

# BEACON at the BEACH

Embracing Universal Acceptance, Justice, & Compassion

## UUSD Newsletter ■ JUNE 2017

**June 4 — Flowers and the Cycle of Life: An Intergenerational Flower Communion Service**

— **Rev. Paula Maiorano, UUSD Interim Minister:** The Unitarian Universalist Flower Communion is one of our most beloved traditions and rituals, created by Dr. Norbert Capek in Prague to celebrate diversity at a time when the Nazi party was on its rise. Today’s intergenerational service reflects on the life cycle of both flowers and people. Childcare and program provided for the youngest of our community.

**June 11 — Celebrating Voluntarism — Rev. Paula Maiorano, UUSD Interim Minister:**

The Unitarian Universalists of Southern Delaware owe existence to its members whose volunteer talents and hours are endless and priceless. This service recognizes the importance of voluntarism in a democratic society and celebrates the services of our many UUSD volunteers.

**June 18 — Farewell and Fare Thee Well — Rev. Paula Maiorano, UUSD Interim Minister:**

Rev. Maiorano says goodbye in this her last service with UUSD with blessings for the journey and a reflection on the bittersweet aspects of life and labor.

**June 25 — Music Sunday - Musical Expressions of Faith: Dr. Marcelle Schiff, UUSD Music Director:**

Dr. Marcelle Schiff, the choir, the children, and other wonderful music-makers from the congregation will

take us on an exploration of “Musical Expressions of Faith.” Music has held a very special place in religious communities throughout time. We will explore the variety of musical traditions and their place in the world of spiritual practice and examine questions like, how important is music in your spiritual journey, and what role might music play in your spiritual life.

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

**Message from Rev. Paula..... 2**  
**President’s Column..... 2**  
**Music Notes..... 3**  
**Lifespan Faith Development..... 3**  
**Board News..... 4**  
**Did You Know?..... 6**  
**Committee News and Events..... 7**  
**Events & Activities..... 13**  
**June Highlights..... 17**  
**Contacts..... 18**



**REV. MICHELLE COLLINS TO JOIN UUSD AS SETTLED MINISTER**

The UUSD congregation voted unanimously on May 7 to call the Rev. Michelle Collins as its new settled minister. Rev. Michelle will relocate to Southern Delaware over the summer. She will start at UUSD on August 1, and her first sermon will be August 7. Congratulations to Rev. Michelle, and welcome to UUSD.

## REV. PAULA MAIORANO, INTERIM MINISTER

### THE FLOW OF LIFE



For the past two years, I have felt the flow of life, which occurs when one is in the right place at the right time. The interim two years have been a wonderful ministry just before my retirement, a way for my ministerial gifts to make a vital contribution to a congregation in a big transition, and a way to connect with like-minded people during a time of great national and personal distress.

There is so much to remember, and to hold sacred in these memories, and still more to do in the final month of June before I leave.

We can wrap up our time together with a virtual visit to General Assembly in New Orleans. I have registered as an off-site delegate, which means I have the capability to attend via the Internet and to invite guests to join me.

Please join me in the sanctuary for the live streaming on our movie screen direct from New Orleans of the following events:

- Opening G. A. Celebration with the always awesome ***Banner Parade on Wednesday, June 21, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.*** With any luck, we'll be able to see one or two of our UUSD delegates carrying our banner; and
- ***Ware Lecture*** offered by Bryan Stevenson, author of *Just Mercy* on ***Saturday, June 24, 8:30 - 9:30 p.m.*** followed by the announcement of our new UUA President.

Hope to see you at our virtual General Assembly live from New Orleans, right here in Lewes.

Saying a fond farewell,

Rev. Paula Maiorano

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN — GARY COLANGELO

### WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

UUSD status check:

- A new home of our own
- The near completion of our Interim Minister's term, where the congregation was prepared for our Settled minister and grew in different dimensions: increased membership, worship and spiritual enhancement, leadership development, and social justice
- The unanimous election of a Settled Minister.

So, where do we go from here? Should we stay the same or reach for new heights? Our Mission can serve as a resource to help answer this question.

This year the Board of Trustees agreed to pursue the five tasks of a congregational board. One of those tasks — planning — should respond to the question of where we are going. Indeed, the Board is already beginning the task of planning in the next fiscal year. Newly elected Board members will be invited to the last Board meeting of this year on June 28, where they can jumpstart their participation in the Board. In mid-August, the Minister and



Board of Trustees will have a “retreat for arriving at specific understandings about the sharing of power and responsibility, goals for the coming year, and a plan for periodic review and renewal of the ministry of the Congregation” (requirement from the Letter of Call and Ministry Agreement).

This retreat will give Board Members and the new Minister the opportunity to not only learn to work together, but quickly orient Rev. Michelle Collins into the current Growth Plan and start the process for periodic review and renewal of the ministry of the Congregation. We may also look forward to 2018 when a new strategic plan can start.

However, planning must involve all members of the congregation. The Board and new Minister will begin this in August, but it is not too soon for every member of the congregation to discern and dream about UUSD and where we are going.

Gary Colangelo  
President, UUSD Board of Trustees

### LIFESPAN FAITH DEVELOPMENT — AMBER PETERSON



Summer is coming and with it our summer RE programs of fun, individual topics! If you have a special talent, craft, travel adventure, or area of expertise that you would like to share with our young ones, we need you! Past programs included various topics like photography, drama, drumming, nature, etc. There are a few sessions lined up, but there are still several spots to fill, so please let me know if you are willing to share your time and talents with our children in first grade and up.

Since we recently wrapped up our curriculum lessons for the year, **Thank You So Much to Our Wonderful Teachers!** Without you, we couldn't run three classes each Sunday. Your dedication to our children, our congregation, and our faith is to be commended. Special thanks to LeRoy Andrews, who has been a tremendous facilitator for our OWL program for grades 7-9, to Betty Kirk and Len Bowman for their fantastic job with adult education, to Kris Acker for making our play and pageant something to remember, and

to Deanna Duby for stepping up as chair of the Lifespan Faith Development Committee this year. Thanks again to all who make what we do possible. You are appreciated beyond measure.

