



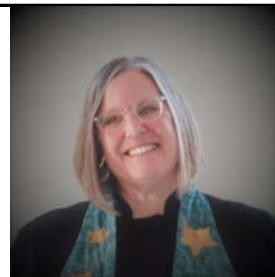
NEWSLETTER

April 2022

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Message from Our Minister Rev. Pam Philips

Every spring is a season of reawakening, with birds returning, flowers blooming, trees blossoming in the warmer, longer days. That sense of renewal seems amplified this year, though, as we begin to have more and safer opportunities to get out of the house and gather with others. Instead of just a winter's sleep, we are awakening from two long years of being sequestered due to the pandemic. At least that's how it seems at UUC. With lower COVID numbers, we have moved to optional masking during the Sunday service and begun singing (with masks for the time being). This has brought some folks back into the sanctuary for the first time in two years.



At the same time, the Stewardship Committee has created a menu of fun activities to help us cultivate our community. In the weeks ahead, we'll have opportunities to gather for working on the grounds (and a pizza lunch!), hiking, biking, and even line dancing in the parking lot! Make sure to check out the [list of offerings](#) and [sign up](#) for one or two. (And make sure to [pledge](#)! We're 2/3 of the way there, but only half of the possible pledgers have pledged.) We're planning to celebrate reaching our goal on **May 1**. Stay tuned for details. (See page 3 for more info.)

Our congregation is also awakening to new possibilities. The search committees have received excellent applications for the Administrator and Director of Lifespan Faith Development positions and look forward to recommending final candidates to the Board soon. While it's hard to say goodbye to beloved staff members (only in their staff roles, both Lisa and Karen will continue to be part of UUC), having new people with different perspectives and experiences will awaken us to new possibilities.

We're also awakening to new ways of living into our mission and vision. Mark Benson has gathered a small group to identify goals for the congregation to work toward environmental justice. Thanks to Bill Baker, we have an energy audit that will help us do the work to decrease our energy use. Gene Gardner, on behalf of the Board, is organizing an Outreach Summit for **April 23**, during which we'll identify ways that we might "*join with other organizations and faiths to work for just causes.*" Please let us know if you have ideas or would like to attend. (See page 4 for how to participate.)

Finally, the Auction Committee is hard at work planning our favorite fun-raiser (fund-raiser), to be held in person for the first time in nearly two years on **May 7**. Those of you who have attended this event in the past know it will awaken your sense of camaraderie and community. The success will rely on everyone's participation – offering events and activities to be auctioned off, bringing food for the event, bidding on items, and most importantly, having fun together. Deb Dickerson is planning a party for the children, so we hope families will attend, too. (See page 4 for more info.)

April will be a time of **Awakening** at UUC, both with all these activities but also during worship, as we explore the theme through different religious observances and holy days. As spring unfolds, I invite us all to be open to the possibilities in our lives to awaken along with the natural world. In the words of Thich Nhat Hanh, "May our heart's garden of awakening bloom with hundreds of flowers."

In faith and love,
Rev. Pam



Contact Information

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Staff Office Hours:

Contact staff to make an appointment.

Message from Our Board

Wayne Neu, Board Treasurer



I send you greetings from the Board once again. After a brief vacation from the Board after my term as president, I'm back. As of last December, I am serving as treasurer, finishing out Meredith Hundley's term. Working full-time, caring for an infant daughter, and serving as our treasurer is asking a bit too much of anyone. Since I had been working closely with our finances for two years, I felt quite comfortable stepping into the job.

I would like to say, once again, how honored I was to have been called to serve as your president last year. Among the things that will stick with me the most is that our congregation honored the stewardship call in record fashion last year, fully funding our proposed budget! Nothing would please me more than to make this an annual tradition! This year's budget calls for an increase of only about \$10,000. However, as treasurer, I am looking for the level of inflation we are now experiencing to impact our expenses a bit more in the coming year than we may be anticipating. If you have not done so already, please consider raising your pledge this year as you are able. Also, please take advantage of some of the many fun activities that the Stewardship Committee has planned for us. I look forward to another year of exceeding our pledge goal and fully funding our ambitions. (See page 3 for more info.)

