



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

# NEWSLETTER

January 2020

Year 55, Issue 1

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Blacksburg, VA 24060  
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## Message from Our Minister Rev. Pam Philips

What is it that makes us do the right thing, even when nobody is watching? That's a question we'll be considering this month as we explore the theme of **Integrity**. It is a religious question which poses interesting challenges for us as Unitarian Universalists.

I recently heard a podcast called "Creating God" that explored our need for deities. One of the theories they discussed was that people whose god was primarily punitive, rather than loving, were less likely to cheat. Believing in an angry, wrathful god made them behave better. Likewise, televangelist Joel Osteen asserted in a sermon on integrity that we should always do the right thing, even if we would never get caught doing something wrong, because God would know. (Osteen went on to say that God would reward us generously for acting in an upright manner, but that's another theological issue.)



The question, then, for us as UUs, is what if we *don't* believe in a punitive god or one who keeps a constant eye on us to make sure that we are doing the right thing? Are we less likely to live with integrity? This is not a new question for Unitarians and Universalists. I love how Universalist Hosea Ballou responded to a Baptist colleague who said, "Brother Ballou, if I were a Universalist and feared not the fires of hell, I could hit you over the head, steal your horse and saddle, and ride away, and I'd still go to heaven." Hosea Ballou looked over at him and said, "If you were a Universalist, the idea would never occur to you."

Beginning a new calendar year seems like an appropriate time to check in with ourselves and see if we are living our lives in alignment with our values, if we are living with integrity. In the month ahead, rather than making New Year's resolutions, let's take time to reflect on what we value, individually and as a community, and how we might best live up to and into them.

I had a great model of integrity in my father who died on December 15. Celebrating his life with family and friends helped remind me of the many ways he lived into his values. I'm grateful for all the love and support I felt from UUC during this time of loss. Thank you for giving me time with my family, secure in the knowledge that you would carry on in my absence. Thank you for all your expressions of care—texts, emails, cards, and flowers. It was good to know that I was not alone.

With love and gratitude,  
Rev. Pam

### Our Mission

**Inspire. Create. Transform.**

**Inspire** spiritual and ethical growth. **Create** compassionate community.  
**Transform** our community and the world through courageous love.

### Our Vision

UUC will be a beacon of liberal religion in the New River Valley. We will join with other organizations and faiths to work for just causes.

We will practice generosity and radical hospitality. We will be known as a place of beauty, welcome, joy, and celebration.

## Contact Information

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sabbatical through June

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## Staff Office Hours:

**Minister:**

Tuesdays, Wednesdays &  
Thursdays, 9-1  
Contact for appointment  
or use this [link](#) to set one  
up online.

**Administrator:**

Mondays & Fridays, 1-4

## Message from Our Board

Steve Keighton, President



Happy New Year! While we are half-way through UUC's fiscal and administrative year, the start of a new calendar year is a natural time to consider new starts and perhaps new challenges and opportunities. For myself, I will be placed out of my comfort zone as I take on new responsibilities at the Blacksburg National Weather Service office starting in January for at least the next 6 months. We've all probably been there, and it can be an anxious time, but I'll bet that in most cases, we not only prevail but learn and grow and find ourselves in a better place for having had the experience. As easy as it sometimes is to remain in our comfort zones, experience tells us it's often a better strategy in the long run to instead seek out new goals and challenges, even if that means getting to uncomfortable places along the way. That is what I'm trying to preach to myself as I take a deep breath and dive in at work!

No, I'm not anticipating that our upcoming 2020 UUC year will necessarily present any huge challenges for us. However, one of the reasons the Board opted to initiate a new strategic planning process is because we felt that, as a congregation, we've been in a comfortable place for a while (indeed a really good place), and it's time to look beyond and examine if we are indeed doing what we want to do; if we are living out our mission and vision the way we want. This will be an exciting time as we examine where we are and where we want to be. However, there is a chance that some of the conversations we have and data we analyze could, at times, lead us a little out of our comfort zone. What if we consider being something or doing something radically different? As an example, the recent Transgender Inclusion course, which over 20 congregants participated in, challenged us to be radical in how we welcome all folks into our midst. We may discover in our process together that we are a lot farther from where we want to be in this regard, or in some other aspect of our ministry within or beyond our walls. There is a chance that this examination may bring us out of our comfort zone at times, maybe a little, maybe a lot, but I submit that is not necessarily a bad thing. I believe we are a thoughtful, caring, and trusting community, and will ultimately complete this process even stronger in these characteristics.

