River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation

6301 River Road, Bethesda, MD 20817
301-229-0400 www.rruuc.org

eWeekly Newsletter: August 24 - September 2, 2017

Our vision: to grow and deepen in **Fellowship, Spirit** and **Service** for all ages.

Fellowship draws us into deeper relationship to our congregational community, so that we might choose connection over isolation.
Spiritual growth draws us into deeper relationship with the sacred, however we might experience it or name it, so that we might be connected to the sources of our strength.
Service draws us into deeper relationship to the world as it is and the world as it could be, so that we might be agents of change and hope.

Here's What's Happening This Sunday

Summer Schedule - single service at 10am!

August 27, 2017

A Foundational Faith: Sallie Toney's Theology

Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd, Senior Minister

Following the passing of the stalwart soul of our eldest member, SallieToney, we'll reflect on the theology that shaped her and guided our congregational life for the many decades in which she led the way around here. We'll also celebrate a child dedication this Sunday, so we'll honor where we've been and all the bright possibilities of our new beginnings.

Click here for more upcoming worship services.

Lay-Led Service Committee Meeting, 11:30am
Come share your ideas for lay-led services. Everybody welcome.

Social Justice Activities

Ministers March for Justice, Monday, August 28, 11am, MLK Monument - March for Racial Justice with Ministers and Religious Leaders - all are welcome. The call is to all religious people of conscience to march for Voting Rights, Healthcare, Criminal Justice Reform, and Economic Reform. Read more about it and register on the **National Action Network website**.

Join UUA, UUSC and UUSJ at Immigrant Rights' Vigil
White House sidewalk facing Lafayette Park, Washington D.C.
On **Sunday September 3**, UUs will be participating in a DREAM vigil to defend the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (aka DACA) and Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designations for Haitians and other immigrants from troubled lands. Come and meet UUSC President and CEO Tom Andrews and join with other area UUs to show our solidarity with the immigrant community under

Reminder! got news?

Please send requests for articles to be published in the eWeekly and/or Sunday Order of Service to **news@rruuc.org**
The deadline for the Thursday eWeekly is Tuesday at midnight. Thank you!

In a World....
where we have an updated, modern website:

- You'll be able to sign on once to access all member pages AND access ACS.
- You can find out about upcoming social justice activities that you can take part in.
- You can share the website with your friends to answer the eternal question "What is Unitarian Universalism?"

Coming Soon!
Bravo to the Website Team!

The office staff is seeking a few volunteers willing to help out one or two days a week.
Please contact Alex Runnings,

the banner of the Love Resists campaign. UU clergy will share special prayers and reflections at 8:30am and 5:30pm and we may have some surprise entertainment and activities at other times of the day. Bring a sign or church banner, some water and/or food to share and stay as long as you like. Bring a friend or family member too!

NEW You can now donate to your favorite Designated Gift Organization (DGO) online on the RRUUC Website! It's so easy! On the **website**, click on the Social Justice tab, then the **SJ Giving**, choose one or more of the agencies that touches your heart and passion, and make a gift! What's not new? Our commitment to generosity in social justice giving is as strong as ever. Read about each of these important DGOs. See also the Social Justice Bulletin Board. Donations can be made to any agency at any time throughout the year. Don't have a login for donations? No worries. Follow the for the option to create one. And there's even more!! You'll also have a 'Text-to-Give' option available at one service each month for donations to a specific agency! **September's special collection will be for the College Access Fund.** For general questions about the Designated Gift Organization donations, email the Social Justice Ministry Team.

Announcements

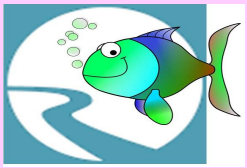
Staff News - Introducing Amanda "Mandy" Kelly!
Mandy is a native Washingtonian, born and raised in the Mt. Pleasant/Adams Morgan area. She has been married for 24 years, and has three children who are currently in college. After a 7-year stint in the greater Nashville area, Mandy and her young family returned to DC in 2010. In her spare time, Mandy enjoys honing her culinary skills, caring for her two dogs, and spending time with her large and diverse family. Our building holds a special place in Mandy's heart because it was here that she had her first job as a teenager, working as a junior counselor for MCCA's preschool summer camp. She returned this month to join RRUUC as our Building Manager. Mandy's experience in property management dates back to the 70's when she helped her father manage the family's commercial properties. She looks forward to getting to know the RRUUC community!

