
April 2020

UNITER

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SILVER SPRING
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www.uucss.org



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WORSHIP UPDATE



As of this writing, in-person large gatherings are suspended to help slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus. We may continue to worship online through at least the first half of April. With changes happening every day, it is impossible to predict before the newsletter deadline what our capabilities will be and what our community will need, whether we are gathering online or in person.

Staff and volunteers are working hard to provide some way of connecting spiritually each Sunday, and our way of doing that is constantly evolving. Please read your all-church email, including special updates, and watch the website (uucss.org) for information each week about how to participate in the service. We are going to stay faithfully connected and physically distant for as long as it takes to care for our community in this new way.

INSPIRE

Interim Minister's Column by Rev. Lyn Cox

We are in a time outside of time. Whatever our plans for the month of April had been, they are now swirling in a cauldron of change, liberated from the confines of our expectations or even our imagination. As a faith community, we are focused on transforming and strengthening our connections with each other, with the congregation's mission, with our spiritual center, and with the world. Forced changes of habit ask us to grow, to find creative ways of making meaning and fulfilling our purpose as a community. Though we cannot meet for our usual celebrations, the stories from this time of year about journeys through the wilderness, becoming liberated from old ways, and braving the underworld to make possible a new way of life are all relevant.



We are going to do our best to help as many people as possible get to the other side of this extended flu season. Practicing community care through physical distancing and proper handwashing are heroic deeds right now. Creating opportunities for connection on the phone, over the internet, and through postal mail can save lives because our friendships give us the energy to carry on, and because friends can encourage one another to seek appropriate treatment when necessary. Please respond warmly when a volunteer reaches out to you for the UUCSS Contact Tree. If you are making contacts with others on the tree, please keep it up at least weekly until we are done sheltering in place. Let's get together virtually as often as it is conducive to our emotional and spiritual wellbeing. There are modified RE classes for children moving online; some of our book groups and small group ministries are moving online; and I can help you set up a telephone conference call for your meeting if computer screens are not a good fit for your committee or church group.

INSPIRE (continued)

Interim Minister's Column continued

Those of us who have a little extra to share can donate to organizations that equip and empower those who are most vulnerable: So Others Might Eat, Shepherd's Table, Maryland Food Bank, Beacon House, and other community partners have long been in relationship with under-resourced and unhoused neighbors. Within the congregation, I have been heartened by several generous donations to the Minister's Discretionary Fund, which will help us respond to financial emergencies of members and friends. Going beyond material support and toward dismantling the injustices that give rise to inequality, the Poor People's Campaign and Action In Montgomery are in high gear, organizing by phone and internet to pressure political leaders to make moral choices. Rather than re-inventing programs, we can do the most good by supporting those who are already engaged in missions of justice, equity, and compassion.

Though there are many things to sort through and challenges to overcome during this difficult time, I am grateful all over again to be serving the Unitarian Universalist Church of Silver Spring. Your agility and adaptability as a congregation is serving you well. Your care for one another is evident. Keep the faith, and may it bless and keep you.

Annual Budget Drive and Financial Contributions

We need each other now more than ever, and we need to rapidly transform our way of doing church so that we can stay connected and lend our strength to our broader community. Adapting takes commitment and resources. Even when the current danger is past, the world will be forever changed, and UUCSS must change with it. Now is the time to challenge ourselves to a spiritual practice of open hearts. Resist the scarcity thinking that comes with panic, take a deep breath, and imagine what we can do together with generosity. Unitarian Universalism has sustained people through difficult times before. Our tradition was made for helping people to create hope, grow, change, and do whatever new thing the Spirit of Love is calling us to do. With your help, we can keep that tradition going.

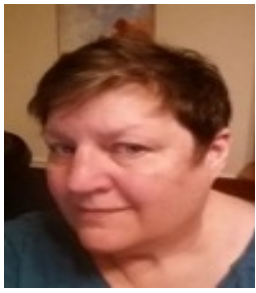
Though we are maintaining physical distance from one another in an effort to slow down the spread of COVID-19 and relieve pressure on our medical systems, we are still connecting in other ways. Please continue with stewardship visits by phone or Zoom. Stay in touch. You can pledge online. Please visit <https://uucss.org/abd/> for details about that. Remember that there is a future beyond the current challenges. Let's prepare for that future with generosity and care.

