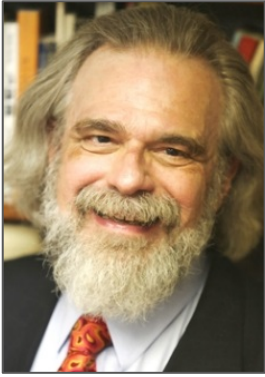




From the Minister



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

I have lost count of how many General Assemblies I have attended and how many I have not attended. They are very different experiences one from one another. The 2020 GA was unique in being entirely on line, rather than in person.

For more than a decade, there have been remote delegates, although on-site delegates have always been the majority. Not in 2020. This year every delegate and non-delegate attendee was remote—all 4,933 in attendance, of whom 2,399 were delegates.

While the reconfiguring of programs for remote production and the technology of transmission worked very well most of the time, I missed the personal connections that occur not only in programs but in the times between programs. Nevertheless, I am pleased to have attended. I am pleased that several UCH members and staff attended. And I am pleased with the content of the programs and how well the co-moderators handled the general sessions (business meetings).

One of the highlights was the Ware Lecture, delivered by journalist and climate activist Naomi Klein. She talked about the extractive and economically inequitable economy in which we live. But she made two points as significant as was the organizing theme of her lecture. The first is that shared bodily experiences, such as General Assemblies when we gather in person, assure us that no matter what the issue we need to address, we do not have to do it alone. So do the Black Lives Matter actions that have been unrelenting since the murder of George Floyd. The second is that the U.S. is in a better place than it was a year and a half ago. The pandemic has forced people and government to act. Ms. Klein lives in one of the four states that over the weekend were reported to be closest to having the virus under control. This is because people have acted together to flatten the curve. They socially distance, they wear masks. She reads this as an affirmation that we can succeed if we work together. She made no prediction that we are close to defeating the virus or that we will successfully address racism and white supremacy. In fact, she said, "The future is up for grabs." But that, in itself, is a powerful and positive statement. Already the people have pushed at least some local and state governments to act and much is in flux.

Another highlight was the lecture by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, an historian whose work I have cited in one or two recent sermons. She spoke of how it is a mistake to call the U.S. a nation of immigrants. The original inhabitants were not immigrants. They were native to the land. The original European settlers were the agents of an imperial state. White Europeans established colonies in the Western Hemisphere in accord with the Doctrine of Discovery, which asserts that "civilized" Europeans and their states have the right to seize and occupy other territories from the original inhabitants. Neither were the Africans who were brought to North America to be enslaved immigrants. They were brought as cargo, for sale. Prior to the Civil War, large numbers of Irish arrived as refugees from poverty in their homeland. The white Anglos who had established the nation, she argues, were settler/colonialists who appropriated land from its original inhabitants. This pattern continued beyond the settlement of the original British colonies as the new United States took control of much of the west of North America.

There were, of course, business sessions plus workshops and other presentations. The most interesting worship I attended was "Reparations: Rooted in Repair." I plan to draw on this workshop for a sermon in the fall.

There is much more than I can summarize in this space. I will share more as we go along, as will other UCH members who attended: Margaret Carrow, Guy Dannelley and Jim Cavanaugh, as delegates, and Yvonne DuVal.

Please note that I will be on study leave July 2–8 and vacation July 9–29. During that time, the office staff will know how to reach me in an emergency.

Have a great summer.

The Rev. Dr. Anthony P. Johnson

Worship Services

Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

Date	In the Pulpit	Title
5-Jul	Ann Stillwater	Building a New Way: Foundations First!
12-Jul	Senior High Youth	Youth-Led Service
19-Jul	Cory Ness	Getting to Know You
26-Jul	Laura Edinger	How to Be Church Again after COVID isolation

Each Sunday morning, the church will email:

- 📧 A link to the components for the Sunday service
- 📧 A link to Zoom session for 11:30 coffee and conversation

President's Message



By David Spear, President, Board of Trustees
Happy New Year to everyone! We officially start the new church year on July 1. We have just completed the 2019-2020 church year, and it was a wonderful year. There are so many things to celebrate that I will devote my entire column to our accomplishments.

'll start with our most visible aspect of our congregation: our Sunday services. These have been wonderful in drawing us together each week to lift us up and minister to us. This hasn't happened by accident, but by the hard work of our minister, music director, worship team, choir, and many others. They have collaborated well and developed vibrant services each week. And when the coronavirus came, they adapted quickly and prepared meaningful services online. We are lucky to have staff and volunteers to help us with the technical needs.