Namaste.

Amber Peterson  
Director, Lifespan Faith Development

### MUSIC NOTES — DR. MARCELLE SCHIFF



#### HOLD THE DATE! MUSIC SUNDAY – JUNE 25

This year Marcie, the choir, the children, and other wonderful music-makers from our congregation will take us on an exploration of “Musical Expressions of Faith.” How important is music in your spiritual journey? Have you ever stopped to think about the role music might play in your spiritual life? What would a service here at UUSD be like without music? Why do we have music in our service? Did you know that music fills about 20 minutes of each service? Music has held a very special place in religious communities throughout time. The

vast variety of music used in religious traditions is just amazing. On Music Sunday, we will explore some of these musical traditions and their place in the world of spiritual practice. Come Join Us! And bring a friend!

— Dr. Marcelle Schiff, Music Director

## NEWS FROM YOUR UUSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The meeting agenda and all reports for each meeting, including those described below, may be viewed on the UUSD website in the members-only section at <http://uussd.org/index.php/board-of-trustees-meeting-minutes.html>.

### HIGHLIGHTS: MAY 17 BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT) MEETING

— Gwen Johnson, Secretary, Board of Trustees

**Approved:** The Board of Trustees (BOT) approved the minutes of the April 17, 2017 meeting, the Minister's Report, and the Financial Report.

- **Executive Team (ET) Report:** Gary Colangelo, President, and BOT members thanked the ET for their excellent report.
- **Delmarva Cluster Activities: Mac Goekler, UUSD's Delmarva Cluster Representative:** Mac discussed a Habitat for Humanity project for the Delmarva Cluster. He also discussed some of the ideas the Cluster is working on to help it serve the Delmarva congregations. The Cluster is open to ideas for future projects.
- **June 21-25 General Assembly (GA) Issues: Mac Goekler, UUSD GA Delegate:** Mac discussed the election of a new UUA President. Three women UU Ministers are running for this position. Mac reminded the BOT that our GA delegates can vote their conscience, or the BOT can direct them how to vote. The BOT unanimously approved allowing our delegates to vote their conscience.
- **New UUSD Website Update: Pat Schaeffer, Communications Chair:** Pat provided an overview of the new UUSD website that will be launched soon. She recognized the hard work of the website team — Sue Brown, Christopher Edginton, Margaret Keefe, and Alleane Taylor — to develop this new website and its content and graphics. She also acknowledged Joanne Saltzberg's contributions to the branding identity graphics, and the participation of Ruth Lamothe and Claire Griffith in drafting some website content. The BOT members were very impressed with the look and information contained in the new website. Rev. Paula said she had reviewed the site earlier as part of the ET briefing, and she expressed her support for it.
- **Transitional COM (TCOM) Membership:** The BOT unanimously approved a motion for Don Peterson, Jean Charles, and Betty Kirk to be the TCOM members.
- **Settled Minister's Agreement: Jean Charles, Chair, Ministerial Search Committee:** Jean said this agreement had been signed by both parties and provided to the UUA.
- **BOT Member Transition — June and July:** There are three BOT vacancies to be filled on June 11, 2017.
- **Rev. Paula Celebration Update: Gary Colangelo, BOT President:** Gary provided updated details for the event. We will have entertainment at this event on June 18, 2017.
- **Proposed August Retreat:** BOT and ET will participate in a BOT retreat with Rev. Michelle in August.

- **Annual Meeting:** The required 30-day notice was issued to the congregation on May 10, 2017 for the June 11, 2017 Annual Meeting.
- **Growth Plan Status Check:** Joanne said the next meeting is June 9, 2017. The focus at that meeting will be PowerChurch.
- **From the Floor/Future Agenda Items** — The BOT will review their goals from last June and see where they are now. The BOT will also look at UUSD’s transition from Rev. Paula to Rev. Michelle.
- **Next Monthly Meeting: Wednesday June 28, 2017, 5:30 p.m.**

**JUNE 4, 2017 INFORMATION MEETING AND  
JUNE 11, 2017 ANNUAL MEETING**  
— Gwen Johnson, Secretary, Board of Trustees

An Informational Meeting will be held on **Sunday, June 4, 2017 at 11:30 a.m.** at UUSD. All members are urged to attend. This meeting will provide members of the congregation running for the Board of Trustees and the Leadership Development Committee an opportunity to speak about their desire to run for these positions. In addition, information will be provided on three motions: the 2017/2018 Budget, the updated Resolution of Conscience, and receipt of a UUA First Home Grant for \$25,000. All of which will be voted on by members at the **June 11, 2017 Annual Meeting.**

The UUSD Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on **Sunday, June 11, 2017 at 11:30 a.m.** at UUSD. All members are urged to attend or, if they are unable to attend, to submit an absentee ballot. We will be electing three members to the Board of Trustees, and one member to the Leadership Development Committee, and also approving an operating budget and a capital budget for 2017-2018. In addition, we will be voting on a Resolution of Conscience proposed by the UUSD Social and Environmental Justice Committee. Anyone who has been a UUSD member for 30 days before the date of the Annual Meeting is eligible to vote.

The following materials are available for review on the UUSD website in the Members section at <http://uusd.org/index.php/annual-meeting-2017.html>. Documents will be added to the website as they become available.

1. Agenda for the June 11, 2017 Annual Congregational Meeting
2. Self-Nomination Forms Submitted for Positions on the Board of Trustees and Leadership Development Committee:
  - Board of Trustees: Len Bowman
  - Board of Trustees: Mac Goekler
  - Board of Trustees: Beryl Martin
  - Board of Trustees: Dara Schumaier
  - Board of Trustees: Joanne Saltzberg
  - Leadership Development Committee: Elizabeth Ann (Beth) Law
3. Minutes of the June 12, 2016 Annual Meeting
4. Proposed FY 2017-2018 Operating and Capital Budgets
5. Board of Trustees President’s Report
6. Annual Committee Reports
7. Staff Reports: Minister, Director-Lifespan Faith Development, and Music Director
8. Proposed Resolution of Conscience

- Absentee Ballot, which contains full information on how to return it before the meeting.

