



The Unitarian Church of Harrisburg: Building Bridges, Celebrating Community

**From the Minister**



Rev. David Kohlmeier is UCH's minister.

The theme for this month is "Renewing Faith," and "faith" can be a tricky word. My favorite definition comes from Unitarian Universalist theologian James Luther Adams: "Faith is not a matter of our beliefs, but of our commitments." When

we're "faith-ful" ("full of faith") to those we love, it doesn't mean we believe they exist, but that we are true to our commitments to them. That we are reliable. Loyal. Consistent in being who we have promised that we will be.

To what are you committed? To what are we as a congregation committed? To what are you, are we, faithful? That's what it means, for me, to be a community of faith.

If you feel like your faith has taken a real pounding lately, you're not alone. The past few years have been physically, emotionally, and mentally traumatic. This is true on a national level, but also on the level of local communities and families. Our congregation is not immune to that.

At the same time, I find myself thinking a lot about the resiliency of life. How every living thing, including you and me, is the end result of countless millennia of evolution. Life has survived. Life is resilient. Within your DNA, literally, is the resilience of life itself. That tells me we can endure, we can survive, we can even thrive. In that undefeatable resilience of the Spirit of Life do I put my personal faith. This month, my hope is that in our worship services we'll tap into that Spirit, and

find ways to renew our faith. There is so much to do, it can feel overwhelming, but I believe we were made for a time such as this. When I think of what UCH has come through, I can't help but paraphrase the old hymn, "Through many dangers, toils and snares, this church has already come. 'T'was grace, 't'was love, that brought us safe thus far, and grace, and love, will lead us home."

Love is the spirit of this congregation. Or we used to say in my home church in Charleston, West Virginia, "Love is the spirit of our faith." May it be so.

*Rev. David*

**Sunday Services Update**

We are now conducting services on Sunday mornings in the sanctuary again, with live streaming via Zoom. We have also reinstated protocol for attendance, as follows.

There is limited seating capacity. The church office will send an email with information on how to reserve a seat and any specific instructions for "code of conduct." For those attending services on site, we will follow the color-coded system introduced last year. This involves color-coded name tags, where the individual signifies:

Red	I'm happy to see you....and I prefer to remain socially distanced
Yellow	I'm happy to see you....and I am comfortable being in closer proximity
Green	I'm happy to see you....and I am comfortable with a hug

Logistics for on-site services are subject to change, based on changes in COVID.

**Worship 10:30 a.m. Sundays**

**March theme: Renewing Faith**

**March 6: Turn Around, Rev. David**  
This Sunday, in the Christian tradition, is the first Sunday of Lent: a 40-day season of spiritual practices that prepare the heart for Easter. One of the themes of Lent is "repentance." For many, though, talk of "repentance" is wrapped up in shame and guilt. Let's unpack this word, and talk about what repentance actually means.

**March 13: Crafting Our Future Together, Rev. David**  
This Sunday marks the start of our annual Stewardship campaign, and it's also New Member Sunday, where we honor those who have joined our church since the start of the pandemic. This is a day for renewing our commitment, and thinking about the future of UCH that we are called to craft together.

**March 20: What Has the Pandemic Taught Us? Rev. David**  
This Sunday marks the 2-year anniversary of the COVID-19 pandemic and of our church making serious changes as a result. This service will ask us to reflect on what we as have learned. How are we different as a result of the pandemic? Those attending in person are invited to wear pajamas, to come comfortable, as we honor the absurdity of the past couple years, as well as the seriousness.

**March 27: Even Song: A Prayer for Peace, with Yvonne DuVal and UCH Musicians**  
Music moves and heals us in incredible ways. This outdoor service will utilize music as a powerful conduit as we pray for both internal and world peace. Featuring congregational singing, soloists, and special performances by the UCH Choir. Bring a chair and be ready to sing!  
We are now streaming Sunday services on YouTube as well as Zoom.



*By David Spear, President, Board of Trustees*

*Ed. note: David delivered the following remarks during services on Feb. 26.*

It is a delight to be with you this morning, with those gathered here and those participating in worship virtually. After two years of physical separation, I am especially glad to be here in person, in this beautiful sanctuary, the home of our UCH community.

