



River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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

eWeekly Newsletter: October 19 - 28, 2017

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

Here's What's Happening Sunday, October 22

two services at **9:15am** and **11:15am**

Slipping Through Your Hands

Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd

In this month of reflection on "letting go" we've looked at some of the things to be gained by this spiritual commitment to change. But what about the times when letting go isn't a choice? What about the things we treasure that are taken or that slip from our hands when we wish so much we could hold them tightly? And what awaits on the other side of all that we have lost? Rev. Nancy will be joined this Sunday by special guests Lual Mayen.

Contemporary Issues Forum

Coffee Controversy & Conversation, 10:25am, Fireside Room

Teaching Children Peace

Linda Ryden, Teacher of Peace Studies

Linda Ryden, a RRUUC choir member and teacher of peace studies in a DC public school, will share her innovative curriculum *Peace of Mind*. Her books help children (and adults) calm their big emotions, build healthy relationships, and become peacemakers. Both her curriculum series and her two Peace of Mind Storybooks are available in the RRUUC bookstore. Her work has been featured in the *Washington Post*. Childcare available.



Newcomers Brunch

10:30-11:15am & 12:30-1pm

If you are a Newcomer looking for a spiritual community and are curious to see if you may have found one here, please come. Meet the ministers, enjoy a light brunch, and meet others new to RRUUC. Activities for the kids.

Let us know you're coming - [RSVP here](#) - or drop by!

BBQ Potluck for UU individuals of color, 5pm

If you, or a family member, identifies as a person of color (non-white), then this event is for you! The Rev. Archene Turner will convene the fellowship event after Gabrielle and Rev. Nancy offer a welcome (and depart). Register [here](#) or contact [Gabrielle Farrell](#) for a food count and if veggie or meat is your preference for burgers!



**UU Legislative Ministry of Maryland
Issues Forum on: Climate Change, Criminal Justice, Death With
Dignity, Economic Justice, Sick Leave**

Website and Social Media Updates

Website Calendar Feature Update

You can now see listings for more dates on the website calendar.

- Go to [Events Calendar](#)
- Click on the "Select Date" or the calendar icon
- If you can't see **Select Date** and/or the calendar icon, try doing a "hard" refresh by holding down the ctrl key while clicking refresh.
- Choose the date you want to see. You'll get that date plus those immediately following.

Also: Check out our Website FAQs [here](#).

Tips for Members & Friends

Use your Access ACS login (located on the top right side of the home page) to see member/friend-related pages such as your personal Access account, Board minutes, extended calendar, and the directory.

Logging in:

- If you have an Access ACS login, you can use it on the new site.
- If you forgot your password OR never had an Access ACS password OR you

Cedarhurst Unitarian Universalists in Finksburg, MD, 2-5pm
Opportunities to discuss and prepare for the 2018 Assembly session
Stay tuned to the UULM-MD [website](#).

**The second film in The Montgomery County free film series:
VOICES from the Holy Land**



TITLE: *Life in Occupied Palestine*, 2:30pm

The documentary will be shown at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church in Gaithersburg, MD, and will be followed by a moderated discussion. Free admission and parking. Visit [facebook](#) or [here](#) for more info.

(Note: the third film will be: **Two Blue Lines** - November 5)



River Road Bazaar 2017

Saturday, NOVEMBER 4, 8am to 3pm

One week set-up: Saturday October 28-Friday, Nov 3
Donations accepted October 28-Thursday November 2
Check the [webpage](#) for all details.

Volunteer opportunities abound! Help set up the week before and/or dedicate a few hours on the sale day in an area you love! Consider [signing up](#) for a task you've never done. Our volunteers get:

- lunch on October 28 and 29
- dinner on November 3
- snacks throughout the week . . . **and**
- the undying gratitude of their fellow volunteers!

It's easy to see where there's need: Check out our [Sign-Up Genius](#) today! [Email](#) questions.

Adult Religious Education and Small Group News

Looking for some new challenges to help you change the tenor of the times? Here is a list of Adult RE classes ready to be adapted, edited and presented. Looking for two folks each to co-lead . . .