The way we do things will change as we adapt to the times we find ourselves in. We will transform and strengthen our connections with creativity and with new tools. What does not change is our mission, nor does our goal of doing business in a way that matches our UU values. We are not going to fail in our commitments to pay our staff, especially not our hourly staff, and your gift to the operating budget right now will help UUCSS to keep its promises. If you are able, please continue to make payments toward the current year's financial pledge.

For the moment, you can still send checks to the office by postal mail. Please also consider downloading our new online donation app, Give+ Mobile from Vanco, to set up recurring donations to the church from your bank account or credit card. Within the Give+ app, select "Annual Budget Drive" to make payments toward your pledge or designated for the operating budget. If you are already giving to the church through automatic deductions, please take some time to review your donations. If you want to make a change in the amount of your deduction, either because the current times are financially difficult for you or because the current times are moving you to greater generosity, please contact Rachel Vanarsdall as soon as possible by emailing collector@uucss.org or contacting her using the information in the directory. You can also contact Rachel if you have questions about the Give+ Mobile app or the status of your 2019–2020 donations.

Thank you for staying connected.

Message From Tamara Bowman, Board President



Hello, beloved community. These past few weeks have been anxious and stressful. Anxiety increased due to the lack of communication and guidance during the beginning of this pandemic. I have the deepest gratitude to all of those that worked to ensure that the most vulnerable of us would be protected.

By the time you read this, we will have experienced our third online worship service. Thank you for your flexibility and willingness to try new things. You were so willing to try new things that we ran out of space in the first online worship service. We have upgraded the Zoom account, so that should not happen again. We had at least three visitors join our first online service. At least one appeared to stay for our first online coffee hour. We are a resilient and welcoming community and will continue to thrive.

Paraphrasing **Mr. Rogers**, “look for the helpers during crises.” I have been heartened by the many helpers in the larger community. I’m referring to the world outside UUCSS, I expect you to be there, and you never disappoint. My neighborhood listserv has been filled with people coordinating help for the elderly and vulnerable. There are online coffee klatches, online playgroups, and planning get-togethers while maintaining distance. I live near the Matthew Henson trail and generally see clusters of people out walking. There are still people out walking, but they’re keeping more distance. There are businesses that have decided to pay their workers even though they can’t work. I intend to remember those businesses once I’m able to leave the house again.

We may not be able to meet in person, but we are continuing to get together. We’re using Zoom for coffee klatches, our monthly ladies’ night, the women’s book club, and committee meetings. Currently, Zoom has removed the 45-minute limitation for their free accounts. These work for small meetings. If you have a larger church meeting, please contact me at president@uucss.org to coordinate use of the UUCSS Zoom account. Plan for some time at the beginning of the meeting to work through tech issues and introduce everyone to how to use Zoom.

Please continue to take precautions and practice social distancing. Look to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for guidance; the main link is here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>. We will continue to hold online meetings, and by the end of this we will all be Zoom masters.

The work of the congregation continues. We are still in the midst of our Annual Budget Drive. If you haven’t met with your steward yet, please reach out. Old-fashioned phone calls still work, and Zoom is always an option if you prefer face to face. Our online pledge form is here <https://uucss.org/abd/pledge/>. Please reach out to the abdchairs@uucss.org if you have questions.

The agenda for the March Board meeting included discussion on next steps during COVID-19, finalizing Board goals for the strategic plan, and updates from the nominating committee and the Bylaws Revision Task Force (RevCon). The minutes and agenda for the Board are posted on our dropbox for the benefit of the congregation.

As always, it is an honor to serve as your President.

Inviting Summer Lay Speakers

The Worship Committee is looking for members who would like to be our speaker/preacher on a Sunday this coming summer. The need is for four Sundays in July and possibly two Sundays in August. Our theme this year will be **“What gives me hope in these divisive and troubled times?”** We first hit on this theme at our meeting in early February and chose it well before any announcement of a pandemic! Our evolving health crisis underscores the value of our choice.

Our lay sermons over the past few years have focused on a particular theme, and the result has been that all of us have benefited from thoughtful, meaningful sharing from fellow members. The idea of putting together a service may seem daunting, but a Worship Committee member will be responsible for coordinating and pulling together the parts of the service with our music team, our web team, and our office and communications folks. The Worship Committee person will also assist in leading the service with the lay member.

