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# April 2018

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## Uniter

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SILVER SPRING  
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[www.uucss.org](http://www.uucss.org)

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### Sunday Worship Services

#### April 8—10:30 AM

Dr. Michael S. Franch, Ethical Culture Leader and  
Affiliate Minister, First Unitarian Church of Baltimore, MD.

#### April 15—10:30 AM

*The Learning Community* Rev. Evan Keely  
Every individual person learns. What does it look like  
when a group learns together?

#### April 22—10:30 AM

*Earth Day 2018* Rev. Evan Keely &  
Catherine Boyle, Director of Religious Education  
We celebrate the 7th Principle of our faith: Respect for the  
interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. We'll promote  
Green Sanctuary and come together for a multigenerational service.

#### April 29—10:30 AM

*The Warm Waters* Rev. Evan Keely  
Forgiveness is one of the most challenging disciplines of any  
spiritual life, and one of the most important.

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Nursery Care and Religious Education for children through grade 12 are offered during the worship service.  
ASL interpreting is provided during the service. There will be one service at 10:30 a.m.  
Coffee hour will take place after the service.

## Message From Rev. Evan Keely, Interim Minister

UUCSS engaged in a communal learning experience during the first 3 months of 2018: after some years of having two Sunday morning worship services, we went to one. I conferred with the staff, the Board, the Program Council, the Sunday Support Team, the Worship Committee, and (through the staff) the Music and Religious Education Committees, asking each of those groups to answer two questions: what did we learn, and what do we recommend? For the latter question, the overwhelming majority of responses affirmed staying with one service. I agree that this is a sensible option for UUCSS at this time. As for the question of what we learned—that, of course, is a more complex matter.

One of the things I learned in my conversations with UUCSS members and friends is how, for a number of years, the congregation cherished the hope of having 400 members. I admit this fascinated me on a number of levels, not the least of which was the specificity of the number. How did it get to be 400? And how was it 400 and not, say, 500 or 200 or 900 or 75? Two services on Sunday would make sense if UUCSS had 400 members. Maybe that will happen someday, maybe it won't. But my hope for the church's communal learning has been to invite the congregation to reflect anew on this goal of numerical growth not because it's a good goal or a bad goal, but because now is a particularly good time for the church to either renew its commitment to this kind of goal, or to reconsider it. It's not for me to decide, but if I can encourage a new vigor and conscientiousness in these kinds of collective reflections, our time together will have served a good purpose.

## Message From John Henderson, Board President

Happy Spring! As we celebrate the new life of this season, I am really looking forward to what the next year holds for UUCSS. We have come through an amazing year and are moving forward, together. We are preparing to hire an Interim Minister to work with us next year as we continue our journey of exploring our identity and determining our direction. We will embark on the work of preparing for and potentially calling a settled minister over the course of the next year. And our capital improvements are moving along, with the remediation and repair of the sanctuary beginning soon, and the work to determine what will be included in the second phase of our capital improvements ongoing.

The people of UUCSS build this community, by giving of ourselves and our resources. I give to this community because it nourishes me spiritually. Because it is a place for my children to learn how to explore their own spiritual path. Because of how it has supported my family, and many many others, through challenging times. Because of the blessing and joy of this community and how uplifting it is to come together in fellowship. I hope you will make your pledge to UUCSS a priority for this year in deciding where you give your money. Thank you for your generosity and for all you do for our congregation. I look

forward to celebrating together at the Fellowship Dinner on April 28!

## Message from Catherine Boyle, Director of Religious Education

### Earth Day Activities

This April we celebrate the 7th Principle of our faith: respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. This month we'll be promoting Green Sanctuary and coming together for a multigenerational service on the 22nd. You can extend the exploration of the 7th Principle with your family beyond the Sanctuary with the following activities throughout April and beyond.

#### Get Outside

Spending time in nature reminds us of the world beyond our buildings. Sometimes with our busy lives we forget the trees, flowers, and birds. Perhaps due to our ancient ancestors, science shows that when we are outside, we can feel more centered and emotionally well. You don't have to pull a Henry Thoreau and move to a cabin in the woods to gain benefits. This month, take some time to visit local parks with your family. Observe and note the fellow creatures you see. You never know what you may find.

