



The Unitarian Church of Harrisburg: Building Bridges, Celebrating Community

The Wayside Pulpit: Spiritual Journeys



Dear friends,
Our worship theme for March is *Spiritual Journeys*, which might be literal or metaphorical. Although it is less common now than in ages past, there are those who go on a pilgrimage as a way of deepening one's

understanding of the religious landscape. The largest scale pilgrimage that still happens every year in the modern age, the *hajj*, is a pilgrimage to Mecca that all Muslims are charged with doing at least once in their lives if they are physically capable. Perhaps you or someone you know has gone on a pilgrimage to spiritual sites in various places of the world.

A less literal spiritual journey is one each of us takes through life, as we seek to find answers to some of the big questions. I've shared parts of my spiritual journeys before. A short version of my story concerns a feeling of alienation in my family's fundamentalist church; my subsequent awakening as a gay youth, a Pagan, and a free-thinker; my later journey including learning meditation with Zen monks; and working at retreats intended to help individuals raise their self-awareness and to find fulfillment in their lives. In the silence of my own inner journey, I was finally able to discern my call to ministry, which after various hurdles and choices about which road to take, eventually brought me here to you.

In our free-church tradition, each of us engages in our own spiritual journeys – our paths sometimes cross, but other times we travel on alone. Where has your journey led? Where will it lead you next? As we each continue on our journeys, perhaps the next moment of awakening is just around the corner.

May it ever be so and blessed be you all! – Rev. Mike

March Share the Plate: Youth Mission Trip

Each month, we share half of our Sunday plate with a local non-profit organization. This month's recipient is the Youth Mission Trip, scheduled for June 2017.

Over the years, UCH Youth Group has taken service and learning trips to Boston, New York City, a Navajo Reservation, Washington D.C., Appalachia, The Heifer Project in Massachusetts, and New Orleans. This summer they're planning to head to Shenandoah National Park in Virginia to volunteer a day of service helping with environmental causes. We appreciate any support you can give us as we bring our UU faith to action.

—Submitted by Lois Voigt, Finance Committee, and Sara Palmer, Director of Religious Exploration

Worship Services

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Market Street, 11:30 a.m. Clover Lane

Mar 5 Will You Be a Refuge?

Lois Voigt

Learning of dysfunction in some other families, Lois finds herself grateful for her own family. Maybe not saints, but worthy of her gratitude, all the same – despite issues that arose, they still loved each other, still offered refuge from a broken world. In the midst of all that happened in her biological family, Lois also found a chosen, spiritual family that has been a refuge, as well.

Mar 12 Answering the Call

Rev. Michael Walker

During Orientation at the beginning of my seminary education, I was amused by a presentation given by a minister who served on the staff of the school. During her talk about what a 'Call' means to ministers, her cell phone rang. We all assumed she forgot to turn it off before we got started. So, she answered it, "Hello. Who is this?" She looked at all of us, wide-eyed. "Oh, it's God! Thank you for calling." We all got a good chuckle (seminary humor!) and went on to discuss how we each discerned (or are discerning) our 'call to ministry.' In this case, answering one's call is another way of saying that we are engaging in a vocation that means more to each of us than a mere job. What is calling you? What is your vocation?

Mar 19 If I Could Write a Letter to God

Rev. Michael Walker

If I could write a letter to God, and She is actually there and able to read it, what would I say? Should I stick to pleasantries – *Hi, how are You? I hope You're having a nice time up there. How about this weather?* Or, should I ask some hard questions – *So, what's with all the war? Are You really leading the charge to defund the arts, dismantle health care and place He Who Shall Not Be Named in the White House? Or, are some folks just ascribing all this to You?* If I could write a letter to God, what should I say? What would you say, if you were writing such a letter?

Mar 26 Seekers on a Journey: A Free & Responsible Search for Truth (Seven Principles)

Rev. Michael Walker

Our journeys through life take us many places, often unexpected and unplanned. In the UU faith, we often speak of the individual's right to pursue their own *free and responsible search for truth and meaning* (the Fifth UU Principle,) and how we as a community seek to support each other in our searches. Where does your search take you, either in metaphor or in reality? And when you got to where you are going (if you have), what have you found? Is there some essential truth about our existence that you have gleaned from your search for truth and meaning?

