



The Chalice and the Flame

Diverse people. Diverse beliefs. One community.

A Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem, OR

March 2018

Congratulations to Rev. Rick for 25 Years on Celebration Sunday

During fellowship hour on February 25, we celebrated 25 years of having Rev. Rick as our minister. A number of "old timers" spoke, and Rick received a special new stole and a cash donation from the congregation.

We also enjoyed a bountiful potluck with appetizers and mimosas to celebrate the kick-off of our annual pledge drive. Many thanks to the organizers for this wonderful opportunity to celebrate our fellowship, and our support of our religious community.

UUCS Pledge Drive Ends March 11

The theme of this year's pledge drive is "We can have a dream, too." Why dreams? Because dreams can lead to actions that make a better future for us and for our world. "We" is all of us—congregation, staff, ordained ministers. Like star athletes, we have to visualize success, dream it, before we can realize it. You can watch the videos where the staff and ministers shared their dreams for UUCS [on the UUCS website](#) or in the Fellowship Hall.

Submit your pledge by filling out the 2018-19 Estimate of Giving form or by using the [online form](#).



Annual Canned Food Drive for Easter

RE children and youth are collecting canned food during March for the annual Easter "egg" hunt. The cans are hidden and then found on Easter. The food is donated later to Marion Polk Food Share. Children exchange their food items for filled Easter Eggs to take home after they have participated in this social justice activity to benefit people in need in our community.

Please put your donations in the box marked RE Canned Food Drive.

WOU Early Music Ensemble March 11

On Sunday, March 11 from 3:00 – 5:00 pm at UUCS, the WOU Early Music Ensemble will present Laudate Dominum, a program of early baroque music. They will perform seventeenth-century sacred and secular vocal music by Monteverdi, Schütz, and Gibbons, as well as instrumental music by Frescobaldi, Scheidt, and Thomkins. The concert will feature our own Aimée Larsen-Amend. A \$10 donation to benefit music programs is suggested. You can find [more information on the UUCS website](#).

Women's Alliance Meets March 13

Come to the Women's Alliance meeting on March 13 at 7:00 pm to hear Ruth Larson and Sharon Pierson share pictures and stories from recent (separate) trips to Cuba. The Women's Alliance (a traditional name for UU women's groups) usually meets on second Tuesdays from September through May, generally to hear a speaker, have refreshments and a social time, and hold a business meeting. UU members and friends are always welcome at meetings. Last month's speaker was George Piter, who lay prone on the floor while explaining and demonstrating the defibrillator which is always available in the foyer! The Alliance has undertaken a number of projects for UUCS, many of them funded by the annual Holiday Bazaar.

St. Patrick's Day Fellowship Dinner March 17

The Annual St. Patrick's Day Fellowship Dinner is back! It will be held on Saturday, March 17 in the Fellowship Hall starting at 6:00 pm. Joel Martin will be creating a delicious meal of corned beef, (with a vegan option of rice and lentils), colcannon, Irish soda bread, and bread pudding. Buy your tickets during fellowship hour! Adult tickets are \$15 and tickets for children 12 years or younger are \$12. Proceeds from the dinner, organized by the Fellowship Committee, will go to the RE program. Contact Michael Pollard at mpollard608@aol.com with any questions.



Reverential Ramblings

~ Rev. Richard Davis, UUCS's minister

Lately I've noticed that the American flags around town are just about as likely to be flying half-mast as full-mast. More than once the sad thought has crossed my mind that American society is approaching a time when the flags will just need to stay at half-mast to honor the many victims of the many ongoing mass shootings.

Mass shootings get most of the press, but every day more people are individually killed by guns than at the most horrendous mass shootings: almost one hundred people are killed daily by gunfire (including an average of 7 children) and twice that number are wounded. No other developed nation in the world has anywhere near the level of gun violence that we do.

Not only is it sad to know the reason flags are flying half mast, there is a haunting hollowness in this gesture, as there is in the widespread declaration among politicians (especially, it seems, those who oppose sensible gun control measures) that their prayers go out to those who are killed and their loved ones. It's one thing for political leaders to pray for victims of unavoidable tragedies and another to do so for those whose death is a direct consequence of their legislative paralysis and inaction.

All the evidence points to one indisputable fact (for those who care to consider the facts): the reason we have so much gun violence in our society is because there are too many guns – including assault weapons – and they are too easy for just about anyone to obtain.

I should be careful about casting aspersions on others, however, because I am guilty as well – guilty of not doing much (beyond signing the occasional petition) to rectify the brutal, tragic, status quo of obscene levels of gun violence in American society. Rather I have often lapsed into a bitter, fatalistic resignation and ruminations: (“The NRA rules this country. The Gun-damenatlists are in control. Things will never change in my life time.”)

However, after the latest mass shooting (at least the latest as of this afternoon when I am writing this on March 2 – there may be another one before you read this column, alas) and the heartening emergence of activist students demanding effective gun control measures that will make their classrooms safer, I am chastened and reminded to bring my best spiritual self into this struggle.

This I know: arming teachers will not make things safer. Too often overlooked in the debates about gun control is the well documented phenomena called “the weapons effect.” There is a notable link between the mere presence of weapons and aggression – merely seeing a weapon can make people more aggressive. This is but one reason that the absurd proposal to arm teachers is morally bankrupt and would not only prove ineffective but would likely result in yet more violence.