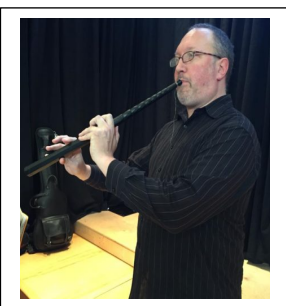
The committee welcomes offers from new members as well as those who have been with us for a while. Members who have shared in prior summers are welcome as well.

Our hope is that by July we will be able to have our services in the Sanctuary. If not, our first virtual service March 15th worked well, and we will continue with them, including our lay-lead services, as long as needed.

Please consider what you would like to share consistent with our theme. Write it up as a brief, informal proposal on what you would like to do and also what dates in July and August could work for you. Send it to: worshipchair@ucss.org.

Also, please feel free to email any questions or provide contact information if you would like to discuss a service possibility over the phone. And, by all means, feel free to discuss your ideas with any of the members of the Worship Committee that you know. We will be choosing, as a committee, what proposals we can move forward with and the Worship Committee Associate who will be working with you. Our goal is to have our services in place in early May.

Preston Mears, Chair
UUCSS Worship Committee



Musings by Michael Holmes, UUCSS Music Director

It seemed at first that musical activity after the pandemic hit was going to have to grind to a screeching halt. After spending a few days in a pretty deep and dark place, grieving about the dire situation of my musician colleagues around the world, who were suddenly without income and a means to pay their rent, I somehow had to carry on. Even though I have lost all of my outside performing work for at least 4 months, I always have and value UUCSS. The pandemic crisis has done two things for me. First, it has deepened my appreciation of how essential music is for our emotional survival. Second, it has allowed me to focus all of my working hours toward researching new technologies that brings musicians together and bring music to people.

INSPIRE (continued)

Musings by Music Director continued

I am so grateful for all of the amazing musicians in the UUCSS community. I will never forget their helpfulness and resourcefulness in the early days of the pandemic. Many people joined me for that first Zoom session where we discussed the nuts and bolts of remote collaboration. Strangely, as we were physically distant, I actually felt closer than ever to everyone. Life is challenging now for everyone, but nothing will ever keep us from singing! We are going to need music, and a LOT of it! In addition to music for services, I'll be hosting open mics sessions on Friday nights on Zoom. Please look for announcements in the all-church emails and on Facebook. Also watch for the many creative videos that our musicians will be posting from time to time. I am encouraging everyone in the UUCSS community to be creative and to post anything musical, as your heart desires. This will give a brand new meaning to "let us all rise in body or in spirit."

LEARN

Message From Interim Director of Religious Education (IDRE) Marsha Thrall



March certainly provided challenges at UUCSS. In a time of social distancing, as a community, it was inspiring to witness all of the ways in which wisdom came into play when planning Sunday worship. It has been equally wonderful to witness the ways in which adults have created spaces to gather, despite physical barriers. UUCSS working as a community to ensure that as many people make it to the other side of this pandemic has definitely been a witness to love in action.

April moves us into a season of a temporary, and different normal; and worship isn't the only space where adapting is necessary. Religious Education (RE) will continue to move forward as well. For the month of April, RE for children and youth will be facilitated in an online, small group format. We will be working from the *Soulful Home* materials, which is a family ministry supplement from *Soul Matters*. *Soulful Home* is not a curriculum; instead, it's a resource from which ideas can be drawn, providing both a classroom RE experience and activities and ideas that can be used to bring UU RE into the home. The packet that we will be working from, through April, can be found here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RWtsEB4FxSzGWn_-On_5RfD6Vt4ujBRm/view?usp=sharing.

Next, as we navigate these times of social distancing, it feels important to continue to gather together, using the tools of technology that we have available, so that we can stay connected to one another. After March's first round of small group RE meetings, one of the suggestions that our children and youth seemed most excited about was working to find ways to stay connected during the week, especially since our children and youth "still have school, without all of the good parts."

To help keep our kiddos connected to one another, I have scheduled the following recurring Zoom meetings to take place until the first week of May 2020.

- The PreK through 2nd grade group will meet from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- All other groups will meet from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

To help make these check-ins be successful, I am hoping that one parent from each age group could sit in on the Zoom, so that we can adhere to Safe Sanctuary standards.

