



The Unitarian Church of Harrisburg: Building Bridges, Celebrating Community

From the Minister



Rev. David Kohlmeier is UCH's minister.

Reading anything interesting for Black History Month?

At the recommendation of my friend Je Exodus Hooper (who preached for us about Kwanzaa in December), I'm reading [The Disordered Cosmos: A Journey into Dark Matter, Spacetime, and Dreams Deferred](#), by Dr. Chanda Prescod-Weinstein.

Dr. Prescod-Weinstein is a theoretical physicist who in this book shares not only the mind-blowing wonders of quantum physics and dark matter, but how this connects to her personal experience as a Queer Black Woman encountering racism and sexism in scientific circles. A reminder that "Black History" isn't just about famous Black persons of the past; Black History is being created right now, by all kinds of thinkers and activists we may not be paying attention to.

This month our theme is "Widening the Circle," which immediately makes me think of the historic document for UUs that came out in June of 2020: *Widening the Circle of Concern*. Have you had a chance to read it? It's available for free [online](#). This document comes from the UUA's Commission on Institutional Change, analyzing structural and systemic racism and white supremacy culture in the Unitarian Universalist Association, along with concrete recommendations to how we might change our institutional practices to truly build Beloved Community. One of the things about this report that really hits my heart is how many of its bold and radical proposals aren't actually new; Unitarian Universalists of color have been advocating for them for a very long time. Our tradition has always had powerful and prophetic thinkers of color, we just haven't always paid attention. Is that starting to change?

How are you being called in your own life to widen your circle of concern? What voices and insights are you being challenged to listen to, from points of view you may have never considered? What Black thinkers are you reading or learning from this month? How might we as a church widen our circle of concern even wider, to build that Beloved Community we long for?

I invite you to think about these questions, and talk about them with each other. *Rev. David*

February Share the Plate: Harrisburg International Service Center

Each month, we share the Sunday plate with a local non-profit. This month, we share with Harrisburg International Service Center.

The [Harrisburg International Service Center](#) (ISC) is a 501(c)(3) organization that was founded in 1976 to provide services to Vietnamese refugees in Central Pennsylvania. It continues today and, among other things, provides language, housing, health, orientation, and other services to immigrants. Last fall, the ISC established the [Afghan Placement Assistance](#) (APA) Project. ISC has published a request for assistance from the community for Afghan refugees sent to the Harrisburg area for resettlement. In addition to a request for volunteers and donations of specific household items, the ISC is asking for financial donations for the APA project. UCH member Dorothy Brown alerted us to the APA Project and nominated ISC to Share the Plate.

– Submitted by UCH Finance Committee

Worship 10:30 a.m. Sundays

February theme: Widening the Circle

Feb. 6: Uses and Abuses of Anger, Jim Cavenaugh

Ed. note: The first Sunday in February is [Community Ministry Sunday](#). We celebrate the work of chaplains, lay leaders, and other UUs involved in social justice ministry.

Holy Rage can help... or harm. My community ministries are different yet related: prison ministry and reproductive justice. They inform each other, particularly when it comes to anger. It is easy to be of two minds about anger, and I will explore the importance of anger in my life – and maybe yours? Here's the bumper sticker that started this thought process:

If you're not outraged, you're not paying attention.

Feb. 13: Darwin Sunday: Disordered Cosmos, Rev. David

In celebration of Darwin Day (an annual celebration of science and reason in honor of Darwin's birthday), this service will draw from *The Disordered Cosmos: A Journey into Dark Matter, Spacetime, and Dreams Deferred*, by Dr. Chanda Prescod-Weinstein. Dr. Prescod-Weinstein's book is both an exploration of the wonders of astrophysics and a look at the racism and sexism she has encountered in the scientific community. What wisdom in the mysteries of the universe might guide our way toward racial justice and healing?

Feb. 20: Go Down, Moses, Rev. David

"Moses" was a nickname given to Harriet Tubman, who risked her life again and again to lead many enslaved Black persons to freedom on the underground railroad. A bust of Tubman by sculptor Oliver LaGrone greets every person who comes into our UCH sanctuary. This service will honor Harriet Tubman and invite us to see her in new ways.

