



12/31/2017
CALENDAR EVENTS

Sun. Dec 31
11:00 am Worship Service

Tues. Jan. 2
7:00 pm Ministerial Search Committee
7:00 pm Mindful Meditation with Shell Fischer – Mini Retreat Night

Wed. Jan. 3
5:30 pm Vegetarian Community Dinner
7:00 pm Worship Committee Meeting

Thurs. Jan. 4
6:00 pm Ministerial Search Committee
6:30 pm Course in Miracles – Darwin’s Fish Room
7:00 pm Chalice Singers

Sat. Jan. 6
6:00 pm Ministerial Search Committee

Sun. Jan. 7
9:00 am Health Care Reform
11:00 am Worship Service
12:20 pm CoA Mentor/Mentee Meeting
12:45 pm Singles Lunch at Roma’s



Jan. 20 Public Retreat
Jan. 27 Chili Cookoff



The Narthex Collection for Dec. is C-CAP. Please place items listed in the Narthex in the basket.



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



Your purchase of eggs helps UUCSV as all funds from sales go to the church. The eggs are in a small fridge in the kitchen.

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.



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

Once again we approach the end of the old year and the beginning of the new one. As always, this presents us an opportunity for some self-evaluation, both individually and communally. How are we doing in our individual lives? What changes might we want to make? How are we doing in our shared life—in church, in the community, in the nation and in the world? Are there changes we want to work for?

No doubt among us will be found many of the usual resolutions: lose weight, stop smoking, be kinder to our loved ones, get our finances in order, and so on. Whatever your individual resolution, may you have the will and strength to carry it out at least for a while. And may you have the generosity of heart to forgive yourself if you do not completely succeed. Even the effort will make you a better person.

In our shared communal life it may be more difficult. Even if we know what we want in our church, our community, our nation and the world, we cannot bring it about alone, however much effort we may put forth. We must work with one another. Sometimes this may mean listening to and working with those with whom we disagree. This, too, might be one of our individual resolutions for the coming year.

See you in church, and Happy New Year!

Russ

NOTE: The Church office will be closed on New Year's Day!



The Congregational Record (CR) has been posted to the church's web site under the "Ministerial Search" item on the "About Us" tab. The CR is a document that the UUA (our governing body) requires us to complete in order to be part of their minister search process. This document is in a specific format with specific information so all prospective ministers in search receive the same information in the same format from all prospective churches. The CR has been available to prospective ministers since about December 1st.

Your search team is currently finalizing candidate interview questions as well as putting the finishing touches on the ministerial search web site. The ministerial web site is specifically tailored for prospective ministers separate and distinct from our "regular" church web site. It can be considered our "marketing" information to candidate ministers for them to learn all about us as a congregation.

In the first week of January, the committee will begin receiving names of ministers who are interested in becoming our next minister. This is the part of the process that must be done in total confidence as some (or all) minister's congregations may not know that their minister is searching for a new church. As a result of this, the team will not be providing updates as often as in the past because there isn't anything that can be said at this point in the process. Once the candidate accepts, then their name, profile and other information will be released to the congregation.

Many thanks to everyone who has provided photos, questions, favorite places and other feedback to your search team. It has been extremely useful!

Stay tuned to this space for future updates....

GROCERY CARDS



Grocery cards will not be sold in church on December 31. Enjoy the holidays and have a Happy New Year!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: ONGOING FOR EVERYONE

Book Club

Join us Thursday, February 1st @ 1:30 p.m.

We meet in the UUCSV Library.

Questions about our book club may be directed to Cory,
Director of Religious Education corythedre@gmail.com

Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race
by Debby Irving

OVERVIEW

Author Debby Irving's recollections of her own experiences of being an American white woman and coming to terms with the complexity of race in the United States.

For twenty-five years, Debby Irving sensed inexplicable racial tensions in her personal and professional relationships. As a colleague and neighbor, she worried about offending people she dearly wanted to befriend. As an arts administrator, she didn't understand why her diversity efforts lacked traction. As a teacher, she found her best efforts to reach out to students and families of color left her wondering what she was missing.

Then, in 2009, one "aha!" moment launched an adventure of discovery and insight that drastically shifted her worldview and upended her life plan. In *Waking Up White*, Irving tells her cringe-worthy story with such openness that readers will turn every page rooting for her and ultimately for all of us.

SoulCollage®

Facilitators: Cory & Ashley Ness

DATE CHANGE

Date: Saturday, February 3, 2018 @ 1 pm - 5 pm

Location: UUCSV Narthex & Library

Cost: \$10/person includes all supplies

Originated by Seena Frost, SoulCollage® is a process for accessing your intuition and creating an incredible deck of cards with deep personal meaning that will help you with life's questions and transitions.

SOCIAL ACTION AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Glove, Mitten, Hat and Scarf Tree

The Narthex glove, mitten, hat and scarf tree is ready for your contributions. Thank you to Gina and Evan for their creativity and ingenuity in creating the tree for our annual December collection.

Guest at Your Table

Guest at Your Table donations will continue to be collected for the next three weeks. You can make donations either by check or by filling the collection boxes (both are available at the SAJ table). Two weeks ago, we distributed copies of one of the stories that illustrates the work done by UUSC and their partners. That story described the plight of residents of a Pacific Island who are losing their homes due to rising sea levels and how UUSC and its partners are helping them to rebuild their lives. This week's story highlights a family affected by intense violence in Central America. Copies of both of those stories are at the

SAJ table. Reading those stories will help you understand the scope of the work of the UUSC. Please read them and consider supporting their very worthwhile efforts. For the UUSC 'small change helps make big changes'.



Vegetarian Community Dinner January 3, 2018

Next Wednesday, January 3, we are having a **Vegetarian** Community Dinner! We will hold this dinner each month on the first Wednesday.

You don't have to be a vegetarian to come, just plan to share a meatless meal with your fellow congregants! This is the perfect time to invite a friend if you know someone who would enjoy a night out eating vegetarian! Please invite them! This dinner is open to all!

The Social Committee will provide **Black Bean and Sweet Potato Tacos!** Everyone else should bring a dish to share. Bring your feastware too so we can avoid using paper products as well as washing dishes.

Dinner runs from 5:30 to 6:30. Don't worry if you can't make it there at 5:30! Come when you can. Help setting up at 5 would be appreciated as well as clean up. Many hands make light work!

Please contact Mary Haskins at mehaskins@gmail.com

The Chili Cook-Off is almost here! Mark your calendars!!!



Saturday, January 27, 6:00 PM!