

CONNECTIONS

March 2018

Message from Our Minister

2017-2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Athey
Jan Arenson
Rachel Coffey
Kay Elizabeth
Pat Field
Peter Hartranft
Lois Hoffman
Merry Ostheimer
Jeff Ramberg
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Expanding Our UUFN Culture of Care

When I have spoken with people at UUFN, I have found each of you to be people of caring hearts. However, you also have sometimes expressed that there are times when people will fall through the cracks and not receive the care that is available.

There is now good news that will strengthen our network of care.

Both our Pastoral Care and Helping Hands Committees have renewed energy to expand the caring heart at the center of UUFN. Each member has already received, or will receive, a letter from your pastoral caregiver, explaining the proactive side of Pastoral Care. The letter is from your pastoral caregiver who will be reaching out and checking in with you from time to time just to see how things are going. And you will have a specific person to reach out to, when you are in time of need.



Helping Hands and Pastoral Care together will be encouraging the whole congregation to be a part of our caring connections. When your pastoral caregiver learns of an issue or celebration in your life, and with your permission, she or he will let others know. In this way, more people will know what's happening in your life here at UUFN and can reach out with acknowledgement, help, or celebration.

Helping Hands is now actively expanding its list of volunteers. So if you want to assist in a more formal way with rides, meals, memorial services, and in a multitude of ways to help when needed, let them know you want to be added to the list using helpinghands@uufn.org.

I am hopeful that this expansion of the UUFN culture of care will strengthen the wellbeing of our community and increase the feeling of connection for all.

May all be well with you,

Rev Paula Maiorano

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or email a request to:
officeadmin@uufn.org

Letter from the President

The Stewardship Campaign

One of my favorite movies, *Dr. Strangelove*, is subtitled, “How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love The Bomb.” OK, so maybe this job of president has not taught me to love The Bomb, but it has taught me to at least cut back a little with the worrying.

Last month, I reported that we did not yet have a chair for the Stewardship Committee, but that the campaign was nevertheless moving forward with a March launch. Sure enough, we now have someone to chair the Stewardship Committee; thank you, Carol Boncelet!

I don't want to steal too much of her thunder, as you can read her stewardship article in this newsletter. The campaign will kick off on Sunday, March 4, and has the theme, “Funding Our Future.” The pledge income target will be ambitious, but not impossible.

The 2018-19 UUFN Budget

There are a lot of exciting things going on at UUFN, but a very basic, fundamental requirement is that we have a functioning building in which to house them. In recent years, we have accumulated probably around \$100,000 in deferred maintenance, basically because we did not have the money in the budget to attend to this necessary maintenance, and our campus shows it. I have asked the Finance Committee to begin work on next year's budget, and they have delivered. By the time you read this, the Board and Lay Leaders will have seen and commented on it, and then it will be time for you to have your say. We will be rolling out the draft budget in March. I think it will complement the stewardship campaign nicely in that it will show, assuming healthy pledge income, an appreciable sum of money that we can allocate toward addressing some of that \$100,000 or so of deferred maintenance. That should energize people because it means that we should be able to tackle at least one of these big-ticket repairs this year.

Special congregational meeting for new by-laws adoption

Such a budget review meeting of the congregation could follow the special congregational meeting planned for **March 18** for the purpose of voting on the proposed by-laws changes developed over the past two years by the By-laws Task Force. An overview of the by-laws changes that we have in mind was presented at the fall congregational meeting, and the task force has since hosted several meetings to discuss these changes as well as new Board Policies. The reason for a special congregational meeting is that there will not be enough time to consider this topic at the annual meeting, but that it would be desirable to have the new by-laws in place by the time the new Board officers take their respective offices.

In fellowship,

Jeff

Religious Education

This month the Youth Group will be presenting an intergenerational service on March 18th . The theme is “balance.” Come learn what our youth have to say about this important topic.

Our Chalice Children continue to thrive in our nurturing space, playing together and practicing our chalice lighting words.

The Roots and Shoots class is moving into CATS! They will be discussing pet cats as well as wild cats and then later will decide on a project. They hope to have a visit from Forgotten Cats to learn about what they do.

The Coming of Age group is continuing to research and prepare for their upcoming pilgrimage to Boston. They are also working hard on fundraising for the trip. Don't miss the exciting Escape Room / chili dinner they have planned for us on March 10th.





