



River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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

eWeekly Newsletter: February 8 - 17, 2018

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

Here's What's Happening Sunday, February 11



two services at 9:15 and 11:15am

Love is the Color of Something Here

Rev. Louise Green

Minister for Congregational Life

To live from a radical center of love is prophetic, creating a new path forward. What is the world you want to create? How will you inhabit it? Musical text will be *I Wanna Believe* by Climbing PoeTree.

This is Rev. Louise's last day with us at River Road. Join us for a reception at **10:30am in the Fellowship Hall**.

Presents, snacks, and general frivolity will happen between the services, with further greetings after the second service. At 7:30pm we will gather for a

spirit-centered goodbye - see details →



For All RE Families - before the goodbye event Learn How to Grow Younger! 5-7pm



Souper Supper for all RE Families -- your child is your ticket! Bring everyone and a simple dessert or bread, meet others, great lightning round discussion on family and congregational life, have fun, and eat. [Sign up!](#)

We will Share the Plate with UULM-MD Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland

UULM-MD envisions a Maryland free of oppression and injustice, where all are guaranteed basic human and civil rights. This vision is addressed by alerting, educating, activating and facilitating a statewide UU base to advocate for legislation before the Maryland General Assembly each year. Visit their table in the Lounge after each service for more info. You may click [here](#) to donate now. On Sunday, please give generously as the basket comes to you. Make checks out to RRUUC, with UULM-MD in the memo. Thank you!



Coffee, Conversation & Controversy (CC&C)

No CC&C this Sunday due to reception for Rev. Louise Green
Newcomers is also cancelled for this Sunday.

Saying Goodbye with Love

Celebrate the Ministry of Rev. Louise Green

To offer blessings on the next step of her journey and touch on the sources of our own spiritual strength, we are welcoming sonic meditation specialists from the Crystal Ashram to lead us through a unique ritual of blessing called a "Sound Bath." According to Monte Hansen from the Crystal Ashram, "A sound bath is an immersion in sound frequency that cleanses your soul." Monte will be playing several rare Singing Bowls. When we add to this an array of flutes and a rare large Burmese temple gong, we will be immersed in frequencies from many faiths and traditions.

In the waves of sound and meditation, we will lift up the blessing of Louise's ministry in our hearts and send her forth with our love.



Come in comfortable clothes, with a heart ready for both sound and silence. We'll begin and end in deep silence so try to be on time - or at least super peaceful as you tiptoe in!

Dear River Road Folks,

It has been a joy to be in service to this congregation as your Minister for Congregational Life.



As I bid farewell on Sunday, thank you for your generosity these last weeks. I am definitely feeling your love, and will carry that as a great gift into my next ministry in community organizing, in Howard County with PATH, and Metro IAF.

Rev. Nancy Ladd will become the primary clergy on Pastoral Care, ably assisted by many of you as Congregational Care lay volunteers and Alexa Fraser, Intern Minister. This is pastoral work that Nancy feels called and privileged to do -- to accompany wonderful people through the changes and challenges of living. We have worked as a team all along the way.

Please know this is a very special place. I'm grateful for my time at River Road, and will be wishing this congregation well, always.

Blessings, Louise

In order to facilitate parents being able to attend after the soup supper (5-7pm), we are providing childcare and homework supervision during the sound bath.

Activity Groups



Mindful Knitters next meeting Monday, February 12, 7:30pm Many wonderful knitters created these treasures for the children of the Unitarian Church of Kyrdem in the Khasi Hills of Northeast India. A delegation of Partner Church members will be traveling there later this month.



International Dinners - next dinner will be

Wednesday, February 14, 7 pm, Tara Thai, 4849 Massachusetts Av NW, WDC
Free parking and very easy access. Contact Maurine and Hank Beasley by email or call Chris Hager by 4pm on February 13.



Story SPARC! To Be of Use Sunday, March 4 10am

As in recent years, we will formally kick off our annual Stewardship Campaign with a special Sunday morning event called **SPaRC (Service, Participation, and Connection)**. We'll gather at 10 for a short inspirational service before breaking into small groups for conversation and connection. There will be

creative alternatives and opportunities for children and adults to mix. Light lunch will be served afterward. Stewardship means holding something precious in our hands - it means taking care of something we value. This year, our conversations will focus on how deeply we yearn to be of use - to make a difference. What does it mean to be of use in a complex world as individuals and as a community? We hope you'll save the date! **Light the SPARC!**



How you can get involved...

