
WORSHIP SERVICES

August Theme: EXPLORATION

Sunday, August 4, 10:00 a.m.

*Inner Exploration for
Atonement—Not Just for Jews*

“As we approach the Jewish High Holy days (they begin the evening of September 29), I suggest that we use this time to look in our minds and hearts for the means of atonement—not just with the Creator, but with each other. The ideas that I will discuss may have a Jewish basis, but they can serve all people regardless of faith traditions. The power is within the individual if we but know how to access it.”

As he neared retirement from a federal career, **Stan Levin** studied and was ordained a rabbi. He served the Jewish congregations at Riderwood Retirement Community in Silver Spring and Hevrat Shalom Congregation in Rockville until his retirement this year. He continues to lecture on films, including at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Johns Hopkins University in Rockville.

Special music by guest musician **Jake Sizemore**, guitar & vocals; Justin Furnia, piano.

Summer RE—Children rising to K-6th grade will gather in Room 52 for “Summer Prayground”. Youth rising to 7th-12th grade will attend worship in the Sanctuary.

(continued on page 2)

July 31, 2019

Quest

*The Newsletter of the
Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of Rockville:
A Welcoming Congregation*

Lifelong Spiritual Discovery Beloved Community A Just World

Volume LXII, Number 12
July 31, 2019

Editor & Publisher:
Adrian L. H. Graham

In the Interim...

by the Rev. Dr. Linda Olson Peebles



Greetings, UUCR members, friends, youth, and children! I am so very joyful to be joining your congregation for a short time (a year or two) to be with you in this interim time, between the ministry of Rev. Strauss and that of your next called Senior Minister. And it is gratifying to have the partnership of such a wonderful team—Rev. Rebekah Savage and all the talented staff—to guide me as I begin this interim ministry.

I have already met some of your congregation leaders, and I very much look forward to meeting many more of you this month as we prepare for the coming church year. And while I am deeply interested in getting to know you, it is even more important to me that I can help you get to know yourselves! In the year to come, a focus of my ministry will be to ask “wondering” questions, to hold up a mirror to you, so that you can better know yourselves, your history as a congregation, and your deepest calling.

Many thanks to Niambi Powell and the Interim Senior Minister Selection Committee for selecting me, and your Board for offering me the invitation to serve you. It is a great honor and I am so very happy to join you for this time in the life of UUCR!

Quest deadline: Thursday, **August 22, 2019** at 8:00 p.m.,
for mailing on **September 4, 2019**.
Email to quest@uucr.org

Quest

**Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of Rockville**
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Associate Minister: Rev. Rebekah A. Savage

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Director of Music: Sarah Jebian

Director of Communications & Membership:

Adrian L. H. Graham

Church Administrator: Donna Taylor

RE & Youth Assistant: Anne Chernikoff

Pianist: Justin Furnia

Building Sexton: Justin Onyeador

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(Worship Services continued from page 1)

Nursery care for infants—3-year-olds is available during the entire service downstairs in Room 53.

Sunday, August 11, 10:00 a.m.

The Ocean and the Harbor

Rev. Dr. Linda Olson Peebles and **Rev. Rebekah Savage** will lead together for the first time at UUCR and share reflections on working together as a team and spiritual community, as we welcome Rev. Olson Peebles as our new Interim Senior Minister.

Special music by **Justin Furnia**, piano.

Summer RE—see above.

Sunday, August 18, 10:00 a.m.

The Other Side of Self

Each of us has a whole aspect of ourselves which we hardly know. Sometimes it emerges when we are under stress or at other unusual times. When it does, it may surprise and frighten us. Let us reflect on this unseen aspect of the self and how we might better know and understand it.

Rev. Russ Savage currently serves as minister of the Unitarian Universalists of the Blue Ridge in Sperryville, VA. He has served UU churches in Massachusetts, New York, Maryland, and Virginia. He is a graduate of the Harvard Divinity School and had an earlier career at AT&T Bell Laboratories.

Special music by **Justin Furnia**, piano.

Summer RE—see above.

Sunday, August 25, 10:00 a.m.

Checking Your Baggage

Whether we're traveling through an airport or entering into a new relationship, we are invited in different ways to "check" our baggage. What are we holding on to? What is weighting us down? Is it time to let it go? Join guest preacher **Christin Green, MDiv**, to explore the practice of checking our baggage.

Special music will be provided by **Julie Graf** and **Niambi Powell; Dick Gilbert**, piano.

Summer RE—see above.

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FAITH FORMATION

REflections... Family Faith Formation

by Carla Miller, Director of Religious Education

We are so excited about the new year of faith formation programming for our children and youth! What are we so excited about?

