



The Unitarian Church of Harrisburg: an inclusive, loving community of faith committed to welcoming and nurturing all with dignity and respect

From the Ministers

The Rev. Drs. Kathy Ellis and Sandra Fees are serving as UCH Ministers through July 2024.



On Placing Love at Our UU Center

Love is the will to extend one’s self for the purpose of nurturing one’s own or another’s spiritual growth. ~ M. Scott Peck

Love is this month’s Soul Matters theme. And it is the value that has been identified as being at our UU center. The revised language from the UUA’s new proposed Article II describes this love as “liberating.” Here is an excerpt:

The Unitarian Universalist Association will actively engage its members in the transformation of the world through liberating Love.

As Unitarian Universalists, we draw from our heritages of freedom, reason, hope, and courage, building on the foundation of love.

Love is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our shared values. We are accountable to one another for doing the work of living our shared values through the spiritual discipline of Love.

When we place love at the center of our spiritual lives, we are not placing sentimental or romantic love there. We are placing compassionate and courageous love there. We are centering a love that affirms the worth and dignity of each of us, that insists we each belong, that we each are worthy of love. This kind of love respects the interconnectedness of communities and all life. When we place love at the center, we are committing to extending ourselves in order to nurture spiritual growth for ourselves and each other.

A deep, abiding, and liberatory love is rooted in hope. It is engaged, allowing us to be pulled into action in service of the growth of spirit, community, and justice. Such a love has the power to free people, bringing down their walls and bringing down structures of injustice. Love frees others and it also liberates us.

How will you extend yourself this month to nurture your spirit and another’s spiritual growth? I look forward to joining you in exploring this question.

Yours in liberating love,
Rev. Sandra

January Share the Plate: Rebuilding Together Greater Harrisburg

Each month, we share the Sunday plate with a local non-profit. This month, we share with Rebuilding Together Greater Harrisburg.

For the past 25 years [Rebuilding Together Greater Harrisburg](#) (RTGH) has been providing free home repair and modification services to local low-income homeowners, such as the elderly, disabled, families with children, and veterans in Dauphin, Cumberland, Perry, and upper York counties. RTGH's goal is to make a sustainable impact and preserve affordable homeownership. UCH member Dave Powell has volunteered at RTGH for many years and would welcome the company of other UCH members who own a toolbox and know how to use it.



Worship 10:30 a.m. Sundays

January Theme: The Gift of Liberating Love

Jan 7: Poems for the New Year, Dorothy Brown and JD Stillwater
A lay-led service to ring in the new year.

Jan 14: Liberating Love: The Power of Dr. Martin Luther King’s Words and Life, Rev. Dr. Ellis
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King was a man of deep wisdom and spirit. He called for radical changes in our society. We can still learn from his words.

Jan 21: When to Rock the Boat, Rev. Dr. Fees
Love isn’t always meant to comfort. Sometimes it must rock the boat. Join us as we consider ways to encourage ourselves and each other – in love. This morning we’ll also welcome new members to our spiritual community.

Jan 28: Love and Paradise: Early Christianities, Rev. Dr. Ellis
Christianity was not what it has become in the 21st century. There is much that actually fits for contemporary Unitarian Universalists. Let's reclaim what fits for us from the teaching of a first century Jewish Rabbi and his followers.

Sunday services normally stream on Zoom and [YouTube](#). Please contact the [church office](#) to receive the Zoom link on Sunday morning, or watch directly on YouTube.

– Submitted by UCH Finance Committee

Note from the Board

Ed. Note: This year, the Board of Trustees is rotating responsibilities for the monthly column.



By Kyle Petris

I wanted to share a moment I recently had. I had just finished a day of work, which included appearing in court to testify, and I was exhausted. I had just come back to my apartment. Now normally, when I come home, I carefully place my badge holder on a stand in the apartment. But on this particular day, I decided to toss it, for no real reason other than laziness – and the badge holder proceeded to slide across the stand and fall to the ground. I groaned and bent down to pick it up when something caught my eye. Inside my now-opened badge holder, I could see my badge, my business cards, my translation card, and one thing that I had forgotten I had inserted into the badge holder. That one thing was a bookmark that had the seven Unitarian Universalist values on it: [Interdependence](#), [Pluralism](#), [Justice](#), [Transformation](#), [Generosity](#), [Equity](#), and [Love](#).

