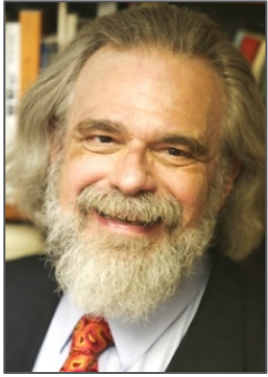




From the Minister

The Rev. Dr. Tony Johnson is serving as UCH Minister 2018-21.



April is an exciting month in the cycle of the seasons of life. We experience the fullness of spring and anticipate the summer that will follow. Trees are greening, flowers are blooming. In my personal prehistory, April has significance as the month in which my father was born (in 1907) and my parents were married (in 1948).

April is an exciting month for congregations and ministers in the final year of a transitional ministry. However rewarding the ministry has been for the congregation and for the minister, both know that change is coming.

Three years is a long term for a transitional ministry. Since I began focusing on transitional ministry 13 years ago, I have become accustomed to ministries of one or two years. This ministry required three years, and I judge these three years to have been well spent. Between now and the end of June, I will be wrapping up my work with you. There will be time in the next three months to finish our work together, say good-bye and move on, as you prepare to welcome your new minister.

In April of this second year of pandemic, I hear a lot of talk about a return to normal.

Reality is too complicated to allow a return to normal that arrives too soon. The pandemic is not under control. There is too much yet to be done to enable us to resume regular and unguarded interaction, even as we are able to loosen some of the restrictions the pandemic has imposed on us. And, in any event, the new normal may well be very different from the old normal. We will know what it looks like when it arrives.

All that being said, April is a time for hope. My hope is that the next few months will be good for you as a church, for me as a minister, and for us working together to bring more love and light into our lives and into the world. I will travel to Harrisburg two weeks or so after I receive my second vaccination. It will still be too early for large gatherings. However, I truly hope that you and I will be able to meet together—even if in small, distanced, and masked groups—before the end of June. I want to make the most of April, May, and June.

I, for one, count myself fortunate to be your minister in this challenging time.

Rev. Dr. Anthony P. Johnson

Worship online 10:30 a.m. Sundays

April 4: Easter: The Greater Miracle, Rev. Johnson

The biblical story of Easter focuses on the miracle of Jesus, having been crucified, rising from the dead. Modern scientific knowledge does not have a place for such violations of the laws of science. But there is a greater miracle: that human hope survives the worst of times and that no matter what horrors we face, new possibilities arise. **Service is live on Zoom!**

April 11: Friendship, Rev. Johnson

One of the great joys in a person's life is in friendships. Some have run their course and are now in the past, some are active, and some last a lifetime. Let's reflect this Sunday on what makes a friendship and how a friendship is sustained.

April 18: The Future is Coming Soon, Rev. Johnson

Our three years together as congregation and contract minister will conclude in July. This is an exciting time as UCH prepares for a new settled ministry and I move on to my next adventure. Here are some thoughts on approaching the future. **Service is live on Zoom!**

April 25: Candidate Week Sermon, TBD

Please plan to hear our candidate minister's first sermon.

Each Sunday morning, the church will email:

- 🔗 A link to the Zoom (April 21) or [YouTube video](#) of the service
- 🔗 A link to the Zoom session for 11:30 coffee and conversation

We encourage members to set aside a small sacred space at home to enjoy the service. Having rituals in place at home can help us participate in services together, even though we are not able to be sharing in one another's company in person.

Check-in with Rev. Johnson

Rev. Johnson is scheduling times when you can reach him by Zoom, without an appointment, to check in, talk about your concerns, and stay connected. These virtual office hours are scheduled as follows:

- 🔗 [Tuesdays](#) 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Meeting ID: 822 2393 4730)

Other times available by appointment.

President's Message



By David Spear, President, Board of Trustees

At last, the time is almost here! After a full year of planning and hard work, the Ministerial Search Committee (MSC) will soon conclude their deliberations and recommend a candidate to be our next settled minister.

This has been a long time in coming. We have been in interim status for almost eight years, and we will soon have the chance to move on to the next phase of our church life.

Candidating week will be from April 25 until May 2, and you will have many opportunities to get to know the candidate.

We have come a long way in these eight years, and we are all to be congratulated. Together, we have worked very, very hard to make some necessary changes, stabilize our finances, and develop our congregation's mission.

You have remained dedicated and loyal to this congregation in both good times and bad. You have supported the congregation financially, even while we are separated by the quarantine. You have attended meetings and spoken up to help direct our future path together. Now all of this is coming to fruition.

