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# February 2018

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## Uniter

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SILVER SPRING  
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### Sunday Worship Services

#### February 4—10:30 AM

*All Are Invited to the Table* Rev. Preston Mears

We address the lives of the poor and hungry—who are not “other,” but us and among us.

#### February 11—10:30 AM

*True Love* Rev. Dylan Doyle-Burke

We explore the transformative role that love can play in our personal, professional, and prophetic lives and ask the question: How can a commitment to love inform the building of our beloved community?

#### February 18—10:30 AM

*Racism Is the White Man’s Burden* Al Nathan

Inspired by the *Church in the Mirror* sermon delivered by fellow congregant Charles Alexander, I reflect upon what I’ve learned about my internalized white identity and sense of superiority. With the help of beloved fellow travelers in the ongoing struggle to understand and overcome racism and white supremacy, I’ve discovered the damage whiteness has done to my spirit and to my capacity to live within the beloved community. I offer my vision of our church in this struggle, including where we have been, where we are, and the possibilities for healing and liberation that stand before us.

#### February 25—10:30 AM

Youth and Director of Religious Education, Catherine Boyle:  
(Look for the topic in our weekly all-church email.)

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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 am through March 25.  
Coffee hour will take place after the service.

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## Message From Rev. Evan Keely, Interim Minister

If my experience has taught me anything, it is that nothing happens without organization.

I will be on study leave from January 30 through February 19, so you won't be seeing me in church during that time. The focus of my study leave will be the work of a project team I'm on as part of my studies at George Mason University—if all goes as planned (knock wood), I'll have a Master's degree in Organization Development and Knowledge Management this spring. Our project team is going to be presenting a day-long workshop in mid-February on employee engagement. Drawing on the work of Tracy Maylett and Paul Warner (visit [engagementmagic.com](http://engagementmagic.com) to learn more), we will be exploring ways in which people and organizations can strive toward creating workplaces in which people feel committed and fulfilled.

Maylett and Warner use the acronym MAGIC to enumerate what they consider five essential ingredients of employee engagement:

- *Meaning.* People yearn for work that feels meaningful, that connects them to a sense of purpose, something beyond just themselves, something that makes a difference.
- *Autonomy.* Mature adults long for conditions in which they are free to use their talents according to their judgement.
- *Growth.* While we all require a degree of familiar comfort with our surroundings, we thrive when we are challenged, when our comfort zones are expanded, when we push ourselves (or when circumstances push us!) to learn and adapt.
- *Impact.* It's in our human nature to want to see the fruits of our labor, to know what outcomes our efforts effect.
- *Connection.* Homo sapiens is a social animal. We need each other: we need to feel that we are part of a community, that our presence matters, that we care about others and that others care about us, and that we can work together to solve problems and create something worthwhile.

While this paradigm was not created with religious organizations in mind, I'm struck by how applicable all this is to church. Aren't these the very things we also seek to create and sustain in our congregations?

If my experience has taught me anything, it is that nothing happens without organization. Human beings come together, and there are things we want to accomplish. How we go about doing that is important. What these aspects of organizing highlight is the deep human yearnings that need to be addressed if our coming together is to bear fruit.

## Letter from the President

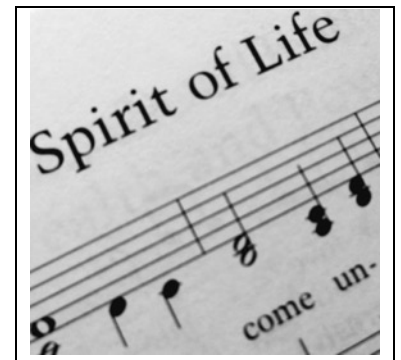
My last several articles have been focused on procedures and processes relating to the transitions the church is going through. I wanted to take a break from that to reflect on a more personal note. Patti and I recently hosted a game night we had offered in the church auction. We had a great time enjoying the company of a mix of UUCSSers we have known for many years and UUCSSers we were meeting for the first time. After the event, I was thinking back over the past several months of church life. One of the things that stood out to me is how the people of UUCSS have come together as a community at a variety of events this year.