Message from the President

By Laura Shemick, President



What does “being a member” mean? At UCH, we have several kinds of members in our community. The most restrictive category is “voting member,” or members who may vote at congregational meetings. To be a voting member requires that an individual sign the membership book and make a “contribution of record,” which can be either a financial contribution or a contribution of

service to the church community. Other categories of membership include Life Members and non-voting members. Life Members must be voting members who have been recommended to the Board for Life Membership, have spent at least 25 years at UCH, and have made significant contributions to the life of the church over that time. Non-voting members are members who do not make either a financial contribution or a contribution of service to the church community.

Membership is a strangely touchy topic for Unitarian Universalists. We dislike discussing socio-economic class as it applies to our own community, for the most part, and most of us would probably like to think that making even a modest financial gift to the church should not be a challenge for anyone we know. Yet, as I have noted in this space previously, making even a small gift to the church can be a struggle for many at UCH. Our minister occasionally is asked for financial help by those in a serious money crunch and uses the Minister’s Discretionary Fund for this purpose. The fund receives donations at the Christmas services, or as people make gifts.

Fortunately, we have many at UCH who have worked hard at well-paying jobs over the years, and who are in comfortable circumstances. Pledging and making gifts is not a hardship in their case. But should the right to vote on important church matters be reserved to those who have funds and the ability to do volunteer service?

As a church board president, I receive email queries from other UU church leaders from time to time on various issues. Last week I received a question about whether congregations required a financial contribution as a condition of membership. This question arose at UCH several years ago, when a proposal was made that a minimum financial contribution, the equivalent of our annual payments to our district and to the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), be required for membership. Our community debated the proposal with a

Congregational Meeting 1:00 p.m. March 5

The Board of Trustees invites all voting members to attend a congregational meeting at 1:00 p.m. Sunday, March 5, at Clover Lane. The purpose of this meeting is to review and affirm the slate of candidates for the 2017-2018 Ministerial Search Committee of the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg.

SUNDAY TRUSTEE ASSIGNMENTS		
DATE	MARKET STREET	CLOVER LANE
Mar 5	Laura Shemick	Laura Edinger
Mar 12	Guy Dannelly	Marilyn McHenry
Mar 19	Rima Cameron	Guy Dannelly
Mar 26	Chris Dutton	Nan Cavanaugh

great deal of energy and passion, and we concluded at that time that we would not require a set financial contribution as a condition of membership. The Board of Trustees later clarified that contributions of service, if no cash contribution could be made, entitled members to vote at congregational meetings.

A major reason why membership status is important has to do with congregational meetings and calling ministers. Our bylaws, and the bylaws of many UU congregations, require a certain percentage of voting members to be present for official business to be conducted. If we want to pass our annual budget, we need to have 20 percent of the voting members present. If we want to call a minister, the meeting at which the vote is taken must include at least 30 percent of the voting members of the congregation, and at least two-thirds of the votes must be in favor of calling the candidate. The UU Ministers’ Association, it should be noted, recommends to ministers that at least 90 percent of the votes be in favor.

In addition, if 25 percent of voting members request that the Board call a special congregational meeting, the Board must do so. On the more dismal side, if, at a congregational meeting where at least 50 percent of the voting members are present, more than half of members vote to dismiss the minister, the action is achieved.

Legally, voting membership matters a great deal. In the sense of community, however, members are those who come to worship services, participate in lay-led ministries or the work of the church, and attend social events. Some members of our community never attend any events, but are married to members who do. Some of us cannot attend services, or participate in lay-led ministries, or even attend social events, because of age or illness: we still embrace them as members of UCH. We do not ask at coffee hour, or during services, or during choir practice or the teaching of our children, whether each of us has made a gift of time or treasure to our community. The fact that people are here is enough to deem them members of our church community, regardless of whether they may vote at meetings.

The great philosopher-theologian Martin Buber said, “All real life is meeting.” We meet at services, we meet in meetings, we meet at rallies, we meet in classes, we meet. We come together to know one another, to be together, as members of the UCH community, in our tradition of free association. It’s not rocket science, honestly. It is how we come to know ourselves.