If there's anything we've learned over the past two years, it's the importance of community. I'm grateful for our modern technology that has kept us somewhat connected, it's not quite the same for me, and it reinforces the essential human need to engage with each other in person. We need to be with our people, and we need to have our own place.

It's a little extra special for me today because this month marks the 15th anniversary of my joining the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg. And in those years, this has become my spiritual home, my community of friends, and my foundation. Joining UCH was one of the better decisions I have made in my life.

How does it feel to be back together? For me, it feels wonderful, but also a little bit strange, like I'm out of practice. The Sunday services and the surroundings feel familiar, but I also sense that the world has changed around me. Church leaders throughout the UUA and across North America are all trying to determine what has changed, what is the same, and how to move forward.

Rev. David will be helping us work through the spiritual and social aspects of this reconnecting, and I thank him in advance for these efforts.

The Board's role in this may be to ensure that we have a welcoming and well-maintained physical space to gather and do the work of our congregation. Together we can reimagine what that work will be, so we can serve this current generation and generations to come.

The Board and some others have been taking a look at our building and grounds. We even created a task force to look deeply into this, and, not surprisingly, they found a long list of items that need to be addressed. Our original plan was to tie the replacement of

### **Stewardship Campaign**

The past few years have been challenging ones for the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg, but we're still here, surviving and thriving, because of our commitment to each other and to what this church means to us. With gratitude for all we've been through, we rejoice for the exciting times ahead. We now have a settled minister that we have chosen, and who has chosen us, and we are so ready to craft the future of our beloved community together.

Our annual stewardship campaign, which is vital to funding our church's mission and ministry for the coming fiscal year, begins March 13 with a special worship service that will also honor the new members who have joined us during the pandemic. We hope that you will join us, and make your own financial commitment to provide the support we need to craft our future together. More details will be coming soon. Thank for all you have done, all you currently do, and all you will yet do for this community.

— Rev. David, Ed Sykes, David Powell, Justin Sciamanna, Ray Harris, John Hargreaves

our roof last year to some of this additional rehabilitation, but then coronavirus happened.

But we persevere, and over the past year, the Board and others have explored this issue. We believe that we now have gathered enough information to bring you into the conversation.

So I am announcing today our intention to engage the congregation in a process of reflection and planning for UCH's future, which would likely culminate in a capital campaign. This would eventually include raising the funds to revitalize our building and grounds so that we can serve UCH and the broader community for decades to come.

Just for reference, our last capital campaign was in 1993, so there is a lot to catch up on. This new initiative would be a large undertaking that would last two to three years. This is being initiated by the Board, but it will be handled from beginning to end by a new team, which is being chaired by Mary Henninger-Voss.

In the coming weeks and months, we will be sharing the detailed report from the Building Improvement Task Force that I alluded to earlier. Then we will schedule meetings so that your perspectives and feedback can be received, and your questions can be answered.

When I first started thinking about a capital campaign and the timing of an announcement, I thought that this might not be the right time to talk about it, since the annual Stewardship Program will begin in just a couple of weeks. But the work of imagining and planning for the future of UCH is a long-term process, and it needs to be coordinated with other shorter-term initiatives, like the annual stewardship program.

I do think that this is the right time to start talking about all topics that speak to our future needs. Rev. David will address our spiritual needs, the Stewardship Team will address our annual budgetary needs, and the Capital Improvements Team will help us view an even longer perspective. Together we can ensure a stronger future for this congregation, for this generation and generations to come.

*David Spear*

**CRAFTING  
OUR FUTURE  
TOGETHER**



2022-23 UCH STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

## Come Together 11-05-2022

### ***Budget Update***

An update on the 2021-22 budget:

#### **⊕ Unpledged income is running behind**

When the pandemic hit in 2020, Sunday plate gifts dropped significantly, and UCH opted to forward 100% of those diminished gifts to support our local non-profit partners. Our current budget (July 2021 – June 2022) was built on the assumption that we would be returning to in-person services last September and that we would then return to the 50/50 plate share, where half of those gifts help fund our operating expenses. However, with few in-person services to date, we continued to forward 100% of the plate gifts to the designated organization.