The Halloween party organized by the Families Living UU Values was just spectacular—there was a huge turnout, fantastic games, and awesome prizes and awards. And I don't just say that because I received the coveted "Laziest Costume Award", for my painstakingly constructed jeans, flannel shirt, and hiking boots costume! Though I was unable to attend this year, there was a fantastic weekend of fellowship for the whole UUCSS community during the annual Catocin Mountain retreat. The church auction in November was not just a fundraiser to support the church, but was an evening of great community, as we chatted, wine, and dined our way through the various offerings.

I was particularly struck by the events on Christmas Eve. At the brunch after the morning service, we filled the Community Hall with food, lively conversation, and song! It was an uproarious intergenerational celebration. After the evening service, there was a fantastic spread of desserts to enjoy, as we came together in community. I heard a number of people who were attending both services and both events! And I know I am just scratching the surface of all the events that have gone on in the past months. Reflecting back on this has reminded me of the blessings and joy of this community and how uplifting it is to come together in fellowship. We are an incredible group of people. It is good to be together!

In faith,

John Henderson, President, Board of Trustees



## From Our Director of Religious Education

Come to *Faith Like A River*, a UU History class for adults which explores the ebbs and flows of our faith's journey and the people who were and are a part of it.

Childcare is provided, and folks are encouraged to bring a brown-bag lunch.

This is a drop-in class—meaning you don't have to attend all the sessions (although we would love to see you there).

Questions or comments? Please email Catherine at [dre@uucss.org](mailto:dre@uucss.org)

### Schedule Classes meet from 11:45-1:45 PM

February 4	NO CLASS
February 11	The Verdant Springs—Reform(ation)
February 18	NO CLASS
February 25	God's Gonna Trouble the Water— Martyrs and Sacrifice
March 4	Shall We Gather at the River? Religious Tolerance
March 18	We're All Swimming in the Stream Together—Covenant
March 25	Gently Down the Stream—Polity
April 1	Rise in the Sea—Unitarianism
April 8	Rise in the Sea—Universalism

### Who? What? Where? New Calendar

Calendars are now placed on the entrance board and billboard outside the chapel. Look for important dates upcoming to the life of RE. Want something on it? Email Catherine at [dre@uucss.org](mailto:dre@uucss.org).

### Social Justice Save the Date

Join your friends in marching on the Capital to save the planet! UUCSS RE is marching on April 29th with the People's Climate March. Please stay tuned for more details.

### MORE Upcoming RE Events

Valentine's Day Party! Celebrate the season of love with games, crafts, and a potluck February 17th from 5–8 in the Community Hall. Please sign up here to bring a dish:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080848AFAC23A64-valentines>

**New Committee Members** RE welcomes Michael LeBlanc, our new chair, Erica Anderson, new Teachers' Liaison, and Kandra Strauss-Riggs, new Worship Liaison, to our team.

### Covenanting Week Thank You!

Thanks to all who came out to Covenanting Week! With your input and fruitful discussion, I am working on three areas: 1) improved communications and organization, 2) deepening intergenerational ties, and 3) creating opportunities for families, children, and youth in social justice.

If you were unable to make it or wish to talk more, please email me at [dre@uucss.org](mailto:dre@uucss.org), call or text at 202-817-1494, or set up an appointment with me so we can meet in person.

## UPDATES AND REPORTS

### UUCSS, Civil Rights, and Fred Cappucino (Part 1) by Jo Paoletti

A few years ago, UUCSS invited the Rev. Mark Morrison-Reed to lead us in a racial justice workshop. Part of the requirement for hosting the event was that the congregation needed a sense of their own history, and Rev. Liz Lerner-Maclay asked me to undertake the task of researching and preparing a summary of our activities since 1952. The result was a presentation, [a timeline](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Sfa2rlz8xpWLF1y5XwhB9WgR2yCRkFi6QrzerCksHvc/edit), <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Sfa2rlz8xpWLF1y5XwhB9WgR2yCRkFi6QrzerCksHvc/edit> and the beginning of my interest in church history. The full story

is more than I can recount here; hopefully I will eventually get around to a more detailed account. The condensed version is that, from the beginning, UUCSS has been active in protests, service, and legislative advocacy related to social and economic justice. In the 1950s, under the leadership of Rev. David MacPherson and social action chair Margaret LaRocca, the congregation was involved in the integration of local schools and housing. The adult education committee hosted book discussions and speakers on race relations in America.