We are now in a time of transition regarding our COVID precautions. As Montgomery County has moved from high to medium and now low risk level with the declining prevalence of the virus in our area, the Board has been discussing relaxing the masking requirements. I attended the service on March 20, the first Sunday that masks were optional in the sanctuary and was surprised to see that at least 60% of the congregation was unmasked. Apparently, we are ready to get back to normal. As we move to less masking, please do respect the fact that our young children are not yet vaccinated. Masking should remain standard procedure when around these children or in their spaces downstairs.

As we move into spring, as days get longer and warmer and things start to grow, it is once again time to begin thinking about UUA (Unitarian Universalist Assn.) General Assembly (GA). That's what we all think of – right? Well, regardless, it is coming up, and it's time for us to select our delegates. At GA each congregation gets to vote on important matters effecting UUA affairs. It is the annual business meeting of the denomination. This year, GA will be held in Portland, OR for those who wish to attend in person, but we'll also be able to attend virtually, as we have been doing the last two years. While anyone can attend, it is the delegates appointed to represent each congregation who are allowed to vote on matters that are placed on the business agenda. If you would like to serve as one of our delegates, now is the time to raise your hand. Please notify either Rev. Pam or President Bob Stimson if interested. The Board will approve delegates at the April and May meetings (and the June meeting, if necessary).

Current Mask Policy

Our Board has approved the following mask policy due to Montgomery County now being at a low Covid level: Wearing a mask at UUC is now optional. However, masks must still be worn while singing and when with children too young to be vaccinated -- in a classroom setting and throughout the building. The Board will revisit this policy at the **April 14** Board meeting so watch for further information.

UUC's 2022-2023 Stewardship Campaign

Cultivating Our Community in 2022



Here we are mid-way through our Stewardship Campaign, and as of **March 29** we have received 90 pledges for a total of \$236,299 which leaves us with \$121,201 to raise toward our goal of \$357,500 by **April 30**. We hope everyone will pledge — no matter how small or how large your pledge — every little bit helps us towards our goal. We can all work together and continue to cultivate this wonderful UUC Community!

One of my favorite parts of our Stewardship Campaign is the **pulpit testimonials**. Missed any? All are easily accessed via our [stewardship webpage](#) along with much other information. Last night I listened to them all again, including my own. I was struck anew by the many different aspects of our UUC community that is meaningful to each of us. Victoria Taylor spoke of how our theme of *Cultivating Community* spoke to her, and that the idea of “cultivating” refers to the care and keeping of growing things such as UUC. Cynthia Baute, a new member, spoke gratefully about all she has gained through her

recent joining of UUC including participation in meditation and small group ministries. I spoke about how meaningful Religious Education was for my kids from birth through YRUU, and how excited I am about our future with a full-time Director of Lifespan Faith Development. Marilyn DuPont spoke about her experiences working with ministerial interns in a previous congregation, and how much our new intern will not only help launch a brand-new UU minister but will lift up our congregation in so many ways. This past Sunday, Denise Martin spoke about how joining our Grounds Ministry has benefitted her so much, while she in turn helped the grounds by chopping down invasive vines.

We hope people have enjoyed (and will enjoy) the many fun [Stewardship activities](#) being offered throughout the month. If you haven't yet signed up, do so via this [link](#). I am looking forward to meeting some folks at Moon Hollow Brewery this week and then building a campfire next Saturday as we gather around and listen to my husband, Jim, play classic rock on his guitar under the stars. That same day there will be a walk through a local park with Rev. Pam, a grounds' workday with pizza, and a hike to a new local hiking trail with Lisa Evanylo. Check out these and other awesome, fun activities and build some community with your UUC friends and neighbors. We would love you to join us. If you have questions about any event or anything related to stewardship, please [email me](#) or call (540) 357-1918.

Most importantly, please don't forget to pledge via this [link](#) or email administrator@uucnrva.org with your pledge. To everyone that has already pledged, thank you very much for giving to our beloved UUC Community!

May 1: Stewardship Celebration Sunday, watch for more info

With gratitude,
Carol Kern UUC Stewardship Chair

Upcoming Events and Updates

Ready for a Party? Unmask the Fun!

Spring into UUC Auction Night! Saturday, May 7 from 5-8 PM

Dinners, parties, outings, services, and more available for live bidding.

Submit your offerings/donations to Irene Peterson, (540) 239-1420.

Check out our [auction website](#) for items that have been donated to date. You can also register NOW to avoid having to do so at the event.

Please bring a heavy appetizer or dessert to share. Beverages, including beer, wine, and non-alcoholic options are provided although donations always appreciated.

