



NEWSLETTER

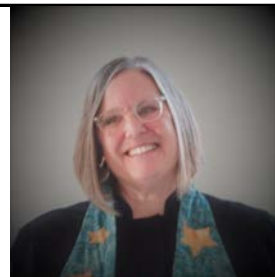
March 2022

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Message from Our Minister

Rev. Pam Philips

The days are getting longer, green shoots are peeking out of the soil, and it's warm enough to wear a sweater instead of a heavy coat. Spring is nearly here! Nothing speaks to us of renewal like spring, so it is fitting that we explore the theme of **Renewing Faith** this month. These signs of birth and rebirth are reminders that while so much of the natural world seems dead in winter, new life will return. In that we can have faith. Buds and leaves will sprout on bushes and trees, the birds will return from the south and lay their eggs, and warmer weather will lure us out to enjoy it all. And then it rains. Having grown up in Oregon, though, I welcome this other sign of spring, knowing that it will nourish even more new life.



Considering our life together at UUC, we have similar signs of life and renewal. We are blessed with opportunities for *Spiritual and Ethical Growth*. The UUs of Charlottesville have invited us to participate in some of their adult faith development offerings. [Sign up](#) to explore UU spirituality and great questions in UU history. Likewise, I'll be leading an 8-session exploration and reimagining of Unitarian Universalism beginning **March 2** at 7:00 PM (1st, 3rd, 5th Wednesdays). [Sign up](#) to join us in person or online via Zoom. (See page 4 for more info on both these opportunities). We'll also be continuing our *Anti-Racist Practice Group* on the last Tuesday of the month through the rest of the church year (see page 6 for more info). Finally, we'll explore what *Renewing Faith* might mean for us as Unitarian Universalists.

More exciting, perhaps, are the new opportunities to *Create Compassionate Community* through the many activities offered as part of our annual **Stewardship Pledge Drive**. This year we're trying something completely different, with an emphasis on fun activities that will help us *Cultivate Community* AND remind us why we joyfully renew our financial commitments to this congregation. Under the able and creative leadership of chair, Carol Kern, the Stewardship Committee has been busy preparing for the renewal of the stewardship process. Make sure you [take a look at the offerings](#) and [sign up](#) for one or two. If you are new to UUC or would just like to learn more about the stewardship process and how you can participate in it, email [Carol](#) to set up a one-on-one meeting. The sooner we all make our generous pledges of financial support for the fiscal year starting **July 1**, the better able the Board will be to prepare a budget for the congregation's approval at our annual meeting on **June 5**. (See the Stewardship article on page 3 for more information and how you can pledge.)

As we emerge from the cold, dark days of winter and from what we hope will be the end of the most recent surge of the Omicron variant, may our faith in the goodness of life and in this community be renewed. Let us take all the opportunities to gather together safely – whether online or in person in the meeting house, but especially on our beautiful grounds.

With faith and love,

Rev. Pam



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Staff Office Hours:

Contact staff to make an appointment.

Message from Our Board

Bob Stimson, Board President



The Board has been busy recently dealing with several important issues. An annual priority is to create an initial budget from the draft sent to the Board by the Finance Committee. The current amount which our pledges will need to fund is \$357,500, a modest increase of 3% over last year.

There are several exciting areas in next year's budget. One is our wholehearted support to hire a ministerial intern. This is a mutual service provided by UUC and an intern who will learn requisite skills from Rev. Pam and our whole UUC community to become a minister in several years. Taking on a ministerial intern is an effort to "give back" to the UUA (Unitarian Universalist Assn.). Several years ago, our Rev. Pam went through this process successfully (obviously!) in another UU congregation. The total cost to us will be less than \$6,000 with the additional \$4000 being funded by a grant from the UUA. A wonderful situation for all.

Another is our desire to hire a full-time Director of Lifespan Faith Development (DLFD). This would provide us a person to create and manage our entire Lifespan Faith Development program. The anticipated salary increase would be about \$2,500.

The Board has included a well-deserved raise for Rev. Pam, realizing the challenging work she has done, and will need to continue to do, for our dual-platform Sunday services and our entire congregation.

The Board hopes that our pledge drive will produce, like last year, the needed money to implement the programs requested in the 2022-23 budget. Please help us continue to move forward. (See page 3 for more info.)