I picked up the items and shoved them back into the holder, except the bookmark. I began to reflect on the events of 2023 that had occurred and how or what of the UU values impacted those events. Here is what happened in 2023:

- 🕒 **January:** Nothing notable
- 🕒 **February:** Started a new job in law enforcement
- 🕒 **March:** Turned 27 and started the academy
- 🕒 **April:** Volunteered more at UCH
- 🕒 **May:** Got elected to the Board of Trustees
- 🕒 **June:** Finished the academy, dove deep into my work
- 🕒 **July:** Traveled to family's farm to help with my father's last year of farming
- 🕒 **August:** Took on harder cases at work, volunteered more at UCH
- 🕒 **September:** Rebuilt a connection with family I haven't spoken to for a long time
- 🕒 **October:** Worked on my mental and spiritual self, developed new friendships
- 🕒 **November:** Continued to work on mental and spiritual self, focused also on physical self
- 🕒 **December:** Helped new coworkers adjust to the changes at work; spent quality time with family, creating lasting memories.

The more I thought about what I have done, the more I realized just how much has changed in such a short amount of time. I even remembered why I placed the UU bookmark in my holder ... which might be a sequel for a different reflection on how I have managed to balance my career in law enforcement with my beliefs as an agnostic Unitarian. Besides that small tangent, even in describing what has

happened in the past year, elements of the seven UU values can be seen in the descriptions, showing elements of Transformation, Generosity, Love, and others.

So after having that train of thought, I began to question why I was having this thought and what I was supposed to do with this. Do I consider myself lucky or grateful, do I reflect and ask how I could have done it differently, maybe I considered this the Year of Kyle, when he finally was able to get his ducks in a row. I thought and thought what it all means; I even slept on this question for several days. Sitting here now, I think I came up with a solution. Maybe it is to ensure that I continue to change for the better, to practice more of the seven principles. So I have decided to set myself a goal for the year, focusing on one of the values on the bookmark that I can improve. Since this is a time for reflection, I thought, "Why not improve on a value I think I am weak at, like someone who decided to join a gym in January?" We can all improve ourselves, whether it is physical, mental, spiritual or another aspect of ourselves.

So I challenge you, dear reader, to set yourself a goal for the upcoming year that improves you and maybe take the time to reflect on your last year like I have done. And if you need some help, use the following ideals to create your own goal. I give you permission to use what I have typed as a potential goal for the year. Ideas for goals:

- 🕒 Show more [love](#) to the world
- 🕒 Practice more [equity](#)
- 🕒 Be more generous (cough cough, capital campaign, cough cough)
- 🕒 Be opened to [pluralism](#) and learn more about our wonderful world
- 🕒 Practice [interdependence](#), and maybe learn what the word means
- 🕒 Be the force of [justice](#) when no one else is willing to be it in the face of injustice
- 🕒 Continue to [transform](#) into a better self
- 🕒 Volunteer more at UCH
- 🕒 Connect more deeply with people you care about
- 🕒 Bring new members, who have love and acceptance, but feel lost

It can even be as simple as talking to someone you have never spoken to before and developing a friendship.

Thank you all for your time in reading this reflection. Until next time.

Love,

Kyle

Opportunities for Lifespan Faith Development

By Cory Ness, Director of Lifespan Faith Development

We have many opportunities this month for children, youth, and adults! All are welcome.



Children and Youth January Calendar

- 🕒 **Jan 7:** Faith development classes
- 🕒 **Jan 14:** Faith development classes
- 🕒 **Jan 21:** Faith development classes (teacher connection at 9:15)
- 🕒 **Jan 28:** Faith development classes

Childcare is available in our Nursery downstairs with Patti Hazell. Childcare is available for anyone in kindergarten and younger. Faith Development classes are available for our kiddos in grades 1 to 12.

We are offering three programs this year:

- 🕒 Nursery: 6 mo. – Kindergarten
- 🕒 Elementary: 1st – 5th grade
- 🕒 Youth: 6th – 12th grade

Our classes will be learning from our Soul Matters themes in age-appropriate experiences. This year’s overarching frame is *The Gifts of Our Faith*, where we will focus on ten beloved UU values and explore their potential to shape us and in turn shape the world.

