



UUSD Newsletter ■ November 2016

November 6 — A Service to Remember: Rev. Paula Maiorano, Interim Minister: At this historic time, with our first woman candidate running for president, it seems apt to remember Universalist minister, Olympia Brown. Not only was Rev. Olympia Brown the first woman ordained by a denomination, she was a religious leader who spent a lifetime advocating and working for a woman’s right to vote. Come hear her fascinating story.

November 13 — Where Do We Go From Here? Rev. Paula Maiorano, Interim Minister: The election season revealed the discord of polarities within the American people. How do we, the people, heal and come together for the good of all? This service grapples with this most important question.

November 20 — Simply Thanksgiving: Rev. Paula Maiorano, Interim Minister: While Thanksgiving is our broadest interfaith holiday; it can be fraught with complexities of family and cultures. It may be important to listen to one another’s perspectives, and to let Thanksgiving simply be Thanksgiving.

November 27 — Beloved Poetry: Carol Bruce, UUSD Member: Carol Bruce (with a little help from

her poetry-loving friends) leads a service on the beauty and spirituality of poetry. Poetry is the music of words — the tintinnabulation of sounds, images, and thoughts. Babies respond to it; children jump rope to it; lovers woo each other with it; and grown-ups find reasons to live in it. Come enjoy listening to it.

**Sunday Services at 10:00 a.m.
Religious Education & Childcare**

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NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING: DATE CHANGED TO NOVEMBER 15
The Board of Trustees has changed the date for their November meeting to Tuesday, November 15 at 7:00 p.m. at UUSD. This is a one-time change because of the election night. The agenda and meeting documents will be posted on the UUSD website (uusd.org). Check the homepage for information.

NEXT UUSD GAME NIGHT: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Don’t forget Game Night! The next one will be *Friday, November 18 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.*, and all UUSD members and friends are welcome! Feel free to bring friends with you too! Children are welcome to participate. Just bring a simple snack to share and come prepared to have a good time.

REV. PAULA MAIORANO, INTERIM MINISTER

A Consciousness of Caring



The poet William Blake has written that “we were made for joy and woe...and that under every grief and pine runs a joy with silken twine.” A religious community is closest only to the family in the intimacy of participation. At any given time, some are celebrating, some are stressed or ill, while others may be grieving. A sustained effort on the part of many has been made so that UUSD honors all of the variance of circumstances and emotion amongst ourselves.

As UUSD has been growing, so have the opportunities for small group ministries. The most noted among these are our covenant groups. A covenant group is a group of eight to twelve people who agree to meet, at a minimum, once a month. The purpose of a covenant group is to deepen connections with other UUs, to grow personally with a deepened spirituality and with an expanded knowledge of being a Unitarian Universalist. Care for self and others in the group is also part of a covenant group’s purpose. Some covenant groups have a service component.

A covenant group meeting lasts for two hours and includes opening words, a chalice lighting, personal sharing, a focus theme for reflection and dialogue, and an intentional close.

There is a Covenant Council with a representative from each group that meets with the minister several times a year for cross knowledge of group themes and to share best practices. A few covenant groups include a meal before or after the circle of sharing.

If you are interested in being a part of one of our covenant groups here at UUSD, please let me know at minister@uussd.org and I will help you connect.

With care and concern for all,

In peace, *Rev. Paula*

UUSD CELEBRATES FIRST YEAR SINCE NEW HOME DEDICATION


On October 23, UUSD held a very special worship service to celebrate the first year in our beautiful new home since the Dedication of our sanctuary in 2015. Rev. Paula gave a special sermon on “Celebrations!” and the readings reflected those from our Dedication service one year ago. Special musical remembrances from the Dedication Ceremony included “This Sacred House,” an original work created by UUSD member, Dianne Conine, and the choir’s beautiful interpretation of “Benedictus,” by D. Lewis. A festive celebration was held in the Gathering Area after services.

Rev. Paula Maiorano, Interim Minister, with the Celebration cake. Photo Credit: Sue Brown, Communications.



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN — GARY COLANGELO

BACK TO THE FUTURE THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE UUSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES



In August, 1648, a group of 65 Puritan congregations in Massachusetts and Connecticut came together and created the Cambridge Platform, which established a system of organization to be used by congregational religious groups. Although varying in religious tradition, the developers of the Cambridge Platform had a common need to define a form of church government in which governing authority is with the local congregation. Of the 65 congregations that ratified the Platform, 21 are members of the Unitarian Universalist Association today. The Cambridge Platform still serves as an important reference for UU congregation organization.

Fast forward: UUSD 2016

We started as a family congregation with strong values and expectations. We began, as many congregational groups do, in the homes of a few families with a vision for Southern Delaware. The vision and expectations grew, and now we are much more than a family congregation. With a home of our own, searching for a settled minister and a growing congregation that is trying to find its place in the world, a different type of leadership is needed. The Board of Trustees sensed this need for change when we convened last July. With the guidance of Rev. David Pyle, Congregational Life Staff, Central East Region, UUA, and Rev. Paula Maiorano, the Board decided to transition to a congregational board. The current UUSD operations/policy making board has served this congregation well. Supported by strong committee leadership, the Board guided UUSD through many changes and challenges, but could only focus on the short-term needs of the congregation. The Board of Trustees now desires to focus on the big picture and the future of UUSD — where are we going and what will it take to get us there? The proven congregational board model first defined in the Cambridge Platform will now be implemented in UUSD.