Our Religious Exploration (RE) program also ran successfully. There are many people to thank for this, but especially Amy Firestine. She stepped in to head the program last fall, and also continued as chair of the RE Committee. When Cory Ness begins on July 1, Amy will step down and take a much-deserved rest.

Our finances have also been very positive, and we ended this year with a budget surplus AGAIN. Thanks to the staff, the minister, the treasurer, and many others for spending wisely and staying within budget.

We must give a special thanks to our minister. Few of us have the chance to see everything that a minister does, but I assure you that Rev. Johnson works extremely hard on behalf of our congregation. Sunday Services have been wonderfully pastoral, and his coordination and interaction with the

various teams and committees has been very helpful to our congregation.

Our finances look good for the new church year also. Stewardship is a difficult and time-consuming job, and I thank the Stewardship Team for their hard work and dedication this year.

Thanks also to the members of the Board of Trustees for their efforts over the year. The Board does mostly oversight and long-term planning, and we have helped the congregation stick to our long-term goals and make wise decisions.

I am especially grateful to all of you, the church members, who support this congregation with your gifts of time and finances. You have been extremely generous and have placed us on good financial footing as we enter the new year. This should allow us to fully fund all the needed expenses and programs that are planned. Thank you, thank you!

Our congregation has become a better version of itself over the last year. We as individuals can become better versions of ourselves over time, with continued hard work and internal growth. The same is true for a congregation. We are the same people we were a year ago, yet we are more united, more focused on mission, and more forward-looking than we were a year ago. Each of you deserves some credit for that progress.

I will devote my column next month to our plans for this new church year, but our goals for the next year are possible only because of the great work we have all done this year. Thank you to everyone for working hard, working together, and staying focused on the mission of this fine congregation.

David Spear

2020-2021 Board of Trustees

The beginning of the church year brings changes in members of the Board of Trustees. We say farewell to Joe Melillo, Dennis Hursh, and Rima Cameron, who have completed their three-year terms. We welcome the three new board members elected at the congregational meeting in May: Mary Lynn Fecile, Jessica Chuckalovcak, and Justin Sciamanna. We also welcome back Patti Hazell and Ed Sykes, re-elected to a second term each.

Board members for the 2020-2021 church year are David Spear, Guy Dannelley, Ed Sykes, Lindsey Glessner, Patti Hazell, Lois Voigt, Mary Lynn Fecile, Jessica Chuckalovcak, and Justin Sciamanna.

- Submitted by David Spear

Introducing Cory Ness

Please welcome our new Director of Religious Exploration, Cory Ness! She starts on July 1.



Cory began her journey as a Unitarian Universalist in the early 1990s when she found a religious home to raise her children at a Unitarian Universalist congregation. There she discovered the UU Principles and Sources, which aligned with her own life philosophies. She has been a professional religious educator since 2006, serving most recently at the UU Church of the Shenandoah Valley near Winchester, VA.

Cory's love and passion for Unitarian Universalism can be seen every Sunday and in the many credentials she has acquired over the years. In 2012 she became a Credentialed Religious Educator, completing all 10 of the Renaissance Modules. Since that time, she has completed Our Whole Lives (OWL) Training, a comprehensive sexuality program for Kindergarten through the 12th grade; Spirit Play, a Montessori approach; Pastoral Care; Creating Healthy Congregations; Anti-Racism Training; Interim DRE Training and others.

She and her husband, Daryl, were both born in York County and have lived most of their lives in the southern part of the County. They have two adult daughters who live in Virginia. Their oldest is an industrial organizational psychologist, and their youngest is an elementary school teacher. For self-care, Cory loves creating fiber art including quilts, needle felting, and crochet. She also enjoys spending time camping and hiking with her husband.

– Submitted by Cory Ness

Examining Whiteness: New Web Portal on Racism

Since 2017, a lay-led group of UCH members and friends has been exploring [Examining Whiteness: An Anti-Racism Curriculum](#) and developing thought-provoking synopses.

We are in a new phase of social history since UCH's "Examining Whiteness" work in 2017. After multiple UCH workshops, forums, and digital compilations--here's a chance to examine whiteness with fresh awareness.

📌 **Talking About Race.** Released May 31, 2020 by the [National Museum of African American History & Culture](#). Shape your own exploration. Multiple starting points: Being Anti-racist, Whiteness, Bias, Historical Foundations of Race, and more. Lots of ideas presented, via video lectures, digital animations, instructional exercises and texts of varying density. Lots of big-name resources: Robin DiAngelo, Ibram X. Kendi, Tim Wise, Jerry Kang, Beverly Daniel Tatum, Harvard's Implicit Bias test, and more. Highly stimulating and accessible. Driving premise is that racism is a foundational part of what Americans are. An invisible system that confers dominance. No middle ground. Do your own probing. Reach your own conclusions. Raise your own questions. Start at [this link](#).