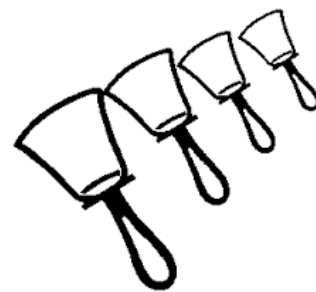
Your servant in leadership,

Laura Shemick, Board President

Handbell Ensemble 7:00 p.m. March 28 (No Experience Necessary)

Do you enjoy music but don't think you can carry a tune? Let the bells carry that tune for you! We have scheduled an introductory session for handbells at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, in the Clover Lane sanctuary. If there is enough interest, we will continue to rehearse and become a full-fledged handbell ensemble! Remember – you do not need to be able to read music (or carry a tune), so come give it a try!

—Submitted by Ann Hossler, Director of Music



#UULent, Starting Wednesday March 1

Many Christian churches observe Lent as a period of prayer, penance, and self-denial during the weeks prior to Easter. Two years ago, UUA educator [Barb Greve](#) developed a spiritual practice called “#UULent” to provide a UU-based framework for Lenten meditation. It is designed to be used individually, as a family, or as a congregation. For 2017, Greve and two colleagues have selected a word for each day in Lent (chart). Each word is designed to be accessible to all ages and stages of faith development. Beginning on Ash Wednesday and for each day until Easter, the word for the day and a related quote are being posted on the #UULent [Facebook](#) page.

Participants are invited to reflect on the word for the day. They can take a photograph that speaks to them about the word, idea, practice, or concept. Those who wish can then share it on social media with the hashtag #UULent and celebrate the shared inspiration UUs bring to one another.

May this intentional practice and discipline impact your daily life in ways that bring you closer to your spiritual core and offer you resiliency for life.

—Submitted by Sara Palmer, Director of Religious Exploration

2017 PHOTO A DAY

#UULent

Join a Unitarian Universalist practice of Lent! Each day, Unitarian Universalists and our friends and family will intentionally reflect on a daily word, carry our awareness throughout the day, and capture an image that represents the word for us. We'll share our reflections and images on social media with the hashtag #UULent. On Sundays, we challenge each other to reflect on the daily word and also embody and enact it in our lives. (Created by Mr. Barb Greve; designed by Alex Kapitan.)

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
MARCH			1 quiet	2 surrender	3 courage	4 love
5 partnership	6 rest	7 creativity	8 vulnerability	9 prayer	10 persistence	11 music
12 resilience	13 friendship	14 play	15 fear	16 passion	17 strength	18 wonder
19 sanctuary	20 solitude	21 curiosity	22 suffering	23 engagement	24 ally	25 blessing
26 mercy	27 dreams	28 beauty	29 mistakes	30 dance	31 memory	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
APRIL						1 freedom
2 understanding	3 inspiration	4 sacred	5 loneliness	6 help	7 support	8 awe
9 hospitality	10 heart	11 art	12 doubt	13 worship	14 peace	15 faith
16 rejoice						

NURTURE Your Spirit. Help HEAL Our World.

Adult RE: Heart Rhythm Meditation for Holistic Health and/or Spiritual Growth

Dates: 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., three more Mondays: March 6, 13 and 20 **Place:** UCH Clover Lane, Joseph Priestley Room

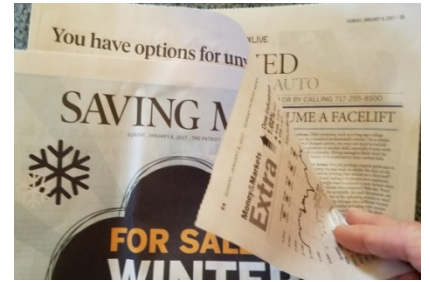
Instructor: Libby Tisdell (longtime UCH member, and Professor of Adult Education at Penn State University-Harrisburg)

Description: Heart Rhythm Meditation (HRM) is an ancient form of meditation that integrates attention to body, mind, heart, and spirit. In the practice of HRM, one syncs the full breath to the beat of the heart. HRM focuses on both the physical heart and the metaphorical heart, and preliminary research findings of those who practice HRM over a 6-week period show its cardiac and overall physical health benefits. HRM can be practiced strictly as a secular form of meditation, or can also be a spiritual form of meditation by putting a sacred phrase on the breath and syncing it to the heart beat. The course is both informational and experiential.

For more information please contact: [Libby Tisdell](#) or via phone or text at: 717-579-8835.

