

# Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Newark

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

#### **UUpdate December 27, 2019**

#### The Week Ahead

#### Friday, December 27

1:00pm 4th Friday Chalice Circle (OB) 1-3pm

6:00pm 4th Friday Game Night (M-as available) 6-9pm

#### Sunday, December 29

9:15am Choir Practice (M)

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

10:30am Worship & Religious Education

#### Monday, December 30

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

#### Tuesday, December 31

10:00am Treasurer & Bookkeeper Office Hour (office) 10-11am 8:00pm Labyrinth Walk - New Years Eve Labyrinth Walk(M) 8-10p

Learn more at <a href="http://uufn.org/calendar/">http://uufn.org/calendar/</a>!

# **Share the Plate—December**

**December's Share the Plate recipient is New Start Adult Literacy Program.** This program was founded in 1985. The program provides New Castle Co. adults with free instruction in speaking, reading and writing English. The classes are offered at Bear and Newark libraries, Red Lion Methodist church, and St. Joseph Catholic Church in Middletown.

# **Celebrating the 2019 Holiday Season at UUFN**

### Friday, December 27 7:00 pm ~ Fourth Friday Game Night

A monthly event at UUFN, the December 4th Friday Game Night is always a highlight as gamers bring the new board games they received as gifts during the holiday! Come out and join the fun! Find out more about this monthly event by visiting the 4th Friday Game Night Webpage.

#### Sunday, December 29

# 10:30 am ~ Janus: Looking Back & Forward Sunday Service

UUFN member Jane Luke will facilitate this interactive service where we will discuss our experiences over the last year and our hopes for 2020. As is our custom there will be an opportunity for coffee and conversation after the service.

#### Tuesday, December 31 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm ~ New Year's Eve Labyrinth Walk

Enjoy a peaceful, candle-lit Labyrinth Walk to end the old year and start the new year with love and gratitude. If the spirit moves you please bring some treats for our sharing space, in the Olympia Brown Room, to enjoy with others before or after your time experiencing the labyrinth.



#### Let's lock up when finished!

If it seems as though you are the last one out of the building, you probably are, even if you spot another car in the parking lot. (Some folks may be carpooling to another event.) Please make sure that the front, breezeway, south hallway and MacKinnon kitchen doors are locked. We are using the MacKinnon kitchen every Sunday now, so this door gets used for ingress/egress, and this door is easily overlooked when we finish up.

#### **Holiday Food Drive**

Many thanks to our awesome Youth for stoking the spirit of generosity during our holiday food drive, and to all the giving folk who responded with such bounty! Our collection will be part of the Newark Area Welfare Committee's annual distribution of more than 300 boxes of food to area families in need.



#### **Looking Ahead**

# COMING TO UUFN JANUARY 2020 "Greta's Friends – Unitarian Universalists for Nature"

**January 5 – 10:30-11:30** for children during RE and **11:30am-12:30pm** (snacks included!) for adults,

families, children

Through a grant from the Delaware Invasive Species Council, the **UUFN RE, Landscape**, and **Social Justice** teams will be bringing a very exciting program to the Fellowship! Open to adults, families and children, the "Greta's Friends – Unitarian Universalists for Nature", will be an ongoing Adult and Children Religious Exploration project focusing on the UUFN woods – one of the largest remaining, privately-owned woodlots in the City of Newark. The program will involve learning about ecosystems, food chains, pollinators and native plants that support the health of the land, as well as non-native plants that invade. It will include games and activities for all ages and hands-on learning led by trained Habitat Stewards, Biologists and Arborists.



## UUFN Lunch Bunch in January January 21, 2020 (3rdTuesday) 12:30 PM

The Lunch Bunch will be gathering at Caffe Gelato on Main Street Newark. For reservations and

information on ridesharing contact Barbara Jezl.