Ask you one favor: please learn as much as possible about our candidate before voting. Please set aside a couple of hours during candidating week to get to know

the candidate, so that your decision is based on sound information. We can serve our church best by making informed decisions

The MSC and the candidate have spent hours, weeks, and months, preparing for this moment. Let us respect their dedication, trust in this very thorough process, and devote ourselves to learning about the candidate as well.

There will be plenty of opportunities to learn more. The candidate will give a sermon during Sunday services at the beginning and end of that week, on April 25 and May 2. There will be other times during the week to meet the candidate, to hear what he/she/they say, and to ask questions. Look for details from the MSC in the coming weeks.

If you have other questions, your best option is to reach out to one of the MSC members. The Board could answer questions about the church and what will happen next, but to learn more about the candidate, the MSC would be the place to start. They have gotten to know the candidate's experience, philosophies, and personality very well, so they can easily add to your knowledge about the candidate.

I am thrilled that it is almost time to meet our candidate. Sometimes I thought this moment would never arrive, yet now it is here. It often seemed just out of reach, just a year away, but not anymore. The future is here. Our moment has arrived.

David Spear

Congregational Meeting May 2 to Call Our New Minister

Please mark your calendars for May 2! At noon that day, UCH will hold a special congregational meeting to vote on the candidate to be our next settled minister.

The Ministerial Search Committee has finalized their interviews, and they will soon be able to recommend the best candidate for us (page 3). That person will be with us from April 25 to May 2 and will conduct both Sunday services. You will also have a number of opportunities to meet and talk with the candidate and committee. And on the final day, you will be able to vote on our new settled minister!

Check your inbox in early April, when the Board will send all eligible voting members a formal invitation to the meeting. This will include more details about the meeting and voting.

In the meantime, look for more details from the Search Committee about candidating week, when you will have your chance to meet the candidate. It is truly an exciting time in the life of our church!

-- Submitted by Chris Dutton, Ministerial Search Committee

Ministerial Search Committee

Your Ministerial Search Committee is now in the final stages of choosing the candidate for settled minister that we will present to the congregation in April. The MSC has thoroughly reviewed, interviewed, and spent hours assessing and discussing each applicant's record, references, and the results of our interviews. During the past month, we have immersed ourselves in evaluating each of our final four precandidates. Each precandidate spent almost 20 hours with us as we conducted intensive interviews, shared information about UCH, and engaged in frank discussion.

I recently asked the members of the MSC to estimate the time they have spent on the work of the committee. As they quickly discovered, it was a difficult if not impossible task. Easiest to calculate was the almost 75 hours spent at regular business meetings, which began a year ago. Hard as it may be to believe, among the seven of us working separately and together, the search has amounted to hundreds of hours! This includes jobs such as developing a workplan, assigning leads for the various tasks, organizing Google folders so that we could work on things together, preparing the congregational survey and analyzing the results, preparing the Congregational Record and Documents Packet, organizing and conducting focus groups and charettes,



developing the MSC website, organizing neutral pulpits, reviewing 21 Ministerial Records, preparing for and participating in many interviews, organizing the precandidating weekends and candidating week, and trying to keep you informed!

Time commitment is not the sole indicator of how seriously each member of the MSC takes the responsibility you have given us, but I believe it demonstrates the value we each place on the work we are doing for the congregation. We are doing this work for you because we are dedicated to a thorough and thoughtful review of ministerial applicants, which each member of the congregation could not do on their own.

We are mindful of the fact that we are not the first UCH search committee to have immersed itself in this undertaking. In fact, we have built upon the work done by others. But we could not have guessed at the true dedication and hours necessary to complete required tasks, nor the time spent in earnest contemplation as we felt the weight of our desire to make a good decision for you.

We will be able to tell you on Sunday, April 4 that we have a candidate whom we feel is best qualified and the best match for our church. This is an important milestone because there is always a small chance that we will not find a match with one of our precandidates. However, we cannot tell you their name on April 4 because we must first negotiate a ministerial agreement and perform a background check. After those tasks are completed, we will then announce who the candidate is.

The announcement will come in the form of a letter sent via email message to all members. The email will tell you who the candidate is and will include information about the opportunities you will have to meet them during what is referred to as "candidating week." This week starts on Sunday, April 25, and runs through Sunday, May 2. The candidate will conduct the Sunday service on each of those dates. A congregational meeting will be held following the service on May 2, during which the voting members of the congregation will convene via Zoom. Once a 30% quorum is established, the members will vote on the call to the candidate to be UCH's settled minister.

