



THE UU-LINK

August 2018

NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY

August Services

People always ask us to “Bring GA home” for those who couldn’t attend. Now that we can project streaming video, we’ll enjoy two presentations from the 2018 UUA General Assembly in Kansas City.

August 5

The Ware Lecture

w/Rev. Don Garrett

We’ll enjoy Activist and educator Brittany Packnett’s (*Teach for America’s* vice president of National Community Alliances) keynote address to the 2018 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

August 12

No Time for Casual Faith

w/Rev. Don Garrett

We’ll enjoy UUA President, Susan Frederick-Gray’s sermon at the Sunday morning GA worship service.

August 19

Gratitude: Up Close and Personal

Sarah Carlson & Cathy Campanaro

All of us have things we can be grateful for, but why is a conscious focus on gratitude so important? Sarah, Cathy and others will share personal insights from their own lives about why gratitude matters.

August 26

Universalism for Difficult Times

Rev. Don Garrett

As our public debates begin to rise to the level of hostility, let’s consider how our Universalist heritage can help us stay compassionate in the face of anger.

DonSense – by Rev. Don Garrett

August: Our Wintertime in the Summer

Even though nature seems to slow down and stop in the winter, the action never really stops. Plants lose their leaves, their sap withdrawn down into the roots for safekeeping until the return of warmer weather.

But there’s activity in winter’s depths. Underground, roots are preparing for Springtime’s surge of new growth. That’s kind of like what we have here at UUCLV, but in the Summer, rather than winter.

Church services continue, but things seem somehow less urgent and busy. We have an abbreviated music program, our children’s RE program (the theology of *Star Wars* this year), is mostly out of sight as well, since the children spend the summer away from our worship services.

But, just like nature, preparations continue “underground.” Committees plan for the coming year, many of them conducting retreats for that purpose. The Board has a retreat as well, incorporating its new members and developing visions for the coming year together.

Our Action Planning Team has been busy as well. Following last Spring’s church-wide retreat to continue a visioning process that began with a congregational survey, they’ve worked hard to integrate our responses with all that we’ve learned from visiting other (thriving) congregations. We read and discussed *The Growing Church* and mined it for inspirations and suggestions.

And now the Action Planning Team has identified five major areas for our consideration toward making our congregation as healthy and vital as we hope to be. We’ll soon be seeing some of the results in the form of materials for further discussion.

In other news, we’ve hired a new Sexton, Jorge Zapata, to help us care for our facilities – a long-needed step as our former Sexton, Jansen Wendell, transitions into more of a home health aide role with his aging mother.

Our preparations to celebrate our 70th Anniversary are taking shape as well. Look toward the weekend of September 22-23 for some really great activities!

Of course, this is only a fraction of all the good work that’s been going on all summer long. If you’re part of the action – thanks! If not, there’s still lots to do!

See you in church.

– Don

FROM THE PRESIDENT



If you show me commitment, then I may learn to love as you do, then I may learn to love. These words from Shelley Jackson Denham’s hymn, “When I Am Frightened” have resonated a lot as I move into the position as president and see so much

commitment. At its June meeting, the Board approved the Finance Committee’s recommendation to use the additional \$10,000 bequest from the Estate of Bob Williamson to revise the 2018-19 budget to reflect full payment of our UUA Fair Share dues. I remember participating in a Sunday Forum with Bob as he reached his 100th year and his telling us how he loves this congregation, it gets him up, out and stimulated. He still is showing his love, and the Board is keeping our commitment to UUA, making us whole again, as some have said, as we use the resources of the UUA in our programming, governance and inspiration for social action. In other Board business, we decided not to fill the sixth at-large-trustee position, vacated by a resignation in May due to change in employment status, in anticipation of our transformational planning efforts and the desire to streamline our governance. We are also looking for a youth representative for the Board, someone who’ll ask the important questions. Lastly, please seriously consider the Action Planning Team’s “Call for Action” and participate in a goal discernment task force, as we show our commitment and love for UUCLV’s future.

