

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

# NEWSLETTER

# March2020

Year 55, Issue 3

#### Message from Our Minister Rev. Pam Philips

Considering this month's theme—*what does it mean to be people of wisdom*—conjures up images of wise sages—ancient gurus sitting crosslegged on a mountaintop waiting for pilgrims to come seeking the meaning of life, bespectacled professors smoking pipes in a library and expounding, wizened old women at their spinning wheels dispensing advice and cryptic warnings. What image comes to your mind? Surely, people who have lived long and read widely gain wisdom over time, but I'm mindful of wisdom I've received recently from all kinds of people in my life, and especially here at UUC.



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To be sure, I hear great wisdom at the *Spiritual Aging* and *Sages* meetings, but I also appreciate and delight in the responses of our youngest members during the *Time for All Ages* on Sunday morning. I cherish the opportunity

to explore ideas with a group of talented worship associates as we plan worship services. They bring their diverse experiences, beliefs, and interests to the process, giving me food for thought as I sermonize. I value the reflections—sparked by a reading, meditation, or the sermon—people share after Sunday services. My own understanding is deepened and challenged, and more than once their wisdom informs subsequent sermons.

You'll meet people of wisdom at any one of the meetings and gatherings at UUC, and not just the lifespan faith development opportunities. As always, I encourage you to take a look at the <u>UUC calendar</u> to find some activity, committee, or group to attend.

Even if you can't fit anything more into your own busy schedule, you can read <u>words of wisdom and</u> <u>inspiration from members and friends of our community</u>. We asked folks to share what they loved about UUC (and why they support it) as we prepared for this year's stewardship campaign and were overwhelmed by the responses. Take a few moments to read what others have to say about UUC—about the sense of community and family, the opportunities to serve and grow, the importance of religious education for people of all ages, the encouragement and ways to live our faith out in the larger community. For some of us, being part of UUC is not only life-changing, it is life-saving. As you read these testimonials, think about what YOU love and value about UUC. Think about the people of wisdom from whom you've learned here and with whom you've shared your wisdom. Think about the people whose lives we have yet to touch, but we might, if we are successful in meeting the goal for our <u>2020:</u> <u>Vision and Visibility campaign</u>. If you haven't taken advantage of the early-bird part of the stewardship campaign, you can also add your own wise words to the ones we've already collected when you <u>make a</u> <u>pledge online</u>. (If you've already pledged your financial support, THANK YOU. We would also love to hear what you love and why you support UUC, so <u>email</u> your wise words to be added to the page of testimonials.)

In the month ahead, as we explore what it means to be a people of wisdom, keep a lookout for unexpected sources of wisdom here at UUC, but also in other areas of your life. And generously share your own wisdom.

In faith, Rev. Pam



#### Contact Information

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

President: Steve Keighton 540-558-8076 president@uucnrv.org

**Director of Lifespan Faith Development** – on sabbatical through June

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, Wednesdays & Thursdays, 9-1

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

Administrator: Mondays & Fridays, 1-4

LFD Assistant: Contact for appointment

# Message from Our Board

Steve Keighton, President

One of the joys of serving on the Board is the opportunity to see the big picture (sometimes called the "balcony view") of all the many ways our congregants are contributing to the life and functions of our dear UUC



community. Whether it's serving on a committee, working on grounds or building maintenance, singing in the choir, involvement in RE, making coffee, greeting, managing the annual service auction, helping to host the monthly potlucks or a special event (such as the recent chili cook-off), coordinating social justice efforts, or any of the many, many other activities, it is amazing to see everyone making significant contributions in their own way. To borrow from a previous monthly theme, it truly is (say it with me) "AWESOME"!

As the first signs of spring begin to emerge, and the thermometer begins to climb again, it is also the time we each decide what our degree of financial giving will be for the coming year thus causing that red stewardship drive thermometer to rise to the level where we can comfortably support all the monetary needs and goals for the coming fiscal year. Once again, from my position on the Board this past year and a half, I have repeatedly been awed by your generosity in helping to make sure we can keep doing the things we need and want to do. Thank you!