Why talking about race matters

EVERYONE HAS A RACIALIZED IDENTITY.

RACIALIZED IDENTITY HAS MAJOR IMPACT ON A PERSON'S LIFE.

RACE IS A DEFINING SOCIAL CONSTRUCT IN AMERICAN LIFE.

– Submitted by Cordell Affeldt and Kate Quimby, with thanks to Chris Dutton

Membership News

Milestones

Please congratulate members of our community!

Mason Hooper

Mason Hooper graduated from George Washington University School of Business with a major in Business Analytics and minors in Statistics and Economics. He is the son of UCH member Josh Hooper.

Ministerial Search Committee

The Ministerial Search Committee (MSC) has been hard at work. In addition to their regular meetings, the group attended an online workshop in mid-June presented by the UUA Transitions Office. The various sub-committees are on pace with their tasks, and the congregation can expect to receive links to a survey and MSC website in early August. If you have a question or comment for the Committee, they may be reached at searchcom2020@uchbg.org. Members of the MSC are Jane Bechtel, Marsha Dulaney, Chris Dutton, Laura Edinger, Bridgette Parker, Dan Vaughn, and Emily Webb.

– Submitted by Bridgette Parker

Stewardship Report

Congratulations to the people of the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg! As of this writing, members and friends of the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg have pledged \$323,970 for the 2020-21 church year, which begins on July 1. This is an increase of approximately \$15,000 over the pledges for the 2019-20 church year, which ended on June 30. Given the reality of the pandemic, the closing of buildings, the loss of some members' jobs and the reduction of hours in other members' jobs, this is an amazing success, even if we do not reach the goal of \$335,000.

Among those who have pledged in the past, this year some increased their pledges, some decreased, and some will continue at the same level. In addition, some of you pledged for the first time. Each of you made a realistic commitment to your church and its future. There are a few households that have yet to pledge for the coming church year. We might still reach a goal that we all knew was ambitious when it was announced.

A big thank you goes to this year's Stewardship Team: Dennis Byrne, David Forster, John Hargreaves, David Powell, Justin Sciamanna, Edward Sykes, and Sharon Vaughn. They have worked hard for these past two months.

– Submitted by Rev. Tony Johnson and David Spear, Board President

UCH Legacy Society

Our UCH Legacy Society Committee is working to keep our chalice burning brightly for the next generation. Please consider including UCH in your will or estate plan. Talk with Jim Cavanaugh, Joe Melillo, James Henninger-Voss, or Joan Hellmann if you have questions.

– Submitted by Jim Cavanaugh



Lay Pastoral Care Associates

Who should contact the Pastoral Care Associates?

- ☉ People who are hospitalized
- ☉ People who are grieving a loss
- ☉ People who are separated or divorcing
- ☉ People who need long term care
- ☉ People who are terminally ill
- ☉ People experiencing job loss
- ☉ People experiencing financial struggle
- ☉ People in abusive situations
- ☉ People adjusting to difficult life changes
- ☉ People with a family member in prison
- ☉ Family members of all the above

Please contact Rev. Tony or [Jim Cavanaugh](mailto:Jim.Cavanaugh@uchbg.org) as needed.

July Share the Plate: UU Service Committee

Each month, we share half of our Sunday plate with a local non-profit. This month, we share the plate with the UU Service Committee.

The [Unitarian Universalist Service Committee](http://www.uuusa.org) (UUSC) is a nonprofit, nonsectarian organization advancing human rights together with an international community of grassroots partners and advocates. UUSC advances human rights and social justice around the world, partnering with those who confront unjust power structures and mobilizing to challenge oppressive policies. Their work is grounded in the belief that all people have inherent power and dignity.

2020 Auction: Nov 7-14

The 1920 Democratic National Convention was held in San Francisco from June 28 through July 6, eventually nominating James M. Cox of Ohio as presidential candidate and Franklin Delano Roosevelt for vice president. At that convention, Cora Wilson Stewart and Laura Clay of Kentucky became the first women to be nominated at a major party's national convention, and Laura Clay subsequently became the first woman to receive a vote for presidential nomination—History was made!



Help make UCH history by donating to our first-ever online auction—the Roaring '20s Auction! Be as creative as the 1920 delegates as you consider pandemic-friendly options. Can you donate some vintage political memorabilia or a fancy hat like Laura Clay might have worn? Perhaps you can host an online political discussion or donate some delicious Ghirardelli chocolates (headquartered in beautiful San Francisco!).