Also, please read the article below about the Board commitment to hold an **Outreach Summit** on **April 23** which will continue the work started within our Strategic Plan and which will result in action plans and commitments. It will be an exciting activity!

I thank all of the Board members for their on-going work, on behalf of the congregation, to continue to meet the needs of UUC while moving forward.

Outreach Summit

A summit to create UUC outreach action plans, open to all congregants, will be held on Saturday, **April 23** from 9 AM - 1 PM.

Our strategic plan calls us to transform the wider community by creating deep, meaningful, and sustained partnerships with community organizations and to increase our outreach activities.

UUC's Board sees this summit as an opportunity to engage members in an interactive conversation on how we can identify new areas of outreach, increase external communication, and enhance our community involvement.

The mix of targeted break-out groups and combined presentations and discussions will allow congregants to identify ideas for future initiatives and to create an implementation plan for expanding UUC outreach.

More details and a registration form will be available soon.

UUC's 2022-2023 Stewardship Campaign

Cultivating Our Community in 2022



It's finally here! On **March 6** we officially kick off our 2022-2023 Stewardship Pledge Drive, *Cultivating Our Community*! We, the members of the Stewardship Committee, are super excited to invite you to join us in 1 or 2 small group events. We want to get to know you and each other while having some fun. We invite you to step out of your comfort zone and learn to dance in the parking lot, visit a working beehive farm, hike a mountain, sing around a campfire, toast the UUC at a local brewery (non-alcoholic drinks available), or learn about native plants on Zoom. If you love our beautiful grounds, working up a sweat and digging in the dirt, then join our UUC Grounds workday. Yearning for connection and conversation? Come meet some new friends and neighbors or reconnect with others at our Warm



Hearth Village social event. Love art or baking? Come and make paper hearts, join a cookie exchange, or take a leaf drawing class on Zoom. Maybe you just want to kick back and relax at our wine and cheese events (non-alcoholic drinks also available). Check out these and other fun events on Zoom on our [webpage](#) and then **sign up via this link**. We hope 1 or 2 of our events sound fun and interesting, and you join us!



We need all of us to be as generous as we can to help raise our goal of **\$357,500**. Last year during the peak of the pandemic, we did this and even passed our goal! Let's do it again this year! Three main focus points of this year's drive include: **1) hiring a full-time DLFD (Dir. of Lifespan Faith Development), 2) hiring a ministerial intern, and 3) supporting our buildings and grounds.** (Look for more information in the President and Minister's articles in this newsletter and our [Stewardship webpage](#).) Together we all can plant the seeds to keep our beloved community strong and well nourished! We hope you make some new friends and connections and have some fun along the way! Here is the [link](#) to our online pledge form or email administrator@uucnr.org with your pledge amount.

Any questions, please reach out to me, [Carol Kern](#), or call or text at (540) 357-1918. Finally we recognize that to some, the Stewardship Campaign may be new and unfamiliar, or you may not feel ready to meet in person or on Zoom for any of the social events. Please note that we have some wonderful and experienced Stewards ready and willing to talk to anyone at UUC for a more intimate conversation, in person or via Zoom. Please let me know, and we will be happy to make that connection! Happy growing!

Important Stewardship Campaign Dates:

February 13—March 5: Early Bird Pledging

March 6: Official Pledge Campaign Kicks Off

May 1: Stewardship Celebration Sunday, watch for more info

-Carol Kern Stewardship Chair

Upcoming Events and Updates



The annual *Virginia Festival of the Book*, held both in Charlottesville and virtually, brings together writers and readers to promote and celebrate books, reading, literacy, and literary culture. The varied programming offers something for readers of all levels and interests.

Everyone is welcome to gather at UUC to participate **virtually March 16-20**. For more information about authors, books, schedules, etc. follow this [link](#). Stay tuned for more information on when we plan to gather. However, when checking the website, if you see an author discussing a book that you are interested in, let [Cynthia](#) know.