- [Spirit in Practice](#) - Developing Spiritual Practices
- [Harvest the Power](#) - Lay Leadership Development
- [Faith Like a River](#) - Themes in UU History
- [Resistance and Transformation](#) - UU Social Justice History
- [What We Choose](#) - Ethics in Unitarian Universalism

Don't see something here? [Complete this form](#) with your idea. Gabrielle Farrell, Lifespan Religious Educator, will train/work with you as needed....contact her [here](#).

Small Groups

We have matched folks to open small groups and you should be hearing from those facilitators. Additionally, we have the following new groups forming looking for participants:

- **Parents of Young Children**, co-leaders established-Parents with young children meet with a focus on exploring the joys and challenges of parenthood.
- **Politics of Love (versus Politics of Power)**-Our current system (politics of power) calls each of us individually and in groups, to try to exert power over others. This group will explore literature and ideas suggesting an alternative politics of



have a problem getting a password, click on "Login", then click "Need Your Login?" and fill in the fields.

- If you continue to have a problem, contact [Sheri Blanchette](#)

Social Media

Check us out on these platforms:

[Facebook](#) - River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation RRUUC

[Facebook parents group](#) - River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation Parents Group

[Twitter](#) - @RRUUC

[Instagram](#) - riverroaduu

[YouTube](#) - River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation

A search on "River Road Unitarian" on each platform will bring you to our congregation.

Do you know about the best kept secret at RRUUC?

It's **Church**

Life - an app for iPhones or Android phones.

With Church Life on your phone, you can search the online directory, view the full calendar, register for classes, and even pay your pledge! Printed directions for how to load this app on your phone are available in the admin office - see Jessie or Ana.



Tech Corner



Are You a POWTOON user?

If so, please contact [Gabrielle Farrell](#) - she needs your help!

love-as in agape love, speaking to faithfulness, commitment, and an act of the will. Two co-leaders established, meeting time tbd.

- **Finding Hope in Difficult Times**-This group is especially for those who wake up to go to work in places that challenge their values by ignoring the very spirit of the "work" they are called to do or by actively trying to dismantle it. A group of ten (10) will meet each First Tuesday of the month, 7:30-9:00p, discover practices that turn around despair by cultivating hope that moves us forward. Included will be monthly reflection and exploring practices of "delight" like cooking, building, creating, listening to the most soaring music and exploring ideas that give meaning to these difficult times. All gender perspectives included. Preferences for folks not in another group at this time. Co-leaders established.
- **VA UU Group**-This fun and thoughtful group will determine their meeting time and focus and but the location, well, it is most certainly in Virginia!
- **Womens' Sunday afternoon Group**-Focus and which Sunday afternoon of the month tbd. Staff will lead first sessions.

If these don't work these existing groups still have an opening...

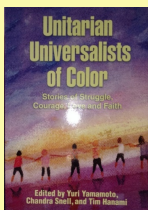
- Eastern Religions and Philosophy, third Wed. evening
- H2H Women's Group, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays
- Sunday Men's Group, 2x a month
- 3rd Sun. Men's Group
- Fourth Tues. night Men's Group
- ParenTeen, 2nd Tues
- Spiritual Themes, Mon. nights

What works for you? Drop Gabrielle Farrell an [email](#) and she will connect you to the supreme leaders!

Social Justice News

Asylum Workshop Report

Last Friday, Human Rights First, in collaboration with LATN/RRUUC, carried out a workshop that supported seven individuals in completing their asylum request paper work. Human Rights reports that a total of 23 individuals will benefit from these efforts. Don Chery, Hamid Aziz, Charlotte Carroll and Chris Hager supported Human Rights to make this workshop a success. Ana Lim worked with all the last minute date changes from Human Rights and thanks to her the workshop took place. LATN hopes to help with more asylum workshops in the future.



UUs of Color: Stories of Struggle, Courage, Love and Faith is an engaging book, a collection of individual stories, some of which are bound to move each of us. It's a good starting point for honest conversations about the gap between our UU principles/intentions and the effect of white-centered culture in de-railing those intentions.