Helping People in Prison and their Families

Helping People in Prison and their Families is making a difference every week – and you are making this possible! When you bring the *Sunday Classified* section to church, a caring volunteer (this could be you!) takes them to the Program's Reentry Center at 1515 Derry Street. When women and men arrive from the Dauphin County Work Release Center anxious to find work (because they are told if not employed in a month they go back to prison), they then have their own Classifieds to work with. This is important because many women and men have few or no computer skills. Note from the picture that the *Patriot-News* hides the Classified ads inside the "Saving Money" section, so don't be fooled – they are there, just hiding! Could you deliver the classifieds one Sunday each month? Please contact [Margaret Carrow](#) or [Jim Cavanaugh](#) about being part of the rotation.



Re-Entry Breakfast April 22. We will host women and men from halfway houses and work release centers April 22 when UCH has volunteered to provide the month's breakfast: Hot food, an inspiring speaker, uplifting music, and the unspoken message to all our guests: *We respect your inherent worth and dignity.* We have learned that getting to know them helps insure that we are working with them rather than assuming we know what they need and probably missing the mark (that's helping at them). So becoming a breakfast helper can expand your vision while demonstrating that we care for women and men coming out of prison.

Each year the breakfast succeeds because caring UCH people come forward to help set up the tables, cook the food (no way Margaret Carrow can do it all), staff the buffet line, and then help with clean-up so the room is ready for 'coffee hour' the next day. If you can help, or if you want to know more, be in touch with [Margaret Carrow](#), [John Hargreaves](#), [Chris Dutton](#), or [Jim Cavanaugh](#).

Coming in May: The 2017 spring book/video discussion will center on a video, either a TED talk about criminal justice by Bryan Stevenson (author of *Just Mercy*), or a movie called *13th: The Journey from Shackles to Prison Bars*. It's about that amendment, which abolished slavery and involuntary servitude, except as punishment for a crime, or so most of us think. Plan to join us!

— Submitted by Jim Cavanaugh

UUPLAN

The [Unitarian Universalist Pennsylvania Legislative Advocacy Network](#) (UUPLAN) educates and communicates with UU congregations and partners across the Commonwealth to inspire action. Its mission is to promote UU values to policy makers to advance just legislation and to advocate for fairness and transparency in the democratic process. It serves 6,000 UUs in 40 congregations across Pennsylvania.



Reproductive Rights

This month, UUPLAN encourages UUs and like-minded citizens to join the UUPLAN Reproductive Justice Team in collaboration with the Religious Center for Reproductive Rights to advocate for reproductive rights in Pennsylvania. In January, the Pennsylvania Senate passed a 20-week anti-abortion bill without hearings or medical testimony and over the objections of many medical professionals. Abortions at this stage of pregnancy are rare; however, this is the point at which fetal anomalies are often identified and families make heart-wrenching decisions. Now a companion bill, HB 77 has been introduced in the State House which, if passed, would make this the most restrictive abortion law in the country. The House Health Committee meets at 2:00 p.m. Monday, March 6, in Room G-50, Irvis Building. Please join the team in advocating against the bill.



Both bills curtail the use of a procedure known as dilation and evacuation, which is often used in second-trimester abortions and after a miscarriage. "There's no (other) field of medicine where elected officials would instruct physicians on how to interact with patients," said Planned Parenthood PA Executive Director, Sari Stevens.

To find out more about the work of any of our Justice Teams, please feel free to participate in monthly conference calls or contact [Anita Mentzer](#).

—Submitted by Anita Mentzer

UU Christian Fellowship

UCH's UU Christian Fellowship (UUCF) group will have a Service of Holy Communion led by Rev. Richard Gordon in the sanctuary of the Market Street church at 10:45 a.m. on Palm Sunday, April 9, 2017, and it will be a successful service because caring volunteers will help it happen.

The ideas suggested at the Jan 15 service to improve attendance through better publicity – such as a really visible sign people can see before the service on the date, and postings on the UCH Facebook page—are likely to help. Thanks to the people who committed to help.

If you are interested in getting involved in UUCF at UCH, please contact [Jim Cavanaugh](#). Additional information about the national organization is available on the [UUCF website](#).

— Submitted by *Jim Cavanaugh*



General Assembly, June 21-25, New Orleans, LA

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Attendees worship, witness, attend workshops, connect, and make policy for the UUA through the democratic process. Anyone may attend; congregations must certify annually to send voting delegates. The five-day assembly is a wonderful opportunity to deepen your understanding of UU principles and participate in UU activities.