Feb. 27: Envisioning Something New, Rev. David

That's the theme of this year's Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, an annual gathering of progressive African American clergy and congregations. This is Rev. David's second year attending, as a white clergy person seeking to expand their horizons and form deeper relationships. This sermon will draw both from the conference and from *Widening the Circle of Concern*, as we too try to "envision something new" in these difficult times.

We are now streaming Sunday services on YouTube as well as Zoom.



By David Spear, President, Board of Trustees

As I looked ahead to the month of February, a great shock passed through my mind. My term on the Board and as President is soon coming to an end. I will reach term limits on June 30th.

Guy Dannelley will also reach term limits, and soon the two of us will need to find different ways of serving this congregation. Again and again, we have told each other how much we joy we receive from serving the church in our roles. We know that term limits exist for a good reason, but we will feel the loss of involvement and purpose.

We have worked hard over the last couple of years to get members more involved in the life of the church. The ongoing quarantine has frustrated these efforts, in large part because we cannot see the need when we are apart. Hopefully the opportunities will be more apparent when this dreadful pandemic finally dissipates. But there are plenty of ways to get involved even now. Maybe you cannot see them, but I assure you that opportunities abound.

Perhaps you wonder, why should I get involved? There are plenty of reasons, but here are three:

1. Helping the church

A surprising amount of work goes into preparing Sunday services and our various programs and simply keeping the machinery of the church functioning. To be honest, I had no idea of this before I joined the board. I mean, how would one even know how the service elements got put together? You probably know that we have a Finance Committee, Worship Team, Grounds and Garden Team, and many others, but most of that work is not in the public eye.

Our staff are wonderful and work diligently. In fact, they work so diligently that Rev. David sometimes needs to tell them to stop working and go home. But there's far too much work for our staff to do without your involvement. There is a myriad of ways to help the church, like communications, membership, building and grounds, technology, and pastoral care, so dive in and get connected.

2. Bonding

If the last two years have taught us anything, it is that we need to be in community with our friends and family. There have been times that I would look forward to any church activity, even a virtual meeting, if I could be with some other people. Has that been your experience?

Sometimes we think that volunteering has to be selfless, just something we do to help others. Society even makes us think that. But why do we join churches in the first place? It's partly for the community, so it's fine if you join an activity simply to be part of the community. Bonding is one of the purposes of our church, right? If the church benefits from your bonding, so much the better. These two can often go together: we take pleasure in being in each other's company, and we also take pleasure in what we have accomplished.

3. Spiritual growth

Spiritual growth often comes from our Sunday services, covenant groups, and study groups. These are great sources, but are they the only pathways for growth? Can we also grow simply from being active with our church family?

Spiritual growth has never been my reason for joining a committee. I joined because I'm good at organizing things and I like to see things get done. But I've grown in countless ways that I never expected. Being president has taught me to listen more closely and to understand people more deeply. I've learned about group dynamics, effective communication, and public speaking. None of these were my goal, but I'm deeply grateful for all of it, and I'm a better person because of it.

I don't know what the next few weeks and months will bring us, but I urge you to remain connected to our church family. Whatever your needs, whatever your interests, whatever your passions, please use these to connect to the UCH family. Perhaps your efforts will benefit the church, but I'm confident they will benefit you and also benefit others in our church community. We need you. We all need each other.

David Spear

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



Opportunities for Religious Exploration



By Cory Ness, Director of Religious Exploration (DRE)

We have multiple opportunities for adult RE, described below; if you need information about RE for children and youth, please contact [Cory Ness](#) to receive our family newsletter. A discussion of our February theme, “Widening the Circle,” appears on page 4.

Adult RE

Stitchers Group (Ongoing)

This group gathers via Zoom the second Friday of each month at 10 a.m. No agenda – just building connections. Contact [Cory](#) if you want her to add you to this group.

Parents and Caregivers as Sexuality Educators: Feb. 10 — Feb. 21

Last spring, we began [Parents and Caregivers as Sexuality Educators](#) for parents, caregivers, and grandparents of children and youth of all ages. These sessions were on Zoom. We are now concluding this series, with the final three sessions Feb. 7-21. Sessions start at 6:45 p.m.; topics are summarized in the accompanying table.