- Cecilia Eberhard

GET YOUR MEETING / EVENT ON THE UUCLV CALENDAR

Urgent! A reminder that the UUCLV church calendar gets wiped clean on July 1, the start of our new church year. Please use the Room Reservation form on our UUCLV website to schedule all regularly recurring events – like committee meetings, films, classes, etc – as well as one-time events like the Spaghetti Dinner or Plant Sale. This includes events you posted on the wall calendars at the recent Program Council meeting, where did calendaring for 2018-19. Questions? Contact the office at uuclv@uuclvpa.org.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE OF PASTORAL CARE AT UUCLV

We are back to the drawing board, as we earnestly seek to provide excellent pastoral care to the members and friends of our community. We are intensely aware of how this ministry is of the utmost importance to us all. Before we create a new plan, we want to hear from each of you.

In that light, the Pastoral Care Task Force will be sending a short, five question survey to all members and friends by early August. The survey will explore how you view the delivery of pastoral care at UUCLV and how and why you might or might not request such. We also seek ideas and suggestions you would like to share. Please be on the lookout for this very brief survey on your computer screen! For those without computers, a paper survey will be available. The results will be treated with confidentiality and will help inform the program to be put in place for the coming program year.

At the same time, a member of the Pastoral Care Team will send a confidential written request to actual recipients of pastoral care from October 2017 through June 2018 to assess their satisfaction and seek their suggestions for improvement. Our thanks to everyone in advance for adding their voice to this matter. If you have questions, please contact Karen West.

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

424 Center Street, Bethlehem PA 18018

Office Phone: 610-866-7652

The Minister:	minister@uuclvpa.org
Office Email:	uuclv@uuclvpa.org
The Sexton:	sexton@uuclvpa.org
Cleaning:	sparkle@uuclvpa.org
Religious Educ:	lec@uuclvpa.org
The UU-Link:	thelink@uuclvpa.org
The eNews:	uuclvnews@uuclvpa.org
Sunday Bulletin/OOS:	sunday@uuclvpa.org

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

70TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Plans are moving forward for our celebration in September when we commemorate seventy years as a Unitarian Universalist congregation. Mark your calendar and plan to celebrate with us as we...

Present to the wider community on September 22 with a Welcoming Open House including free hot dogs, popcorn, Oogie's Ice Cream truck, church tours, Puppet Petting Zoo, kids' crafts and games, music and informational tables for UUCLV Committees and our social action partners. Plan to attend to have fun and meet our community neighbors.

Celebrate our congregation on September 23 with a Jubilee Service and an anniversary dinner for members and friends, where we will break bread, share some of our stories and our aspirations as we move into our future together.

Watch for more details to follow. If you can help plan for these events or for our preparatory decluttering Saturdays in September (see separate article), please contact Cecilia Eberhard Board@uuclvpa.org.

UUCLV SERVICE AUCTION!



SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday, November 17, 2018 – 4:00 pm

The plans for our annual service auction event are currently under construction. The committee minds are at work! This newsletter article is just to get you to mark your calendar and save the date. All details

will be available soon.

But for now think about what you can offer to the auction making it the best yet! Any suggestions, questions and comments are accepted at auction@uuclvpa.org or see Dora Davenport.

UUCLV OFFICE NOTES

THE SEPTEMBER UU-LINK: The deadline for the September issue of The UU-Link is the 3rd Sunday of the previous month: **August 19**. Please submit all of your photos, articles and text info (as Word files) to thelink@uuclvpa.org. Submissions may be edited for length, format, content, etc. The Link Mailing & Pizza Party will be at noon in the FM Kitchen, September 26.