Monthly themes are summarized in the accompanying matrix. Please also see [the Children & Youth Faith Development Newsletter](#) for information, including stories about our January theme, Liberating Love, and a solstice performance opportunity.

Monthly Themes - The Gift of ...

Month	Theme	Month	Theme
September	Welcome	February	Justice & Equity
October	Heritage	March	Transformation
November	Generosity	April	Interdependence
December	Mystery	May	Pluralism
January	Liberating Love	June	Renewal

Depression Support Group (Zoom)

Facilitators: Cory Ness, DLFD, and Jim Handshaw

When: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., 1st and 3rd Wednesdays

Topic: A support group for people living with depression is being formed at UCH. We hold twice-monthly meetings for a period of three months. The purpose of the group is to provide a community of and for people who are living with situations of depression. It is a confidential, safe place for people to be honest about their condition and its impact on their lives. It keeps people from feeling isolated and helps them to feel cared about. It empowers people to face their situation and helps give validation that they are OK as a person despite their illness. The group provides positive role models and encouragement that it is possible to get better.

If you are interested in learning more about the group or would like to join the group, please contact [Cory](#) or [Jim](#). Maximum group size is 12.

Age-ing to Sage-ing: A Revolutionary Approach to Growing Older (Zoom)

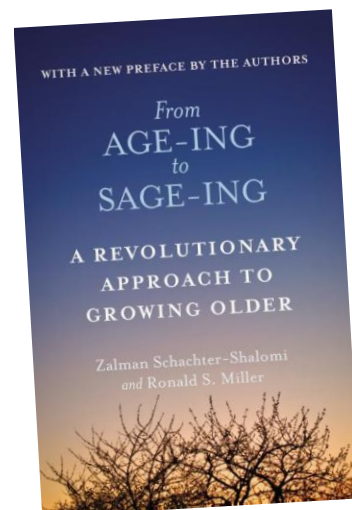
Facilitators: Rev. Dr. Kathy Ellis and Cory Ness, DLFD

When: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., alternate Thursdays, starting Jan. 18

Topic: We are all aging every day. Through the work of Reb Zalman we will learn how to create an aging process for ourselves that is full of adventure, passion, mystery, and fulfillment, rather than anxiety. Using scientific research—both neurological and psychological— Reb Zalman offers techniques that will expand horizons beyond the narrow view of "the present" into a grand and enduring eternity.

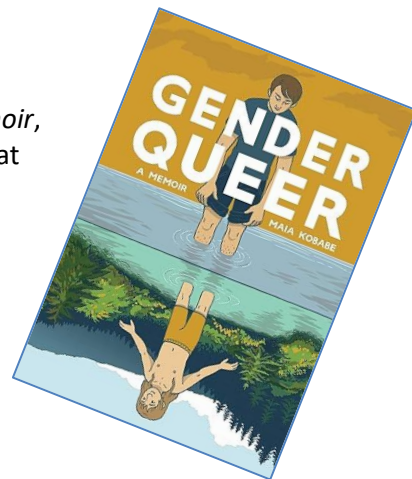
By harnessing the power of the spirit, as well as explaining exactly how to become a sage in their own community, he gives readers a helpful and moving way to use their own experiences to nurture, heal, and perhaps even save a younger generation from the prison of how we typically regard aging. A wealth of ideas to help anyone make each season of our lives the best!

Participants are encouraged to purchase the book and [sign up](#) for the class.



Banned Book Club: January 25

The discussion group meets via Zoom at 6:30 p.m. on the last Thursday of the month on alternate months. Our next meeting is Jan. 25, when we will discuss *Gender Queer: A Memoir*, by Maia Kobabe. The book is about coming out as nonbinary. The book landed the author at the center of a battle over which books belong in schools, and who gets to make that decision. The debate, raging in school board meetings and town halls, is dividing communities around the country and pushing libraries to the front lines of a simmering culture war. In 2021, when book banning efforts soared, this book became the most challenged book in the US, according to the American Library Association and the free speech organization PEN.



