

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

# NEWSLETTER

February 2021

1301 Gladewood Drive Blacksburg, VA 24060 Website: <u>www.uucnrv.org</u> E-mail: <u>info@uucnrv.org</u> Phone: (540) 552-9716

### Message from Our Minister Rev. Pam Philips

"I'm so grateful to have found UUC." In the past week, several people have said this, or something very similar, to me. (You know who you are.) I didn't recognize this pattern until I started thinking about what I might write about being a people of **Beloved Community**, our theme for February. I first heard this term in a UU congregation, in terms of *building* beloved community. At the time, I thought I knew what it meant—that we could create a strong and vibrant and loving congregation. More recently, I've come to understand it differently, learning about its origins with a late 19<sup>th</sup> century American philosopher and its later use by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We'll consider more about their definitions of Beloved Community during Sunday worship and small groups throughout the month.



As I consider the stories people have recently shared about how they found UUC, and what a difference it has made in their lives, though, I'm thinking of how *beloved* this community is. How much people love this congregation. How much they count on it for fun and fellowship, for learning and serving. How many have found it life-changing and even life saving.

I also think back to the weekend four years ago this month when Jamie and I came down to Blacksburg to meet with the Ministerial Search Committee. When I began to learn about who you were and who you wanted to become as a congregation. When I began to love UUC, too.

"I'm so grateful to have found UUC." When I hear those words, I'm reminded how grateful I am, too. It's good to be reminded. It's good to take the time to consider what we cherish in our lives, what is beloved, and what we're called to do about it. For some of the folks I talked to this week, it meant sharing their good news with others. Inviting them to a Sunday service. Sharing what they love with the people they love. For others, it meant committing to serve the congregation in some way—volunteering to help on Sunday mornings or serving in a leadership role.

This past year has magnified the importance of UUC in some of our lives, with all the different ways it has helped us stay connected. For others, the connection has become more tenuous—especially for those who find the technology challenging. Last Sunday during the service, I asked people to look around to see whose faces were missing from the gallery view on Zoom and to reach out to them with a phone call,

an email, a text, or even with an old-fashioned card or letter. If this community is beloved to you, remember all those who make it so. If this community is beloved to you, extend an invitation to someone who has not yet discovered UUC. In the month ahead, as we explore what it means to be a people of Beloved Community, let's widen the circle of our care, for each other and for the wider community.

> In faith and love, Rev. Pam



### Contact Information

Minister Rev. Pam Philips 540-252-9156 minister@uucnrv.org

### President:

Wayne Neu 540-818-2353 president@uucnrv.org

Director of Lifespan Faith Development: Karen Hager 540-577-8043 DLFD@uucnrv.org

#### Administrator/ Newsletter/Website:

Lisa Evanylo 540-257-3612 administrator@uucnrv.org

Pianist: Jared Gibbs pianist@uucnrv.org

Choir Director: Ella Kromin choirdirector@uucnrv.org

Lay Pastoral Care Ministry: LPCM@uucnrv.org

### UUC Website: uucnrv.org

**UUC Office Phone**: 540-552-9716



## Staff Office Hours:

### Minister:

Tuesdays - Fridays, 9-1

Contact <u>Minister</u> for appointment or use this <u>link</u> to set one up online.

### Administrator or DLFD:

Contact <u>Administrator</u> or <u>Director of Lifespan Faith</u> <u>Development</u> to set up appointments.

# Message from Our Board

Brandie Lemmon, Member-at-Large

Well, it certainly feels like we've all been through a lot already this year. If 2020 has taught us anything, I think it's resilience. It seems that 2021 will require the same level of determination and creativity.

Even though life as we know it looks much different now, I rely on that light on the horizon. The vaccine is rolling out. We're back in the Paris Climate Agreement. The struggle for racial equity continues with new voices added to the chorus every day. New federal nondiscrimination protections are being implemented. So



while the pandemic rages on and constructive civil discourse seems illusive, there are pinpoints of light in all this darkness.