AUGUST BREAKFAST FORUM

August 5

The Story of God II w/Morgan Freeman

Cease Blocker, Presenter

"Why Does Evil Exist" Where does evil come from? Morgan sets out to understand the root of evil and how our ideas have evolved over the millennia. Many issues are explored including the devil and God, the impulse to rape and kill. Is evil inside us? Are we good or evil? Do we need outside control influences such as religion? DVD

August 12

A More Perfect Union

Cari Poole, Presenter

We are going to learn from experts about the remarkable history of the USA Constitution in this PBS series. We travel with Peter Sagal around the United States to find how the power sharing between the states and the federal government was created and see examples of how it is currently holding up. We explore issues like medical marijuana in California and gun control in Montana. Pt 1 of 4

August 19

The Story of God II w/Morgan Freeman

Cease Blocker, Presenter

"Heaven and Hell" What are Heaven and Hell? Do they exist or are they here and now? Morgan explores how they have influenced the way we live, including early concepts and current practices such as speaking in tongues, expelling devils from the body, India's Visnu concepts, near death experiences, etc. DVD

August 26

Gratitude

Cited by President Obama as a leader whose "voice is going to make a difference in the years to come," Brittany has committed her life and career to justice. She is an unapologetic educator, organizer, writer, and speaker who delivered the 2018 Ware Lecture at the General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association.



FROM THE LIFESPAN EDUCATION COORDINATOR

How do we increase participation in the RE program, and how do we let the rest of the Lehigh Valley know about our wonderful religious education program? Those are questions the RE Committee were pondering this summer. We have a lot to offer to children and parents who are searching for a Sunday school that teaches the values of respect, love, justice, caring and inquisitiveness. The committee is researching ways to get the word out to those parents who are not aware that we exist but would love our approach to religious education. We just concluded a committee retreat and developed some great action items for making worship more family inclusive and for reaching out beyond our walls to raise our profile in the community. We plan to contact local colleges this fall so we can be a presence at activities where we can set up an information table. We will also be conducting a survey of adult members and friends about their experiences in both children's and adult religious education, and a separate survey of upper elementary, middle school and senior high students about their religious education experiences. We have so much to offer, it is a shame when people don't know we exist!

In faith, **Jansen Wendell**,
Dir of Lifespan Religious Education
lec@uuclvpa.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE) FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

TEACHER TRAINING

FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHERS, ASSISTANTS & YOUTH ADVISORS

(Saturday, September 8 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm in the community room).

We'll gather so team members can meet to do calendaring, get a refresher on safe congregation practices, review classroom procedures and build some energy for the new year.

SUMMER CURRICULUM: *Let the Force be With You* a Jedi curriculum. This 10-session summer program is designed to bring spiritual/ethical lessons from Star Wars into a cohesive program for children. The program will start on June 17th and run until the end of August.

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

WHAT ADULT ENRICHMENT CLASS WOULD YOU LIKE US TO OFFER?

Now is a great time to make your preferences known. Are you interested in faith development, social or racial justice issues, or a support group? There are some new programs from the UUA such as Spirit in Practice, which was created to help Unitarian Universalists develop regular disciplines, or practices, of the spirit—practices that help them connect with the sacred ground of their being, however they understand it. Other familiar curricula are Building Your Own Theology, and Our Whole Lives for adults. Perhaps you would like something more open-ended such as a discussion group about an important topic such as journaling, end-of life issues or raising spiritual children. Let Jansen Wendell know what you would like at lec@uuclvpa.org.

MINDFULNESS PRACTICE GROUP

(summer schedule: every other Tuesday in August, 7-8:15pm)

We meet 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.

RE CALENDAR - AUGUST/SEPTEMBER:

Sun, Aug 5: (Lesson 8): Indigo Lightsaber – Insist on a Peaceful, Fair and Free World for All

Sun, Aug 12: (Lesson 9): Violet Lightsaber – Value Our Home, Earth, that We Share with All Living Things

Sun, Aug 19: (Lesson 10) - Lightsabers in Action

Sun, Aug 26: Star Wars party

Sun, Sept 2: Labor Day weekend – no summer RE class

Sat, Sept 8: (9:00 am – 1:00 pm): Teacher Training

Sun, Sept 9: Multi-generational ingathering service and water communion ceremony

Sun, Sept 16: Story for all ages in the sanctuary followed by the first day of RE classes.

