



## River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation

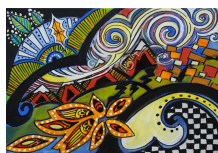
6301 River Road, Bethesda, MD 20817  
301-229-0400 www.rruuc.org

**eWeekly Newsletter: February 22 - March 3, 2018**

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

### Here's What's Happening Sunday, February 25

two services at 9:15 and 11:15am



#### *The Prophet Within*

**Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd, Senior Minister**

The world is so loud, and its demands come so fast, that sometimes we struggle to hear the inner voice that calls us each to deeper truth.

How can we clear away space to listen to our own deepest selves?

#### **Board Chat, After Both Services, Room 30**

Come, meet, greet, or ask questions of Board of Trustees members.

#### **Coffee, Conversation & Controversy (CC&C), 10:25am, Fireside**

##### ***A Multi-Faith Complex World Needs Resilient Leaders***

**Jerry White - Professor, former State Department Official**

Jerry White, who worked on campaigns for the U.N. Convention on Disability Rights, and Cluster Munitions and Landmine Ban Treaties, teaches a UVA course on "Stopping Violence in the Name of God". He will speak on: The role of religion in building resistance to violence in communities in conflict; the role of icons to inspire compassion and caring, such as Princess Diana's contribution to the Landmine campaign; and the role of data, truth, and service to counter fake news, inhibit religion related violence, and build peace.

#### **February's Designated Gift Organization is 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. Last Sunday we shared the plate. Please give your "civic" support, also. On March 6, MD legislators will hold a hearing on Renewable Energy and Job Development-SB 732 and SB1453. Read [more](#). AND let your representatives know UUs support economic justice by clicking [here](#). Throughout February you may [click](#) to donate. Or, make checks out to RRUUC, with UULM-MD in the memo. Thank you!



#### **Stewardship Campaign for 2018-2019 launches this Sunday Pledge Now!**

We have made a covenant to support this community that gives us so much: Joy, Fellowship, Inspiration, Courage, Curiosity, Solace, and Kindness.

Your generosity sustains RRUUC, and in turn, it sustains us all.

You should have received a letter in the mail and additional information is available on the [website](#). There will be a Stewardship table on the bridge after service. Please pledge generously now. Thank you!



#### **Story SPARC! *To Be of Use***

**Sunday, March 4, 10am**

As in recent years, part of our Stewardship Campaign is a special Sunday morning event called **SPaRC (Service, Participation, and Connection)**. We'll gather for a short inspirational service before breaking into

#### **Congregational Care Notes**

This week, we stand with the students from **Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland Florida** who turned their grief into powerful witness after yet



another shooting left 17 of their community members dead. Students from Montgomery County, including some of our own youth, have also taken to the nation's capital to bear witness this week. We are discerning how River Road, as a congregation, can continue to support this transformative leadership in the weeks to come.

We also lift up the nine members of our **Partner Church Committee** who traveled this week to India. This historic delegation from River Road will be hosted in the Khasi Hills region by our partner church in Kyrdem, including Khlur and Barishisa Mukhim, who have coordinated our connections for almost a decade. Educational initiatives, infrastructure improvements, and faith development have all resulted from this partnership. The relationships we have developed among one another are also sacred to us, and we are honored to continue deepening them.

Thank you to youth advisors **Matthew Hammond, Marcia Leonard and Jessica Mikuliak** for last weekend's Winter Youth Retreat. More thanks to **Beth Irikura, Youth Religious Educator!** It was a special weekend of fellowship and spirit for our high school youth.

### Service to Others - It's What We Do!



**RRUUC's first ever Serving Together event!**  
**March 11, in the Sanctuary**

Wait? Whatttt? You've been meaning to register for our first ever Serving Together project but you haven't yet? You don't need to plan anything, just register, show up and help pack meals that go right out to people who are in need! 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](#) for any and all portions. Please bring a lunch or snack if you need it, refreshments will not be provided.

Childcare provided for those 4 and under. Come and be a part of this fun and meaningful event! For questions contact [Rev. Kären](#).

### West Virginia Service Learning Trip



Now is the [time to register](#) for the life-changing experience that is the West Virginia Service Learning Trip. This year's trip will be from **August 4-10** and is open to entering high school freshmen and older (INCLUDING parents and other adults!) **Mandatory workshop is April 29 at 11:15am**. We'll also have a basic skills workshop in June, date TBD. This multi-generational trip to War, WV in McDowell County to work with [Big Creek People in Action](#) is a week of coming together to make homes safer, dryer, and warmer. It's also an opportunity to get to know the people and learn about the culture of the area. Many youth and adults have gone multiple years! The cost is \$450 which covers meals, lodging, transportation, and materials. Scholarship available on request. [Please register by April 1](#).

### Events at RRUUC

**Come to the Cabaret! Old Friends and New Friends Welcome!**

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!**



### Would you like to help?

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! Sign up [link](#). Contact Karen Chopra.

### Reminder About Using the Website

Use your Access ACS login to see member/friend-related pages such as your personal Access account, Board minutes, extended calendar, and the Full Member Directory. Look for the word "LOGIN" in the middle of the top row of choices on the home page.