One of the bright spots for me personally has been my participation as a Member-at-Large on the UUC Board. As a fairly quiet person who has often felt best-suited to the periphery, my time on the Board has been a welcomed change that has pulled me out of my comfort zone and into a far more rewarding place...a place of service. It has been empowering to work alongside so many caring people who truly have the congregation's best interests at heart. No decision is made lightly, and each issue we encounter is considered with care.

So while there is much outside of our control, it feels good to have a place that is grounded in its people as well as its mission.

Speaking of mission.

That was one of the reasons my family ended up at UUC in the first place. UUC is service driven. Social justice is more than a catch phrase here. Love isn't just a word in a hymn book. It's the foundation on which everything else is built. In these times of COVID-19, how we go about providing services has had to change. It never ceases to amaze and inspire me, the creativity and problem solving that this congregation exhibits -- from the remote service offerings to continued ways to engage with each other as well as our community at large. UUC inspires me to be my best self and to live up to my full potential, even in times of crisis.

That my children are growing up in this space feels like a gift. Even though we can't be there in person, the care UUC provides isn't limited by the walls of its building. The work we are called to do stretches far beyond the walls anyway.

So while we continue to monitor COVID-19 in our community and assess what our response to it should be, I hope we keep reaching out to each other. I hope we keep these channels open and continue to grow as people as well as a congregation. These are not easy times (said every generation since the dawn of humanity). Yet here we are.

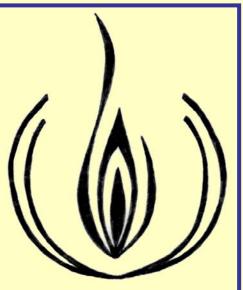
Here we are solving problems, getting creative, and keeping our eye forever on the horizon.

Social change doesn't come from words, or even discourse. It can only come from action, and in relationships. -'Our Redical Teachers,' UV World



# UUC's 2021-2022 Stewardship Campaigh

# Worship Beyond Walls: Connection, Community, and Service



We here at UUC are blessed with terrific programs and opportunities for all ages as well as with great staff and a beautiful building and grounds. We all know it takes substantial financial support just to maintain all of this, and it requires even more to expand and improve. It is now that time of year when we announce our annual Stewardship Campaign which officially will kick off in March. Our theme of **Worship Beyond Walls: Connection, Community, and Service** refers to our efforts at being more outward-looking and increasing our connections and service to the greater community.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 Stewardship Campaign will look a bit different from years past - most notably in that there will be no in-person campaigning, and pledging will be mostly online. The campaign will officially start in mid-March, but we will again promote "early bird" pledging beginning February 15. Submitting early pledges before the official campaign kicks off is easier for many in the congregation, for the Stewardship Committee, and for the legion of recruited stewards. While submitting your pledge before the official pledge drive begins on March 14 simplifies Stewardship Committee

planning and management, it also allows pledgers to more quickly bask in the warm glow of giving. And by pledging early, donors can avoid the angst associated with being repeatedly asked to follow through with their pledges so we can continue our work here at UUC. Stewards will be updated on who has pledged and will be instructed to not contact early pledgers. You'll be home free, off the hook, and happy!

As always, stewards reach out to congregants who do not pledge early to talk about the Stewardship Campaign, how it impacts UUC, and to answer any questions you might have. And, of course, to ask for your pledge. Soon, all pledge materials, including the brochure, FAQ, and pledging link will be emailed to congregants and made available online so watch for more information. We will continue spreading the word to the entire congregation that pledging early is a great way to jump-start the campaign. Since our Board is still finalizing the 2021-22 budget, we don't as yet have a specific pledge goal, but indications are it will be close to last year's.

It goes without saying that this past year has been difficult to varying degrees for all of us. Through heartbreak, uncertainty, serial disappointments, and fear, we have established that we can endure gracefully. These times of hardship for so many in our community make our UUC work even more valuable and pressing. The superlative job Rev. Pam and the congregation have done to keep us together, gather on Sunday, and maintain many of our programs and services speaks volumes about our commitment. We will prevail through these difficult times, and with your pledges can emerge stronger than ever.

If you're **really** on top of things – you can **pledge right now** by going directly to <u>https://forms.gle/</u> <u>LGwi4DndEQtrfpGC7</u> or use the link on our <u>UUC homepage</u>.