## White Christmas, Green Fellowship

It is again the White Christmas Holiday event. When you get new toys, bring the Styrofoam to UUFN and we will recycle it. When you get new electronics, we can help recycle old electronics. In January, Kip will be gone and needs some help in absentia. Please help the **Green Fellowship Team** members move this recycle to Fellowship Hall.

#### **Grants approved by Endowment Committee**

The UUFN Endowment Committee is happy to announce the approval of funds for seven grant applications submitted in November. Because moneys available were less than the total of all grant requests, some requests could not be fully funded, but all applications were approved. Grants were approved for the following committees: Religious Education, Communications, Property, and Long Range Planning

#### **Religious Education Notes**

#### **Successful Fundraising**

Thank you to Barbara Hebner for her heroic (and very successful) efforts to raise money for the youth group trip to GA through jewelry sales.

Thanks to everyone who has had the youth come out to their home in exchange for donations, you have all been very generous. We apologize if we have not gotten to you yet. In an effort to help everyone with their projects the Young Adults will now be taking on the overflow. A large number of them would also like to attend GA this summer so we will be extending our fundraising opportunity to them. Continue to contact Juan or <a href="mailto:dre@uufn.org">dre@uufn.org</a> with your requests and we will do our best to schedule you in a timely manner.



#### **Looking Further Ahead**

# Women's Spirituality Group January 14 The healing power of smudging.

Gather at 6:30, session starts at 7:30.

What is smudging? It is more than waving around a burning bundle of herbs. It is a cleansing ritual to purify your home, remove negative energy from your body, and to attract positive energy and bring peace into your life.

Learn about all of the many different herbs and crystals to use, learn about alternative ways to smudge without smoke, sound and feather smudging. When is the best time of day to smudge? Are there better times than others? You will go home with a smudge stick of your choice, if you wish.

For those of you who wish to stay until 8:30 we will smudge each other and smudge the UUFN. We will use smoke and nonsmoke inside and out. So those who can't tolerate smoke will be safe. We will clear, empower, bless and produce positive energy for our spiritual home.

Blessed Be, Amen, Aho, Shalom, Namaste, Love.

# SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, January 18, 2020 Delaware Women's March, Originating at the UUFN Parking Lot

2020 is a very significant year: it's the centennial of when women were granted the right to vote; and it is an election year, when the power of our vote could change the trajectory of history. In rising to celebrate our own vote, women rise for equal voting rights for all. We hope you can lend a hand and your voice on January 18. Be on the lookout for more details.



#### MLK Weekend Events

## January 19 & 20

UUFN has a special opportunity to partner with the Newark NAACP, the Newark United Church of Christ, St.John's UAME Church and other local faith and community groups, to present a meaningful series of events to celebrate the life and work of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during MLK weekend in January.

### Here is what we need:

- 1. The names of volunteers who can commit to helping on Monday, January 20 at the George Wilson Center. This will involve moving tables, carrying boxes of food, checking in the guests, helping with parking and traffic, supplying hand-trucks, and other jobs as they become known.
- 2. Folks who can bring snacks, sweets, cheese and crackers, drinks, cups, napkins, plates, etc., to the worship celebration and reception on Sunday, January 19.

 $Email\ \underline{socialjustice@uufn.org}\ to\ volunteer.$ 

# Conflict Transformation in Congregations Workshop March 7, 2020

As part of our Long-Range Action Plan, the Long Range Action team has as one of our goals to provide training in compassionate communication and conflict resolution so that we improve our skills and ability to support each other and maintain a safe space for all, even in difficult situations. To that end the LRP is hoping to recruit several members to attend workshop on "Conflict Transformation in Congregations" on March 7, 2020 in Silver Spring MD being sponsored by the Central East Region (CER). As described by CER – "Conflict in congregations can be distressing and divisive, and people often want to avoid it at all costs. But what if conflict was actually something that could be healthy and beneficial? Rather than seeing conflict as something

to be "resolved" or "managed," what if we understood conflict to be an opportunity for mutual learning and deepening relationships?"

