



THE UU-LINK

April 2016

NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY

April Services

April 3

The Road to Shangri La

Sue Weber

We all yearn for peace in our lives and for those we love. What does James Hilton's book "Lost Horizon" tell us about the search?

April 10

Seek from Within

Marie Tweed
& Sharon Beckhard

All of us have something we long for but cannot find, a feeling, a person, a place. We'll explore how we might satisfy those longings.

April 17

Passover

We'll explore Passover as a Social Justice holiday

April 24

Earth Day

Rev. Don Garrett

Earth Day turns 46 this year. Is it a grown-up yet? Or is it ready for a mid-life crisis?

DonSense – by Rev. Don Garrett

Our Theme for April: Yearning

Yearning may not be a word we Unitarian Universalists use much, but we feel it almost every day. Faced with a materialistic culture that conjures up a hunger for stuff, we yearn for spirit. The shallowness of a society enthralled with entertainment and appearance drives our longing for depth. Lost in the busy and overwhelming demands of daily life, we hunger to hear the voice (and desires) of our deepest self. Tempted by the narcissism of our time, we crave a community that reminds us of needs greater than our own. Depleted, we thirst for beauty. Simply put, we all know what it's like to long for "more."

This yearning for more lies at the heart of every religious tradition. It cuts across and unites all of our diverse beliefs. You might even call it the mystical dimension of faith. We Unitarian Universalists don't often refer to this dimension of experience as mystical, but we do have our own way of honoring it. For instance, regardless of whether we are theists, agnostics or atheists, yearning puts us in touch with "otherness." You may experience yearning as coming from a divine other. I might experience it as coming from my deepest self. Either way, we both find ourselves pulled by something that is both most deeply us and yet beyond us at the same time. UU theologian, Henry Nelson Wieman, once referred to this pull as "The Divine Lure." Whether or not we choose to label it divine, each of us depends on it and knows it to be sacred. It's the kind of yearning that gets us back on track, leads us to wholeness and reminds us who we most want to be.

So this month, we invite each other to take this "mystical self" and "divine lure" a bit more seriously. And doing so is not as difficult or exotic as we may imagine. It is as simple as asking, "What is my *more*?" What deeper hunger is trying to get my attention? What lack is longing to be filled?

What if you started each day saying yes to the yearning of your heart? What would you do? Would you spend more time outside? Would you rest in the arms of a loved one? Would you laugh with your children? Would you lie on the floor and let dogs lick your face? Would you call all the lost friends in your phone book? Or would you open yourself to the deep but hidden wholeness at your center?

Who knew we'd be invited to be mystics this month?

See you in church.

– Don

FROM THE PRESIDENT



After a great presentation by Bernie Bujnowski updating us on Capital Projects, and particularly the proposed handicap access, we had a lively Town Meeting on March 20.

Two issues were raised which have been discussed for some time. For those who were not there - and those who were - one was the observation that Religious Education, because of timing, has little or no interaction with the churchgoers who attend services in the sanctuary. Several solutions were offered, and it would be good to get any follow-up thoughts or new ideas. It could make for a longer church morning but would bring the benefit of interaction among the generations. One member noted that it was not surprising that our young people leave after they graduate from RE; they don't know what church is like!

The other issue was the title of our church. One recurring issue is that the email address UUCLV belongs to the Las Vegas UU congregation and they often receive email intended for us, since folks don't remember to add the PA to the address. A larger issue, in my opinion, is how our church (or congregation, or fellowship, etc.) is perceived in the community when people are church-shopping.

If we were to change "church" to "congregation", it would sound more welcoming to me, but would not solve the email problem. On the other hand, as we discussed at the Town Meeting, we could be the Lehigh Valley Unitarian Universalists (LVUU) or Unitarian Universalists of the Lehigh Valley (UULV). Such a title change would seem more open and inviting to those whose background or inclination is not to join a church, but to embrace UU values.

Thank you to all who participated in the Town Meeting. If anyone has comments on these discussions, please chime right in.

Cheers -- **Ellen Bell**, Board President



The UUCLV youth group "scattering our fears" during their service

MADE IT TO 100!

How many 100 year olds do you know? I'm betting not many. But our Bob Williamson will be 100 years young on April 25! We will celebrate this phenomenon on April 24, during the coffee hour.

Those who have taught in elementary schools, preschools, or Kindergarten classes might remember the tradition of celebrating Day 100 of the school year. Just for fun, we'll do that for Bob's birthday..

