



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Newark

A community of spiritual seekers inspired to promote a just and compassionate world

UUpdate August 30, 2019

The Week Ahead

Sunday, September 1

9:15am UUFN Bistro (OB) 9:15-10:15am

10:30am Worship & Religious Education

12:00pm RE Committee Meeting

Monday, September 2

7:00pm Yoga with Dona Zingaro (W) 7-8pm

Tuesday, September 3

10:00am Treasurer & Bookkeeper Office Hour (office) 10-11am

6:00pm Ukulele Group (OB) 6 - 7:30pm

6:30pm Long Range Planning Cmt mtg (BD)

Wednesday, September 4

9:00am Panera Coffee Group

4:30pm Minister SRST meeting (B) 4:30-6pm

6:30pm Zen Meditation (TP) 6:30-8:15p

Sunday, September 8

9:15am Choir Practice (M)

9:15am UUFN Bistro (OB) 9:15-10:15am

10:30am Worship & Religious - IN GATHERING

11:45am Lay Leader Council Mtg (M)

11:30pm 2nd Sunday Potluck

Monday, September 9

6:30pm LDC (B) 6:30-7:30pm

7:00pm Open Chalice Circle (Sept) OB 7-9pm

7:00pm Yoga with Dona Zingaro (W) 7-8pm

Tuesday, September 10

10:00am Treasurer & Bookkeeper Office Hour (office) 10-11am

1:00pm Helping Hand Committee Meeting (OB) 1-2:30pm

6:30pm Women's Spirituality Group (OB) 6:30-9:00pm

CHOIR first rehearsal: Sunday, Sept 8th, 9:15-10:15 am

Upcoming Services

August is Bring-a-Friend Month

September 1— Work and Values

Presenter: Gary Jackoway

In this interactive service, we will discuss how our work — in the workplace, in the home, in the community and at UUFN — informs our values; and how our values inform our work.

September 8—In-gathering Water Communion Service for All

Presenter: Rev. Don Garrett

The Water Communion is a traditional Unitarian Universalist celebration of life, equality, diversity and freedom. Everyone is invited to bring a small vial of water from summer memories to this in-gathering service and add to our common bowl. Come celebrate!

September Share-the-Plate is Planned Parenthood

Today, Planned Parenthood is a trusted health care provider, an informed educator, a passionate advocate, and a global partner helping similar organizations around the world. Planned Parenthood delivers vital reproductive health care, sex education, and information to women, men and young people

Why I Decided to Serve as UUFN President, What I Learned. And Why You Can Do It Too!

Two years ago, when the UUFN was looking for its next President-Elect and President, Carol Boncelet and I had a conversation in which we decided that it was our turn to serve, that we were up to the task, and that we would support each other. And we have done just that.

We joked about our secret goal for the year, which was to make the job of President “less heinous”. The “common rumor” out there is that UUFN burns out its presidents and that’s why those folks stop participating actively at UUFN after their tenure ends and that’s why we can’t get folks to step up.

I am here to say that this is SIMPLY NOT TRUE.

Of the last 25 presidents, going back to the mid-80’s, about half have moved away for various reasons (that had nothing to do with UUFN) and UUFN has at least TWELVE (most of the other half) past-presidents who are still actively participating at UUFN!

The Board worked hard this past year to simplify the governance structure and Board size at UUFN and create policies to make Committee and Team work and communication clear and easy. We are in good shape organizationally and financially.

So, really, the job of being President, or even being on the Board, is not heinous at all.

It does take work, but, in fact, it’s been mostly GREAT.

Being President has been rewarding and I have made new friends. I have been “in the know” about what’s going on at my beloved UUFN and been able to be part of making things better. I have learned new things about myself, and my leadership and organizational skills have improved.

The two things that have been the downside of being President for me (Karen) are:

1. *Bad things that happened that one cannot control* – with luck, none of these will happen when you are President, and if they do, you’ll deal with them and you’ll have the support of wonderful folks on the board with you.
2. *When I felt like I was drowning in email*. The President does not need to get an email from every committee about every meeting! The President does not need to get an email when the paper towels have run out again in the bathroom! With our new organizational structure

and the enhanced role of the Program Coordinator, we can reduce the flow of unnecessary email, communicating what is essential through Committee Chairs and Board Liaisons. This thing we CAN control!

The President's stated job in our Bylaws is to convene and run monthly Board meetings and 3 Congregational meetings per year. When everyone knows and does their (reasonably-sized) job, this is a reasonably-sized task for the President.