For a copy of the book, email [Vonna Heaton](#). Each book costs \$15. Payment options: check to UUofColorStoryProject, cash or use PayPal via this [email](#) address.

Save the Date - Sharing Our Stories & The Transformative Value of Caucusing, Saturday, December 2, 9-12:30pm

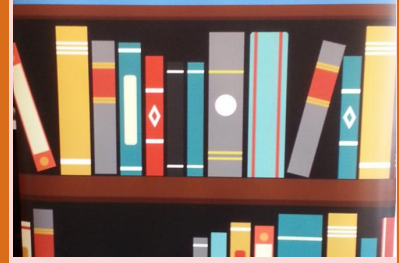
Are You Technically Inclined? Or Just Interested? Join the Tech Team

Support a Sunday worship service in projection, sound, video or lights! Support the learning monitors in meeting spaces developing training and troubleshooting - and sharing how folks can use it. Want to help at an event . . . join the tech team and learn how! You will be trained and scheduled and loved and appreciated and gain life skills! Contact [Marcia Leonard](#), chair.

Check out the RRUUC Bookstore!!

The Bookstore is open Sundays after services in the Fellowship Hall. There are a few new books that highlight insights of Unitarian Universalists of color. Of note is ***Centering: Navigating Race, Authenticity, and Power in Ministry***, edited by Mitra Rahnema, Committee for Antiracism, Anti-oppression, and Multiculturalism of the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association.

RRUUC BOOKSTORE



Meet Our Ministers

Facilitated by the authors of UUs of Color, we have a wonderful upcoming opportunity to be with Yuri Yamamoto, the editor, and Takiyah Nur Amin, contributing author and member of the Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism collective as they lead a workshop including caucus groups. It's highly recommended to read the book in advance.

Upcoming Events

INTERESTED IN TRAVELING TO TRANSYLVANIA IN 2018?

The UU Partner Church Council is offering several organized travel opportunities to Transylvania during the year of the 450th anniversary of the Edict of Torda, which established religious tolerance and permitted Unitarianism to emerge. Join other Unitarians and learn about our shared faith! For more information, visit [UUPC website](#) or email Partner Church [here](#) at RRUUC.

Curated Adult RE Opportunity Using the Enneagram for Spiritual Practice

October 21, 10am-2:30pm, Fairfax UU - Enneagram can be used as a map to guide us on our spiritual journeys. While beginners are welcome, some prior familiarity is encouraged, so for those of you who've taken a workshop before, this is a great opportunity for more in depth engagement. Free! Bring a lunch. Register [here](#).

IMMIGRATION FILM FEST STARTS IN OCTOBER - and runs through December 12, in partnership this year with International Cinema Series. Next up is **Friday, October 27, 7 pm, at American University's Doyle-Forman theater** - on children at the border, and **Saturday, October 28, 7 pm at Washington Ethical Society**, with five shorts on refugees. **Free!** Full schedule [here](#) and also on RRUUC social justice bulletin board.



Save the Date: Special Meeting, January 28, 2018

This church year we will have a Special Meeting for Members for the purpose of adopting a congregational covenant statement. The process for developing the statement will begin the week of November 12, 2017.

Member Voting Requirements

RRUUC bylaws provide that you must qualify as a "voting" member at least 60 days prior to a congregational meeting. This means that to be a member in good standing and eligible to vote at this meeting, you must have:

1. Signed the membership book by November 29, 2017; and
2. Made a contribution of record to the operating fund within the previous 12 months.

If you are a Member, or a non-voting member, and haven't yet made a contribution of record in the last 12 months, please send your contribution to Diana Chimes, our Bookkeeper, or make a contribution online or through Text-to-Give to the Operating Fund. If you have been considering membership and would like to become a member prior to November 29, or have questions about your membership, please contact Sheri Blanchette, Director of Membership & Outreach, 301-229-0400, x102



Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd
Senior Minister



Rev. Louise Green
Minister for Congregational Life



Dr. Alexa Fraser
Ministerial Intern



[Visit our Sermon Library](#)

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



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