As we travel along through the upcoming year, I hope you will consider focusing on an especially important gift that certainly gives both ways - the gift of connection and communication. Many of you already take advantage of the many opportunities for participating in small groups (look through this newsletter and any recent announcements if you are not sure what they are), and more will be coming throughout the year as we more purposefully engage in conversations related to the strategic planning process that has been mentioned before. Even if it's a bit out of your comfort zone, consider taking a chance on at least one of these opportunities (or one more if you are already involved). I believe that as any of us make new connections and communicate in ways perhaps we haven't before, we'll collectively strengthen our relationships and trust with each other and ultimately find deeper meaning in our beloved community. When we communicate in some form (listening, speaking, working, singing, praying/meditating, just to name a few) while we pursue a shared vision, even if not always in perfect harmony, I believe we grow both individually and collectively. This is a major reason I've been a member of UUC for over 20 years, and I'm excited about what we'll be doing and how we'll be growing together over the next 20 years. Since I'm a huge fan of music, I can't help but close with the chorus of a brand new song (released Feb. 14) from one of my favorite regional musicians: "Won't you sing with me, won't you sing with me. A little bit of love and connection is all we need."



Many in our UUC community turned out to help Rev. Pam and Jamie move boxes to their new home. Thanks to all for your generosity of time.

# UUC's 2020-2021 Stewardship Campaign



# 2020: Vision & Visibility

We here at UUC are blessed with terrific programs and opportunities for all ages along with great staff and a beautiful building and grounds. It takes substantial financial support just to maintain all of these, and it requires even more to expand and improve. To raise the funds for the upcoming fiscal year, our annual **Stewardship Campaign** kicks off **March 1** and runs through **March 29**. Our theme of **2020: Vision and Visibility** refers both to clear "20/20 vision" as we look outward and to the visibility of our congregation

outside our physical walls. Our goal this year is **\$357,000**. To achieve this goal, we are asking those who pledged this current fiscal year to consider increasing their pledge by 10%. For those who have never pledged, we hope you will consider how important a role UUC plays in your life and make a pledge. To read what others have said about UUC, check out our new <u>Testimonials webpage</u>.

Many, many thanks to those of you who answered the call of our "early bird pledging" and have already made a pledge. As of this time, 41 pledges have been made for a total of \$113,417! Our dedicated stewards will be contacting those who haven't yet pledged to offer the opportunity of a one-on-one meeting or a group gathering on **March 15** to provide you with more information about how our funds are spent and our hopes for the future. It's also an opportunity for you to express your hopes and dreams for our future. Of course, you can also pledge without a meeting. However, keep in mind that these meetings can be very helpful and illuminating, especially to our newer folks who are not familiar with the process. You can also sign up online for the group gathering via this <u>link</u>.

Check out our <u>Stewardship webpage</u>, the <u>Stewardship Brochure</u> that provides much information on our many ministries (creating meaningful worship; educating our children, youth, and adults; offering congregational care; promoting social justice and community outreach, supporting our wider mission and purpose; maintaining and enhancing our building and grounds; and reducing our debt) and includes a Giving Guide, and the <u>FAQ file</u>. Then make your pledge in one of several ways:

#### 1. Via our <u>online pledge form</u>.

Via a pledge card obtained from a steward or the foyer table at UUC, or simply download our <u>online pledge card</u>. Cards can be placed in the box on the foyer table, given to our Administrator, mailed to UUC, or placed in the offering basket at a service.
Email our <u>administrator</u> with your pledge.

Pledges can be paid by personal check; via Vanco, our <u>online service</u>; via checks sent directly from your bank, via retirement accounts or other personal investment accounts. Check out this <u>link</u> for ways to donate and save on taxes. Payments can be made monthly, weekly, once annually, or however is convenient for you. Note that our 2020-21 fiscal year runs from **July 1**, **2020-June 30**, **2021**. If giving a check prior to July 1, please indicate on the memo line if that check is for 2020-21, so it gets properly credited.

