



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

NEWSLETTER

October 2020

1301 Gladewood Drive
Blacksburg, VA 24060
Website: www.uucnr.org
E-mail: info@uucnr.org
Phone: (540) 552-9716

Message from Our Minister Rev. Pam Philips

**"Listening is about being present, not just about being quiet."
Krista Tippett**



As we begin our exploration of this month's theme—**what does it mean to be a people of deep listening**—I appreciate this distinction. Deep listening requires presence, not just silence. It invites us to explore with whom or with what do we want or need to be present?

As we approach what feels like one of the most monumental elections in our lives, many of us will be listening to all kinds of political predictions and polls, debates, and discussions. Part of being a good citizen is being well informed, but that doesn't mean we have to pay attention to all that is being said. I'm mindful that not all of what we will hear in the month ahead will be well-intentioned or true. I recently saw a quiz on-line designed to test how well one can [spot the troll](#). Nor will everything be good for us—for our emotional or spiritual well-being. We can decide how much and what kinds of media we want to listen to. Whether or not it is worthy of our presence.

Which isn't to say that we should avoid deeply listening to hard truths. These past several months (and years) have pushed many of us to be more present to Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) voices. We're reading more books and articles, watching more movies and documentaries—listening more deeply. The Anti-racism Group will be sponsoring a [Conversation on Race](#) on Sunday, **October 11** at 1 PM to begin the process of speaking and listening to one another to help us decide as a congregation how we might respond to racial injustice. How we might be present in a more meaningful way.

As part of your personal exploration of deep listening, you might consider joining one of the regular opportunities to be present to one another—including the [Monday Meet-Up](#), [Conversations on Faith](#), [Men's or Women's Breakfasts](#), [Sages](#), [Mid-Week Gathering](#), [Women's Lunch Bunch](#), [Sunday Circle](#), [Anti-racism Discussion](#)—as well as the [Sunday Worship Service and coffee hour](#). If you are relatively new to UUC, consider being present at one of [two Newcomer's Orientations](#), where you'll learn more about UUC and Unitarian Universalism, but also get to know other people.

This month, we have two special events where we can show up and be present for each other and for the larger community. We hope that everyone one will attend the [Auction Night Extravaganza: "UUC's Got Talent"](#)—whether you can perform a talent or lend an appreciative ear. It promises to be an entertaining evening. And the next week, we'll have a drive-by ["It's Scary to Be Hungry"](#) food drive, where we can be present to our children in their Halloween costumes and provide much needed supplies to our neighbors in need.

As we explore what it means to be a people of deep listening, let us begin by being present in ways that feed our spirits and our minds. With so much uncertainty in the world, let us be intentional in our choices of where and how we show up.

In faith,
Rev. Pam



Contact Information

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

President:
Wayne Neu
540-818-2353
president@uucnr.org

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

Administrator/ Newsletter/Website:
Lisa Evanylo
540-257-3612
administrator@uucnr.org

Pianist:
Jared Gibbs
pianist@uucnr.org

Choir Director:
Ella Kromin
choirdirector@uucnr.org

Lay Pastoral Care Ministry:
LPCM@uucnr.org

UUC Website: uucnr.org

UUC Office Phone:
540-552-9716



Staff Office Hours:

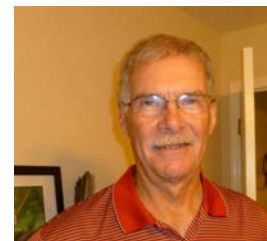
Minister:
Tuesdays - Fridays, 9-1

Contact [Minister](#) for appointment or use this [link](#) to set one up online.

Administrator or DLFD:
Contact [Administrator](#) or [Director of Lifespan Faith Development](#) to set up appointments.

Message from Our Board

Bob Stimson, President-Elect



I am several months into my new position as President-Elect of our UUC. In this short amount of time, I have learned a great deal about our UUC, myself, and the wonderful people who have also volunteered to be active Board members.

