

THE ORACLE

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF MEADVILLE
346 Chestnut Street Meadville, PA 16335
(814)-724-4023
WWW.uumeadville.org

JULY 2018

The Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Join us for our weekly worship service, religious education and social hour Sundays at 10:30 am.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Our **COVENANT** is to be a loving, joyful community that nurtures spiritual growth, promotes compassion, social responsibility, and service in an atmosphere of mutual respect.

Our **MISSION** is to be a faith community devoted to love and respect, reason and justice.



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ROBIN'S BIRD'S-EYE VIEW

REV. ROBIN LANDERMAN ZUCKER,

INTERIM MINISTER

Friends,

As we head into our summer rhythms with more time outdoors and hopefully (!), a slower pace, I offer this letter from Gaia by poet Phil Capitano.

May we enjoy our beautiful places, wherever we find them, and stand as stewards of this fragile and glorious place we call home.

“Dear Humanity:

You know I love you, right? Stop calling me Mother Nature! I hate that! Genderless am I... Oh, yeah, I get the ‘bring life forth’ bit, creator of new life, pregnant with your desire ...yada, yada, yada, my womb is your hope, my anger your demise.

You have dominion over me? Get over yourself! Not the life-force, I wobble, buoy in a black sea, world in flux. Some of your tribes cajole me with Songs of the Good Earth, their rhythms heal my rivers and plains, my blue veins, renewing rains; good vibrations make mountains grow.

Others try to dominate me, defile, desecrate and destroy me. Written in the Book they say, patriarchal sons of kings. Climate change deniers my enemies. Poor, dear, naïve humanity, my icecaps are melting, oceans swell, water will consume the land. My extremes test your resolve. I can live without you, is the opposite true?

Homeostasis, my cycles of life, the seasons my command. Are you so balanced? Don't fight against gravity, there is no escape. Eagles soar and lions roar, your footprints on the shore, all these shall pass away.

So if you seek immortality then keep your home sacred. Love all of me, every rock is my child, every grain of sand a seed, everything you do to these, you do to me.

I am Gaia. I am home.”

See you later this summer.

In faith and affection,

Rev. Robin

WORSHIP MATTERS – JULY 2018

The summer theme is Embodied Spirituality. Services will be held in the Arthur Room of the Parish House.

July 1: Art is My Religion *Carolyn Brown*

July 8: Qigong *Karen Schreiber Mason*

July 15: Drumming *James Reedy*

July 22: Kirtan *Jennifer Hellwarth*

July 29: Movement *James Reedy*

August 5: Mandala Coloring *Leigh Lynes*

August 12: Chair Yoga *James Reedy*

August 19: Church Picnic at the Ackerman's Farm

August 26: Simply Pray
Rev. Robin Landerman Zucker

THE SHARED MINISTRY OF COFFEE HOUR HOSTING

The coffee hour/ community table schedule has been published and emailed to the participants. There is a copy on the front counter of the Parish House and one on the refrigerator.



Schedule for coffee hour for July:

July 1st: Carlin Almes and Peggy Bell

July 8th: Shayna Morrison and Alan Dobos

July 15th: Michele and Mike Baker

July 22nd: Sharon Kaplan and Deb Lehman

July 29th: Joyce and Rob Brugnoli



USHER AND PULPIT ASSISTANT SIGN UP

Please sign up for the date most convenient dates for you September through December 2018. All dates without volunteers will be assigned in July, so please make your selection as soon as possible. Thanks for your help with the ongoing tradition.

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR OUR CHILDREN

Nursery care is always available for our youngest.

Our Spring curriculum was a great success! Horton Hears A UU – Life Lessons from Dr Seuss. Thank you for all that participated.



COMING FALL 2018 - "HOW WAS THE WORLD MADE?" CREATION STORIES AND MYTHS FROM DIFFERENT CULTURES

We are planning a fun, hands-on, and creative new curriculum for Fall 2018 that explores Creation Myths. Stay tuned for details.

Join in at any time, we welcome you.

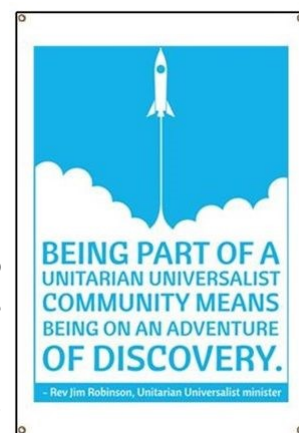
Questions? Contact Kristina Brink, CRE 724-977-2945 kbrink1618@hotmail.com.