Parents/Caregivers as Sexuality Educators

Date	Session/Topic
Feb. 7	8. Consent: Building Healthy Boundaries
Feb. 14	9. Social Media: Integrity in a Changing World
Feb. 21	10. Pornography: It’s Not Sex Ed

As I said last year, this program invites adults to ask themselves:

How can I embody my role as my child’s/ grandchild’s primary sexuality educator in a way that expresses my UU values and faith?

Please contact [Cory Ness](#) if you wish to participate in this series or a future iteration of it.

Reproductive Justice: Course continues each Sunday at 3:00 p.m. through March 6

Developed by the UUA, this curriculum, [Reproductive Justice: Expanding our Social Justice Calling](#), prioritizes developing our theological understanding and conversational capacity rather than simply providing facts.

Reproductive Justice Curriculum

Week	Topic
Jan. 30	Introduction: What is Reproductive Justice?
Feb. 6	Sacred Sexuality
Feb. 13	Inherent Worth and Dignity
Feb. 20	Reverence for Life
Feb. 27	Right of Conscience
March 6	Conclusion: Moving Forward

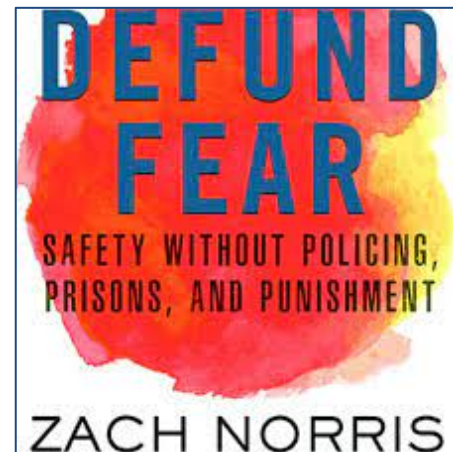
Rooting us in our religious history and theological callings, this six-week curriculum outlines the distinctions between reproductive “health,” “rights,” and “justice;” opens awareness of reproductive oppressions; offers opportunities to learn about ourselves and each other as sexual and reproductive beings; and equips us to move forward, out into the world, with integrity and vision.

Join Rev. David Kohlmeier and our DRE, Cory Ness, as we reflect on this critical aspect of social justice work, and its importance to faith-based advocacy. The class will occur via [Zoom](#) (Passcode = 061221).

Defund Fear by Zach Norris: Starting in March

The UUA has chosen [Defund Fear: Safety Without Policing, Prisons, and Punishment](#) by Zach Norris (Beacon Press, 2021) as the next Common Read. Norris shifts the conversation about public safety away from fear and punishment and toward growth and support systems for our families and communities. In *Defund Fear*, Norris explores what has gone wrong, and why, and who has been most impacted by repressive and racist policing systems. He offers a new blueprint for public safety that holds people accountable while still holding them in community.

Norris is a lawyer, a community organizer, and Executive Director of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights in Oakland, CA. UCH congregants and friends are invited to begin reading the Common Read in preparation for a discussion group beginning in March led by Rev. David Kohlmeier and Cory Ness.



February Theme: Widening the Circle

As most of you know, UCH has aligned this year's weekly services and the RE program with a series of monthly themes. Our RE program in turn is leveraging information from the [Soul Matters Sharing Circle](#) for much of the detailed material we use for children, youth, and covenant groups. Our February theme is Widening the Circle.

Welcome to Widening the Circle this month of February

Is it possible that
being on the inside
leaves you out of the loop?
What if the margins
aren't narrow?
What if that space of exclusion
is also a position of perspective?
What if being shut out
allows you to understand the insiders
better than they understand themselves?

Why do so many seek the safety
of that inner circle anyway?
Don't we know that the circles
not only keep others out
but also the air?
Haven't we learned that
it's on the edge of circles
that hate makes its home?
So even if you weren't among the ones
who put the circle in place,
by allowing it to linger,
don't you carry the burden
of responsibility as well?

What if who we are
doesn't end at the barriers
of our own skin?
What if sin is believing
that you can put the puzzle together
with only the pieces that belong to you?
What if heaven is the moment you realize
that none of us can get there alone?
What if the only true freedom
lies in the willingness to
fight against that which imprisons
someone else?