- ◆ Terrific new theme-based resources for our 9:00 a.m. “Faith Explorers” group.
- ◆ A nature curriculum that our 1st-3rd graders are going to love!
- ◆ Working with the Environmental Action Group (EAG) to help make both of our programs stronger through connection.
- ◆ Grades 4-5 “Our Whole Lives” (OWL) Human Sexuality class beginning in January.
- ◆ Bringing more music to children and youth with the enthusiastic Sarah Jebian and our musical members.
- ◆ FUUn Family events being planned for Middle Hour.
- ◆ Middle Schoolers visiting other faith communities to understand our religious diversity and learn from these sources of wisdom.
- ◆ Senior Youth Group starting strong with a terrific cohort of incoming youth and some wonderful new advisors joining this wonderful group.
- ◆ Incoming Interim Minister Rev. Linda Olson Peebles, whose background as a Minister of Religious Education will enrich our own RE ministry.
- ◆ Family Faith Formation Team members building connections with other congregational leaders to engage children, youth, and families in the wide range of activities at UUCR

and through all of these...enriching our fully multigenerational community at UUCR to nourish our spirits, energize our actions, and build a legacy of practicing courageous love.

Would you like to grow your knowledge of Unitarian Universalisms, explore a new path for your personal faith development, and have some fun? Join our team in Children’s and Youth RE! Contact Carla Miller (cmiller@uucr.org) or Anne Chernikoff (achernikoff@uucr.org).

FAITH FORMATION LEADER ORIENTATION:
EXPLORING OUR 2019-2020 THEME
THE SIX SOURCES OF BEING UU

AUGUST 24, 2019
9:00 AM-11:30 AM

9:00 NEW Volunteers only
9:30-9:45 ALL Coffee & Social
9:45-11:30 ALL Orientation

OUR 6 SOURCES:
WHY DO THEY MATTER
TO YOU, TO UUCR,
AND TO OUR UU KIDS?
AND AN OVERVIEW OF "CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT"



PLEASE RSVP AT [HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/RSVP-ORIENTATION-2019](https://tinyurl.com/rsvp-orientation-2019)

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Food: Too Good to Waste

by Terrie Barr, Environmental Action Group

Did you know?

- In 2014, more than 38 million tons of food waste was generated.
- In 2010, the average amount of food loss per American was 429 pounds.
- 31 percent of the available food supply went uneaten.

Be part of the solution! Join the Environmental Action Group after the service on **Sunday, August 25, from 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** to learn everything about preventing food waste from your home—strategies for reducing wasted food on the purchasing end and on the throwing-out end. Childcare provided.

UUCR member Larissa Johnson will share information about reducing waste through purchase of “rejects”. The produce industry rejects imperfect fruits and vegetables. Learn how Hungry Harvest, Imperfect Produce, and others deliver perfectly nutritious and delicious “ugly” produce. We’ll have information about these services and a sample box from one of these providers.

A composting partner, the Compost Crew, will share info on the convenient way to compost at home, why composting is a good idea, and problems with food waste going into landfills. In addition, they will describe the composting service they provide for a fee. This allows anything organic including meat and sauces to be composted. There will be information regarding another service that you can compare and choose the best option for you.

For those who choose to use their compost in their yards, four home composting bins will be raffled off.

Contact **Alex Tucker** for more information.



CONGREGATION WORKS

Storytelling Workshop: Deepening Engagement and Relationship Building

by Michael Mignano, Leadership Development Team

Storytelling is fundamental to the human experience. We use stories to connect, understand, and create with one another. In this workshop, facilitated by Elsa Powel Strong, we will explore the art of storytelling and how it can deepen our connection to our UU Principles, share the values that give our life purpose, and nurture the bonds between us.

The experience will include experiential artful exercises and storytelling practice. By the end of the workshop you will craft a story that you can share to authentically express who you are as a person, a UU, and a leader. After the workshop, we will break bread together and continue to share our stories with each other.

If you would like to learn more about this event or our leadership development activities, please contact team members any time: **Terrie Barr, Bonnie Bloomquist, Sherry Dittmann, Fran Lowe, and Michael Mignano.**

Childcare is available upon request. Please RSVP for childcare by September 1 to Anne Chernikoff at achernikoff@uucr.org. Include the names and ages of children, food allergies, and any other special needs. Your RSVPs enable us to staff appropriately for the safety and well-being of the children.