UUFN Sunday Services



March 4—Stewardship Sunday: Giving as a Spiritual Path

Our religious community and spiritual home is nourished by the annual pledges we make each year. As we kick off the March Stewardship Campaign, it is a good time to reflect on what makes generosity and giving a spiritual path. Presented by Rev. Paula Maiorano.

March 11—The Upside of Shame

Our affective experiences are messages from our inner being. Even shame is a message, and it doesn't need to be as painful as we sometimes experience it. Come join us in an exploration of paths to the Upside of Shame. Presented by Pat Field

March 18—Balance

Presented by the YoUth GroUp

March 25—Appreciation and Gratitude

Presented by Rev. David Pyle

UUFN Springtime Choir!

The Choir will sing May 6, which is flower communion, and hopefully June 3, which is the coming of age worship service.

We will rehearse from nine to 9:30 AM on the following dates in MacKinnon hall:

February 25	May 6 - rehearse and sing in the service
March 11	May 20
March 25	May 27
April 8	June 3 -rehearse and sing in the service
April 22	

Please join us. The more the merrier!

March Share the Plate Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence



DELAWARE COALITION
AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

March is Women's History Month, so the UUFN Social Justice Committee selected The Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence (DCADV) as our March Share the Plate recipient. DCADV is the statewide, nonprofit coalition of agencies and individuals working to stop domestic violence in Delaware. We work in partnership with direct service providers, government officials, and business and community partners to promote equality in relationships as we strive to alter the social conditions that allow violence and abuse to occur.

Committee Updates and Announcements

2018/2019 Stewardship Campaign: Funding our Future

Our annual Stewardship Campaign helps us plan for the following year. Stewardship occurs in March, so we can create our budget before the spring congregation meeting. We must first know our projected income before we can plan our expenses. Can we add staff? Can we repair the building? Can we pave the parking lot? Before we can make these decisions, we need to know how much money we will have. Our Stewardship pledge payments generate about 80% of our income for the year.

You are responsible for Funding Our Future. So am I. We all are.

If you are reading this, you are somehow connected to UUFN. Maybe you attend weekly services. Maybe you bring your children to RE. Maybe you come to meditate, walk the labyrinth, or help at Code Purple. All UUFN Members have agreed to make a financial pledge to our Fellowship and honor that pledge. All UUFN Friends are encouraged to pledge.

How can you determine your financial commitment this year? Consider three components:

- the depth of your connection to UUFN
- your financial resources
- the importance of UUFN in your life

Is UUFN a place where you can be your true self? Think how you feel during a worship service, hearing your children describe their RE experience, receiving a caring card, sitting in the mediation room, sharing chili, attending a panel discussion, or witnessing a march of 1,000+ people. How valuable is that to you?

As I wrote this article, I realized that I have been under-pledging. I am deeply connected to UUFN, I have financial resources, and it is important to me that UUFN is active in the community. Therefore, I will be increasing my pledge this year. I hope you can join me.

Please pledge generously.

Thank you,

Carol Boncelet, your Stewardship Campaign Chair

Social Justice Committee

There's always something coming up on the calendar from our active Social Justice and Green Sanctuary Committees. We'd love to have you come to a meeting to find out how you can help with one or two of our upcoming events. The Social Justice Committee holds their regular monthly meeting on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 11:30 in the Olympia Brown Lounge. Just show up and bring your enthusiasm!

On February 25th the committee co-sponsored 2 events. The first was a Legislative Forum co-sponsored with Delaware United and UUDAN. The second was a Discussion on Ending Gun Violence with members of the local community who are beginning to organize.

Committee Chairs Needed:

Thank you to Mike and Cathay Keough for co-ordinating our Code Purple Team for the 2016 - 2018 seasons. They will be retiring at the end of this CP season and we are currently looking for a new co-ordinator. Contact Mike codepurple@uufn.org.

Every 4th Thursday, except for Thanksgiving, UUFN hosts at **Hope Dining Room**. Thank you to Janet Louise for serving as a co-ordinator. She would love to have a co-ordinator! If you could fill that role please contact Janet hopediningroom@uufn.org. Our enthusiastic team serves about 60 guests each time!

Looking Ahead ...

