



River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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

eWeekly Newsletter: October 26 - November 4, 2017

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

Here's What's Happening Sunday, October 29

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

Sing a New Song

Rev. Jason Shelton, Clif Hardin and the River Road Choir

Jason Shelton is one of the most prominent musicians and composers in the Unitarian Universalist tradition.

In this service for all ages, he'll work with us to reflect on the history and commitments represented in the music of liberal religion, all while inviting us to sing a new song for a new day. Music makes us brave, and our voices raised together elevate us to new courage.

No Coffee, Controversy & Conversation today
CC&C will return in two weeks, November 12.



Inquirers Want to Know... 10:30am in Sr. Minister's Office
Inquirers (aka Newcomers) Want to Know about Justice and how River Road and the Unitarian Universalists teach and practice such. Come find out and meet other newcomers with coffee and our fabulous cookies!

Annual Haunted House 10:15am in Fiatfalva
The middle school class is pleased to present a Haunted House in the Fiatfalva room this Sunday, October 29, 10:15-11am. Come see their creative work... if you dare!
Scariness level can be adjusted for different ages.

THE 2017 RIVER ROAD BAZAAR IS ALMOST HERE!

Saturday, **NOVEMBER 4**, 8am to 3pm

- **Set-up help *urgently* needed!** Set-up

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.

begins Sat., October 28, ends Fri., November 3. **Sign up here:**

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0c>

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- **Donations** accepted Sat., October 28-Thurs., November 2. Your donations will make a huge difference!
- **View the drop-off schedule here:** <https://www.rruuc.org/connect/family-friendly-activities/bazaar-2017/>



Email questions to bazaar2017@rruuc.org



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

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 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](#)

Don't see something here? Complete this form: <https://www.rruuc.org/learn/adult-classes/adult-spiritual-growth-proposal-form/> with your idea. Gabrielle Farrell, Lifespan Religious Educator, will train/work with you as needed... contact her at gfarrell@rruuc.org.

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). This group will explore literature and ideas suggesting an alternative **politics of 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**, A group of ten (10) will meet each First Tuesday of the month, 7:30-9pm. Discover practices that turn around despair by cultivating hope that moves us forward. Included will be monthly reflection and exploring practices of "delight." Preferences are for folks not in another group at this time. Led by David Whiteman and the Rev. Louise Green.
- **Women's 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 openings... <https://secure.accessacs.com/access/mydashboard/sgavailablegroups.aspx>

- **Eastern Religions and Philosophy**, third Wednesday evenings
- **H2H Women's Group**, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays
- **Sunday Men's Group**, 2x a month
- **3rd Sunday Men's Group**
- **3rd Thursday Women's Group**
- **Women's Third Tuesday Group**
- **Fourth Tuesday Night Men's Group**
- **Spiritual Themes**, Monday nights

What works for you? Drop Gabrielle Farrell an email at gfarrell@rruuc.org and she will connect you to the supreme leaders!

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

Do you know about the best kept



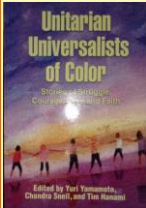
secret at RRUUC? It's **Church Life**

- 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

Social Justice News

College Access Fund Report: *Extended Gift Offering on Sept 24 and the CAF Fundraiser on Sept 30*

Way to Go RRUUC! Thank you for your College Access Fund Extended Gift Offering contributions! The total collected for both services on Sunday, September 24, was \$6,175. And the good news kept coming. The CAF Fundraiser on September 30, with musician Daryl Davis, was also a foot-stomping success. Net funds raised were \$4,175. Both events were sponsored by the RJTF. Donations can still be made online, by check or mail. Your contributions will enable more deserving students to receive scholarship support. Great job thus far!



UU's 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, call the office. Each

book costs \$15. Payment options: check to UUofColorStoryProject or cash.