Why RRUUC?

What brought you and kept you at RRUUC? What programs do you love? What group do you feel connected to? We have a new section on our upcoming new website to share with the world what we find uniquely amazing about our congregation. Would you be willing to share? We'd love testimonials from you that are 80-100 words. These will go on our new website with your first name and a small photo (if you're willing.) Please send to **Sheri Blanchette**.

Seeking Coming of Age Mentors
Each 9th grade Coming of Age youth is paired with an adult mentor to help them through their journey of finding who they are and what they believe. Mentoring involves attending Coming of Age classes with your mentee from October to May about twice per month at 11:15am. Please contact **Beth Irikura** if you are interested in

the new Office Assistant, if you are interested.



Save the Date

Sunday, September 24, after each service
Opportunities Fair: Swimming the Waters at River Road
Venture beyond the shoreline of the Sanctuary! Discover RRUUC's varied groups, activities and committees and ways to connect with others. Find a place in the waters of River Road to express your interests and share your gifts and talents.

Joining Ceremony,September 3, after the service, Sanctuary
If you've found River Road to be your spiritual home and are ready to become a Member of the congregation, or if you'd like to know more about the path to Membership, please contact Sheri Blanchette, Director of Membership & Outreach, or talk with a congregant at the information table, located in the Fellowship Hall.

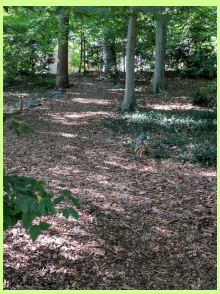
Members and Friends Art Show, through Labor Day, Fellowship Hall
The Members and Friends Art Show ends on Labor Day. Artists should plan to pick up artwork anytime after the service on **Sunday, September 3**, but no later than 3pm on **Tuesday, September 5**.
Until then, please visit to enjoy your fellow congregants' work.

Feature of the week
Photograph by Julian Weichel *Suspended at Sunrise*

helping to provide this Coming of Age experience to the youth of RRUUC.

Our Whole Lives (OWL) Parent Orientation
The OWL program sexuality education for eighth graders will hold a mandatory parent orientation on **Monday, September 11 at 7pm** in the Fellowship Hall. All parents of 8th graders should attend to meet the teachers, preview material, and talk with other parents. Contact **Beth Irikura** with questions.

NEW! CPR Classes, most Thursdays through December, 7:30pm
Beginning tonight, July 27, Beat4LifeCPR will be offering classes here at RRUUC. $5 discount for members. See their **website** or **email** them for more information.



Building News - Entrance Path Update
Plans to improve the path from the parking lots to the building have restarted. This Capital Campaign Phase I project has always had our congregation's safety as the main goal. With this in mind, our landscape Architect, Joan Honeyman from Jordan Honeyman Landscape Architecture LLC in DC is focusing on the path's safety, ease of access, ease of snow removal, and lighting. She is acutely aware of our desire to save and protect the existing trees and foliage, so any recommendations to remove existing flora will be done only if it has strong safety benefits, and in turn complimentary plantings will be suggested. Additional considerations to her design include addressing the drainage issues across the driveway and solutions for parking organization. We eagerly await her drawings in September.

Upcoming Events

Davies Concert Series, August 27, 4:30pm
Davies Memorial Unitarian Universalist Church
The Davies Concert Series, now in its 46th season, will present performing artists including dancers, poets, singers, and instrumentalists at its annual fundraising concert. The event will take place in the beautiful acoustics of the DMUUC. More info **here**.

Racial Justice Task Force Black Live Matter Vigils
Back in September! Starting September 1, Labor Day weekend, and continuing on September 8, Retreat weekend, and **EVERY Friday** thereafter. It's still light and we get plenty of "honking-love". Join us for any part of the time - **6:30-7:30pm weekly.**

Unity Walk, sponsored by InterFaith Conference of Metro Washington
Sunday, September 10 More information and registration **here**.