The Board has agreed to adopt the following five tasks of a congregational board:

- Congregational mission and vision
- Fiduciary control
- Policy development
- Strategic planning
- Mission assessment.

Performing these tasks will not allow the Board to handle the details of congregational life as it has been doing. An Executive Team will be established to handle UUSD operations. Critical for a functional congregational board is the understanding by board members that each member is a lay leader for UUSD. Actions of the UUSD congregational board will be based on an understanding of the culture of UUSD and the interests of the congregation, as well as an understanding of our mission and vision. Board members, hopefully, will grow to view their leadership as a spiritual journey with positive impacts on the future of UUSD.

To begin the transition to a congregational board, the following tasks have been started:

1. The Board will establish an Executive Team comprised of the Minister and two appointed non-Board members that will focus on UUSD operations and have the power to decide specifically how the congregation operates. The Board will monitor the work of the Executive Team.
2. The Board will take ownership of the Growth Plan and guide the current plan to completion, assuring that all initiatives are consistent with the UUSD Mission, Vision, and UU Principles.
3. The Board will redefine the Church Council into a Program Council that will have responsibility for UUSD programming. Congregational programs are all that we do and all that is important to the congregation, so this is an important area of responsibility. The Executive Team will rely on the Program Council and those committees that are already handling UUSD operations (finance, personnel, and property management).
4. The Board will review committee charges for consistency with the UUSD Mission and Vision and the current needs of the congregation.
5. The Board will commission an *ad hoc* committee to revise UUSD bylaws to reflect the establishment of a congregational board and to assure the bylaws are consistent with the needs, direction, and culture of UUSD.

In the New Year, a special congregational meeting will be called to update the congregation on the Board's transition and bylaw changes. At this meeting, we will also resolve the pending UUSD name change.

— Gary Colangelo, Board President

LIFESPAN FAITH DEVELOPMENT — AMBER PETERSON



As many of us will soon begin preparations for our holiday seasons, let us remember to share the joy of wonder in the eyes of the children of our congregation. There is magic in the air for many, and the children have a glorious appreciation for the changing of fall leaves, anticipation of snow-covered trees, and special times with family and friends not often seen.

Sometimes as we get older and busy with the duties of adulthood, we often take less time to appreciate the little things. But the young ones in our midst can help us remember the wonder of a decorated tree, the fun of jumping in a pile of leaves, and the joys of giving and receiving. If you have the opportunity, have a conversation with a little one studying a leaf or a youth gazing at the pond. Don't be afraid to talk to them because you don't know their name...they probably don't know yours either. Introduce yourself and ask a simple question like, "What do you think of the leaf you are holding?" You may get a shy smile and scampering off to a parent or you may get a simple or wildly unexpected answer. That's part of the beauty of talking with children...you never really know what they might say and sometimes, it will surprise you in amazing ways. We are here to teach and guide and help our young ones, but they can teach us things too.

So remember to see things through the eyes of a child from time to time, because there is wonder at every turn, if we just take the time to see it. Namaste.

Amber Peterson, Director, Lifespan Faith Development

NEWS FROM YOUR UUSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Want to know what the Board is talking about at their monthly meetings? Links to the meeting agenda and reports are on the UUSD website homepage and in the members-only section at <http://uusd.org/index.php/board-of-trustees-meeting-minutes.html>.

HIGHLIGHTS: OCTOBER 11, 2016 UUSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

— Gwen Johnson, Secretary, Board of Trustees

Approved: The Board approved the minutes of the September 13, 2016 meeting, the Financial Report, and the Interim Minister's report.

Financial Reports: Pat Murdock, Finance Officer

- Pat said UUSD is in a strong financial position based on the Financial Officer's report dated October 11, 2016.

Committee Report from Property (PM) Management: Deanna Duby, Co-Chair

- Deanna reported on items contained in the "Property Management Committee Report dated October 11, 2016." The report is on the UUSD website at <http://www.uusd.org/images/2016-Oct-BOT-meeting/Property-Management-Committee-report.pdf>. Deanna also discussed the PM proposal not to have a state trooper direct traffic in the off- season. From December — February, UUSD will not have a state trooper.
- The Board also unanimously approved a policy recommended by PM — "Amended Guidelines for Making Donations of Tangible Goods to UUSD." The amended policy is on the UUSD website at <http://www.uusd.org/index.php/blog/item/636-guidelines-for-making-donations-of-tangible-goods,-approved-by-board-of-trustee,-october-11,-2016.html>.

Growth Plan Update: JoAnne Saltzberg was unable to attend the Board meeting and no update was provided.

Plate Sharing: Walt Smith, BOT Member

- Walt said that research shows asking for share-the-plate donations may actually increase a congregation's offerings. Don Peterson, Chair of the Social and Environmental Justice Committee (S&EJ), said he would like to work with the plate sharing for our congregation. Don wanted the BOT to provide broad guidelines, and S&EJ would take over and provide policy. The BOT approved Don Peterson taking the lead on share-the-plate and come back to the BOT with recommendations.