In 1962, Rev. MacPherson accepted a call to the Towson Church, and the search committee invited an unusual, even remarkable, person to candidate. Fred Cappuccino was a Methodist minister whose theological and social views were making it difficult for him to find and hold a pulpit. He was currently assigned to three Chicago area congregations, where his sermons on such topics as moral strength in the face of injustice, using not the Bible but “To Kill a Mockingbird,” were not being well-received. Even less popular with his neighbors and his flocks was his unusual family. I’ll let Fred tell it. He and his wife Bonnie “had decided to have two children born to us—in keeping with Zero Population Growth—and if she wanted more to adopt one or two. But she got carried away.”

At the time he candidated at UUCSS, they had six,



including four mixed-race children, three of them adopted from Japan or Korea. Eventually, they would have twenty-one children, all but two adopted. (I highly recommend his memoir, [Bonnie and Her 21 Children](http://www.bonnieandher21children.com/) <http://www.bonnieandher21children.com/>, if you want to learn more about them.) Happily, the search committee had no problem with Fred, his theology, or his family, nor did the congregation, which voted unanimously to call him as our second minister. He served UUCSS from 1962 to 1966, a time he and Bonnie remember as “among the best [years] in our lives”.

They were also among the most important years of the civil rights movement. Members attended the August 1963 March for Jobs and Freedom, where they heard Dr. Martin Luther King’s “I Have a Dream” speech. In September of that same year, church members took part in the September 22 silent protest march to the White House as a memorial to the children killed in the Birmingham (AL) church bombing. There was also a special collection in church that day to be donated to the families. Doris Jirikowic’s RE class was denied entrance at a local bowling alley because of the presence of one of the Cappuccino children. She complained publicly, and the bowling alley owner later agreed to end discrimination.



Cappuccino remembers that the church organized and attended demonstrations in favor of fair housing in Montgomery County every Saturday, and their efforts expanded to Prince George’s County as well. UUCSSer Ruth Atchison was among five Congress of Racial

Equality (CORE) members arrested at a protest against a whites-only housing development in Bowie; Marge Romberger of the Social Action Committee collected money for bail and legal defense funds for all five. Ruth was arrested again at the same development in February. Marie Erickson, with the help of several members of the Social Action Committee, drafted and presented testimony in favor of a proposed fair housing statute in Prince George’s County. (Her Uniter report is [online here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B9vWlQST_TBUNjjOWIzMMitYjgzOC00M2QzLWJkYtItMzMMyNWFIMjk3ZWQ3/view): [https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B9vWlQST\\_TBUNjjOWIzMMitYjgzOC00M2QzLWJkYtItMzMMyNWFIMjk3ZWQ3/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B9vWlQST_TBUNjjOWIzMMitYjgzOC00M2QzLWJkYtItMzMMyNWFIMjk3ZWQ3/view)).

Church members provided home hospitality for the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party when they came to DC in January 1965 to challenge the seating of five elected congressmen from Mississippi. After his friend and colleague [Jim Reeb](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Reeb) ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James\\_Reeb](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Reeb) was injured in Selma, Alabama, Fred Cappuccino spent several days there, witnessing for voting rights. (I will be telling more of this story in next month’s *Uniter*)

He later recalled “I appreciated the strong support of the [UUCSS] congregation in this venture, and was greatly heartened to see the largest congregation in the history of our church on the Sunday I reported the Selma experience. We laughed and wept together, and sang in harmony as never before”.

Fred and Bonnie now live in Maxville, Ontario. To learn more about them and their work, visit the [Child Haven](http://www.childhaven.ca/index.html) website: <http://www.childhaven.ca/index.html>. His contact information is there, if you would like to express your gratitude for his leadership. (And say thanks to Marie Erickson for her efforts to bring fair housing to Prince George’s County, when you see her in church).