Contact [Patti Hazell](mailto:Patti.Hazell@UCHauction@gmail.com) to donate or volunteer UCHauction@gmail.com.

Online Auction dates: November 7 to 14, 2020

– Submitted by Patti Hazel

Pennsylvania 2020 Election

The [Unitarian Universalist Pennsylvania Legislative Advocacy Network \(UUPLAN\)](#) educates and communicates with UU congregations and partners across the Commonwealth to inspire action. Its mission is to promote UU values to policy makers to advance just legislation and to advocate for fairness and transparency in the democratic process. It serves 6,000 UUs in 40 congregations across Pennsylvania.



The November election may be the most significant vote we will ever

cast. But with limited opportunities for face-to-face interaction with voters and even fewer opportunities for door-to-door canvassing, and concerted efforts to discourage voting, how can we assure a robust voter turnout?

UUPLAN is gearing up to encourage UUs across the state to (1) vote in the November elections and (2) encourage others to vote. This is part of our respect for the inherent worth and dignity of each person. Encourage all citizens to perform this civic duty.

📍 Pennsylvania Access

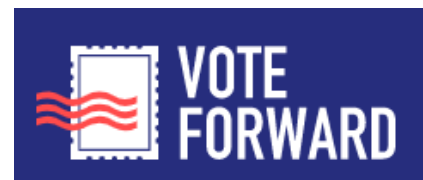
The Pennsylvania Department of State has an easy route for ready access to voting: the online website www.votespa.com. This entails free and easy registration for any Pennsylvania citizen. You can apply for a mail-in ballot – and encourage your friends to do so. Confirm your registration. Assure college students they can vote, even if they are at a campus away from their permanent address. Remember the website to share: www.votespa.com



📍 Vote Forward

[Vote Forward](#) is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization whose mission is to empower grassroots volunteers to help register voters from under-represented demographics and encourage them to vote. They build tools to enable Americans, wherever they may be, to encourage fellow citizens to participate in our democracy.

In this time of pandemic, you do not need to leave home or make phone calls to encourage others to vote. Rather, you can send a Vote Forward letter. It is one of the easiest things you can do to increase voter turnout. It takes two minutes and one stamp, and meaningfully increases the odds that the recipient will vote. This is a concrete action you can take, no matter where you live, to get unlikely-to-vote fellow citizens to the polls.



Whatever method Americans use to safely vote this year, receiving a hand-written Vote Forward letter will make them more likely to cast a ballot. Please check out www.votefwd.org.

– Submitted by Anita Mentzer and Cordell Affeldt

Helping People in Prison and Their Families

The Community Connections Breakfast is a monthly event for men and women in work-release and prison transition programs. For the past 12 years, UCH has hosted one of these breakfasts, usually in September. The breakfast program is on indefinite hold due to coronavirus, and we will not host in September this year.

Next month, Helping People in Prison and Their Families will have suggestions for advocacy and for reading.

– Submitted by Jim Cavanaugh

Panache to UU: “What’s for Dinner?”

In years past, Panache was a summer fundraiser to support the mission of the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg. Until we can all be together again hosting events, we have decided to put a new twist on a wonderful tradition. With your support, we take the worry out of planning at least one meal for a UCH family. Sounds good, right?



We are looking for volunteers to make a favorite recipe/meal (to feed a minimum of 4 people) and deliver the meal to a fellow member of our community, all for a minimum donation of \$40 to UCH from that family--just like takeout but homemade. Yum!

Please contact [Patti Hazell](#) with your meal idea **by July 10** if you are interested in making a culinary donation!

Example Meal: Brunch for a Bunch

- 🍷 Quiche Lorraine
- 🍷 Spinach Mushroom Quiche
- 🍷 1 dozen muffins (choice of blueberry, pumpkin, cranberry or banana)
- 🍷 Fresh fruit in season
- 🍷 Mimosa

–Submitted by Patty Hazell

Gather the Spirit



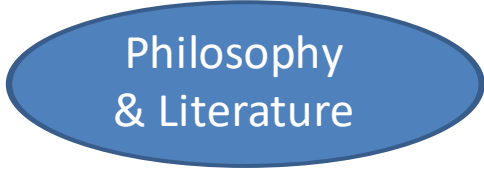
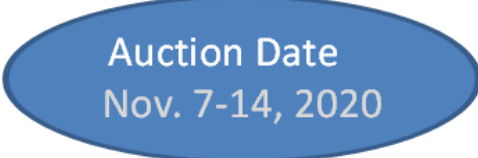
[Gather the Spirit for Justice](#) (GTSFJ) is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization that brings together Allison Hill residents, area organizations, businesses and churches to address issues of social justice and economic equity. It was jointly founded by UCH and the Shared Ministry during the time we operated at 1508 Market Street. It now operates out of Christ Lutheran Church, 124 South 13th Street. The following message is excerpted from the GTSFJ newsletter.