Childcare provided for the very young and a fun party for the others but please RSVP to Deb Dickerson to help with the planning.

Can't make it? Send a proxy bid via a friend or make a direct donation at the website above.



Anti-Racist Practice Group

April 26, and May 31, 7-8:30 PM via Zoom.
Sponsored by Blacksburg Presbyterian Church & UUC.

Dismantling white supremacy requires a commitment to honest, sometimes painful, self-reflection. Because we all struggle with unconscious bias, we benefit from opportunities to receive feedback and support as we seek to practice anti-racism. This deep, inner work requires a community of accountability where white folks can learn from our mistakes and gain experience in interrupting racism in ourselves and our organizations.

During these 90-minute workshops, we will gather in small groups to discuss case studies of racial microaggressions. Alongside facilitators, we will role-play possible micro-interventions and practice interrupting common examples of racism.

Attend one or both and register for each session via this [link](#). In the days leading up to each workshop, you'll receive an email with the Zoom link and relevant workshop materials. However, no preparation is required prior to the meeting.

VT Big Event Workday Volunteers Needed

Buddha says your life will be enriched when you participate in the **VT Big Event workday** on Saturday, **April 9**, 10:15-2. Twenty wonderful VT students will be helping us complete spring-time projects on our grounds. We need workers and project leaders to work with the students. Use this [link](#) to sign up to help. We provide a pizza lunch for all workers. Can't work but want to help? Contact Denise Martin if you can bring a salad or dessert for the hungry workers or make a financial contribution for the purchase of pizzas. Getting involved helps build our UUC community and your connection to it.



Outreach Summit

A meeting to create UUC outreach action plans, open to all congregants, will be held **April 23** from 9 AM-12:30 PM. This is an opportunity to share ideas and insights, identify new areas of outreach, and determine next steps to enhance our community involvement. For those unable to attend, opportunities to provide input and comment on the plans will be available. Use this [link](#) to indicate your attendance or get information on how to contribute/comment.



UUC Piecemakers Are Back



The Piecemakers, a UUC quilting and fiber craft group that makes our paraments (those colorful pieces which cover the podium and the candle table) and quilts for any congregant in need of a tangible item of comfort, has resumed regular meeting times, and as always welcomes newcomers of all skills. The group meets in Elarth on the 1st Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM and the 3rd Saturday of the month at 10 AM. From time to time a meeting may be cancelled, so if you are planning to attend for the first time, please contact Marilyn DuPont to confirm or for more info.

Newcomers' Orientation

New to UUC and interested in learning more about our congregation and Unitarian Universalism in general? Want to meet other newcomers? Come to our Newcomers' Orientation on Saturday, **April 30** from 10-11:30 AM and get your questions answered. Members of our Connections Committee and Rev. Pam will be there with much information and fun activities. If unable to attend in person, we will have a Zoom option. Email [Pauletta Copenheaver](mailto:Pauletta.Copenheaver@uuc.org) by **April 27** if you can attend and if in person or via Zoom.



Weekly Gatherings

Women's & Men's Breakfasts

All women and men are invited each Monday at UUC for coffee, breakfast (bring your own), and conversation with the men gathering from 7-9 AM and women from 7:30-9:30 AM. The two groups meet separately. Join in when you are able.

Women's Lunch

All women are welcome to join together for lunch on Fridays at 11:30 AM at local restaurants or noon at UUC. Meet **April 1** at noon in UUC picnic area. Check [online calendar](#) for locations and times for the following weeks.

Sages

Join us on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 2 PM at UUC for stimulating conversation on topics that affect older adults and more. If you choose not to meet in person, you can still join us on Zoom via this [link](#). All ages welcome.

Yoga

Join this free weekly group at UUC on Wednesdays at 5:30 PM. Bring a mat if you have one. To get on the email list for the weekly status of class, contact [Lori](#).

Monthly Support Groups at UUC

Parent Bereavement Support

A community-wide support group for bereaved parents and grandparents who have lost an adult or adolescent child. We come together once a month on 2nd Mondays (**April 11**) from 6-7 PM to help one another on our journeys. For more info and the Zoom link, contact [Katherine](#) or [Lisa](#).

Caregivers Support

UUC hosts a monthly support group for caregivers to share their experiences and challenges. The group meets on the 2nd Tuesdays of each month (**April 12**) from 7-8:30 PM via this [Zoom link](#). Questions or concerns - contact [Rev. Pam](#).