UUSD Member Recognitions: Gary Colangelo, BOT President

- Gary recommended the minister recognize people that are made known by the BOT. Gary summarized that the Board should send thank you letters to committees again, and Board members should personally thank members of the congregation. Rev. Paula will continue to thank people personally. We will continue to have Volunteer Sunday.

UUSD name change – For Discussion: Gary Colangelo, BOT President

- Gary provided the BOT with a list of 13 names for UUSD from the Special Congregational Meeting February 15, 2015 at UUSD. The list is posted on the UUSD website at <http://www.uusd.org/images/2016-Oct-BOT-meeting/Name-change-documents.pdf>. The BOT will have a Congregational Meeting in January 2017 to have the members of the congregation select the name of their choice. Gary also said UUSD's legal name (Unitarian Universalist Society of Southern Delaware) would not change — only the name that UUSD is known by.

Policy Appendix A, Directed Donations: See item 3.a. under Property Management for discussion of this document.

Transition to a Congregational Board - Follow Up: Gary Colangelo, BOT President

Gary requested the BOT approve the draft “Unitarian Universalists of Southern Delaware Board of Trustees, Transitioning to a Congregational Board” so he can forward it to Rev. David Pyle for his input. The draft is posted on the UUSD website at <http://www.uussd.org/images/2016-Oct-BOT-meeting/Transition-White-Paper.pdf>. Rev. Paula provided background information for the visitors at the board meeting for moving to a Congregational Board. Gary said there will be a Special Congregational Meeting in January to discuss this change with the congregation.

DID YOU KNOW? — RON SCHAEFFER

**THE YEAR OF THE WOMAN SERIES
Part IV: Frances Ellen Watkins Harper**



In July, I began a series of monthly articles on famous Unitarian and Universalist women who played key roles in the suffrage movement in the U.S. Many women from different backgrounds and faiths played important roles in bringing about the right to vote for women in 1920. However, the leadership, and particularly the early leadership, came heavily from women who also found their religious faith in Unitarian or Universalist congregations. I have provided brief sketches of Lucy Stone, Julia Ward Howe, and Susan B. Anthony, all Unitarians, who attended Unitarian churches, and last month I included Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who was not affiliated with any church or religious organization. This month I will profile Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, born in 1825 to free African American parents in Baltimore, Maryland.

Her early formal education came from the tutoring of an educated uncle, and at age fourteen she went to work for a white family and had free access to their extensive library. This self-education helped her become a well-known lecturer and prolific writer in the nineteenth century. Abolitionist associations hired her to speak around the country, and she supported herself with the sale of her many books. She was one of the most widely read poets at that time, compiling 120 poems in eleven volumes by 1901.

Her essays, speeches, and poems appeared regularly in Frederick Douglass’s *The Paper* and other anti-slavery periodicals.

She married Fenton Harper in 1860, and he died in 1864. They had one daughter. Once slavery ended in 1865, she campaigned tirelessly for voting rights for women. She also worked with the Women’s Temperance Union for decades, and in 1894 she helped found the National Association of Colored Women, and was its first Vice President. She was a long-time member of the First Unitarian Church of Philadelphia. She organized “Negro Sunday Schools” in Philadelphia, and became a director of the American Association of Education of Colored Youth. She lived a passionate life of commitment to abolition, race equality, and women’s and children’s rights. She died in 1911 and her funeral service was held at the First Unitarian Church in Philadelphia.

Although you can make the case that the year of the woman goes back hundreds of years with thousands of examples of courage and progress, 2016 truly is a memorable year of the woman. The women’s vote will

determine the outcome of this presidential election, as the issue of sexual assault and women's rights are at the forefront of the debate. Michelle Obama's speech in Manchester, New Hampshire on October 13 may be seen for decades as the most eloquent and persuasive presentation of the case for full equality for women throughout the world. As William Faulkner said, "The past is never dead, in fact, it's not even past." Each passing generation must leave its legacy, and each new generation must take up the mantle for freedom and equality for all to keep it alive.

COMMITTEE NEWS AND EVENTS

COMMUNICATIONS THE UUSD WEBSITE IS OUR "FRONT DOOR"

— Pat Schaeffer, Chair

It is common wisdom these days that a congregation's website is their "front door." As Carey McDonald, the Unitarian Universalists Association (UUA) Outreach Director, says, "Every visitor to a church today checks out a congregation's website before ever showing up on Sunday. Having a good online presence that effectively and engagingly communicates what the congregation is all about is absolutely critical for growth and outreach." (*UU World*, December 14, 2015).

Even with the rise of social media, websites remain essential. The Rev. Tandi Rogers, Congregational Life Staff for the Pacific Western Region, says, "[Websites] are where we tell the world who we are, what we do, and why it matters...People's experience of our websites form indelible first impressions." (*Your Website is Your Front Door*, "Growing Unitarian Universalism, March 19, 2015.)

Because the UUSD website is so important in creating that first impression in the minds of our online visitors, the Communications Committee continually searches for ways to better enhance the experience for visitors coming to our website. All of these efforts are to encourage visitors to visit and connect with us in our beautiful new church home. We are very aware of how important it is for us to get this right because as Rev. Tandi Rogers says, "It can take a lot to undo those first impressions."