NEED A CHURCH DIRECTORY?

The church directory of UUCLV members and friends is available for members at the Welcome Table during Coffee Hour after the church service. If there are any corrections needed, contact Cari Poole, Membership Chair and Kate Scuffle, Church Administrator, at uuclv@uuclvpa.org.

INTERESTED IN JOINING OR LEARNING MORE ABOUT UUCLV?

If you are considering becoming a member of our church, or just want to learn more about our Unitarian Universalist faith, this is the class for you! We have two Fall classes titled "Why this Church? Why this Faith?" Class I is **September 9** and Class II is **September 16**, both in room 306, 12:15-2:00. Light lunch provided. Childcare provided with advance notice. For more information and sign up, stop by the Welcome Table or email Cari Poole at membership@uuclvpa.org.

UUCLV DECLUTTERING PARTIES IN SEPTEMBER

As we get ready for our beloved UUCLV 70th Anniversary weekend, September 22-23, 2018, we are asking our church members & friends to help "declutter" the church building so we have a great showing to the community-at-large for our "Open House". It's something we need to do anyway!



The many closets, the FM kitchen, hallways, class rooms, and more, all need to be decluttered. Many items, that have been taking our precious space, will be considered to be removed. Please join the 70th Anniversary Task Force in this effort on both September 8th and 15th from 9:00 am to Noon (or at least one day).

We are having a pizza party at noon on both days. For more information and to sign up, contact our Board President Cecilia Eberhard at eberhard1400@gmail.com or president@uuclvpa.org or Property Committee Chair Dora Davenport at doradavenport@msn.com or property@uuclvpa.org Your help would be greatly appreciated!

FOURTH FRIDAY FILMS SERIES

August 24 - "It Happens Right Here: Human Trafficking in the Lehigh Valley". We'll shine a light on this problem with a documentary and discussion

September 28 - "The Empire's War on the Border" looks at the immigration issue and what we can do about it.

THANK YOU ALL!

Once again our church community has opened up their hearts to those less fortunate. Our Wednesday Night Showers has become not only a night where bodies can be refreshed but also a gathering of friends with a safe place to talk and to enjoy refreshments for a few hours. We will continue this outreach into the summer. Your continued support is appreciated by our volunteers and guests. We like to offer clean socks and underwear when needed and our stock has diminished. If you think of it when you are out and about; we could use some men's socks and large and xlarge underwear. Thank you again for supporting this effort. GO UUCLV !!!!!

CHAPERONES NEEDED FOR UUCLV EVENT RENTALS

The UUCLV is looking for adult church members and friends to work as paid chaperones for party/event rentals at the church. Event chaperoning is generally a 9 hour shift, usually Saturday mid-afternoon until 11pm+. The pay rate had just been increased to \$15 an hour. The rental events are usually parties or showers, with food, alcohol, and music, with 70-150 attendees.

Chaperones work solo, and must know the church / facility extremely well; have sole responsibility for the entire building, safety, liability and security during the event; and serve as church representative and ambassador, event manager, security person, mediator, and enforcer. Chaperones need to insure that UUCLV / rental contract rules are followed, and our neighbors respected. The chaperone also inspects the building at the event's end to determine security deposit status. If interested, please contact the Administrator at the church office at uuclv@uuclvpa.org.

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UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS JOIN MOVEMENT TO ABOLISH IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

By Michael Hart, from UU World Magazine, July, 2018

On July 2, an estimated 100 Unitarian Universalists joined more than a thousand demonstrators in San Diego to protest the introduction of Operation Streamline, a fast-track prosecution program that moves immigrants through the criminal justice system in large groups with little time for or effort given to due process. The program has been in place for several years in some cities in Arizona and Texas. July 2 marked its introduction to Southern California.

The sizable contingent of UUs was part of the Free Our Future demonstration led by Mijente, a national Latinx political organization that is calling for the abolition of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency (ICE). The UUs present were joined by members of other faith communities from around the country, including rabbis from Minnesota and Mormon religious leaders from Utah, among others.