**FEBRUARY  
VOLUNTEER  
OF THE  
MONTH  
KEN IOBST**

Ken Iobst is the Volunteer of the Month for February, for his work supporting the auction with Rob Dahlstrom and his other work supporting IT needs of UUCSS. Ken first came to UUCSS in 1978 with his sons Adam and baby twins Wayne and Paul. He remembers

attending Catoctin that fall and hiking with the twins in backpacks. He was one of the founding members of the Men's Group, which has been meeting since around 1981. He soon became involved in the auction, which was then run on 3x5 file cards. He wrote the first program for automating the auction in 1980 and continued providing IT support for the auction over the years. Currently, he focuses on setting up the computer hardware and Ethernet cables for the auction. He and

Rob are always looking for ways to improve the IT side of the auction.

After Ken left UUCSS for a while in the 1990s, he kept his connection with UUCSS through his ongoing involvement in UUMAC, a UU summer camp that takes place in each year in Pennsylvania. After his youngest son Nathan was born, he returned to UUCSS with his partner Alexa Fraser. Ken focuses his volunteer efforts on IT. Besides the auction, he is responsible for maintaining the UUCSS web domain and the logical email addresses. This role allows him to support UUCSS without requiring the long commutes to the church for meetings. Ken finds enormous value in the people of UUCSS, who support one another as family during difficult times.

**CHARITY OF THE MONTH  
MONTGOMERY HOSPICE  
SUPPORT ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18**



At least two UUCSS members contribute their time and talents as volunteers at **Montgomery Hospice**, the February charity of the month. We can attest to the skillful, compassionate care this organization provides to more than 2,200 terminally ill individuals and their families each year.

While Medicare and private insurance cover a lot of the costs, Montgomery Hospice relies on donations to cover these areas of uncompensated care:

- Casey House Above

- Uninsured and underinsured patients. Montgomery Hospice cares for all patients, regardless of their insurance status or ability to pay. Donations make up the difference,

which in 2016 amounted to more than \$600,000.

Casey House. Patients whose symptoms cannot be relieved at home may stay at a 14-bed facility that provides highly skilled monitoring and alleviation of pain, as well as a home-like setting for these patients and their visitors. Medicare doesn't cover the full cost of round-the-clock care for highly acute patients; Montgomery Hospice meets these expenses through grants and donations.

Bereavement. Professional grief counselors support more than 8,700 individuals each year, including children who have lost a parent or sibling, and provide a Loss and Grief Program at public high schools. Insurance covers none of these costs.

Montgomery Kids. Pediatric patients often receive more frequent and longer nursing visits than most adult patients. The standards of care for pediatric hospice permit children to continue pursuing curative treatments. The Montgomery Kids team coordinates care with their specialists, and the nurses help families implement their recommendations. Again, insurance is inadequate for this program.

Other programs unfunded by insurance include complementary therapies, such as touch, music, pets, and aroma, that ease symptoms and reduce anxiety, and the office that trains and coordinates the efforts of more than 300 volunteers.

## EVENTS



**FEBRUARY 5 at 7:00 PM** There will be a gathering at All Soul's Church of the "Poor Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival. Our UUCSS Racial Justice Task Force is in support of this event and efforts to address our country's moral framework and the lives of the poor among us.

**FEBRUARY 11 at 11:45 AM** First introductory class for anyone interested in learning how to embroider names on the UUCSS Memorial Quilts. This class will be led by Bobbi Pohl and Tamara Bowman. It will be held in the front of the UUCSS sanctuary.

A second class will be led by Jo Paoletti at a time that works for people who can't make it on February 11 at 11:45.