### Trash? Art!

Chances are your family has cereal boxes, egg cartons, soda cans, and other things lying around. While most of these items are recyclable, you can create art out of them as well. Apple sauce cups can be painted and used to plant seeds in. Egg cartons can make the humps of a dragon or camel. Soda can tabs can make a cool and earth-friendly necklace. The only limit here is your imagination.

If your family makes cool art, I'd like to see it! Email me pictures of it at [Dre@UUCSS.org](mailto:Dre@UUCSS.org). You may inspire future RE classes!

### Five-Minute Showers

With water scarcity growing around the world due to climate change, April provides us an opportunity to conserve this precious resource. As a family, commit to shorter showers. You could set a timer to 5 minutes and set up a friendly competition with each other to get clean before it beeps. You may go over sometimes, but every drop counts. Another way to conserve shower water is to turn it off between scrubbing and washing.

### No-Meat Monday

If your family isn't vegetarian or vegan already, consider going meatless at least one day of the week. Meat consumption racks up higher CO2 levels. You may find delicious recipes that you'll want to continue to use beyond April.

If your family is vegetarian or vegan, share some of your favorite recipes with friends and neighbors.

### Know Your Footprint

Speaking of carbon dioxide, knowing your carbon footprint can show you ways to minimize your family's impact on the planet. Take the [Check Your Footprint quiz \(https://www.earthday.org/take-action/footprint-calculator\)](https://www.earthday.org/take-action/footprint-calculator) to gain insight and ideas to preserve the planet for this and future generations.

These activities are a good launching pad for a more eco-friendly lifestyle. If you find this topic important, I encourage you to join Green Sanctuary and help keep our congregation eco-friendly.

See you at church!

From my heart,

Catherine

## UPDATES AND REPORTS



### The Annual UUCSS Seder is on Saturday, April 7th!

People of all ages, please join us for this important event in the life of our church. The gathering starts at 5:30 p.m. in the UUCSS Sanctuary, and we will begin the ritual promptly at 6:00. We'll share great food, participate in one of the Jewish faith's most important ceremonies, reflect on how the Seder's message of the value of human freedom and dignity is needed today, and sing some great songs. This is a potluck event, so bring a dish to share that is kosher for Passover (basic instructions at registration). ASL interpretation will be provided upon request. For questions, please contact [seder@uucss.org](mailto:seder@uucss.org). Registration is at <http://uucss.org/seder>.

### Join Us for Some Fellowship!

The Fellowship Dinner is coming—it will be held on **April 28**. It's spring—a season for renewal. The doors will open at 5:30, with a cash bar, and dinner will begin at 6:00. We'll wrap up the evening dancing to the music of **Wendy and the Lost Boys**. The Fellowship Dinner is organized as a table-by-table potluck. YRUers (high school youth) will have their own table. There will be child care, food, games, and movies downstairs for elementary and middle school children. ASL interpretation will be available. After the signup closes (on April 14), everyone will be assigned to a table, and the table host will coordinate dishes for the meal. Sign up at <http://uucss.givezooks.com/events/2018-fellowship-dinner>. This annual event is very popular, but we can only seat 148 adults, so sign up quickly. Questions: email **Laura Ellis** at [Flaunceymac@gmail.com](mailto:Flaunceymac@gmail.com)

## Annual Budget Drive: There is still time to sign up for Stewardship Meals!

The Annual Budget Drive is in full swing. This year we are inviting you to make your financial commitment to the UUCSS community at a dinner or brunch in the home of a fellow church member. We are calling these dinners and brunches “Stewardship Meals,” and they are indeed taking the place of the individual steward visits that have been offered in recent years.

Unlike many church social gatherings, you don’t have to bring food to these meals. Our generous meal hosts are not only inviting you to their homes and giving you the opportunity to learn about the proposed budget and fill out your pledge forms— they are also feeding you! There are meals for a variety of dietary preferences, and there is a Saturday brunch with childcare provided.

Stewardship Meals are happening through April 22, and you can sign up for one by clicking on this link:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0448a4a82eabfc1-annual>.