We know we have said this a number of times, but it cannot be stated often enough that for a minister to accept our call, they need to be confident UCH is unified in its desire for them to be our settled minister. A minister will be hesitant to accept a call unless at least 95% of the congregation vote "yes". A minister will almost certainly decline a call that falls below 90% in favor of calling the minister. To be successful, a new ministry needs to start out with the full support of the congregation.

The careful search process, designed and refined by the UUA over many years of experience, has given our congregation the best possible opportunity to find the minister best suited to guide us forward on our journey together, and who really wants to be here with us. Your search committee accepted the responsibility to faithfully execute the search process on your behalf. We have worked tirelessly and willingly on your behalf so that the trust you have extended to us is well-placed. And we truly believe it is!

– Submitted by Chris Dutton

Stewardship Campaign

We are excited to begin our annual pledge campaign, poised for a New Era! The New Era will find the members of the UCH to be energetic, engaged, enthusiastic, and most importantly, excited. In this New Era, we will be able to share and display the skills and passions of our congregants and staff. Tremendous opportunities await, which we will seize.

The epoch time will be made stronger with your contributions of time, talent, and money. By this time, all UCH members have received [detailed information](#) about the campaign as well as a [pledge card](#). Please give generously! As you make payment plans for next year, if you would like to pay electronically, you can choose multiple payment options from the [Vanco website](#) (weekly, monthly, etc.), including direct debit from your bank account. Whether paying by check or electronically, please return the pledge card itself to the office by April 25 so that we can finalize the budget for next year.

This year's Stewardship Committee includes: Dennis Byrne, David Forster, John Hargreaves, Ray Harris, David Powell, Justin Sciamanna, and Ed Sykes.

For additional information please check the [website](#); you may also contact [Ed Sykes](#) or another committee member. Let's all prepare to life off to a New Era.

- Submitted by Ed Sykes



Share the Plate: Downtown Daily Bread

Each month, we share half of our Sunday plate with a local non-profit organization. This month, we share the plate with Downtown Daily Bread.

Downtown Daily Bread (DDB) is a mission project of Pine Street Presbyterian Church, separately incorporated as 501(c)(3) organization. Located at 310 North Third Street, provides the following services to those in need:

- ☺ A warm lunch daily, noon – 1:00 p.m.
- ☺ Overnight shelter for men, December-March
- ☺ Client assistance, 7:00 a.m. – noon weekdays, including access to showers, laundry tokens, and food vouchers
- ☺ Counseling services, 7:00 a.m. – noon weekdays
- ☺ Day shelter, 7:00 a.m. – noon daily



Information for Potential New Members

The Unitarian Church of Harrisburg is a welcoming congregation, open to people from any/all (or no) religious backgrounds. If you are new to Unitarian Universalism, we encourage you to peruse [100 Questions that Non-Members Ask about Unitarian Universalism](#) for background information about our faith tradition. An overview of the “Pathways to Membership” at UCH appears on our [website](#).

For further information about our congregation and the membership process, please feel free to reach out to [Bart Carpenter](#) or another member of the Membership Action Council. During the pandemic, we are conducting information sessions via Zoom, and we welcome your inquiries.

— Submitted by Bart Carpenter, Chair, Membership Action Council



Multigenerational Theme for April: Cherishing the Earth



By Cory Ness, Director of Religious Exploration (DRE)

Ahh, April! I love the month of April. Why? It is the beginning of amazing weather, full of a warm promise of green growth to come, for rebirth and endings and it includes three holidays! April Fools Day, Easter, and Earth Day. As we explore ways in which we can cherish the earth this month, I want to remind you about some basic facts about Earth Day.

Gaylord Nelson was the founder of Earth Day. Nelson was born on June 4, 1916 (the third of four children), in Clear Lake, Wis. His father, a country doctor, was mayor of Clear Lake, and his mother was involved in community service. When Nelson was eight or nine, he announced that he was interested in politics and could not wait to be old enough to get involved.

Nelson's goal was to make environmental issues a permanent part of the nation's political agenda. In 1963, he persuaded President John F. Kennedy to go on a national tour to bring attention to environmental issues. The lack of response from politicians was discouraging, but Nelson continued to press the issue, and his hard work eventually paid off, when national leaders began to seriously consider environmental issues. Earth Day is an annual event celebrated around the world on April 22 to demonstrate support for environmental protection. First celebrated in 1970, it now includes events coordinated globally by the Earth Day Network in more than 193 countries.

Thanks to Nelson's commitment to the environment, Earth Day is now recognized internationally, and the memory of its founder is an inspiration for environmental activists around the world. Nelson died on July 5, 2005, at the age of 89 from a heart condition, his contributions will always be remembered as younger generations continue his fight to preserve the world's environment.