By the time two demonstrators scaled a 16-story hotel and unfurled a huge banner that read “Free Our Families Now,” two Unitarian Universalist ministers had already been removed from the nearby Edward J. Schwartz U.S. Courthouse. Five more UU ministers joined about twenty others representing a range of faith communities in blocking an entrance to the courthouse.

“We just came off of our GA, where we made some bold statements about what we as people of faith hold to be true about where the world needs to go,” said the Rev. Ranwa Hammamy, a community minister affiliated with Mt. Diablo UU Church in Walnut Creek, California. “Our faith calls us to do this kind of work.”

The Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly, held June 20–24 in Kansas City, MO, passed an Action of Immediate Witness advocating the abolition of ICE. During the GA, UUA President Susan Frederick-Gray called on UUs to join Mijente in San Diego.

Hammamy and the Rev. Elizabeth Nguyen, a senior strategist for Side with Love, were among six protesters who interrupted an immigration trial in the federal courtroom the morning of July 2. Federal officials

stopped them and, in some cases, dragged them out of the courthouse by their hands and feet.

“We interrupted the court proceeding to say this is illegitimate when black and brown people are in cages,” Nguyen said. “We are the ones who have to be visionary. All of the violence calls us to match that violence with our own courage and love.”

About an hour later, Hammamy joined UU ministers the Rev. John Gibb Millspaugh, the Rev. Sarah Gibb Millspaugh, the Rev. Dr. Beth Johnson, the Rev. Kathleen Owens, and twenty other people in blocking the entrance to the federal courthouse.

“It is truly a moral responsibility and a moral call to put my body on the line,” said Johnson, the minister at Palomar UU Fellowship in suburban San Diego. “If we really affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every person, there isn’t anything else we can do.”

Although the demonstrators were warned twice by federal marshals that they could be arrested for creating a fire hazard, no arrests were made there.

However, ten people—including Nora Rasman, the UUA’s Side with Love campaign manager—were arrested after participating in the unfurling of the “Free Our Families Now” banner along the march route. Demonstrators were able to watch the unfurling just before arriving at the federal courthouse after marching about two miles from Chicano Park. All ten were released the following day, some with bail set as high as \$50,000.

Rasman said she joined the action because she wants “to see more UUs responding to outrage with resources, skills, action, and prolonged commitment to groups fighting criminalization. When we say yes to these calls to action, we deepen relationships, build power, and develop our collective courage together.” She said, “Faith institutions can support their staff and clergy to take action, risk more, and leverage our capacity to flank those offering the most courageous leadership.”

Rasman said, “Black Lives of UU really showed up to support as well—in staff time, logistical coordination, and more prior to and during the action.”

There have been multiple calls for the abolition of ICE ever since the federal government adopted its “zero tolerance” policy that includes separating children from their parents at the southwestern U.S. border and moving the children to detention centers where their parents are not always able to contact them.

The San Diego demonstrations coincided with the introduction of Operation Streamline to the area. Under the program, people caught at the border are charged with illegal entry or re-entry and turned over directly to the U.S. Department of Justice.

In mass prosecution procedures, as many as 70 or 80 people are brought before a federal magistrate at once, often sharing a single government-appointed lawyer and allowed no more than 25 seconds each for a hearing.

The Rev. Tania Márquez, assistant minister at First UU Church of San Diego, said, "Our faith calls us to do this kind of work. There is an urgency to what is happening at the border."

- Submitted by **Rev. Don Garrett**

THINGS TO DO WITH UU'S - AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

There are a few fun and get-together events that still have slots open for you to join in during August and September 2018. If you are interested in joining-in please contact Dora Davenport per email at doradavenport@msn.com, or call cell: 201-247-2427, or tell her at church.

END OF SUMMER PICNIC

August 18th @ 4:00 pm - \$30/pp

**Home of Allen & Ilse Zinnes - 4 available
(Rain or Shine)**

This is the annual End of Summer picnic at the home of Allen & Ilse Zinnes. Enjoy delicious foods, good company, surrounded by gardens of flowers.