We'll celebrate the end of Stewardship with an Ice Cream Social following the service on Sunday, **April 5**. Watch for more information.

# **Upcoming Events**

#### Multigenerational St. Patrick's Day Party

Everyone is welcome on Friday, **March 13** from 5:30-8:30 PM for a fun and fabulous St. Patrick's Day party. **For the kids** - hunt for hidden Leprechaun treasure coins (will happen early, so don't miss it!), a Bouncy House, and green punch. **For the adults** - Irish beers. **For everyone** - themed party games and finger foods. Wear your green and bring a St. Patrick's Day themed finger food, if you wish (not required). For more info, contact <u>Deb Dickerson</u>.

#### EarthSpirit Sisters Celebrate the Spring Equinox & the Full Moon

All women are welcome to join together on Sunday, **March 8** at 6 PM for an earth-based celebration of the full moon and again on Friday, **March 20** at 6 PM for a celebration of the Spring Equinox. Come for one or both rituals.



ADOPT

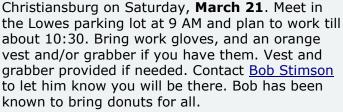
HIGHWAY

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

CONGREGATION

#### Adopt-a-Highway Litter Pickup

Be part of the UUC Adopt-a-Highway team and help pick up litter on our portion of Rte. 460 near Lowes in



#### Discussion on Racism with YRUU

Join our high school youth (YRUU) to learn about and discuss racism on Sunday, **March 15** at 7 PM. We'll view short videos together and then break into small groups of youth and adults for discussion. At 8 PM, adults and any youth who can stay another ½ hour will engage in a simulation to learn about the racial wealth gap.

# The Music of Harry Potter

On Sunday, **March 1** at 1:45 PM, enjoy an engaging presentation by Dr. Eric Ruple, piano faculty at JMU, who will compare Franz Liszt's use of thematic transformation with that of John Williams in his music for the *Harry Potter* films. The event is free and open to all.

# Women's Lunch

All women are invited to enjoy lunch and fellowship together on the 1st & 3rd Fridays of each month at 11:30 AM. On **March 6** we gather at *Mamma Kitchen*, Radford and on **March 20** at *India Garden*, Blacksburg. Questions? Contact <u>Cynthia Luke</u>.

# **UUA General Assembly Is Coming!**

The <u>2020 Unitarian Universalist General Assembly</u> will be held **June 24-28** in Providence, RI. This year's theme is **Rooted, Inspired & Ready!** Beginning with a banner parade through the Convention Center,





thousands of UUs from across the country will participate in 5 exciting days of workshops, plenary sessions, worship services, music, and more. They will witness the presentations, sermons, experiences, thoughts, and wisdom of our denomination's best and brightest. Parallel to and integrated with the adult proceedings is an exciting Youth Program.

UUC is authorized to send up to 5 delegates (delegates' registration fees are reimbursed by UUC). Interested in being a UUC delegate? Contact <u>Steve Keighton</u>. The Board will vote **March 12** to choose our delegates. There is no limit to the number of non-delegate attendees that we can send. UUC members will be there! How about you? Participants in prior years have described the GA experience as 'exciting', 'moving', 'stimulating', 'consciousness-raising', 'transformative', and 'fun'. Fringe benefit: wonderful Providence, RI is the underappreciated 'gem' of New England. Learn more about Providence via this <u>YouTube video</u>.

And... **Karen Hager**, our Director of Lifespan Faith Development currently on sabbatical, will be honored as a credentialed Religious Educator. Karen has been working long and hard to achieve this goal, so come and cheer her on!

Check out this <u>link</u> to learn more about GA including information on programs, transportation, accommodations, costs, and ways to attend at reduced costs including this <u>link</u> to see how you can volunteer 18 hours in exchange for registration fees. Note that the registration fee is \$400 through **March 15** and increases to \$500 on **March 16**—so register early! Registration for <u>housing</u> opens **March 2**.