Details:

- ◇ Saturday, September 14, 1:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- ◇ Founders Hall, UUCR
- ◇ Workshop followed by potluck until 7:00 p.m.
- ◇ Childcare provided by request (see note above)



From the Board

by Mary Carvajal, UUCR Board President

The UUCR Board of Trustees held a retreat in July to discuss goals for the coming year. Rev. Dr. Linda Olson Peebles is set to begin her interim ministry on August 1. She has met with the Executive Team of the Board and we are confident that the interim process is going well thus far. Rev. Olson Peebles will be introduced at the service on Sunday, August 4.

SHARING THE MINISTRY

Music and Arts

by Sarah Jebian, Director of Music

UUCR's Music & Arts Program is gearing up for another great year of diverse offerings from old favorite and new friends!

The UUCR choir will begin rehearsals on August 29. In the weeks leading up to the beginning of our choir season, I'll be leading three "Singing for Non-Singers" workshops after Sunday services. Each workshop will last approximately one hour and will give participants some basic singing skills. If you've been thinking about joining the choir but lack the confidence to just jump in and sing, I encourage you to attend the workshops! If you've been a regular choir member, it's also a great way to get back in vocal shape after the summer break! Choir rehearsals will take place in the Sanctuary on Thursday nights from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (this is a change from previous years and one that I hope will encourage more people to join us). The choir will perform once a month during our worship services. Come sing with us! If there's enough interest, we may even be able to provide childcare during rehearsal! Keep an eye out for updates and announcements in *UUCR E-Weekly*!

ArtsConnect will be focusing on issues of racism and immigration this year. I'm thrilled to announce that our fall *ArtsConnect* guests will be HALO (UUCR member Niambi Powell's female barbershop quartet). HALO will be offering their amazing music therapy workshop series called "Race and #RealTalk" leading up to the *ArtsConnect* event on December 14th. This six-session workshop series is open to the public and will be part of a research project investigating the impact of a community music therapy program on participants' attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors associated with racism. The workshop will culminate in the *ArtsConnect* art gallery opening and concert event on December 14 beginning at 5:30 p.m. There will also be opportunities for visual artists to participate in the program as well. Please be on the lookout for more information in *UUCR E-weekly* and here in *Quest*!

Of course, our worship services will continue to be graced by the abundance of talent at UUCR. I know we're all looking forward to hearing from Bonfire of the Mannakeys, Sonaria, Wildberry Jam, Tuba Noodle Casserole, and the many vocalists and musicians we are blessed to have among us. Of course, our beloved staff pianist Justin Furnia will fill our spirits with his signature sound on the piano and (BIG NEWS) Justin will also begin working on a new chamber music ensemble to add to our cadre of musical groups. I can't wait to see how this new ensemble develops!

Make sure to save the date for our annual music program fundraiser on February 15, 2020, featuring Bonfire of the Mannakeys, who will host a Valentine's Day Dance in preparation for the 2nd Annual Battle of the Bands (hosted this time by the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia on March 21). You won't want to miss these two fun-filled events!

For more information about these and other music and arts events at UUCR, [check out our website!](#) I look forward to a fabulous year of exploration, worship, celebration and always, music.

Love,

Sarah

SHARING THE MINISTRY

The Art on Our Walls

by Liliane Blom and Sharrill Dittmann, Aesthetics Committee

The landscapes on our walls are by UUCR members Richard Chitty and Sharrill Dittmann. The show will be up through September.

Since he was a teen, Richard has enjoyed the mystery in finding creative ways to capture the subject, the light, and the moment which brings forth an image that reaches the viewer's heart. He is inspired by the beauty and power of nature, by the astonishing ability of people to transform ordinary things into works of art, and by those unique situations that can bring an emotional response. His work in this exhibit of landscapes attempts to bring out some of the awe-inspiring and sublime characteristics of nature and to explore various aesthetic elements, like light, color, and texture. Richard says "beauty is all around us, and the unexpected is there to be found."



Sharrill's exposure to photography dates back to her teens when her stepfather would appear from his basement darkroom with wonderful black and white prints. Her interest blossomed when she began to travel, at which time the beauty of the surroundings finally drew her to try to take good pictures. Nature provides most of Sharrill's subjects, and she enjoys trying to capture its beauty. Subjects large and small, abstracted and realistic, call to her. She has recently added infrared photography to her repertoire, and some of the black and white prints in this show were taken in infrared and then converted to black and white. The others were taken at sites with muted color range, and the conversion to black and white highlights the textures and forms.

Please take a minute to enjoy these landscapes and to ask the artists about the travels that led to their prints.