Only a limited number of copies of the agenda and documents will be available at the Annual Meeting. If you wish to have these documents at the meeting, please make copies and bring them with you to the Annual Meeting on June 11.

### **Listing of the Motions for Congregational Vote**

MOTION 1: Move to approve the Operating Budget and Capital Fund Budget for the 2017-2018 fiscal years (FY 18) with expenditures of \$ 270,501.00 and \$47,000.00, respectively.

MOTION 2: Move to approve the updated Resolution of Conscience as proposed by the UUSD Social & Environmental Justice Committee.

MOTION 3: Move to approve receipt of a UUA First Home \$25,000 UUA grant. If this grant money is received, it will be used for improving the parking lot.

Anyone with questions related to the schedule of the meeting or voting procedures may contact [Gwen Johnson, Board Secretary](#).

## **DID YOU KNOW? — RON SCHAEFFER**

### **UNITARIANS IN POLAND**

I was so pleased to hear Rev. Collins reference UU history in her May 7<sup>th</sup> sermon. In fact, she had several references, but the one I would like to expand upon is her reference to Unitarian thought and practice in Poland in the sixteenth century. Most UUs know about the Unitarian movement in Transylvania (Hungary and Romania today), but few members are really knowledgeable about the reformation history transpiring in Poland at that same time in the late sixteenth century. The Polish Socinian movement, as it has been called, was a significant factor in the spread of Unitarian theology to Western Europe and eventually to the Americas, and because of it the extensive publication of religious materials eventually found their way to England.

In the sixteenth century, Poland, which included what is Lithuania today, was the fourth largest power in Europe, with 20 million people, mostly peasants in an area the size of Texas. Poland was still a “frontier area” occupying the fringes of Roman Catholic influence. Even though it had become a “Christian” state in the tenth century, Catholic Church authority was accepted very slowly by the independent-minded Poles. And when the Reformation swept across Northern Europe, the Lutherans, Calvinists, and Hussite Reformers began meeting in private homes throughout Poland. In 1555, the Polish Diet decreed freedom of religion to commoners and nobles alike, and by 1578 the University of Krakow opened its doors to students from all religions. Before that day, the school admitted only Roman Catholics.

Also at this time, a simmering anti-Trinitarian debate began within the 160 Calvinist Reformed churches recently formed in Poland (the exact same thing would happen in the U.S. in the late eighteenth century). The argument by the anti-Trinitarians was that the scriptures offered the only standard of faith, that the Father is the only God, that only God deserves worship, and that Christ was not the same as God. Eventually these anti-Trinitarian congregations would break away from the Calvinist Reformed movement describing themselves as “the Brethren in Poland who have rejected the Trinity.” Opponents called them “Arians” (referring to Arius, a 4<sup>th</sup> century Christian Bishop, who opposed the concept of the Trinity), and they would be officially called the Minor Reformed Church of Poland, or the Polish Brethren. Eventually they would be called Socinians, after their leader

Faustus Socinus, who argued that the religious life was not a matter of correct doctrine, but correct living, and that Jesus is a savior because he showed *in his life* the path to salvation, not because he suffered death to atone for the sins of all humankind. It was not only the theory of the Trinity that Socinus rejected, but also the theory of Atonement developed by Sir Thomas Aquinas just a few hundred years earlier, and still the standard understanding of most Christian faiths. By 1600, there were 300 Socinian (Unitarian) congregations in Poland. In addition, they also started colleges and established a publication house in Rakow producing over 500 Socinian publications, many of which made their way to Prussia, Holland, and England.

But the Socinians had no allies among the other Protestant groups such as the Lutherans, Baptists, or Mennonites. The Catholic Church led by one of the newest and most aggressive orders, the Jesuits (made up primarily of ex-knights), accused the Socinians of Devil worship. In 1660, a conference between Roman Catholics and Unitarians took place at Rożnów, Poland in order to decide if the Unitarians could justify their staying in Poland. The government, allied with the Jesuits, declared the Socinians (Unitarians) lost the debate, and they were forced to leave the kingdom, in what became known as the Great Exile. The Polish King ordered the Socinians to leave Poland immediately. Many fled to Holland, Prussia, and Transylvania, but about a thousand families remained in Poland practicing their faith in secret. All the Socinian “Minor Churches” were destroyed and many leaders, who refused to stop preaching or meeting, were killed. The Rakow press was destroyed, and all the publications that could be found were burned. Eventually, the other Protestant churches were also driven from Poland as the Jesuits formed a church-state bond with the King.

Fortunately, the Transylvania Unitarian churches survived — under very difficult circumstances, and we have this wonderful opportunity to partner with them today. But the Transylvania Unitarian movement actually had very little influence on the spreading of Unitarianism to England and eventually to the U.S. The real influence came from the Socinian publications, like *The Catechism of Unitarians* published in 1574, and *The Racovian Catechism* published in 1605. The British House of Commons actually ordered *The Rakovian Catechism* burned in 1652 because it was seen as blasphemous and seditious and undermining the Church of England. But this failed to stop the communication of the Socinian thinking, and in 1668 in Amsterdam, Unitarians published *The Library of the Polish Brethren*, based on the Polish Socinian writings from earlier that century. In 1689, The English Parliament finally passed the Toleration Act, granting certain religious groups the freedom to dissent from the Church of England. However, it specifically excluded Unitarians and the Roman Catholics from that benefit.

We are fortunate to have the real connection today with our Transylvanian Unitarian congregations, but let’s also keep the connection with our past Polish Unitarian colleagues. They may have been driven from Poland, but their ideas survived, and they inspired others in Europe and America centuries later.

## COMMITTEE NEWS

### DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS

#### NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER FOR GA, OR HOOK UP VIRTUALLY

— Ron and Pat Schaeffer, Co-Chairs



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

This year’s UUA **General Assembly** will take place on **June 21-25 in New Orleans, LA**. The theme is **Resist and Rejoice**. The Ware Lecturer will be **Bryan Stevenson**, a public interest lawyer and head of the *Equal Justice Initiative* in Alabama. This will be a justice GA with emphasis on race, class, and environment.