## Grounds' Workday Help Needed!

It's not spring cleaning, but spring grounds preparation! Your help is needed on Saturday, **March 28** from 10-noon. The goals of the workday are to get closure on some previous projects and to set the stage for other projects to be completed by VT Big Event volunteers on Saturday, **April 4** from 10:30-2:15.

Do I need to be muscle-bound to participate? Absolutely not! We have all levels of tasks from painting, raking, cleaning pots and moving mulch. Do I need to sign up in advance? Preferably "yes" so you can also tell us what you are most comfortable doing, thus enabling us to organize tasks groups. Contact <u>George Lally</u> or <u>Susan Baker</u>. What should I

bring? Bring your work gloves and smiles.





# Help with VT Big Event

The annual VT Big Event is Saturday, **April 4** from 10:30-2:15. We have requested the same company from the Corp of Cadets we had last year. They were awesome and inspiring. Here's our wish list for the event:

• YOU! We need adults to supervise and/or assist

small groups that will have specific task lists

- Wheelbarrows
- Pick-up trucks with drivers to move mulch and woodchips
- Hay forks and shovels (put your name on all implements)
- Food and beverages for the workers (hot dogs, buns, condiments, sandwiches, chips, salads, desserts)
- Hosts to cook hotdogs, set up Elarth for lunch, put out food and beverage, clean-up

Promise: At the end of the workday you'll feel satisfaction for having played an important part in making out grounds welcoming and beautiful. And you'll have enjoyed the opportunity to be in fellowship with other UUs and VT student volunteers. Sign up to help by contacting <u>George Lally</u> or <u>Susan Baker</u>.

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Blacksburg, VA



Likespan Faith Development

March 2020

# Friday, March 27 at 7 PM

Musicians, poets, storytellers, comedians and others—come and share your talents! Donations are encouraged at this annual fundraiser!

Our Children's Offering benefits the Interfaith Food Pantry.

March's collection: pasta and canned pasta sauce

# MSYG

#### Friday, March 20, 6-8 PM

Middle School Youth Group meets this month at Christiansburg Aquatic Center for swimming and pizza. Youth in grades 6-8 are invited to come join the fun. Parents, watch your email for more information.

MSYG meets the 3rd Friday of the month, with meetings at UUC and offsite locations. Contact <u>rcraine@hotmail.com</u> to learn more.

#### Register online.

# YRUU

#### Sundays, 6-8 PM

Our high school youth group, YRUU, meets on Sunday evenings, with some meetings held offsite. Teens participate in fundraisers, fun activities, social action, and conferences, while forming bonds with other teens.

YRUU is open to youth in grades 9-12. Friends are welcome at meetings. Contact <u>rcraine@hotmail.com</u> to learn more.

Register online.

#### **Spiritual Aging**

Meets first Sundays, 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.

#### Sunday Circle

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

**March 1**: Malinda Britt, Planned Parenthood New River Valley Educator, will discuss "Sexual Health and Reproductive Rights in the NRV".

March 15: Liz Craine will discuss "Cyber security".

#### **Anti-Racism Discussion Groups**

Meets second and fourth Sundays, 8:30-9:30 AM

All are welcome to join our ongoing discussion group on white privilege and racism. Topics are announced via email. Email <u>administrator@uucnrv.org</u> to join the listserv to receive links to the discussion articles.

#### **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.

#### **Conversations on Our Faith**

Meets Wednesdays, 12-1 PM

Bring a brown bag lunch and join our conversation as we read the book, *The Knowledge Illusion: Why We Never Think Alone,* by Steven Sloman and Philip Fernbach. 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 our conversation on Sunday, March 29!

Bridging Conversations are a conversational bridge across issues that divide and separate us. They provide an easy structure for engaging in friendly yet meaningful conversation with those with whom we may not agree. These conversations increase understanding, reveal common ground, and sometimes even allow us to discuss possible solutions. Led by <u>Rev. Jamie McRyenolds</u>.