I am especially enthusiastic about this venture because of those who have agreed to serve on the new Strategic Planning Committee, kicking off later in January. We are very grateful to Polly Stimson, Frank Napolitano, Amy Pruden-Bagchi, Stephen Henninger, Jim Kern, and Kim Feucht for agreeing to help lead us through this process over the next 1-2 years. This group will be analyzing some data already collected over the past several years, collecting more data, asking for your input in a variety of ways, most notably through group conversations, and keeping you in the loop on how the process is going. I also want to thank about 20 of our past-presidents who gathered recently to offer their insights into the big-picture story of UUC (where we've come from and where we might go, and some lessons learned from their experiences). This was extremely insightful and helpful to get new strategic planning started. I hope that everyone will be engaged, open, and supportive as we embark on this process together!

I want to end by letting everyone know of an important concern, indeed error, that was recently brought to our attention, and which the Board and Rev. Pam have begun working to remedy. It was discovered that back in 2011 when UUC began providing retirement benefits to the minister through a UUA-sponsored retirement plan, we did not realize that we were also required to

**(continued on page 8)**

# Upcoming Events

## Circle Suppers: Sign Ups Round II!

If you missed September's 2019-2020 Circle Supper sign-up, you can still get in on the fun! Circle Suppers are monthly social gatherings of 6-10 people to share a potluck meal at one another's homes. It's a great way to get to know folks from the congregation! Groups meet through May. If interested in participating, fill out the [online form](#) by **January 31** or see Kim Feucht after services. If you signed up in September, there is no need to sign up again. Your group will continue through May. Questions? Contact [Kim Feucht](#).

## 50+ Singles Group Game Night

Did you get a new game for Christmas? If so, bring it and snacks to share at the 50+ Singles Game Night on Friday, **January 24** at 7 PM. If Linda Cherry is home from post-knee replacement rehab by then, she will host at her Hethwood apartment in Blacksburg. Otherwise, we'll play at UUC. Watch for location confirmation in UUC's weekly email announcements and via 50+ Singles email. Contact [Linda](#) to get on the email list.

## Women's Lunch

All women are invited to enjoy lunch and fellowship together on the 1st & 3rd Fridays of each month at 11:30 AM. On **January 3**, gather at *Lefty's* in Blacksburg. On **January 17**, gather at the *Tie Dyed Pig* at 103 3rd Ave. in Radford. Questions? Contact [Cynthia Luke](#).

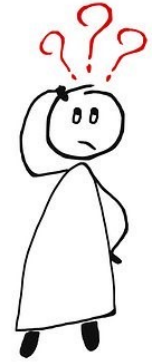
## EarthSpirit Sisters Full Moon Ritual

All women are invited to the monthly celebration of the full moon on Friday, **January 10** at 6:30 PM at Susanne Sutherland's home in Blacksburg. Contact [Susanne](#) for more info and directions.



## Newcomers' Orientation

Have you wondered just how our congregation works? Do you want to know more about Unitarian Universalism? Would you like to get acquainted with other newcomers? Do you want to know what membership entails? Would you like to connect with others who have inquiring minds? The Newcomers' Orientation on Saturday, **February 1** from 9 AM-noon is just the place to get the answers. We don't pressure anyone to join the congregation—we simply want to share something about UUism and how our congregation works. Childcare provided upon request. This is open to newcomers and for those who have been attending for a while but want to know more. If interested in attending, contact [Pauletta Copenheaver](#).



## The Fifth Annual UUC Chili Cook-Off



Mark your calendars for Saturday, **February 15** at 5 PM for a fun night of fellowship and yummy chilis for the whole

family. We'll have hot and mild, vegetarian and meat, and possibly some you've never experienced. There will also be corn bread and other great fixins. **Your help is needed** to make this event a big success. Childcare provided. Needed are:

- ◆ Chili Cooks
- ◆ Chili Tasters
- ◆ Chili Judges (everyone's a judge)
- ◆ Servers for the chilis and other food items
- ◆ Servers for beverages – both alcoholic and non-alcoholic
- ◆ Donations of supplemental foods and beverages
- ◆ Volunteers to help with set-up and clean-up
- ◆ To help or for more info, contact [Franklyn Moreno](#) or better yet, sign up via our [Perfect Potluck webpage](#) to bring chili, cornbread, dessert, finger foods, beverages, and/or to help with set-up and clean-up.



