

November 2019

340 North Queen St. Dover, DE 19904
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CONNECTIONS

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS
OF CENTRAL DELAWARE
A Welcoming Congregation
Chartered 2009

NOVEMBER'S THEME

Belonging

Sunday Services

Belonging and Its Connection to
the UU Chalice

11/3

Kristy Marten has designed this service to inspire us to see the Unitarian Universalist Chalice and its flame to the theme of the month which is 'belonging.'

11/10

Veteran's Day
Honey Young

Join us in celebrating Veteran's Day.

Social Justice Sunday - offering goes to DE SPCA

11/17

We Belong?

Rev Dr Kharmia Amos

What does belonging mean anyway? What do we (as those who want people to feel like they belong) have to do to let them know? How do we create a world in which everyone belongs without having to work so hard?

11/24

Giving Thanks for the Places We Belong
Rev Kharmia Amos

As we live into this season of Thanksgiving/Gratitude, how do we give thanks for the places we have found belonging when we haven't expected it? (And the people who have made that so!) Let's think about what it means to honor our "families of choice" or other environments that have let us know we belong, and helped us be more than we could otherwise be.

Save These Dates

All Wed, 7-8.30pm

Mindfulness Meditation at
CBS

Mon 11/4

DIMH dinner
Head Chef: Leigh Hesseltine

Sun 11/10, 11.30am

Congregational Meeting

Sun 11/10, 11.30am

Social & Environmental
Justice Committee

Wed 11/20, 6.30pm

Board Meeting

a note from our president

Friends and members, what a wonderful month we have had, Rev. Kharma, Rev. Greg, and our amazing members have blessed us with rich full services each week. Thank you all for all you contribute to our community. In the coming weeks we will be continuing on this path and seeking to include many in each service. Our commitment to supporting each other and our greater community is inspiring to me every week. We will start our planning for the annual auction and hope that you will help us share the fun with friends and family. If you have other ideas for fundraising, please contact Jayce or any other board member. Together we are stronger and more capable than we are as individuals alone. I really appreciate all of your efforts and contributions. As we enter into the darker time of year, I often pull in and reflect on the year. I invite you to reflect as well and help us design our collective future. We, the board, will be asking for your input in the coming weeks. More details will be shared as they are confirmed for a workable process. Please remember our congregational meeting to revote on an adjusted budget November 10th, after lunch together. Blessings to all,

Kerry

social and environmental justice committee notes

With the pending retirement of Leigh Hesseltine as a Head Chef, we urgently need some new Head Chefs. Talk to Leigh or Julie Price about what is involved. We may have to change how we do the dinner. We do not want to back out of that obligation.

The Code Purple box is available for donations of all kinds. Given the time of year, winter wear is especially needed. Socks are also a high priority.

stewardship

To the UUCD Congregation's Members and Friends, The BOT thanks everyone who increased their pledge during the UUCD Interim Stewardship Drive. The BOT invites all Members (Friends have no vote but may attend and voice their opinion) to attend the Congregational meeting November 10 to discuss and vote on the revised budget for 2019-2020. The meeting will start soon after the service ends. There will be a light lunch provided.

worship committee chairperson

Laura Parks will be stepping down as Worship Committee Chairperson at the end of the calendar year. She will, of course, continue to be involved in multiple other ways!

The Leadership Development Committee is working to recruit a replacement.

resilience: leadership development for the 21st century

Saturday, January 11, 2020 - 9:00 am to 4:00 pm EST

Sponsor: Central East Region of the UUA, UU Congregation of Fairfax, Oakton, VA

A Workshop for Boards, Nominating Committees and Leadership Development Teams

Join us for a day of diving deep into how we might develop resilient leaders for the changing church. The Rev. Renee Ruchotzke will share emerging models and host conversations about how you might shape your congregation's approach to leadership development.

Your team will leave with a plan and some new thought partners (the other participants!)

Learn more [here](#)



the common read

The "Common Read" for 2019-2020 for UU congregations are the two related books: An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz (Beacon Press, 2015) and An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States for Young People adapted by Jean Mendoza and Debbie Reese (Beacon Press, 2019). This Common Read invites UU congregations, communities, and individuals to learn the story of trauma and resilience that is the Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States. The former, published in 2015 by historian and activist, Dunbar-Ortiz, challenges the founding myth of the United States and shows how policy against the indigenous peoples was colonialist and designed to seize the territories of the original inhabitants, displacing or eliminating them. It is certainly written from a different perspective than those familiar histories most of us studied in school. I suggest that UUCD, as a congregation, consider how we might participate in this national UU project to read and digest the narrative presented in these two books. The UUA expects to post discussion guides sometime in November. Expect future newsletters to elaborate on ways we might engage with the common read as individuals, as a congregation, and potentially also as a cluster or a denomination.

Your thoughts and ideas are welcome. The social and environmental justice committee and worship committee are two groups who may collect these ideas and propose options.

Sheryl Winsby

link of love update

The Social Justice Committee thanks all who have donated to the Link of Love plate collections over the past year. The beneficiaries of your generosity have been citizens who have recently been released from incarceration. These individuals do not have the resources to acquire birth certificates and state identification, the basic building blocks to starting a productive life. In one case a small fine was preventing an individual from moving toward independent living. Another individual was provided a used, refurbished bicycle which allows him to attend daily addictions treatment and probation appointments every week. It also makes his local job search feasible. Your generosity is making a concrete difference for individuals who are dealing with economic inequality.

st. jones river lotus sangha

The Sangha will complete a series of classes focused on the Buddhist practice of Cultivating True Love on Wednesday, November 6, 2019. This six part series was led by Abby Miller and a total of 20 individuals attended one or more of the classes. More than 1/2 of those attending were members of the community with no formal affiliation with UUCD.