These classes will cover the logistics of embroidering new names on the memorial quilts, supplies needed, and transferring the design to the quilt. Students may bring supplies they have from the following list. Extras will be available to borrow if you do not have them. Children are welcome. (Grade 6 and up can come alone; younger ones should bring someone over 18.) Supplies needed are as follows:

- One-foot square piece of muslin or similar plain cotton fabric
- Cotton floss or pearl cotton size 12, 8, or 5
- Chenille needle size 18-20 or an embroidery/crewel needle size 2-4
- A sharp/sewing needle size 5-7 (optional) ("sharp" is a type of needle, not a description)
- One-foot square of tissue paper
- Embroidery hoop size 6-10 inches
- Lead pencil or erasable fabric marking pen (optional)

The basic stitches we will be learning in future classes are: running, stem, back, split, cable, and satin. You may preview how to do these from online stitch dictionaries at <https://www.needlenthread.com/videos> Please RSVP to Jo Paoletti ([jo.paoletti@gmail.com](mailto:jo.paoletti@gmail.com)) indicating which class you wish to attend.

**FEBRUARY 25 at 4:00 PM** Commemorate the Selma Marches with the Sanctuary Singers  
Location: The People's Community Baptist Church, 31 Norwood Road, Silver Spring, MD 20905

Join the Sanctuary Singers in commemorating the Selma marches. This stunning musical tribute features vocalist and Strathmore Artist in Residence alumna Cassandra Allen and choirs from UUCSS and the People's Community Baptist Church in a performance that explores and celebrates the legacy of the Selma marches through story, spirituals, and gospel music.

These marches are particularly important to UUCSS because several congregants travelled to Selma to participate. , Two UUs were killed during these events, including Rev. James Reeb, a UU minister who worked at All Souls DC for several years before he was ordained, and Viola Liuzzo, a UU from Detroit, who was shot as she was driving people to the airport after the march.

**FEBRUARY 25** UU101 for UUCSS visitors  
UU101's are informal gatherings for visitors to our church who would like to learn a bit about Unitarian Universalism and about UUCSS in particular. This month we are meeting on February 25 following the 10:30 service in the room adjacent to the community hall. Bring all your questions and grab a warm cup of coffee or tea on your way in from coffee hour. We can't wait to meet you!

**MARCH 10** Pathways class

If you become interested in UUCSS membership, we offer a "Pathways" class several times a year. The next class is Saturday morning, March 10, at the church. This is 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 the responsibilities becoming a member entails. Reverend Keely will be joining us. Pathways usually runs for 3 hours or less, and more information can be found in the order of service and the UUCSS website.

## An Ally's Advice for Living Black History Month Every Month By Catherine Boyle

In the current climate of this country, promoting and living the values of racial justice is means of a resistance against white supremacy. Black History Month isn't just February but every month. As a white cisgendered woman, here are some ideas for my fellow allies and their families to live beyond just Black History Month.



1. **Join *Showing Up for Racial Justice*** to meet folks fighting the good fight. From [ShowingUpForRacialJustice.Org](https://www.showingupforracialjustice.org): "SURJ's role as part of a multi-racial movement is to undermine white support for white supremacy and to help build a racially just society. That work cannot be done in isolation from or disconnected from the powerful leadership of communities of color. It is one part of a multi-racial, cross-class movement centering people of color leadership. Therefore, SURJ believes resourcing organizing led by people of color, and maintaining strong accountability relationships with organizers and communities of color as a central part of our theory of change." The Montgomery County group is available at <https://www.facebook.com/surjmomcmd/>, and other state groups are at

[http://www.showingupforracialjustice.org/affiliated\\_groups\\_local\\_contacts#maryland](http://www.showingupforracialjustice.org/affiliated_groups_local_contacts#maryland)

2. **Buy and consume black media.** As the old saying goes, vote with your dollars. By buying black magazines, artists, radio stations, and authors, you support black endeavors. "The picture is bleak in radio and television as well. In 2013, there were 166 black-owned radio stations and 68 black-owned radio companies, compared with 250 stations and 146 companies in 1995, according to the National Association of Black Owned Broadcasters," says a 2016 New York Times article "Pillars of Black Media, Once Vibrant, Now Fighting for Survival," by Sydney Embers and Nicholas Fandos. Using your purchasing power towards these companies helps to ensure they are around for the next generation.