REGISTER: Please register each child using this [downloadable registration form](#).

VOLUNTEER FOR THE RE PROGRAM: If you would like to get involved as an adult helper for the RE Classes or family-friendly activities or events, please check the boxes on the RE registration or contact either CRE Kristina Brink (kbrink1618@hotmail.com) or RE Chair, Jane Anderson (jane.anderson811@gmail.com).

ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Welcome to Adult Faith Development at UUCM. Our offerings are open to all members and friends, new and longstanding. We invite and encourage you to explore a variety of courses, presentations, and events to help you be inspired, connect, and live your values. Our goal is to provide a framework for you to grow (personally, intellectually, spiritually, and ethically) as an individual, as a member of the community, and also as a Unitarian Universalist.



Check back for a listing of our Fall 2018 programs.

Past programs have included:

- A Long Strange Trip – a 6 part DVD series about UU history
- Word for Word: Writing for Self-Discovery and Renewal
- 12 Steps to a Compassionate Life – book discussion with exercises
- UU 101 – Introduction to UUism and UU Church of Meadville
- Grief and Loss Sharing Group

FRENCH CREEK CLEAN-UP 2018

Saturday, September 8th

The French Creek Valley Conservancy is a private 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization dedicated to maintaining the exceptional habitat, biological recreational opportunities of the French Creek watershed in Northwest Pennsylvania. Our work in land stewardship, education and community outreach is supported by our members, donors, partner organizations. Our volunteer board of directors is focused on facilitating the citizens of the watershed to be the caretakers of the watershed.



and enhancing water quality, natural diversity and opportunities of the Watershed in North- Our work in land stewardship, community outreach our members, donors, partner organizations.

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Meadville has been a proud sponsor of the French Creek Clean-up for the past three years. We will collect donations to reach our sponsorship goal of \$250 through out the summer. Checks can be made payable to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Meadville with French Creek Clean-up in the memo. There will be a collection box in the Parish House. We will also organize another team for this year's clean-up. A sign up sheet is available in the Parish House. Please include your best contact number and t-shirt size. The drop off and after party will be held at Cochranon Fairgrounds from 12-4:30pm.



SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTION TEAM

CRAWFORD AREA LGBTQ+ JULI 17TH

A support group for LGBTQ citizens, their parents and allies was formed three years ago in Meadville and has been meeting at Stone Methodist Church. The group recently moved to the UU church, meeting on the third Tuesday each month from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. All persons interested in supporting the LGBTQ community are welcome to attend for discussion, snacks and fun. We are hoping to walk in the Halloween Parade this year, support for this endeavor is welcome. If you have any questions please contact Deb Lehman, deblehman51@gmail.com. For more information please visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PFLAGMeadville/>.

SURJ: SHOWING UP FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

All are welcome to SURJ: Showing Up for Racial Justice in Crawford County We meet Mondays at 7:00 pm at Pizza Villa, and also for social action witness on the south end of the in the Diamond on Fridays, 12:00-1:00 pm. Find us on Facebook at SURJCrawfordCounty (<https://www.facebook.com/SURJCrawfordCounty/>). Learn more from Shayna Morrison (shaynajmorrison@gmail.com) or Anne Jones (anne.goodwyn.jones@gmail.com).

NAACP

NAACP Unit 2271 meets monthly at United Faith Fellowship Church of God, 561 State St.

ACT

All Citizens Together (ACT) is a local group dedicated to progressive action in the area. It has recently produced health care signup support sessions and now is involved in a state-wide effort to reform gerrymandering, Fair Districts PA. Website: <https://www.fairdistrictspa/>. Stay tuned or check its Facebook page for the latest meeting.

Please see the B&B for other Social Justice opportunities

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Experience the spirit of this year's General Assembly, "All Are Called," held in Kansas City, MO June 20-24. Worship service videos, workshop resources, and more are available at <https://www.uua.org/ga/off-site/2018>. Don't miss the video of this year's bold Ware Lecture, offered by Brittany Packnett – a call to UUs across the country to renew and expand their commitment to justice, solidarity, and dismantling white supremacy.



TRAUMA INFORMED TRAINING

Aesthetic Experience Programs is a three part program offered to provide educators and community members the opportunity to discover who experiences trauma and why. Participants will become aware of how traumatic childhood experiences influence behavior and how an organization can develop a trauma informed response. These classes are free and earn Act #48 credits

Program III Realizing Arts-Infused and Trauma Informed Learning & Teaching

July 1, 2, 4,5,12 14 Montgomery Gym Allegheny College

Facilitated by Jan Hyatt

Brochures with more details about the program and registration forms are available on the office counter in the Parish House. Members of the UU Church community are invited to attend.