Logging in - If you:

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

We have a great lineup of music, readings, comedy, and dance for the annual Winter Cabaret on **Saturday, February 24**. Won't you join us for a relaxed evening of entertainment presented by your River Road friends? The evening will begin with hors d'oeuvres and dessert at 7pm, with performances starting at 7:30. Bring some food to share, have some coffee, tea, or soft drinks, buy a glass of wine, and sit back and enjoy the show!



Access password OR you have a problem getting a password, go to [this link](#), then click "Need your login?"

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

### Art Exhibit through March 25



Featuring backcountry landscape photography by RRUUC members **Leigh Scott and Mark Cohen**. 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.

Once you establish your login, you can use it for the Website AND your Access account.

**Spring Break Visitors and Potluck, March 4-10** - Students from Central Michigan University will be spending their Spring Break at RRUUC and Beacon House Community Ministry. They will be using Rooms 30, 32, and the kitchen during their stay. **Tuesday, March 6** will be a potluck at RRUUC with the students - all are invited. Contact Chris Hager if you can bring a dish, want to help and/or have questions.

### Meet Our Ministers

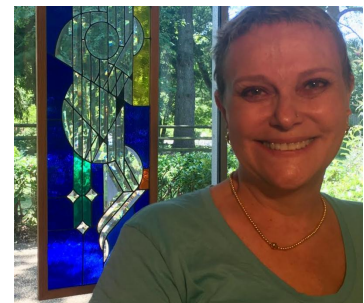
**Shelter Week** this year is Sunday - Saturday, March 18-24. It is our turn to feed the homeless! Join us in this terrific social justice activity that is open to all members and friends of River Road. Stop by the table after services starting Sunday, February 18, or sign up via your ACS account. Questions? Send an [email](#).



**Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd**  
Senior Minister

### Passover Seder, Saturday, March 31, 6pm

Beth Chai, The Greater Washington Jewish Humanist Congregation who shares our space, welcomes families and friends to attend this potluck event - you may sign up to provide a dish. [RSVP](#). Seder costs are \$20 per family or \$10 per individual; however Beth Chai welcomes anyone regardless of ability to pay.



**Dr. Alexa Fraser**  
Ministerial Intern

### Community Events

#### "Remembering Selma"

**THIS Sunday, February 25, 4pm, People's Community Baptist Church, 31 Norwood Rd, Silver Spring**

Join the UUCSS Sanctuary Singers and the choir of the Peoples Community Baptist Church of Silver Spring event to honor Black History Month. This collaboration is part of our ongoing effort to make connections with our diverse community. Strathmore Hall has been sponsoring these events to strengthen the network of schools and places of worship in the eastern part of the county through the arts. Diversity and social justice figure in this initiative. Our two churches give their accounts of the march in Selma, Alabama from the perspective of their African American community and our predominantly white one, whose denominations intersected in the march. As many UUs know, several UU ministers went on the march, and one of them, Rev. James Reeb, was killed by white supremacists. This event will be one of healing, story-telling, and uplifting music. Suggested Donation: \$5. Interested? Contact Lisa Orange for possible carpooling.



**Rev. Kären Rasmussen**  
Serving Together Minister

Get Your Tickets for "Equipping Resistance"! Register [here](#) .  
2018 UU Christian Fellowship Revival is March 16-17

First UU Church of Richmond, Virginia

The theme is "Equipping Resistance" and we will provide theological and spiritual grounding for people engaged in any way in the Resistance. In addition to incredible speakers, we'll have a hymn-sing, a documentary screening, plus delicious food and time to reflect and connect. We're honored to have the powerful gospel choir Rev. D. Kay Logan & Nu Beginning lifting up our hearts, along with the powerhouse preaching of **Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd**. Two days that will make your entire year!



[Visit Sermon Library](#)



Got news?  
Please send submissions to [news@rruuc.org](mailto:news@rruuc.org) by Tuesday for Thursday publication.

### Activity Group

**Lunch & Learn, Thursday, March 1, noon, Fiatfalva**

The topic is travel groups/organizations. Literature from these organizations will be available. Come share your experiences; all are welcome. Bring your lunch so you won't go hungry! Question? Contact Ursula Scott.

### Small Groups

**Last Week to Enroll! Closes on February 28 until October.**



**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](#). Request info directly of small group leaders [here](#).

These groups have openings for new members:

**Eastern Religion Philosophy & Study**-monthly, 3rd Wed, 6:45pm

**Humanism Study**-monthly, 3rd Sun, 12:30pm

**Men's Group 4th Monday**-monthly, 4th Mon, 7:15pm

**Men's Group A**-twice monthly, 2nd and 4th Sun, 7pm

**Men's Group 3rd Sunday**-monthly, 3rd Sun, 7pm

**Women's Group**-monthly, 3rd Thurs, 7:30pm

**Men's Intergen**-every other Wed, 7:15pm

**Early Afternoon**-time & date TBD (new!)

**Spiritual Parenting**-4th Tues, 6:45pm (time flexible-new!)

**Improv Group**-dates/times TBD based on participants (new!)

**Multigen Women's Spiritual Themes**-time & date TBD (new!)

**Behavioral Science Study**-3rd Sun, 12:30pm (new!)

Please send a note to [Gabrielle](#), if interested.

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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