All are welcome! Please [sign up](#) for email reminders and the Zoom link.

Adult Education: Article II (Zoom) ~ Four Tuesdays in Feb/March

Article II of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) Bylaws, Principles and Purposes is the foundation for all the work of our UUA and its member congregations and covenanted communities. It is the covenant to which UU congregations and covenanted communities pledge themselves when they become members of our UUA.

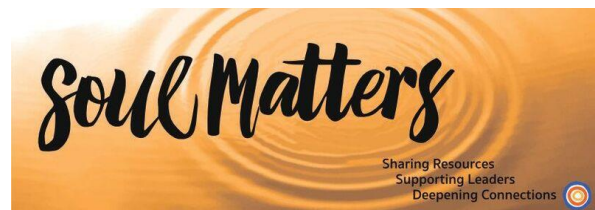


Please join Rev. Dr. Ellis and Rev. Dr. Fees for a 4-session spiritual reflection on Article II. The reflection is from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on alternate Tuesdays in February and March. Schedule:

Date	Topic	Description
2/13	1. Covenant	Use the covenant section from the Proposed Article II to explore and live into.
2/27	2. Purpose, Inspirations, Inclusion and Freedom of Belief	Focus on the sections before and after the values and covenant.
3/12	3. Love	Explore the centering value in the proposed Article II.
3/26	4. Six Values: Interdependence, Justice, Equity, Generosity, Pluralism, and Transformation	Connect with the values and their meaning in our lives and communities.

Theme-Based Ministry

We have chosen to work again this year with [Soul Matters Sharing Circle](#), a resource-sharing UU collaborative involving hundreds of UU churches. Our theme for January is “The Gift of Liberating Love.”



Our Families Are Exploring the Gifts of Liberating Love

Has a voice from the past ever created more room in your heart? Or opened up a part of your mind that you didn’t know was locked closed?

Packet spoiler: Audre Lorde makes an appearance this month. Lorde is one of those freeing voices for many of us, one of the sage souls past and present who offer liberating love in their writing, their music, their art, invention, and lived examples. In our personal timelines, prophetic people can act like pulse points, places we can pause and feel the Spirit of Life at work.

Here are pulse points from a few other love prophets:

- 🍷 “Love yourself. Then forget it. Then love the world.” – Mary Oliver
- 🍷 “Joy is the gift of love. Grief is the price of love. And anger is the force that protects that which is loved.” – Valerie Kaur
- 🍷 “You’ve got to learn to leave the table when love’s no longer being served.” – Nina Simone
- 🍷 “Love is the drive towards unity of the separated.” – Paul Tillich
- 🍷 “If we give our children sound self-love, they will be able to deal with whatever love puts before them.” – bell hooks

As a bonus exercise for January, you might want to use these quotes above as journal prompts for each of January’s weeks. But also, of course, we’re taking our practice off the page and bringing our work in liberating love into our real-life parenting. We’ll be building and tinkering and maybe gaming in togetherness with our children—small, playful acts of love that build their emotional scaffolding for the world they’ll inherit. We’re lovingly helping our tweens and teens imagine their upcoming launch into adulthood, accompanied, supported, and joyfully anticipated. And with our adult conversation partner, we’re both reclaiming mental space from clutter, as an act of self-love, and examining the ways in which we’ve carried around messages about love that may and may not serve us.

This month, we’re exploring love in the push and the pull, the positive and negative space, the giving of and the letting go. Parenting is a lifelong endeavor that calls for such paradoxical expressions of love.

Yours in holding close and releasing, lovingly,

— Soul Matters team

The Gift of Liberating Love

Love, it sits in the chest,
at least at the start.
It’s what makes our heart beat again after being broken,
and our lungs breathe again after being closed off in the dark
for far too long.

For some, it came in the form of our grandfather’s eyes
which saw us as carriers of something bigger and more precious
and older
than our little bodies disclosed.
For others, it arrived as we pressed hard
against our mothers’ warm skin
and heard a speechless whisper say
we can always come home.

We recognize love as the thing that allowed us to finally remove
our masks,
or that which said I don’t want you to take it off, until you are
ready.
We were taught love by those who arrived in the midst of our
fear
and shook as we shook, instead of simply trying to make our
trembling stop.