2 Adult RE Opportunities

Exploring and Reimagining Unitarian Universalism at Its Core

The UUA Article 2 Study Commission invites you to participate in the process of revisioning bylaws by participating in a small group discussion over the course of 8 sessions. There is pre-work for each two-hour session that will inform, inspire, and challenge you to think deeply about the Principles & Sources, Purpose of the UUA, the Inclusion Clause and Freedom of Belief Statement. Rev. Pam will be offering these sessions from 7-9 PM on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays of each month, starting **March 2**. To register for these sessions, please fill out this [form](#).

Adult RE Offered by UU Charlottesville

UUC congregants have been invited to participate in their adult faith development offerings this winter/spring. Find descriptions and registration links [here](#). Highlights include Exploring Unitarian Universalist Spirituality (starts March 7) and Great Questions in UU History (starts March 8). Sign up now!



Be sure to turn your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed on Saturday, **March 12**.

2 Great Opportunities for Outdoor-loving Volunteers

Get out of the house and do something fun and rewarding by volunteering for one or both events below:

1) UUC grounds workday for congregants, Saturday, **April 2**, 9:30-12 PM, with pizza! Sign up via this [link](#). Note that if you do sign up for this workday, you can still sign up for two other stewardship activities at the same sign-up site. We need your help!



2) The UUC Grounds VT Big Event, Saturday, **April 9**, 10:30-2. Light lunch included. We will be joined by 20-25 VT students to get major spring tasks completed. Yes, we need you to supervise and/or work alongside the students. We also need wheelbarrows and two pick-up trucks. A sign up for the Big Event will be forthcoming in the email announcements.

UUC's Event Auction Is On!

Plan to join the fun on Saturday, **May 7** from 5-8 PM at UUC. There will be dinner, drinks, and a live auction of events. Sorry, no silent auction this year.

Help wanted: no experience required.

1) Donations of dinners, parties, outings to auction off. Be thinking about what fun, exciting, tasty events you can offer. Don't have space at home for a dinner party or other gathering, UUC is available. Contact [Lisa](#) to get your event scheduled at UUC.

2) Donation solicitors

3) 1 Food coordinator

4) 4 Potluck set-up and clean-up helpers

5) 2 Check-out helpers

6) 4 Auctioneers.

Contact [Irene](#) to volunteer or for more info.

Building & Grounds Use

Sunday services are offered in a **dual-platform format** with those attending in person required to wear masks, encouragement to attend only if vaccinated, and social distancing measures in place.

Other groups can meet inside the building in designated meeting rooms within the COVID capacity for that room. All in the building are strongly encouraged to meet with masks and social distancing.

Outside gatherings of any size are permitted. Non-vaccinated people are strongly encouraged to wear masks and/or social distance. Masks must be worn near children.

To schedule an event indoors or outdoors, contact our [Administrator](#).

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 UUC. Check [online calendar](#) for location each week.

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 (**March 14**) 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 (**March 8**) 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 (**March 21**) 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 (**March 16**) 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 (**March 3**) from 7-8:30 PM and 3rd Saturdays (**March 19**) 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 (**March 22**) 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 February recipients were:

February 6: Guest at Your Table, \$275

February 13: Laundry Love, \$145

February 20: RAFT Crisis Hotline, \$326.44

February 27: YMCA Meals on Main, \$216.98

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.

February Board Mtg. Highlights

- ♦ The Board reviewed allocations for specific items in the FY2022-23 budget and made some minor adjustments.
- ♦ The Board set the **Outreach Summit** for April 23 (see page 2 for more info). All members are welcome to attend.
- ♦ The Board approved the Letter of Agreement for the ministerial intern.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, **March 10** 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.

Anti-Racist Practice Group

March 29, April 26, and May 31, 7-8:30 PM via Zoom

Sponsored by Blacksburg Presbyterian Church & the Unitarian Universalist Congregation.

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, participants will gather in small groups to discuss case studies of racial microaggressions. Alongside facilitators, participants will role-play possible microinterventions and practice interrupting common examples of racism. As people of faith, these workshops present an opportunity to come together across our theological differences to seek healing, pursue justice, embrace accountability, and begin to repair what is broken in ourselves and our society. None of us can do this work alone. We need each other.

Because the work of anti-racism is always an ongoing process, we hope you'll plan to attend each of these gatherings, but even if you can only make it to one or two, we hope that you'll still join us as your schedule allows. Please register for each session via this [link](#). After you register, 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. We hope to see you there!