We have nine UUSD members registered to attend with three Lay delegates volunteering to represent us on key business decisions and the election of a new UUA president.

However, even if you can't attend in person, you can still connect to many of the major events via live streaming at the UUA website. Rev. Paula Maiorano is an off-site delegate, and she is coordinating with our AV staff to have several important GA events streamed on the UUSD Sanctuary screen. More information will be provided on this closer to GA in late June.

Please contact the Denominational Affairs Committee if you have any questions.

**MINISTERIAL SEARCH AND WORSHIP**  
**UUSD CONGREGATION CALLS REV. MICHELLE COLLINS AS ITS NEW SETTLED MINISTER**  
 — Jean Charles, Chair

The UUSD congregation officially called and welcomed Rev. Michelle Collins as UUSD's new settled minister on May 7. The congregational vote was unanimous with 126 votes. Rev. Michelle will be relocating to Southern Delaware over the summer. Her official start date is August 1, and her first sermon will be on August 7.

Rev. Paula completes her interim ministry with UUSD on June 30. During July, there will be some wonderful lay sermons from the pulpit by UUSD members — July 2 (Rick Welk on Spirit), July 9 (Len Bowman — TBA), July 16 (Susan/Mac Goekler — A Chocolate Service), July 23 (Anni Wood — "What if God was One of Us?"), and on July 30 (Sue Greer on Buddhism and Compassion).



Rev. Michelle. (Photo by Pat Schaeffer, Communications)

**STEWARDSHIP**  
**FINAL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE 2017-2018**  
 — Jean Charles, Chair

<b>2017-2018 Goal:</b>	<b>\$230,000</b>
<b>Pledge Commitment:</b>	<b>\$225,149</b>
<b>Pledge Units:</b>	<b>117</b>



Photo by Randy Davidson

**FUNDRAISING**  
**THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE BIG TOP AUCTION A SUCCESS**  
 — Kris Acker, Chair

Your Fundraising Committee finished up a very active year with our "Big Top Auction." It was an amazing group of volunteers that made this a very successful event. The Decorating Committee led by Karen Lunstead outdid themselves with an amazing circus that appeared right here in UUSD. We had giraffes, lions, tigers galore, a full size cage, and a wonderful Big Top tent right in our sanctuary. We had trapeze artists, clowns, dogs jumping through flaming hoops, and our own excellent ring master auctioneer, Donna Dolce. Kaz Huston and her team collected great gifts and gift certificates from local businesses. All donations were presented in easily found categories by our floor managers Gwen and Jane and their set up team.

We made some changes this year, one being a sit-down potluck dinner right after the auction. All were well taken care of by Anne Pikolas and her wonderful kitchen team. Gail Hecky and Joanne Salzburg were our Data Team leaders, and they were ready with bid sheets for set up and final bills so people could check out. Barb Barnette put together a great catalogue, and Rick Welk did the art on the catalogue's cover. But that isn't everyone — we had our registration team at the front door, bartenders, proxy bidders, parking lot attendants, and AV help from Dianne Conine. Laura Borsdorf took charge of cleanup when it was time to bring the Big Top down. As you can see volunteers are needed for every aspect, and Sylvia Daniels and her team found volunteers to fill in where we needed help.

A big thank you for all our volunteers and the great jobs they did and to you, our UUSD members and friends, who donated items, fabulous events and services, and attended and participated in the "Big Top Auction." You all made this event a great success. The total is now over \$ **16,000**. Thank you to all! This is a wonderful community.

## **SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

— Don Peterson, Co-Chair

***UUSD Shows Its Love — Again:*** Once again, UUSD members and friends came through for Syrian Refugees. Over the course of three weeks, you donated dozens of boxes of clothing, toys, school and medical supplies, medical equipment, and so much more. On Wednesday, May 17, the boxes were loaded up on **Nora and John Whisnant's** truck and trailer and hauled to Philadelphia to be shipped to the refugee camps. Special thanks go to all those "angels" who volunteered to sort, pack up, tape and label the boxes and load them on the trucks. Your support was amazing. Thank you all for your generosity!

***Muslim Unity Rally:*** On April 26, seven UUSD members and friends (along with several hundred others) traveled to Dover to show our love and support to the Muslim community in Delaware. Governor Carney, several other elected officials, and clergy representing all major religions, spoke about the need for unity in the face of religious bigotry and violence.

***Testifying Against Reinstatement of the Death Penalty:*** On May 3, **Mac Goekler**, representing UUs for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, and **Don Peterson**, representing UUSD, testified at a hearing of the Delaware House Judiciary Committee to oppose House Bill 125, which is intended to reinstate the death penalty in Delaware. Unfortunately, the Committee released the bill, and it was passed by the House the next week. The bill now moves to the Senate. Stay tuned for details.

***UUSD Launches Anti-Death Penalty Letter Writing Campaign:*** On May 21, UUSD members and friends found in their Order of Service a letter to Governor Carney asking him not to support HB 125 reinstating the death penalty. Governor Carney has gone on record stating that while he believes the death penalty is wrong, it may be appropriate in the case of the killing of a law enforcement or corrections officer. UUSD congregants were asked to sign the letter, and send it to his office.

***Social and Environmental Justice Activism Sub-Committee:*** This Activism Sub-Committee continues its work to provide UUSD members and friends specific actions to take to resist the threats to our values. On April 23, **Cass and Teresa Ripley** showed a short video on the Flint water crisis, and they and their sons, **Isaiah and Nathan**, taught us how to set up a Twitter account and tweet. That was followed by a "tweet storm" to national and state leaders urging a focus on clean water and racial justice. Look for notices of future "tweet storms" in the weeks to come. If you would like to attend future meetings or otherwise get involved with the sub-committee, please contact [Cass or Teresa](#),

**Thanks to Immanuel Shelter Volunteers:** UUSD has wrapped up its service to the Immanuel Homeless Shelter. Between December and April, five covenant groups (Coastal, Rehoboth/Lewes, Millsboro, The Goddess Within, and the Newcomers) and other individuals prepared and served over 250 meals and provided other support services. The S&EJ Committee is grateful for the outpouring of support and for everyone who participated. On May 4, many of the UUSD volunteers attended a "Thank You" dinner provided by the Board and Staff of the Shelter.

