



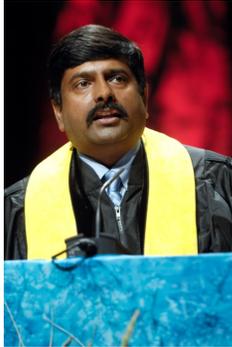
## River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Grow and deepen in Fellowship, Spirit, and Service.

### eWeekly: August 16 - August 25, 2018

This week: Sunday's Guest Minister, Black Lives Matter Vigil, *Pawsitively Helping Shelter Pets*, and more!

Visit our Website



#### Sunday's Service, 10am *Engaging with Pluralism* Rev. Abhi Janamanchi, Senior Minister Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church

We take great pride in being a majority-minority county. We have 170 cultures with 162 languages spoken in our public schools and 44 percent of our residents are foreign-born or living with parents who are foreign-born. But to benefit from the extraordinary gifts that come with diversity, we need to go beyond "celebrating" diversity and learn to engage it. Come join Rev. Abhi Janamanchi, Senior Minister of the Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church as we explore this topic.

[Learn more about Rev. Janamanchi](#)

### Sunday Happenings

#### Members and Friends Art Show, Fellowship Hall, through Labor Day

River Road Members and Friends of all ages share their two and three-dimensional art in all media.

*A Purple Grid, Fiber, by Elke Jordan*



### Note from Rev. Alexa Fraser's Ordination Committee



Thank you to all the many people who contributed their time, talents, and efforts ensuring that the Reverend Alexa Fraser's ordination would be a wonderful event that Alexa will always remember. Without the cooks, flower-arrangers, ushers, greeters, bartenders, cleaners, singers, celebrants, and so many more, including and especially RRUUC's amazing staff, an event like this would not be possible. And we would like to add a special shout-out to Dave and Marcia Leonard, who gave generously of their time and talents on the audio mixing board to ensure that beautiful music and inspiring words would fill the building. Thanks to you all!

### Serving Together Update from Rev. Kären



Serving Together

#### *Pawsitively Helping Shelter Pets*

Our August Serving Together opportunity for the [Montgomery County Animal Services and Adoption Center, Aug. 26, 11:45am-2pm](#)

Join the Animal Ministry Team for an all-ages, family friendly activity where we'll make comfort items for dogs and cats at the Center. After the service, enjoy a Compassionate Coffee Hour featuring tasty vegan treats from the Animal Ministry Task Force. Then make beds, toys, and treats to bring comfort to the animals at the Montgomery County Animal Services and Adoption Center. Living at the shelter can

be scary for the dogs and cats, and you can help to make them feel better by participating in the project. There will be four different easy-to-assemble items for the animals, and you can rotate to each project station or stick with one you like. Come have fun and make a difference for the animals.

#### **We'll also Extend the Offering on Aug. 26 for**

#### **[Montgomery County Partners for Animal Well-being \(MCPAW\)](#)**

MCPAW is a nonprofit partner of the Montgomery County Animal Services and Adoption Center. It provides life-saving veterinary care, enrichment for animals, and financial assistance to people who adopt special-needs pets. MCPAW works to decrease the shelter population (averaging 300 animals per day) offering educational programs on responsible pet parenting, providing pet food and low cost spay/neuter. Your generous donations will help expand the circle of compassion to include these worthy animals, who give us unconditional love and heart-warming companionship.

#### **Children's Book Collection for our Community Box, Sept. 22**

The children's books we put in our Community Book Box are going like hotcakes! We don't have enough to meet our neighbors' demands to read them. Please collect any children's books you can spare or, if you can, pick up a few from a thrift store to deliver at worship on Sept. 22.

#### **Rise Against Hunger Save the date! Oct. 14**

At this multigenerational event, we'll pack 20,000 meals with this wonderful organization. Our March 2018 inaugural event was a blast and we hope you'll join us this time too. Visit [Rise Against Hunger](#), to learn more about their work. [Register here](#). RRUUC will provide childcare for ages 4 and under.

#### **Team Up for Our Serving Together Community Boxes**

Help keep our community boxes supplied with books and food on a regular basis. Sign up as a team member to take a turn occasionally filling the boxes from the books and food being stored in the Library/Fiatfalva room. This is easy to do and there are no meetings to attend! Sign up [here](#) or [email Rev. Kären](#). These boxes are our gift to the community; let's do our best to keep good things in them.

