



3/12/2017

CALENDAR EVENTS

Sun. Mar. 12

Last Pledge Drive Raffle!
Share the Plate

Tues. Mar. 14

6:30 pm CYREC
7:00 pm Mindful Meditation with Shell Fischer – Working with Our Negative Thoughts

Wed. Mar 15

5:30 pm Community Dinner
6:30 pm Board Meeting

Thurs. Mar 16

6:30 pm Course in Miracles – Darwin’s Fish Room
7:00 pm Chalice Singers

Sun. March 19

9:00 am 7 – 9 OWL
9:30 am Teacher Connection
11:00 am Worship
12:30 pm Adult OWL



March 24

Facebook Friday
Magic Lantern: *In Plain Sight*, Stories of Hope and Freedom

March 25

Daylong Public Retreat

March 30

Learn - I Can't be Quiet

April 1

UU Orientation

April 15

VACHIP – Child ID

April 22

Annual Auction

May 21

George Bowerman Concert



March Donations

This month we are collecting new and gently used bras to aid victims of human trafficking. There is a designated, collection point in the Narthex.



Don't forget to buy your Food Lion, Martin's and Shop n' Save grocery cards. It is an easy way to support the church!



PO Box 1574, 6380 Valley Pike, Stephens City, VA 22655

Regular Office Hours: Mon - Fri. 10:00 am-2:00 pm, 540.869.6965

FROM THE MINISTER, REV. RUSS SAVAGE

The flowers have started to come up but now it is going to freeze again and some of those flowers won't survive. The blossoming trees are going to have the same problem. Will they be able to survive and bring us their blossoms when springtime really comes?

Events are swirling around us so fast it can make your head spin. Will we repeal the Affordable Care Act which has provided health insurance coverage to 20 million Americans, or is it falling apart of its own weight as some claim? Will we really take \$6 Billion from Housing and Urban Development so we can build a wall to keep Mexicans out of our country, or might this be a pretty good idea after all?

However you feel about these and other events, they can worry you like the blossoms coming too early. How is all this going to turn out? The answer is, nobody knows, so keep yourself informed, take the action you think you need to take, and give yourself a break once in a while to take care of—guess who?—yourself.

See you in church.

Russ

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE



Pledge Drive Update – Those Last \$\$ Are Coming In – But Oh So Slo-o-o-owly

The FY17-18 pledge drive officially ends this Sunday. As of March 9, we have commitments totaling \$183,621 from 80 pledge units (a pledge unit can be an individual, a couple or a family). This compares to the total of about \$175,000 from 96 pledge units that we finished with at the end of our campaign last year. We've made great progress – many thanks again to everyone who has contributed so generously so far this year!

That said, we still need about \$16,000 more to meet this year's \$200,000 goal. So now it's up to you, you roughly twenty pledge units still out there, to turn our narthex thermometer completely red! Please get those remaining pledges in by this Sunday so that we can all celebrate success now – don't oblige our hard-working Stewardship committee to keep calling as winter gives way to spring. As I said last week, if you're still pushing your pledge form around the desk, pick it up, add 10% or more if you can, and bring it to church or put it in the mail. Thanks! Mark Lore, Chair, Stewardship Committee, mslore1@comcast.net; 540-678-0963.



The service will be preceded by the last raffle, including everyone who has already turned in his/her annual pledge for the year.

The lucky person whose name is drawn will be awarded with a gift basket including soup, wine, chocolate, bread and other treats lovingly prepared by fellow congregants. Don't miss out!

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

If you are a visitor, please fill out a yellow "Welcome Card," found on the Welcome Table in the Narthex and place it in the collection basket or in the basket on the Welcome Table. This way we can welcome you personally and provide information about future events. Questions: Contact Dixie Wiles, 540-299-2942 or Barbara Peters, 540-869-3722

AUCTION COMMITTEE

Let's Go Fly a Kite!