Taking on the mantle of Leadership involves a Leap of Faith – and isn't that what being part of UUFN is all about? You can do it. We will support you. And you will be a better person for it. Isn't that what the search for truth and meaning is all about?

Feel free to talk to me any time. Go For It!!
Blessings,
Karen Barker



Social Justice Events

Peace Week Reminder:

During September, UUFN will be a collection site for two Peace Week initiatives. Boxes are in the foyer of the building, along with flyers listing the types of items needed.

- Syrian Refugees. This initiative of Pacem in Terris and the Palestinian Children's Relief Fund seeks to help the millions of refugees displaced by the war in Syria.

- Change the Cycle Menstrual Products. Tampons, pads, panty liners and cups—items that can't be purchased with food stamps or WIC—will help poor women in our community maintain their personal hygiene, health, and dignity.

Transgender Inclusion in Congregations

Presented by the Transforming Hearts Collective This free, six-week online program will be cosponsored by the United Church of Christ and the UUFN Welcoming Congregation Committee on **Wednesdays, Sept. 25-Oct. 30, 6:30-8:00 pm**. Explore the intersection of trans identity, spirituality, and faith community and gain the grounding, context, and skills to transform yourself and your congregation. Lectures are pre-recorded so that you can view them at any time. In addition, the facilitators will hold regular live video chats for participants. The first 3 sessions will be at UCC, the next 3 at UUFN. For more information or to register, contact Jan Owens at welcoming@uufn.org.

**Please check your September UUFN newsletter,
Connections
for more Peace Week Events and information.**

Upcoming September Events

Chalice Circle Enrollment in September Chalice Circles are a form of small group worship and are also a great way to get to know people on a deep level in a very short time. In September we will be enrolling for the 2019-20 Chalice Circle program. To enroll, stop by the Circle table in Fahs Hall at coffee hour and fill out a schedule of when you can meet or contact chalicecircles@uufn.org to enroll or ask questions.

Sunday, September 8th - Lay Leaders Council meeting & Potluck lunch The Lay Leaders Council is the combination of the Lay Leaders meetings we have held over the past few years and the Committee Council. At this meeting will be discussing the new leadership chart (new board positions, teams & committees), committee/team finances, and a Long Range Planning update. Our new minister, Rev. Garrett will join us for this event.

Monday, September 9th - Open Chalice Circle— A beginning of the church year circle. The theme is Expectation. All are welcome. For both those who want to try out a circle before committing to a monthly one and those whose schedule and/or inclinations do not permit regular attendance. A chalice circle is a great way to get to know people on a deep level in a very short period of time. Please RSVP by 5pm Sunday, September 8th. If you come without RSVPing, please be sure to be on time.

Saturday, September 14 – all Fellowship Day of Service!

Please come help maintain our building and grounds. We are a Fellowship – and that means we are all in this together! We will have tasks for all skill levels and interests. Plus it's a great way to get to know other UUFNers. Please sign up at coffee hour today. Your Property Committee.

Sunday, September 22 – Adams Cassinga from

ConserveCongo will be talking with our RE group about efforts to combat wild game poaching in the Democratic Republic of Congo. He will be available during Coffee Hour so that adults may talk with him.

Monday, September 23, 7-8pm –Peace Week and Equinox

Labyrinth Walk The Fall Equinox is the time when the length of day and night are equal. How do you balance the light in your life with the darkness? How do you find this balance in your search for peace? Enjoy a candle-lit labyrinth walk at UUFN from 7-8pm.

The grocery card program at UUFN is a valuable fundraiser that nets us about \$2500 per year. UUFN buys grocery cards in bulk at a 5% discount and sells them at face value. When you buy an Acme, Food Lion, Giant, Newark Natural Foods, Shoprite, or Zingos card at face value, you get that full amount to spend. UUFN gets the 5% profit. So bring your checkbook or exact change, and help support our good work here at UUFN.

Some additional dates to put on your calendar:

October 13, 2019 Fall Congregational Meeting
October 19, 2019 UUFN Hosting Delmarva Cluster
January 26, 2020 Winter Congregational Meeting
May 17, 2020 Spring Congregational Meeting

Worship Workshop on Wednesday, October 2nd at 7PM

A major aspect that makes UUFN a fellowship is lay involvement in worship. You too can develop and lead a service at UUFN. Come to the Worship Workshop on Wednesday, October 2nd at 7PM to learn more. Learn how to create a service, both the general approach to worship and the specific details of worship at UUFN. Even if you don't have a service idea (yet), come explore this integral part of UUFN life.

Please direct any calendar/date questions to
programs@uufn.org

Know what's going on in September--

Read your UUFN newsletter,

CONNECTIONS!