Every participant comes bearing 100 of something - anything. Kindergartners tend to bring 100 Cheerios, 100 paper clips, 100 pennies, 100 pebbles, 100 grains of rice.....what will you bring? Start now, and you won't have a problem finding 100 of something to bring and share with Bob, the "Birthday Boy," and all your friends at the coffee hour. Perhaps a group could work together -- a family, an interest group, a team of any sort -- to pick an object and collect 100 of that object between now and April 24. Cheers! -- **Margo Dixon**

THE UU-LINK

The UU-Link is published and mailed monthly, and is also available on our website.

**The Unitarian Universalist Church
of the Lehigh Valley**

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We're on the web at www.uucvpa.org

THINGS TO DO WITH UU'S - MARCH

The following opportunities were offered at our November service auction. These events offer food, fun and fellowship, and still have openings. Look at your calendar and consider these options!

Contact Dora Davenport at doradavenport@msn.com or speak to her at church for additional information. Please let her know which you would like to attend. Thank you!

1) Sunday, April 3rd: INTERPLAY WORKSHOP -

Come discover the creativity and lightness that springs from connecting body, mind & spirit. Interplay provides a safe space to "play" with movement, stories, stillness & song. For adults who wish to tap into their inner child. Sarah Carlson will offer a 1.5 hour Interplay workshop in the Community Room on Sunday, April 3, from 1:00-2:30 pm. Sarah is a Certified Interplay Leader, dance educator & massage therapist. Cost \$10.

2) Saturday, April 16th: A FLAVORFUL DINNER -

This is a flavorful dinner being served at the home of Ilse and Allen Zinnes prior to Selkie Theatre's Harper Lee performance. This group will then go to the UUCLV for the *Dessert with Harper Lee* evening. Price includes dinner, dessert and the play. 5:00 pm; Cost \$40.00.

3) Saturday, April 16th: SOUTHERN DINNER

(includes biscuits, southern fried chicken, black-eyed peas, grits & greens) served by Kerri Finkle & Margo Dixon in the community room of UUCLV prior to the *Dessert with Harper Lee* performance offered by Selkie Theatre. This group will stay for the dessert & play and to be the first to get good seats for the performance. Price includes dinner, dessert & play. 5:30 pm Cost \$40.00.

4) Saturday, April 16th: DESSERT WITH HARPER

LEE: Join us for a variety of desserts as we watch Selkie Theatre's *A Moment With Nelle Harper Lee*, written and directed by George B. Miller and starring actress Elizabeth McDonald, in the UUCLV community room.

Through this interactive theatre piece, you meet an older Harper Lee, author of "To Kill A Mocking Bird", as wickedly smart and cantankerous as ever, as she talks about her life and "new" novel, "Go Set a Watchman", and answers audience questions. Desserts included, 7:00-9:00 pm, Cost: \$15.00.

APRIL BREAKFAST FORUM

April 3

April Worship Theme: Yearning

Rev. Don Garrett, Facilitator

There will be a brief presentation, followed by a small-group discussion format and a reuniting later to share what we've learned on the topic of "Yearning." Join in this adventure in speaking, listening, thinking, reflecting and sharing together in a new way; another way to live our values of compassion, nurture, and justice in our beloved community.

April 10

Working and Leading in a Virtual Environment

Bobbe Baggio, Ph.D, Presenter

Over 28% of today's workforce function in a virtual environment where people are connected by technologies and are not required to meet face to face in order to conduct business or maintain social relationships. What is required to work successfully in this environment?

April 17

Hands-Only CPR Class

Orlando Rivera, MSN, RN, CEN, PHRN, RCIS, Presenter

The purpose of the class is to educate about the dangers of sudden cardiac arrest and the simple things we all can do to significantly increase the chance of survival of its victims. Hands-Only CPR is CPR without mouth-to-mouth breaths. It consists of two easy steps: 1) Call 9-1-1 (or send someone to do that) 2) Push hard and fast in the center of the chest.

April 24

Viewing the Crash: Films That Help Us Understand The Great Recession

Tom Repasch, Presenter

About a year or so after the crash of 2008, we began to see filmmakers' takes on the events, first on HBO and other television networks, and later in movies that were released theatrically. There were documentaries, dramas based on actual events, and films that were purely fictional. We'll look at clips from three particularly good ones and share our reactions.