Save the Date: **Sharing Our Stories & The Transformative Value of Caucusing,**

Saturday, December 2, 9-12:30pm

Facilitated by the authors of *UU's 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

THANKSGIVING SOCK AND TOILETRY DRIVE

Again this year, the youth group will collect new socks and toiletries (no bar soap, please) to be donated to Bethesda Cares. Donations will be accepted from November 5-19 in the Fellowship Hall. Among the many things that Bethesda Cares aims to do is to "end and ease homelessness." Your donations contribute to that goal.

REFUGEE WINTER COAT COLLECTION

AFTER the Bazaar, on Sunday, November 5, we will collect for

admin office. See Jessie or Ana.

Tech Corner



Are You a POWTOON user?

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

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 at mleonard@rruuc.org, chair.

Lutheran Social Services any winter coats, mittens, scarves, caps that you might want to donate to be distributed to refugee families.

DC VISITATION NETWORK THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION

Please join us for an afternoon of appreciation for the friendship that DC DVN volunteers and people in immigration detention have shared with one another over the past four years. We will socialize and get to know one another better, reflect on and give thanks for what we've accomplished together and for what our friends in detention have persevered through, and write messages of hope and caring concern to adults and children who will be in immigration custody this Thanksgiving. Augustana Lutheran Church, 2100 New Hampshire Ave. NW, Saturday, Nov. 18, 3pm - 5pm.

APPROACHING THE LONGEST NIGHT: A Writer's Advent

It can be hard to feel festive around the holidays when you are feeling alone, grieving, or overwhelmed. Come on Sunday, December 10, at 12:45 to 2pm, to an interactive workshop to reflect on loneliness and moving toward hope during the busy holiday season using resources from the Quakers, Rumi and Jan Richardson. The class will be led by facilitator Pam McFarland, who attends All Souls in Washington, DC, and will include meditation, contemplation, journaling, and discussion. Bring a journal and a pen. Free Will Offering.



NEXT EXHIBIT- "MOSTLY FAMILY" BY WALTER WEISS: November 6 - December 15

Reception Sat, Nov 11, 6-10pm. All are invited.

For the last several years Walter has been painting people, mostly family. He says: "We respond to the smallest changes in faces, and this makes portrait painting both challenging and interesting. Sometimes a brush stroke will change a mouth from a pout to a smile, or a forehead from anxious into calm. There is also the challenge of both making a good likeness, and painting a composition with color and balance. Many of the portraits in the show are recent but some date back several years. Two years ago after watching Marin Alsop conducting, Walter began to paint hands. Hands are very expressive, but unlike faces they do not identify the individual. From hands he moved on to feet, which are less expressive than hands but have their own human idiosyncratic outlines and twists. The six panel painting of the Frisbee player was inspired by a room sized painting by Rubens, with a guard lunging to rescue a woman being carried away on horseback.

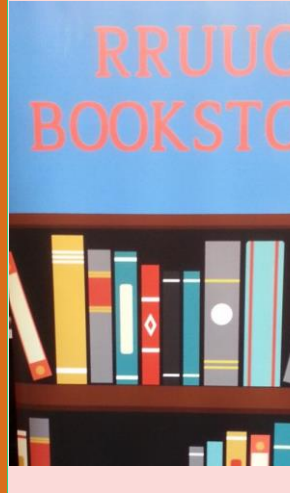
INTERESTED IN TRAVELING TO TRANSYLVANIA IN 2018?

The UU Partner Church Council is offering several organized travel opportunities to Transylvania during the year of the 450th

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.



Meet Our Ministers

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 <http://www.uupcc.org/pilgrimages/pilgrimage-opportunities> email Partner Church at partnerchurch@rruuc.org.



IMMIGRATION FILM FEST STARTS IN OCTOBER and runsthrough December 12, in partnership this year with the International Cinema Series. Next up is **Friday, October 27, 7pm, at American University's Doyle-Forman Theater** on children at the border, and **Saturday, October 28, 7pm** at the **Washington Ethical Society**, with five shorts on refugees. **Free!** See the full schedule at <http://immigrationfilmfest.org> and also on the 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:

- signed the membership book by November 29, 2017, and
- 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 to the Operating Fund online or through Text-to-Give. 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