The Schedule for Children and Youth

Show and Tell – PreK through 2nd Grade (Mondays, March 30 to May 4)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/903612938?pwd=RXZLZWErNUVCQTlyd2laRkxzMjg4dz09>

Meeting ID: 903 612 938 Password: 786800

3rd through 5th Grade (Wednesday evening March 25 to April 29)

Topic: RE 3rd through 5th Grade Check-in

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/493813376?pwd=VTc0aGtzYzFnWEN5VEVrLzlvUnFZdz09>

Meeting ID: 493 813 376 Password: 435472

YRUU/COA (Thursday evenings, March 26 to April 30)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/678497147?pwd=U3lWWFZaaHZrSVNDRFBuM2Jpd3Vudz09>

Meeting ID: 678 497 147 Password: 878317

Middle School (Friday evenings, March 27 to May 1)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/161903717?pwd=MmUxeU11aUd4NEF0bk9OakRJdGIKQT09>

Meeting ID: 161 903 717 Password: 001020

Adults

We haven't forgotten about you, and RE for adults, at UUCSS. Evelyn DeNardo has agreed to facilitate four meetings of *What We Choose: UU Ethics for Adults*, via Zoom. These meetings will take place on Sunday, at noon, until the end of April. Information regarding scheduling and Zoom participation is below:

Mar 29, 2020 12:00 p.m.

Apr 5, 2020 12:00 p.m.

Apr 12, 2020 12:00 p.m.

Apr 19, 2020 12:00 p.m.

Apr 26, 2020 12:00 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/177807499?pwd=V2h2OW4xU3E0czcrRzlsUEEvQzE4dz09>

Meeting ID: 177 807 499 Password: 528086

Finally, I want to take a moment to thank the entire community at UUCSS for its grace and radical love during this very complicated moment in time. My hope is that we can, as a community, find strength and support during this time of uncertainty, and we can continue to reason together in ways that will make the other side of this moment meaningful.

Peace and love, y'all

CONNECT
GET INVOLVED IN DEFENDING DEMOCRACY

CENSUS 2020

Census results can determine the distribution of hundreds of billions of dollars in federal and state funds. We're talking hospitals, highways, stadiums, and school lunch programs. State and local officials also use **census** counts to draw boundaries for congressional, state legislative, and school districts.

BY APRIL 1: Remember to complete your census form online, by phone, or by email.

Instructions are on the census form sent to your home.

During April: Census takers will visit college students who live on campus, people living in senior centers, and others who live among large groups of people.

May–July: If you miss the April 1 deadline, census takers will visit homes.

APRIL 8 ONLINE DISCUSSION

**“We’re the only advanced democracy that deliberately discourages people from voting.”
Barack Obama in interview with David Letterman, 2018**

Join UUCSS Defending Democracy for an online discussion on Wednesday, April 8, at 7:30 p.m. We'll be discussing two films: ***Suppressed: The Fight To Vote*** and ***Rigged: The Voter Suppression Playbook***. From strict ID laws to closing polling places to purging voter rolls and gerrymandering, the films document how these tactics make it hard for minority communities to exercise their right to vote and violate the central tenet of our democracy—“one person, one vote.”

Suppressed: The Fight to Vote, a 38-minute documentary by Robert Greenwald, focuses on the 2018 midterm election in Georgia when **Stacey Abrams** fought to become the first black female governor in the United States while her opponent, Secretary of State **Brian Kemp**, was in charge of running the election. ***Suppressed*** interweaves the personal stories of voters across Georgia to create a narrative of voter suppression, which resulted in Kemp winning by 54,723 votes. ***Suppressed: The Fight To Vote***, can be watched for free on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=03DGjnIkTdl>.

Rigged: The Voter Suppression Playbook, a 72-minute documentary narrated by Jeffrey Wright, chronicles the rising tide of voter disenfranchisement over the past decade, including the partisan use of gerrymandering and voter purges and the gutting of the Voting Rights Act by the Supreme Court. You will see real-time voter purges in North Carolina and voter intimidation in Texas. Available to stream on Amazon Prime.

If you plan to join us, please **RSVP** to **Mary Beth Lerner** at bclarke10@comcast.net. Let Mary Beth know if you have difficulty accessing the films.

To join the April 8 7:30 p.m. online discussion, enter the link below in your browser.

LINK: <https://zoom.us/j/900540921>.