FROM THE LIFESPAN EDUCATION COORDINATOR

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE) FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

If you attended the senior high youth service in February, then know that our youth are thoughtful, articulate and skilled at leading worship services. There is another opportunity to enjoy the youth as worship leaders on May 1, when the Coming of Age students are recognized for completing their program. This is a special service when the 7th and 8th graders read their faith statements and lead us in music and song. They have been studying what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist all year and developing their faith statements for a few months. This is their opportunity to share them with us. Less than two weeks after their service, many of them will take a heritage trip to Boston to visit many of the important sites in Unitarian and Universalist history. They will learn that this denomination has a deep tradition that is interwoven with the founding of this country. We are a unique denomination in that we are encouraged to develop, refine and change our own theologies. Coming of Age is a big step in that process. I hope you will attend the service on May 1 to encourage them in their faith journeys, and perhaps feel encouraged yourself to think about how your religious beliefs have changed or are changing.

In faith,

Jansen Wendell, *Director of Lifespan Religious Education*
(lec@uucvpa.org)

ADULT RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION :

MINDFULNESS PRACTICE GROUP,

led by Reverend Don Garrett and Janice Lovegrove
(*Tuesday evenings, 7:00 – 8:30, the Community Room*)
With the help of conscious breathing we are able to touch and be nourished by the peace and joy that are available within and around us, in the here and now. We meet most weeks to learn, practice, and enjoy the benefits of mindfulness in our lives, our relationships, and in the larger communities of which we are a part. Contact Rev. Garrett at minister@uucvpa.org for info.

JOSEPH CAMPBELL VIDEO SERIES – THE POWER OF MYTHS

(Session 1: Wednesday, January 13 at 7:30 in room 304, continuing on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month.)

In lively, expansive dialogues, inspirational scholar Joseph Campbell discusses how myths hold the key to understanding human experience. They may vary superficially from culture to culture, but at their deepest level they all reveal the path to self-fulfillment, social integration, and ultimately, transcendence. Discussion will follow. There are 16 sessions, lasting about 1 1/2 hour depending on the discussion. Contact Cease Blocker at 610-866-3714 or blocker@rcn.com.

LONG STRANGE TRIP: 2000 YEARS OF UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST HISTORY (DVD series):

This set of 6 DVDs, available for loan, trace the history and evolution of Unitarianism, Universalism, and the merger of the two into today's Unitarian Universalism. If you want to find out about how our "Uncommon Denomination" came to be what it is today, from its roots in the Reformation to the American Revolution to the Civil War to the Transcendentalist Movement to the present, these movies are entertaining and captivating. Contact Jansen Wendell to arrange to borrow DVD's.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR:

Sun, April 3: Story for all ages, followed by regular RE classes

Sun, April 10: Story for all ages, followed by regular RE classes

Sun, April 17: preK-6th grade - Children's Worship Service: the 7th Principle, We believe in caring for our planet Earth, the home we share with all living things.

Sun, April 24: Story for all ages, followed by regular RE classes

Sun, May 1: Multi-generational Coming of Age recognition service

Sun, May 8: Multi-generational service

Sun, May 15: Story for all ages, followed by regular RE classes

Sun, May 22: Story for all ages, followed by regular RE classes

Sun, May 29: (Memorial Day weekend) RE festival

Sun, June 5: RE volunteer recognition breakfast and end-of-year RE party

Sun, June 12: Multi-generational Flower Communion service

Sun, June 19: 1st day summer RE classes, grades preK-6.

PLANS FOR UUCLV HANDICAPPED ACCESS OUTLINED

The Capital Projects Committee reviewed plans for handicapped access at a town hall meeting following services on March 20. Discussion focused on an option which would provide access from the gym to the 2nd floor of the RE building.

The components of this option would include a limited use/limited access (LULA) elevator providing access to the 1st and 2nd floors of the RE building, the sanctuary, community room, and the landing outside of Rm 100. A stair glide would be used to provide access from the landing outside of Rm 100 to the gym.

The LULA would require construction of an elevator shaft extending from the basement through the storage area to the right of the community room stage and continuing up through the storage to the right of the altar. New openings (doors) would have to be constructed at each stop, i.e. Room 100 landing, the community room storage area, the sanctuary, and the 1st and 2nd floors of RE building.

This proposal also anticipates improvements to the current handicapped access ramp on the south side of the building and adding two additional handicapped parking spaces (for a total of four).

The proposed solution has some additional implications for building usage/ appearance. The current chair and table storage space provided by the room adjacent to the community room stage would no longer be available; new storage space would have to be identified.

Some alterations to the choir space to the right of the altar would be required to facilitate handicapped access. The appearance of the façade to the storage room to the right of the altar would be changed with the addition of handicapped access doors.

Church rentals of certain rooms would be curtailed during a one-two month construction period.

Preliminary cost estimate for this solution is \$147,000, including a stair glide. Assuming appropriate church governing body approvals, bids could be let issued during the summer of 2016 with construction to begin in the fall of 2016.