3. **Buy and consume black-owned brands.** One option for clothes is at <https://www.buzzfeed.com/adambutler/black-owned-clothing-and-accessories-brands>, and for makeup and skincare, <https://www.popsugar.com/beauty/Black-Owned-Makeup-Brands-43638573>. Black-owned, cruelty-free skincare and makeup can be found at <https://www.peta.org/living/beauty/black-owned-beauty-brands-companies/>. Another option is shop small and local with black store owners, craft vendors, and restaurants (<https://shoppeblack.us/2017/01/black-owned-eateries-dc/>). Local black-owned photography, graphic design, real estate and more is available at <https://www.supportblackowned.com/states/dc>. Find somewhere you love? Share with your friends.

4. **Watch and discuss documentaries.** For families with middle schoolers and above, watching and discussing documentaries as a unit gives space for youth (and perhaps parents as well) to learn and ask questions about privilege, power, and inequality as a feature of American history, and adds insight into the current political and social climate. Suggestions include 13th, an in-depth look into of the presence and history of racial bias within the American prison system (available on Netflix); Daisy Bates: First Lady of Little Rock, the story of one of the Little Rock Nine (available at <http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/films/daisy-bates-first-lady-little-rock/>), and Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin, best remembered as the organizer of the 1963 March on Washington—this is his complete story (check your public library for copies).

5. **Be an educator.** Oftentimes we hear "I just don't see color!" If you are a white person like me, this is one of the most common statements we hear from our fellow white people. Not seeing color ignores the unique characteristics and cultures of black and brown people. It also ignores reality, as Ashleigh Haughton says in her article for Odyssey Online, 'Saying You 'Don't See Color' Is Actually Racist': "...Anyone calling himself or herself an ally needs to quit saying they don't see color, because it ignores oppression, both historical and present. Black and brown people in America have suffered though hell and high water to gain life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness in a country that never intended to give us these things in the first place, and the struggle for it is still very real." Calling out our fellow white people spares people of color some of the racial fatigue stress of educating people. Racial battle fatigue was coined by researcher

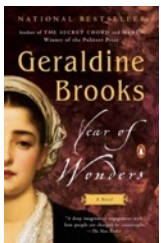
William A. Smith as "while studying how racialized microaggressions [such as "I don't see color"]—relatively inconspicuous, but potent, degradation of marginalized people—affected black students at predominately white colleges and universities" (source: [https://faculty.utah.edu/u0173846-WILLIAM\\_A\\_SMITH/research/index.html](https://faculty.utah.edu/u0173846-WILLIAM_A_SMITH/research/index.html)). Since then, research of it expanded into all facets of people of color's lives.

**6. Learn more about to be a better ally.** Calling out so-called colorblindness is only one to stand up for racial justice. There is much to learn. SURJ, listed in number one, is one resource. Visiting the Southern Poverty Law Center (<https://www.splcenter.org>) is another, as well as #BlackLivesMatter on Facebook and Twitter. Supporting justice and inclusion within our own denomination is another, at <https://www.uua.org/racial-justice>, as well as learning about our own faith's failures within the racial justice movement with Rev. Mark Morrison-Reed's book *Darkening Doorways: Black Trailblazers and Missed Opportunities in Unitarian Universalism*, available at <http://www.uuabookstore.org>. These are just suggestions to get you started.

**7. Recognize you'll make mistakes.** You will make mistakes as an ally. That is ok. We are always unlearning the innate prejudices and bias that our culture taught us from day one. When it happens, take a deep breath, ask how you can do better, and continue onwards. You may want to debrief with a fellow white ally. This is a learning process.

**8. Read black history books** for children and youth; contact me at [dre@uucss.org](mailto:dre@uucss.org) for a list of books that can all be borrowed from me.

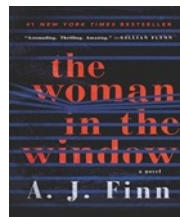
## ONGOING EVENTS



### 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

February 26, we will discuss *Year of Wonders: A Novel of the Plague*, by Geraldine Brooks.