Donna Shand will be attending Anti-Racism Training in York, PA at the end of March. The cost for the Friday-Sunday conference is \$160. Scholarships and home stays are available. If this interests you please talk to Donna.

On April 28th there will be a Anti Racism Conference in Wilmington, with follow up study circles. Rev. Paula has asked that we coordinate carpooling/bussing from Newark, advertise, and help promote the conference and study circles. More information to come!

The 2018 Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community will be held on Saturday, June 9, 2018, at Frawley Stadium. The Walk will benefit 23 health and human service organizations. UUFN will be teaming up with the Newark Interfaith Communities organization to benefit Friendship House (Code Purple and the Newark Empowerment Center). Contact Donna Shand donnashand15@gmail.com if you're interested in being UUFN's team captain!

Additional future events include upcoming events around the Gun Violence issue, a Celebration of Immigrants in June, and Peace Week in September. And our welcoming Congregation Committee has plans to bring a special Transgender Awareness Program to UUFN in the future as well

Events

Visit the uufn.org [Events page](#) to see a full list of upcoming public events.

Visit the uufn.org [Calendar](#) to find out about committee meetings and recurring events.

Escape Theology!
(and eat some chili when you're done)
Saturday, March 10
5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

The Coming of Age class is putting together a fun evening for you! Have you heard of Escape Rooms? Escape Rooms are a fun and exciting experience where you have to solve puzzles, riddles, and games to "escape". The COA class has learned about different types of religions this year and they have designed three Escape Rooms based on these themes. Join us for UUFN award winning chili, corn-bread, and desserts then enjoy some fun entertainment with the escape rooms! The first Escape Experience will start at 5:00 p.m., the last will start at 8:00 p.m. The money raised will help fund the COA pilgrimage trip to Boston. Please see the COA table during Coffee Hour or contact Rachael Coffey for more information.

Saving Snow
Sunday, March 4
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

The Green Sanctuary Committee presents a film called "Saving Snow" about the impact of the Ski Industry on both the environment and economies of their community.

Five Wishes Follow-up
Saturday, March 10
9:30 a.m.-12 noon

Come join the Pastoral Care Givers as we present this follow-up to our January presentation on the "Five Wishes" advance directive document. Completing "Five Wishes" is a gift to your family, friends and your doctor because it keeps them out of the difficult position of having to guess what kind of treatment you want or don't want. At this session we will have several tables so that those at different stages of the process, including those working on the basic concerns to those near ready to sign and witness their document, will each have people to work with. Those who attended the May workshop as well as complete beginners are also welcome.

Stewardship Kickoff Luncheon
Sunday, March 4
following the service

The theme this year is:

Funding Our Future
(some assembly required)

Come to our luncheon - no speakers, just come and build your own lunch.

We will be serving family style. Carnivores, Vegetarians and Vegans are welcome.

The UUFN is an extended family, so everyone is welcome. Stewardship pledge cards will be available.

Ladies Lunch Bunch
Tuesday, March 20, 12:30 p.m.

Olive Tree at Route 4 and Marrows Road. Contact Mary Cannon (or Barbara Jezl ladieslunch@UUFN.org) for reservations.

Thank you!

2018 UUFN Service Auction
Saturday May 5, 5:30-9:00
Bob & Michael's Broadway aUdition Results

To put the fun in fundraising and get ready for our Broadway theme, UUFN Service Auction Chairs Bob Lillich and Michael Hoffman went to the Big Apple and auditioned for some of your favorite Broadway shows.

What can you do to get ready? Starting thinking about what services you can offer to others! Can you speak, sing or dance? Are you good with lights or sound? Can you build sets? Or maybe you can feed the backstage crew. Find ideas and last year's catalog on the Auction link at the UUFN website, www.uufn.org.

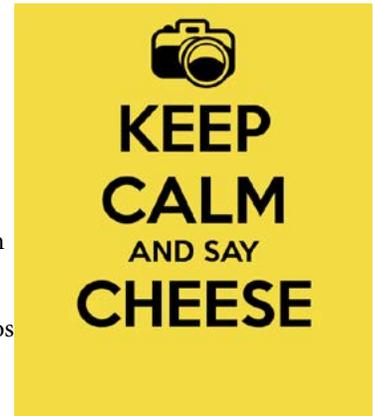


It's Photo Directory Time Again – March 29, 30, 31

Every three years we look backward in time, and forward. A wonderful scrapbook with photos of wonderful events gone by (send yours for this year to photodirectory@uufn.org.) and a section with YOUR picture to help us know that “this is us!”