A major item we all have been involved in is identifying ways to keep people involved within our community. Covid-19, which necessitates Zoom meetings instead of in-person meetings, makes life more difficult. We all realize the importance of keeping connected - by phone, emails, Zoom talks, and/or socially-distanced, in-person meetings. The technology can be problematic, so if you need help getting your darn computer or phone to do what you want it to, contact a Board member, and we'll get you some good help. We want everyone to keep in touch and connected. You're reminded that there are groups which you can join and services in which you can be involved. You'll find them all somewhere in this newsletter. Keep on reading!

If you want to connect to nature, our Grounds Ministry has created a fabulous environment for you. You can sit and feel, listen to, and smell Mother Nature. Or you can walk and enjoy seeing all the living things transitioning from summer to fall. You can even have a fire in one of the fire pits on the grounds and enjoy the warmth and the smell.

So far the Board, while keeping constant appraisal of Montgomery County Covid statistics for new cases and new hospitalizations, has decided to keep UUC closed. Only when it's safe, and no one knows when that will be, will UUC be open. In June of this year, the UUA recommended that UU sanctuaries be closed for services until June 2021. I thought no way, but now, who knows? At least let's all keep connected the best we can.

The 8th Principle of Unitarian Universalism

The events of the past several months have heightened our awareness of persistent racial inequality in the U.S. We have seen that racial minorities have disproportionately high death rates from Covid-19, and we have been horrified by continuing police killings of Black men and women. Even voting rights are not secure. These and other injustices are the civil rights issues of our time.

As Unitarian Universalists, we support dismantling racism. Several years ago, some UUs recognized that none of our 7 Principles explicitly address racism and other systemic oppressions. In 2013, they drafted an 8th principle:

We 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.

Many UU congregations have already adopted this principle. Our own Anti-racism group supports it, and we want our congregation to vote on it at our annual meeting next spring. We plan to provide several opportunities in the coming months for educating ourselves and discussing the 8th principle and the issues it addresses.

For our first event, Rev. Jamie McReynolds will lead a **Conversation on Race: Beginning the Conversation** on Sunday, **October 11** at 1 PM. We will also have breakout rooms so everyone has a chance to express their views. We hope you will join us via this Zoom [link](#) and look forward to seeing you there!

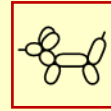
Upcoming Events

Auction Night Extravaganza!



“UUC’s Got Talent”

hosted by Jim Flowers and Ashley Spinks
Saturday, October 24, 6-8 PM via Zoom



Talent wanted! Can you sing, dance, tell jokes, juggle, do magic, recite poetry, play an instrument, do impressions, or otherwise entertain?? Don’t miss your chance to shine! All ages are encouraged to submit 3-minute (or shorter) videos via YouTube, Google Drive, or Vimeo to [Irene Peterson](#). Technical assistance available upon request.

In addition to showcasing our many talents, we’ll put in our final bids on some fabulous items, pick the lucky winner of the amazing quilt donated by our UUC Piecemakers, vote with our dollars for our favorite talent, and more. Don’t miss this night to remember! Join in the fun via this [Zoom link](#).

AND...keep on visiting the [auction website](#) and placing your bids on all the many, many wonderful items, events, and services that our congregants have donated. Enjoy a weekend at a Claytor Lake cabin, how about a soothing massage, games, puzzles, artwork, jewelry, furniture, clothing, home-brewed beer, a stay at a condo in Snowshoe—fall or winter, delicious foods, a canoe trip, a tandem bike ride, and much, much more. Want to donate an item or service—contact [Molly](#) or [Irene](#) ASAP. Help us reach our goal of \$18,500!!!!

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 UUC Newcomers’ Orientation on either Thursday, **October 15** from 7-8:30 PM OR Saturday, **October 17** from 10-11:30 AM. Both sessions will be held via Zoom (please use this [link](#) to join). Rev. Pam and Connection Committee members will be on hand to explain about our UU history and principles, how our congregation works, what it means to be a member, and to answer your questions. Please respond to [Pauletta](#) by **October 10** if you plan to join us or for more info. Can’t make it but are interested in learning more about us – contact [Rev. Pam](#).