And what if these all questions
are a matter of life and death?
Or is it a matter of dying to live?
After all, didn't the Nazarene say
we must lose our life in order to find it?
Haven't all the sages said the solitary self
must perish for the larger we to live?

If that is true
then let's widen the circle
until it breaks!

For as long as the circle exists
pieces and parts of ourselves
will always lie on the other side
of the line.

So let us push, pull,
twist and tear,
dig underneath
and climb over the top,
do whatever it takes to meet each other
face to face.
And having found each other,
let us stare
and struggle,
fight and forgive,
call in and call out,
until "me" and "you"
dissolves into "us."
Is there any other way we become whole?
— *From Soul Matters*

What Is Widening the Circle?

I've been learning a lot about the concept of "ingroups" lately, from the field of psychology. Ingroups are groups where we feel belonging, because we share something important to us in common with all the other members of the group. You likely have several ingroups. Maybe you are dedicated to a sports team, and follow and participate in fan groups in person or online. Maybe you spend time with a naturalist group doing trail and habitat restoration. Perhaps you ride with other cyclists, and together advocate for better bike awareness and infrastructure in your region. On your social justice team in your church or covenanted community, you may be leading your family of faith toward more just and effective action. All of these ingroups, and others like them, give us a sense of belonging as well as being among "our people," which feels good, and at its best, amplifies our efforts to make the world better.

And, it can sometimes be really difficult to belong to and enjoy an ingroup while also widening the circle for others not only to join us, but to change us with their unique, divine spark. That is one very tricky needle to thread! How do you...

- 🕒 Identify and nurture the core of who you are, as a group;
- 🕒 while also cultivating curiosity and openness that allows the group to grow and evolve;
- 🕒 all the while fostering a sense of trust and belonging among long-timers and incomers, alike?

This is the loving edge of the circle we are called to as Unitarian Universalists, and in our families is where this work begins.

Playlists

Please also consider listening to playlists from [Spotify](#) and [YouTube](#) as a form of musical meditation on Widening the Circle.



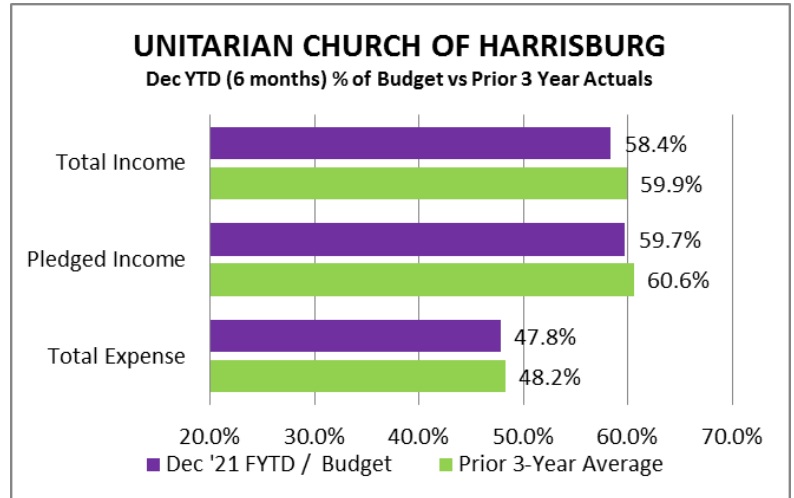
Treasurer's Report as of Dec. 31, 2021

Through the first half of our fiscal year, we had an excess of income over expenses of \$47,134, shown in the chart at right. This is slightly less than we would hope to assure a balanced budget at fiscal year-end in June.

	Dec '21	FY22 Budget
Total Income	261,241	447,600
Total Expenses	(214,107)	(447,600)
Net	47,134	0

The graph shows multiple views of financial data over this six-month period. Please note the following:

- **Total income** for the full fiscal year is a concern because *Unpledged Income, Plate Offering* (the church's share), *Rental Income*, and *Auction Income* have been negatively impacted by the building closure and lack of in-person services. Income from these sources plus *Grocery Card Sales* are trending a combined \$25,000 short of planned levels.
- **Pledged income** is also slightly low. We received 59.7% of our *Stewardship Pledge Income* goal of \$370,000 through December, versus the 3-year average of 60.6%.
- **Total expenses** of \$214,107 year-to-date are slightly less than expected. Despite an 8.4% increase in UUA health insurance effective January 1, 2022, total expenses at fiscal year-end should still be at least \$10,000 below planned levels because of moving expenses (less than budgeted), utility savings during closed months, and an open staff position (congregational administrator).