You receive a FREE 8x10 photo and FREE photo directory. And 20% off if you purchase extra photos for folks 64+ or having connections with the military, first responders or law enforcement. The easiest way to sign up is online – Go to uufn.org, click on “News and Events,” then “Congregation News” and find the photo directory article and click on its title. Click on the picture NOW to schedule your photo session when YOU want it. Show others who you are and find out who you talked to in coffee hour. Bring your pets. Bring precious family heirlooms.

Or sign up in person at the Photo Directory table in Coffee Hour. Pricing sheets and other brochures are available. PLEASE get your freebies and have as many of us as we can in our new directory – besides, “You look fantastic!”



Monthly Meetings

Recurring committee meetings and social gatherings are a great way to stay involved throughout the month. Some groups are more structured than others, so if you're new, please check the [calendar](#) or reach out to the organizer to confirm dates and times!

[Wednesday Coffee Group](#).....Every Wednesday, Panera Bread on Main Street, 9:00–11:00 a.m.

[Zen Meditation](#)Every Wednesday, 6:30–8:15 p.m.

[Women's Spirituality](#).....2nd Tuesday, 7:00–8:30 p.m.

[UUFN Board Meeting](#)2nd Wednesday, 6:45–9:00 p.m.

[Social Justice Committee Meeting](#)2nd Sunday, 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

[Ladies Lunch Bunch](#)..... Usually 3rd Tuesday of the Month, time and location vary

[Communications Committee Meeting](#)....3rd Thursday, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

[Hope Dining Room](#).....4th Thursday, Kingswood United Methodist Church, 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

[Friday Game Night](#).....4th Friday, 6:00–9:00 p.m.

UUFN Fire Drill Protocol

When the Fire Alarm sounds:

MACKINNON HALL

1. Calmly exit the building through the nearest safe exit. Move to the far right away from the entrance to the parking lot to allow the fire truck to enter.
2. Adults without children in RE should walk across Willa Road and gather at the West Park Elementary School field.
3. If you have a child in RE please meet them at the designated area; alert the teacher and sign your child out, then proceed across the street with your child.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSROOMS

1. Calmly gather children and lead them from the building by way of the nearest safe exit. One adult should be at the head of the group and one behind. Please bring the attendance book with you. Fire exit routes are posted on the inside of each classroom door.
2. Move by the safest route to the paved circle with a bench in the far right (SE) corner in front of the building. This is in the green space between the parking lot and the sidewalk at the far end away from the entrance where cars enter.
3. Once there, keep children together and take attendance.
4. Do not release children from your care until a parent/guardian comes to sign them out and escort them across the street.

5. When all children are picked up you may join the rest of the congregation across Willa Road on the West Park Elementary School field.

NURSERY (CHALICE CHILDREN)

1. Move the children in stages. First outside the building. Then outside the playground, then across the parking lot.
2. One parent of each child in the nursery is permitted, upon leaving the building, to go to the outside entrance of the nursery to provide assistance in evacuating the nursery. A parent who does so should remain with their child and the nursery group until all children are moved to the waiting area.

IF YOU BECOME AWARE OF A FIRE BUT THE ALARM HAS NOT SOUNDED

Fire alarm pulls are located at all the outside exits in the main building and Fahs Hall. Do not call 911. The worship leader and associate will be responsible for seeing that 911 is called.

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

There are fire extinguishers throughout the main building and Fahs Hall. Please make sure that you know where these fire extinguishers are located. The main building is also equipped with a fire suppression sprinkler system throughout the building. This system uses water, not chemicals.

UUFN revised 12/17

Coming soon ...

One form to inform them all

The Communications Committee is in the final stages of creating a single event/article form for submissions to the Sunday Order of Service, weekly UUpdate and monthly Connections newsletter.

This streamlined process will make it easier for everyone to get the word out about their events and projects! In the meantime, keep sending submissions to update@uufn.com, newsletter@uufn.com and officeadmin@uufn.com.

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Newark
420 Willa Road
Newark, Delaware 19711
uufn.org