Womenspirit at [The Mountain](#)

Unitarian Universalist Womenspirit is hosting its first virtual weekend gathering **October 16-18**. Welcome the Divine Feminine at home, and through Her, connect with each other from afar. You will be inspired, challenged, and delighted by workshops throughout the day on Saturday in a special shorter format suitable for the virtual medium. Worship together mornings and evenings. There will be fun new social activities as well as familiar favorites like Tea and Talk, and Cabaret. Prepare your altar or magical spot at home because UUWomenspirit is coming to you! Registration for *Everyday Sacred* is now open. To view details of the virtual weekend gathering, check out the [brochure](#) or visit the UUWomenspirit [website](#).



Join Our Monday Meet-up

Tired of feeling so isolated? Missing those stimulating conversations with others at UUC? Join our Monday Meet-up each Monday at 7 PM via this [Zoom link](#). This is a time for socializing with no agenda, no questions you need to think about – simply join in and see where the conversation goes. Each week, a member of the Connections Committee will be in the session, so you’ll never be “the only one”. Questions – contact [Isabel](#).

ESS Full Moon Ritual

All women are welcome to participate in this earth-based celebration of the full moon on Thursday, **October 1** at 6:30 PM. Contact [Kimberley Homer](#) for the Zoom link.



Women's Breakfast

All women are invited to meet for breakfast, coffee and conversation at 7 AM each Monday via this [Zoom link](#) until we can once again gather at Panera. If 7 AM is too early, join when able.

Men's Breakfast

All men are invited to enjoy breakfast, coffee and conversation each Monday morning at 7 AM at the UUC picnic area or under the eaves if raining. Bring your own coffee and nourishment.

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, we'll meet via Zoom at this [link](#). Contact [Cynthia Luke](#) for more info.

Sages

Join us each Tuesday at 2 PM for stimulating conversation via this [Zoom link](#). 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 [Zoom link](#) for an opportunity to pause our busy weeks and full lives in a worshipful space. Worship themes are topical and have included such inquiries as: "Loving Courageously", "Renewal", 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.

Yoga

Join us for Yoga outdoors on UUC's grounds each Wednesday at 5:30 PM. To participate in our weekly Yoga gatherings, meet near the UUC entrance. We'll walk as a (distanced) group to our chosen spot for those unfamiliar with the grounds. Bring your own mat and whatever else you will need. All are welcome to this free class.



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, **October 12**. Join the group via Zoom. For more info and the Zoom link, contact [Katherine](#) or [Lisa](#).

Mental Illness Peer Support

If you've been missing the NAMI NRV peer support group, or had difficulty getting there, we offer a temporary alternative. If you are someone who has experienced mental illness and would appreciate the support of peers, join our online meetings on the 3rd Mondays of each month at 6 PM with the next meeting on Monday, **October 19**. Contact [Kimberley](#) 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 New River Valley in a safe, anonymous and affirming environment. To learn more about NRV Trans* Support, visit their [website](#).

The Adult Group meets on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month (**October 8 & 22**) via Zoom from 6:30-8 PM and welcomes all adults who identify under the trans umbrella or are questioning their gender. Contact nrvtrans@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

Caregivers

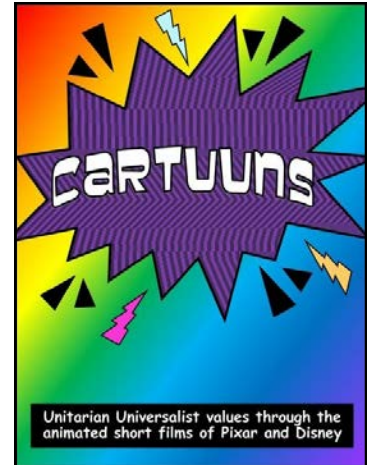
UUC hosts a monthly support group for caregivers to share their experiences and challenges. The group meets on the 2nd Tuesdays of each month—next meeting **October 13** at 7-8:30 PM. Join us via this [Zoom link](#). Questions or concerns - contact [Rev. Pam](#).