The theme this year is “Resist and Rejoice,” and the UUA has created a [website](#) with numerous activities to prepare for the experience. You can also [make a housing reservation](#); pre-register for [hands-on service projects](#) in Louisiana; and [register](#) with the Early Bird discount.



Obituaries

Bruce Bayuk (1929-2017)

Bruce Bayuk, 87, died February 16 at Harrisburg Hospital. He was a long-time friend of and donor to the UCH, actively involved in promoting liberal religion and social justice in Harrisburg. Among other things, he served for many years at the “toast” station at the Community Breakfast at our Market Street campus and actively supported multiple UCH initiatives. Services were held Feb. 19 at Chisuk Emuna congregation in Harrisburg.

Bruce is survived by his wife, Nancy; a daughter; two sons; two step-sons; 13 grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

David Parke (1951-2017)

UCH member David L. Parke, Jr., 65, died February 25 after a long illness. A memorial service is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. Monday, March 6, at our Clover Lane campus.

David was the former Executive Director of the Hershey Museum and Gardens and had been active in numerous professional organizations throughout his career. He was a founding board member of the Manada Conservancy. He was well known in the UCH community for his exquisite wood carving, and he donated numerous items to UCH fundraisers over the years. David was part of a three-man team responsible for building the pulpit and side tables in the Clover Lane sanctuary, along with Lance McAfee and Richard Pratt. David created the chalice carving at the center of the pulpit.

David is survived by his wife, Caroline; daughter, Natalie; son, Thomas; and a sister and granddaughter. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to the Manada Conservancy or to UCH.



Gather the Spirit: New Program Director

Gather the Spirit for Justice (GTS) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization based in our Market Street campus. Its mission is to bring together the residents of the Allison Hill community, area organizations, businesses, and churches to address issues of social justice and economic equity.

GTS is pleased to announce Jacqueline Rucker as Program Director, responsible for managing day-to-day operations of the Common Ground Community Center and Common Ground Café, including managing volunteers and staff; securing financial and volunteer support; and working with the Board and Executive Committee to achieve GTS' long-term mission.



Jacquie comes to GTS with extensive experience in the human services and non-profit sectors, having served more than 20 years with Christian Churches United of the Tri-County Area as Program Director and Executive Director. She has also worked with other service organizations, including the YMCA of Greater Harrisburg, Planned Parenthood of Northwest/Northeast Indiana, and the Lake County Department of Public Welfare in Gary, IN. Jacquie holds a Juris Doctorate degree from Widener University, a master's degree in English from Indiana University Northwest, and a bachelor's degree from Valparaiso University.

The following interview is excerpted from her interview with the *GTS Newsletter*.

Gather the Spirit: You have degrees in English and law. How did you come into the human services field?

Jacquie Rucker: Happenstance, actually. I found myself committed to religious service and committed to helping people, and human services just fell in line with that.

I had studied English and was going to go into the seminary, but enrolled in law school after my husband and I moved to Pennsylvania. I still worked more in human services after receiving my law degree, but practiced law on the side helping small organizations with contracts and other documents.

GTS March Match-ness!!

March is well-known as a time when the winter college sports seasons draw to a close in frenzied style. GTS faces a similar opportunity this spring, with a donor match challenge! A generous donor is challenging all GTS contributors and volunteers to support the programs and services that we provide in Allison Hill through Common Ground Community Center and Common Ground Café.

From March 1 through March 31, the first \$5,000 donated will be matched dollar-for-dollar by our benefactor. A \$30 donation to support the photo ID program becomes \$60. A generous \$50 contribution becomes \$100. EVERY donation, no matter how big or small, becomes double the amount to continue our ability to provide breakfasts, state IDs, personal supplies, and other needed services to our neighbors in Allison Hill.

To donate online by credit card go to www.gatherthespirit.org or send a check to Gather The Spirit, 1508 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17103. To learn more about GTS or to volunteer, please contact gatherthespirit1508@gmail.com.

— Submitted by Jeff Siegel, GTS President

GTS: What drew you to this position with GTS?

JR: I had retired from Christian Churches United, and dealing with people at a grassroots level is close to my heart. I am familiar with The Shared Ministry [at UCH's Market Street campus] and have worked with most of the non-profits in the area from both programming and administrative levels. Someone had mentioned the position to me, and I submitted my resume.