END OF THE SUMMER POOL PARTY WITH BBQ

September 16th @ 2:00 pm - \$25/pp

Home of Bobbe & Alex Baggio - 6 available

This is the Baggio's end of summer party including a BBQ meal. Join us for Ribs, Corn on the Cob, Cole Slaw, etc. Family affair - children welcome! Enjoy the pool and play games for a good fun afternoon. Child price included in adult price.



SAVE THE DATES!

SECOND SUNDAY CONCERT SERIES

Music lovers, you'll want to be sure to experience all that the Second Sunday Concert Series has to offer this season! The season starts with a bang on Sunday, October 14, with the return of pianist Kevin Ahfat, who performed previously in the series as part of the Aletheia Trio. His program will include piano works by the great masters - Tchaikovsky, Brahms, Schumann - as well as works by Ginastera and Medtner.

November 11 brings a young, new face to the series. Patrick Kerksen is an outstanding, young, emerging Lehigh Valley jazz pianist with repertoire ranging from the Great American songbook to jazz standards to original music. He and his trio combine strong blues influences with more complex jazz sensibilities to create an engaging and exciting performance.

The Spring part of the series will bring exciting concerts by Holly Roadfeldt, the DeMarina Trio (Deb Andrus, Inna Eyezerovich and Martha Schrempel) and another new face, pianist Kara Huber.

Subscribe to the series and you get a bonus: 5 tickets for the price of 4! If you find you are unable to use tickets for a particular concert, why not consider giving them to someone who might not otherwise come? We would love to see some new faces in the audience this year. And remember, students are admitted free of charge.

You will receive a season brochure in the mail in late August. Brochures will also be available at church if you want to share with friends.

Don't miss out on some of the best music the Lehigh Valley has to offer! We look forward to seeing you in the audience for season 9 of the Second Sunday Concert Series.

- **The Second Sunday Concert Series Committee:**
- *John Diamant, Pat Herring, Barb Forry, Larry Lipkis, Sue and Jan Phillips, and Ilse and Allen Zinnes.*

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

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TODAY < > August 2018 🔍 Month ⚙️ 📅 🌐

Sun 29 ● 9am Breakfast Forum-CR ● 10:30am Sunday Service ● 12pm Hospitality Mtg: FM	Mon 30	Tue 31	Wed Aug 1 ● 6pm Shelter Showers: Gym	Thu 2 ● 7pm Board Mtg: CR	Fri 3	Sat 4
5 ● 9am Breakfast Forum-CR ● 10:30am Sunday Service ● 5pm Lepoco Remembering Aug 6 & 9: C	6	7 ● 7pm Mindfulness Meditation: CR	8 ● 8am Local Mama: Kitchen ● 6pm Shelter Showers: Gym	9 ● 8am Local Mama: Kitchen	10 ● 8am Local Mama: Kitchen	11 ● 8am Local Mama: Kitchen
12 ● 9am Breakfast Forum-CR ● 10:30am Sunday Service ● 12pm Book Discussion: RE Lib	13	14 ● 7pm Property Comm: RE Lib	15 ● 6pm Shelter Showers: Gym	16 ● 6:30pm Fair Districts PA: CR	17	18 ● 11am Tao Study Group: RE Lib
19 ● 9am Breakfast Forum-CR ● 10:30am Sunday Service ● 5pm The UU-Link deadline	20 ● 7pm Program Council: CR	21 ● 7pm Mindfulness Meditation: CR	22 ● 6pm Shelter Showers: Gym	23 ● 7pm Wisdom Infused Drum Circle: CR	24 ● 6pm First Friday Films: CR	25
26 ● 9am Breakfast Forum-CR ● 10:30am Sunday Service ● 11:45am Town Hall-CR ● 12pm Hospitality Mtg: FM	27	28 ● 12pm LV Pagans: Gym TBD	29 ● 12pm Link Mailing Party: FM ● 6pm Shelter Showers: Gym	30	31	Sep 1