One of the ways the Communications Committee can make the visitor experience a positive one is to have a website that is attractive, responsive, and mobile-friendly. So, for the past few months, Alleane Taylor and Margaret Keefe have been working very hard on behalf of Communications to identify a new template for our website. The leading template being considered is a WordPress theme, such as the one developed by the UUA specifically to help UU congregations with their website design. The WordPress template simplifies the process of creating a professional and welcoming first experience for visitors. This means that we can devote more of our efforts to creating the content for the new website.

For now, Communications is revisiting all the sections of our current site, examining what's there and reworking it as needed to make it more graphic, less wordy, and generally more accessible. Based on research from the UUA and other sources, we know our site needs to be accessible on mobile devices, contain more photos of us engaged in various activities, and be easy to navigate. One of our first priorities is to create the content for the new website, and Margaret will coordinate these efforts, which is a considerable undertaking. At the same time, Alleane will focus on the back-end technical aspects, which are significant despite WordPress being easier to work with than other website templates.

Our target goal is to have content updated throughout the website by the end of this church year in June. By that time we also expect to have the technical issues resolved so we can move toward transitioning to a new website with a complete new look and engaging content in the early part of the next church year. At the same

time, Alleane and Margaret will continue to update the website with the day-to-day content you have come to expect and rely upon. So obviously, this will be a very busy year for our team.

In the next few months, we will reach out to committees and share how we hope to collaborate together to create this content for the new website. We look forward to working with all of you on this exciting project.

DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS
RECORD NEW CHALICE LIGHTERS SIGN-UP ON CHALICE LIGHTER SUNDAY
— Co-Chairs, Ron & Pat Schaeffer, Gary Colangelo, and Betty Metzler



l to r: Ron Schaeffer and Pat Schaeffer. Photo Credit: Sue Brown, Communications

The UUSD Denominational Affairs Committee enrolled 12 new Chalice Lighters on Chalice Lighters Sunday held October 23. This represents the single best ever Sunday Chalice Lighter sign-up at UUSD. The surge in new Chalice Lighters contributes to meeting our goal of having 50 percent of our membership support the Chalice Lighter funding program, which in turn, helps UU congregations grow and thrive by funding new ministries and activities.



Again, we extend our deepest gratitude and thanks to all current UUSD Chalice Lighters for financially supporting this ongoing denominational effort over the years, and to our newest Chalice Lighters for your generosity to help our fellow congregations continue to grow Unitarian Universalism and to thrive in our communities. If you would like information about joining Chalice Lighters, please contact [Ron Schaeffer](#).

FINANCE
UPDATE ON THE CLOUD SOCIETY AND ITS NEWEST MEMBERS
— Dan Payne, Co-Chair

A little over a year ago, in addition to moving into our UUSD home, we had a special ceremony honoring Joan Craft and posthumously inducted her into THE CLOUD SOCIETY. As many of you know, Joan was a wonderful human being and longtime supporter of UUSD. Her sharing of her musical talent at many church events was a joy to behold. We are honored that Joan bequeathed her piano to UUSD on her death so that we all now enjoy the wonderful sounds even though Joan is no longer with us.

We now have cause to celebrate again as we induct new members Janet and Jeff Cordiano and Helen Flood on December 4 after the worship service. We will also recognize Anne Riley, who has been a member since August 2013, but was never officially installed.

By way of background, THE CLOUD SOCIETY was formed in 2010 and was comprised of 14 individuals, and has since grown to 31 people. Its members' motivation is to ensure that UUSD would continue to thrive after they were gone. All that is required to become a member is to designate UUSD as a beneficiary in one's will, life insurance policy, retirement savings account, etc. Some members commit to a certain dollar amount; others have indicated a percentage of some or all of their assets, for example, 25 percent of life insurance proceeds or 15 percent of estate assets.

All church members and friends are invited to partake in this tribute and enjoy the complimentary wine and cheese. As the season of giving thanks and sharing is upon us, we are thankful for UUSD being here and encourage others to join THE CLOUD SOCIETY. Please contact Dan Payne for more information about THE CLOUD SOCIETY.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

— Lee Summerville, Chair; Members: Kath Johnson and Ruth Lamothe

Serving on the Leadership Development Committee (LDC) is a wonderful exercise in seeing not only how our UU church “works,” but also how committee work reflects the interconnected web of existence. The LDC meets every other month with the primary charge of identifying and nurturing leaders in the congregation. We have reached out to our interim minister, Rev. Paula, as well as to members of the Board and the Membership Committee, for their insights and suggestions, not only on fulfilling our mission, but also on how to incorporate the results of our work into the lives of our congregation. This connecting and linking of committees is central to a well-organized church structure.

This month, we expanded the LDC's linkage and met with Amber Peterson, Director of Lifespan Development, and Deanna Duby, chair of the Lifespan Development Committee, to begin the conversation about nurturing leadership traits or characteristics in our congregation's children. Like all UU conversations, we moved freely between past, present, and future practices and possibilities, as well as defining leadership characteristics. We also discussed how to focus on those traits without sacrificing valuable attention to other children who may not display such traits. Given the subjective thus challenging nature of defining leadership traits/behaviors and recognizing that this year's curriculum is well underway, we agreed that helping our teachers to encourage leadership behaviors in older kids and developing these behaviors in younger children as they work with them each Sunday would be a good beginning for what is clearly a long-range plan to foster leadership in our children.