A few other points on Earth Day:

Our UU Perspective on April 22.

Unitarian Universalism's seventh principle: "Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part" makes this a day to celebrate religiously. Themes can include earth-centered spirituality; connecting to the divine through nature; caretaking of the environment; the interdependent web. Another day to celebrate these themes is Arbor Day, the date of which varies from state to state. In Pennsylvania, it's the last Friday in April.

Invitations to Take Action

The [UU Ministry for Earth](#) envisions a world in which reverence, gratitude, and care for the living Earth are central to the lives of all people. Their purpose is to inspire, facilitate, and support personal, congregational, and denominational practices that honor and sustain the Earth and all beings. They affirm and promote the seven principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association, including the seventh principle cited above.

Cherish the Earth

You are also invited to explore our latest [padlet](#) on **Cherishing the Earth**. You will find stories and articles, TED Talks, history and facts, and numerous activities for **ALL AGE GROUPS**, including children, youth, adults, and seniors.



Parents/Caregivers as Sexuality Educators (Monday, April 5)

We are thrilled to offer our first ever virtual [OWL program](#) for parents of children and youth of all ages! Our Whole Lives (OWL) is a comprehensive (kindergarten through adult) sexuality education curriculum based on a philosophy of comprehensive sexuality education. It is designed to help participants make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behaviors. It equips participants with accurate, age-appropriate information in six subject areas: human development, relationships, personal skills, sexual behavior, sexual health, society and culture

Our introduction meeting will take place on Monday, April 5, beginning at 6:45 pm and will last about an hour. This program invites adults to ask themselves: How can I embody my role as my child's primary sexuality educator in a way that expresses my UU values and faith? In the introduction meeting we will discuss the purpose of this program, its format, and session topics. If there is enough interest, we will discuss scheduling a series of meetings.

Enrollment is limited to 20 participants; please sign up [online](#). Also note opportunities to participate in OWL classes as part of Religious Exploration in the fall, discussed below.

RE Volunteers Needed

We are looking for RE teachers for the current semester and in preparation for next year, including all of the following.

Teacher Assistants for CartUUns (spring).

We need teacher assistants in our Zoom Room on Sunday Mornings from 10 a.m. – 10:45 in our Zoom Room. Our DRE leads the program each Sunday, but occasionally needs a second adult to assist.

Youth Group (YG) Leaders (fall).

YG leaders are adults (age 25 and older) who are part of our congregation. Youth advising can be one of the most rewarding roles you can fill. It may also be one of the most essential roles you could play in a youth's life. We know that healthy relationships with adults help youth build the resilience they need to face life's toughest challenges. Training is available.

OWL Leaders (fall).

As noted, OWL is a sexuality education program for all ages. It is also an integral part of RE for our youth, and we need adults to participate as leaders. Online leader training helps prepare teachers by developing comfort, knowledge, and teaching skills necessary for leading a given level of OWL appropriately and effectively. Among other things, the training:

- ✓ Offers the opportunity to see OWL activities modeled by trainers as they were intended to be conducted.
- ✓ Gives leaders a supportive environment to practice teaching and to receive constructive feedback.
- ✓ Allows leaders to network with other OWL leaders and to share ideas about what will and won't work with their groups.
- ✓ Provides an opportunity for leaders to get in touch with their own feelings, opinions, and experiences regarding sexuality.

To be certified as OWL teachers, individuals are expected to:

- ✓ Meet with the minister and/or DRE
- ✓ Demonstrate a commitment to a values-based, comprehensive sexuality education
- ✓ Have a willingness to affirm the OWL program goals, values, and philosophy
- ✓ Have an ability to provide a safe, engaging learning environment
- ✓ Have an appreciation for working with people of diverse races, cultures, ages, abilities, and sexual and gender orientations.

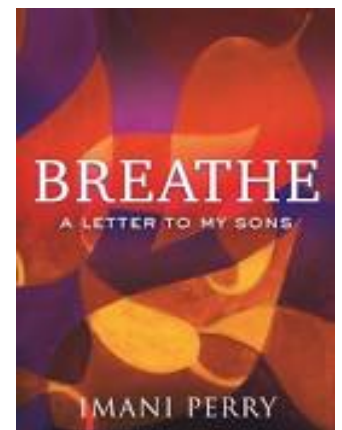
Please contact [Cory Ness](#) directly for more information about these opportunities.