GTS: As you embark on your new role, can you share some of your observations about GTS?

JR: GTS has a committed core of volunteers. It takes committed people to put those with needs in touch with the proper resources to help them resolve those needs. The long-term volunteers have a heart to get it done.

The raw materials for success are here, we just need to "dress it up" for sponsors—interpret our strengths to those who can help. It will be a balancing act: keep programs and services going, but build financial support at the same time.

The services provided here are great, but do we have the resources in place to solve all of the issues facing our guests? No. People who come here have the least; some are homeless, others have other needs. Education is very important. Not getting a college degree per se, but teaching literacy—learning how to get a job to be self-sufficient; learning how to take care of yourself. People need access to food, exercise and a knowledge of how to care for themselves. Allison Hill is a hot bed for health issues such as diabetes among people of color.

My hope is that we will be able to touch all of Allison Hill. But we need to build a rapport with residents to open up and share with us what they need. We need to understand why they come here, what brings them to Common Ground, and how we can connect them with the services that they need.

DATE	TIME	GROUP	LOCATION
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Wed 1	6:00	Queen Spirit (Monthly)	Clover Lane
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Queen Spirit is a co-created women's spirituality circle that meets on the first Wednesday of the month. This month, the Circle will be led by Patti Hazell: Learn hints and tips on how to organize your environment, life, and calm your mind from all that "clutter." QueenSpirit is a co-created women's spirituality circle! Bring a favorite dish, dessert or beverage to share. Bring your place setting and serving spoons and plates. Potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m. Circle from 7:00 p.m.to 8:00 p.m. Contact [Randa Todd](#) for further information.

**QueenSpirit
Declutter**

Sun 5	10:00	Sunday Morning Forum	Clover Lane
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The lay-led Sunday Morning Forum meets each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. at Clover Lane. The group meets for an hour of discussion about an important societal topic. Topics change every week and are led by different individuals.

**Sunday
Morning Forum**

The weekly facilitator will choose the topic in advance so attendees can read ahead. Please contact [Susan Jones-Sink](#) or [Kathryn Ersoz](#) with your ideas for discussion topics. **Repeats weekly.**

Mon 6	6:30	Amrit Yoga (Weekly)	Clover Lane
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Amrit yoga is a form of hatha yoga developed by Yogi Amrit Desai. The entire process moves and stretches every part of your body for an energetic workout and includes a calming, meditative relaxation at the end. **Repeats every Monday.** Contact [Ed Sykes](#). No experience necessary!

Amrit Yoga

Tue 7	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation Group (Weekly)	Clover Lane
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Mindfulness is an acquired skill, practiced while meditating but vital in our everyday lives. Mindfulness is helpful in reducing stress, managing pain, focusing attention, and overcoming habitual negative behavior. Mindfulness can also point the way to spiritual practice, calming the mind and developing awareness and insight.

**Mindfulness
Meditation**

The ability to be mindful is strengthened through consistent practice. Mindfulness Meditation Group provides a space for us to practice together in support of one another. Contact [Chuck Daley](#). **Repeats every Tuesday.**

Tue 7	7:00	First Tuesday Forum	Clover Lane
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UUPLAN offers a monthly *Journey to Justice* discussion series at Clover Lane on the first Tuesday of each month. The program this month is provided by Common Cause Pennsylvania (CCPA), a non-partisan 501(c)3 advocacy organization working to hold government accountable and make government responsive to the needs of its citizens. CCPA will present a program on [Fair Districts PA](#) and the work being done to eliminate gerrymandering.



Contact [Anita Mentzer](#) or [Rachel Mark](#).

**UUPLAN Forum
Fair Districts PA**

Sat 11	9:00	Common Ground Café (twice a month)	Market
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Common Ground Café occurs at our Market Street campus on the second and last Saturday of the month. The café opens at 9:00 a.m., and you can be a part of the action! No experience necessary, and drop-ins are always welcome.

Repeats March 25. To join the list of volunteers, please contact [Clay Lambert](#).