From there, the LDC began to circle back to the wonderful day-long workshop we attended last month on the Care and Feeding of Volunteers given by Rev. David Pyle at the Chestertown UU church. We were struck by Rev. Pyle's emphasis on gratitude as primary to caring for our congregation. He spoke about developing a culture of gratitude in a congregation as one of the most valuable elements of a successful church. We wondered how to tie this idea of congregation-wide gratitude to leadership especially as it relates to developing leadership characteristics in our children. Open, happy, curious children are full of enthusiasm and an almost visceral gratitude and joy for life. They love exhibiting all sorts of behaviors and traits, so reinforcing leadership is a natural progression.

We began to imagine UUSD kids growing up in a culture of encouragement and gratitude, going to General Assembly, and moving out into the world, ready to tackle the big issues with confidence, poise, compassion, and leadership! And that dream reflects the goals of the LDC, our UU principles, and our covenant. Truly, committee work is a microcosm, a reflection, and an inspiration of our interconnected web of existence.

Next month, more information on the UUSD Committee Fair, scheduled for Sunday, January 15, 2017.



l to r: Ruth Lamothe, Lee Summerville, and Kath Johnson. Photo Credit: Pat Schaeffer, Communications

**PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
NEWS AND REMINDERS**
— Deanna Duby and Gary Schmidt, Co-Chairs

The Property Management Committee (PMC) wants to be sure that UUSD members and friends have full information on a number of things related to our building. Some items are new and some are reminders. Please note the following:

In case of emergencies, it is important to know:

- There are two First Aid kits available in our building. One is in the Gathering Area/Kitchen on the lower level of the glass-front cabinets to the right of the dishwasher in the kitchen. It is clearly marked with red signs. Another, smaller kit, is in the large RE room, in a drawer below the sink to your left as you walk into the room. It, too, has a red sign.
- If you need to call 911, it is better to call from a landline if possible, so that the dispatcher knows your location more quickly. (Of course, you can call from a cell phone, and the dispatcher will know your general area, and you can give our address to them verbally.) There are three landline phones in our building, and our phone number and address are posted near those phones, in case the dispatcher asks you for either. One phone is in the sanctuary, located in the AV closet at the rear of the sanctuary. That is the closet on your left as you face the rear wall. A second phone is in the Gathering Area on the counter to the right of the kitchen sink. The third phone is on the desk in the office area just outside of the large RE room.

Beginning in early December, there will not be a State Trooper directing traffic on Sunday mornings. Because this is an expensive item in our budget, we will try doing without this service in the off-season, when traffic on Rt. 9 is not as heavy. Come spring, the Trooper will be back with us. This is an experiment, so if you have trouble entering or leaving without the Trooper, please let the Property Management Committee members know, and we will reconsider.

Winter is coming, and in the case of severe weather — particularly heavy snow — we may have to cancel events, including Sunday services. We will do email blasts and post notices on our website and Facebook page. We will also send a notice to WBOC. So if the weather is bad, please check those sources.

There is a Lost and Found box on the bottom shelf of the library shelves in the entryway between the foyer and the Gathering Area. Please remember to check it if you've lost something at the church, or to put items in it that you have found left behind in the church.

On October 11, the Board adopted a new policy on donations to the church, upon the recommendation of PMC. It is posted on the website at <http://www.uusd.org/index.php/blog/item/636-guidelines-for-making-donations-of-tangible-goods.-approved-by-board-of-trustee,-october-11,-2016.html>, so please check it if you have something you are thinking of donating. This will not apply to donations that are solicited, such as the clothing drive for Syrian refugees, or items for the yard sale, or other collections that we conduct regularly. This applies to unsolicited donations, like books for the library, decorative items, kitchen items, etc. The policy requires that you obtain approval for the donation before just dropping it off, as we are very limited in storage space.

Finally, a reminder to committee chairs to be sure to check your mailbox regularly. Mailboxes for all committees are located next to the printer/copier in the office area right outside the large RE room. Mail is piling up in some boxes, so please check!

We hope this information is helpful to you, and please feel free to contact any PMC member (Allan Cairncross, Deanna Duby, Al Lister, Pat Murdock, Gary Schmidt, or Walt Smith) if you have questions or concerns about these or any other issue related to our building and grounds.

SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE UUSD SHOWS UP!

— Don Peterson, Chair

UUSD Steps Up! Responding to the call, UUSD members and friends donated an enormous pile of clothing,



l. to r., Don Peterson, Jan Daily, Sharon Herb, Mac Goekler, Betty Kirk, Susan Goekler. Photo Credit: Sue Brown, Communications

bedding, hats, coats, boots, shoes, and much more to help the Syrian refugees get through the upcoming winter in the refugee camps. Also donating to the cause were members of **Epworth United Methodist Church and St. Peter's Episcopal Church** and the **New Life Thrift Shop**, which brought huge bags of donations to UUSD. It was a pleasure to work with other local churches on this effort! This statewide collection effort was coordinated by Pacem in Terris, a Wilmington-based peace coalition. The Giving Corner in the rear of the sanctuary was filled as never before with generous gifts. A big **THANK YOU** goes to all who contributed!