NAMI Support

Connections Support: Persons living with a mental illness are welcome to join this NAMI support group on the 3rd Monday of each month (**April 18**) from 6-7:30 PM. Contact [Kimberley](#) for the Zoom link or for more info.

Family Support: Family and friends of persons living with a mental illness are welcome to join this NAMI support group on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (**April 20**) from 6-7:30 PM. Contact [Kristine](#) for the Zoom link or for more info.

Transgender Support

NRV Trans Support is a peer-led organization whose mission is to offer support, resources, and social activities to all transgender and gender non-conforming individuals in the NRV in a supportive, anonymous and affirming environment. To learn more, visit their [website](#). Two different support groups meet monthly, and both groups are sponsored by UUC.

The **NRV Trans Adult Group** meets on 1st Thursdays (**April 7**) from 7-8:30 PM and 3rd Saturdays (**April 16**) from 1-2:30 PM and welcomes all adults who identify under the trans umbrella or are questioning their gender. For more information about these meetings, contact nrvtrans@gmail.com.

The **Youth & Families Group** meets on the 4th Tuesdays (**April 26**) from 6:30-8 PM and is for anyone under 18 who identifies under the trans umbrella or who is questioning their gender. The group is also for parents who have trans or gender non-conforming children. Parents are welcome with or without their children. The group provides resources, advice, and support for children and their families. For more information about these meetings, contact correspondence-nrvtransfamily@gmail.com.

UUC Community News

Update on ½-Plate Donations

Thanks to your generosity, UUC continued its practice of helping others in both our community and beyond. The March recipients were:

March 6: Razom Emergency Response (for Ukraine), \$863

March 13: Internat'l Women's Convocation (for Ukraine), \$285

March 20: Planned Parenthood, \$344

March 27: NRCA Rapid Rehousing, \$249.43

Watch the weekly announcements and website for the coming weeks' ½-plate recipients. Have a suggestion—email [Lisa](#).

Check out our [Give webpage](#) for information on donating options.

March Board Mtg. Highlights

- ♦ The Board continued working on the Policy & Procedures manual and approved 2 updates:
 - 1) Removed the duty of the President to offer a monthly Board report
 - 2) Made the President-Elect a member, instead of the chair, of the Leadership Development Committee
- ♦ Following the Board meeting, via an email vote, the Board approved that masks be optional indoors except when singing

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, **April 14** at 7 PM. The [minutes and reports](#) of meetings for the past two calendar years are available.

Questions, Ideas, Complaints for the Board: Send an email to addresstheBoard@uucnr.org.

Community Service Team News

Literacy Volunteers is seeking 2-3 additional volunteers to work with adults in an English as a Second Language program. Classes are held at the Christiansburg Library on Sunday evenings from 6:30-8 PM. The next 7-week session begins on **May 8**. Since the classes are an extension of the Literacy Volunteers of the NRV, volunteers are to sign up with the Literacy Volunteers organization. Contact [Irene](#) or [Molly](#) for more information.

Open Book is a program which gives new books to children in our area. The program operates out of Giles County and serves children throughout the NRV. Recently a bag of new books was given to each child whose father graduated from the Fatherhood/Family Literacy Program at the Montgomery County jail. The next planned donation is to supply books to 11 Boys and Girls Club Centers in the area. A request was made for new or gently used backpacks. Backpack donations can be placed in a marked collection container located in our upstairs foyer. For additional information contact [Barbara Taylor](#).

April Food Pantry Donations



Our Community Service Team is collecting food in the bins located near the accessible entrance to UUC. Suggested donations for April are 1 -lb. bags of dried beans, 1-lb. bags of rice, and canned chicken. Thanks for helping to feed the hungry in our area.

Be Joyful! Be a Biker!

Starting this April, every 4th Sunday through September is **Biker Sunday**. Ride your bike to UUC, save gas, help the planet, get exercise, and be part of the biking movement. The first Biker Sunday is **April 24**. Why not make it a family event?

Do you live far from UUC? No problem – transport your bike to a doable bike-start location and ride your bike the rest of the way. You'll still save gas and burn pandemic calories. Bike parking at UUC is available at the bike rack in the parking lot and by the Crescent Garden. Questions – contact [Susan Baker](#).



