



04/02/2017

CALENDAR EVENTS

**Sun. April 2**

**Silent Auction Begins**

12:30 pm Chalice  
Quilters Meeting  
1:45 pm Singles  
Lunch at Roma's

**Tues. April 4**

7:00 pm Mindful  
Meditation with Shell  
Fischer – 40-minute  
Q & A Session

**Wed. April 5**

7:00 pm Worship  
Committee Meeting

**Thurs. April 6**

6:30 pm Course in  
Miracles – Darwin's  
Fish Room  
6:30 pm SURJ 1.0  
7:00 pm Chalice  
Singers

**Fri. April 7**

6:00 pm Learn "I  
Can't Keep Quiet"

**Sat. April 8**

9:00 am Grounds  
Crew Day  
10:00 am Intro Soul  
Collage  
3:00 pm Earth Allies  
Chapter

**Sun. April 9**

9:30 am Lay Pastoral  
Care Meeting  
9:30 am Social  
Action/Justice  
Committee  
11:00 am Worship



**April 13**

Memorial Service for  
David Rohrer

**April 15**

VACHIP – Child ID

**April 16**

Canned Good Hunt

**April 22**

Annual Auction

**May 21**

Town Hall  
George Bowerman  
Concert

**June 11**

Congregational  
Meeting



**April Donations**

The Narthex  
Collection will be  
for the Blue Ridge  
Wildlife Center in  
Millwood.



Don't forget to buy  
your Food Lion,  
Martin's and Shop n'  
Save grocery cards.



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**

Last Tuesday I attended the monthly meeting of the Valley Interfaith Council in Winchester. The main speaker was Bob Sherwood, whom I had heard speak before about sponsoring refugee families who are resettling in the U.S. You may know that a refugee family from Syria settled in Winchester last fall and is successfully getting integrated into the community. This family was sponsored by Grace Lutheran Church. Their sponsorship team is still meeting weekly to help the family with myriad issues such as housing, employment, transportation, furniture, language, schooling, health care, insurance, social security, banking, shopping, and much more.

Sponsoring a refugee family is a big job! Grace Lutheran is a big church and has the resources to handle it. UUCSV is not big enough to do what they have done. This doesn't necessarily mean we are out of the picture, however. Bob Sherwood suggests a model in which several churches partner together to sponsor a family, and points to a recent case in Richmond where four churches took on one refugee family. Perhaps we will want to consider such a partnership with other churches in the area as the resettlement of refugees continues.

See you in church.  
Russ



**David Rohrer has passed away.** David Rohrer died peacefully in his sleep due to complications from Parkinson's disease. David was a longtime friend of our church. For the past 3 years, he has lived in several assisted living facilities, the last of which was in Clifton Forge, VA. David was an only child and was never married. He has no living relatives, other than a second cousin, who has been notified. His memorial service will take place on Thursday, April 13 at 11:00 am.

**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**



**Pledge Drive Is A Success – We Met Our Goal...And Then Some!**

Thanks to last-minute new pledges and supplementary pledges last Sunday, we've finished with a FY17-18 total of \$202,775 – about \$28,000 or +16% over last year. Most importantly, we met our \$200,000 goal, in fact exceeded it! This is a major step towards rebuilding our finances – and towards becoming the church that we want to be. Thanks and congratulations to all who contributed so generously!

With this, the '17-18 pledge drive is formally and officially over. The pledge box is gone and the thermometer will come down this Sunday. But, if you're one of the very few who didn't get around to pledging during the campaign, don't despair! Your contribution is still needed and will be welcome as we prepare for the challenges ahead. Mark Lore, Chair, Stewardship Committee

**AUCTION COMMITTEE**

**Auction news:**

New this year! A **Haskins Homemade BBQ** dinner for the entire family. Bring mom, dad, grandparents and kids from 5-6 pm for a pulled pork, vegetarian beans, coleslaw, potato salad, cornbread and beverages dinner. All for just \$15 per adult (alcoholic beverages extra) and children eat free. Enjoy the fare while you shop our fantastic silent auction offerings.

We are offering **Childcare by Amber** during the live auction (beginning at 6:30pm) in the RE wing. **PREREGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. Please contact Rebecca Allen (reballen22@gmail.com) by Sunday April 15.** If no one pre-registers there will be no childcare that evening.