UUSD Begins Fifth Year of English Language Learning (ELL): Location, location, location was everything this year for our ELL (ESL) program! Putting the sign out at our new location brought more people registering for classes than ever before. We had to turn people away because of space issues. We currently have about 44 adult students in four levels and an average of 15 children attending Tuesday and Thursday sessions from 5:00 to 7:--p.m. Students come from the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Turkey, and Uruguay.

Thank you to the eight teachers and four substitutes on call to teach and the 16 or so childcare volunteers. Classes and childcare take up much of the space in our building on Tuesday and Thursday nights. The ELL program is coordinated by **Betty Kirk and Sally Crouch**; childcare is coordinated by **Kris Acker**. These three deserve our thanks and recognition for adapting so smoothly to such an unprecedented increase in participation.

Get Out the Vote! UUSD is participating with the League of Women Voters of Sussex County this year to help register citizens to vote and to get voters to polls for this important election year. The League is targeting those communities that have been most disenfranchised in the past — African Americans and Hispanics. Spanish speakers are needed. All help is appreciated. If you would like to participate, please contact [Betty Kirk](#).

UUSD Sponsors Film at Rehoboth Beach Film Festival: For the second year in a row, the S&EJ Committee is hosting a social justice-themed film at the festival. The film selected this year is "Fatima" about the immigrant experience of an Algerian mother and her two daughters. We will be introducing the film and passing out our UUSD information brochure before the film. **The film will be shown on Friday, November 4, at 12:45 at the Cinema Arts Theatre at 17701 Dartmouth Drive, Lewes (behind the Wawa).** Please plan to join us for the film! In addition, thanks to the **Communication Committee**, UUSD purchased ad space in the printed program. You can see it on page 61 of the printed program.

It Is Not Us and Them; It's All of Us! An Interfaith Conversation About Islam, Judaism, and Christianity: On Sunday, **November 6, 2016, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**, Seaside Jewish Community and Epworth United

Methodist Church (UMC) are presenting a special interfaith event. Members of our congregation have been invited to participate. Sobia Choudri and Usman Sandhu of the Muslim community (with additional remarks from Rev. Vicky Starnes of Epworth UMC and Eric Doroshov from Seaside) will discuss our common Jewish, Christian, and Muslim values; the Muslim community in Delaware; and cultural differences among Muslim nations that are spotlighted in the news. There will be plenty of time for dialogue. The event is at Epworth, 19285 Holland Glade Road in Rehoboth Beach. Seating is limited. If you intend to attend, please send an email by no later than November 1, 2016 to [Emory Buck](#) or sign up in the Gathering Area.

All Are Invited! Any UUSD member or friend who wishes to see first-hand what the S&EJ Committee is all about is welcome to attend any of our meetings (no commitment required!). Our meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month at UUSD from 3:00-5:00 pm. If you would like to join the Social & Environmental Justice Committee, we would love to have you! Please contact [Don Peterson](#) for more information.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

FUNDRAISING

COME TO THE HOLIDAY ARTS & CRAFT FAIRE, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4 AND SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5
— Kris Acker, Chair

Holiday shoppers will find a wide variety of unique gifts and delicious baked goods at UUSD's Third Annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Faire from **4:00 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, November 4, and from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, November 5**. Admission is free.

Special offerings include a wide selection of handmade gifts lovingly created by the congregation's talented crafters — delicate sea glass jewelry; rustic hand painted beach-themed pallet art crafted from reclaimed wood; and beautiful handcrafted gemstone earrings. Other specialty items include unique holiday ornaments, colorful hand knitted items, such as scarves, hats, and ponchos, and much more. A new feature this year is the Unique Boutique featuring non-handmade specialty items of all kinds.

Kris Acker, UUSD's Fundraising Chair, says, "We are blessed to have so many talented crafters, who have worked painstakingly to create these uniquely beautiful and charming items perfect for the holiday season and all year round. We have just the right gifts for those special friends and family members in our lives, including shoppers' furry friends. And, most importantly, the Faire helps us support our congregation's continuing outreach to our community."



l. to r., first row: Matti Laschenski, Gwen Johnson, Jackie Baker; second row: Kathy Heacock Sue Brown, Alleane Taylor, Karen Lunstead, Alex LeClaire, Pam Smith, Marty McClaren, Kath Johnson, Jan Daily, Sue O'Brien, Jena Hom, Jane Miller, Kris Acker, Margaret Keefe. Photo Credit: Pat Schaeffer, Communications

Valerie Andrews, the Faire coordinator, adds, “Our beautiful Arts and Crafts Faire is a relaxing way to start the hectic holiday season. Shoppers will enjoy the holiday sights, sounds, and lovely smells of the Faire amidst the lilting sounds of a strolling autoharp musician, and beautiful views of a scenic pond. Delicious soup and tasty cake will be offered to enjoy while shopping or to take home.”

Proceeds from our Third Annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Faire will support UUSD’s mission to nurture spiritual growth, embrace diversity, work for justice, and strive for a loving world.

Contact Kris Acker at 610-248-1749 if you need more information.