Currently, it appears we may finish the year with a small deficit (\$5,000-\$10,000). Winter weather (heating & snow removal costs) and gift income in the second half of the year may either worsen, or more optimistically, improve the final balance.

— Submitted by Lois Voigt, Treasurer

Marvelous Makeover: UCH Wants UU to Help Our Garden Grow!

And don't think the garden loses its ecstasy in winter. It's quiet, but the roots are down there riotous. ~ Rumi.

It's here! The "Love your UCH Garden" plant sale!

After some years of dormancy, our UCH Grounds & Garden Team is sprouting again. The foundation beds have been cleared of overgrowth, and we're working on the weed problem. But for the Marvelous Garden Makeover to take root, we need to purchase some new plants and shrubs. We've created a specific list based on where the plant or shrub is designated to be planted. We've selected native plants because they do best in our soil and weather conditions and perennials because with the right amount of sun and water, they will grow back every year. We have planned to have something blooming beginning in March right through the first frost of November!

Here's where you can help. First, browse our [photo list](#) of plants and shrubs we want to purchase for the foundation beds. Then, click on [Time To Sign Up](#), select the plants you like and how many you are willing to fund – as few as one or as many as an entire drift. You will then receive an invoice, similar to the auction. Make your payment as (1) check payable to UCH, with "UCH Garden" on the memo line; (2) use [UCH Vanco account](#); or (3) pay via [PayPal](#).



Purchase your plants or shrubs in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone you admire. Lay-led groups could purchase some of the more costly plants as a group or fund an entire garden! (We've negotiated prices with our vendor).

And just to be clear – you won't be taking your plant home. The plant you select will find the right spot in our UCH garden and you can check on it each time you come to church! So [click this link](#) to take a look at our wish list, then please [support our UCH Marvelous Gardens Makeover](#).

— Submitted by Anita Mentzer

POWER OF PLACE: Furnishings at UCH

Ed. note: This is the fourth and final of a series of articles about how the architecture of our building and grounds reflects “The Power of Place.” Discerning readers will also notice a well-thumbed copy of Widening the Circle on Rev. David’s desk.

With the arrival of Rev. David Kohlmeier in August 2021, UCH established a small budget for refurbishing the minister’s study. At the same time, the Building Improvement Task Force was proceeding with its evaluation of potential improvements across the campus. Kathleen Gorak, Kate Quimby and Cordell Affeldt, Task Force members, became a *de facto* decorating team for the study. Not surprisingly, our energetic new minister had chosen a vibrant apple-green for the walls. Fortuitously, the color directed the three to consciously join the orange/blue pairing used originally in the building, along with spring green/fuchsia (of the upholstered chairs on the lower level), a designer’s square tetrad palette.

The volunteer decorators realized the room could be treated to consciously affirm the Mid-Century Modern (MCM) aesthetic of the 1963 structure. From alternatives presented, Rev. David chose a furniture arrangement that moved his desk to below the windows. New bookcases and a credenza were purchased, providing storage in consistent white. After a lengthy search, four sturdy MCM upholstered chairs in orange were chosen, the wood finish a match for the sanctuary chairs. Next came lamps, textured to provide counterpoint to the smooth chair surfaces.

Rev. David also has a new, ergonomic office chair. While choosing from an excellent range of fabric offerings at a local upholsterer, Kate and Cordell fell into conversation with Raheem Almerly, owner of [Babylon Upholstery](#). He was interested to learn that Unitarians hold to a nontrinitarian belief system, similar to his own Muslim faith. The turn-around time for Almerly’s high-quality work in a textured stripes of blues and greens was remarkable. The team made mug rugs from the upholstery scraps.