**ESL Wraps Up a Successful Year!** On Thursday, May 18, the English as a Second Language celebrated the end of another great year. Fifteen students in three levels of learning were presented certificates. The year started with over 40 initial registrants and 25 children. While the adults learned English, UUSD members and friends provided meals, games, crafts, and learning to the children. Special thanks to program coordinators, **Betty Kirk** and **Sally Crouch**; childcare coordinator, **Kris Acker**; and all the wonderful teachers and childcare volunteers! **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 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. If you would like to join the Social & Environmental Justice Committee, we would love to have you! Please contact [Don Peterson](#) or [Susan Goekler](#) for more information.

### GROWTH CREATES NEED FOR ADDITIONAL SANCTUARY CHAIRS

— Walt & Pam Smith

Almost two years ago, when we were planning to move into our new sanctuary, we made a decision that the black chairs being used at our old facility (Toddy's), felt by most of our members to be very uncomfortable and not very attractive, were not going to enhance the beauty of our new home. Besides, we had a vision that now has proved to be true, and that was that we would use our sanctuary to host outside community events.

There was a major problem. We had put all our financial resources into the new building. As we know now, it turned out that this was a great decision. But that left us with the problem. How were we going to be able to afford new and comfortable seating for this wonderful space?

A novel idea was hatched. With the future goal to build a Memorial Garden as soon as we understood how to best use the property, the idea to sell Memorial Bricks to fund the purchase of the wanted chairs was proposed. These bricks would be placed in the Memorial Garden to remember forever our thoughts, special people and pets, and important events in our lives.

Our congregation supported this project with all its energy. With the purchase of the Memorial Bricks, we raised over \$12,000 and were able to fund the purchase of 126 chairs for the sanctuary and 30 chairs for the choir for a total of 156 chairs. These beautiful chairs, the same as used in many of the mega-churches, will give us years of solid use. And, they are comfortable!

There was a movie with the quote, "Build it and they will come." This has proven to be true with UUSD. Our membership has grown rapidly to 150+ members. Additionally, the use by outside groups, who frequently need seating for as many as 200, has created the need to add more of our comfortable seating.

It is again time to ask you to support another "Bricks for Sanctuary Chairs" event. Many of our newer members now have the opportunity to memorialize a loved one, honor a special pet, or express themselves and make a permanent statement. Other members, involved in the previous Chair drive, may since have had milestone events happen that could be expressed.

Each Brick you subscribe to will fund one new sanctuary chair. We will purchase as many chairs as we can afford, but we need a minimum order of 30 chairs to place an order. Details of how to purchase a Brick are available in the Gathering Area or on the UUSD website at [uussd.org](http://uussd.org).

Can we count on your support?

**SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**  
**UUSD RECEIVES \$4800 GRANT FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING**  
— Betty Kirk, Member



The Youth Philanthropic Board (YPB) of the Delaware Community Foundation awarded a grant to UUSD to purchase computers, equipment, and food for ESL students and their children. The YPB is composed of area high school students, who review the grants, make site visits, and award the grants. They determined that youth and ESL were the themes this year. Pictured at the award ceremony on April 24 are (l to r) YPB Board Members; UUSD Lead Teachers, Sally Crouch and Betty Kirk; Child Care Coordinator, Kris Acker; and YPB Board Member.

*Photo submitted by Betty Kirk with permission from the Youth Philanthropic Board.*

**UUSD MEN'S GROUP**  
— Ron Schaeffer

The UUSD Men's Group is open to *ALL* male members and friends of the congregation. We meet on the second Saturday of every month from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Gathering Area (where we have coffee and refreshments after a typical Sunday service). We follow the standard format of a typical UUSD covenant group, with a chalice lighting, opening words, check-in, a preplanned discussion, and checkout. Our purpose and covenant read as follows:

*Purpose:*

*Our purpose is to have a venue where we can, as men, share our lives and the issues we face concerning relationships, work, family, our sense of purpose, direction, and fulfillment. We will both challenge and support each other and benefit from exposure to multiple perspectives.*

*Covenant:*

*As members of UUSD and the Men's Group:*

*We will work together in service to UUSD and to the broader community.*

*We will honor and commit to the confidentiality of our personal sharing.*

*We will follow the letter and spirit of the UUSD Covenant of Good Relations.*

Please contact Ron Schaeffer or Paul Barnette if you have questions or interest to join.

**A FEW WORDS FROM THE LIBRARIAN**  
— Joyce Fitch

Better get stocked up on books for your summer reading! This month I have three intriguing mysteries I've just read and want to pass on to you.

*Little Deaths* by Emma Flint is about a kidnapping and killing of two young children in the summer of 1965. Their single mother has a reputation of having many boyfriends and going out a lot at night. She dresses flamboyantly and wears impeccable make-up. One reporter, who follows her around trying to get a good story, thinks otherwise. Finally, the real culprit is found out, and it was someone I least suspected.

The setting for my next pick, *The Wonder* by Emma Donoghue, takes place mid-19<sup>th</sup> century in Ireland. A young child is said to have eaten nothing for months, yet is still thriving. There are many believers as well as doubters, so the townspeople hire two nurses to watch her all the time for two weeks. One nurse is a Catholic nun, the other a nurse from England. Each one takes a shift so the child is never left alone. The English nurse highly suspects fraud, but cannot find a clue as to how she gets food. Two days before the end of two weeks, she finally discovers the truth. This tale had a really exciting ending.