FLOWERS, FLOWERS EVERYWHERE!

Last week's Flower Sunday brought beautiful blooms to the church. As we moved to the planting areas, were greeted by the many weeds that had established themselves over the flowerless season. Flowers were



put aside as the task of uprooting those stubborn greens began. As we trimmed and pulled, we realized that flower planting would have to wait until preparation of the beds were completed. Something else, we needed more people! We also realized that **EVERYONE IS BUSY!** We came up with the **10 MINUTE RULE**. If every member gave 10 minutes a few times during the seasons, we would greatly increase the viability of maintaining our landscape. Garden tools and bags will be available in a tote placed in the back yard. So grab a trowel, pull a few weeds, plant a flower be a part of making our little spot in the world a visual pleasure. It can be as little as **10 MINUTES** to accomplish.

FAITH IN ACTION

SOUP KITCHEN- JULY 17TH 10:00 AM

Every second Friday each month a group of UU volunteers serve meals at the Meadville Area Soup kitchen as a way to help alleviate some of the symptoms of poverty in our region. You are welcome to volunteer. Our congregation's contact is Marty Thaeler, mthaeler@zoominternet.net 814-807-1480

BIG BROTHERS AND BIG SISTERS (affiliated with Family Services of NW PA)

Is looking for mentors to help with their program. For more information, contact the office or check out the poster in the Parish House. For more information visit <http://www.fsnwpa.org/our-services/parent-education/big-brothers-big-sisters-program/>

WHY WE SHARE: JULY'S SHARE-THE-PLATE

RECIPIENT: FRENCH CREEK VALLEY CONSERVANCY

The French Creek Valley Conservancy is a private 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization dedicated to maintaining and enhancing the exceptional water quality, natural habitat, biological diversity and recreational opportunities of the French Creek Watershed in Northwest Pennsylvania. Our work in land protection, stewardship, education and community outreach is supported by our members, donors, foundations and partner organizations. Our volunteer board of directors is focused on facilitating the citizens of the watershed to be the caretakers of the watershed.

Thank you for all who donated in June. The recipient was SURJ.

JULY SAVE THE DATE

BOARD MEETING

Sunday 1st, 12:00 pm

SOUP KITCHEN

Friday 13th, 10:00 am

CRAWFORD AREA LGBTQ+

Tuesday 17th, 7:00– 8:30 pm

ORACLE SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE

Monday 23rd by 9:00 am

July



I Can Swim

As long as the water is dry

I can Wipe your tears

As long as you don't cry

I can help you out

After you give it a try

I've written this poem

I don't know why

Oop's Just discovered

It happens in the Month of July!! ☺

---Ryson D'souza

RESOURCES

OUR CARING CONNECTIONS

Do you have a question about Unitarian Universalism, the life of this community, or your own spiritual journey? Are you struggling with life's challenges, seeking support or resources to help you create meaning of it all? Do you have ideas to help enrich congregational life? Rev. Robin will be on vacation and study leave in July and August. If you need to reach her (especially in the case of a pastoral issue or event) please call 412-727-6870 or by email at rzflowingforce@gmail.com Fran Smith is available in Meadville as the leader of our Pastoral Care team. You can contact her at 814-337-2822 or smith-fb65@zoominternet.net.

UU-seful Web Links

UU Church of Meadville:
www.uumeadville.org

Oracle: www.uumeadville.org/Oracles

UUA: www.uua.org

UU Service Committee: www.uusc.org

Ohio-Meadville District:
www.ohiomeadville.org

Amazon Associates Shop



Remember that our church is a member of the Support us when you shop at amazon. smile.amazon.com/ch/25-1322866 and Amazon donates.

2018 Church Officers

President: Dave Anderson
(david_mark_a@hotmail.com)

Vice-President: Bob Ackerman
(bobackerman106@gmail.com)

Stewardship: Peggy Bell
(Peggytbell@gmail.com)

Clerk: Marty Thaeler
(mthaeler@zoominternet.net)

Treasurer: John Stewart
(johnuucm@zoominternet.net)

Coordinator of Mission Teams:
Dan Hunter
(deliraddish@gmail.com)

Coordinator of Out Reach Teams:
Carlin Almes
(carlin-almes@comcast.com)

Church Staff

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Rev. Robin Landerman Zucker
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(Talk or Text)
Please see calendar for schedule , or by appointment

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