Be a SPARCler: Welcome folks in the morning and help guide folks to activities, then participate in the story conversations and activities! Let Sheri know if you're interested in learning more - SPARClers@rruuc.org

Help us feed the hungry, happy crowd: Bring a breakfast casserole, help prep in the morning or mid-morning serve, or clean-up. Many hands make light work! Click on this sign-up [link](#). Questions: Contact Karen Chopra.



Religious Education Events for All Ages!

Registrations limited and still open!



Small groups are Forming in February!

A Small Group is at least 6 people but less than 12. Small Groups meet at least once a month for at least 90 mins. Every February and October, re-enrollment is possible. A 6-month commitment to attend each of the sessions is preferred. General interest in small groups, or other groups, please complete [here](#). These groups are looking for new members:

Meet Our Ministers



Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd
Senior Minister

Eastern Religion Philosophy & Study-monthly, 3rd Wed, 6:45pm
Humanism Study-monthly, 3rd Sun, 12:30pm
ParentTeen-monthly, 2nd Tues, 7:30pm
Men's Group 4th Monday MMG-monthly, 4th Mon, 7:15pm
Men's Group A, 2nd and 4th Sundays, 7pm
Men's Third Thursday-monthly, 3rd Thurs, 7pm
Women's Group-monthly, 3rd Thurs, 7:30pm
Spirit Path-monthly, 3rd Wed, 1:30pm
Women's Spiritual Themes-date/time TBD (new)
Morning or Afternoon Group-date/time TBD (new!)
Spiritual Themes w/ Parent's Eyes Group-4th Tues, 6:30pm (new!)
Improv Group-dates/times TBD based on participants (new!)
 Please send a note to [Gabrielle](#), if interested.

Adult Religious Education offerings starting soon, click links for more information:

- [Songs of Love](#) **Saturday, February 10**
- [Facing Death with Life](#) - **Mondays**, begins **February 19**, 5 sessions

Upcoming Events at RRUUC

This Sunday is the last day for the current art exhibit:
Journeys In the Dance of Shape and Color
 by Artist **Judith L. Smith**



A New Exhibit begins February 12 and will run through March 25



Featuring backcountry landscape photography by RRUUC members **Leigh Scott and Mark Cohen**. **The reception is Saturday, February 12, 7pm.** All of the photos included in the exhibit are intended to evoke emotions, tell stories, and transport the viewer to national parks, alpine trails, rocky cliffs, historic ruins, and coastal villages.

The Winter Cabaret - Saturday, February 24, 7pm

It's not too late to sign up to share your creativity at the Winter Cabaret! The Cabaret is an informal evening of River Roaders sharing their creativity in a relaxed, supportive, fun environment. We invite performers of all ages, middle school and up, to participate. Creative expressions of all types and abilities are welcome-vocal and instrumental music, poetry, dance, movement...classical, pop, standards, folk, original words and music, and everything in between. Come to share your talent or to enjoy the show and bring a dessert or savory snack to share. We'll provide wine, coffee, tea, and other beverages. The potluck will start at 7 and performances at 7:30. If you'd like to participate, please email Jan Elicker with a description of what you would like to present. And let us know if you would like an accompanist. You should plan to limit your presentation to five minutes to allow everyone to have a spot on the program. We look forward to seeing you there, whether on stage or in the audience!



Serving Together Event! March 11, after service



Rev. Louise Green
 Minister for Congregational Life



Dr. Alexa Fraser
 Ministerial Intern

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Want to make a difference in the lives of 20,888 people? RRUUC will have our very first Serving Together event! We need your support to reach our goal to package **20,088+ meals** right after the second worship service. When we rise

together, we can create a world without hunger! We need a set up team, people for packing the food and a clean up crew. Register [here](#). Childcare provide for those 4 and under. Come and be a part of this fun and meaningful event! Questions? Contact [Rev. Kären](#).

Save the Dates - Shelter Week is Coming

Mark your calendars for **March 18 - 24**. All ages are encouraged to help prepare food, provide supplies, or serve at the InterFaith Works Women's Shelter in Rockville. Our partner, Beth Chai, will cover the needs for Saturday, March 24.

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