March Food Pantry Donations



Our Community Service Team is collecting food in the bins located near the accessible entrance to UUC. Suggested donations for March are pancake mix and syrup, canned tuna, and canned fruit. Thanks for helping to feed the hungry in our area.

Follow Our UUC Instagram Account at @uucnr.

If you have a picture of a UUC event or activity and want it posted to our Instagram account, do so yourself or send to [Ashley Dugan](#), and she'll post it. No identifiable pics of minors, and adults must ok having their pic posted.

Round the Grounds

Susan Baker, co-chair

"Life goes on." How easy it is to say that, but on the UUC grounds, that involves physical work. We are doing our annual winter clean-up: cutting up downed branches, fixing damage caused by the snowplow in the parking lot, readjusting rocks and landscape blocks that have shifted from frost heaving, and maintaining tools, to name a few of the tasks.

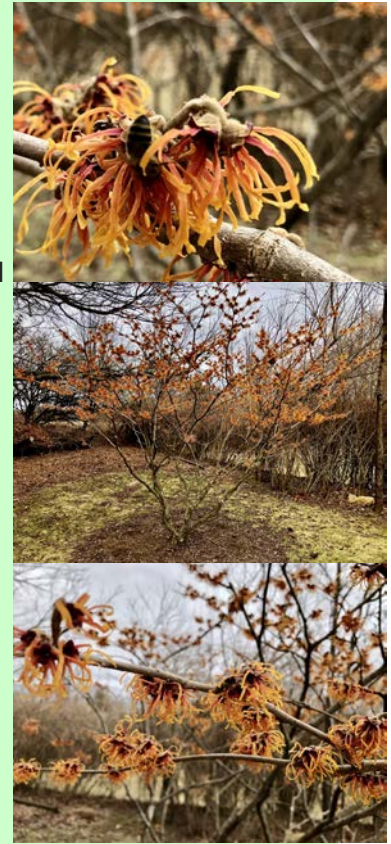
BUT there are signs of spring as seen by our blooming witch hazel shrub - be sure to notice the bee! I've never seen UUC's witch hazel in such glorious full bloom as it was on February 19. The front door entrance is graced with small yellow flowers - do you know the name of these yellow beauties? The daffodils are about 2" high. We are hearing more bird chatter and, on warmer days, seeing flying insects. Spring is the season of expectation and "magic".



The mulch and wood chip piles are dwindling thanks to the help of some strong muscles that moved loaded wheelbarrows. New supplies of wood chips and mulch will be delivered soon.

Denise Martin and I have begun planning for the annual spring work that has to be done on the grounds during the two upcoming workdays, **April 2**, 9:30-12 and the **VT Big Event, April 9**, 10:15-2 (see page 4 for more info and to sign up). Your donation of time for either or both of these events is GREATLY appreciated. You don't have to be superman, superwoman, or a gardener to be of help. Think "give me your tired, your poor..."

Grounds wish list: wheelbarrow with tubeless tire, replacement blue bird boxes and wren boxes as some of our boxes are suffering from years of weather damage. Contact [Susan](#) if you can donate either of these items.



A Civil Debate about the Legacy Affordable Housing Project

The Legacy affordable housing project that is coming up for a vote at the Blacksburg Town Council on Tuesday, **March 8** has become very controversial and uncivil, even within our UUC community. Rev. Jamie McReynolds will be chairing a debate about this project on Sunday, **March 6** at 11:30 AM. This will be a Braver Angels style debate where the special parliamentary format encourages everyone to speak or ask questions, ensures civility in disagreement, and strives for learning and better understanding for all. If you are interested in experiencing this style of civil debate and in learning more about this controversial affordable housing project, come join us either in person or online at this [Zoom link](#).

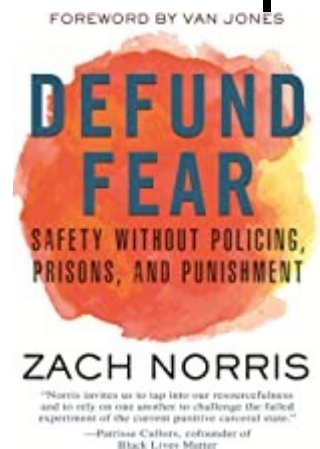
The UUA Common Read Announced

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.