Spring Adult Education

Breathe: A Letter to My Sons, by Imani Perry (April 27, May 4, May 25)

Each year the Unitarian Universalist Association selects a single book and encourages congregations throughout our faith to discuss and engage it. Known as the [Common Read](#), this year's book is the powerful work *Breathe: A Letter to My Sons*, by Imani Perry. Perry, who is a professor of African American Studies at Princeton, centers her work on the question, "How do you become in a world bent on you not being and becoming," and responds, movingly and prophetically, as a mother, feminist, writer, and intellectual. From Amazon:

Emotionally raw and deeply reflective, Imani Perry issues an unflinching challenge to society to see Black children as deserving of humanity. She admits fear and frustration for her African American sons in a society that is increasingly racist and that, at times, seems irredeemable. However, as a mother, feminist, writer, and intellectual, Perry offers an unfettered expression of love—finding beauty and possibility in life—and she exhorts her children and their peers to find the courage to chart their own paths and find steady footing and inspiration in Black tradition. Perry draws upon the ideas of figures such as James Baldwin, W. E. B. DuBois, Emily Dickinson, Toni Morrison, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Ida B. Wells. She shares vulnerabilities and insight from her own life and from encounters in places as varied as the West Side of Chicago, New England prep schools, and Birmingham, Alabama. *Breathe* offers a broad meditation on race, gender, and the meaning of a life well lived and is also an unforgettable lesson in Black resistance and resilience.



The UCH will discuss *Breathe* in a three-part Zoom series on Tuesdays, April 27, May 4 and May 25, from 7:00 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Notes from the Sanctuary



By Hannah Belser, Worship Service Accompanist

Welcome again, from our beloved sanctuary. The energy of Spring no longer feels like a gentle nudge; it is in full-on pushing mode! Skies are bright, warmer weather has finally come to stay (we hope), buds and birds and boys and girls are growing and changing right before our eyes.

Speaking of buds, when I arrived in the sanctuary today, after several weeks of a spectacular display, the forsythia blossoms were clearly on the way out: they were drooping badly and turning a darker yellow. I could not

remember if or how Rev. Howard Dana dealt with this part of the blooming metaphor. I wondered if I had led you astray by promising those beautiful blossoms, blithely forgetting that nothing in nature stays the same forever. Just as a fire cannot remain in full blazing glory until doused, so the blossoms cannot stay in full blooming splendor until fall. That would defeat the purpose of the flower for any plant; to begin creating the fruit and seeds from which the next generation of plants come. So, rather than throwing out the branches that are in the sanctuary, I have refreshed the water and intend to keep those branches right there just to see what happens next.



Notes from the Sanctuary

I am grateful for, though have not always been comfortable with, the lessons of the past eight years in our church life. This congregation has had disappointments large and small, experienced ministerial searches led by energetic, committed and grace-filled search committees, lost and then found our financial footing, been led by a succession of good-hearted pastors, and finally, endured a pandemic which has meant that, for the time being, we cannot worship in our beloved sanctuary together. It sure sounds like we are experts at blossoming and wilting!

I believe that we are currently in just-past-blossoming mode. The Ministerial Search Committee will soon announce the fruits of their labors: a candidate for our next settled minister. Is anyone else feeling a bit nervous and perhaps a lot excited for this "birth?" I can hardly wait to see what happens next!

Amazingly, throughout the ups and downs of our recent past, all of the business of our congregation has continued. For that, thanks go to talented and dedicated staff members, to our leaders and committees and most especially to you, our congregational family for believing that we could do it. We. Are. Still. Here.

So, dear friends, let us remember that, as in nature, nothing remains the same forever. Even when the blossoms droop and fall, know that something else is about to happen. And finally, remember that we are still together in spirit and in love.

Can we have an Alleluia?!

Lay-Led Ministries

Clover Lane Cleanup: April 10 (rain date: April 24)

The Clover Lane campus covers several acres in front and back of the church, including 17 individual garden areas ranging in size from a few flower pots to 1,400 square feet. The church pays a lawn service to keep the grass mowed, but the flower beds and garden spots are maintained by members of the church. The Grounds Committee has scheduled a spring work day for Saturday, April 10, with two separate work periods, shown below. Please contact Ron Skrabut or Debbie Reihart to reserve your place on the team!

Ground rules (no pun intended):

- Participants will be limited to 6 people in each session.
Social distancing and masks will be practiced.
Suggested tools: gloves, cultivator, or other devices for removing weeds, bucket, or tarp for debris removal, pruning shears, water. The church has some tools, we recommend bringing your own hand tools.
Restrooms will be available.

Grounds Clean-Up April 10 *

Table with 3 columns: Period, Name, and Sign-Up. Rows include 9:00 - Noon with Ron Skrabut and 717-236-1876, and 12:30 - 3:30 with Debbie Reihart and 717-678-1165.