### MENS' BOOK READING GROUP

We are reading *The Woman in the Window* by A. J. Finn, described as a noir for the new millennium. Stephen King says this homage to Alfred Hitchcock is "one of those rare books

that really is unputdownable." The next meeting will be at 7:00 on Sunday, February 25, at the home of Richard Lorr, [302 Windsor Street, Silver Spring 20910](https://www.google.com/maps/place/302+Windsor+Street,+Silver+Spring,+MD+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

## CONNECT WITH UUCSS

The **Nominating Committee** wants to hear from you on the next generation of UUCSS leaders.

**Who we are:** Members are Cynthia Curry-Daniel (Chair), Robin Moore Lasky, Nicole Levesque, and George Meekins.

**What we do:** Under our church constitution, the Nominating Committee has two important jobs. We are charged with seeking candidates for open Board of Trustees positions, and then we present to the Board and publicize to the congregation a slate of candidates, in advance of the annual meeting. Our other job is to seek candidates to fill open positions on The Nominating Committee each year. That slate is also presented to the congregation in advance of the annual meeting. Other than the final slates, potential candidates are confidential.

**How you can help lead the direction of your church:**

1. Consider qualified candidates—yourself or a friend—for the Board of Trustees. Three of the nine volunteer, Board of Trustees positions will turn over this July: the President, the VP for Finance, and an at-large position. Among their duties, Board members participate in monthly meetings and attend an annual Board retreat. The executive committee (President, VP Planning, VP Personnel, VP Program, and VP Finance) participates in an additional, monthly conference call.



2. Consider qualified candidates—yourself or a friend—for the Nominating Committee. There are three positions on the Nominating Committee that will turn over this July.
3. Dialogue with the Nominating Committee about the important work being done by church leadership and learn about opportunities to get involved.

**You can join us in the Triangle room during coffee hour (starting around 11:30) on Sunday, February 25.** We will answer your questions about Board service and other opportunities to serve this beloved community. We also hope to hear from interested candidates. A new nomination form will be available at the meeting and shortly thereafter. You can also talk to us individually or e-mail us at [nominating@uucss.org](mailto:nominating@uucss.org).

**The Nominating Committee looks forward to hearing your thoughts!**

### Did You Know?

That it takes eight members of a Sunday Support Team to fully carry out all of the jobs needing to be done for our Sunday morning services? These include, in no particular order: 1) making sure the sanctuary is clean and organized, with chairs and hymnals in place, oil in the chalice (who knew?), candles in place, etc.; 2) greeting; 3) ushering; 4) manning the visitors' table; 5) supplying the coffee, tea, cookies, etc. and cleaning up afterward; 6) taking attendance; 7) handling the collection, especially if the collector is absent; 8) pulpit setup, i.e. water, tissues and announcement folder in place; 9) service information to the interpreter; 10) making sure orders of service are ready and distributed; 11) ensuring that name tag supplies are available; 12) answering questions. "You have to be ready to roll with the punches; no Sunday is the same as any other," team member Lorraine Sorrel commented.

Five teams, led by Dorothy Hale, Lorraine Sorrel, Rachel Vanarsdall, Cindy Scharf and Olivia Pickett, and overall coordinator Deb Weiner rotate and are duly noted in the order of service each Sunday. But I doubt that any of us who are not part of a team truly know what all is involved.

Furthermore, very often these teams are understaffed because of inevitable last-minute glitches, so that only three or four people are handling everything. If any of this appeals to you and you're so inclined, Deb and her crews would be delighted to welcome you into their fold. Just contact Deb Weiner at ([dweiner04@gmail.com](mailto:dweiner04@gmail.com)).

So—a big shout-out of appreciation for all these UUCSS worker bees who keep us humming on Sunday mornings.

Bev McGaughy

P.S. Keep your ideas for this column coming. Thanks!

### Administrative Update

Many thanks to Property Committee member Rob Dahlstrom (the January 2017 Volunteer of the Month) for taking care of many things for the church—and always being there for me! Besides his work with Property and IT, Rob also is currently chair of the Administrative Operations Committee (which I attend), part of the Audio Team recording Sunday services, and “Acting Convener” of the Operations Council, as well. Now that's a committed member of the church! Thanks, Rob.  
--Melinda Yalom, Church Administrator



UUCSS

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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](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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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)**