Robert Harris' *Enigma*, is about life during World War II at Bletchley Park in England and the attempt to break the Nazi's enigma code. In case you saw the recent movie, *The Imitation Game*, which was the true story of Alan Turing who was the brains behind breaking the code, it just did not convey the enormous amount of people and buildings that went into this project. This book was well researched with interviews from many of the people who worked there, which added to the background of the suspenseful mystery. Again, this book had another great ending.

## LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT THE GOOD AND NOT-SO-GOOD

— Margaret Keefe



*Spring flowers at UUSD.*  
(Photo by Pat Schaeffer)

Remember how UUSD had a wonderful partnership with a UDel Landscape Design Intern (Maggie) last year? She and her classmates came up with a great plan for our grounds, which will guide us in beautifying our property over the next few years. It will also allow us to adhere to “our respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.” That’s the good news — we have a wonderful Five Year Design Plan in place.

The not-so-good news is our Landscape Management Committee lacks a leader or leaders to organize the work needed to put the design plan in place. To remedy this situation, we are proposing that the landscape planning work could be done by a number of people sharing the various duties, working together as a Landscape Managing Team of the Committee. Here are the duties to be shared:

- Committee business (plan meetings and workdays, report to Property Management, supervise the budget).
- Organize outside clean-ups (weeding, downed branches, etc.).
- Manage planting (follow design plans, organize purchases and work days).
- Organize watering, as needed (recruit volunteers, set up schedule).

These duties could be undertaken by anyone at UUSD — Landscape Management Committee members and others willing to help. There is also a good core of volunteers, who show up on workdays, so there is lots of support. For those wondering where the proposed labyrinth or meditation garden fit into these plans, there really is no way that UUSD can begin such additional projects if we cannot manage the landscape needs around our existing building. You do not need to have extensive gardening experience, just a willingness to help UUSD improve its appearance. Talk to others at UUSD and see if you can form a team to get this work done. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Property Management Co-Chair, Deanna Duby, or Gary Schmidt at [Admin@uussd.org](mailto:Admin@uussd.org).

**COMMUNICATIONS**  
**LOOKING AHEAD TO UUSD’S NEW WEBSITE**  
— Pat Schaeffer, Chair

The Communications Committee is planning to rollout UUSD’s brand new website later this summer. In preparation, the Executive Team (ET) has reviewed the proposed website, which included new graphics, layout, and content. We also updated the Board of Trustees on the new website at their May meeting. We appreciate the enthusiastic support from both the ET and the Board for this new website and the beautiful identity graphics.

Currently, our website team (Sue Brown, Christopher Edginton, Margaret Keefe, and Alleane Taylor) is working very hard with our outside web developer to upload final content, photos, and make needed checks and tweaks so the new website will be ready for visitors, members and friends, church leaders, and staff.

We are also making plans to help users feel more comfortable with the new website once it goes online so everyone can take full advantage of all of its new features. In addition, we will also reach out to various committees and other church leaders and staff to coordinate, where necessary, the transition of our new graphics with the rollout of the website.

If you have any questions about the new website, please contact [Pat Schaeffer](#) or anyone else on the Website Team.

**COMMITTEE EVENTS & ACTIVITIES**

**FIRST FRIDAY FILMS**

**JUNE 2: BULLY — SPONSORED BY UUSD’S PARENTS FOR HUMANITY**

UUSD will show the documentary BULLY on Friday, June 2, at 7:00 p.m. The documentary offers an intimate, unflinching look at how bullying has touched five kids and their families. The film was directed by Sundance and Emmy-award winning filmmaker, Lee Hirsch.



UUSD’s Parents for Humanity, a small group ministry approved and supported by Rev. Paula and mentored by Jean Charles, is sponsoring the film. Brooke Pikolas, facilitator of the group, says, “We do not have to live in fear. Our children deserve to feel safe in their schools. Parents for Humanity is an advocacy, resource, and support group at UUSD for all concerned parents.” Pikolas adds, “UUSD created the group after increasing local reports of hate towards people, including children, who were being targeted for their differences. This group offers a safe place for parents of minorities and the LGBTQ community to come together and find common ground.”

*(Photo Submitted by Brooke Pikolas)*

Filmed over the course of the 2009/2010 school year, BULLY opens a window into the pained and often endangered lives of bullied kids, revealing a problem that transcends geographic, racial, ethnic, and economic borders. The film documents the responses of teachers and administrators to aggressive behaviors that defy the “kids will be kids” clichés. It captures a growing movement among parents and youths to change how bullying is handled in schools, in communities, and in society as a whole.

The showing, which is part of UUSD's ongoing First Friday Film series, is free and open to the public. A potluck dinner starts at 6:00 p.m. The documentary may not be appropriate for children age 10 and under. For more information, contact [Brooke Pikolas](mailto:Brooke.Pikolas@uusd.org) or [FridayFilms@uusd.org](mailto:FridayFilms@uusd.org).

### SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

#### JUNE 3: UUSD ANNUAL SPRING BEACH CLEANUP SCHEDULED JUNE 3 AT CAPE HENLOPEN

— Betty Kirk, Member

The Social and Environmental Justice Committee will conduct its beach cleanup at Herring Point at Cape Henlopen State Park on **Saturday, June 3, starting at 9:30 a.m.** All UUSD members and their children are invited to come and help out. Volunteers should tell the person at the park entrance that they are there for a beach cleanup, and they should be admitted to the park free of charge. We will meet in the small parking lot at Herring Point and pick up gloves and bags. We will walk south on the beach for about ½ mile and then turn around to pick up trash on the way back. At the end, we will take an inventory of what we find and report that to DNREC. It usually takes less than 1 ½ hours to complete the cleanup, and it is a chance to share fresh air and fellowship. Volunteers are asked to wear their UUSD tee shirts. If you have any questions, contact [Betty Kirk](mailto:Betty.Kirk@uusd.org).

### SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

#### JUNE 9: S&EJ AND VEGREHOBOTH PRESENT *SEED: THE UNTOLD STORY* AT UUSD

— Don Peterson, Co-Chair

UUSD and VegRehoboth will co-sponsor the showing of *Seed: The Untold Story*, on **Friday, June 9 at 7:00 p.m.** The film, which is open to the public at no charge, will be shown at UUSD.