But here is the secret. The inevitable awakening.
The wonder that each of our lives is meant to reveal.
Love doesn’t just love us;
It asks us to become it.

That’s why those metaphors of comforting quilts
which wrap us in their warmth will never do.
True love is always a thunderstorm
that cracks us clean open
so the echoes of other breaking hearts
can make their way in.


Yes, it wants us to be whole and strong.
But love’s deepest longing is that we will use that strength
to tear down the structures that leave others bloodied and
bruised.
We must always remember what Selma’s prophet of peace
regularly preached:
Love and power are always rightly wed.

And maybe this is where the second secret comes loose.
As I shake the walls to let others free,
I learn that the ones I’ve liberated include me.

.Rev. Scott Tayler, Soul Matters Team Lead

Finding the Sacred in Music: The Gift of Liberating Love

Soul Matters has created two different playlists for each of our monthly themes: one in Spotify and another in YouTube. They are organized as a journey of sorts, so consider listening from beginning to end and using the playlists as musical meditations.

	Liberating Love	Soul Matters (General)
	Spotify playlist here	Spotify playlist here
	YouTube playlist here	YouTube playlist here

Aesthetic Integrity Team: The Power of Place: the Divine MCM

Post-World War II optimism and innovation led to a refreshing new look at ecclesiastical architecture. [See how](#) places of worship adopted unique MCM design ideas. (Take special note of the eighth structure shown.)

— Submitted Carol Buskirk

Engagement Team

The Engagement Team is seeking a new chair to facilitate the team's activities. The mission of the team is to develop activities and events for the entire community, members and non-members alike, with a particular emphasis on younger prospective members. In the past few years, the Engagement Team has been responsible for the summer picnics, the (mostly) monthly potlucks, and a drum circle. Another drum circle is in the works for April.

The chair is responsible for administrative tasks, communicating with the church office, and supporting the group and others as projects are undertaken. Please contact [Rebecca Waldemar](#) (717-364-2029) if you are able to serve our church in this capacity.

— Submitted by Rebecca Waldemar

Helping People in Prison and Their Families: Re-Entry Breakfast March 30

Once a year, UCH hosts the monthly breakfast coordinated by the [Prison Action Committee](#) of [Christian Churches United](#). The breakfast is hosted by a different church each month, featuring a hot breakfast for residents of area work release centers and halfway houses, an inspirational speaker who is a successful re-entrant, and some praying and singing. This will be our 13th time to host the event.

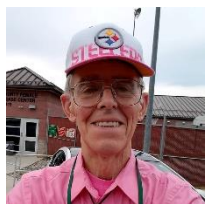
Please mark your calendar to help us host the event on March 30.

- 🍳 Prepare food on Friday (11:00 a.m.)
- 🍳 Set up on Friday (1:00 p.m.)
- 🍳 Help cook early Saturday morning (7:15 a.m.)
- 🍳 Help serve coffee, juice and the hot breakfast after guests arrive around 9:00 a.m.
- 🍳 Help clear and clean up after our guests leave (10:00 a.m.).
- 🍳 Many other tasks that are part of a successful breakfast.

For general information, please contact [Jim Cavanaugh](#), [Margaret Carrow](#), [Chris Dutton](#), [John Hargreaves](#), or [Darlene Kvaternik](#).

— Submitted by Jim Cavanaugh

Lay Community Minister's Report



Ed. Note: Jim Cavanaugh is UCH's Lay Community Minister who works for Reproductive Justice and serves as a volunteer Chaplain.

As a volunteer chaplain, I have built-in 'Family Medical Leave.' So when my wife, Nan, went in for major heart surgery, my family priorities took precedence over my chaplaincy, but for a memorable visit after a three week absence. I had six conversations with women who wanted to talk – people of all faiths and gender identities who trusted me. When one told me they were bisexual, I responded that they were as God had made them and wanted them to be and got a HUGE smile in return for the affirmation.

Will I make it to Work Release the week after Christmas? Possibly, and if it works out there will be some meaningful conversations, meaningful pastoral counseling, and that's what my chaplaincy is about.