Racial Justice Task Force - Save the date!
Saturday, September 30! Evening event.
Blues: The Foundation of American Music presented by American Roots Performers Daryl Davis and Seth Kibel. This lecture and performance of one of America's first homegrown and most influential styles of music in the history of this country, The Blues, will raise funds for College Access scholarships.

REMINDER about the NEW Retreat - at RRUUC

The Retreat Committee is working on a program of workshops and fellowship for **Saturday, September 9**, at RRUUC. Details are being worked out to take **new** registrations in the coming week. There will be a fee for the stay-cation Retreat, **but it will be less** than the Saturday-only cost of the Tockwogh retreat. **What a deal!**

All those who registered for Tockwogh will automatically be registered for the new Retreat. Please contact the retreat committee **here** with any changes.

Meet Our Ministers

Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd
Senior Minister

Rev. Louise Green
Minister for Congregational Life

Viral Spirituality: The Craft of Digital Storytelling
RRUUC Leadership Workshop, Saturday, October 7, 2017, 9am-3pm
More than ever, UUs feel compelled to engage in the local, regional and national dialogue in a constructive and spiritual manner. Tools to get our messages out to like-minded and diverse audiences are ubiquitous, but sometimes overwhelming. RRUUC, about to launch an expanded presence on social media, is looking for additional voices.
DOES THIS SPEAK TO YOU? DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?
Please join us for a workshop practicing the art of creating concise, spiritually moving stories. Hosted by RRUUC's Leadership & Nominations committee, professionals will coach participants on writing, recording, and editing their personal stories in the morning. In the afternoon, technical experts will guide participants in enhancing their stories with images, audio and video. Final products will be ready to share on social media at the end of the workshop. The cost will be $40 per person and includes refreshments and lunch. Financial aid available and childcare offered, if needed.

US/Mexico Border Witness Trip with Cedar Lane
Members and friends are invited to join a Border Witness Trip hosted by Cedar Lane UU Church this October. Participants will walk the immigrant trails, meet with grassroots leaders, attend deportation hearings, visit immigrants held in federal detention centers, and return transformed! Full details and online registration are available HERE. Just scroll down to "What are the Upcoming Trips to the Border?" and select the October 8-14 event. If you have any questions, contact Cedar Lane's Intern Minister Norman Allen.

River Road Bazaar 2017: Party With Purpose!
Saturday NOVEMBER 4, 8am to 3pm
One Week Set-up: Sat, Oct 28-Thurs, Nov 2
Meet our 2017 Bazaar mascot,
Wanda the White Elephant!
(Created by youth group member Serena Piervincenzi)

Wanda says, "Mark your calendar for Saturday, November 4 and plan to **DONATE, VOLUNTEER AND SHOP!"**
Exciting Changes for the 44th Annual Bazaar

- The date is November 4, a month earlier than usual
- Set-up begins October 28-will be completed in one week
- Profit from the Bazaar beyond expenses and what is allotted for the budget will go to RRUUC's social justice efforts

What to Do Now

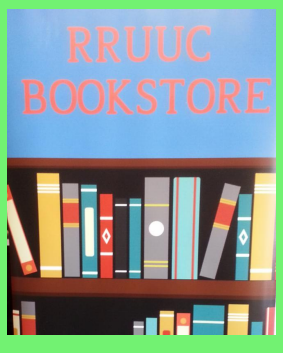
- Mark the date-November 4-on your calendar
- Start collecting, cleaning, and sorting your donations
- Plan to volunteer
- Start talking about the Bazaar with friends and fellow members

Dr. Alexa Fraser
Ministerial Intern

More Upcoming Worship Topics

Visit our Sermon Library

Check out the RRUUC Bookstore!!
The Bookstore is open Sundays after services in the Fellowship Hall. New books arriving in the next few weeks including Humanist UU Voices (plus Jewish, Christian, Buddhist, Pagan/Earth-Centered UU Voices), Poems to Live by in Uncertain Times, meditations, books by persons of color... More to follow.



We would hate to see you go, but if you wish to unsubscribe from the eWeekly Newsletter, please click the link below.

UNSUBSCRIBE