* Rain date April 24

Submitted by Ron Skrabut

Helping People in Prison and their Families (HPIPF)

HPIPF is active this spring – and planning for more action!

National Bail Out Collective

Margaret Carrow, John Hargreaves and Jim Cavanaugh are supporting the [National Bail Out Collective](#), focusing our efforts on mass incarceration as “the largest barrier to gender justice today” because, as the Collective puts it, “When a loved one is incarcerated, women lose money and job opportunities, face housing instability and the deterioration of family and social networks, and become the targets of the stigma, segregation, and shame that render incarceration a tool of social control.” As another example, Essie Justice Group’s 2018 report, *Because She’s Powerful*, found that for 35% of women surveyed, the incarceration of a loved one either caused homelessness, forced a move, or resulted in an inability to pay rent or a mortgage. The full report is available [online](#). We support the Collective because they are working to “bail out as many Black Mamas and caregivers as we can so they can spend Mother’s Day with their families where they belong!”



Dauphin County Bail Fund

In addition to National Bail Out, three UCH members are active with [Dauphin County Bail Fund](#): Darlene Kvaternik, Margaret Carrow, and John Hargreaves. They identify and interview 1 or 2 people to help each week held with low bail amounts at Dauphin County prison. They post bail in the amount of \$10,000 or less so the incarcerated can leave and wait for their court hearing in a safer environment. We hope to give the congregation an opportunity to help us with this by having a Share the Plate month in the near future.



Women’s Work Release

Chaplain Jim Cavanaugh is looking forward to resuming in-person visits to the Women’s Work Release Center in April; serving as their Chaplain by phone is a poor substitute for the pastoral counseling Jim has provided to the women since 2007.

Please contact [Jim Cavanaugh](#) if interested in participating in HPIPF activities.

— Submitted by Jim Cavanaugh

Power to the Hill

The lay-led Power to the Hill (P2H) is actively working to increase voter participation in the Allison Hill area of Harrisburg, focused for the moment on local elections occurring this spring. If you are interested in helping, here are two opportunities:

7:00 p.m. April 14, Phone Bank Training

This is Zoom-based training for people interested in working the phone bank – which they can do from their own homes, on their own schedule.

April 17, Canvassing on Allison Hill

Volunteers must participate in a Zoom training session at 9:30, then meet at Christ Lutheran Church (124 South 13th Street) for non-contact canvassing. All COVID precautions will be followed.

Both activities provide information about (1) who is on the ballot for various positions, including city council and mayor and (2) logistics for how and where to vote. Please contact [Wendy Shaver](#) for additional information.

— Submitted by Wendy Shaver

Local Elections Matter! 

Do you care about community issues?

Adequate Street Lighting	
Maintenance of condemned buildings	
Trash Pickup in our neighborhood	
Elimination of drugs from our community	
Proper police training and presence	
Safe activities for our kids	
Good schools for the children	

POWER2HILL REACH OUT. REACH UP. ALLISON HILL  Voting Question? Contact Us
contactPtoH@gmail.com

UUJusticePA

Formerly known as UU Pennsylvania Legislative Advocacy Network (UUPLAN), [UUJusticePA](#) is a non-profit advocacy group supporting economic, immigration and environmental justice in Pennsylvania. Members of UCH and other UU congregations across the state participate in its six social justice teams.

Please join UUJusticePA for two virtual events during the month of April.

7:00 p.m. April 15, The Road to Racial Wealth Gap

The seminar begins with Inequitable PA School Funding, part of our UUJusticePA Special Events Series. Presenters include Susan Spicka, Director of Education Voters; Maura McInerney, Legal Director for PA Education Law Center; and Tomea Sippo Smith, Education Policy Director for the Pennsylvania Coalition for Children and Youth. They will discuss the proposed 2021-22 Pennsylvania education budget, the pending lawsuit against the legislature to fully fund public education, and cyberschool accountability in Pennsylvania.

Please [register](#) to receive the Zoom link. Seminar arranged by the UUJusticePA Economic Justice Team.

April 23-24, Annual Meeting

UUJusticePA holds its Annual Meeting April 23-24. The theme for this year is "Faith, Democracy and Commitment, a UUJusticePA Approach." The virtual meeting will begin on Friday evening, April 23 from 7-9 to celebrate our historical commitment to the environment as Mainline UU Pat Jordan portrays Rachel Carson. On Saturday, April 24, beginning at 10am, the morning session will focus on Bringing UU principles into our Justice Work and the afternoon session on Protecting our Democracy in Crises.