My reproductive justice ministry has featured initial contact with a nationally known reproductive justice consultant who will help the [Pennsylvania Religious Coalition for Reproductive Justice](#) build grass roots support across the state. Part of that process will likely include bringing more people of color into leadership roles, making us truly equipped to pursue all aspects of reproductive justice. For instance, as [SisterSong](#) defines it:

We reclaim the demands of Reproductive Justice that our Black foremothers named nearly 30 years ago:

- The human right to own our bodies and control our future
- The human right to have children
- The human right to not have children, and
- The human right to parent the children we have in safe and sustainable communities.

Ed. Note: UUJusticePA is a non-profit advocacy group that promotes UU values across the state. As chair of the UCH Social Justice Roundtable, Rachel Mark coordinates UCH support for UUJusticePA's initiatives.



Unitarian Universalists Seeking Justice for All



UUJusticePA Report

On Dec. 13, the Rev. Joan Sabatino and Rachel Mark walked the halls of the State Capitol and met with available legislators and staff, specifically about environmental issues. We had conversation with two legislative aides to Rep Greg Vitali (D-Lower Merion), majority chair of Environmental & Energy Resources Committee. We discussed the [Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards](#) (AEPS) and [House Bill 1467](#), which proposes to expand the AEPS Tier 1 requirement from 8% to 30% by 2030. As noted in the legislative memorandum on HB 1467:



The Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act (AEPS) was a forward-looking policy when enacted in 2004, but neighboring states with stronger energy standards have now surpassed Pennsylvania, creating thousands of new, family-sustaining jobs and cutting emissions in the process. Over the last two years, Maryland (50%), New Jersey (50%), and New York (70%) have all significantly increased their renewable energy standards for 2030.

This will start to bring Pennsylvania closer to our neighboring states. Proposed legislation also includes community solar and solar for schools. We met with staff of representatives and senators who serve on committees holding these important bills.

We also visited the office of Sen. Art Haywood (D-Philadelphia) about raising the minimum wage. His legislative aide expressed great appreciation for Rev. Joan and UU postcarding about our issues.

At UUJusticePA, our justice teams include Good Government, Environment, Economics, Reproductive Justice, Gun Violence Prevention, Prison Reform, and starting this year, LGBTQ.

Rev. Joan has recently been invited to sit on the Pennsylvania Women's Health [Caucus](#) - a great place to have a presence. She is a recognized and welcomed presence in the State Capitol and has set the stage for good conversations with our legislators. You are invited to join one or more of our teams!

And please consider funding the UUJusticePA Ministry for our work in 2024! Donate [online](#) or mail a check to:

UUJusticePA
c/o Unitarian Church of Harrisburg
1280 Clover Lane
Harrisburg PA 17113

— Submitted by Rachel Mark

Social Justice Roundtable Workshop, Sunday Jan. 28

The Social Justice Roundtable works closely with our statewide advocacy organization, UUJusticePA (above) to advocate for issues that are aligned with our UU values. We meet with Pennsylvania state legislators either in their local offices or their offices at the Capitol in Harrisburg. We always make our visits as a team, and we follow a process designed to make the maximum impact.








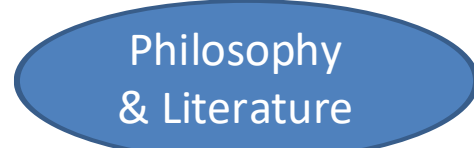

Curious about how this works? Interested in meeting some of the key justice team leaders? Please join us for a 1-hour workshop at noon on Sunday, January 28. We are eager to share what we do and hope that you will consider joining us for a legislative visit this year. Contact [Rachel Mark](#) or [Anita Mentzer](#) to sign up.