Do you currently have artwork hanging at UUC? If so, please take home your piece(s) by Sunday, **April 10**, as we will be hanging a new show on **April 16**. Don't have a key to the building, contact [Lisa](#) to arrange a time to get in.

If you are unable to get to UUC to get your piece(s), they will be kept locked in the Administrator's office. Again, you will need to contact [Lisa](#) to arrange a time to pick them up.

Thank you for allowing us to enjoy your beautiful art work for so long!!!

Round the Grounds by Susan Baker, co-chair



If UUC Grounds Ministry had a "White Knight", there is no question it would be **George Lally**. George has been a visionary, worker, and creator for our grounds for 13 years. He has constructed many, many items (see photos for some of his work), dug "tons" of holes, mixed many batches of mortar, carried hundreds of pounds of materials, and trimmed huge pine trees to create spaces. George is the visionary behind the well-used meditation path on the grounds.

He's the kind of guy who takes the ball and runs with his ideas, but the traits I appreciate the most are his listening and advice skills, generosity, humor (sometimes "sick" but nevertheless, fun), and his love for others. George celebrates his 80th birthday in May and is proof that working on the grounds keeps one ageless. Thank you, George!



Love Garden



Block wall to level picnic area



Cinder block retaining wall



Entrance sign



Upper picnic area



Memorial walkway



7 meditation benches



Safety fence



Lower picnic area



Steps & handrail to upper lawn



Ramp to shed



Tool rack



Beehive fencing



Water feature sign

"April showers bring May flowers". Yes, it's that time of year when I send a plea for three people to do weekly watering of the potted flowers that brighten the crescent garden area. It takes about 45 minutes, but it's time well spent in the outdoors and nurturing flowers. We need waterers for Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Choose the day that best suits your schedule and email me, Susan, with your availability. We'll cover for you when you are away. Watering starts in May and usually ends in late September. We'll provide training; you aim the hose.

Plans are being developed for "passing the torch" for both Denise Martin and myself. We love being part of the grounds crew and will continue to be involved but would like time to "stretch our wings" to do other things. More information will be forthcoming, but, in the meantime, consider how YOU could become part of the grounds' leadership and work crew.

Lifespan Faith Development

Children's RE

Just like the daffodils opening their cheerful petals, our spring semester is in full bloom!

Classes continue to take place mostly indoors. Masking at UUC is now optional, but we ask adults and older children to continue to wear a mask when sharing indoor spaces with PreK students, and that unvaccinated children continue to mask indoors.

Parents should stop at the sign-in table located in the downstairs lobby between 9:45-10 AM to sign in children.
Children do NOT go into the sanctuary on Sunday mornings.



PreK: Our preschool class is exploring *Rainbow Connection*, a curriculum that uses story books to discuss each of the eight Principles that guide Unitarian Universalism.

Grades K-2: Our kindergarten through second graders are focused on *Picture Book UU*. They are learning about each of the eight Principles through reading picture books, thoughtful discussion, and creative hands-on activities.

Grades 3-5: Our third through fifth graders are focused on *Windows & Mirrors*. Their creative and interactive projects encourage self-reflection, as well empathy for other perspectives.

Grades 6-8: Middle school is focused on social justice topics through the lens of *Simpson's* and *The Twilight Zone*, looking at LGBTQ rights, marriage equality, prejudice, and social conformity.



OWL Resources for Parents & Caregivers of Children Ages 5-7

There is a new *Our Whole Lives* (OWL) resource called [Under Your Wing](#). It is a series of short videos that support parents and caregivers as the primary sexuality educators of their children ages 5-7. Each video shares conversation tips and at-home reading recommendations related to topics children are curious about.

If you are a parent or caregiver of a child between the ages of 5-7, and you are interested in discussing the videos with other UUC parents and caregivers, please click on this [Doodle Poll](#), and let us know which date/s you prefer.

UUC Annual Egg Hunt!



Sunday, April 17th
Following the Multigenerational Service

We're Accepting Donations for the Annual Egg Hunt!

Eggs will be filled with items for the dogs and cats of the Montgomery County Animal Care & Adoption Center. **You can drop off your donated items in the collection bins at UUC. There are bins in both the upstairs and downstairs lobbies.** Below is a list of requested items from the Animal Center:

Purina Cat Chow
Cat Litter
Purina Kitten Chow
Paté Style Canned Cat Food
Cat Toys

Canned Dog Food
Purina Dog Chow
Kong Dog Toys
Nylabones
Soft Dog Treats

Laundry Detergent
Hand Sanitizer
Clorox Wipes
Dawn Dish Soap
Scrub Brushes

Volunteer

Email dlfd@uucnrv.org if you would like to help with the Egg Hunt!