Registration [online](#) for the two-day seminar.

— Submitted by Anita Mentzer



ANNUAL MEETING CELEBRATION

**"faith, democracy & commitment:
A UUJusticePA Approach"**

Friday, April 23: 7-9 PM
Annual Meeting Celebration & Our Historical Commitment to the Environment
7-7:30: Annual Meeting Celebration
7:45-8:30: Pat Jordan as Rachel Carson

Saturday, April 24: 10 AM-4 PM
Morning Session: Bringing our UU Principles into our Justice Work
10-10:30: UUA Organizing Strategy Director, Rev. Ashley Horan
10:45-Noon: UUA Organizing Team Panel Discussion

LUNCH
Noon-1:15: with breakout rooms for Justice Teams

Afternoon Session: Protecting Our Democracy in Crisis
1:15-2:30: Rural & Small-Town Politics: HUB for Progress & PAUNITED
2:45-4:00: Legislative Panel

Registration information to follow

General Assembly

More than 5,000 UUs from 750 congregations attend GA each year. This year, as in 2020, GA will convene as an all-virtual event; the registration fee is \$200. GA offers hundreds of programming choices over five days, including:

Service of the Living Tradition

At this service, we honor UU ministers in various transitions.

2020 Featured Speaker Series

Among others, this year's speakers include Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, author of *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States*; Dina Gilio-Whitaker, author of *As Long as Grass Grows: The Indigenous Fight for Environmental Justice from Colonization to Standing Rock*; Howard Bryant, correspondent for NPR's Weekend Edition and author of *The Heritage: Black Athletes, a Divided America, and the Politics of Patriotism*; and Robyn Henderson-Espinoza, transqueer activist, Latinx scholar, and public theologian.

Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m. June 28

Join us for the largest annual gathering of UUs joining in worship (free to all). Open to the public; no pre-registration required.





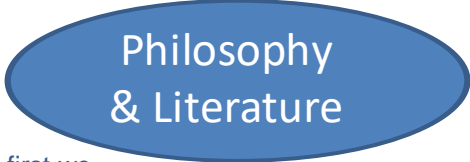
Circle 'Round for

VIRTUAL

UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JUNE 23-27, 2021 | uua.org/ga

Justice • Healing • Courage

Date	Time	Group	Location
Fri 2	Various	Heart Rhythm Meditation	Zoom
<p>Heart Rhythm Meditation (HRM) is a type of meditation that involves conscious breathing, in which the individual consciously controls their breathing in order to influence their mental, emotional, and physical state. Join Libby Tisdell in twice-weekly sessions, via Zoom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🕒 Friday mornings from 9:00-10:00 a.m. (Friday zoom link) 🕒 Monday afternoons from 4:30-5:30 p.m. (Monday link) <p>People can drop-in or out as they want. Please contact Libby Tisdell for additional information.</p>			
Wed 7	7:00	QueenSpirit (Monthly)	Zoom
<p>QueenSpirit is a co-created women’s spirituality circle that meets on the first Wednesday of the month. This month, Susan Norris will lead a circle on the theme of permaculture. All who identify as women are welcome in this co-created sacred space.</p> <p>This will be a Zoom meeting, and a link will be sent a day or so prior to the meeting time. Check-in starts at 6:30 p.m., the circle begins at 7:00 p.m., ending by 8:30 p.m. Contact Rebecca Waldemar (717-364-2029) for further information.</p>			
Sun 11	7:00	Philosophy and Literature Group (Monthly)	Zoom
<p>The Philosophy & Literature Group meets on the second Sunday of each month, normally at 7:00 p.m. and (historically) at the church. During the current pandemic, the session is a virtual meeting via Zoom. This month, the group meets to discuss <i>The Common Good</i> by Robert Reich. From the Internet:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Robert B. Reich makes a powerful case for the expansion of America’s moral imagination. Rooting his argument in common sense and everyday reality, he demonstrates that a common good constitutes the very essence of any society or nation. Societies, he says, undergo virtuous cycles that reinforce the common good as well as vicious cycles that undermine it, one of which America has been experiencing for the past five decades. This process can and must be reversed. But first we need to weigh the moral obligations of citizenship and carefully consider how we relate to honor, shame, patriotism, truth, and the meaning of leadership.</p> <p>Books for the remainder of the year include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🕒 May 16 (third Sunday) - <i>Beyond Religion, Ethics for a Whole World</i>, by the Dalai Lama 🕒 June 13 - <i>Ten Lessons for a Post-Pandemic World</i>, by Fareed Zakaria 🕒 July 11 - <i>Our Undemocratic Constitution: Where the Constitution Goes Wrong</i>, by Sanford Levinson 🕒 Aug. 8 - <i>Emma Lazarus</i>, by Esther Schor 🕒 Sept. 12 - <i>The Reactionary Mind</i>, by Cory Robin 🕒 Oct. 10 - <i>Metropolis: A History of the City, Humankind’s Greatest Invention</i>, by Ben Wilson 🕒 Nov. 14 - <i>Barnum: An American Life</i>, by Robert Wilson <p>Please contact Don Brown for information.</p>			
Wed 14	7:00	Social Justice Roundtable	Zoom
<p>In collaboration with UUJusticePA, UCH’s Social Justice Roundtable continues its series, <i>The Crisis of Democracy and the Common Good</i>. Series topics include how money corrupts politics, power inequality, the decrease in society’s ability to use reason in political issues, and the problem of neoliberal economics.</p> <p>In this session, Chuck Barone will discuss "The Economic Basis for the Crisis of Democracy and the Common Good," focusing on the nature of the current stage of corporate capitalism (global neoliberal capitalism) and how we have entered a new period of crisis and stagnation. The outcome of competing social and political forces will determine the nature of the next form of capitalism. We will explore alternative possibilities for the reform of capitalism as well as alternatives to capitalism itself. There will be time for questions and answers, along with broader discussion. Continues April 28, May 12, and May 26.</p> <p>If you are interested in more information, please contact Rachel Mark. Please watch <i>News You Can UUs</i> for the Zoom link.</p>			