Unfortunately, that means we have received nothing thus far against an expectation of \$8,000 from that source to fund our current-year expenses. We also planned for \$14,000 in Unpledged Gifts (gifts typically received in the Sunday morning offering plate from members who choose not to pledge); we have received less than \$3,300 thus far. With almost no rental income and the auction also significantly impacted by the pandemic, we are likely to fall significantly short of our total income goal.

#### **⊕ Share the Plate returns to 50/50 split effective April 1**

Our open administrator position has enabled us to decrease expenses sufficiently to cover some of the income shortfall, but to help balance this year's finances, we will be returning to a 50/50 split for the plate proceeds effective April 1.

#### **⊕ Stewardship pledge-giving remains strong**

Through the first seven months of the fiscal year, we have received 65.6% of our Pledged Gifts goal of \$370,000. That is near our historical averages for this point in the year, and we expect we should meet the target for our largest income line. Thank you for your continued generosity!

— Submitted by the Finance Committee

### ***Trash or Treasure - Garden Shed Reveal! More news from the Grounds & Garden Team***

I had heard rumors about the contents of the garden shed but my first venture inside was one of those eye-opening experiences. Bins, bags, and boxes were piled 8 feet high. Massive wooden furniture and tables blocked the entry. Columns of chairs were stacked everywhere. We had to slide sideways down a narrow pathway inside the shed to try and find the wheelbarrow; however, once located, the path was too narrow to remove it. Garden equipment and tools were scattered throughout.

Grounds and Garden Team to the rescue! First, we contacted UCH committees that might have items stored in the shed and asked them to retrieve what they wanted to keep. Cory Ness, our DRE, collected 4 carloads of RE supplies. Then, on two very mild afternoons in early February, 7 volunteers met at the lower parking lot and began the process of cleaning out the shed. We hauled the bins and boxes out onto the macadam and examined every single item using the "Keep, Recycle, Donate and Discard" method.

Some items have already found a new home, some have been repurposed and there was a great deal of trash – we filled the dumpster three times. The shed now has designated sections, one space for carpentry tools, an area for garden tools, supplies and equipment, RE storage, and a place for "infrequently used but must keep" items. There are still items to recycle or donate including three solid wooden tables, an altar and 8-foot cabinet (wood workers, you may be interested in transforming these items). There are more than 40 molded plastic chairs, hurricane globes, holiday decorations, and other miscellaneous items.

So, if you're curious about what's in the shed and you can give one of these treasures a new home, stop by the UCH Garden Shed on Friday, March 4 from 12-4 pm or on Saturday, March 5 from 10am-2pm (weather permitting). Rain date March 11 & 12 same times. We'll post some photos on the UCH Facebook page and we're also advertising on Craig's List and Facebook Marketplace.

p.s. We have a few items left for the Marvelous Garden Makeover. If you would like to donate foundational plantings, please click on [Time To Sign Up](#), select the plants you like and how many you are willing to fund. We will then send an invoice.

— Submitted by Anita Mentzer

## 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 March theme, “Renewing Faith,” appears on page 5.

### 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.

## 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. **Final class in this series is March 6.**

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 April

UCH congregants and friends are invited to begin reading the book, *Defund Fear*, by Zach Norris. The discussion guide has been delayed, so we will not be gathering until sometime in April. Rev. David Kohlmeier and I will keep you updated as we hear more from the UUA.

**Background on the book:** 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.



Panel Discussion on *Defund Fear*

**Panel discussion:** You are invited to listen to a panel discussion at [this link](#).

**Thought points:** For your care, for your growth, and for the care and growth of others in your community with whom you will discuss *Defund Fear*, it is strongly recommended that you enter this book with these questions by your side:

- What is my connection to the stories told and the harms named? Where am I in these stories? In what ways have punishing first responses either benefited or harmed my community?
- What is my story of public safety? In what ways has fear shaped my assumptions and experiences about public safety?
- What is my complicity? What shape does, or could, my accountability take?
- What support do I have and what do I need, in bringing my raw self to this book and the faith questions it asks me?