MARYLAND VOTING NOW ON JUNE 2

The Maryland Primary has been delayed until June 2 in response to the coronavirus crisis. In announcing his decision, Governor Hogan said, in part: “I am directing the state board of elections to develop a comprehensive plan by April 3 to conduct the primary election in a way that protects public health and preserves the integrity of the Democratic process in our state.” As we learn more, UUCSS Defending Democracy is committed to helping anyone with questions about date changes, absentee voting, and other issues related to voting in the primary and general election. You can contact **Mary Beth Lerner** at blcarke@comcast.net with your questions.

CONNECT (continued)

Bylaws Revision—Update

The Bylaws Revision Task Force (RevCon) continues its work preparing a final version for Board approval and a congregational vote later this spring. At the information sessions in March, we solicited comments and suggestions; discussion sessions were scheduled for March 29 and April 19. There were few comments, and none that necessitated revision of the draft bylaws we presented. Given the current restrictions on in-person meetings, we have decided to cancel the March 29 meeting, and hold only one meeting on April 19, either at church or online, as circumstances dictate.

In the meantime, we encourage UUCSS members, especially those who could not attend the information sessions, to look over the constitution (old), bylaws (new), and the PowerPoint presentation from the March meetings, which are available online at <https://tinyurl.com/udbj3jv>. If you have comments, questions, or suggestions, email the task force at RevCon@uucss.org. In community, **Maggie Hayes, Susannah Numa, Jo Paoletti, and John Roberts.**

Update on Pathways to Membership class

Join Rev. Lyn Cox and the Membership Committee for her “**Pop Up UU History**” discussion on Thursday, April 2, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. via Zoom, as part of the first installment of the Pathways to Membership class. This Zoom class takes the place of the April 4 class previously publicized. **This invitation is extended to prospective members and anyone else who wants a fun refresher of UU History.** Rev. Lyn’s spontaneous way of weaving together questions and themes about UU history has been a feature of the last few Pathways to Membership classes, and now we’re bringing it online. Other elements of the Pathways to Membership class will be offered online at TBA times throughout the spring. **Please RSVP to Mary Beth Lerner** at bclarke10@comcast.net or contact her for questions/details.

Fellowship Dinner Update!

It was not an easy decision, but we have decided to **cancel** the Fellowship Dinner scheduled for April 18, 2020.

We are disappointed to miss our annual gathering, which has been a UUCSS tradition for a very long time, but there is too much uncertainty with COVID-19, and we want to alleviate any stress or worry as we move forward with trying to plan the next few weeks. We hope people can find other ways to connect and take care of each other during this time. If you have any questions, please contact fellowshipdinner@uucss.org. Stay safe and be well.

EVENTS IN BRIEF

APRIL 2, 6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. Zoom “Pop Up UU History” discussion, part of the first installment of the Pathways to Membership class.

APRIL 5, 12, 19, 26, 12:00 noon. “What We Choose: Ethics for Unitarian Universalists.” Join Zoom meeting <https://zoom.us/j/177807499?pwd=V2h2OW4xU3E0czcrRzlsUEEvQzE4dz09>. Meeting ID: 177 807 499. Password: 528086.

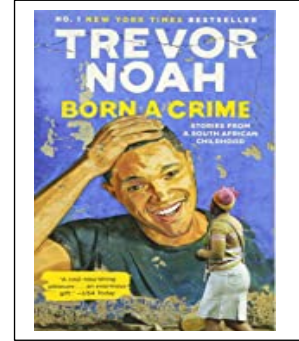
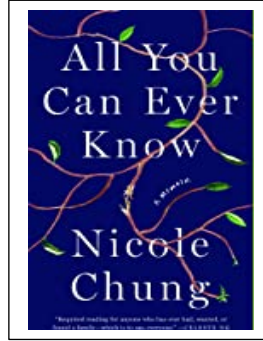
APRIL 24–26. 14th annual Revolutionary Love Online Conference, All Souls Unitarian Church, 1500 Harvard Street NW, Washington, DC. Go to <http://revolutionaryloveconference.com> for more information and on how the event will be held online.

JUNE 20. Mass Poor People’s Assembly and Moral March on Washington. Go to <https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/> for details and registration for more information and on how the event will now be held online.

CONNECT (continued)

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

The women's book group meets on the fourth Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. for a casual gathering and book discussion. No long-term obligation is required. All interested readers are welcome to join us. For now, we are meeting via Zoom. Please contact **Deborah Weiner**, dweiner04@gmail.com, for additional information. On April 27, we will discuss *All You Can Ever Know*, by **Nicole Chung**. The book for May 27 is *Born a Crime*, by **Trevor Noah**.