> In fellowship, Andy Roberts, Stewardship Committee Chair

# **Upcoming Events**

# Join UUC's Hiking Group & Have Fun While Exploring the Outdoors

Have you been looking for ways to have fun outdoors? Jae Furman has volunteered to lead hikes for UUC and to also coordinate a UUC hiking group. Jae has been hiking and leading hikes since childhood. In recent years, he has taken a special interest in integrating arts and crafts with hiking experiences.

As Jae lives in Fancy Gap, and most of his hikes are a good distance from us, he is hoping that members of the hiking group will organize and lead more local outings. It could be just a weekly morning walk in a beautiful park or neighborhood or maybe going to hear a nature-related talk. Feel free to contact <u>Jae</u> if you have any questions or ideas for interacting with other UUC hikers both on and off the trails.

To sign up for the UUC Hiking Group listserv, contact <u>Lisa</u>. For more information about Jae's hikes, visit his <u>website</u>. For your safety and the safety of others, social distancing, masks, group-size maximums and other relevant guidelines published by state and national parks will apply to all events at this time.

3 events are currently planned with one via Zoom and two in person.

Forest Bathing — Saturday, February 6 at 1 PM at the Blue Ridge Music Center, Galax

Shinrin-yoku, otherwise known as forest bathing, is the practice of totally immersing yourself in nature. We'll be walking silently to allow a fuller immersion with nature while consciously using all of our senses. This 3-mile hike will involve hilly single-track dirt trails through diverse forests and meadows. The overall average pace will be 2.5 mph. There's a maximum of 10 participants, and registration is required via this <u>link</u>.

**Outdoor Adventure Movie Circle via Zoom** — Thursday, **February 25** at 6:05 PM (movie) & 7 PM (conversation)

This event has two parts. You will first watch the movie, *Treeline: The Secret Life of Trees* (40 minutes) via this <u>link</u> either on your own or with the group via Zoom at 6:05 PM. We'll then gather together that same day at 7 PM via Zoom (our virtual campfire) for adventure circle conversation time to share our experiences. To register for the Zoom link and conversation questions, use this <u>link</u>.





Hike to Identify Medicinal and Edible Plants - Nervous System Resiliency Building Saturday, March 27 at 1 PM at Rock Castle Gorge, Floyd

Join clinical herbalist and community educator, Mel Kasting, for an exploratory botanical experience walking the ridge of Rock Castle Gorge. In the first part of the hike, we'll learn to identify a handful of medicinal and edible plants along the trail and chat about how to harvest, prepare and use those herbs. In the second part of the hike, we'll choose one plant each and spend some time learning simple somatic practices to bring our plant connections home with us.

Mel is a clinical herbalist, botanist, and amateur wild foods chef. For more information, visit her <u>website</u>. There's a maximum of 10 participants and registration is required via this link.

### **Anti-Racism Group Update**

UUC's Anti-Racism Group continues to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 1 PM via Zoom until we can again meet in person. All are welcome to attend, whether or not you've previously participated. On **February 14**, we'll be trying an exercise that was done in person at the last *Dialogue on Race* before the pandemic that helps folks understand structural racism. If we can work out the kinks of holding the exercise via Zoom, we plan to present it to a wider segment of the congregation in March.

As explained at the Martin Luther King Jr. Sunday service on January 17, the Anti-Racism Group is working toward our congregation's adopting of the 8<sup>th</sup> principle at our annual meeting this spring. The 8<sup>th</sup> principle is a covenant to affirm and promote "*journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions."* The principle is thus relevant not

only to racism. Another aspect of a diverse, multicultural Beloved Community is gender identity, along with class, ability, and age. Therefore, the **Transgender Inclusion** course offered this month through April can also be considered part of our congregation's journey towards spiritual wholeness. The class offers both Zoom and on-demand participation options and registration via this <u>link</u> is required by Thursday, **February 4** for both options.

# **UUA General Assembly 2021**

<u>General Assembly</u> (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Participants worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. This year's gathering will again be virtual from **June 23-27**. Although we give up the face-to-face interaction and hugs that are prevalent when we meet in person, the UUA retains their dedication to community and making our experience more accessible and more environmentally sustainable. In 2022, GA will once again be in person in Portland, OR.