Pulling the fabric of the landscape and infrastructure together further, a new wall hanging draws on a design by Unitarian Universalist Julie Punishill of Darien, CT, found on the internet. Silk takes dye color beautifully, and the thread [slubs](#) of the raw silk textile, [dupioni](#), offer an appealing character to the artwork. The chalice and its quilted flames are hand-stitched to the machine-stitch channel-quilting of the brown background, expressing again the chosen colorway. With input from Karen Sykes and Carol Buskirk, Cordell did the construction. She also created a cord cover from the matching apple-green dupioni to hide a white extension cord against the opposite wall.

Every step of the way, from moving the attached bulletin board, to unpacking and assembling furniture, to hanging artwork, to adjusting the ergonomic chair to precisely fit Rev. David, Larry Beyer supported the transformation. With judicious spending, the team also was able to obtain two new tables, refurbish the large church entrance sign, and repaint the sanctuary entrance doors and arch.

The MCM designed aesthetic of our property is most powerful when attentively and consistently honored. The process of refurbishing the ministerial study worked from precedents, but the team also revisited them in new and original ways. The time-consuming and refreshing experience of bringing a vision to life strengthens our harmoniously composed complex in its work of nurturing serenity and deepening inspiration. Beautiful rooms open our eyes to the beauty of the world.

— Submitted by Cordell Affeldt



Rev. David Kohlmeier in newly refurbished office



MCM-style armchairs, table



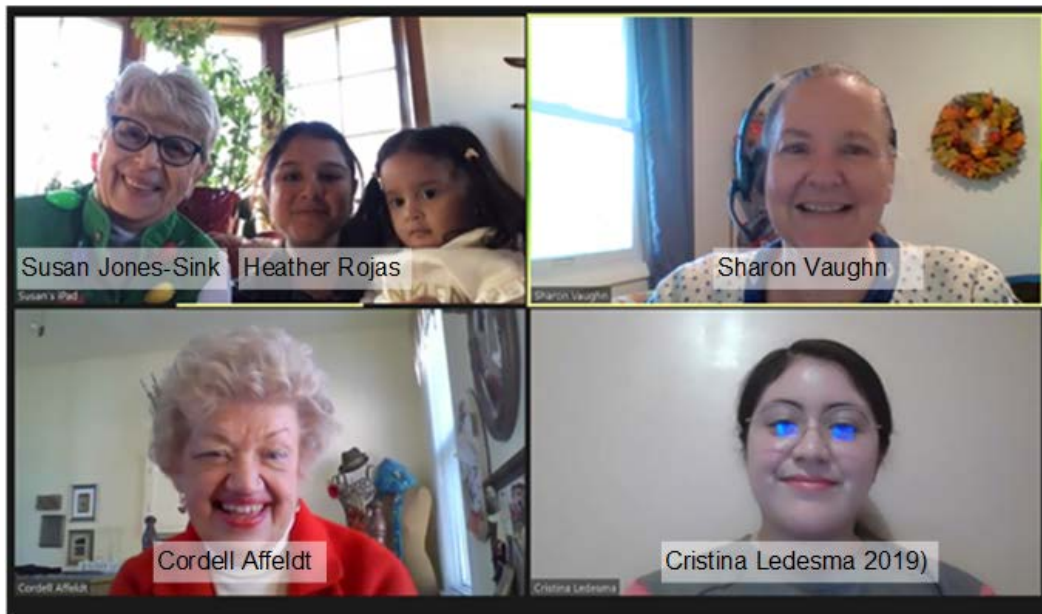
Quilted chalice hanging, with armchairs

LaGrone News

It was great to see the Oliver LaGrone scholars at holiday events held in December and January. At both events, stakeholders discussed their experience with the scholarship, the mentor process, and what might be done to improve the scholarship. All of these young scholars have exciting futures ahead and we can't wait to see where life takes them.

December Zoom Call

On December 19, UCH facilitated a Zoom call with Cristina Ledesma (2019 scholar) and Heather Rojas (2021 scholar). Heather and her daughter, Amarylliz Rojas, met in person with Heather's mentor, Susan Jones-Sink (2021 mentor). Also present on the call were LaGrone Scholarship committee members Sharon Vaughn and Cordell Affeldt. Prior to the get-together, everyone was treated to a delivery of Matangos candy and "discussion starter" bags. Even though the group could not all meet in person, they enjoyed learning more about each other and how they handle challenges in life.



