



The UU Circle

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalists of Fallston



You Are Welcome Here!

May 2010

A Month of Sundays

Sunday Services and Sunday School at 11:00 AM, 1127 Old Fallston Road, Fallston, MD (410-877-3773)

SUNDAY SERVICES

- May 2** **Unity Service at First UU Church in Baltimore**
Lay Led service at UUF "A View from the Pew" - Scott Phillips
We usually hear about "Freedom of the Pulpit and Freedom of the Pew" in the context of a freedom of expression. However, this talk will explore our engagement in church life in terms of our expectations and opportunities. We are free to get off the Pew (or in our case the chair) and get involved.
- May 9** **"Living Tradition" - Rev. Lyn Cox**
We like to say that Unitarian Universalism is a living tradition, meaning that we appreciate our roots while we reach toward a future that demands new questions. Change and growth has its advantages over stagnation and decay, but also requires some effort. We'll examine some possible sources of inspiration and renewal for our community as we carry the living tradition forward.
- May 16** **"Living With Growth and Change" - Bill Feiss**
In my experience, we UU's are open to just about anything except changing. Quite ironic for the self-espoused "liberally religious." We want to grow our congregations, but not our congregational feel of family; we see our religion's future universally as positive upon society, but are fearful of a future that doesn't embrace our principles and positions either personally or corporately; rites of passage are for individuals, not institutions, especially our church. How alive is your 'Living Tradition'?
- May 23** **"The Heritage of Mind and Heart" - Rev. Lyn Cox**
Two of the commitments we make as a community are to encourage one another in spiritual growth and to entrust Unitarian Universalism to the next generation. We accomplish these goals and more through religious education for children, youth, and adults.
- May 30** **"E Pluribus Unum--Out of the Many, One" - Rev. Mark Hoelter**
A meditation on the genius of our UU spiritual path, on taking "the other" most seriously, and pluralism.
- Jun 6** **"Flower Communion" - Rev. Lyn Cox**
Flower Communion is a Unitarian Universalist ceremony that celebrates our ability to find beauty in diversity. Bring a flower to share in a communal vase. We will welcome new members during this service.

Our Happenings

- May 8** **Board of Trustees Meeting – 1:30pm:** All are welcome to attend.
Saturday
- May 8** **Drum for Peace – 8pm:** All ages are welcome to the drumming circle and extra drums and other instruments are usually available for general use.
Saturday
- May 13** **Homeless Shelter Support:** Contact Paul or Maureen North for volunteer opportunities.
Thursday
- May 16** **Parent Meeting – 10am:** Parents of children and youth (babies through high school) are invited to a meeting before the service. We'll discuss curriculum and leadership for next year, possibilities for youth involvement, aspects of the program we treasure, and our hopes for the future. Send RSVP's and questions to Alyssa Ehram at 410-877-9073 or alyssa.ehram@live.com
Sunday
- May 22** **Spring Tea -12-3pm:** Fund Raiser to benefit Circle of Hope. See flyer at church and sign up.
Saturday
- May 23** **UUF Annual Meeting – following the service:** See article below.
Sunday
- Jun 6** **Baby Shower for Lyn and Cheri – following the service:** Currently a Pot Luck is planned.
Sunday

News You Can Use

UUF ANNUAL MEETING

The UUF Annual Meeting will be held after the service on May 23rd. The agenda follows:

- Election of Officers – the Nominating Committee has submitted the following slate of officers for approval:
 - Board of Trustees
 - Vice President: A've Childrey
 - Treasurer: Laura Williams
 - Secretary: Scott Phillips
 - Co-President Elects: Paul and Maureen North
(Cheri Wilson automatically becomes President since she was approved by vote as President Elect.)
 - Nominating Committee
 - Rowan Glidden
 - Paul Phillippi
 - Charlene Phillips
- Vote on the recommended Budget for the Fiscal Year June 1st, 2010 to May 31st 2011.
- Vote on the extension of Rev Lyn Cox's Consulting Ministry contract for the 2010-2011 Fiscal Year.
- Vote on a proposal by the Board of Trustees concerning the Helen Coon Memorial Fund investment proceeds.
- Complete the Adult Religious Education Survey for church year 2010-2011.

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SURVEY

What kind of workshop would you like to see offered during the 2010-2011 program year? Those present at the annual meeting on May 23 will have the chance to participate in an informal survey. Look for a flyer on the bulletin board or a link to the list for the options that will be on the survey at the annual meeting at our home page at <http://www.uufallston.org>.

YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We are entering the final weeks of a successful year for our RE Program under the tutelage of Kate and Jesse, and their assistants Cameron and Clare. This will be Colette's final year as RE Director, and she is pleased to announce that Alyssa Ehram will be stepping into the RE Director role for the coming year. She and our pastor, Lyn Cox have already begun planning for next year. Thanks! Colette

ONLINE DONATIONS TO UUF

You may now make your donations to the UUF online by your credit card or PayPal account. Visit our website at www.uufallston.org and click on the donate button at the bottom of our home page. You will be taken to our PayPal donation page. You enter the amount of the donation and click on update total. Then you may pay by your PayPal account or at the bottom left of the page you can click on the continue link to the right of the credit card symbols to take you to credit card donation form.

Circle of Hope

SHARING TABLE

Mike Perrone is the President of The Sharing Table's Board of Directors and his term will expire in October. At this point no one has volunteered to fill this position for the next three-year term which places the organization's long-term viability in jeopardy. The office of the president is responsible for conducting fundraising activities and various forms of community outreach (beyond recruiting).

The 2010 Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 8 at 7 p.m. at Prince of Peace Church and the primary focus of this meeting will be to discuss recruiting needs that include finding volunteers for:

- the position of Vice President, which has been vacant since last September,
- someone to check our PO Box regularly, track donors and deposit checks (starting 1/1/2011), and
- one or two more individuals willing to join our rotation of drivers.

If anyone might be willing to volunteer for any of these positions, please attend this meeting. The final meeting of Mike's term will be held in September when the organization will evaluate where they stand in terms of volunteer needs and decide whether or not they can continue to serve as they always have. If you have questions or concerns, Mike's contact information is:

Michael J. Perrone, Jr., Director
The Sharing Table, PO Box 1174, Edgewood, MD 21040
www.thesharingtable.org (410) 652-9572

The next date for the UUs of Fallston to host The Sharing Table is July 10 so please check your calendars to see if you are available to help. There is a sheet on the bulletin board at the back of the church for volunteers to sign up.

WELCOME ONE HOMELESS SHELTER

The Homeless Shelter in Riverside usually has enough volunteers to prepare and serve dinner on the 13th of every month, but they sometimes run into difficulty finding people to serve breakfast on the 14th or stay overnight. If anyone is interested in information regarding these opportunities, please contact me at mnorth@ccps.org. We sent a check for \$35 to the shelter as our monthly contribution. This covers our share of the cost of supplies used on the 13th of each month at the shelter by the Unitarian Universalists volunteers from Churchville and Fallston when preparing and serving meals.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

This past month three families turned to us for financial help because they had received eviction notices. In one case, the wife and children left an abusive situation, one family was deserted by the father/husband, and in the last case, a social worker asked us to help a single mom who is having trouble coping with severe depression and has lost her job.

The fourth call came from a working grandmother who also has custody for her grandchildren. She missed a few weeks from her job due to surgery and the utility company was threatening to cut off service unless she paid their delinquent bill.

Life is really hard for some people.

SOULFUL SUNDOWN CONTRIBUTIONS

Thanks to those who participated in the Soulful Sundown service on April 25th and all who contributed to the Circle of Hope Fund. The money will be put to good use to help people in need in Harford County.

Minister and Board President's Columns

MINISTER'S COLUMN – REVEREND LYN COX

"Don't ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive."

- Howard Thurman

As a congregation, we spend time thinking about and acting on the needs we perceive within us and around us. When one of us is in need of a kind word, we offer it. We participate in UUF to encourage our own and each other's need for spiritual growth. We meet needs in our community as best we can. I don't think Howard Thurman would say that we shouldn't keep doing those things; I think his quote is inviting us to reflect on why those actions make us come alive. What else makes us come alive as individuals and as a congregation? How do we keep coming alive, week after week?

This year, we have been exploring some of the sources of the Unitarian Universalist living tradition: earth-centered spirituality, humanist teachings, prophetic women and men from throughout history, and so on. Having been inspired by these sources, I believe that our collective action for justice and kindness is part of what brings our tradition alive.

Another aspect of our church that makes us come alive is the vibrancy of our intergenerational community. Children, elders, adults, and youth weave together a brilliant tapestry of caring. It is one of my persistent joys that I can be present in a place that welcomes people of all ages. We are the stewards of a rare and precious oasis in our divided society.

What makes you come alive? There is a place for your gift of vitality at UUF.

Peace,



FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT – ALISON ELLIOTT

Greetings all!

May is here and that means my time as your Board President is coming to a close. I would like to take this opportunity to tell you how grateful I am to have served on the board for the past two years. It gives you an appreciation for all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes for everyone to enjoy their experience at church. Thank you to all my fellow board members for making board meetings such a hoot. Mainly I would like to thank the members of this congregation. You are the Unitarian Universalists of Fallston church and you make a difference in people's lives every day. I know you make a difference in mine.

Thanks again-