You can also sign up at the ABD table during coffee hour. If you have any questions about the Stewardship Meals or any other aspect of the budget drive, you can contact the ABD Co-chairs (Ashley Holt, Jeremy Holt, and Jane Jackson) at [ABD@uucss.org](mailto:ABD@uucss.org).



## Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is looking for volunteers to help staff the visitors' table during coffee hour in the Community Hall. Just helping out once every 2 or 3 months would be great. All you need to do is to welcome and engage with visitors, answer any questions they may have, and make them feel at home. If interested, contact [membershipchairs@uucss.org](mailto:membershipchairs@uucss.org).

## Announcing JAZZ@UUCSS!



UUCSS hosted a jazz concert on January 14 to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King’s birthday, featuring drummer Tyler Leak and his trio, with Elijah Easton on saxophone and Kris Funn on bass. The concert drew a large and enthusiastic audience, despite the frigid weather, including many people who were visiting UUCSS for the first time. Based on the success of that concert, the Music Committee is launching a quarterly concert series—JAZZ@UUCSS—in collaboration with local jazz scholar and promoter Bertrand Uberall.

Bertrand is the perfect partner for this initiative. Known informally as “DC’s mayor of jazz,” he knows everyone and goes everywhere on the local jazz scene. His experience as a curator and promoter includes the monthly “Take 5!” jazz series at the Smithsonian American Art Museum and the “Jazz in the Basement” series presented jointly by the DC Public Library and the Goethe Institute.

Our vision for JAZZ@UUCSS is to create an affordable, listener-friendly performance venue for jazz in the DC area, create new audiences for outstanding young jazz musicians, and foster connections between UUCSS and the local jazz community. Other churches in the DC area have discovered that jazz programs are an excellent way to increase their visibility, communicate their values, and generate additional revenue. We look forward to joining their ranks!

The family-friendly concerts will be held on Saturday or Sunday afternoons (generally 4 to 5:30 pm), with admission by free-will donation. Building on our partnership with Strathmore Arts Center, many of the programs will feature alumni of Strathmore’s prestigious Artist in Residence (AIR) program.

We will kick off the series on Sunday, April 22, when saxophonist Elijah Jamal Balbed and his group will present a special program to celebrate Earth Day and the 96th birthday of the great bassist and composer, Charles Mingus. A Silver Spring native and AIR alum, Elijah is a fixture on the DC jazz scene with both his straight-ahead groups and his Jo-Go project, which celebrates Chuck Brown and go-go music, the indigenous sound of DC. The *DC City Paper* named Elijah its Jazz Artist of the Year in 2016 and Best Tenor Saxophonist in 2017. You don’t want to miss this show!

We’ll round out the church year on Saturday, June 2, when saxophonist Alisha Coleman will lead an ensemble in a tribute to trumpeter Lee Morgan.

Stay tuned for more information on this exciting new series!



## White Ally Toolkit Teaches Us To Engage Racism Skeptics

More than 40 people gathered in our Sanctuary on Valentine's Day to learn methods that white allies can use to engage racism skeptics in a constructive conversation. The event was facilitated by Dr. David Campt, who developed the methods that he calls the White Ally Toolkit, based on the idea that an intentional empathy-based conversation is the best way to produce long-term changes in a person who is typically skeptical that racism is a major factor in modern life. Dr. Campt led the participants through a series of exercises, discussions, and polling questions that participants answered using hand-held electronic keypads that provided instant results for everybody to see.

The method consists of four parts, with the acronym, RACE. 1) Reflect in advance so you are prepared for the conversation; 2) Ask the skeptic questions about their experience, rather than argue with them; 3) Connect with the skeptic by sharing from your own personal experience a story that might build your connection; and 4) Expand the skeptic's thinking by telling a personal story that you hope will push them to think differently about racism. It was not easy for many of us to develop stories that we thought would work, and we concluded that we needed practice.

The Racial Justice Task Force organized and promoted the event. They recruited participants through email and social media, including paid Facebook ads. Two attendees saw the Facebook ads in their feed, even though they had no connection with UUCSS, and decided to attend based on that alone. The Task Force will host a follow-up event for attendees, so we can talk about our efforts to use the RACE method and practice with each other.

Dr. Campt has been facilitating workshops all over the country these past few months and will probably be back in the D.C. area again. You can learn more about him and the methods he is promoting here: [www.whiteallytoolkit.com](http://www.whiteallytoolkit.com).