UUC will again be participating in the **TO OUR HOUSE** program during the week of **January 4 - 11**. TOH is the **local homeless shelter program** for single men and women, open only during the winter months. It provides a place to sleep, a warm dinner, breakfast and a bag lunch. This year UUC will serve in the role of a "host" congregation rather than a "support" congregation as we have done in previous years. Our TOH guests will be using Elarth Hall, kitchen and library from around 5:30 PM each evening to around 6:30 AM the following morning. To make their visit a success, volunteers are needed to serve as hosts, van drivers, clean-uppers, laundry-doers, and other roles. Please contact [Kimberley Homer](#), [John Kelso](#) or [Joe Powers](#) for additional information. **Use this [link](#) to volunteer to help as MANY helpers are needed.**

## Online Launch of "UU the Vote"! Congregational Watch Party

All are welcome to join us on Sunday, **January 12** at 4 PM in the sanctuary. In this online launch, hear about the organizing plan for "UU the Vote" across the country, some of the strategies UUs will be deploying, examples of on-the-ground work from congregations already engaging, and how you and your congregation can get involved. Together we will explore how UUs are called to wear the mantle of our shared legacies, principles, and values as we move boldly together, making our faith relevant and effective in bending the arc of the universe toward justice in this political moment. For more info, contact [Jamie McReynolds](#).



## Engaging Transformation Workshops

Come join the 1<sup>st</sup> workshop, **Engaging Transformation**, sponsored by the Leadership Development Committee on Sunday, **January 26** from 11:30-1 in our sanctuary.

**Engaging Transformation** provides an opportunity to connect with others, contribute to the congregational discourse, and discover your personal strengths in team settings. We begin with an overview and the *True Colors Inventory* that generates a profile of your personal gifts in teamwork settings. Using these strengths, we explore the congregational missions to inspire growth and create community through group discussion and breakout teams. Teams of those with the same strengths develop an aspect of the issue matched to their unique team skill. In group discussion, we then integrate these aspects into a holistic perspective on the key issue.

Next, we envision ways to advance specific, valued social justice goals on teams comprised of people with different, complementary strengths. Each diverse team then chooses one particular social justice issue from a listing of 80 UU social justice issues grouped within the seven UU Principles. Each team then develops an overall vision for their chosen social justice goal. In the all-group discussion, we observe patterns and differences among the four social justice issues as viewed by the four teams. The workshops close with opportunities for reflection and discussion of our UUC mission to transform our communities and the larger world.

Afterwards, volunteers from the workshops meet to compile notes and summarize themes to present to the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC)/Board and post on the congregational listserv. The workshop provides childcare for parents and light snacks and beverages for all. Please request child care by contacting [Lisa Evanylo](#) prior to **January 20** so that we can arrange for caregivers. Come join in the rich exchange that occurs in celebrating and advancing our UUC endeavors to engage transformation. If you are interested in helping to implement the **Engaging Transformation** workshop, please contact [Mark Benson](#).

Watch for information about the 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop, **Transform for Social Justice** on Sunday, **March 22** from 11:30-1.

# Lifespan Faith Development

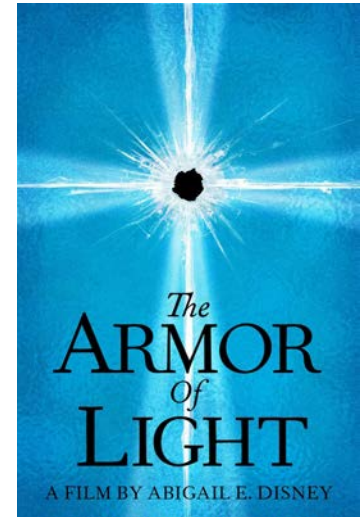
January 2020

## Social Justice Film Series

**Sunday, January 12, 6 PM**

What price conscience? *The Armor of Light* follows the journey of Rev. Rob Schenck, an Evangelical minister trying to find the courage to preach about the growing toll of gun violence in America, and questioning whether being pro-gun is consistent with being pro-life. Along the way, Rev. Schenck meets Lucy McBath, the mother of Jordan Davis, an unarmed teenager who was murdered in Florida and whose story has cast a spotlight on "Stand Your Ground" laws. *Armor* follows these unlikely allies through their trials of conscience, heartbreak and rejection, as they bravely attempt to make others consider America's gun culture through a moral lens.