### March Theme: Renewing Faith

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 March theme is Renewing Faith.

### Introduction

"Faith is homesickness. Faith is a lump in the throat." — Frederick Buechner

"Once a reporter asked [A.J. Muste](#), "Do you really think you are going to change the policies of this country by standing out here alone at night in front of the White House with a candle?" Muste replied softly: "Oh I don't do this to change the country. I do this so the country won't change me."

Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat:

How do we renew our faith  
when so much is falling apart?  
In these fragile days,  
we, who assess life through "the fire of reason,"  
find so little reason to trust  
that everything's going to be ok.  
The climate is collapsing.  
Racism so often morphs more than it is removed.  
Politics divide more than they unite.  
Don't tell us it's slowly getting better.  
Don't ask us to deny this feeling of despair that feels so real.  
On so many days, we have lost our hope for a better day.

But we do long for it!  
Don't we?  
Despite the setbacks and slowness,  
there remains something inside that continues to say,

"It can be better!"  
"More is possible!"  
"I need to believe that goodness is real."  
It's a longing that lingers no matter what.

Maybe that's what the preacher meant  
when he spoke of faith  
as a hunger for home.  
Maybe faith is more about remembering  
our longing for what we love and who we want to be,  
more than it is an act of restoring our trust  
that everything will work out well.

Maybe the peacenik was right:  
We must remain faithful to the fight  
not because change is guaranteed  
but to ensure that we are not changed.

### What Does it Mean to be a Family Renewing Faith?

From the *Soul Matters* team:

Do you remember this part of Amanda Gorman's poem, from President Joe Biden's inauguration? *For there is always light/If only we're brave enough to see it/ If only we're brave enough to be it*

This quote resonated with many, many people in America, and indeed, all over the world. And I think it has special meaning to us as Unitarian Universalists. Culturally, and theologically, we UUs are more apt to think of faith not as being based on unquestioned belief, but rather on our direct observations that the world becomes better when people make it so. One important reason we learn, sing, serve, worship, and act in the world together as a people is that we are endeavoring to become a people worth having faith in. Another way to say this might be that we hope to be a beacon, a light, that helps goodness gather.

Your relationship with your faith community might feel a little more tenuous than usual these days. Perhaps your faith in yourself feels thin in places. Your faith in your fellow residents, maybe even all of humanity, might be a little worse for the wear, too. We've all been there, and many of us are right there, right now.

### Playlists

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



### ***Coming Attraction: LaGrone Book Shuffle to Return***

You asked! Now you've got it: a chance to support the social justice work of the Oliver LaGrone Scholarship program; a crack at outstanding fiction and non-fiction from discriminating sources; and a chance to pass on to a worthy cause those stacks of books, music, and games you've sorted out for departure during the pandemic. Coming in September 2022!

– Submitted by Nan Cavanaugh

### ***Power to the Hill***

Power to the Hill (P2H) is a UCH lay-led ministry cosponsored by Gather the Spirit for Justice focused on empowering the residents of the Allison Hill neighborhood of Harrisburg. P2H focuses on voter registration and “get out the vote” campaigns in the neighborhood.

P2H conducted a volunteer kickoff Feb. 19 at Christ Lutheran Church, with more than 60 participants in attendance. Co-sponsored by New Pennsylvania Project and 1VoteCounts, the event served to educate and energize volunteers to have an impact this midterm election season. UCH participants included Diana Fishlock, Elliotte Decoursey, Maggie Shaver-Wilson, Guy Dannelly, Marilyn McHenry, Cordell Affeldt, Rims Cameron, Mary Henninger-Voss, Nancy Hall, Kathy Malarich, Deb Good, Jenn McPoyle, Darlene Kvaternik, Ken Eng, and Barbara Pearce. Many thanks to all who attended!



The first canvassing event will be Saturday, March 19. Please contact [Wendy Shaver](mailto:Wendy.Shaver@uch.org) (717-802-2920) to sign up.

