



The UU Circle

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalists of Fallston

You Are Welcome Here!



October 2017

A Month of Sundays

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

October 1 “Thoreau, Trees, and the Miraculous Web” – Rev. Terry Ellen

With everything else going on around us these days, it's imperative, for a variety of reasons, to ground ourselves in the majestic reality in which we exist. In our UU tradition, Thoreau is an outstanding voice. And what we are now learning about trees, which speak in an entirely other language, is also inspiring.

October 8 “The Morning Before The Eve of Destruction: Understanding A Conflict of Visions” – Rev. Kate Lehman

I continue to obsess about and come back to why this country is so polarized and what Unitarian Universalists might do to make a difference. At this service I want to explore the classical roots of conflicting visions that have morphed into extremes on both sides.

October 15 Native Wisdom – Rev. Mark Hoelter

We will be three days past what used to be called "Columbus Day." Mindful of the attempts at genocide of Native Americans (what IS our problem?!), I will share one ancient and two modern stories of Native wisdom.

October 22 “Justice in a Time of Race and Class” – Rev. Terry Ellen

From Black Lives Matter to the afflictions affecting marginalized communities of the poor of all colors, issues of justice as compelling today as they were thousands of years ago. We'll use a compelling fresh translation of Isaiah by Rabbi Arthur Waskow as a moral basis to look at ourselves.

October 29 “Living in the Sixth Extinction” – Rev. Terry Ellen

We can't wish it away, and it lays duties upon us. So we join with all our ancestors and the vast majority of the world today who have met challenge after challenge with creativity, compassion, and steadfastness.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 8 Board of Trustees Meeting - 9:45 am: In UUF Office - All are welcome to attend.

October 14 Book Club(Rescheduled) – The Testament of Mary by Colm Toibin. Meeting will be held at the home of Sharon Delgado: 3922 Greenpeak Road, Jarrettsville, MD 21084. Time: 7:00pm
Please RSVP Sharon at: 443-866-9459 Email: sharondelgado@me.com

October 21 “Dinner Out” - In October we will go to the Enotria Restaurant located at 2 Newport Drive, Forest Hill, MD 21050. Please join us at 6:30pm for some fun ethnic dining! RSVP to Dee:
Naturelover2017@gmail.com

Wednesdays 7:00PM Mindful Meditation sessions continue at UUF. Note: Although the sessions are attended by a dedicated core of meditators, the leader would like to encourage more UUF members to attend. Towards this end, know that options are open. Perhaps you have a conflict, no interest, or do not like the format. Please contact Leslie Sarkin at leelamae11@gmail.com with questions and suggestions.

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.

Did You Know

Have you ever wondered how we choose our part time minister? Or our speakers?

Fallston is ideally located when it comes to finding appropriate speakers. We are close to large urban areas with universities plus not far from the seminaries in Lancaster and Washington. Often there are students and instructors in appropriate fields who are interested (and interesting!) in occasional or part time pastoral speaking work.

Another source is the Unitarian Universalist (UUA) Central East Region office located in Wilmington. Dr. David Pyle is our contact for that office and he is knowledgeable about the present ministers in our area who may be retiring soon or who are available as occasional speakers or as part time ministers.

Over the years we have built up a list of speakers. Sometimes they transfer out of our area but return later. Sometimes they are glad to recommend a fellow minister who may be interested in speaking with us.

When we have a guest speaker, it is helpful if members of our congregation make the effort to talk with them. By getting acquainted, we learn what they do when they are not with us, what they may be planning to do in the future, what interests them – and if they are a good “fit” for our group. As they get to know us better, it’s like having a good friend come to visit on a Sunday morning.

Through the above process, when it becomes necessary to choose a new part time minister for the UUs of Fallston, as a congregation we are in a better position to decide to whom we should offer the position.

Terry’s Column

I played football in high school and loved it. Johnny Unitas was a hero of mine as a kid. I’ve liked watching the Ravens. Then came studies on concussions and the blackballing of Colin Kaepernick for sitting during the national anthem to protest police brutality toward African Americans. Then came repeated reminders by my wife and daughters about the effectiveness of the boycott on attending or watching NFL games because of those issues. For a while I thought the Ravens might offer Kaepernick a back-up quarterback position and so both bring some kind of poetic justice to Baltimore where “land of the free and home of the brave” originated and also remove some of the boycott pressure aimed my way, but it was not to be.

Yet scattered other players followed Kaepernick’s lead, kneeling now, and I read a veteran sports newscaster saying that respect for Kaepernick’s integrity and courage in the locker rooms was immense (he’s paid a huge financial price), even if a lot of fans were livid. Something was afoot in this most macho NFL venue where patriotism and flag-saluting are almost universally equated.

And then our President tweeted in, and in the first game after about ten Ravens knelt, others with their hands on their shoulders, all linking arms. And then various responses from other teams, all indicating in one way or another a mutual respect for differences of opinion on Black Lives Matter and standing or not for the anthem and all

representing decisions reached after discussion by the men in the locker rooms on how to express their solidarity in respecting each other even in the midst of dealing with difficult issues.

The united response against the President's insults to the kneelers and his attempt at division has brought a whole new importance to what happens in those arenas, making, for me, what happens at the playing of the anthem beforehand much more interesting and significant than any subsequent game. I'm not sure what I am going to do in the future, but for now I'm kneeling with the players.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of 08/31/17
FOR FISCAL YEAR 6/1/17 to 5/31/18

Operating Income:

Pledges/donations	\$ 7,727
Donations for building use.....	650

Total Income (YTD)	\$ 8,377
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Operating Expenses (YTD)	- \$ 9,286
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