Please join us **March 29** in the Sanctuary after the service for our conversation on "2020 Election -Concerns & Aspirations." As the 2020 election approaches, our national anxiety is ramping up. Countless voices clamor for our attention—our donations—our time—our votes. Headlines and news broadcasts may present conflicting reports on issues to bolster specific views. Shrill ads play to our fears and overwhelm our senses. As we prepare to cast our ballots amidst all this noise, it can be difficult to connect our votes with our values. This conversation is an opportunity to share and reflect on our perspectives with others. It may be helpful in cutting through the clutter to best match our votes to our personal values and hopes for the future.





# **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 February recipients were:

February 2: Plenty!, \$363

**February 9**: Community Health Center of the NRV, \$329

February 16: Christiansburg Institute, \$337

February 23: Women's Resource Center, \$303

Watch the weekly announcements and website for the coming weeks' ½-plate recipients. Have a suggestion—fill out the form in Elarth Hall and place in the lantern or email <u>Lisa</u>.

#### Habitat for Humanity Help Needed



UUC hopes to provide a team of at least 10 to help build a Habitat Townhouse in Blacksburg on Saturday, **March 21** from 8:30 AM-4:30 PM. If interested in volunteering for this community effort (no skills needed), contact <u>Alison</u> <u>Armstrong</u> or <u>Pauletta Copenheaver</u> ASAP. If you can only do the AM or PM, that is OK, too! Just let them know. (If interested in volunteering as an individual on a different date, they can send you additional information as well.)

# February Board Mtg. Highlights

- The required funds (\$49,000) were paid into the TIAA retirement accounts for both Lisa and Karen. These funds cover what should have been paid toward their retirement going back to 2012. The funds came from our checking account reserves, and the Board is working on a strategy to repay the money.
- The Board worked on a draft of a new congregational public witness policy.
- The Board approved Joyce Graham and Patrick Feucht to serve on the Committee on Ministries.
- Arthur Cennamo is stepping down as a Trustee in June. A replacement will be appointed.
- Rev. Pam presented a timeline for finding a replacement for Lisa Evanylo, Administrator (retiring as of June 30).
- Via an email vote, the Board accepted the offer of exhibiting the Benediction Project sculpture on our grounds for 40 days as arranged with the sculptor, Charlie Brouwer.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, **March 12** at 7 PM. The <u>minutes and reports</u> of meetings for the past two calendar years are available.

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

# **WVTF Spring Fund Drive**



Help tell people about our growing community, support public radio, and get a tax deduction—all with one check! Contributions made through UUC not only help the station, but also pay for sponsorship announcements about all four area UU congregations: Blacksburg, Roanoke, Lynchburg, and Charlottesville. To contribute, make your check out to UUC with "WVTF" on the memo line and put it in the collection basket or mail it to UUC by **March 22**. Thank you for supporting public radio.

### **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.

# Round the Grounds

Bees are coming to UUC's grounds! Beekeeper guru and UUC congregant, Richard Reid, has volunteered to put 3 hives on site. They'll be located in a fenced-in area in the Peacock Meadow, a lightly used area. The hives should be in place by mid-April or earlier. Our grounds have many flowering shrubs, trees, and plants – an ideal pollinating environment for bees. Bees are social insects; being able to observe their behavior will be educational and inspiring. We hope to provide more educational material about "our" bees as the summer progresses.



Here's a win-win opportunity: You can help reduce your carbon footprint with the planting of addition trees on our grounds. Grounds Ministry wants to plant 6 native

trees in an area above the crescent garden and the small picnic area. We hope to use pin oak, red maple, sourwood and American Holly. We'll purchase the trees (the largest sized trees we can afford), dig the hole, amend the soil, plant the tree, mulch it, and nurse it to ensure its health. For a \$200 donation, you can sponsor one of the new trees. You might want to think of "your tree" as a way to commemorate an event or someone important in your life, dedicate it to a child or grandchild (the tree grows and ages with the child), or think of it as providing habitat and food for wildlife. That's a deal! We need to get the trees in the ground by early April. Make your commitment to sponsor a tree by contacting <u>Susan Baker</u> by the end of March. Thank you!