Lifespan 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. [Register](#).



Date	Class
Oct 4	<i>Your Friend the Rat</i>
Oct 11	<i>Tin Toy</i>
Oct 18	<i>Jack-Jack Attack</i>
Oct 25	<i>Mater and the Ghostlight</i>

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. [Register](#).



Date	Class
Oct 4	<i>Scaredy Squirrel Makes a Friend</i>
Oct 11	<i>Little Boo</i>
Oct 18	<i>Room on the Broom</i>
Oct 25	<i>Ten Timid Ghosts</i>

Story Time with Rev. Pam

Wednesdays at 3:00 PM

[Zoom link](#)



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.](#)

It's Scary to Be Hungry



Enjoy some Halloween fun while we work on the very scary issue of hunger in our community. Bring non-perishable food donations to UUC between 2-4 pm in our drive-by donation drive. Wear your costume and be a greeter for in your own socially-distanced assigned area—watch your email for a link to sign up to participate. All kids participating receive a goody bag! All donations benefit the Interfaith Food Pantry.



Saturday, October 31, 2-4 pm



Join our conversation on Sunday, October 25!

Community 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. The conversations are led by [Rev. Jamie McReynolds](#).

Join us **October 25** online for our conversation on **Race and Faith Communities**. Race and religion have a long and complicated history. From the crusades to the use of religion to uphold and justify enslavement, faith has been used as a weapon as much as a balm. Our religion or spiritual path provides us a moral and practical foundation for our personal lives and communities. The death of George Floyd, and the unrest that has followed, challenges all of us to explore the ways racism is present in our personal lives and faith communities. The conversation starts at 11:30 AM via this [Zoom link](#).

On-Going Adult RE Programs

Spiritual Aging

Meets the first Sunday of the month, 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 the conversation via this [Zoom link](#).



Sunday Circle

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

October 4: Citizens Climate Lobby New River Valley strives to build bipartisan support for effective climate solutions and welcomes the feedback and participation of all people that want to do something about climate change, regardless of political ideology. Bill Baker & Ingrid Mans will discuss why (and how) they advocate for carbon fee & dividend, considerations for environmental justice, a roadmap to Congressional action, and what regular folks can do to help. Join the conversation via this [Zoom link](#).

October 18: Molly McClintock will illustrate the complex and confusing U.S. immigration system through the stories of four recent immigrants. Their journeys to the New River Valley and their experiences since arriving are varied and show both the hope and horror of a new life in America. Come listen to their stories and share your own views on immigration. It is sure to be a hot topic in the upcoming election. Join the conversation via this [Zoom link](#).

Anti-Racism Discussion Group

Meets second and fourth Sundays, 1-2 PM

All are welcome to join our ongoing discussion group on white privilege and racism. Topics are announced via email. [Email Karen Hager](#) to join the listserv to receive links to the discussion articles. Join the conversation via this [Zoom link](#). **See page 2 for more information on the discussion of our proposed 8th Principle of UUism to be held during this time on October 11.**

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 the session via this [Zoom link](#).



Conversations on Our Faith

Meets Wednesdays, 12-1 PM

Join our conversation as we read the book, *A Hidden Wholeness*, by Parker Palmer. All are welcome, even if you have not read the chapters of the book under discussion. To learn more, contact [Tim Pickering](#). Join the conversation via this [Zoom link](#).

Home Delivery from the UUC Library now available

See our book selection at <https://www.librarything.com/catalog/uucnr/library> then email [Karen](#) or [Rachel](#) to check out a book. Books will be delivered during monthly RE supply bag delivery times.