– Submitted by Wendy Shaver

### ***UUJusticePA Report***

On February 8, our small but mighty group of five women representing UUJusticePA climbed the steps to our beautiful capitol building in Harrisburg to lobby against Senate Bill (SB) 106, a bill that is attempting to get several constitutional amendments passed and voted upon by Pennsylvania citizens. At this moment, there are approximately 70 such bills under consideration in the Senate and House of Representatives. One of those bills is SB 106. It seeks to expand the General Assembly's power to reject executive orders and regulations, require government issued ID to vote, the Auditor General to audit elections and change the way the Lieutenant Governor is selected.

UUJusticePA's director, Rev. Joan Sabatino, Cheryl Parsons from Carlisle, and three members of UCH, Anita Mentzer, Rachel Mark and Karen Sykes, visited two state senators to discuss this issue and others that are languishing in committees. We had wanted to speak to several members who have sponsored SB 106, but only one senator, Sen. John DiSanto, agreed to meet with us. We began by speaking with his aide on several issues that we feel are crucial to improving the lives of PA citizens. Sen. DiSanto soon joined us and it was clear that it was useless to change their minds. We explained that we were there to try to find some common ground and we felt that at least as voters, we should be heard. To say the least, it was a challenging conversation, but at last we were allowed to speak. However, no minds were changed.

Ours is a government of the people, by the people and for the people. UUJusticePA encourages Unitarian Universalists across the state to get involved and to vote for leaders with a commitment to passing legislation that improves the lives of Pennsylvania citizens. If you would like to join the effort, please visit our website, [www.UUJusticePA.org](http://www.UUJusticePA.org), or speak with Rachel, Anita or Karen. There are many teams who are working hard to communicate our views that are based on our principles of faith that are concerned with love, the inherent worth and dignity of every person and the interconnected web of all existence.

– Submitted by Karen Sykes, UCH member and Co-Leader of UUJusticePA's Reproductive Justice Team

## Transitions

*Celebrate the lives of these members of our extended family.*

### Glenn Newsom (1934-2022)

[Glenn Newsom](#), 87, father of UCH member Sharon Vaughn, died on Jan. 30 in Lubbock, Texas, after a long battle with cancer. He grew up in west Texas, joined the army in 1953 and loved to talk about his experience travelling in Germany and other parts of Europe at that time. He will be missed by his two daughters, three grandchildren, two great grandchildren and their families. Condolences to Sharon and Dan.

### Carl Back (1933-2022)

[Carl Back](#), 88, father of UCH member Andy Back, died Jan. 31 after a year-long battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife; son Andy (Kevin Geist); four other children and their spouses; four step-children and their spouses; and 11 grandchildren. Condolences to Andy and Kevin.

### Eloise Melson (1943-2022)

[Eloise Melson](#), 79, died March 6 in Houston. She was an active member of the church from 1974 to 2007, when she moved to Houston. At UCH, she was involved in the UCH Singles Group and Sunday morning coffee hour.

### Bonnie Huffman (1956-2022)

[Bonnie Huffman](#), 65, mother of UCH member Suzanne Smith, suffered a heart attack and died March 13 in Seneca, PA. In addition to Suzanne, she is survived by her husband; Suzanne's two siblings; her own four siblings; and four grandchildren. Services will be held at the convenience of the family.

## Lay Pastoral Care Associates

We need to talk with each other – especially friends we haven't been in touch with lately. The winter and these COVID times come with lots of stress, and sometimes sadness or depression. If you or someone you care about is in that situation, please feel free to be in touch with one of your UCH Lay Pastoral Care Associates. Trained listeners who will respect your privacy, we serve to support our UCH's pastoral ministry.

### Who should contact 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

You can call the church at 717-564-4761 ext. 707 if need be.