Don Peterson, Co-Chair of UUSD's Social & Environmental Justice Committee says, "UUSD is proud to support Rehoboth Beach VegFest by co-sponsoring this important film with VegRehoboth. Unitarian Universalists have respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part," he says. "Sustaining life for future generations requires caring for the environment now. I believe the on-going extinction of seed varieties and the mass production of single variety genetically modified crops is a serious threat to biodiversity and the sustainability of the planet."

This startling and absorbing film tells the story of food, tracing humans' use of seeds as far back as 12,000 years ago. "There is almost no land-based species that can live without food grown from seeds, so learning about how best to preserve this most precious resource is quite a critical and radical practice," says VegRehoboth President Tara Sheldon. In fact, a shocking 94% of our seed varieties have disappeared. The movie follows the passionate seed keepers who protect our food legacy. The biotech chemical companies control the majority of our seeds, and the film follows a cadre of farmers, scientists, lawyers, and indigenous seed keepers fighting a David and Goliath battle to defend the future of our food.

"*Seed: The Untold Story* fits beautifully with the mission of Rehoboth Beach VegFest and VegRehoboth, which is to educate and inspire lifestyle change," says President Tara Sheldon. "More and more people are adopting a plant-based lifestyle, so reading about the challenges of raising food from non-GMO seeds and redeveloping many thousands of heirloom seeds is crucial to healthier eating."

For more information, contact Don Peterson at [SocialJustice@uusd.org](mailto:SocialJustice@uusd.org), go to [www.uusd.org](http://www.uusd.org), or email Tara Sheldon at [info@vegrehoboth.org](mailto:info@vegrehoboth.org).

**FUNDRAISING  
CRAFT FAIRE MEETING  
JUNE 28— Karen Lunstead, Member**

Remember that our Craft group will continue to meet the *last Wednesday* of each month to work on items for our November Craft Faire. You may bring your own craft, or help us finish others. The venue is the Gathering Area at **10 a.m.** Please contact Jane Miller or Karen Lunstead with any questions.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
JUNE 18: ALL CHURCH PICNIC TO BID FAREWELL TO REV. PAULA  
— Gary Colangelo, President**

An All Church Picnic will be held immediately after worship services on **Sunday, June 18** to bid Rev. Paula a big UUSD farewell. This will be a Southern Delaware Picnic with pulled pork, fried chicken, and vegetarian main dishes. All kinds of salads — potato, macaroni, pasta, Jell-O, and green leafy — and desserts will be served. There is a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area. Please bring something to serve 15 to 18 people with your item plated or in your serving bowl.

**SAVE-THE-DATES**

**JULY 27, 28, & 29: DELMARVA CLUSTER SOCIAL JUSTICE PROJECT  
— Mac Goekler, UUSD Cluster Representative**

This message is from Rev. Greg Chute, Unitarian Universalists of Central Delaware, on behalf of the Delmarva Cluster.

We have a project and a date! The Central Delaware Habitat for Humanity (CDHFH) has several new homes under construction in the greater Dover area. Being centrally located, Dover is perfect for a joint Delmarva Cluster work project. CDHFH is enthusiastic about welcoming our helping hands. They are an interfaith organization with a long history of working with church organizations, and have scheduled work groups for anywhere from one day to two weeks. They have reserved Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, July 27, 28, 29 specifically for us. Anyone and everyone (over 16) from all of our eight Delmarva congregations are invited to join in on one, two, or all three days. All skill levels welcome; there will even be some training. There is always enough work for everyone.

For over 60 years, Habitat has been providing homes at affordable rates for people who might otherwise not have the opportunity of owning their own home. This is a great opportunity for us to participate in their mission and vision; and it is quite clearly consistent with our Unitarian Universalist values. I have personally participated in many HFH projects in Wilmington, in South Dakota, along the Gulf Coast, and in South Africa. It has always been a rewarding, gratifying, and inspiring experience. It can be for you, too.

People can contact [Rev. Greg Chute](#) for more information and to sign up for the team. This project is not only an opportunity for people to perform local social justice work, but also to have fun and to connect with other UU's from First Unitarian Church of Wilmington, Unitarian Universalist Society of Mill Creek, Unitarian Universalists of Newark, Unitarian Universalists of Chester River, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Salisbury, and the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Easton. Together, we can make a difference.

**DELMARVA CLUSTER**  
**AUGUST 5: DELAWARE PRIDE IN DOVER**  
— Mac Goekler, UUSD Cluster Representative

This message is from Rev. Greg Chute, Unitarian Universalists of Central Delaware, on behalf of the Delmarva Cluster.

Delaware Pride is again having their annual event on Legislature Mall in Dover on **Saturday, August 5, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** Once again, the Delmarva Cluster has reserved a booth to distribute information and to show our support. Everyone from all of our eight congregations on the Delmarva Peninsula is invited to stop by to participate in our liberal/progressive presence. It is a great opportunity to meet with other UUs, to try to explain our religious tradition to others, and to make a social statement. For more information about the Delaware Pride event, contact [Rev. Greg Chute](#) of the Unitarian Universalists of Central Delaware. See you there.

**FUNDRAISING**  
**SEPTEMBER 15: SAVE-THE-DATE — YARD SALE SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER**  
— Karen Lunstead, Member

The Fundraising Committee will host the annual yard sale on **Friday, September 15** for UUSD members and friends, and on **Saturday, September 16** for everyone. Until then, please hold onto your items for the sale: furniture, dishes, books, electronic devices, etc. If you have any questions, please contact Jane Miller or Karen Lunstead.

**UUSD MEN'S GROUP**  
**REFLECTIONS ON THE UUSD HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP**  
— Jeff Cordiano

It was a cool and breezy sunny Saturday morning in April when 12 volunteers gathered at UUSD to prepare for the highway clean-up, which is organized by the Men's Group. After the safety briefing and donning the yellow safety vests, everyone headed over to UUSD's first-time cleanup of Sweet Briar Road just west of the church at Hopkins Ice Cream Farm. The clean-up went well, and our volunteers were able to add a loop at the end at the electric power substation at the corner of Rt. 9 and Sweet Briar, a little triangle of road that was a "mess." Then, when the clean-up was complete, several hungry volunteers went for ice cream at Hopkins. Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers for their hard work in support of UUSD's highway clean-up.