This free showing is co-sponsored by *Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America*. A facilitated discussion will follow. Members of the community are welcome!



*The Social Justice Film Series is jointly sponsored by Lifespan Faith Development and the Social Justice Ministries of UUC.*

*Our Children's Offering benefits the Interfaith Food Pantry.*

***January's collection: dried beans and rice***

### MSYG

**Friday, January 17, 6-8 PM**

Middle School Youth Group meets this month at NRV SuperBowl for bowling and laser tag. Youth in grades 6-8 are invited to come join the fun. Parents, watch your email for more information.

MSYG meets the 3rd Friday of the month, with meetings at UUC and offsite locations.

[Register online.](#)

### YRUU

**Sundays, 6-8 PM**

Our high school youth group, YRUU, meets on Sunday evenings, with some meetings held offsite. Teens participate in fundraisers, fun activities, social action, and conferences, while forming bonds with other teens.

YRUU is open to youth in grades 9-12. Friends are welcome at meetings.

[Register online.](#)

# Money Empowerment Workshop

**Mondays, January 13 & 27; February 10 & 24; 7-8 PM**

Join us for a "Money: Get Talking" workshop, ideal for beginners and anyone interested in exploring money topics and sharing our personal experiences. This is not intended as financial advice. Instead, it provides a safe space to explore opinions and personal experiences about money.

Facilitator Laura Robinson is looking for a few volunteers to share their personal experiences for each topic. If you are interested, please email [Laura](mailto:Laura).

Learn more about Money: Get Talking at <http://www.moneygettalking.com/>.



Topics:

- ⇒ **Jan. 13** – What’s your experience with pop culture money advisors such as Dave Ramsey, Suze Orman, or others? Are they helping or hurting?
- ⇒ **Jan. 27** – What is your “American Dream”? Can we obtain it? Or do we want too much?
- ⇒ **Feb. 10** – What is your debt story? Is there such a thing as good debt and bad debt?
- ⇒ **Feb. 24** – What’s your story for retirement? Is retirement a myth?

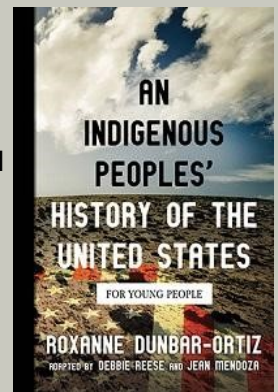
## UUA Common Read—Discussion Group Coming in February

*An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States* by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz (Beacon Press, 2015) and *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States for Young People* adapted by Jean Mendoza and Debbie Reese (Beacon Press, 2019)

In 2015, Beacon Press published an extraordinary book by Indigenous scholar and activist Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz that challenged readers to learn U.S. history through a narrative that centers the story, the experiences, and the perspectives of Indigenous peoples. In 2019, Beacon Press published an adaptation for young people by Jean Mendoza and Debbie Reese. Upending myths and misinformation that have been promulgated by leaders and media, it asks readers to reconsider the origin story of the U.S. taught to every U.S. school child.

In 2020, our nation will approach the 400th anniversary of the much-mythologized encounter at Plymouth between colonists and those native to the land, and our own General Assembly 2020, in Providence, RI, will speak to the truths that contradict the mythology. At the same time, movements in response to global and local environmental emergencies, many involving UUs, are increasingly recognizing the connection between Indigenous rights and climate justice. This Common Read invites UU congregations, communities, and individuals to learn the story of trauma and resilience that is the Indigenous Peoples' History of the U.S.

If you are not familiar at all with this history, we suggest that you read the version for young people. Our discussion group this winter will work with either reader.



*OWL 8-9 begins this month!*

*Parent Orientation January 19*

*Classes begin January 26*



## On-Going Adult RE Programs

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### **Spiritual Aging**

*Meets first Sundays, 3-5 PM*

Join Rev. Pam for a workshop that intentionally explores the process of aging. While aging can provide us with free time and the ability to focus on what is important, it can also present us with challenges and losses. Perfect for those who consider themselves spiritual but not religious and are looking to delve deeper into these real human challenges.