January Luncheon

On January 2, Sabina Dahal (2018 scholar), Dr. Meg Burton Conners (her mentor), Dr. Karen Mallah (2019 mentor), and committee members Christine Dutton and Sharon Vaughn attended a lunch at the Millworks in Harrisburg. After introductions, the group talked about their work, families, and recent events.

It was a most pleasant and interesting discussion. Sabina graduated in December, and Meg reports she was thrilled to attend. Sabina has also started her new job as a microbiologist at PSC Biotech Corporation. Best wishes for the future, Sabina!

Profiles appear in **THE REPORTER** on Heather ([October 2021](#)) and Sabina ([January 2022](#)).

- Submitted by Sharon Vaughn



Digital Project

A volunteer opportunity that is meeting-free! Flexible timeline! Social justice support! The Oliver LaGrone Scholarship Program is looking for assistance in digitalizing its current photo album and possibly other future photo and scrapbook items. If you have experience with scanning photos and have a decent quality scanner, we would like to hear from you. Digital scrapbook experience is a plus, but not a requirement. We can work around your schedule.

Let's help get the memories of Oliver LaGrone and the LaGrone scholarship program easily accessible! Please contact Cordell Affeldt or Diane Stables for further information.

— Submitted by Diane Stables

Date	Time	Group	Location
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Wed 2	7:00	QueenSpirit (Monthly)	Zoom
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QueenSpirit is a co-created women’s spirituality circle that meets on the first Wednesday of the month. This month, we will explore the Chinese New Year and symbolism. Join us for a virtual celebration facilitated by Robin Broderick. This year is the year of the Tiger. Bring your own lo mein- a symbol of long life, Chinese -dumplings a symbol of abundance, and an orange -a symbol of good health. In addition to learning about the New Year, we will talk, read our horoscopes, and have fun.



All who identify as women are welcome. February’s meeting will be via Zoom, with social time at 6:30 and the circle from 7:00 to 8:30. Contact [Rebecca Waldemar](mailto:Rebecca.Waldemar@uch.edu) (717-364-2029) for further information.

Fri 4	Various	Heart Rhythm Meditation	Zoom
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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:

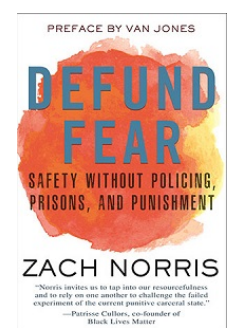


- 🕒 Friday mornings from 9:00-10:00 a.m. ([Friday Zoom link](#))
- 🕒 Monday afternoons from 4:30-5:30 p.m. ([Monday link](#))

People can drop in or out as they want. Please contact [Libby Tisdell](mailto:Libby.Tisdell@uch.edu) for additional information.

Sun 13	7:00	Philosophy and Literature Group (Monthly)	Zoom
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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 *Defund Fear, Safety Without Policing, Prisons, and Punishment*, by Zach Norris. From the UUA website:



Community leader and lawyer Zach Norris lays out a radical way to shift the conversation about public safety away from fear and punishment and toward growth and support systems for our families and communities. In order to truly be safe, we are going to have to dismantle our mentality of Us vs. Them. By bridging the divides and building relationships with one another, we can dedicate ourselves to strategic, smart investments - meaning resources directed toward our stability and well-being, like healthcare and housing, education, and living-wage jobs. This is where real safety begins.

On the horizon:

- 🕒 **March:** David Graeber and David Wengrow, *The Dawn of Everything: A New History of Humanity*
- 🕒 **April:** Wendy Brown, *In The Ruins of Neoliberalism: The Rise of Antidemocratic Politics in the West*
- 🕒 **May:** Anne Case and Angus Deaton, *Deaths of Despair and Future of Capitalism*
- 🕒 **June:** Kazuo Ishiguro, *Klara and the Sun*
- 🕒 **July:** Annie Proulx, *Bird Cloud: A Memoir of Place*
- 🕒 **August:** Amanda Gorman, *Call Us What We Carry: Poems*
- 🕒 **September:** Damon Galgut, *The Promise: A Novel*
- 🕒 **October:** Regina Stoltzfus and Tobin Shearer, *Been in the Struggle: Pursuing an Antiracist Spirituality*
- 🕒 **November:** Edward Dolnick, *The Writing of the Gods: The Race to Decode the Rosetta Stone*

Please contact [Don Brown](mailto:Don.Brown@uch.edu) for information.