Birds are starting to return from their winter homes. The many birdhouses on the grounds are ready for the new occupants. We appreciate Sally & Doug Pfeifer's monitoring and cleaning out the birdhouses.

The beginning-of-spring grounds' work days are coming up, and your help is needed! There are jobs for all abilities. See page 5 for more info on both work days.

General workday: Saturday, March 28, 10 AM - noon VT Big Event workday: Saturday, April 4, 10:30 AM - 2:15 PM.



# **Monthly Support Groups at UUC**

#### **Parent Bereavement**

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, **March 9.** For more info, contact <u>Katherine</u> or <u>Lisa</u>.

### Caregivers

UUC hosts a monthly support group for caregivers to share their experiences and challenges. The group meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays—next meeting **March 10** at 4:30 PM (note new time). Questions or concerns - contact either <u>Rev. Pam</u> or <u>Joanne Wolfe</u>.

# Transgender

<u>NRV Trans\* Support</u> is a peer-led organization whose mission is to offer support, resources, and social activities to all transgender and gender nonconforming individuals in the NRV in a safe, anonymous and affirming environment. Contact <u>Hayden</u> for more info and meeting locations.

The **Adult Group** meets on **March 12 & 26** at 7 PM and welcomes all adults who identify under the trans umbrella or are questioning their gender.

The **Youth & Families Group** meets on **March 24** at 7 PM and is for anyone under 18 that falls under the trans umbrella, whether they have started their transition or are just questioning their gender. Parents are welcome with or without their children.

# 2 NAMI Mental Health Groups

All are welcome on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6 PM to attend the support group for those with a mental illness. Next meeting on **March 16**. A second support group for friends and family of those with a mental illness meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6 PM. Next meeting on **March 18**. Contact <u>Margo</u> for more information.



### Unitarian Universalist Congregation Sunday Services March 2020

Services at 10:00 AM in the Meeting Hall Religious Education Classes and Nursery Care All are invited to share coffee & conversation following the service.

## Worship Theme for March: Wisdom

**March 1:** *Wisdom of Generosity* Rev. Pam Philips and Worship Associate Kimberley Homer. We'll kick off this year's stewardship campaign – **2020:** *Vision and Visibility* -- by exploring the role of generosity in our lives.



**March 8**: *Sophia: Wisdom Personified* Rev. Pam Philips and Worship Associate David Lally. Exploring Wisdom during Women's History Month invites us to consider the ancient concept of wisdom as a personified feminine being.

All are invited to our monthly potluck following the service (see below).

**March 15**: *Unconventional Wisdom* Rev. Pam Philips and Worship Associate Stephen Henninger. While conventional wisdom has a role in our lives, sometimes it's good to think "outside the box" to find answers to persistent and wicked problems. What might we gain from wisdom from unconventional sources?

**March 22**: *Wisdom Literature* Seminarian and UUC member Ellen Plummer with Worship Associate TBA. While Jewish and Christian teachings are among our six sources, we seldom turn to them in our free and responsible search for truth and meaning. What might the wisdom literature from the Hebrew scriptures have to offer us as Unitarian Universalists today?

**March 29**: *Indigenous Wisdom* Rev. Pam Philips and Worship Associate Victoria Taylor. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, so much of what we know of the world stems from modern science and technology, but as Unitarian Universalists, we claim as another of our sources the earth-centered traditions. We'll explore how the wisdom of indigenous people can enrich and inform our lives.