## Women's Retreats: A Short History

As spring creeps towards us, my mind turns to the Women's Retreat. This event has gone on for about 25 years; I have only missed a few of them. Just seeing it on my calendar (May 4–6!!) stirs up so many memories that it seemed a natural topic for this month's time capsule.

The first women's retreat took place in the early 1990s—still looking for the exact dates— at the Claggett Center near Frederick. It was designed as an intensive weekend version of the adult religious education course “Cakes for the Queen of Heaven” (<https://www.cakesforthequeenofheaven.org>), an introduction to feminist theology and earth-based spirituality. As a working mom with two young children, it had been hard to commit to a weekly evening class. But this promised a



weekend respite, a chance to get to know other UU women, and an intriguing question: How would your life be different if you had been brought up believing God was female?

It was a small group; we gathered in the white farmhouse on the Claggett property. If memory serves, the course was led by Maud Clarke, Hank Dahlstrom, and Sherry Sanborne. For the next few years, the retreat continued its emphasis on feminist and earth-based theology, and was scheduled as close as possible to the spring equinox. It spun off Gaia Circle, a pagan group at UUCSS that celebrated other holidays (Beltane, Samhain, Yule) and provided leadership for church-wide observations during regular Sunday services.

In the late 1990s, we made two major changes to the retreat. The first was to relocate to Rising Phoenix, a retreat center in western Maryland, which was operated by a Presbyterian minister who envisioned an interfaith woman-centered space. For years, we made the long trek to Flintstone, MD, happy to be rewarded with lovingly-prepared meals, a breathtaking view of the mountains, and a spacious hot tub.

The other change was to widen the focus of the retreat to include other theologies (or none) I remember a friend saying she really needed a retreat, but as an atheist, she felt uncomfortable with polytheistic paganism.

Eventually, our lovely host retired, and Rising Phoenix was sold to Loyola College in Baltimore and turned into a (very) Catholic retreat center. We already had our reservation, which they had to honor, but it was a sad visit. The handmade quilts were gone, every room had dorm-style bunk beds, and the hot tub was scheduled for removal.

Still, the Women's Retreat lives on, back at the Claggett center. It's a weekend of sharing, laughing, dancing, massages, long walks, a good cry or two, and a lay-led worship service that honors the pagan origins of the event.

I end with a few of my favorite retreat memories:

- Bringing my teenaged daughter and her best friend to the retreat, and watching them make friends with women spanning from the 20s to the 80s.
- Creating masks with plaster bandages and colored tissue paper. Mine signified the mystery of aging as I turned 50. It still sits above my desk.
- The dance party when we danced to Saffire's "Bitch With a Bad Attitude," DJ'd by Lucille Rowe, the impeccably ladylike designer responsible for our beautiful sanctuary.
- Playing hooky with Carol Cissel to watch the NCAA women's tournament and hatch the idea for the 2010 UUCSS women's calendar.



**Jo Paoletti**

## Save the Date for the 2018 UUCSS Annual Women's Retreat



This year's retreat is scheduled for **Friday, May 4, to Sunday, May 6**, at the Claggett Retreat Center in Buckeystown, MD. The sprawling grounds include views of Sugarloaf Mountain and the Monocacy River Valley. Hot meals are provided in the dining hall, and the cabins have small kitchens for snacks and drinks. Vegetarian and vegan options are available. Lodging is in simple heated cabins with shared bathrooms and showers. Linens are provided. There is always optional group programming that allows for reflection and for connection with other retreaters. In addition, we've been known to dance, craft, nap, create art, go on walks, and make music together. You can choose to spend time alone, too.

If you have questions or want to help with logistics, please email [womensretreat@uucss.org](mailto:womensretreat@uucss.org) or call **Cynthia Curry-Daniel at 314-910-0605**.



**UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI | 2018**

**All Are Called:** Grounded in a deep belief that we are all prophets, Unitarian Universalists ask, "How can we faithfully meet the demands of our time?" The call to witness and act for justice in our society and in the world is clear. So, too, is the call to examine our structures and practices, dismantling and transforming those that fail to recognize the full humanity of all people and to honor the interdependent web of life. Join us in Kansas City June 20–24 as we dive deeply into questions of mission for our Unitarian Universalist Association, for our congregations and communities, and for each of us as individuals. Together, we'll ask:

- ❖ Who and how are we called to be at this time, individually and collectively?
- ❖ How are we called to act and to live?
- ❖ How does our Unitarian Universalist legacy strengthen us in living out our mission?
- ❖ In what ways does our legacy present challenges and impediments to answering our call?

### Helpful Information

- **Housing Reservations** are now open (<https://www.uua.org/ga/travel>)
- **Registration** is now open (<https://www.uua.org/ga/registration>)
- **General information** (<https://www.uua.org>)

## EVENTS

### **APRIL 3–5** A.C.T Now: Unite to End Racism -- Awaken - Confront - Transform.

Join in solidarity and fellowship with the National Council of Churches, the Conference of National Black Churches, the African American Clergy Network, and Sojourners. **April. 3:** Service of Worship. **April. 4:** Rally on the National Mall, **April. 5:** Day of Action (Advocacy) in the Nation's Capital (Capitol Hill). Locations and details to be determined. We will post information to the [www.uusj.org](http://www.uusj.org) website. At least one area UU church is organizing to attend the rally, is yours? Let us know at [info@uusj.org](mailto:info@uusj.org).

**APRIL 7** Gathering for the annual UUCSS Seder will start at 5:30 p.m., and the ritual will begin promptly at 6:00.

**APRIL 8** The Board will hold two question-and-answer sessions about the proposed changes to the UUCSS constitution.

**APRIL 14** Save the date for the March for Science. Gather on the National Mall for a teach-in, rally, and march (exact location to be determined). The March for Science is a celebration of passion for science and a call to support and safeguard the scientific community. Scientifically minded people will build on the momentum of 2017 to hold political leaders accountable for passing equitable, evidence-based policies that serve all people and all communities. Planning to attend? Let us know at [info@uusj.org](mailto:info@uusj.org), so we can connect UUs.

**APRIL 15** The Board will hold a question-and-answer session, followed by a congregational meeting after the service to vote on the proposed changes to the constitution.

**APRIL 22** The [Unitarian Universalist Ministry For Earth](#) (UUMFE) has a robust campaign developed for [Climate Justice Month \(April\)](#), and [Earth Day](#) (April 22), which includes [#EachGeneration](#). Again this year, Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice (UUSJ) will co-sponsor the "Write Here! Write Now!" nationwide letter-writing campaign to raise UU voices in support of environmental/climate justice. UUSJ's Capitol Hill Advocacy Corps volunteers will hand-deliver the letters to Congressional offices on May 8. For questions, contact [advocacy@uusj.org](mailto:advocacy@uusj.org)

**APRIL 22 and APRIL 29** Polystyrene (plastic number 6) is not generally recyclable. That's why Montgomery County has banned its use by restaurants. But you still get stuff sent in styrofoam. We found a place that will recycle it into insulation. So save it and bring it to church on Earth Day on Sunday, April 22, and the following Sunday, April 29. Let's turn that nasty stuff to good use! We will collect it during Coffee Hour.



Please place foam in clear, sealed bags.

Place packaging foam and food service containers in separate bags.

Food service containers MUST be clean and rinsed.

ACCEPTED—(must have symbol with the #6 inside the chasing arrows triangle) post-consumer foam cups and "to-go" containers, egg cartons, ice chests, rinsed meat trays, protective packaging foam used to protect electronics and other delicacies during shipping

NOT ACCEPTED—packing peanuts, straws, lids, plastic wrap, or trash

### **APRIL 22 and MAY 20** UUCSS 101 for UUCSS Visitors

UU 101s are informal gatherings for visitors to our church who would like to learn a bit more about Unitarian Universalism and UUCSS in particular. We meet following the service in the Triangle Room," which is adjacent to the Community Hall where coffee hour is underway. Grab a cup of coffee or tea and bring your questions. We look forward to meeting you!

**APRIL 28** Join us for the Fellowship Dinner, which begins at 5:30. Sign up at <http://uucss.givezooks.com/events/2018-fellowship-dinner>.