Common Ground Café



DATE	TIME	GROUP	LOCATION
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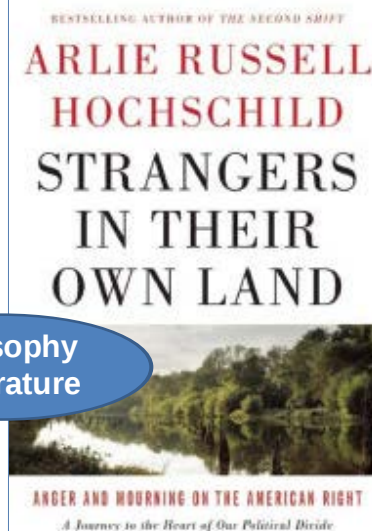
Sun12	7:00	Philosophy and Literature Group (Monthly)	Clover Lane
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The Philosophy & Literature Group normally meets on the second Sunday of each month, usually at Clover Lane. This month, we meet to discuss *Strangers in Their Own Land: Anger and Mourning on the American Right*, by Arlie Russell Hochschild. It was a National Book Award finalist (2016).

From Amazon.com:

Strangers in Their Own Land addresses the increasingly bitter political divide in America. Based on five years of immersion reporting among Tea Party loyalists -- now mostly supporters of Donald Trump -- it tries to bridge an "empathy wall" between the two political sides, to explore the "deep story" underlying the right that remains unrecognized by the left. The author is a retired professor of sociology at UC Berkeley.

All are welcome. Please contact [Don Brown](#) for information.



Philosophy
& Literature

Tue 14	6:30	Women's Night Out (Monthly)	Off-site
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Women's Night Out is a lay-led ministry that focuses on the friendship and support of its members and giving back to our local community. We normally meet on the second Tuesday of the month at a local restaurant, alternating locations between the East and West Shores. Each month at dinner, participants take a collection. Proceeds are divided between the Ecumenical Food Pantry and UCH.

Our group meets Tuesday, Mar. 14, at 6:30 p.m. at [Bangkok Wok](#) in Mechanicsburg. Please RSVP to [Linda Brown](#) by the Sunday beforehand.

Shore	Date	Location	Municipality
West	01/10/17	Isaac's/West Shore Plaza	Lemoyne
East	02/14/17	Peachtree/Progress Ave	Harrisburg
West	03/14/17	Bangkok Wok/Gateway Plaza	Mechanicsburg
East	04/11/17	Gabriella's/Jonestown Rd	Harrisburg
West	05/09/17	Pizza Grille/Gettysburg Road	Camp Hill
East	06/13/17	Progress Grille/Walnut Street	Harrisburg

Wed 15	6:30	Clover Grove (Monthly)	Clover Lane
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Clover Grove is a group of earth-centered and pagan spiritualists that meets on the third Wednesday. This month, the group is focused on Ritual Writing. We meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Common Room at Clover Lane. Please join us if you are interested; all are welcome. Bring a snack to share, if you wish! There is no child care available.

Contact [Wayne Minich](#) for further information.

Clover Grove
Ritual Writing

Fri 17	7:30	Clover Lane Coffee House (monthly)	Clover Lane
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Clover Lane Coffee House occurs monthly from September to April, normally on the third Friday. This month, we are pleased to host Don Baragiano, playing Arabic jazz fusion accompanied by J.D. Stillwater on drums. Admission \$10 donation, \$25 max per family. All are welcome. Please contact [Bart Carpenter](#).

Don is founder, composer and bandleader for the Middle Eastern music project "Hejira" ("journey," Arabic: هَجْرَة). Hejira is intended to impart a simple universal message, "We are all One," in music and words.

Don studied at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. He lived in Saudi Arabia for many years and, among other things, had a private audience/class with the court's master musician, Hamzah Mohammed Al-Bashir. Don combines ancient Middle Eastern scales and rhythms with contemporary rock, jazz and classical music.

In 2012 and 2013, Don was selected to compete in the Aaron Copland Foundation's "American Composer" series.

CL Coffee House
Arabic Jazz Fusion

DATE	TIME	GROUP	LOCATION
Sun 19	Various	Pie Day	Both Campuses

The mathematical value pi ($\pi=3.14159....$) is usually celebrated only by mathematicians, but this year, everyone can celebrate! Bring fruit pies, quiches, and other circular food items to this whip-through UCH fundraiser. Fun addition: get one raffle ticket per donated pie, or buy tickets for \$1. If the proceeds from the sale and raffle surpass \$1,000, the raffle winner will be able to toss a whipped cream pie into the face of UCH Board President Laura Shemick at the June 3 church picnic.