*– Submitted by Jim Cavanaugh*

### UCH Pastoral Associates



Jim Cavanaugh



Nan Cavanaugh



Ray Harris



Kathy Stewart

Date	Time	Group	Location
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<b>Wed 2</b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>QueenSpirit (Monthly)</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
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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 embodied female pleasure. Led by Ramona Ndlovu and Ann Stillwater, we will be exploring the connection between our bodies, our spirituality, our sexuality and pleasure through discussion and embodied practices. You are invited to create a nurturing space (ideally private and quiet) which could include anything that supports the enjoyment of your senses. This could include things such candles, incense, flowers, lighting, a yoga mat, blanket, pillows. Dress comfortably to support (wink, wink) a variety of movements.

QueenSpirit is a co-created women’s spirituality group. All who identify as women are welcome. March’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 the Zoom link and any further information.



<b>Fri 4</b>	<b>Various</b>	<b>Heart Rhythm Meditation</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
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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](#))

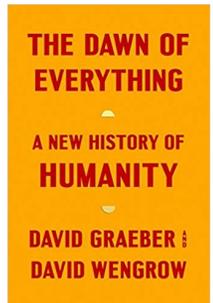
People can drop in or out as they want. Please contact [Libby Tisdell](mailto:Libby.Tisdell@uch.edu) for additional information.



<b>Sun 13</b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>Philosophy and Literature Group (Monthly)</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
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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 *The Dawn of Everything: A New History of Humanity*, by David Graeber and David Wengrow. From Amazon:

For generations, our remote ancestors have been cast as primitive and childlike—either free and equal innocents, or thuggish and warlike. Civilization, we are told, could be achieved only by sacrificing those original freedoms or, alternatively, by taming our baser instincts. David Graeber and David Wengrow show how such theories first emerged in the eighteenth century as a conservative reaction to powerful critiques of European society posed by Indigenous observers and intellectuals. Revisiting this encounter has startling implications for how we make sense of human history today, including the origins of farming, property, cities, democracy, slavery, and civilization itself.



On the horizon:

- 🕒 **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.

<b>Tue 22</b>	<b>6:30</b>	<b>Auction Planning Committee</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
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**Date:** Nov. 5, 2022 **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.

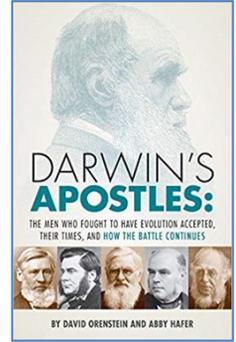
Date	Time	Group	Location
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Wed 23	7:00	Humanist Lay-Led Ministry	Zoom
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The Humanist LLM is sponsoring a Zoom presentation with Dr. David Orenstein, author of *Darwin's Apostles*. Dr. Orenstein is a professor of anthropology at the City University of New York (CUNY) Medgar Evers College. He is an international speaker and author on science education, evolution acceptance, and human rights. Dr. Orenstein is also the American Humanist Association's representative to the U.N. His early training as a primatologist has led to a lifetime of humanist activism and concern for our understanding of the cosmos, the Earth and our shared humanity.

As a side note, in celebration of Darwin's birthday on February 12 and Darwinist UU singer-songwriter Peter Mayer, Rachel Mark has created the [video](#), *Do You Really Want to Know*, with technical help from Bill Brown. Enjoy!

For further information, please contact [Rachel Mark](#).



## March Share the Plate: Pennsylvania Religious Coalition for Reproductive Justice

Each month, we share the Sunday plate with a local non-profit. This month, we share with the Pennsylvania Religious Coalition for Reproductive Justice.

The [Pennsylvania Religious Coalition for Reproductive Justice](#) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that:

- Provides timely and accurate information to its supporters to keep them apprised of proposed legislation that might affect a woman's ability to make decisions about her health.
- Develops strategic partnerships with activists working for reproductive justice in the Commonwealth, such as Pennsylvanians for Choice and Planned Parenthood, to offer a faith-based voice to their work.
- Provides educational and advocacy materials to people of faith so that they may attempt to influence decision-makers to achieve the goal of reproductive justice for all.

### Pennsylvania Religious Coalition for Reproductive Justice

*We support reproductive justice because of our faith.*

UCH member Barbara Pearce is co-president of the organization, and UCH member Jim Cavanaugh is president emeritus and treasurer.

— Submitted by UCH Finance Committee

## 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



## 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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