Interested in being a UUC delegate to GA? Contact <u>Wayne Neu</u>, Board President.



# **Newcomers'** Orientation

Are you new or relatively new to UUC and want to know more about our congregation and UUism in general? Come to our virtual Newcomers' Orientation on Saturday, **February 20** from 10-11:30 AM. Please use this<u>link</u> to join. Rev. Pam and Connection Committee members will be on hand to explain about our UU history and principles how our congregation works w



principles, how our congregation works, what it means to be a member, and to answer your questions. Please respond to <u>Pauletta</u> by **February 18** if you plan to join us or for more info. Can't make it but are interested in learning more about us – contact <u>Rev. Pam</u>.

# UUC Yarn Exchange

Knitters, crocheters, needlework enthusiasts, and yarn crafters—are you bored with your yarn collection? Have an extra skein or two you just don't need any more?



Come check out our new

Yarn Exchange located outside downstairs next to the entry door. Leave the skeins you don't want and take any that you do want.

Why not use this opportunity to learn to knit or crochet? Contact <u>Karen</u>, and she'll try to hook you up for Zoom lessons with one of our very talented and experienced congregants.

While you're creating, don't forget about UUC's many opportunities to donate handmade items to those in our community in need. Consider knitting a hat, scarf or mittens for next year's Mitten Tree, or make a blanket for Project Linus. We'll take your donations any time of the year!



# Women's Breakfast

All women are invited to meet for breakfast, coffee and conversation at 7 AM each Monday via this <u>Zoom link</u>. **Use passcode 544416**. If 7 AM is too early, join when able.

# **Men's Breakfast**

All men are invited to meet for breakfast, coffee and conversation at 7 AM each Monday via this Zoom link. If 7 AM is too early, join when able.

# Women's Lunch

All women are welcome to join together for lunch every Friday at noon on our UUC grounds to picnic together at a distance. Bring your own lunch and please wear a mask when not eating. If raining or too cold, we'll meet via this Zoom <u>link</u>. Contact <u>Cynthia Luke</u> for more info.

### **Sages**

Join us each Tuesday at 2 PM for stimulating conversation via this Zoom <u>link</u>. Focus on topics facing older adults as well as general conversation.

# **Mid-Week Worship Gatherings**

Since March congregants have been gathering each Wednesday evening at 5:30 PM via this <u>Zoom link</u> for an opportunity to pause our busy weeks and full lives in a worshipful space. Worship themes are topical and have included such ideas as: "The Future Is Fiction: Use Your Imagination", "The Future Is Bright", and "Black Lives Matter". The 30-minute gatherings include inspirational words and music as well as an opportunity for everyone to share. Watch for the email announcement each Wednesday for the topic and facilitator.

# Monday Meet-up

Join us each Monday at 7 PM via this <u>Zoom link</u> for socializing with no agenda, no questions you need to think about – simply join in for fun conversation. Each week, a member or two of the Connections Committee will be in the session, so you'll always have a friend to talk to.

# Yoga

Yoga is canceled until the weather warms, or we can once again meet in the building.

# **Monthly Support Groups at UUC**

# **Parent Bereavement Support**

We are 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 from 6-7 PM to help one another on our journeys. The next meeting is on Monday, **February 8**. Join the group via Zoom. For more info and the Zoom link, contact <u>Katherine</u> or <u>Lisa</u>.

# **Mental Illness Peer Support**

If you are someone who has experienced mental illness and would appreciate the support of peers, join our online meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of each month at 6 PM. Next meeting on Monday, **February 15**. Contact <u>Kimberley</u> for the Zoom link or for more info.

# **NAMI Family Support**

All are welcome on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6 PM to attend our community-wide mental health support group for friends and family of those with a mental illness. Next meeting on **February 17.** Contact <u>Kristine</u> for the Zoom link.

# 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 New River Valley in a safe, anonymous and affirming environment. To learn more about NRV Trans\* Support, visit their <u>website</u>.