— Submitted by Anita Mentzer

Calendar of Recurring Events

January 2024

Date	Time	Group	Location
Tue 2	6:00 p.m.	Mindfulness Meditation Group (MMG)	Clover Lane
<p>Mindfulness is an acquired skill, practiced while meditating but vital in our everyday lives. Mindfulness helps in reducing stress, managing pain, focusing attention, and overcoming habitual negative behavior. Mindfulness can also point the way to spiritual practice, calming the mind, developing awareness and insight, and bringing us into the present moment. The ability to be mindful is strengthened through consistent practice. MMG provides a space for us to practice together in support of one another.</p> <p>Please join MMG each Tuesday evening for meditation, readings, discussion, and/or dharma talks led by Rebecca Waldemar and the Rev. Lileigh “Keva” Brown. Please contact Rebecca Waldemar or Keva Brown for additional information. Repeats weekly.</p>			
Wed 3	5:30 p.m.	QueenSpirit (Monthly)	Clover Lane
<p>QueenSpirit is a co-created women’s spirituality circle that meets on the first Wednesday of the month. Welcome to our first circle of the year. Traditionally this is when we co-create a plan for the calendar year’s circles. Please bring your creativity, energy, ideas, and presence into this QueenSpirit Women’s Spirituality Circle.</p> <p>Our gathering begins at 5:30 p.m. with a potluck in the Common Room. Please bring a dish to share and your own place setting. The circle begins at 6:30 and ends no later than 8:30. All who identify as women are welcome in a co-creating sacred space. Contact Rebecca Waldemar (717-364-2029) for further information.</p>			
Fri 5	Various	Heart Rhythm Meditation	Zoom
<p>Heart Rhythm Meditation is a type of meditation that involves conscious breathing, in which the individual controls their breathing in order to influence their mental, emotional, and physical state. Join Libby Tisdell and Jim Handshaw in twice-weekly sessions, via Zoom.</p> <p>🕒 Monday afternoons from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. via Zoom</p> <p>🕒 Friday mornings from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. via Zoom</p> <p>People can drop in or out as they want. Please contact Jim Handshaw for the Zoom link. No session on Jan. 1</p>			
Mon 8	6:30 p.m.	Amrit Yoga (Weekly)	Clover Lane
<p>Amrit yoga is a form of hatha yoga developed by Yogi Amrit Desai. The entire process moves and stretches every part of your body for an energetic workout and includes a calming, meditative relaxation at the end. No experience necessary! Contact John Hargreaves. Repeats every Monday. No session on Jan. 1</p>			
Tue 9	5:30 p.m.	Women’s Night Out	Off site
<p>Women’s Night Out is a lay-led ministry that focuses on the friendship and support of its members and giving back to our local community. We normally meet on the second Tuesday of the month at a local restaurant, alternating locations between the East and West Shores. Each month at dinner, participants take a collection. Proceeds are divided between the Harrisburg Areas Food Pantry and UCH. This month, we meet at Fiesta Mexico, 3957 Paxton Street, Harrisburg.</p> <p>Please contact Ann Sitrin (717-766-4767 or text 717-439-6090) for additional information. RSVP by Jan. 8.</p>			

Date	Time	Group	Location
Sun 14	6:00 p.m.	Philosophy and Literature Group (Monthly)	Off site
<p>The Philosophy & Literature Group meets on the second Sunday of each month. As we go to press, the group has not yet identified the January selection and likely will not meet Jan. 14. Please contact Don Brown for updated information.</p>			
Wed 17	6:00 p.m.	Clover Grove	Clover Lane
<p>Clover Grove is a group of earth-centered and pagan spiritualists that meets on the third Wednesday, with a program that varies based on the cycle of seasons and forces of nature. This month, we meet for homemade hot cocoa and a cookie swap – and a short introduction to Astrology! Bring cookies and an open mind.</p> <p>Please contact Wayne Minich for further information and/or join the Clover Grover Facebook Group.</p>			
Tue 23	6:30	Auction Committee	Zoom
<p>The Auction Planning Committee meets the fourth Tuesday of each month. This month, the meeting is via Zoom. Start thinking now about auction ideas and donations for 2024! Come brainstorm ideas and themes and be a part of the fun, food, and fabulous Auction Committee. Your talent and help planning the 2024 church auction is always welcome.</p> <p>We are looking for ideas to make this year's auction a huge success. Please contact Patti Hazel for additional information. A Zoom link will be sent to committee members a few days prior to the meeting.</p>			

New Member Orientation

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](#).

We do orientation sessions via Zoom for people potentially interested in membership. 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 Team. We will be happy to sign you up!

— Submitted by Bart Carpenter