-- Denominational News --



Heart Land: Where Faiths Connect

Featuring Ware Lecture by
Krista Tippett
Host of Public Radio's
"On Being"

June 22-26, 2016
Information and registration
at uua.org.

2016 FOURTH FRIDAY FILM SERIES

The 2016 Fourth Friday Film (FFF) Series is presented by the UUCLV Social Action Committee at 7:15 PM in our community room!

The series has a strong emphasis on promoting the common good as it relates to saving our environment, reversing economic inequality, and repairing our democracy so it works for everyone. The Website for the film series is www.FFFInfo.blogspot.com.

We invite groups/organizations to join us in this important endeavor by co-sponsoring one or more of the presentations (publicize event, add expertise to the discussion). We also hope that local college and university professors and their students will connect with FFF programs that align with their curricula and/or interest. Please contact **Tom Ulrich** at 610-882-1136 or tomulrich41@gmail.com for more information.

April 22

GUNNED DOWN: THE POWER OF THE NRA

Frontline looks at the power of the pro-gun lobby, and we look for answers on reducing gun violence.

May 27

GREEN FIRE: ALDO LEOPOLD AND A LAND ETHIC FOR OUR TIME

FOLLOWS Aldo Leopold's journey as he explores our relationship with the land and the environment

June 24

BILL NYE'S GLOBAL MELTDOWN

National Geographic presents the facts, and we look for answers on global warming

July 22

MERCHANTS OF DOUBT

Looks at how pundits-for-hire claim to be authorities then take money from corporate interests.

August 26

TO BE ANNOUNCED

September 23

GAS WORK: THE FIGHT FOR C.J.'S LAW

Film by Josh Fox on the effects of fracking on workers in the industry and the environment.



The final concert of the **Second Sunday Concert Series** happens on Sunday, April 10 at 3:00 pm with **Jazz at the UUCLV**. The featured artist are internationally acclaimed jazz pianist and composer David Leonhardt, with Paul Rostock on bass and Colby Inzer on drums. They will present a concert of songs you know and love, and some new ones, too! Always lyrical and creative, this veteran performer and his trio will embark on a musical journey that will enrapture and excite you.

Concert guests are invited to meet the artists at a post-concert reception. \$15 general admission; **students are free**. Sunday, April 10, 3:00 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door, or may be purchased on-line at www.concertseries.uuclvpa.org.

CONCERT REFRESHMENTS

We appreciate all of you who brought refreshments for our Second Sunday Concert reception in March. We are looking forward to another wonderful concert and reception on Sunday, April 10th, at 3:00pm that we'll need refreshments for. Please contribute a dessert or hors d'oeuvres for this much enjoyed event. Contact Pat Herring at 610-965-6776 or herringp@ptd.net to tell us what you are bringing. If possible, please bring your contribution to church on an attractive serving dish the morning of the concert, label it "Concert", and leave it in the FM kitchen on the table near the wall. Refreshments brought in closer to concert time will be heartily accepted, too. Many thanks in advance for your generous help in making our concert series memorable!

NATIVE PERENNIAL PLANT SALE

Please reserve the weekends of April 30/May 1 and May 7/8 for the native plant sale.

Perhaps you wish to help? Transport of the 1000+ potted perennials is Thursday, April 28 from 4pm at my house and 4:30pm at the church for setup. We need many hands. The sale is 9-3pm on Saturday and Sunday both weekends. Email me if you want to help or have questions. -- **Ilse Stoll**, Zinnes@verizon.net

APRIL MEN'S GROUP

The April meeting of the UUCLV Men's Group will be held at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 27 in the main building of Moravian Village. The topic will be the life of our (by then) centenarian Bob Williamson. The UUCLV Men's Group is open to all men affiliated with the UUCLV and their male friends. Please bring food and/or beverage to be shared. For more information, contact men@uuclypa.org or Frank Claps at 610-346-7629

DEADLINE FOR IRON PIGS TICKETS

The deadline for purchasing tickets for the May 21 UUCLV Nite at the Iron Pigs is Tuesday, April 19. Tickets cost \$10 each and offer a one-time \$2 discount at most concession stands. There is also a parking fee. The 6:35 p.m. game lists the Toledo Mud Hens as the opposition.

To purchase your tickets contact Frank Claps at 610-346-7629 or benchpress2@verizon.net or clapsfrank@gmail.com. Or, see Frank in church

MARCH BOOK DISCUSSION

Our next book discussion is Sunday, April 10th. We will meet in the RE Library at 12:00 noon after the service. The book selection for this month is The Boys In The Boat by Daniel James Brown, pub. 2013. The book tells the story of the University of Washington's 1936 eight oar crew and their quest for an Olympic gold medal. This is a fascinating story that you won't want to miss. Please join us. For more information e-mail us at bookdiscussion@uuclypa.org.