### **Sunday Circle**

*Meets first and third Sundays, 8:30-9:30 AM*

**January 5:** Carl Hansen discusses a low tech approach to an environmental problem using birds as a model.

**January 19:** Carol Davis discusses Sustainability in Blacksburg.

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### **Anti-Racism Discussion Groups**

*Meets second and fourth Sundays, 8:30-9:30 AM*

All are welcome to join our ongoing discussion group on white privilege and racism. Topics are announced via email. Email [administrator@uucnrv.org](mailto:administrator@uucnrv.org) to join the listserv to receive links to the discussion articles.

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### **Meditation Group**

*Meets Tuesdays, 5-6 PM*

Our meditation group meets weekly for those interested in starting or deepening their meditation practice. Our format is drop-in, so you need not attend all sessions. Open with centering words and basic instruction, followed by sitting practice. Meditators from all traditions and all levels of experience are welcome.



### **Conversations on Our Faith**

*Meets Wednesdays, 12-1 PM*

Bring a brown bag lunch and join our conversation as we read the book, *The Knowledge Illusion: Why We Never Think Alone*, by Steven Sloman and Philip Fernbach. All are welcome, even if you have not read the chapters of the book under discussion. To learn more, contact [Tim Pickering](#).

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# UUC Community News

## Update on ½-Plate Donations

Thanks to your generosity, UUC continued its practice of helping others in both our community and beyond. The December recipients were:

**December 1:** To Our House, \$402

**December 8:** Women's Resource Center, \$414

**December 15:** Giles Co. Emergency Assistance Program, \$293

**December 22:** United Way Holiday Hunger Assistance Program, \$211

**December 29:** TBA

Watch the weekly announcements and website for the coming weeks' ½-plate recipients. Have a suggestion—fill out the form in Elarth Hall and place in the lantern or email [Lisa](#).

### President's message, continued from page 2:

provide retirement benefits to **all** employees working at least 1000 hours per year. This applies to both our Administrator (Lisa) and Director of Lifespan Faith Development (Karen). The exact details of what the IRS and UUA retirement plan (through TIAA) ultimately requires in order to fully compensate them for lost retirement payments and earnings are still being determined. This will likely require legal advice and thorough review of UUA policy and IRS laws. It is of utmost importance that we do what is right for our valued employees. We have already taken the step of making sure both Lisa and Karen are enrolled in the UUA retirement program going forward, at the required contribution level (10% of salary on a monthly basis) and will include this obligation in all future budgets. Once it's determined what is owed in back compensation, we'll hatch a plan for how to pay for it.

We wish to express our appreciation for the patience and understanding of both Lisa and Karen as we work to resolve this error. We also want to be careful not to lay blame on anyone, especially since this has happened in other UU congregations. For now, it's far more important that we fix it. We will keep you informed as to the specifics of the obligation and the solution for financing it.

## December Board Mtg. Highlights

- ◆ Rev. Pam and Steve reported on the recent meeting of UUC past-presidents where our past, present, and future were discussed.
- ◆ The Board approved Kim Feucht, Stephen Henninger, Jim Kern, Frank Napolitano, Amy Pruden-Bagchi, and Polly Stimson to serve on the Steering Committee for Strategic Planning. They will be given their charge in January.
- ◆ The Board has begun review and revisions of our Policy Manual.
- ◆ The Board determined that there is a need for a policy on the process for congregational endorsement of an outside group. Pam will research policies of other congregations.
- ◆ Recently the Board discovered that UUC has not been participating in the UUA-mandated TIAA-CREF retirement plan for staff working over 1000hours/year (Administrator and DLFDD). The Board will work to rectify this and voted to immediately enroll both eligible staff members in the plan and to allocate the funds for 2019 (10% of salary). The Board will consider ways to come up with the funds that should have been contributed for past years going back to 2011 (see President's message for more detail).

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, **January 9** at 7 PM. The [minutes and reports](#) of meetings for the past two calendar years are available.

### Questions, Ideas, Complaints for the Board:

Simply send an email to [addresstheBoard@uucnr.org](mailto:addresstheBoard@uucnr.org).

## This Day in UU History

You can now go to our website's [homepage](#) and click on the link for "This Day in UU History" on the lower left of the page to learn some interesting facts about UUism. The information updates daily.



## Round the Grounds

There is "quiet on the UUC grounds front" – well, almost. Gardens have been put to rest, the remaining mulch pile is frozen, and lawn mowers winterized (thanks to Joe Powers). An ongoing winter project is to remove brush and trees from the retention pond located next to the playground. The retention pond accepts storm water from the parking lots and is required by law to be kept clear. The major player in this task is Connor Hicks – see photo. He's strong and bravely attacks the thorny brambles! Want to help? Contact [Susan](#) or [George](#).