The sangha will return to its regular practice on Wednesday, November 13, 2019 at 7:00 pm. We routinely have guided, silent and meditation as well as dharma talks and sharing. All are welcome to this weekly practice session. No prior meditation experience is necessary.

uudan

The Unitarian Universalist of Delaware Advocacy Network encourages all to join in the effort to support state legislation which aligns itself with UU values. Sign up is easy on the UUDAN website. There are openings on the coordinating committee which allows members to suggest and advocate for specific issues and legislation. All meetings are held on Zoom. No travel necessary.



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hymn of the month
Gathered Here

from the laptop of Rev Kharma

As we move into this season of Fall (Autumn), I am stunned by the world around me. This week, as the leaves are turning gorgeous colors and then falling to the ground; a brand new, bright yellow iris just bloomed in my garden. I don't know about you, but this is new for me.

We'd already appreciated those flowers and said goodbye for the year.

Yet, there they are ... strong, vibrant, and proud! This is a little like the signs of hope I occasionally see in the midst of the despair around us. And, like the laughs that startle us, sometimes, when we hear them emanate from our own grief-stricken or cynical throats.

In this season (and, I hope always): I'm really grateful for the natural wonders that remind us to refocus on what is alive and surprising ... so that we don't give in or give up! Our theme for worship this month is "Belonging," and I hope you'll attend worship to hear the various perspectives on this theme. We are all seeking a place where we belong — in a family, work environment, community, world ... etc. But what does that mean, really? Let's talk about it together. AND, let's think (and plan) for how UUCD can be a place of belonging for the many types of people who, along with us, want to keep a liberal/progressive faith alive in Central Delaware. I'm certain there are people looking for just this kind of community.

For whatever it's worth, you — whoever you are, now reading this — be assured that you are welcome at UUCD. We are better because of you, and we are all stronger together. In this season of gratitude, let us give thanks for this community that has welcomed and accepted us. And, let's plan for how we might be even more welcoming for others. There is so much peace to seek, love to nurture, and justice to bring into being. We can be just like that unexpected and totally startling iris in a garden covered with leaves.

I'm so thrilled to be here with you, imagining and creating a new world.

Peace,
Kharma



we had a great Halloween parade!



THANKS to our VOLUNTEERS

we couldn't even be UUs without U



Working Groups/Contacts

Social Justice Committee: Mark Jarrell
Worship Committee: Laura Parks
Leadership Development: Wendy Pickett
Stewardship Committee: Sandy Nelson
Caring Team: Gloria Gross
Religious Education Team:
Kelly Blanchies & Heather Thompson
Fund Raising: could be you!

Web Site: Tom Gower
Newsletter: Laura Parks
Social Media: Sheryl Winsby,
Susan Guiteras
Hospitality: Cindy Hesseltine
Greeters: Rose Akerman
Email Updates: Laura Parks
Childcare: Wayne Kling

Board Members & Administrative Areas

MaL Ed is Religious Education
MaL Jayce is Finances
MaL Steve Communications

Pres Kerry is Personnel/Facility
VP Sandy is Fellowship
Sec Wayne is RE/Childcare
Treas Stephanie is Worship



THE CENTRAL DELAWARE INTERFAITH ALLIANCE
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE 1ST ANNUAL

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, Fellowship Meal & Food Drive

Interfaith Prayers of Gratitude, Gratitude Circle,
Speakers, Music, Fellowship Meal

Saturday, November 16, 2019, 5:00pm
Camden Friends Meeting

122 E. Camden Wyoming Avenue, Camden, DE

*Fellowship meal lovingly hosted by the Camden
Friends Meeting*

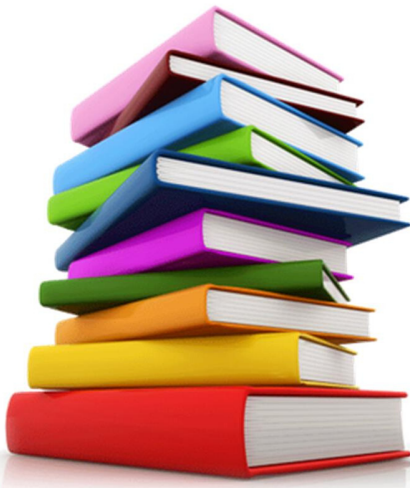
**Please bring canned food items for distribution to
local food pantries**

*"Many Voices, Many Paths, Many Hands -
One Community"*

Participating CDIA Communities: Camden Friends Meeting
(Quakers), HeartSpirit Interfaith Spiritual Community, Islamic
Society of Central Delaware, St. Jones River Lotus Sangha,
Unitarian Universalists of Central Delaware

For more information: 510-350-6249 or
Central.DE.Interfaith.Alliance@gmail.com





CHILDREN'S BOOK DRIVE

BOOKS! BOOKS! BOOKS!

**Donate your new and gently used children's books
to benefit Read Aloud Delaware**

Our biggest need is for pop-up / lift-the-flap books
and early elementary chapter books

To make a donation contact:

LCDBookDrive2020@gmail.com

FROM
TUESDAY
OCT 1

TO
SATURDAY
NOV 30



Read Aloud Delaware is a statewide agency working to promote literacy. Our mission is to ensure that each preschool child in Delaware is regularly read to one-on-one. Reading aloud helps children ages birth to 6 develop speech patterns, learn pronunciation, vocabulary, listening skills, and comprehension. These important skills enable our state's children to be better equipped when challenged to meet current educational standards in kindergarten.

For more information or to arrange for a donation drop off or pick up please call

Michelle @ (630) 338-6448 or Katie @ (915) 342-0878

or email us

LCDBookDrive2020@gmail.com

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