MEN'S BOOK READING GROUP



We are reading *The Topeka School* by **Ben Lerner**. The meeting to discuss the book will either be held online or at the home of **Jerry Herbers**, 1215 Highland Drive, Silver Spring, on Sunday, April 19, at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome. If you are interested in joining the group, contact **Richard Lorr** (rlorr4@gmail.com), get the book, and come to the next meeting. Hope to see you there!

Volunteer of the Month Emily Harris

Emily Harris was a regular churchgoer as a child but became disillusioned with religion as an adult, and after a family tragedy, rejected theism. There were still good memories of what a church could be—supportive, loving, nurturing—but dogma and prejudice got in the way. Seeing how church communities supported their family members, Emily and her partner, **Linda Barrett**, discussed how important a church community could be. Emily had briefly attended a UU church in Portland, Oregon, and thought Unitarian Universalism was possible. Vowing to visit all the local UU churches in 2013, they never got beyond UUCSS. They were greeted warmly by **Dorothy Hale**, the rock band was playing, and they never looked back. UUCSS was a community that was loving, shared her values, and allowed her to be herself.

Emily's first church job was a natural fit—doing Sunday support with Dorothy Hale. Since then, she has done a variety of things: worked on the Membership Committee, helped with the auction, and joined the Rainbow Alliance. Her interest in music has flowered into membership with the UUukes and the a cappella group, both of which support worship services. One of the most meaningful things she's done has been as teacher of the fourth and fifth grades with **Patti Poss**. She likes kids, and nurturing young people fills an important need. Emily became co-collector in 2019, which fits well with her love of data and spreadsheets.

When asked why she volunteers, Emily said, "We have a wonderful community. It takes everyone, according to our abilities, to nurture it. We've had a few tumultuous years, and now it's up to us to make a way forward."

CONNECT (continued)

Charity of the Month Shepherd's Table

In April, we'll be taking special collections for Shepherd's Table. Our longtime partner in providing meals to neighbors, Shepherd's Table is working on a community garden, which dovetails with our Green Sanctuary goals as well as our goals for addressing poverty.

Located in downtown Silver Spring, Shepherd's Table serves individuals from all walks of life experiencing a unique set of challenges, including homelessness, unemployment, mental health challenges, substance abuse, physical disabilities, and more. Shepherd's Table offers basic human services and provides a strong safety net for people experiencing homelessness. Along with partner agencies in the County, Shepherd's Table is working toward preventing and ending homelessness for all residents. Volunteers from UUCSS support Shepherd's Table by serving meals. This special collection will support expanding Shepherd's Table's garden, which will provide more fresh vegetables for meals and gardening training for clients.

Shepherd's Table began serving dinners in 1983, and now serves nutritious breakfast, lunch and dinner meals during the week, along with brunch and dinner on weekends and holidays.

Christina Moore, a chef at Shepherd's Table, built three salad tables last year to grow fresh greens in a small patch of land behind the building. Her vision is to add more salad tables and raised garden beds to grow fresh vegetables for the clients. Recently, several volunteers built four more tables and mulched the area. Now they need funds to expand the garden, to purchase lumber for raised beds, soil, seeds, compost bins, and more. Shepherd's Table sees possibilities of more community engagement, with fellow gardeners teaching clients how to raise, maintain, and harvest food. It is hoped that these clients will take the skill of gardening with them as they move into housing.

Growing Shepherd's Tables
Raised Garden Beds



During April, you will be able to make a gift to Shepherd's Table through the Give+ Mobile app. Once you have set up your account and designated UUCSS as your congregation, select "special collections" to give to our community partner of the month.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

The Church buildings are closed during this pandemic, and the Church Administrator is working remotely from home for the near future, but is able to answer church emails and phone calls remotely when you use the usual email address (administrator@uucss.org) and phone number (301-434-4050).

Church mail may be picked up in the foyer of the Administration building. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Melinda Yalom
Church Administrator



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FIRST CLASS

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Submissions to the *Uniter* are due by the 20th of the prior month.
Send information and visuals to 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.

The newsletter is published September–June by the Unitarian Universalist Church of Silver Spring.

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.

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

Due to the pandemic, the Church office is closed to visitors for the immediate future. However, the Church Administrator can be reached by phone or email during the posted hours below.

Monday: 12 noon–3 p.m.

Tuesday–Thursday: 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Church website: www.uucss.org