Tue 22	6:30	Auction Planning Committee	Zoom
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Theme: TBD **Date:** TBD **Place:** UCH Clover Lane

The Auction Planning Committee meets the fourth Tuesday of each month. This month, the meeting is again via Zoom. Start thinking now about auction ideas and donations for 2022! Come brainstorm ideas, themes, and be a part of the fun, food, and fabulous Auction Committee. Your talent and help planning the 2022 Church Auction is always welcome. We are looking for ideas to make this year's auction a huge success.

Please contact [Patti Hazell](mailto:Patti.Hazell@uch.edu) (717-576-9848) for additional information. A Zoom link will be sent to Auction Committee members a few days prior to the meeting.

UUJusticePA Lobbying Day against Gerrymandering: 9:00 a.m. Feb 8

Advocacy. Voting. A seat at the table.

In short, these three actions describe the mission of UUJusticePA – our Pennsylvania UU state advocacy organization. Our legislators work for us, and we need to let them know that we are paying attention. They need to be accountable to their constituents. Even if you've never experienced a UUJusticePA Lobby Day, please consider joining us.

The next UUJusticePA Lobby Day is February 8. We are asking UUs from the York, Cumberland Valley and Harrisburg congregations to speak to legislators about gerrymandering. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Capitol. Our focus will be on two bills poised to change the Pennsylvania Constitution. So, if you prefer choosing your own representative rather than having them choose you, and if you think it's NOT OK to change the PA Constitution in an off-year election, then please come and help us.



Our director, Rev. Joan Sabatino, schedules visits with the key legislators with whom we want to speak. We visit our legislators in teams – you will not be making solo visits. We will have a plan along with questions for the legislators prior to the meeting.

Democracy needs your participation...it takes a lot of work to keep Democracy strong. Please take a morning to join us in this work at the Capitol in Harrisburg. Contact [Rachel Mark](#) or [Anita Mentzer](#) for more information.

— Submitted by Anita Mentzer

General Assembly, June 22-26, coordinated from Portland, OR

Registration is now open for [General Assembly](#) (GA). Last year, GA had more than 4,000 registered attendees participate from remote locations around the world. In 2022, GA will occur in hybrid format, with the option of meeting online or in-person in Portland, OR. For those who enjoyed the convenience and accessibility of remote participation, GA will continue to offer virtual attendance with robust programming and enhanced delegate discussion tools. For those who have been missing the physical experience, GA 2022 will also feature face-to-face interactions, hanging banners, a browsable exhibit hall, meals with friends old and new, local site attractions, and more!



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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General sessions, the Service of the Living Tradition, Synergy, and the Sunday service are open to the public and available on YouTube.

If you plan to attend onsite, you can book housing via the [GA Housing Reservation System](#). All GA attendees and exhibitors are required to provide proof of Covid-19 Vaccination for in-person attendance at General Assembly. In addition, masking is required, and physically distanced seating options will be reserved in our meeting spaces. Currently, free Covid-19 testing is available Monday to Saturday from 8 am - 3 pm, by appointment or walk-in, at a testing site in front of the Oregon Convention Center.

Membership News

Ray Powell (1973-2022)

Raymond Powell, 48, died in a drowning accident Jan. 17 in Desert Springs, CA. Ray grew up at UCH and was the son of UCH member David Powell and stepson of Carlotta Capitani. A life remembrance ceremony was held Jan. 26 in San Diego. The family plans a memorial service at UCH in the coming months.

Frances Fishlock (1934 - 2022)

Frances Fishlock, 87, died Jan. 27 in Albany, NY. She is the mother of UCH member Diana Fishlock and grandmother of Elliotte and Ben. Services are scheduled for 1:00 p.m. Feb. 1 at Burnt Hills United Methodist Church in Burnt Hills, NY, live streamed on [YouTube](#).