Return to Two Services

by Mary Carvajal, UUCR Board President

Dear UUCR Members and Friends:

There have been questions regarding our **two services schedule**. Once Rev. Linda Olson Peebles begins her interim service, she and the Board will determine a process for assessing the service schedule. **Please plan on continuing with two services after the summer break, beginning September 15.**

Thank you for your continued support, and please feel free to contact me at president19-20@uucr.org with any questions or concerns.

SHARING THE MINISTRY

Thinking of You

compiled by Judy Eisenhauer and Staff on behalf of the Pastoral Care Team

We mourn the death of **Kathy Rupp**, who died on July 10. Kathy is survived by her husband Kalman Rupp, daughters Kristen Roberts and Erin Wilby, two grandchildren, and brother Robin Nelson. Kathy was an educator and administrator for Montgomery County Public Schools for over thirty years. A memorial service celebrating her life was held at UUCR on July 20.

Dottie Walsh, UUCR congregant and mother of Christy Shannon and Kathy Matay, died on July 7. A celebration of her life was held on July 27 in the Park View Chapel at Asbury Methodist Village.

Branka Kienstra's daughter Kiki let us know about Branka's recent death on Sunday, July 28, saying "she went quickly and peacefully." They ask that we not send the family anything right now, and share that "we'll let you know about other arrangements as we figure it out. Thank you for your love and friendship."



Niki Davis, one of our congregation's founding members and its music director for over 30 years, died June 7 in California. Niki had maintained her UUCR membership even after moving to California in 2010. She helped develop the UU Musicians Network and served as its president for a number of years. Niki was predeceased by her husband Gordon and is survived by five children: Dave, Julie, Maury, Jan, and Wendy.

Len Cohen is grieving the loss of his sister, **Nedda Allbray**, who died recently in Princeton, New Jersey.

Judy Rayner had a total ankle replacement in mid-July and is very pleased with her recovery and with the superb care that Shane Wellnitz (son of Judy and Dennis) is giving her.

Marianne Miller is recovering at home after knee replacement surgery and is taking out-patient physical therapy.

Adrian Graham mourns the loss of his great-uncle **Thurston Alcardo Peebles** on June 25, and his first cousin **Russell Leon Bryant, Sr.** on July 14. He also celebrates the 90th birthday of his grandmother **Vera Lucille Preston** on July 15, and the successful completion of his first course in seminary.

Please contact **Judy Eisenhauer** with any joys, concerns, or accomplishments you would like to share in this column.



SHARING THE MINISTRY

(Worship Services continued from page 2)

September Theme: EXPECTATION

Sun, September 1, 10:00 a.m.

The UUA and the Pentagon Papers: Then and Now

The early 1970s were a harrowing time for the UUA and many of its associated congregations. The pivotal role played by the UUA and by Beacon Press in publishing the Pentagon Papers is little known, even among many present-day UU members. This sermon focuses on that story as an example of the personal risks we take in committing ourselves to social justice—as an example of the self-sacrifice we must prepare ourselves to make, whatever may befall us in the future.

Bob Clegg is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Frederick, MD, and is at Aspirant status in preparation for fellowship as a UU minister. After a career as a scientist, he returned to school at Wesley Theological Seminary, earning a Master of Divinity and taking electives in Non-Profit Management at American University. He is now executive director of Justice Jobs of Maryland, a non-profit that runs a free job placement and retention office in Frederick, serving people who are reentering society from incarceration and addictions. Bob and his wife Connie live in New Market, MD, where their cat Lilly makes all the important decisions.

Special music by our house pick-up band, **Tuba Noodle Casserole**; **Justin Furnia**, piano.

Summer RE—see above.



 <p>UUCR</p>	<p>Water Communion Sunday, September 8 ONE Service at 10:00 a.m.</p>
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Sunday, September 8, 10:00 a.m.

INGATHERING AND WATER COMMUNION

Water communion was created by a women's fellowship in the 1980s as a way to bring together the community. We gather and share water from a *place of spiritual significance*, to honor the beginning of the congregation's program year together. Everyone is invited to bring a small amount of water for the ritual.

The UUCR Choir will sing; **Justin Furnia**, piano.

Multigenerational Service—All* gather together in the Sanctuary for this service. *Nursery care for infants—3-year-olds is available during the entire service in Building 3, Room 33.

Quest

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July 31, 2019

DATED MATERIAL

Unitarian Universalist Principles

As a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association, we covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

In addition to these Seven Principles drawn from the Principles and Purposes of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), we as a congregation have also elected to affirm and promote a proposed Eighth Principle:

- Journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.

Our Mission and Vision

The mission and vision of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville is to
Practice Courageous Love.

Our Values

Lifelong Spiritual Discovery ~ Beloved Community ~ A Just World