*(l to r: Joel Bastow, Jeff Cordiano (in back); Al Lister (back); Rand and Ellen Lytton, Eric Standifer, Mac Goekler, Jim Lesko (back), Ed Fick, Randy Zipser, and Walt Smith. Photo by Jean Charles.)*

## JUNE HIGHLIGHTS & FUTURE EVENTS

**JUNE 1, 8, 15, & 29, Thursdays, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**  
**Ethics for Our Multicultural World (Cont.)**

Contact: [Len Bowman](#)

**JUNE 2, Friday, 6:00 p.m.**  
**First Friday Film — *Bully***

Contact: [FridayFilms@uussd.org](mailto:FridayFilms@uussd.org)

**JUNE 4, Sunday, 11:30 a.m.**  
**UUSD Informational Meeting**

Contact: [Gwen Johnson, Board Secretary.](#)

**JUNE 5, Monday, 7:00 p.m.**

**Book Group: *My Name is Lucy Barton* by Elizabeth Strout.** In this novel, a simple hospital visit becomes a portal to the tender relationship between mother and daughter. Facilitator: Claire O'Meara.

Contact: [Bobbi Dunham](#)

**JUNE 9, Friday, 7:00 p.m.**

**“Seed: The Untold Story”**

Contact: [SocialJustice@uussd.org](mailto:SocialJustice@uussd.org)

**JUNE 11, Sunday, 11:30 a.m.**

**UUSD Annual Meeting**

Contact: [Gwen Johnson, Board Secretary.](#)

**JUNE 16, Friday, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**

**Friends and Family Game Night**

Contact: [Amber Peterson](#)

**JUNE 18, Sunday, 11:30 a.m.**

**All-Church Picnic**

**Celebration for Rev. Paula**

Contact: [Gary Colangelo](#)

**JUNE 28, Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.**

**Craft Faire Meeting**

Contact: [Karen Lunstead](#)

**JUNE 28, Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.**

**Board of Trustees Meeting**

Contact: [President@uussd.org](mailto:President@uussd.org)

### **SAVE-THE-DATES**

**JULY 27, 28, & 29**

**Delmarva Cluster Social Justice Project**

Contact: [Rev. Greg Chute](#)

**AUGUST 5, Saturday, 10:00 a.m.**

**Delaware Pride Festival**

Contact: [Rev. Greg Chute](#)

**SEPTEMBER 15, Friday**

**UUSD Yard Sale (Members/Friends)**

Contact: [Karen Lunstead](#)

**SEPTEMBER 16, Saturday**

**UUSD Yard Sale (Public)**

Contact: [Karen Lunstead](#)



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## Staff & Officers

### Interim Minister

Rev. Paula Maiorano  
Email: [Minister@uussd.org](mailto:Minister@uussd.org)

### Faith Development

Amber Peterson, Email: [DLFD@uussd.org](mailto:DLFD@uussd.org)

### Music Director

Dr. Marcelle Schiff, Email: [MusicDirector@uussd.org](mailto:MusicDirector@uussd.org)

### Nursery Teacher

Sabina Beaver-Kepner

### Board of Trustees: 2016-2017

President: Gary Colangelo  
Email: [President@uussd.org](mailto:President@uussd.org)  
Vice-President: Sharon Herb  
Finance Officer: Pat Murdock  
Secretary: Gwen Johnson  
Members: Joyce Fitch, Wayne Lunstead, and Joanne Saltzberg

### Executive Team:

Rev. Paula Maiorano  
Deanna Duby  
Margaret Keefe

### 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 <mailto: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 20<sup>th</sup> of each month to [Pat Schaeffer](#).
- **Publicity** requests to [Pat Schaeffer](#)
- **Order of Service** notices by Wednesday to [Anni Wood](#) and [Jean Charles](#) with a copy to [Pat Schaeffer](#)
- **Weekly Community Updates** by Thursday to [Jean Charles](#).
- **Website Calendar Updates** to [Jean Charles](#).

## Board Committee Chairs

**Activities:** TBD

**Capital Campaign:** Gary Colangelo & Lee Summerville

**Communications:** Pat Schaeffer  
Email: [Communications@uussd.org](mailto:Communications@uussd.org)

**Denominational Affairs:** Ron & Pat Schaeffer

**Finance:** Joanne Saltzberg & Dan Payne

**Cloud Society:** Joanne Saltzberg

**Fundraising:** Kris Acker

**Land & Building:** Allan Cairncross

**Leadership Development:** Lee Summerville

**Lifespan Faith Development:** Deanna Duby

**Adult Education:** Betty Kirk & Len Bowman

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**Librarian:** Joyce Fitch

**Long-Range Planning:** Joanne Saltzberg

**Membership:** Bobbi Dunham

Email: [Membership@uussd.org](mailto:Membership@uussd.org)

**Music:** Dianne Conine

**Partner Church:** Ceil Toth

**Pastoral Care:** Jan Daily

**Personnel:** Deb Davies

**Property Mgt.:** Deanna Duby & Gary Schmidt

Email: [Admin@uussd.org](mailto:Admin@uussd.org)

**Energy Team:** Email: [Energy@uussd.org](mailto:Energy@uussd.org)

**Landscape Management:** TBD

**Rental & Usage:** Pat Murdock

**Social & Environmental Justice:** Susan Goekler & Don Peterson

Email: [SocialJustice@uussd.org](mailto:SocialJustice@uussd.org)

**Stewardship:** Jean Charles

**Worship:** Jean Charles

## Ad Hoc Committees

**Ministerial Search:** Jean Charles

**Small Group Ministry:** Bobbi Dunham

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**Website Content Administrator:** [Pat Schaeffer](#)

FACEBOOK

**Administrator:** [Pat Schaeffer](#)

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