Eating Out (RUUMEO)

1st and 3rd Wednesday Every Month!!
8:00am at Barbara Fritchies on Rte. 40.

Retired UU Ladies Eating Out (RUULEO) December 12, 11:30am-1:30pm

RUULEO will meet on December 12 at Wegman's lounge at 11:30am. Come join other UU ladies for lunch and good company.

Call or text Marj Mansfield at 301-691-6195 if you need further information or encouragement.

In her whimsical book, *God got a Dog*, Cynthia Rylant imagines God taking the forms of ordinary people, just to see what it feels like to live in our world. She is sometimes a male, sometimes a female.

In “God found God,” God finds meaning, not in outward expressions of piety, but in a practical gesture.

The moral? Actions speak louder than words or pious praise.

God found God
It was the weirdest thing.
God got all religious
on Herself.
She was looking for
something to do
so She went into this
church in Boston.
One of those churches
from the 1800s that
likes to consider
itself old.
(This always gives
God a good laugh.)
And She was all by Herself
and it was quiet
like you wouldn't believe,
and up to the sky
and all around Her
were these beautiful stained glass
windows
and everybody was praying.
All the people in the pictures,
all the statues,
all the angels in the room,
were praying.
God knew better than to look
at any of the crosses.
She was still trying to figure
that all out.
But She knew that She
had actually found a Holy Place.
So she dropped a coin in the
Building Fund box before she went
away.

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Frederick, MD
4880 Elmer Derr Road
Frederick, MD 21703
301-473-7680

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Minister and Staff

Minister, The Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg
<minister@frederickuu.org>
Director of Religious Education, Lora Powell-Haney
<education@frederickuu.org>
Office Administrator, Karen Reilly
(301-473-7680) <office@frederickuu.org>
Music Director, Deborah Int Veldt
<musicdirector@frederickuu.org>
Choral Accompanist, Nick Int Veldt
<accompanist@frederickuu.org>
Facilities Manager, Rick Anderson
<Facilities@frederickuu.org>
Bookkeeper, Wendy Smith
<bookkeeper@frederickuu.org>

Pastoral Care Team

Hannah Gaffigan, <hmgaffigan@msn.com>
Lisa Solomon, <lisaolomon252@comcast.net>
Geoff Coleman, <gesf57@gmail.com>
Gail Padgett, <Gapap1@aol.com>
Lynne Wolf 301-694-7177
Julie Hanson <hanson.julie@gmail.com>
Bob Clegg <bclegg729@gmail.com>
Helen Dickison <hedickison@msn.com>
Foods for Friends, Julie Hanson
<hanson.julie@gmail.com>

Administrative Volunteers

Unison Editor, Tibby Middleton <midken@comcast.net>
Assistant Editor, Barbara Kenny; Proofreader,
Mary Kruhm
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