Seeking Summer RE Teachers!

Summer is a wonderful time to volunteer as an RE teacher. The time commitment is shorter. The classes are fun and casual. If you have ever considered applying to be an RE Teacher, summer is a great time to give it a try.

Email dlfd@uucnrv.org to learn more about how to apply.

On-Going Adult RE Programs

Sunday Circle

Meets first and third Sundays, 8:30-9:30 AM via this [Zoom link](#).

April 3: Human Dignity: Lessons from Myanmar & India. Bill Baker will give a 5 to 10-minute introduction followed by a 30-minute lecture by a VT professor, followed by discussion for which Bill will have some questions. Bill recommends a book, *Behind the Beautiful Forevers* by Katherine Boo, written in 2012. The lecturer mentions this book in his lecture.

April 17: Steve Keighton presents **Weather You Asked or Not.** Bring any weather questions you have (if possible, please submit in advance to [Jamie](#)) to be answered by yours truly, a former National Weather Service (NWS) meteorologist. If there's time, Steve will provide some help in navigating NWS web pages and show how you can use this information to plan ahead.

Anti-Racism Group

Meets second and fourth Sundays, 1-2 PM via this [Zoom link](#).

All are welcome to join our ongoing group addressing white privilege and racism. Contact [Barbara Taylor](#) for meeting topics. Email administrator@uucnr.org to join the listserv to receive links to the discussion articles.

Meditation Group

Meets Tuesdays, 5-6 PM via this [Zoom link](#).

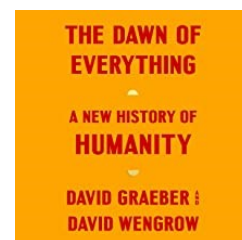
Our meditation group meets weekly for those interested in starting or deepening their meditation practice. Our format is drop-in, so you need not attend all sessions. Open with centering words and basic instruction followed by sitting practice. Meditators from all traditions and all levels of experience are welcome.



Conversations on Our Faith

Meets Wednesdays, 12-1 PM via this [Zoom link](#).

Join our conversation as we begin reading the book, *The Dawn of Everything: A New History of Humanity* by David Graeber, David Wengrow, et al. All are welcome, even if you have not read the chapters of the book under discussion. To learn more, contact [Tim Pickering](#).



UUA Common Read

Sunday, April 24 11:30-1 PM via this [Zoom link](#).



The UUA chose *Defund Fear: Safety Without Policing, Prisons, and Punishment* by Zach Norris (Beacon Press, 2021) as the next Common Read. Zach Norris shifts the conversation about public safety away from fear and punishment and toward growth and support systems for our families and communities. In *Defund Fear*, Norris explores what has gone wrong, and why, and who has been most impacted by repressive and racist policing systems. He offers a new blueprint for public safety that holds people accountable while still holding them in community. Led by [Rev. Jamie McReynolds](#).

Norris is a lawyer, a community organizer, and Executive Director of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights in Oakland, CA. [Learn about the Center's work](#) and [read his bio](#).

Use this [link](#) for additional information.



Unitarian Universalist Congregation Sunday Services April 2022

Services are now in person at UUC and virtual via [Zoom](#) at 10 AM.
We welcome you to join us.

April's Theme: Awakening

Join our dual-platform service each Sunday at 10 AM - both in person at UUC or via this [Zoom link](#).

This month we will be exploring the theme of **Awakening** through the lens of different religious traditions. The month of April is full of holy days and holidays, times when the faithful observe rituals, retell stories, and apply the lessons to their lives.



April 3: *Awakening and Ramadan*, UUC member and seminarian Ellen Plummer and Montasir Abbas. As we begin our month-long exploration of the theme of Awakening, we'll consider how this holy time for Muslims might give us a new lens through which to look.

April 10: *Passover and Awakening*, Rev. Pam Philips and Worship Associate Victoria Taylor. What might the story of the Exodus of the Israelites from enslavement in Egypt and the Jewish holiday which celebrates it teach us about awakening?

April 17: *Awakening to the Holy*, Rev. Pam Philips and Worship Associate Kimberley Homer. How might Easter – the holiest of Christian holy days – awaken in us a new sense of the holy?