**MAY 4–6** UUCSS annual women's retreat at the Claggett Retreat Center in Buckeystown, MD. If you have questions or want to help with logistics, please email [womensretreat@uucss.org](mailto:womensretreat@uucss.org) or call **Cynthia Curry-Daniel at 314-910-0605**.

**MAY 12** Are you interested in becoming a member of UUCSS? Our next Pathways class will be from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon May 12 in the Dolan Lounge. Reverend Keely and Catherine Boyle, our Director of Religious Education, will be joining us. The Pathways class provides an opportunity to learn more about the history and principles of the UU faith and about UUCSS in particular. You will also learn about the privileges and responsibilities becoming a member entails. You can find more information on the UUCSS website and in the order of service, or contact co-chairs **Maggie Hayes** and **Jean Snell** at [membership@uucss.org](mailto:membership@uucss.org).



## CONNECT WITH UUCSS

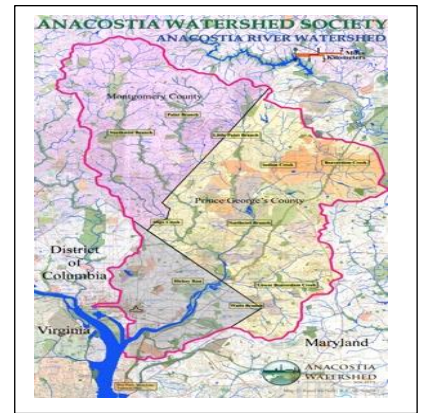
### MARCH VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH JEREMY HOLT

**Jeremy Holt** is the Volunteer of the Month for April. Jeremy came to UUCSS in 2013, looking for a church in which to raise his 1-year old daughter **Nora**. UUCSS was the first church he and his wife **Ashley** attended in their search, and Jeremy immediately fell in love with the ministers, the music, and the people. A few months after he started attending, he was approached by **Rev. Liz Maclay**, who knew of his Jewish roots and was looking for volunteers to take over the task of organizing the Seder. It was really important to Jeremy that UUCSS incorporate elements of his Jewish upbringing that held meaning for him. He knew that he had to do his part in making sure that the parts he cared about were present at UUCSS. Similarly, he wanted to foster bonds among families with little kids that he saw among families of the current YRUU generation, which led him and Michael LeBlanc to organize the great intergenerational Halloween party last fall.

Jeremy Holt agreed to co-chair this year's ABD campaign because he knew that he would be part of a great team, with his wife, Ashley Brannon Holt, and long-time member **Jane Jackson**. They knew it would take a lot of time and work, but he and Ashley also know the importance that funding plays to the great work of this church. He said that the church and its members give so much to his family, it is only fair that they do their part too. Jeremy believes that you get of your church what you put into it. He volunteers to organize activities because those events are very important to him and to what he wants from UUCSS. He recommends that people new to UUCSS attend some events to get a sense of the community, and then organize their own events that they want to see happen at our church. He looks forward to seeing what they dream up!

### CHARITY OF THE MONTH: ANACOSTIA WATERSHED SOCIETY

The Anacostia Watershed Society is committed to a swimmable and fishable Anacostia River by 2025. It is achieving this through a three-part strategy: stopping pollution--both legacy pollution and legacy toxins buried in the soil; restoring natural systems by restoring the marshes and wetlands, streambeds, and native plants and grasses; and restoring our relationship to the river by integrating volunteers into restoration efforts, teaching students to be stewards of the river, and engaging everyone in river-healthy recreational activities along and on the Anacostia River. By supporting the Anacostia Watershed Society, UUCSS members and friends can fulfill two goals: supporting our commitment to being a Green Sanctuary and engaging in environmental justice by restoring a river that winds through historically under-resourced communities of color in Prince George's County and the District of Columbia. In celebration of Earth Day, we will be collecting for the Anacostia Watershed Society on **April 23, 2018**.



### DID YOU KNOW?

That teenagers **Elise Turner** and **Jesse Webber** have been teaching the middle school class all year? Not long out of our religious education program themselves, they really love it. Says Jesse, "I would definitely, 100%, do it again!" Elise added, "They're really fun to work with because they're still kids but starting to think like adults". What an example of the success of our RE program; thank you Elise and Jesse! And hats off to our whole RE program!