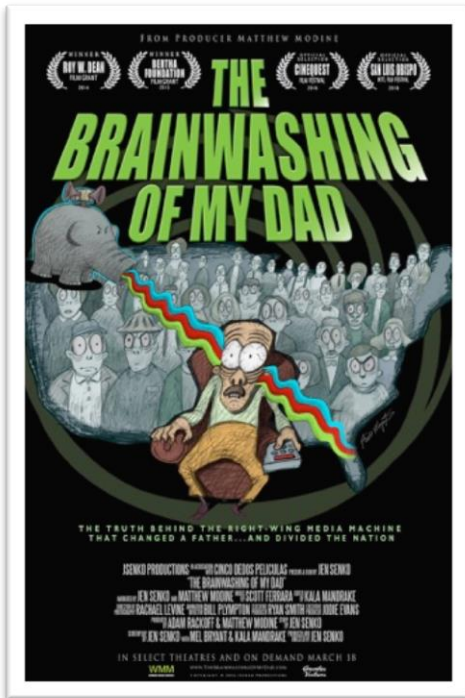
RENTAL COMMITTEE

UUSD TO PRESENT “THE BRAINWASHING OF MY DAD” FILM - ON SATURDAY, NOV. 19

— Pat Murdock, Sharon Herb, and Gwen Johnson

The Los Angeles Times said “The Brainwashing of My Dad’s “timely ‘Trumpian’ reverberations” serves up “compelling food for thought.”

UUSD will present the award-winning documentary “The Brainwashing of My Dad” at 7:00 p.m., Saturday, November 19 at the church. Tickets are \$10 and will be sold at the door. The documentary is written, produced, and directed by Jen Senko, and is narrated by Senko and Matthew Modine (“Full Metal Jacket” and Netflix’s “Stranger Things.”) It was produced by Adam Rackoff and Modine, and features animation by Academy Award nominee Bill Plympton. The film is executive produced by Ryan Smith and Jodie Evans, and produced by UUSD member, Jennifer Schultz.



The documentary examines the rise and powerful influence of the conservative media through the lens of director Jen Senko’s father, who changed from an open minded, nonpolitical Democrat to an angry, right-wing fanatic after his discovery of Talk Radio on a lengthened commute to work. In trying to understand how this happened, Senko finds this was a phenomenon affecting families all over the country. Through interviews with leading experts, Senko chronicles the “right-wing media phenomenon” that she believes created Donald Trump.

Senko will lead a post film Q &A discussion about the film.

Contact [Jennifer Schultz](#) if you have any questions.

AN INVITATION FOR UUSD MEMBERS AND FRIENDS FROM THE UU FELLOWSHIP AT SALISBURY

— Naomi Reed, UU Fellowship at Salisbury

We would like to acquaint UUSD with The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at Salisbury (UUFS) Humanist Group. When we started, we read and discussed *Humanism, As the Next Step* by Lloyd and Mary Morain. This basic book gave us a clear introduction to Humanism. Now in our meetings we take turns in leading discussions of Humanist articles, most of which come from either *The Humanist* or *Free Inquiry* magazine. In addition, we have held a Sunday service on Humanism and arranged for outside Sunday speakers on the topic. Currently we are working on having our fellowship recognized as a Freethinker Friendly congregation. We would be pleased

to have interested Humanists join us, attend an occasional meeting, or come out for special speakers. We meet on the fourth Sundays at 3:00 p.m. at our fellowship in Salisbury. For more information contact [Naomi Reed](#) or call 410-677-3805.

FIRST FRIDAY FILMS

WHERE TO INVADE NEXT ON NOVEMBER 4, 2016



To learn what the USA can learn from other nations, Michael Moore playfully "invades" them to see what they have to offer. "This is an expansive, rib-tickling, and subversive comedy in which Moore, playing the role of 'invader,' visits a host of nations to learn how the U.S. could improve its own prospects. Subjects covered are worker benefits, school lunches, early education, college education, worker inclusion, women's health care, and women inclusion. Turns out the solutions to America's most entrenched problems already exist in the world — they're just waiting to be co-opted!" Please bring finger foods to enjoy at 6:00 p.m. before the movie. The movie will begin at 7 p.m. and discussion afterwards will be led by Sharon Herb. For more information, contact FirstFriday@uussd.org.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

**SAVE-THE-DATE: LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE TO HOST COMMITTEE FAIR,
SUNDAY, JANUARY 15**

Please save Sunday, January 15 for UUSD'S Committee Fair that will be held after worship services. Each committee will explain their activities and answer questions about the important work they carry out to advance UUSD's vision and mission. Stay tuned for more information.

SAVE-THE-DATE

AYRE CRAFT TO PERFORM SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 7:00 p.m.

— Dr. Marcelle Schiff, UUSD Music Director

Ayre Craft, a unique small vocal ensemble directed by Dr. Marcelle Schiff, will perform "In Search of Joy — A Musical Journey" on **Saturday, December 3 at 7:00 p.m.** The program includes a wide range of music, from pop and blues to movie music by composers such as Billy Joel, Irving Berlin and Bobby McFerrin. Admission is \$15 cash only at the door or from an ensemble member. Students under 18 are admitted free. In a season where joy is expected around every corner, this program will offer a musical exploration of the nature of joy, what nurtures joy, and those unexpected places when joy magically appears. Come and catch some! For more information, contact [Dr. Schiff](#).