Navigating the New Normal

Even as most of Central Pennsylvania has moved to the green phase under Gov. Wolf's disaster declaration, Gather the Spirit for Justice continues to exercise caution under green. Program Director Jacquie Rucker has received several inquiries from guests and neighbors as to when Common Ground Community Center will reopen. We recognize the need for and value of our services in the community. However, to ensure the safety of our staff, volunteers and community members, the center will remain closed until a safe re-opening plan can be established. Though we are not able to attend to our neighbors in person, they remain in our hearts and drive our efforts in the community to continue our work for those we serve.



- 🍷 **The hand washing station** remains a welcome fixture in the community. Neighbors continue to share their appreciation for the makeshift station designed to help prevent the spread of corona virus in Allison Hill.
- 🍷 **The homemade mask drive** is also still going strong! To date, our volunteers have donated more than 425 homemade masks to local healthcare professionals and non-profit service organizations. The need for masks remains strong into the green phase--and will for some time. We thank all of the volunteers who have donated masks to date and continue to welcome donations as we navigate this new normal. Helpful tips, tutorial links, and donation delivery information can be found on our [website](#).
- 🍷 **Power to the Hill (P2H)** remained busy leading up to the June 2 primary election! P2H volunteers made more than 1,300 calls to residents, handled a surge of last-minute requests for assistance leading up to the election, and launched their new website, power2thehill.org. Be sure to check the site and their [Facebook page](#) for upcoming events and activities!

Date	Time	Group	Location
Wed 1	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, Donna Hoover will be leading our circle.</p> <p>Summer solstice was June 20. Please join us on July 1 to explore the summer solstice tradition. The summer solstice is a time to reflect on your personal growth and the meaning of the season of light and growth. All who identify as women are welcome in a co-creating 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 for further information.</p>			
Fri 3	6:00	Online Trivia Night	Zoom
<p>Our weekly trivia night continues tonight, hosted each week by a different member of our community. Join your church friends for a unique set of trivia, combined with humor and merriment. Meeting ID: 971 7118 3287. Repeats weekly at 6:00 p.m. Please note that Zoom will require a passcode starting mid-July. Please watch News You Can UU's for the passcode.</p> <p>Please contact Dan Vaughn for additional information.</p>			
Sun 12	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. This month, the group meets to discuss <i>Upstream: Selected Essays</i>, by Mary Oliver. From the internet:</p> <p><i>Upstream is a collection of essays in which revered poet Mary Oliver reflects on her willingness, as a young child and as an adult, to lose herself within the beauty and mysteries of both the natural world and the world of literature.</i></p> <p>During the current pandemic, the session is a virtual meeting via Zoom. Please contact Don Brown for information.</p>			
Tue 28	6:30	Auction Planning Committee	Zoom
<p>Theme: The Roaring '20s Date (virtual): November 7-14, 2020</p> <p>The Auction Planning Committee meets the fourth Tuesday of each month. Come brainstorm ideas, themes, and be a part of the fun, food, and fabulous Auction Committee. Your talent and help planning the 2020 Church Auction is always welcome. We are looking for ideas to make this year's auction a huge success.</p> <p>Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are planning to meet via Zoom. If you are already a member of the Auction Committee, you will receive an email invite to attend the meeting. Otherwise, please contact Patti Hazell if you wish to attend.</p>			

Zoom Update

Effective later this month, Zoom will be requiring a passcode (formerly called "password") for all meetings. While many of our meetings already have a passcode, some meetings do not. If you attend one of the following meetings, look for the new passcodes in the *News You Can UU's* newsletter to be emailed on July 17.

- 📍 Heart Rhythm Meditation (morning), beginning Friday, July 17
- 📍 Friday Night Trivia, beginning Friday, July 17
- 📍 Sunday Morning Coffee Hour, beginning Sunday, July 19
- 📍 Heart Rhythm Meditation (afternoons), beginning Monday, July 20
- 📍 Philosophy and Literature, beginning Sunday, August 9

Please email tavia@harrisburguu.org with any questions or to receive updated links to any of the above meetings.

– Submitted by Tavia Flanagan