Due to Covid, they are currently not meeting, but please contact <u>nrvtrans@gmail.com</u> for info and resources.

# **Caregivers Support**

UUC hosts a monthly support group for caregivers to share their experiences and challenges. The group meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays of each month next meeting **February 9** at 7-8:30 PM. Join us via this <u>Zoom link</u>. Questions or concerns - contact <u>Rev. Pam</u>.

Likespan Faith Development

# Children's RE

### CARTUUNS-Grades K-5-9:30-10:00 AM

Unitarian Universalist values through the animated short films of Pixar and Disney. Available as an online class on Zoom or as a homeschool class. Award-winning short films, great discussion and a wide variety of activities combine to make this a fun class for kids! Supply bags are delivered monthly. Children must be registered to participate. <u>Register</u>.

Date	Class
Feb 7	Bao
Feb 14	Paperman
Feb 21	Red's Dream
Feb 28	Lifted

### Sunday Funday—PreK—9:00-9:20 AM

Story time, coloring, and crafts available as an online class on Zoom, or as a homeschool class. Supply bags are delivered monthly. Children must be registered to participate. <u>Register</u>.

Date	Class
Feb 7	Snowmen at Night
Feb 14	Click Clack Moo I Love You
Feb 21	The Duckling Gets a Cookie
Feb 28	Llama Llama Mad at Mama

# Don't miss! Stuffed Animal Sleepover! (next page)

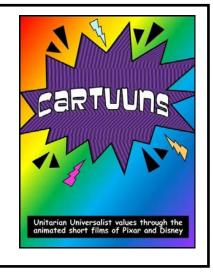
Story Time with Rev. Pam

Wednesdays at 3:00 PM

Zoom link







# The Fifth Dimension

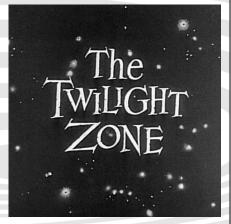
# for adults

### Tuesday, February 23, 7-8 PM

Why should middle schoolers get all the fun? By popular demand, *The Fifth Dimension* will be held for adults this winter and spring. Watch a classic episode of *The Twilight Zone* and discuss its surprisingly still-relevant message in light of our world in 2021.

February's episode is "I Am the Night—Color Me Black" with a discussion on hatred and racism. No registration necessary.

Zoom link: https://zoom.us/j/99626799081



# Stuffed Animal Sleepover

Here's an event you don't want to miss!

Children of ALL ages are invited to bring their favorite stuffed animal to UUC to enjoy a special Stuffed Animal Sleepover on **Valentine's Day Weekend**. Drop off your stuffed friends Friday, **February 12** from 4-5 PM and pick them back up on Sunday, **February 14** from 1-2 PM. Stuffies will enjoy a wide range of activities together, while you follow their fun online on Facebook! Plus, join the Sunday service to see them in attendance with Rev. Pam—they may even play a part!



Registration is requested but not required, but it will greatly help in our planning. Register online at: <u>https://forms.gle/AQXx6gt92SvxjMJ38</u>

Please limit stuffies to one per human friend.

# MSYG

### Sunday evenings 6-7 PM

Middle school youth meet monthly, alternating RE classes with Middle School Youth Group (MSYG). RE class will cover the original *D'Oh*, *God!* curriculum which uses episodes of *The Simpsons* as the basis for in-depth discussions of a wide variety of religious topics. MSYG will meet for socialization—the emphasis is on fun, with social activities and social action projects that encourage bonding among participants. Youth must be registered to participate.

Register.

# YRUU

### Sunday evenings 7-8 PM

Our high school youth group, YRUU, meets weekly for check-ins, games, and more. Youth will determine the meeting content. As safety allows, YRUU may also meet outside in person, following UUC safety guidelines.

YRUU is open to youth in grades 9-12 and meets on Sunday evenings. Teens participate in conferences, fundraisers, and fun activities while forming bonds with other teens. Youth must be registered to participate.

Register.

### **Spiritual Aging**

Meets the first Sunday of the month (**February 7**), 3-5 PM

Join Rev. Pam for a workshop that intentionally explores the process of aging. While aging can provide us with free time and the ability to focus on what is important, it can also present us with challenges and losses. Perfect for those who consider themselves spiritual but not religious and are looking to delve deeper into these real human challenges. Join via this <u>Zoom link</u>.