JOIN THE LINK PIZZA PARTY!

Consider yourself invited to join us for the monthly UU-Link Mailing Party. Every month, the Link volunteers meet in the FM kitchen at 12 noon on the 2nd Wednesday of the month after the 3rd Sunday of the month for Link-folding, socializing and pizza from Lehigh Pizza. If you'd like to join in the fun or check the date, just RSVP to the office at uucly@uuclypa.org.

Our Chief Want

-- is someone --
who will inspire us to be
what we know we could be.

-- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Please help our congregation
be what we know we can be.

SPONSORED BY

Your Nominating Committee • nominating@uuclypa.org
Karen Berry • John Kennedy • Kathy Stagl • Frank Stone • Tom Repasch

The Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley
424 Center Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018

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Today		<	>	April 2016		Day	Week	Month	4 Days	Agenda	More ▾	⚙
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat						
27 9 Breakfast Forum-CR 10:30 Sunday Service 11:45 Town Hall-CR 12:10p Sunday Hospitality- 4p Yoga: 312 6p LV Folk Dance	28 9 Capital Projects - FM 1p Rehearsal: Sanctuary 7p LR Planning: RE Lib	29 4p Mue Do Kan-Gym 5p Freckle Face Fudge-Kit 5:45p Yoga: 312 7p Mindfulness Practice: C	30 3p Men's Shelter-Gym 7p HAVEN: 100/CR 7:15p Choir: Sanctuary	31 2p Stimpfl: Kitchen 4p Mu Do Kan: Gym	Apr 1	2 11:45 Yoga: 312 4p Torres Party: Gym 4:30p Rivera Shower: CR						
3 9 Breakfast Forum-CR 10:30 Sunday Service 1p InterPlay Wkshp: CR 3p World Winds Concert: S 4p Yoga: 312 5:30p Social Action/PA Cor 6p LV Folk Dance	4 9 Capital Projects - FM	5 4p Mue Do Kan-Gym 5p Freckle Face Fudge-Kit 5:30p LV Food Policy Coun 7p Mindfulness Practice: 3	6 7p HAVEN: 100/CR 7:15p Finance - RE Lib 7:15p Choir: Sanctuary 7:30p J. Campbell Video S	7 4p Mu Do Kan: Gym 7p Board Meeting-CR/FM	8	9 3:30p Contra - Gym						
10 9 RE Comm-Rm 212 9 Breakfast Forum-CR 10:30 Sunday Service 12p Book Discussion - RE 1:30p 2nd Sunday Concert 6p LV Folk Dance	11 9 Capital Projects - FM 7:15p Social Action - FM Ki	12 4p Mue Do Kan-Gym 5p Freckle Face Fudge-Kit 7p Mindfulness Practice: C	13 7p HAVEN: 100/CR 7:15p Choir: Sanctuary	14 4p Mu Do Kan: Gym	15	16 11 Tao Study - RE Lib 4p Dinner/Evening w/Nelle						
17 9 Breakfast Forum-CR 10:30 Sunday Service 12p Personnel: 308 12p Property-RE Lib 3p HAVEN Jazz: CR/FM 5p The UU-Link deadline 6p LV Folk Dance	18 9 Capital Projects - FM 7p Program Council-CR/Fl	19 4p Mue Do Kan-Gym 5p Freckle Face Fudge-Kit 7p Mindfulness Practice: C	20 7p HAVEN: 100/CR 12p Link Mailing Party-CR 7:30p J. Campbell Video S	21 4p Mu Do Kan: Gym	22 10 Burgos decorating: CR 7p 4th Friday Films - CR	23 3:30p Contra - Gym 4p Burgos Bday: CR						
24 9 Breakfast Forum-CR 10:30 Sunday Service 11:45 Town Hall-CR 12:10p Sunday Hospitality- 1:30p Orban Shower: CR 6p LV Folk Dance	25 9 Capital Projects - FM	26 4p Mue Do Kan-Gym 5p Freckle Face Fudge-Kit 7p Mindfulness Practice: C	27 10 Plant Sale set-up: Yard 12p Link Mailing Party-CR 7p HAVEN: 100/CR 7:15p Choir: Sanctuary	28 10 Plant Sale set-up: Yard 4p Mu Do Kan: Gym 6:30p ACLU - FM	29	30 9 Native Plant Sale: Yard 10 Plant Sale talk: CR 3:30p Contra-Gym						