Thank you, Rev. Kären

## Upcoming Events

#### **Black Lives Matter Vigil, Fri., Aug. 17, 6:30-7:30pm, corner of River and Whittier Roads**

RRUUC supports the Black Lives Matter movement through public witness, action, education, and partnership. We invite you to join the conversation and work alongside us. We'll resume weekly vigils in September.

#### **Coming of Age Program Needs Mentors to work one-to-one with RRUUC teens**

Help young people grow in Unitarian Universalism and learn a lot in the process. Classes are November-May, 1-2 times per month on Sundays from 11am-12:15pm. Training and on-going support is provided. Contact [Beth Irikura](#) for details.

#### **Wellspring, a Spiritual Formation Class, Begins in September**

#### **Due to popular demand, second session offered!**

Wellspring is a 10-month program of distinctly Unitarian Universalist spiritual development, incorporating five elements designed to balance a knowledge of UU history/theology with personal spiritual practice and engagement with the world. As we expect more interest than space available, we ask you to complete an application, **due by Aug. 31**. Find more information and register online under [Adult Spiritual Development Classes](#).

#### **New Adult Education Class: *Facilitating for Meaning*, Sat., Sept. 8, 9:30am-12:30pm, Rm 30**

*Facilitating for Meaning* is a short best practices (with some real life practice!) in facilitating any meeting, educational offering, or small group. These are all different gatherings but share a lot of the same needs -- how to make the most out of the time together so that folks get what they came for and leave wanting to return! Gabrielle Farrell and some super great guests will be facilitating. Minimum 8 by Sept. 5; maximum 20 by Sept. 7. Training on the monitors included. [Register here](#).

#### **Water Ingathering, Sept. 9. Return to two services: 9:15 & 11:15am**

It's nice to save some water from any place that is special to folks of all ages for the Ingathering Service. We'll kick off the new congregational year with a multigenerational service and reception for our ministers (one new, the other returning from sabbatical).

#### **OWL Parent Orientation, Mon., Sept. 10, 7:30pm, Rms 30/31**

At this mandatory parent orientation for the 8th grade Our Whole Lives (OWL) Sexuality Education class, parents will meet the teachers, preview material, and talk with other parents. Contact [Beth Irikura](#) for questions.

#### **Democracy Bootcamp at RRUUC, Sept. 22, 10am-1:30pm Register Now**

Become a larger part of our Democratic Process. Immerse yourself in a multi-generational Learning

Fair to hone your voter outreach skills and prepare to take them on the road the following week! More information to come. [Register here.](#)

## Community

### **BLUU (Black Lives UU) Ministerial Network Worship Invitation**

**The Summer Online Worship Series, *Black Being*, concludes with worship, Sun., Aug. 19, 9pm.**

We hope Black UUs and UU-adjacent folks will join us for the fourth and final installment of the series, *Be a Witness!* If you haven't already, join our [Facebook](#) group and/or join our [email list](#) for information and access to worship. Two monthly online services begin in September. We will be together each month in explicitly black sacred space on the first Thurs., 9pm, and the third Sun., 4pm, via Zoom.

### **UU for Social Justice Capitol Hill Advocacy Corps**

Our Advocacy Corps makes regular visits to Members of Congress and their staff on the second Tuesday of the month on priority issues of immigration, climate change and the environment, and escalating economic inequity, among other UU issues. Find dates for information sessions and actions at the [UUSJ website](#) or contact [advocacy@uusj.org](mailto:advocacy@uusj.org).

## Other News

### **A Note from the Staff: Best Practices for Non-monetary Donation Requests**

RRUUCers are generous people and whenever the staff requests a non-monetary donation of some type (e.g., yogurt containers, small appliances for RE), no matter how unusual, it invariably appears. Sometimes we spend lots of time figuring out the mysteries! The best practice for these types of donations is to call first, particularly if they are large and unlikely to be storable at RRUUC. For items requested through the newsletter, we will endeavor to put a time period on the request and "by this date" information. If the request is no longer in the publications, the need has been filled! FYI...when folks don't ask first, limited staff hours are probably not best spent disposing of these items, no matter how interesting these unusual recyclables. The staff thanks you all very much!

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Publications](#)

Deadline is  
Tuesday, midnight  
for that week.  
News is edited for  
clarity, brevity and  
style.

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