New Adult Faith Development Programs

from TJMC Unitarian Universalist, Charlottesville, VA

Open to all UUC congregants – all classes free and held online



Meet other UUs

Moments in Unitarian Universalist History

*Wednesdays, **October 28, November 4 and November 11**, 7–8:45 PM*

There are wonderful stories to tell about key figures from the past 500 years of UU history. In this course, the stories we tell will each represent a paradigm shift in the way that people imagined what it meant to be a church. We'll discuss one paradigm shift per century from the 16th to the 21st.

Registration deadline Wednesday, October 21

Community Organizing as a Spiritual Practice

*Saturday, **November 14**, 2-4 PM*

The principles and practices of community organizing are effective tools for building capacity for people to make a difference in their world. And they are also deeply spiritual, based on the ideals of discovering each person's individual gifts, needs, and powers and helping them learn how to be co-creators of a just world. Rev. Linda Olson Peebles, TJMCUU's Interim Lead Minister, will tell of her own experiences with Interfaith Community Organizing, invite others to share their own community organizing learnings, and offer the basic principles for those unfamiliar with this discipline.

Registration deadline Wednesday, November 11

Peace of Mind for Your Loved Ones: Planning and Communicating Your End of Life Wishes

*Tuesday, **October 27**, 1-3 PM*

Many people have found great relief when they've worked through their fears to talk about dying. In this two-hour class, Rev. Alex McGee, Assistant Minister for TJMCUU, will give tips and tools for you to communicate your wishes about medical care and memorial planning.

Registration deadline Tuesday, October 20

To register for the classes above, contact Caroline Heins at reassistant@uucharlottesville.org; a Zoom link will be sent to all registrants. For more information, visit https://www.uucharlottesville.org/education_trashed/adult-faith-development/.



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 September recipients were:

September 6: The Mountain, \$165

September 13: ALS Assoc DC/MD/VA chapter, \$471

September 20: New River Land Trust, \$136

September 27: TBA

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.

September Board Mtg. Highlights

- ◆ Our new lower mortgage rate is in effect and will save us \$500/month.
- ◆ The Board accepted Wayne Neu's updates to Part I of our Policy & Procedures Manual.
- ◆ The Board voted unanimously to sponsor Ellen Plummer as an Aspirant Minister.
- ◆ The Board met on September 20 to complete Rev. Pam's ministerial evaluation for the UUA.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom on Thursday, **October 8** 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 adresstheBoard@uucnr.org.

Community Service Team (CST) News

UUC's CST is collecting non-perishable food donations for the Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry (IFP) that will be added to the items collected by our children during their *It's Scary to Be Hungry* food drive on **October 31** (see page 6). Labeled donation bins are located outside of our building near the accessible entrance and the front door. Help feed the hungry in our area!

2021 Calendars Needed

Before Covid-19, CST members led bingo games each month for the residents of Fairview Home in Fairlawn with picturesque calendars as prizes. CST is again collecting attractive 2021 calendars that will be mailed to the home in November. If you have calendars to donate, please bring to UUC and place in the tan plastic file box near the accessible entrance.



Join Our UUC Facebook Group

To facilitate more conversation among us, we have set up a Facebook group -- **UUC New River Valley** -- where everyone can post. To make this a positive experience, we'll continue to honor our Congregational Covenant. This is a private group (only members can see who's in the group and what they post) but it is visible (anyone can find the group). Ask to join the [group](#) today!

WVTF Fall Fund Drive

Support public radio and UUC, and (possibly) get a tax deduction—all with one check! The fall WVTF Public Radio fund drive is now underway. Contributions made through UUC not only help the station, but also pay for daily sponsorship announcements about all four area UU congregations: Blacksburg, Roanoke, Lynchburg, and Charlottesville. To contribute, donate by **October 7** via our Vanco donation webpage or use the text option (visit our [Give webpage](#) for more info) or mail a check made out to UUC with "WVTF" on the memo line.