Back l to r: Marcelle Schiff, Leonard Bowman, Malcolm Keen, Gary Colangelo, David Roell, Alex LeClaire. Middle l to r: Carol Denenberg, Claire Griffith, Barbara Passikoff, Barbara Alushin. Seated l to r: Beebe Frazer. Margaret Keefe, Sandra Skidmore, Dianne Conine, Gladys Ward. Missing: Wayne Lunstead, Beverly Peltz, Paul Barnette, Arlen Herb. Photo credit: Sandra Pace

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

NOVEMBER 1, 8, 15, & 22, Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Honey in the Heart – Journal Writing Class

Contact: [Claire Griffith](#)

NOVEMBER 4, Friday, 6:00 p.m.

First Friday Films: *Where to Invade Next*

Finger Foods at 6:00pm; 7:00 p.m. Film

Contact: FridayFilms@uussd.org

NOVEMBER 4-5, Friday, 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.;

Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Arts & Craft Faire

Contact: [Kris Acker](#)

NOVEMBER 7, Monday, 7:00 p.m.

Book Group: *The Japanese Lover* by Isabel Allende.

This work of fiction explores the unknowable impact of fate on our lives as it spans different countries and periods from World War II to the present.

Facilitator: Bobbi Dunham.

Contact: [Bobbi Dunham](#)

NOVEMBER: 7, 14, 21, & 28, Mondays at 6:45-8

p.m.

Gentle Yoga Ongoing Class – All Levels

Contact: [Holly Piper-Smith](#)

NOVEMBER 15, Tuesday, 7-9:00 p.m.

Board of Trustees Meeting – All are welcome.

Contact: President@uussd.org

NOVEMBER 18, Friday, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Friends and Family Game Night

Contact: [Amber Peterson](#)

NOVEMBER 19, Saturday, 7:00 p.m.

Film: *The Brainwashing of My Dad*

Contact: [Jennifer Schultz](#)

FUTURE SAVE-THE-DATES

DECEMBER 3, Saturday, 7:00 p.m.

Ayre Craft Concert

Contact: MusicDirector@uussd.org

JANUARY 15, Sunday, 11:30 a.m.

UUSD Committee Fair

Contact: [Lee Summerville](#)



Staff & Officers

Interim Minister

Rev. Paula Maiorano
Email: Minister@uussd.org

Faith Development

Amber Peterson, Email: DLFD@uussd.org

Music Director

Dr. Marcie Schiff,
Email: MusicDirector@uussd.org

Nursery Teacher

Sabina Beaver-Kepner

Board of Trustees: 2016-2017

President: Gary Colangelo
Email: President@uussd.org
Vice-President: Sharon Herb
Finance Officer: Pat Murdock
Secretary: Gwen Johnson
Members: Joyce Fitch, Wayne Lunstead, and
Walt Smith

Bookkeeper: Leah Ann Thompson

(Direct all bookkeeping, pledge data requests, and related financial matters to Pat Murdock, Finance Officer)

Send changes in Directory contact information to:
DirectoryUpdates@uussd.org.

To email a designated person or open a website link in the *Beacon*, move your cursor over the underlined name or text and a small hand comes up, simply click on the name to open the email or site.

- Newsletter Articles due the 20th of each month to [Pat Schaeffer](#).
- Publicity requests to [Pat Schaeffer](#)
- Order of Service notices by Wednesday to [Anni Wood](#) and [Jean Charles](#)
- Weekly Community Updates by Thursday to [Jean Charles](#). Website Calendar Updates to Jean as needed.

Board Committee Chairs

Activities: TBD

Capital Campaign: Gary Colangelo & Lee Summerville

Communications: Pat Schaeffer
Email: Communications@uussd.org

Denominational Affairs: Ron & Pat Schaeffer

Finance: Joanne Saltzberg & Dan Payne

Cloud Society: Dan Payne

Fundraising: Kris Acker

Leadership Development: Lee Summerville

Lifespan Faith Development: Deanna Duby

Adult Education: Betty Kirk & Len Bowman

Email: AdultEducation@uussd.org

Librarian: Joyce Fitch

Long-Range Planning: Joanne Saltzberg

Membership: Bobbi Dunham

Email: Membership@uussd.org

Music: Dianne Conine & Margaret Keefe

Partner Church: Ceil Toth

Pastoral Care: Jan Daily

Personnel: Deb Davies

Property Mgt.: Deanna Duby & Gary Schmidt

Email: Admin@uussd.org

Energy Team: Email: Energy@uussd.org

Landscape Management: Dianne Conine & Margaret Keefe

Rental & Usage: Pat Murdock

Social & Environmental Justice: Don Peterson

Email: SocialJustice@uussd.org

Stewardship: Jean Charles

Worship: Jean Charles

Ad Hoc Committees

Ministerial Search: Jean Charles

Small Group Ministry: Bobbi Dunham

UUUSD WEBSITE uussd.org

Webmaster Administrators: [Alleane Taylor](#) & [Margaret Keefe](#)

Email: WebsiteAdmin@uussd.org

Website Content Administrator: [Pat Schaeffer](#)

FACEBOOK

Administrator: [Pat Schaeffer](#)

Editors: [Joanne Saltzberg](#) & [Alleane Taylor](#)

NEWSLETTER

Editor at Large: [Pat Schaeffer](#)

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