



Connections November 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

Sunday Services

November 6: “The Donald, Me and Shakespeare: Lessons for Our Time”

Erv Schleifer examines the childhood of one of our presidential nominees, and using Shakespeare, its sobering implications for our nation's future.

November 13: “The Stages of Faith” Rev Greg Chute

“Faith” is a complicated concept. It takes many different forms. It influences choices and actions in many different ways. It provides comfort and direction. It often defies understanding. It is often also misunderstood and misconstrued. Author James Fowler suggests that perhaps breaking faith down into a stage development theory may better enable us to come to grips with it as a very human phenomenon.

November 20: “The Gift of Thanksgiving” Rev Greg Chute

The Thanksgiving Holiday is not only an open invitation to give thanks, but also to take the time to reflect on what we might choose to give thanks for, and how we express and live out that gratitude.

November 27: “Searching for Goldilocks” Arden Wellington

For well over two hundred years, Americans have been looking for government that's not “too conservative”, not “too liberal” -- “just right.” Will we ever find it? Where? How?

Birthdays

Megan Fillette (3), Margaret Crosby (12), Thomas Smith (10), Myron Marsh (17)

Please send any upcoming birthdays to Laura Parks (laura.e.parks@gmail.com)!

Announcements

- The McElwees will be offering dinner at 5 on Thanksgiving day. They will provide the turkey, stuffing, gravy and one veggie. Bring a side dish and any special drink you want. Call or see Kerry McElwee for address and directions. 943-3136.
- Slack, the hot new communication app that everyone is talking about, is going to be discussed at the congregational meeting on the 13th. It can be accessed online or on a smartphone. It can also be set up to send email notifications. Is it a useful new tool or just one more thing to deal with? It is time to either embrace it or throw it out! Please be prepared to give your input. Email Laura (laura.e.parks@gmail.com) if you would like to try it out and haven't yet.
- Christmas and New Year's both fall on Sundays. We won't have official services those days. Please let Laura (laura.e.parks@gmail.com) know if you're interested in attending a coffee hour instead.
- Leigh took several items to Wilson's Auction. It was raining that day, so he was not able to take all the items that were donated. He is planning on going again soon, so there is a second chance to donate household items! Bring them to service on Sunday the 6th.
- Hymnal donations would be most welcome! We need about ten more. They are available on uua.org for \$28 and used copies on Amazon.com for about \$20.
- November 13 is the **last day** to donate items for Code Purple, an organization which distributes needed materials to homeless people throughout the year and especially in the cold winter months. They are asking for the following items: Blankets, cots, sleeping bags, towels, wash cloths, hand wipes, sanitizer, feminine products, toothbrushes, tooth paste, disinfectant spray, hats, scarves, gloves, boots, long underwear, coats, hand and feet warmers, bottled water, pre-cooked or frozen meals, instant hot drinks, garbage bags. Thanks for your support for this important project!

UUA Congregational Study/Action Issue (CSAI)

"The Corruption of Our Democracy"

Sunday, November 20

America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves. - Abraham Lincoln

Delegates at the 2016 General Assembly in Columbus, OH, selected "The Corruption of Our Democracy" to be the 2016-2020 Congregational Study/Action Issue (CSAI) of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) of Congregations.

The Congregational Study/Action Issue (CSAI) is an invitation for congregations and districts to take a topic of concern and engage it, reflect on it, learn about it, respond to it, comment on it, and take action—each in their own way. A CSAI is NOT a statement—it is a question and a process of exploration.

Starting on November 20th UUCD will hold monthly meetings on the 3rd Sunday of every month after Coffee Hour to explore this CSAI, “The Corruption of Our Democracy” and what we might be able to do about it. Rev Chute will kick off the initial program and start the continuing conversation on November 20. Do join us. The program is open to all inquiring minds. – UUCD Social Justice Committee

A Note From Our President

Our church year is off to a good start, but we will be having a congregational meeting to involve people in what is happening. We have had one fund raiser (to take donations to Wilson’s Auction). Laura Parks is doing a great job in organizing worship services. Quite a few people have stepped forward to give services, resulting in hearing some interesting new perspectives. Kerry, Laura and Susan have been involved in reorganizing our storage room, a much needed task.

We are still struggling a little to get organized to do coffee and snacks some mornings. Arden Wellington is helping us figure out the most efficient way to do this, however, I’d like to discuss how to recruit volunteers for this at our congregational meeting, if we have time after discussing the official agenda items, which are approval of the minutes of our spring meeting, a financial update, an explanation of the changes we made in terms of who handles what at the BOT retreat, SLACK (a new possibility for communication), and where we want to put our efforts for publicity and growth.

I hope you will be able to attend the congregational meeting after church on Sunday, Nov. 13th. This will also be the final day of our collection of items for Code Purple. (Repeat items if there is no other announcement of this). Your ideas and assistance are greatly valued in making UUCD a community where people feel comfortable and supported, but are still stimulated to grow spiritually.

The following Sunday, Nov. 20, will mark the first time we have really gone all out to explore one of the UUA’s study questions. Many of us have been concerned about the effect of money on the political process, particularly corporate money. This will be an opportunity to study this issue in depth and look at what avenues we have to make a difference. I hope as many of you as possible will be able to participate in these discussions or do some of the reading or take action to make your voice heard.

See you in November! Please remember to visit our Facebook page and share what is going on with us to your Facebook page so that possibly your friends will ask you about liberal religion. Please also be mindful, in talking with your friends, of inviting them to events we have that you think they might enjoy.

Calendar

- Wednesday, 2 November 7pm: Mindfulness meditation at CBS
- Sunday, 6 November 11.30am: Social Justice Committee meeting at CBS
- Monday, 7 November: DIMH dinner. Julie Price, head chef
- Sunday, 13 November: Social Justice Sunday benefiting Code Purple
- Wednesday, 16 November, 7.35pm: Board meeting at CBS
- Sunday, 20 November, noon: CSIA discussion at CBS