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 more info.



Lifespan Faith Development

Children's RE

It may be chilly outside, but our spring semester is in full bloom! We continue to meet in person and online.

With the cold weather in full effect, classes will take place indoors with mitigation. Masking and distancing are required. Parents should stop at the sign-in table located in the downstairs lobby between 9:45-10:00 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 as 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.

Online Story Time: Families who feel safer at home, join us Sunday mornings at 9:00 for an online, all-ages story time. Join us through [this Zoom link](#).



Feeling Safer at Home?



You can attend RE from home!

Check out our **Online Story Time**. Every Sunday morning at 9:00, RE teachers will lead an online story time. Open to all ages.

Join us through [this Zoom link](#).

Middle School Youth Group: Bowling & Laser Tag



Details: Friday, **March 4** at NRV Super Bowl from 6-7:45 PM

RSVP: Email spgcatlett@gmail.com by Wednesday, **March 2**



Leprechaun Scavenger Hunt

From **March 6-27**, you are invited to follow the clues left by our leprechaun friend. Will you find the treasure at the end of the rainbow?

The scavenger hunt will be self-led on the grounds.

Annual Egg Hunt



The UUC Annual Egg Hunt is planned for **Sunday, April 17** following the multigenerational service. The egg hunt will take place outside on our grounds.

Donate

Eggs will be filled with items for the dogs and cats of the **Montgomery County Animal Care & Adoption Center**. Drop off items in the collection bins on both levels. [Click here](#) to see the animal center's wish list.

Volunteer

Email dlfd@uucnr.org if you would like to help with either the Leprechaun Scavenger Hunt or the Egg Hunt!

Weaving Our Community

Look for our **community loom**, created by Derek Rountree and Brandie Lemmon, and installed near the front doors of UUC. Congregants are invited to weave scraps of fabric into the collective design. There is a basket of fabric scraps under the loom, but also feel free to bring special fabric from home.

We are weaving our community together across physical divides that Covid has necessitated!



On-Going Adult RE Programs

Sunday Circle

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

March 6: Carl Hansen discusses ***Sixteen years and counting***. A summary of results of a study designed to explore the effects of habitat and climate/weather on the reproductive success of four species of cavity nesting birds (Bluebirds, Tree Swallows, House Wrens, and Chickadees) started in 2006 with 17 and now over 500 nest boxes covering parts of Montgomery and Pulaski counties and Radford City.

March 20: Laura Robinson discusses ***Mushrooms and the types of people who love them***. Laura will share her experiences hunting for mushrooms in the New River Valley and when to find them. Also, she will share her comic published in *Fungi Magazine* called "The 10 types of mushroom people" and humorously explain each type.

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](#).

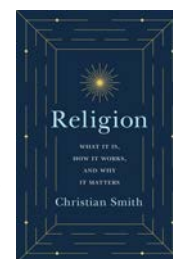
Our meditation group meets weekly for those interested in starting or deepening their meditation practice. Our format is drop-in, so you need not attend all sessions. Open with centering words and basic instruction followed by sitting practice. Meditators from all traditions and all levels of experience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



Conversations on Our Faith

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

Join our conversation as we begin reading the book, *Religion, What It Is, How It Works, and Why It Is Important* by Christian Smith. All are welcome, even if you have not read the chapters of the book under discussion. To learn more, contact [Tim Pickering](#).



Community Conversations

Sunday, March 27, 11:30-1 PM via this [Zoom link](#).

Join us for a conversation on ***Politics—Can We Talk?*** In this conversation, we'll explore how we talk about politics and our hopes for improving how we do that. We'll share stories about what has happened around our political conversations and consider the impact this has on our relationships with friends and family. This isn't a conversation about issues, but rather a discovery of the ways our knowledge of others' political views impact how we decide who to relate to and at what depth we feel comfortable talking. Led by [Rev. Jamie McReynolds](#).