April 24: *Stewardship of the Earth*, Rev. Pam Philips and Worship Associate TBA. We'll celebrate Earth Day by exploring earth-based religious perspectives on awakening and recommitting our efforts to be responsible members of the interdependent web of all life.

Our Mission

Inspire. Create. Transform.

Inspire spiritual and ethical growth. **Create** compassionate community.

Transform our community and the world through courageous love.

Our Vision

UUC will be a beacon of liberal religion in the New River Valley. We will join with other organizations and faiths to work for just causes.

We will practice generosity and radical hospitality. We will be known as a place of beauty, welcome, joy, and celebration.



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MULTIPLATFORM / PORTLAND • 2022

Unitarian Universalist Congregation

1301 Gladewood Drive, Blacksburg, VA 24060

Phone: (540) 552-9716 E-mail: info@uucnrv.org:

P.O. Box 10116, Bburg 24062-0116 URL: uucnrv.org

CALENDAR: April 2022

All times are PM unless noted otherwise

κ indicates that there is a write-up in the newsletter

κκ indicates a Stewardship Pledge Drive *Opportunity to Cultivate Connections*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
(All Sundays except April 17) κ 10:00 AM Worship Service (UUC and Zoom) κ 10:00 AM Religious Education classes (UUC) 7:00 YRUU (UUC)	(All Mondays) κ 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast (UUC) κ 7:30 AM Women's Breakfast (UUC)	(All Tuesdays) κ 5:00 Meditation 6:00 Emerging Adults κ 5:30 Yoga (UUC) 7:00 Choir rehearsal (UUC)	(All Wednesdays) κ Noon Conversations on Our Faith κ 5:30 Yoga (UUC) 7:00 Choir rehearsal (UUC)		1 κ Noon Women's Lunch Bunch (UUC Picnic Area)	2 κ 9:00 AM Grounds prep workday (UUC) κκ 5:00 Campfire and Concert (Stewardship)
3 κ 8:30 AM Sunday Circle	4	5 κ 2:00 Sages (UUC and Zoom)	6 6:00 Connections Committee 7:00 Exploring and Reimagining UUism at its Core	7 κ 6:30 Piecemakers κ 7:00 Transgender Support Group	8 κ 11:30 AM or Noon Women's Lunch Bunch (Local restaurant or UUC)	9 κ 10:15 AM VT Big Event Grounds Workday
10 κ 1:00 Anti-Racism Group κκ 3:00 Line Dancing in the UUC parking lot (Stewardship)	11 κ 6:00 Parent Bereavement Support Group	12 κ 7:00 Caregivers' Support Group	13 6:00 Finance Committee 7:00 Worship Team	14 κ 7:00 Board Meeting (UUC and Zoom)	15 κ 11:30 AM or Noon Women's Lunch Bunch (Local restaurant or UUC)	16 κ 10:00 AM Piecemakers (UUC) κ 1:00 Transgender Support Group
17 Happy Easter! κ 8:30 AM Sunday Circle κ 10:00 Multigenerational Service (UUC and Zoom) κ 11:00 Egg Hunt (UUC grounds)	18 κ 6:00 NAMI Connections Support Group	19 κ 2:00 Sages (UUC and Zoom)	20 κ 6:00 NAMI Family Support Group 7:00 Exploring and Reimagining UUism at its Core	21 9:00 May newsletter deadline	22 κ 11:30 AM or Noon Women's Lunch Bunch (Local restaurant or UUC)	23 κ 9:00 AM Outreach summit 5:00 Parents' Covenant Group
24 κ Biker Sunday κ 11:30 AM UUA Common Read Discussion κ 1:00 Anti-Racism Group	25	26 κ 6:30 Trans Support Group for Youth & Families κ 7:00 Anti-Racist Practice Group	27	29	29 κ 11:30 AM or Noon Women's Lunch Bunch (Local restaurant or UUC)	30 κ 10:00 Newcomers' Orientation (UUC and Zoom)

Events listed above will be held via Zoom unless otherwise noted. See the write-ups in the pages above for more information. For Zoom gatherings, the [Online Calendar](#) has the Zoom URLs.

The online calendar will be updated to reflect the current reality.

Stewardship events at UUC are listed here and in the online calendar. Here is the [link for the list off all events.](#)

Because of the low covid numbers, the Board (post-meeting, via email) approved that masks be optional indoors except when singing