### Sunday Circle

Meets first and third Sundays, 8:30-9:30 AM

**February 7:** Paul Quigley discusses "Political Violence in the United States: Lessons from the Civil War and Reconstruction Era." How can looking back to different uses of violence during this period help us understand the events of January 6, 2021? Join via this <u>Zoom link</u>.

**February 21:** Susan Baker discusses "The Mysterious North Korea and its Supreme Leader, Kim Jung Un," taking a look at the Kim dynasty; changes and crisis' in the North Korean economy and society; and how the thinking and strategy of Kim Jung Un affects North Korea, the region and the world. <u>Zoom link</u>.

### Anti-Racism Group

Meets second and fourth Sundays, 1-2 PM

All are welcome to join our ongoing conversation on white privilege and racism. Topics are announced via email. <u>Email Karen Hager</u> to join the listserv to receive links to the discussion articles. <u>Zoom link</u>.

### **Meditation Group**

Meets Tuesdays, 5-6 PM

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. Join via this <u>Zoom link</u>.

### **Conversations on Our Faith**

Meets Wednesdays, 12-1 PM

Bring a brown bag lunch and join our conversation as we read the book, *The Dance of the Dissident Daughter*, by Sue Monk Kidd. All are welcome, even if you have not read the chapters of the book under discussion. To learn more, contact <u>Tim Pickering</u>. Join via this <u>Zoom link</u>.

### **Community Conversations**

Sunday, February 21, 11:30-1 PM

Join us for a conversation about **Democracy, Extremism and Outliers**. Under democratic governance structures, people enjoy freedom to believe as they choose, speak freely and advocate for their beliefs. Individuals like Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Frederick Douglas were seen as "extremist" in their time. Given the societal impulse to label anyone outside of the mainstream "extreme," how can we better distinguish and then support outliers who are advancing worthy causes? Join via this <u>Zoom link.</u> Led by <u>Rev. Jamie McReynolds</u>.

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# **UUC Community News**

# Update on 1/2-Plate Donations

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

**January 3**: Future Economy Collective, South Café, \$288

January 10: To Our House, \$447

January 17: NAACP Scholarship Fund, \$417

**January 24**: Radford/Fairlawn Daily Bread Meals on Wheels Program, \$123

January 31: Guest at Your Table, \$189

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

## Summer Positions Available at Mountain Camp

For 42 years, <u>The Mountain</u> (a UU Retreat & Learning Center in Highlands, NC) has provided enriching UU youth summer camp programs for those 7-17 filled with recreation, adventure, education and creativity.

The camp is currently seeking camp staff members including high school students to serve as counselors in training (CIT) and to participate in various work study programs.

For more information on the many individual camps offered, staff positions available, and the application, use this <u>link</u>.



# January Board Mtg. Highlights

- All UUC Vanguard accounts have been moved into funds that are environmentally and socially focused.
- The Board approved a \$1000 donation to our Grounds Ministry.
- The Board reviewed the draft budget for 2021-22 submitted by the Finance Committee.
- The Board discussed having the DLFD and possibly the Administrator once again attend Board meetings. Karen Hager, DLFD requested that she attend meetings. The discussion will continue in February.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom on Thursday, **February 11** at 7 PM. The <u>minutes and</u> <u>reports</u> of meetings for the past two calendar years are available.

**Questions, Ideas, Complaints for the Board**: Send an email to <u>addresstheBoard@uucnrv.org</u>.

# **February Food Pantry Donations**

The Community Service Team is continuing the monthly food collections for the Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry during February. Suggested donations for this month are Hamburger/Chicken or Tuna Helper, canned vegetables, or canned tuna. Due to the possibility of having freezing temperatures during the winter months, please do not donate foods that are in glass containers.

The collection bins are located near the accessible entrance at UUC. Thank you for your generosity.





# Unitarian Universalist Congregation Sunday Services February 2021

Virtual Services at 10:00 AM via <u>Zoom</u> Religious Education Classes via Zoom prior to the service All are invited to share conversation in small groups following the service by staying on the Zoom link.