Saturday, April 22nd

2017 Annual Service Auction
Our most fun fundraiser!
BBQ
Raffles
Auctions

Saturday, April 22
Silent Auction April 2-22

Please Donate Now!

For information and donation form see
<http://tinyurl.com/uucsvauction2017>
or contact reballen22@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Join UU Orientation
Saturday, April 1

9:30 to 1:30
In Our
Church Library

Sign Up on the
Welcome Table

Find out how our church is organized, learn UU History, share your spiritual journey, learn about membership, meet new people, get connected.
Lunch Will Be Served!

To Register Contact: Norma Riley, 540-868-2638,
njriley8@gmail.com, or sign up on the
Welcome Table.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Over the last several weeks, Gina, Zelda and I have been informing everyone of various leadership training opportunities at www.uuinstitute.org in the context of the three impending openings on the Board. Our Board members have successfully navigated very rough waters over the past few years, and it is time for others to help those continuing Board members steer us through the exciting few years to come, including the anticipated calling and arrival of a new settled minister and a growing congregation. We clearly have a tested core remaining on the Board who will benefit from new members' ideas, plans, goals and reflections while assisting those members to develop into their new leadership roles. In the wider world, some of our UU principles are being tested in ways that many of us did not imagine possible a short time ago, and a strong church with a soulful leadership is more necessary than ever. Please consider being a part of our leadership to help pilot us through these times that are difficult but rife with opportunities. Feel free to contact me by email or phone if you would like to share your plans (drdeem@comcast.net; 703-858-9749). Thanks for your consideration, Mike

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: ONGOING, FOR EVERYONE

Adult RE:

Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) Reading Group 1.0

Join us for the 1.0 reading group forming now. Meetings will be monthly for 7 months with the first meeting taking place on April 6 at 6:30 pm in the UUCSV library. We will follow a curriculum available at whiteawake.org.

To sign up please join the [Shenandoah Valley Racial Justice Reading Group](#) on Facebook and reply to the 1.0 sign up event. You may also email Marie Francis at dragonflyshift@gmail.com, or use the sign up sheet in the Narthex.

UUCSV Book Club

MARCH 22 @ 10:15 a.m.

Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis by J.D. Vance

SoulCollage® Workshop

Good News! Mark Your Calendars Now! - Introduction to SoulCollage® a Workshop - Unleash your Creativity and Feed Your Soul!

FACILITATOR: Sue Ann Hastings MA, Art Therapist, LGPAT
HOST: Unitarian Universalist Church of the Shenandoah Valley
6380 Valley Pike, Stephens City
DATE: Saturday, April 8th, 2017

TIME: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

COST: \$20/person includes all supplies, please bring a sack lunch.

A light snack and hot tea and coffee will be provided

For reservations call or email Cory: corythedre@gmail.com

VACHIP

Mark Your Calendars Now! A Public Safety Event - VACHIP will be here at the UUCSV on April 15 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

VACHIP - the Virginia Child Identification Program — is one of the most comprehensive Child Recovery, Identification, Safety, and Abduction Awareness programs ever to be offered to parents in the state of Virginia.

Child Dedication Ceremony

Are you committed to UUCSV and do you feel like UUCSV is committed to you and your family? Would you like your child to be dedicated at UUCSV? In our Unitarian Universalist dedication ceremonies, our congregation pledges to support you and your child(ren) throughout your lives and to help you grow in mind, body and spirit both as individuals and as a family. This special child dedication ceremony will take place during the worship service in the near future. Please contact Rev. Russ or Cory to have your child(ren) included.

SOCIAL ACTION AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

March Narthex Collection



FOR and FROM the Ladies

This month we are collecting new and gently used bras. Bras! Yes, bras. We recently were introduced to some startling information on the effects of human trafficking and were surprised to find that this is an issue even in our own area. The local Uniform store collects bras for a program called "FREE THE GIRLS" to aid victims of trafficking. Following is an excerpt from their website: SOMETHING SIMPLE can be EXTRAORDINARY:

The surprising reality is that something simple like bras, can be a vehicle for freedom and hope! Bras are a common item in many households around the world. Many bras in good condition are left sitting in drawers. With our unique model, we allow everyday people to make an impact on a trafficking survivor's life! By collecting bras across North America and other parts of the world, we can ship them to our programs in El Salvador, Mozambique, and Uganda, and the women in our program can sell them in the market to make a safe and sustainable income.