### **Second-Sunday Potluck**

Everyone is invited to enjoy lunch together following the service on **March 8**. This month, if your last name begins with **Mor-Ph**, bring a beverage; **A-Lam** bring a main dish; **Lan-Mop and Pi-Z** bring a side dish or dessert. Please be sure to bring a **LARGE DISH** as there are many mouths to feed and include a label indicating if it's gluten-free, vegetarian, contains cheese, eggs, etc. so those on special diets can choose safe foods.

As always, bring your non-perishable food donations for the **Interfaith Food Pantry**. **This month we request that everyone bring donations of dried pasta and canned pasta sauce**. The donation basket is in the lobby just outside the Sanctuary.

#### **Service and Event Cancelation**

In the event of snow or ice resulting in our canceling a Sunday service, a message will be sent to all those on our announcement listserv by 8:30 AM. You can also check for a message on our <u>website</u>, on our <u>Facebook page</u>, or go to <u>wsls.com</u> and look under the list of church closings. This should also run across the top of your TV screen on WSLS Channel 10.

Please check the website and online calendar to check on the status of an event other than a service.



#### Unitarian Universalist Congregation 1301 Gladewood Drive, Blacksburg, VA 24060

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# CALENDAR: March 2020

#### **Staff Office Hours: Minister**: 9–1 Tu – Th; Contact for appointment

Administrator: Mondays & Fridays 1-4

**DLFD**: On sabbatical leave through June 2020

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) א 10:00 AM Worship Service & Children's RE א 6:00 YRUU	(All Mondays) 7:00 AM Women's Breakfast & Men's Breakfast at Panera Bread (Bburg)	<b>(All Tuesdays)</b> א 5:00 Meditation	(All Wednesdays) × Noon Conversations on Our Faith 5:30 Yoga 6:15 Chalice Singers 7:00 Adult Choir			
<b>1 Stewardship Kick-off</b> × 8:30 AM Sunday Circle 11:30 Men's Group 11:30 Steward Training × 11:30 UUA Common Read Discussion Group × 1:45 The Music of Harry Potter × 3:00 Spiritual Aging	2	<b>3</b> 2:00 Sages	<b>4</b> 6:00 Connection Committee	5	<b>6</b> κ 11:30 Women's Lunch <i>Mamma Kitchen</i> (Radford)	7
<b>8</b> א 8:30 AM Anti-Racism discussion group א 11:15 Second-Sunday potluck א 6:00 EarthSpirit Sisters Full- Moon Ritual	<b>9</b> א 6:00 Parent Bereavement Support Group	<b>10</b> 4:00 Committee on Ministries 4:30 Caregivers' Support Group	<b>11</b> 5:45 Finance Committee 7:00 Worship Team	<b>12</b> א 7:00 Board meeting 7:00 Transgender Support Group	<b>13</b> א 5:30 Multigenerational St. Patrick's Day Party	14 5:00 Parents' Covenant Group
<b>15</b> א 8:30 AM Sunday Circle 11:30 Men's Group 11:30 CST meeting א 11:30 Stewardship group gathering 5:00 YAC	<b>16</b> א 6:00 National Alliance on Mental Illness Connections Support Group	17 2:00 Sages 5:30 EJT meeting	18 4:00 Lay Pastoral Care Ministries meeting א 6:00 NAMI Family and Friends Support group	<b>19</b> 5:30 Leadership Development Committee	20 × 11:30 Women's Lunch group <i>India Garden</i> (Bburg) × 6:00 ESS Spring Equinox celebration 6:30 Middle-School Youth Group (offsite)	<b>21</b> א 9:00 AM Adopt- a-Highway (Cburg)
<b>22</b> א 8:30 AM Anti-Racism discussion group 11:30 Stewardship Committee	23	24 1:30 Creative Writers' Group 7:00 Trans Support Group for Youth and Family	25	26 × 7:00 Transgender Support Group 9:00 April Newsletter Deadline	27 א 7:00 YRUU Coffeehouse	28 9:00 AM Better Angels Depolarizing Within Workshop κ 10:00 Grounds' Work Day
<b>29</b> א 11:30 AM <i>Bridging</i> Conversations	30	31				