# February's Theme: BELOVED COMMUNITY

### Join us at 10 AM each Sunday at this Zoom <u>link</u>.

**February 7**: *The Beloved Community*, Rev. Pam with Worship Associate Victoria Taylor. Our mission calls us to *create* 



What does it mean

to be a people of

*compassionate community*, but this month we are exploring what it means to be people of the **beloved**, not a compassionate, community. What's the difference and why does it matter?

**February 14**: *A Community of Beloveds,* Rev. Pam Philips with Worship Associate Kimberley Homer. On this Valentine's Day, we'll celebrate those we love in this multigenerational and multi-species service.

**February 21**: *Side with Love Sunday,* Worship Associate Stephen Henninger. What if to "side with love" meant making bold, faith-full choices? What if it were even a little bit scary? This worship service brings together worship leaders and musicians from across the country to offer hopeful, moving, challenging reminders about what we, as Unitarian Universalists, are called to do, and BE, in the world.

**February 28**: Opening Wide, Rev. Pam Philips with Worship Associate Ellen Plummer. As we practice being people of beloved community, our attention may be drawn inward, forging connections that hold us together. What might happen if we intentionally look outward, to the larger community of which we are a part?

## **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.

# **Building & Grounds Use**

In-person gatherings are **NOT** permitted in our building at this time. However, up to 10 people are able to gather together in our outdoor space, but the 6-foot distance between people must be maintained. Worship services and many groups and committees continue to meet via Zoom. Check the website and calendar for information on events and the Zoom links and updates to this information. Be sure to contact <u>Lisa</u> to schedule an event on our grounds or via Zoom.

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#### Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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# CALENDAR: February 2021

#### Staff Virtual Office Hours:

Minister: 9-1 Tu - F; <u>Contact for appointment</u> Administrator: <u>Contact for appointment</u> DLFD: <u>Contact for appointment</u> All times are PM unless noted otherwise

 $\boldsymbol{\varkappa}$  indicates that there is a write-up in the newsletter

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
(All Sundays) × 9:00 Pre K RE × 9:30 Grades K-5 RE × 10:00 Worship Service × 6:00 Middle School RE/Youth Group × 7:00 YRUU	(All Mondays) × 7:00 AM Women's Breakfast × 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast × 7:00 PM Monday Meet-Up	(All Tuesdays) x 2:00 Sages x 5:00 Meditation	(All Wednesdays) x Noon Conversations on Our Faith x 3:00 PM Story Time with Rev. Pam x 5:30 Mid-week Gathering		(All Fridays) Noon Women's Lunch Bunch (UUC picnic area or Zoom)	
	1	2	3	4 7:00 Adult RE: Transgender Inclusion in the Congregation	5	6
7 N 8:30 AM Sunday Circle 11:30 Men's Group 1:00 Anti-Racism Group / Strategic Planning Discussion N 3:00 Spiritual Aging	8 κ 6:00 Parent Bereavement Support Group	9 4:00 Committee on Ministries × 7:00 Caregivers' Support Group	10 6:00 Finance Committee 7:00 Worship Team	11 א 7:00 Board Meeting	12 κ 4:00-5:00 Stuffed- animal sleepover drop-off	13
14 N 1:00 Anti-Racism Discussion Group 11:30 AM Stewardship N 1:00-2:00 Stuffed-animal pickup	15 Start of Stewardship "Early Bird" Pledge Drive x 6:00 Mental Illness Peer Support Group	16	17 × 6:00 NAMI Family Support Group	18 7:00 Adult RE: Transgender Inclusion in the Congregation	19	20 x 10:00 Newcomers' Orientation
21 x 8:30 AM Sunday Circle 11:30 Men's Group x 11:30 Community Conversations: Democracy, Extremism, and Outliers	22	23 κ 7:00 Adult RE: The Fifth Dimension	24	25 9:00 March Newsletter Deadline	26	27
28 א 1:00 Anti-Racism Discussion Group				ed above will be held via Zoom u <u>lendar</u> will have the Zoom url. T		