Magic Lantern


UUCSV Social Action & Justice and Adult RE are collaborating with the Magic Lantern Theater by bringing....

IN PLAIN SIGHT:
Stories of Hope and Freedom

In Plain Sight will give you a clear understanding of just how this insidious form of slavery takes place.

Friday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m.
Unitarian Universalist Church
of the Shenandoah Valley
6380 Valley Pike, Stephens City, VA 22655

ABOUT SEX TRAFFICKING
It's common knowledge that sex is used to sell products and services, but did you know that sex (itself) is being sold on a daily basis...in your city? You may not see a prostitute walking down your street or a pimp going door to door offering her services, but it's happening in plain sight whether you realize it or not.
While the image of a pimp and prostitute have been glamorized through movies such as "Pretty Woman" and "Hustle & Flow", there is nothing beautiful about the dark underbelly of the sex industry.
Maybe you've heard the term sex trafficking. It's simply a politically-correct way of saying sexual slavery.
While public slavery in the United States is over, there is still a large market for buying and selling women and children...in your city. It's being sold through ads in the back weekly newspapers, posts on Craigslist.com and Backpage.com, at massage parlors, via escort services, at truck stops, and at a motel you drive by on a daily basis.



SOCIAL COMMITTEE



Community Dinner Wednesday, March 15 at 5:30 pm

Each month the Social Committee puts together two community meals for anyone who would like to attend. While we hope everyone will come at some point we conveniently hold the dinners on the nights of COC and Board meetings. This lets us have a bit of community before the work of the church begins. You do not need to attend meetings! Please come as you can.

This coming week we will provide burrito bowls. If you plan to attend please bring a dish to share. Bring your feastware (place setting) so we won't have to spend too much time in the kitchen cleaning up or use paper products.

Help is always welcome. If you'd like to come early and set up tables at 5:00 or help clear up at 6:30, it would be appreciated. Contact Mary Haskins with your questions: mehaskins@gmail.com

Facebook Friday



Want to learn more about Facebook? Are you a beginner to Facebook or want to learn more about posting pictures? How about security settings?

Mary Haskins is hosting a breakfast once a month at UUCSV for anyone that has questions about Facebook. It will be scheduled on the 4th Friday of the month and run from 8:30 to 10. This month it will take place on March 24.

A waffle breakfast is included and a donation of at least \$5 is requested. Funds above and beyond the cost of ingredients will go the UUCSV's general fund. Email Mary if you'd like to attend or have questions mehaskins@gmail.com

TRANSITION COMMITTEE

Opportunities for Healing Conversations – Our church Transition Team was organized more than a year ago, to help us transition through this period of interim/part-time ministry and our search for a new settled minister. As part of our responsibilities, the Board has asked us to provide an opportunity for individual members of the congregation to meet with us in small groups to share feelings and concerns about the events in our church over the past few years. It is our hope that providing a safe place for expressing and validating these feelings will help to heal some of the wounds and, perhaps, provide some measure of closure. We offer one more opportunity to participate on **March 26**. If you feel that your participation in this small group meeting would be beneficial, please contact one of us, so we can ensure the group is kept to an appropriate size. We'd be happy to answer any questions you have and look forward to hearing from you.

Kathy Crettier, (540) 671-0536; ksc636@gmail.com
Mary Dale Jackson, (540) 542-9780; mdjackUUCSV@aol.com
John Latham (202) 486-5375; jlatham_us@yahoo.co
Charles Thorne, Cell (540) 550-3844; thornecr@comcast.net