## Habitat for Humanity Help Needed



UUC hopes to provide a team of at least 10 to help build a Habitat Townhouse in Blacksburg on Saturday, **March 21** from 8:30 AM-4:30 PM. If interested in volunteering for this community effort (no skills needed), contact [Alison Armstrong](#) or [Pauletta Copenheaver](#) ASAP. If you can only do the AM or PM, that is OK, too! Just let them know. (If interested in volunteering as an individual on a different date, they can send you additional information as well.)

Habitat strives to "Give a Hand Up not a Hand Out." They do this by working with families who have a housing need, have an ability to pay (their new affordable home mortgage), and are willing to help build their own home. They also work with community partners (individuals and companies) to raise the initial funds to build, to organize volunteers, and to build the home.

## Ask for Help

Every person has times of difficulty. Our feelings of aloneness or loss signal the need for another person to listen. In seeking help, we find the needed encouragement and support. In seeking help, we also make a gift of openness. By bravely asking for help, you begin a connection. And connections build our compassionate community. So reach out, and **Ask for Help** by contacting [Jane Mahone](#) or [Jennifer Mercier](#) of our Lay Pastoral Care Ministry to hear various options.

## Monthly Support Groups at UUC

### Parent Bereavement

We are a community-wide support group for bereaved parents and grandparents who have lost an adult or adolescent child. We come together once a month on 2nd Mondays from 6-7 PM to help one another on our journeys. The next meeting is on Monday, **January 13**. For more info, contact [Katherine](#) or [Lisa](#).

### Caregivers

UUC hosts a monthly support group for caregivers to share their experiences and challenges. The group meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month from 7-8:30 PM—next meeting **January 14**. Questions or concerns - contact either [Rev. Pam](#) or [Dan Kominsky](#).

### Transgender

[NRV Trans\\* Support](#) is a peer-led organization whose mission is to offer support, resources, and social activities to all transgender and gender non-conforming individuals in the NRV in a safe, anonymous and affirming environment. Contact [Hayden](#) for more info and meeting locations.

The **Adult Group** meets on **January 9 & 23** at 7 PM and welcomes all adults who identify under the trans umbrella or are questioning their gender.

The **Youth & Families Group** meets on **January 28** at 7 PM and is for anyone under 18 that falls under the trans umbrella, whether they have started their transition or are just questioning their gender. Parents are welcome with or without their children.

## 2 NAMI Mental Health Groups

All are welcome on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6 PM to attend the support group for those with a mental illness. Next meeting on **January 20**. A second support group for friends and family of those with a mental illness meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6 PM. Next meeting on **January 15**. Contact [Margo](#) for more information.



## Unitarian Universalist Congregation Sunday Services January 2020

Services at 10:00 AM in the Meeting Hall  
Religious Education Classes and Nursery Care  
All are invited to share coffee & conversation following the service.

### Worship Theme for January: INTEGRITY

**January 5: *Engaging Our Values***, Rev. Pam Philips and Worship Associate Jim Kern. If living with integrity means living out our values, it helps to know what we value. We'll begin our exploration of what it means to be a people of integrity by exploring our values as individuals and as a spiritual community.

**January 12: *Uncovering Integrity***, Rev. Pam Philips and Worship Associate David Lally. Accepting and being our "whole" selves can be a challenge, requiring us to reveal parts of ourselves to ourselves and to others. How can we live into our whole selves?

All are invited to our monthly potluck following the service (see below).

**January 19: *Courage of Our Convictions***, Rev. Pam Philips and Worship Associate Kimberley Homer. Brené Brown says, "Integrity is choosing courage over comfort." What can we learn from those who have chosen to be courageous?

**January 26: *All of Me: Embracing the Whole***, Victoria Taylor and Worship Associate Stephen Henninger. With some help from the Taoist tradition, Victoria and Stephen will reflect on "including it all".



### Second-Sunday Potluck

Everyone is invited to enjoy lunch together following the service on **January 12**. This month, if your last name begins with **Mat-Mop**, bring a beverage; **A-Lam** bring a main dish; **Lan-Mas and Mor-Z** bring a side dish or dessert. Don't forget your list of the ingredients in your dish to assist those with food allergies. Please be sure to bring a **LARGE DISH** as there are many mouths to feed and to be considerate of those at the end of the line that are also hungry.