Pies will be sold after services at Market Street (10:30 am) and Clover Lane (12:30 pm). Why not take home a spinach quiche for lunch and a cherry pie for dessert? All proceeds go to church programs and services.

Pie Day: How it works

1. Bring a pie (or circular food item of some type) to church on March 19. Receive a raffle ticket.



2. Buy a delicious pie (or cake, or quiche, or whatever) from the vast array presented. Receive a second raffle ticket.



3. Take home and enjoy.

If you win the raffle, toss a whipped cream pie at Board President Laura Shemick at the June 3 church picnic.



Tue 21	10:00	CroneSpirit (Monthly)	Clover Lane
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The lay-led ministry CroneSpirit meets from 10 a.m. - noon in Fuller Chapel at the Clover Lane campus. Our topic this month is "Bring a Book You Recommend." We are:

- ☺ A discussion group for women over 65, both UCH members and non-members
- ☺ Honoring a crone tradition of conscious female aging and self-power
- ☺ For personal enrichment, such as through intellect, knowledge, comfort or companionship, anticipating a maximum of 10 women
- ☺ Sharing, listening and learning, without gossip to or about each other

We look forward to seeing you. For information, please contact [Joan Hellmann](#). Our topic for April is "To Do or Not To Do That Is the Question As We Age."



DATE	TIME	GROUP	LOCATION
Tue 28	6:30	UCH Auction Committee	Clover Lane
The Auction Planning Committee meets the 4th Tuesday of each month in the Priestley Room at Clover Lane. Come brainstorm ideas, themes and be a part of the fun, food, and fabulous Auction Committee. Your talent and help planning the 2017 All-Church Auction is always welcome. We are looking for ideas to make this year's auction a huge success and need your help. Please contact Patti Hazell for additional information. Auction planning Committee meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, 6:30 pm, Priestley Room			

2017 Auction

Other Activity of Interest

March 15: Caring for Creation

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Colonial Park United Church of Christ - www.cpucc.org

Rev. Mitch Hescox leads the Evangelical Environmental Network (EEN), the largest evangelical group dedicated to creation care. He has testified before Congress and is quoted frequently in the national press. His book, *Caring for Creation*, written along with Penn State meteorologist Paul Douglas, is a clear, compelling, and thoughtful blend of faith and science.

March 4: Gender Conversations Workshop

9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Colonial Park United Church of Christ (CPUCC), www.cpucc.org, includes lunch

The speaker is Joanne Carroll, President of TransCentralPA. The workshop includes panelists sharing their life experiences. Many transgender people are searching for religious truths and a connection to a community of faith. Unfortunately, they are often made to feel unwelcome in the churches they attend. The workshop is designed for ministers and laity to help understand issues and create a more welcoming environment. Freewill offering accepted.

Save the Date!

April 30, 2017: Twenty-fifth Anniversary of Oliver LaGrone Scholarship

The mission of the Oliver LaGrone Scholarship Committee is to facilitate and broaden the aspirations of Harrisburg School District students toward furthering their education. We are cordially inviting everyone to celebrate with the Oliver LaGrone Scholarship Committee – whether you have been a Groupie, part of the **OLIVER COLLECTIVE**, on the yearly Selection Panel, a mentor, on the Scholarship Committee, or a member of UCH – the upcoming 25th anniversary of the Oliver LaGrone Scholarship on Sunday, April 30, 2017. Meet the 2017 scholar and celebrate with us.

So remember -"Save the Date" - Sunday April 30th, 2017. Thanks to many the volunteers that have come forth, and we welcome more to make it an even more wonderful celebration! Please contact [Margaret C. Carrow](#) (717-260-9449) for further information.

25th Anniversary
LaGrone Scholarship
4/30/17

May 7: Plant Sale

UCH members, friends, and guests can view and buy hundreds of vegetable and ornamental plants after church at both campuses. Some plants will have been grown from seed and some will have been taken from established plants. There's a plant for everyone, just in time for spring planting! If you donate plants, please label them clearly with names and sun/shade and soil preferences. All proceeds go to church programs and services.

June 3, 2017: All-Church Picnic

The all-church picnic will be Saturday, June 3, 2017, at the Lakeview Pavilion (last year was at Woodlawn) at Pinchot State Park. Stay tuned for details in the spring. Please contact [Marj Hartman](#) if interested in assisting with planning and coordination.

UCH Picnic 6/3/17
Pinchot Park