### DID YOU KNOW?

That when the sanctuary building was built, a shower room was included so that UUCSS could house homeless people? As participants in a local consortium of Silver Spring churches, we did participate in a week-long housing program for about 3 years, but it petered out. If anyone can enlighten me on the reason for the program's demise, I'll be happy to continue with the mystery of our unused shower room.

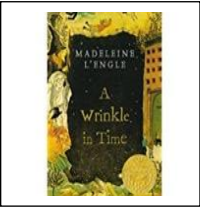
And PLEASE keep those ideas for this column coming!

**Bev McGaughy**



## ONGOING

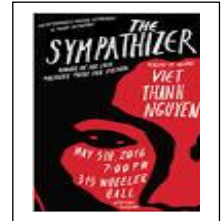
### WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP



Women's Book Group meets on the fourth Monday of each month. We are an informal group that has been meeting since 2000, and we are open to interested readers; there is no long-term obligation. Please contact [dweiner04@gmail.com](mailto:dweiner04@gmail.com) for additional details. At our next meeting on April 23, we will discuss *A Wrinkle in Time*, by Madeleine L'Engle.

### MEN'S BOOK READING GROUP

We are reading *The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen. The next meeting will be at 7:00 on Sunday, May 6, at the home of Bill Wolf, 519 Dartmouth Avenue, Silver Spring 20910. If you are interested in joining the group, contact **Richard Lorr** ([rlorr4@gmail.com](mailto:rlorr4@gmail.com)), get the book, and come to the next meeting. Hope to see you there!



### CONTINUE TO NEED BOOKS FOR MCCF

We reported in March about the Montgomery County Correctional Facility's (MCCF's) need for books for inmates. Paperbacks are of particular interest for incoming inmates whose determination is pending because they do not have access to the library. Denise Habib, the MCCF librarian, says she is not too picky, but the following types of paperbacks are of particular interest:

- ❖ Cookbooks (color photos required)
- ❖ Dog breeds (color photos required)
- ❖ Yoga and fitness (photos required)
- ❖ Current sports books, especially football and basketball.

There is now a box at church marked Montgomery County Correctional Facility Donations near the visitor table in the front entryway, where you can leave books that **Pat Hulsebosch** will box, label, and deliver to a local library for shipping to the MCCF. If you have questions, you can reach her at [pathuls@icloud.com](mailto:pathuls@icloud.com) or 240-543-2976.

### Administrative Update

Much thanks and gratitude to **Rachel Vanarsdall** for her help and support with the Order of Service while **Sally Porter** was recuperating from hip surgery. And welcome back, Sally!

--Melinda Yalom  
UUCSS Church Administrator



**Unitarian Universalist Church of Silver Spring**  
10309 New Hampshire Avenue  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20903

FIRST CLASS

**Rev. Evan Keely**  
Interim Minister  
[interimminister@uucss.org](mailto:interimminister@uucss.org)

**Catherine Boyle**  
Religious Education Director  
[dre@uucss.org](mailto:dre@uucss.org)

**Michael Holmes**  
Music Director  
[musicdirector@uucss.org](mailto:musicdirector@uucss.org)

**Melinda Yalom**  
Church Administrator  
[administrator@uucss.org](mailto:administrator@uucss.org)

**John Henderson**  
Board President  
[president@uucss.org](mailto:president@uucss.org)

Submissions to the *Uniter* are due by the 20th of the prior month. Send information and visuals to [uniter@uucss.org](mailto:uniter@uucss.org).

Format Guidelines for Submissions: Text must be in a form that it can be edited, either in a Microsoft Word file or in the body of an email that can be copied and pasted. Graphics must be in a format in which they can be repositioned and resized—jpeg is greatly preferred.

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Co-editors are **Jane Larrick** and **Stephanie McConachie**.

To receive a PDF email version of the newsletter, contact the church office at [administrator@uucss.org](mailto:administrator@uucss.org).

To receive a mailed copy of the *Uniter* for the year, please send **\$24 to UUCSS, Attention: Collector**.

**Church Office Hours**  
**Monday: 2–5 pm**  
**Tuesdays–Thursdays: 9 am–5 pm**  
**Church Website: [www.uucss.org](http://www.uucss.org)**