Round the Grounds

It's a no-brainer. Life goes on! It's encouraging to see the UUC grounds become a place of respite and exploration for congregants, neighbors, and the community. The children have excitedly been exploring the grounds, using clues to discover items on the scavenger list (an RE project). Neighbors stop by to say hello and express appreciation for the grounds. The fall flowers are showing off. Soon we'll begin putting the grounds to bed for winter and may be putting out an SOG ("save our grounds") for help to wrap things up.

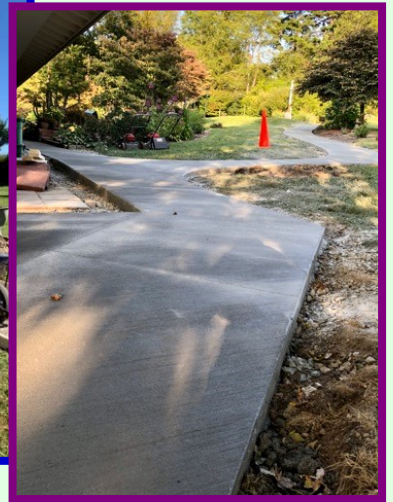
Denise Martin, a transplant from Seattle, has joined the work crew of the Grounds Ministry. She volunteers about 10-12 hours a week doing everything from painting to trimming to moving mulch and chips. Denise is an eager learner and is a joy to work with. Besides the muscle work, she brings an artist's perspective to the grounds. Her goal for her 70th birthday (March, 2021) is to be able to do at least one pull-up. Denise's help is supplemented by David Warner and Greg Evanylo (mowing); Alyssa Short, Jane Mahone, and Linda Cherry (weekly watering of the potted plants); Joe Powers (mower maintenance and anything else he's asked to do); George Lally (all-around do-it-yourselfer), and Tom Bube (expert advice and assistance).



We've been searching for a sourwood tree to attract bees when it's in bloom and at last found one at Crow's Nest Nursery. It's the 17th native tree planted on the grounds in 2020. The sourwood is currently an unsponsored tree and is looking for a sponsor (\$200) or a co-sponsor (\$100). Join other sponsors who are part of the effort to reduce the carbon footprint of UUC by contacting [Susan Baker](#). Of the original 16 trees planted in 2020, only one has "croaked". This is an excellent track record; the business standard is a 20% loss! The deceased tree has been replaced by an American holly.

A Dream Comes True!

A huge and long wished for project has materialized. The Memorial Committee elected to use some of its stand-by funds to replace the eroding and uneven tar-and-pebble walkway to the Memorial Garden with a 4-foot wide concrete walkway. The new sidewalk starts at the end of the existing sidewalk (close to where the ground's workers store their "stuff") and extends to the picnic area and to the Memorial Garden. This enhancement makes it easier and safer for people with wheelchairs or a walker to access the garden and the picnic area. There will be some added landscape elements to the new sidewalk. Thanks to the conscientious laborers from Extreme Concrete, there was minimal follow-up repair work required by our ground's workers. We are very thankful for the [Memorial Committee](#) making this improvement possible.



Get Your Freebies!

We have been "cleaning house" while consolidating much of the ground's equipment and paraphernalia to the newly donated wooden shed. Items that we don't use are on the ground at the far end of the large parking lot next to the small, gray shed. The available items are Thompsons water sealer, assorted quarts of paint, manual hedge trimmers, electric leaf blower, extendable tree trimmer, five 14" tomato cages, a dolly, and miscellaneous items. Not all items are in good condition. Come, take what you can use.





Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Sunday Services

October 2020

Virtual Services at 10:00 AM via [Zoom](#)
Religious Education Classes via Zoom
All are invited to share conversation in small groups following the service by staying on the Zoom link.

October Theme: *Deep Listening*

Join us at 10 AM each Sunday at this Zoom [link](#).

