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Subject: Fwd: May 2017 Newsletter
Date: July 17, 2017 at 10:55 AM
To: Scott Phillips sspillips@icloud.com

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----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject: May 2017 Newsletter
Date: Wed, 03 May 2017 16:36:06 +0000 (GMT)
From: Sharon Delgado <sharondelgado@me.com>
To: Samuel Phillips <scott@thebluecrab.com>
CC: Sharon Delgado <sharondelgado@me.com>

The UU Circle

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalists of Fallston

You Are Welcome Here!

May 2017

A Month of Sundays

Sunday Services at 11:00 AM, 1127 Old Fallston Road, P.O. Box 258, Fallston, MD (410-877-3773)

May 07 "Universalism for Our Time" Rev. Terry Ellen" Rev. Terry Ellen

Our Universalist forebears held that the divine is all-loving, and so all people - all people - would be embraced for eternity in that all-conquering love. In the middle of the last century, Universalists attempted a new formulation of this older perspective to bring it up to date, particularly in the ministry of Ken Patton at the Charles Street Meeting House in Boston. Let's consider this rich, inspiring history and see what it might bring to us in these times.

After the service, 12:30-1:30 we'll have our final session on spiritual practices for UUs. All welcome

May 14 "Mary Magdalene: Saint or Sex Worker?" – Rev. Kate Lehman

The Answer Matters, Even for 21st Century UUs.

May 21 "A New Manifestation" - Rev. Terry Ellen

Mother's Day, just past, is nice, but true equality is needed. Universalist Clara Barton called for women to take their rightful powerful place on this day. Unitarian Margaret Fuller announced a similar new manifestation. That's way overdue, and if this sorry world is to get past survival to flourishing, we need all sexual identification creative, empowered, and free

May 28 "Uncertainty: The Horrible, the Healing and the Transcendent" – Rev. Janet Lewis

Therapists all over the country are grappling with how to help with the distress, demoralization and re-traumatization that are accompanying recent political events. Our times are characterized by much uncertainty. We will talk about uncertainty, focusing on how we humans experience uncertainty, from our earliest development, through our confrontation with social realities and into the farthest reaches of our meaning-making.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 14 9:45 am Board of Trustees Meeting - In UUF Office - All are welcome to attend.

May 6 Dinner out Sat. May 6th @ 6:30. "Uncle's" located in the shopping center behind Burger King. (2315 Belair Rd. in Fallston)
RSVP Dee @ Naturelover2017 or leave message at 410-692-5983

Rev. Terry's Column

I admit I do not know enough about what is going on in the Unitarian Universalist Association now to comment with any clarity. I do know there is hurt all around as hiring practices are scrutinized and Peter Morales steps down as President. Issues around racism, sexism, clergy/laity, and parish minister/religious educator all seem tangled as hiring is looked at. You can go to the website to inform yourself if you choose.

What I do know is that we are living in tumultuous times that push us in many directions emotionally, with exact causation hard to determine and progress in all these areas above difficult to access as good, adequate, or insufficient. I'll trust our democratic process, however flawed, to sort things out because I do believe with Winston Churchill that democracy is the worst form of government except for all the others. And as marginalized voices demand to be seated at the table, which I feel is not only just but also necessary and most hopeful, storms are going to happen.

I know we are resilient. We weathered the long-lasting attacks by the orthodox Christians upon our twin heresies. We weathered all the profound differences between the more conservative New England Unitarians and the Free Religious Association of the West. We've weathered the theist/humanist divide, the many issues around merger, the discovery by new President Bob West that we were almost broke just as the Black Empowerment controversy erupted with demands for major new expenditures. We weathered the attempt of the Nixon administration to fine us out of existence for publishing *The Pentagon Papers* during the Vietnam War. And that's just naming a few.

And, frankly, as a whole we tend not to be shrinking violets. We tend not to appeal to the meek and mild. All our free conscience emphasis leads to debates that can be heated, and add to all that a refusal by people of color, women, and others who have been ignored and oppressed to wait patiently for things to somehow miraculously change "when the time is right."

This June we will be elect a woman as our President for the first time in our history. Do we celebrate or mourn that it took all this time to finally happen? Probably both. But change is happening, and I am thankful to be part of a covenanted people who can live with and learn from change

Outreach

HARFORD FOOD PANTRY

We are doing a good thing that is definitely appreciated. Please keep those donations coming so we can support this worthy cause. Food Pantry counts on us for the grape jelly we donate on a regular basis. They are always very appreciative of our offerings.

SHARING TABLE

The Sharing Table Chairperson has notified all participating churches that there is no group signed up for May 27 (Memorial Day weekend). Chairperson Wendy is asking all churches that if anyone is available to serve, she will take care of

providing the food. Please let Anne Bredlow know if you are available and would like to volunteer -a.r.bredlow@gmail.com; 410-937-5266 (call or text).

Thanks!

Thank you to all who helped with the recent Sharing Table on April 22. 14 UUF members and friends served 85 guests and prepared approximately 40 take home dinners. The next Sharing Table is Saturday, October 21. Mark your calendar now for this important community volunteer event. Many people are needed for set up/clean up, kitchen help and dining room servers. Thank you again!

News

Mindfulness Meditation

The Mindfulness/Insight Meditation Sitting Group will resume beginning Wednesday, June 28, 2017 at 7:00pm. We will meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month from 7- 8:15 pm.

Annual Meeting – May 21 – After Service

The agenda will include a presentation of next year's Board officers and nominating committee, a presentation of the proposed budget, discussion on the need for new committee chairs, and a discussion and voting on how to award money that is available from the Helen Coon Fund for outreach projects.

New committee chairs needed, please consider volunteering for these very important roles. Thank You!

HELEN COON MEMORIAL FUND OUTREACH SUBMISSIONS

Only one application was received for this year's profits from the Helen Coon

Memorial Fund.

It is for LASOS (Linking All So Others Succeed), Inc.

LASOS serves as a literacy center for non-native English Speaking residents of Harford County. Currently there is a critical need to teach and explain the necessity for safety plans and envelopes to place critical family papers including arrangement for the temporary custody of their children, the right to pick up one's last pay check as well as the power of attorney for one's belongings so that those belongings will be protected.

They need the funding to pay for printing of those family safety plans, and grab boxes of food for families who are struggling through the enforcement of the current immigration policies.

Presently LASOS is having a workshop to train volunteers to make the packets described above and to assist the residents in completing the forms. Funds are also needed to help transport individuals to visit other family members who have been detained outside of the county.

LASOS also continues with its primary mission of offering adult literacy services that include English for Speakers of Other Languages and citizenship classes and youth mentoring programs.

At the Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 21st, the UUF members will discuss this submission and vote on whether or not it is the best use for the \$3,991 profits from the past year's investment of the Helen Coon Memorial Fund for Outreach.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of 3/31/17

FOR FISCAL YEAR 6/1/15 to 5/31/16

Operating Income:

Pledges/donations \$ 21,840

Rent \$ 2,626

Total **Income (YTD)** **\$24,466**

Operating **Expenses (YTD)**..... - **\$23,231**



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