We are offering **Childcare by Amber** during the live auction (beginning at 6:30pm) in the RE wing **IF YOU PREREGISTER** with Rebecca Allen ([reballen22@gmail.com](mailto:reballen22@gmail.com)) by Sunday April 15. If no one pre-registers there will be no childcare that evening.

## AUCTION COMMITTEE – CONT'D



## GROUPS CREW COMMITTEE

The second Grounds Crew Day of 2017 will be Saturday, April 8, 9 a.m. - Noon. There is always too much to do and too little time when gardens 'wake up' in springtime. So we need LOTS of help. The more folks that s come, the easier the job is, and the better the gardens will look. Coffee and . . . will be available.

Things to do are:

- Rake gravel from the gardens into parking lot. !BRING RAKES! This will take time and muscle, and may not get done in one session. It was a BIG error
- Dig, divide and replant small grasses
- With Zelda's permission and guidance, move some of the yellow irises up to the entrance beds.
- Cut the edges of the beds in the front garden - a half-moon cutter, or square shovel is best to make clean vertical cuts
- Treat benches, R.E. steps and porch with oil if not completed
- Prepare rain barrels for spring.

REMINDER: If there is a certain part of the gardens that you want to 'adopt' as your own, please do so, and let me know. Zelda takes care of the entry beds, Atsuko cares for the beds in the parking lot, Miki has adopted the beds along the entry walk. Which doesn't mean that they won't love to have some 'assistants' (or assistance) in caring for these spaces.

Come out to make the gardens beautiful and enjoy the sun, and the companionship! Miki: 540-869 5841

## 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, 540-955-2942 or Barbara Peters, 540-869-3722

## 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](http://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](mailto:dragonflyshift@gmail.com), or use the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

## **Chalice Quilters**

Please join Joyce and Cory today after church at 12:30 for a meeting in the Library as we discuss our next quilt project for our sanctuary. We look forward to seeing you!

## SOCIAL ACTION AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE



April's Share the Plate and Narthex collection will reflect our concern for the environment and the creatures with whom we share this fragile world.

## **Narthex Collection for April**

The Narthex Collection (beginning April 2nd) will be for the Blue Ridge Wildlife Center in Millwood. This Center is one of the organizations that is permitted to rehabilitate wildlife by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. While they rehabilitate and care for all types of wildlife, their on-site veterinarian stated that a major portion of their work is with injured birds. Therefore, we are emphasizing supplies for birds in our list of suggested donations:

All types of birdseeds including finch and mixed bird seed; sunflower seeds; native nuts, i.e. acorns; sweet potato baby food; and, believe it or not, toilet paper (used to make songbird nests).

## **Share the Plate**

The Share the Plate (collected on the second Sunday, April 9th) will benefit The Northern Shenandoah Audubon Society. As always, a representative from that organization will provide information on the Society on the second Sunday in April.

## **Magic Lantern**

Thanks to those who attended the Magic Lantern and SAJ movie on Friday night. The movie was informative, and made us much more aware of sex trafficking and its effects. Unfortunately, the local law enforcement officer who was to give us more information on the local I81 Task Force was not able to attend, but we are continuing to communicate with him for a future conversation. There was a total of \$210.00 collected for Thistle Farms, which offers victims of sex trafficking shelter and the opportunity to rehabilitate their lives.

## SPECIAL EVENT

**Make Love, Not Climate Change!**

**April 8, 2017**

**3 to 6 pm**

**UU Church of the Shenandoah Valley**

Experience the beat of Universal Love as Drummers send out prayers for the protection of Virginia-- and the world -- from dangerous fossil fuel infrastructure, at this free event sponsored by Earth Allies Chapter of the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League and Spiral Grove, an Interpath Community of Nature Spirituality. Connect with others of like mind, or learn why we are so concerned about oil and gas pipelines and fracking, in the Action Workshop that will run concurrently in the Church Library. Join us in weaving a web of protection by standing in solidarity with all those who are fighting pipelines in Southern Virginia, North Carolina, West Virginia, Standing Rock, Pennsylvania, and Florida. There will be information shared about renewable energy, petitions to sign, a kid's table, and space for conversation and connection. Also featured will be Kira Young of Revolution Radio who will be on air from 4 to 6. Be a part of co-creating a world in sync with the Heartbeat of our Mother. Stop the Insanity! Make Love not Climate Change!