



Connections May 2016

The Unitarian Universalists of Central Delaware
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uucd.org



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Emergencies: Rev. Chute (302) 369-6499

We are a welcoming congregation!
Chartered 2009

Calendar

- Sunday, 1 May 11.30: Solitary Nation movie at CBS
- Monday, 2 May: DIMH dinner. Julie Price, head chef
- Wednesday, 4 May 7pm: Mindfulness meditation at CBS
- Saturday, 14 May 6pm: Spring Fling dance and auction at CBS
- Sunday, 8 May: Social Justice Sunday benefiting Food Bank of Delaware
- Sunday, 8 May, 11.30am: Social Justice Committee meeting
- Sunday, 15 May, after service: Worship Committee meeting at CBS
- Wednesday, 18 May, 7.35pm: Board of Trustees meeting at CBS

Announcements

- The Leadership Development Committee has nominated Sara Russell for an at large position on the Board of Trustees and she has accepted. Here, in her own words, is an introduction to Sara:
I live in Milford with my husband, Paul. We have been married for 32 years and have one son, Benjamin. We adopted Benjamin from Korea when he was 5 ½ months old. Benjamin is now 27 years old and lives in California. I first started attending UUCD in 2013. Presently I serve on the Social Justice committee and sing in the choir. I worked for 35 years as an itinerant teacher of students with combined vision and hearing losses. Paul and I are both retired. I enjoy having time now for day trips and traveling, spending time with family and friends, learning new things, and giving back through volunteer opportunities.
- Rev Greg will be offering a class, Building Your Own Theology, on Thursday evenings in May. There is still room to join! Contact him for more information.

Dear Members & Friends,

May and early June are very important times in our church calendar. From an organizational standpoint, in order for us to survive and thrive, we have to complete our fund-raising for church year 2015-6. That means finishing payment of our pledges, if you haven't already and pledging anew for 2016-7 in time for us to come up with a budget for us to vote upon and operate on for next year. At our mid-year meeting, the consensus seemed to be to raise our pledges, if possible, so there would be less reliance on additional fund-raising, so if you can, please do. I did.

However, to balance our budget for this year, we tacked on about \$4,000 in fundraising activities. Although we have brought in a little money from Amazon and Redners' cards, it is nowhere near that amount. In order for us to meet our budget this year, we are having our spring fling on Saturday, May 14th. For this event to be fun and successful, we need as much participation as possible. Wayne is compiling a catalogue of donated goods and services, which should soon be available on the website and Facebook pages. Please wrap those up this week. We also hope you might invite friends and/or family to attend as well as helping and attending yourself. We will be selling tickets May 1st and May 7th (\$5 a person) and also need to know about the number and ages of children. Tickets will also be available at the door, but for planning purposes, sooner is much better than later.

One other thing that is happening is that a committee to revise the bylaws has been meeting and has recommendations for changes completed and approved by the BOT at their April meeting. I will summarize these below and attach a copy of the changes which are all in the part of the bylaws pertaining to the BOT. We will be voting on these changes at our annual meeting, June 5th.

The committee agreed to recommend moving from 3-year terms of the Board to 2-year terms for all members, with a limit of three terms rather than the current limit of two terms. This would still mean that no Board member could serve more than six consecutive years total, the same as the current Bylaws.

The committee agreed to recommend an increase in the size of the Board from 6 to 7 members with four officers and three at-large Board members. The 7th Board member to be added would be an at-large member.

The committee considered changing the structure of the board, but decided instead to keep the current structure of the Board with the expectation of the Vice President moving up to President, (while not mandating that succession).

Gloria and Debra will be going off of the BOT and new people will be nominated. They will be

announced by the Leadership Development Committee.

Hopefully, these will all be positive changes. Hope to see you in church and/or at the fun(d) raiser. Happy Spring! Sheryl

Sunday Services

Sunday, 1 May: “Forgiveness” Jean Charles, frequent speaker and member of the Unitarian Universalists of Southern Delaware, will give a sermon on the topic of Forgiveness, which she says can be one of the most difficult concepts to grasp. This may explain why it’s one of the most difficult and greatest gifts to give. Jean will share her experience with the 2006 Amish shootings in Lancaster County, PA, and the Amish forgiveness concept. May our compassion and love radiate beyond ourselves to a broken world that yearns for healing.

Sunday, 8 May: "The Roots We Choose" Rev Greg Chute

A UU colleague, Rev Mark Stringer, tells a delightful story of becoming aware at an early age that he didn't quite fit in with his family religious traditions, of discovering his own authenticity, and of how both painful and liberating that discovery was. What roots do we choose? Which ones do we leave behind? How does that choice effect us? Where/how do we find/grow new roots?

Sunday, 15 May: "Setting Out and Coming Home" Rev Greg Chute

We often speak about being on a spiritual journey. But where are we going? How are we navigating our way? What are we leaving behind and what are we seeking (if anything)? How do we know if we are getting anywhere? These are only some of the questions that come to mind.

Today we celebrate the end of the Children's Religious Education journey for this year.

Sunday, 22 May: “Solitary Confinement and Torture” Julie Price and Jalee Pernol
Confining prisoners to their cells with little or no human contact has been called a cruel and unusual punishment and even a form of torture. This service will explore the psychological effects of solitary, how widely it is used in Delaware, and why there is a moral imperative to oppose it.

Sunday, 29 May: On Memorial Day weekend, Cathy Marsh, charter member of the Unitarian Universalists of Central Delaware, will honor those we miss. Our loved ones may be gone from our physical presence, but their spirit lives on in the memories we create together. Join us as we gather around our “memory table” by bringing in photos or mementos of our loved ones, including our pets. When we share our memories, our happiness, and our grief, we begin to heal the ache deep inside our soul.

Birthdays

Jimmy Lettieri (7), Craig Porterfield (11), John Rich (24), Jaret Deskiewicz (23), Asha Miller (24)
Please send any upcoming birthdays to Laura Parks (laura.e.parks@gmail.com)!