As always, bring your non-perishable food donations for the [Interfaith Food Pantry](#). **This month we request that everyone bring 1 lb. bags of dried beans and/or rice.** The donation basket is in the lobby just outside the Sanctuary.

### Service and Event Cancellation

In the event of snow or ice resulting in our canceling a Sunday service, a message will be sent to all those on our announcement listserv by 8:30 AM. You can also check for a message on our [website](#), on our [Facebook page](#), or go to [wsls.com](#) and look under the list of church closings. This should also run across the top of your TV screen on WSLs Channel 10.

The same procedure would be used to cancel an event other than a service.



# Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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P.O. Box 10116, Bburg 24062-0116 URL: [uucnr.org](http://uucnr.org)

# CALENDAR: January 2020

## Staff Office Hours:

**Minister:** 9-1 Tu - Th; Contact for appointment

**Administrator:** Mondays & Fridays 1- 4

**DLFD:** On sabbatical leave through June 2020

All times are PM unless noted otherwise

⌘ indicates that there is a write-up in the newsletter

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>(All Sundays)</b> ⌘ 10:00 AM Worship Service & Children's RE ⌘ 6:00 YRUU	<b>(All Mondays)</b> 7:00 AM Women's Breakfast & Men's Breakfast at <i>Panera Bread</i> (Bburg)	<b>(All Tuesdays)</b> ⌘ 7:00 Meditation	<b>(All Wednesdays except January 1)</b> ⌘ Noon Conversations on Our Faith 5:30 Yoga Choir rehearsals: 6:15 Chalice 7:00 Adult			
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> ⌘ 11:30 Women's Lunch <i>Lefty's</i> (Bburg)	<b>4</b> ⌘ Hosting To Our House
<b>5</b> ⌘ Hosting To Our House ⌘ 8:30 AM Sunday Circle 11:30 Men's Group ⌘ 3:00 Spiritual Aging	<b>6</b> ⌘ Hosting To Our House	<b>7</b> ⌘ Hosting To Our House 2:00 Sages	<b>8</b> ⌘ Hosting To Our House 5:45 Finance Committee 6:00 Connection Committee 7:00 Worship Team	<b>9</b> ⌘ Hosting To Our House ⌘ 7:00 Board meeting ⌘ 7:00 Transgender Support Group	<b>10</b> ⌘ Hosting To Our House ⌘ 6:30 EarthSpirit Sisters: Full-Moon Ritual (offsite)	<b>11</b> ⌘ Hosting To Our House 8:30 AM Spring RE Teacher Training
<b>12</b> ⌘ 8:30 AM Anti-Racism discussion group ⌘ 11:15 Second-Sunday potluck 11:30 Stewardship committee ⌘ 4:00 Online Launch of "UU the Vote"! Congregational Watch Party ⌘ 6:00 Social Justice movie: <i>Armor of Light</i>	<b>13</b> ⌘ 6:00 Parent Bereavement Support Group ⌘ 7:00 Money Empowerment Workshop	<b>14</b> 4:00 Committee on Ministries ⌘ 7:00 Caregivers' Support Group	<b>15</b> 4:00 Lay Pastoral Care Ministries meeting ⌘ 6:00 NAMI Family and Friends Support group	<b>16</b> 5:30 Leadership Development Meeting	<b>17</b> 11:30 Women's Lunch group <i>Tie-Dyed Pig</i> (Radford) 6:30 Middle-School Youth Group (offsite)	<b>18</b> 5:00 Parents' Covenant Group
<b>19</b> ⌘ 8:30 AM Sunday Circle 11:30 Men's Group 11:30 OWL Parent Orientation 5:00 YAC	<b>20</b> ⌘ 6:00 National Alliance on Mental Illness Connections Support Group	<b>21</b> 2:00 Sages 5:30 Environmental Justice Team	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> ⌘ 7:00 Transgender Support Group 9:00 February Newsletter Deadline	<b>24</b> ⌘ 7:00 50+ Singles Group Game Night	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> ⌘ 8:30 AM Anti-Racism discussion group ⌘ 11:30 LDC: Enabling Transformation: <i>Inspire and Create Community</i>	<b>27</b> ⌘ 7:00 Money Empowerment Workshop	<b>28</b> 1:30 Creative Writers' Group ⌘ 7:00 Trans Support Group for Youth and Family	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	