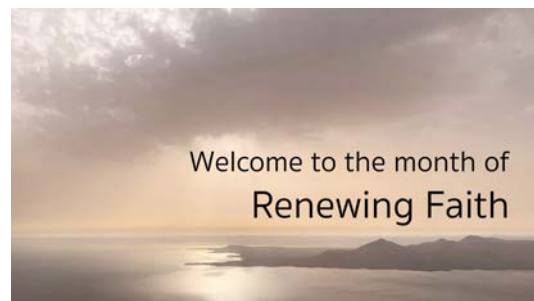


Unitarian Universalist Congregation Sunday Services March 2022

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

March's Theme: Renewing Faith

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



March 6: *Renewing our Faith in UUC*, Rev. Pam Philips, Worship Associate Victoria Taylor. As we begin a month-long exploration of the theme "Renewing Faith," we'll consider how and why we might renew our faith in this congregation. Join us as we kick off our annual Stewardship Pledge Drive to *Cultivate Our Community*.

March 13: *Renewing What?* Rev. Pam Philips and Worship Associate Stephen Henninger. As Unitarian Universalists, particularly those of us who come out of more orthodox religions, we may struggle with the word *Faith*. How does faith fit in our lives? How might we renew our understanding of the word? We'll be joined by members of the [Foothills UU Fellowship](#) from Tennessee.

March 20: *Renewing Faith in Humanity*, Rev. Pam Philips and Worship Associate Ellen Plummer. Events these past few years - the climate crisis, global pandemic, war abroad, civil unrest at home--have shaken our faith in human progress--what 19th century Unitarians called "the progress of mankind onward and upward forever." How might we renew our faith in our ability to meet the challenges of the 21st century?

March 27: Guest speaker, Darryl McCallum, and Worship Associate Tommy Iafrate. Watch for more information.



General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Participants worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through the democratic process. For more info, go to <https://www.uua.org/ga>.

This year the gathering will be held both online and in person, **June 22-26** in Portland, OR. Registration is now open for in person attendance. UUC is entitled to send 5 delegates plus our minister. If interested in serving as a delegate, contact president@uucnrv.org.

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.

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: March 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) κ 9:00 AM Story Time 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	(All Wednesdays) κ Noon Conversations on Our Faith κ 5:30 Yoga (UUC) 7:00 Choir rehearsal (UUC)		(All Fridays) κ Women's Lunch Bunch (restaurants); 11:30 on March 4 at Maroon Door, TBA on other Fridays	
		1 κ 2:00 Sages (UUC and Zoom)	2 6:00 Connections Committee κ 7:00 Exploring and Reimagining UUism at its Core	3 κ 7:00 Transgender Support Group	4	5
6 κ Annual Stewardship Pledge Drive Begins κ 8:30 AM Sunday Circle κ 11:30 AM A Civil Debate about the Legacy Affordable Housing Project, at UUC and on zoom	7	8 κ 7:00 Caregivers' Support Group	9 6:00 Finance Committee 7:00 Worship Team	10 κ 7:00 Board Meeting (UUC and Zoom)	11	12
13 Daylight Savings time starts 11:30 AM Stewardship Committee κ 1:00 Anti-Racism Group	14 κ 6:00 Parent Bereavement Support Group	15 κ 2:00 Sages (UUC and Zoom)	16 κ Festival of the Book (UUC: times TBA) κ 6:00 NAMI Family Support Group κ 7:00 Exploring and Reimagining UUism at its Core	17 κ Festival of the Book (UUC: times TBA)	18 κ Festival of the Book (UUC: times TBA)	19 κ Festival of the Book (UUC: times TBA) κ 1:00 Transgender Support Group κκ 5:00 Stewardship Campfire and Concert
20 κ Festival of the Book (UUC: times TBA) κ 8:30 AM Sunday Circle κκ 4:30 Stewardship Cookie Exchange (UUC)	21 κ 6:00 NAMI Connections Support Group	22 κ 6:30 Trans Support Group for Youth & Families	23	24 9:00 April newsletter deadline	25 κκ 7:00 Fireside Chat with President Bob Stimson	26
27 κ 11:30 AM Community Conversations κ 1:00 Anti-Racism Group κκ 2:30 Meet and Greet at WHV	28	29 κ 7:00 Anti-Racist Practice Group	30 κ 7:00 Exploring and Reimagining UUism at its Core	31		

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. Page 5 above has the Covid rules (at the publication time) for Building & Grounds Use. That calendar will be updated as conditions change.