Date	Time	Group	Location
Sun 18	2:00	UCH Open Forum	Zoom

UCH Open Forum meets every other Sunday at 2:00 pm for 60-90 minutes. The goal is to provide opportunities for church members to regularly share their views about important issues going on in our shared culture, discussions that the pandemic has prevented us from doing face-to-face. Host Guy Dannelly creates break-out rooms around what people want to discuss, current events, politics, religion, pandemic, science, or maybe even psychology, or sociology. The subjects vary based on attendance.



At the start of every meeting, each person has one minute to say what's on their mind, then Guy uses that to create the breakout rooms. For additional information, please contact [Guy Dannelly](#). **No forum on Easter Sunday.**

Tue 27	6:30	Auction Planning Committee	Zoom
--------	------	----------------------------	------

Theme: Made in PA

Date: Saturday, November 13, 2021

Place: UCH Clover Lane

Start now thinking about auction ideas and donations for 2021! Come brainstorm ideas, themes, and be a part of the fun, food, and fabulous Auction Committee. Your talent and help planning the 2021 Church Auction is always welcome. We are looking for ideas to make this year's auction a huge success.

Please contact [Patti Hazell](#) (717-576-9848) for additional information. A zoom link will be sent to Auction Committee members a few days prior to the meeting.



Looking Ahead:

Adopt-A-Highway: 9:00 a.m. Saturday, May 1

The Adopt-a-Highway cadre is responsible for two miles of Lindle Road near the Clover Lane campus. Policing actions are held in the spring, summer, and fall. **THIS IS THE DAY.** PennDOT provides orange safety vests and highway warning signs that we use during litter pick-ups. It also provides trash bags and picks up the bagged litter from the roadside. Volunteers must be at least eight years old, and those under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Please contact [John Hargreaves](#) for information.

GTSFJ Outdoor Table, 10:00 a.m. Saturday, May 1

Gather the Spirit for Justice will hold its next donation event on the front sidewalk of Christ Lutheran Church, 124 South 13th Street, Harrisburg. Items to be offered include men's, women's and children's white socks; men's white t-shirts (various sizes); face masks; toilet paper; dish detergent; bar or liquid soap; and bleach. Community donations of these items are greatly appreciated and may be delivered to the front porch of 4383 North 6th Street in Harrisburg. Eight to 10 volunteers are needed to assist with set up (9:00 – 10:00); item distribution and social distancing (10-1:00); and tear down (1:00 – 2:00). Interested volunteers should sign up [online](#).

Membership News

Welcome this new member to our congregation!

Jennifer Reed

Jennifer Reed is originally from North Carolina and moved to Central Pennsylvania in 2009. She lives in Enola with twin 13-year-old sons. She and her boys enjoy traveling when able, especially to Walt Disney World, and spending time with their two cats, dog, and a parakeet. She is a nurse case manager working with chronically ill patients.

Jennifer found us on the Internet. She had considered attending UCH prior to the pandemic but was nervous about attending. Having the opportunity to view online services helped her overcome nervousness – and she looks forward to meeting her fellow congregants in person later this year! Her Connection Coach is Bridgette Parker.