October 4: *Learning to Listen*, Rev. Pam Philips and Worship Associate Ellen Plummer. We'll explore what it means to listen deeply, why it can be so difficult, and why we might want to do it anyway.

October 11: *What I Want You to Know about Me*. Deep listening invites deep sharing, which in turn can strengthen communities. Join Victoria Taylor and Alyssa Short to listen deeply to members of our community. What would you like us to know about you? If you would like to share a 2-3 minute story about yourself, please email [Alyssa](#).

October 18: *Listening to Our Lives*, Rev. Pam Philips and Worship Associate Kimberley Homer. Our attention often gets pulled to the noise and confusion of the world around us making it difficult to heed quieter voices. How can we silence the cacophony, and what might we learn?

October 25: *Listening to Our Past*, Rev. Pam Philips and Worship Associate Stephen Heninger. As we approach *All Hallows Eve*, what can we learn from those who have gone before? We'll consider, among others, one of our foremothers, Anna Garlin Spencer (a favorite of George Lally who won the service auction sermon offering).



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.

Update on Building & Grounds Use

- ◆ At this time, in-person gatherings are **NOT** permitted in our building. However, up to 20
- ◆ people are permitted to gather together in our outdoor space, but the 6-foot distance
- ◆ between people must be maintained. Bathroom use allowed only if the need is urgent.
- ◆ 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 [Lisa](#) to schedule an event on our grounds or via Zoom.



Unitarian Universalist Congregation

1301 Gladewood Drive, Blacksburg, VA 24060

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

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

CALENDAR: October 2020

Staff Virtual Office Hours:

Minister: 9-1 Tu - F; [Contact for appointment](#)

Administrator: [Contact for appointment](#)

DLFD: [Contact for appointment](#)

All times are PM unless noted otherwise

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
(All Sundays) ✕ 9:00 AM PreK RE ✕ 9:30 AM Grades K-5 RE ✕ 10:00 AM 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 (UUC picnic area — weather permitting) ✕ 7:00 PM Monday Meet-Up	(All Tuesdays) ✕ 2:00 Sages ✕ 5:00 Meditation	(All Wednesdays) ✕ Noon Conversations on Our Faith ✕ 3:00 PM Story Time with Rev. Pam ✕ 5:30 Mid-week Gathering ✕ 5:30 Yoga (UUC grounds)	1 ✕ 6:30 EarthSpirit Sisters Full-Moon Ritual	(All Fridays) ✕ Noon Women's Lunch Bunch (UUC picnic area — weather permitting) 2	3
4 ✕ 8:30 AM Sunday Circle 11:30 Men's Group ✕ 3:00 Spiritual Aging	5	6	7 6:00 Finance Committee 6:15 Connection Committee meeting	8 ✕ 6:30 Transgender Support Group ✕ 7:00 Board Meeting	9	10
11 ✕ 1:00 <i>Conversation on Race: Beginning the Conversation</i>	12 ✕ 6:00 Parent Bereavement Support Group	13 4:00 Committee on Ministries ✕ 7:00 Caregivers' Support Group	14 7:00 Worship Team	15 ✕ 7:00 Newcomers' Orientation	16	17 ✕ 10:00 AM Newcomers' Orientation
18 ✕ 8:30 AM Sunday Circle 11:30 Men's Group 11:30 Stewardship	19 ✕ 6:00 Mental Illness Peer Support Group	20	21	22 ✕ 6:30 Transgender Support Group 9:00 November Newsletter Deadline	23	24 ✕ 6:00-8:00 Auction Extravaganza: "UUC's Got Talent"
25 ✕ 11:30 <i>Community Conversations: Race and Faith Communities</i> ✕ 1:00 Anti-Racism Discussion Group	26	27	28	29	30	31 ✕ 2:00-4:00 <i>It's Scary to Be Hungry</i> (parking lot drive-up)

NOTE: The building remains closed for in-person gatherings. To schedule an event, [contact administrator](#) 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](#) will have the ZOOM url. That calendar will be updated as conditions change.