These brave, committed students rising up and demanding safety from gun violence in their classrooms has rekindled my commitment to end gun violence. These young folks aren't giving up, so neither can I. Things can change for the better. It may take longer than we hope, but we cannot give up hope.

Love,
Rick



Lifespan Religious Exploration

~ Christi J. Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

WELCOME TO MARCH! The **Soul Matters Theme we'll explore together is BALANCE.** On March 4, our Wisdom of Wondering children shared their thoughts on balancing grief with joy by celebrating their love of their pets and our roosters. They created tags and placed them on the tree outside of the RE door! Stop and check them out when you get a chance. Feel free to add your pets' names to the tree as well and celebrate their lives!

Life seems to not hesitate to bring us opportunities to work on the balance of finding the good with the bad (unpleasant, unfortunate, etc.) circumstances we all face at different times in our lives and in differing degrees. In our RE program, we talk a lot about taking time to think about things to be grateful for in times of adversity, and we end our time together with a gratitude circle. In times when that balance is needed, it sure is nice to already have a spiritual practice or ritual that meets your needs to help you through. We hope to explore and offer more opportunities for this exploration for all ages.

We have a great opportunity to balance out a day of work with an evening of fun. On **March 17, the fellowship team is offering a St. Patrick's Day dinner that includes families!** The meal has non-meat options available. Proceeds from this event will go towards our RE program! Thank you to all that participate and to those that are providing the service for this event. Looking forward to this evening!

In March, we'll hold our canned food drive that will provide extra food donations to Marion Polk Food Share. On **Easter (April 1), youth will hide the canned food donations** in Bateman Woods behind the sanctuary. Children will hunt for the cans and trade what they find for filled Easter Eggs to take home. Please help RE collect needed canned food and spread the word to your friends about the opportunity for children to hunt for canned food for people in need. **This is our third annual food collection "egg" hunt!**

Please put your donations in the box marked RE Canned Food Drive.

March also brings us spring break – so we will **not have RE classes on March 25 or April 1?? this is implied, which maybe is sufficient].** We will look forward to our Easter Sunday with you all.

I would like to lift up an opportunity for your children kindergarten-fifth grade to attend a UU Summer Day Camp that celebrates World Religions and Unitarian Universalism with a variety of activities. We will have opportunities for 6th – 12th graders to be paid camp counselors. The **UU camp will be offered June 25 – 29 from 10:15 am – 1:30 pm for \$150 for the week.** (Scholarships available.) Please keep those days free for this great opportunity! We will offer before and after camp care, extending the day as needed from 8:30 am – 5:30 pm for an additional hourly charge (to be decided) with a variety of activities to increase their sense of wonder and awe! We hope to also encourage children outside our RE program to attend! We must have a minimum of 8 children enrolled to make this camp a possibility. A parent meeting with more information about the camp will be held April 15 after second service (12:45 pm)! Come see what it will be about!!

I hope that you find ways to find balance in your life this month of celebrating our Soul Matters theme together.

In faith and until next time, Christi

Christi J Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

Words from Our Intern Minister



It's spring! Or almost spring. Despite being the shortest month, February often feels long as we wait for the turning of the seasons toward March and the first new leaves and flowers. We have such a gloriously long spring in Oregon, and by the time March begins each year I can't wait to dive in. I hope you are taking time to be aware of spring's movements in the world and within you.

This past month I traveled to Nepal and spent a fabulous four days with Unitarians and Unitarian Universalists from many countries and cultures. We talked about the heart of our faith: the heart we share, and the different hearts we find in each place and in each individual. It was a privilege and a joy to hear the different expressions and different histories. I am always amazed and awed all over again each time I hear the stories of how Unitarianism, Universalism, and Unitarian Universalism spread: not through missionaries persuading people that our faith is the best one, but through the hearts and minds of individual seekers who arrive at a faith that embraces questions, calls us to be a force of love wherever we go, and reminds us that our lives are for service to each other and the healing of the world. And then, having independently arrived at this faith as individuals or groups, in many times and places, the stories then include the moments when we realize that we are not alone. We are part of a global community of people who share this faith. Pausing to simply be aware of that fact is immensely worthwhile. Our faith, like spring, keeps arising, growing and changing. What a gift.

On Saturday May 26 at 2pm, I will be ordained jointly by the UU Congregation of Salem and the UU Fellowship of Corvallis here at UUCS. I'm delighted and humbled to be taking my place in the ordained ministry of our faith. I hope I'll see you there. And if you can offer home hospitality to an out-of-town guest that weekend (meaning that you have a guest room to share and can provide breakfast), please let me know – monica@uusalem.org.

Warmly,
Monica

Happenings and Highlights

Meditation and Discernment Workshop March 17

Spend a Saturday on *Meditation & Discernment: Twin Arts for the Mindful Navigation of Life* with Rev. David Scheuneman, UU Spiritual Director, on Saturday, March 17, from 9:30 am - 3:30 pm. The workshop will be hosted by Rev. Rick Davis. [More information](#) is available on our website.

Turning of the Wheel Ritual March 20

Please join the Salem Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans, March 20, for a potluck and ritual celebrating the Turning of the Wheel. The ritual marks the halfway point between the Winter Solstice and the Summer Solstice. The potluck starts at 6:30 pm and the ritual at 7:00 pm in the RE Commons. Children are welcome with direct parental supervision. The ritual will be led by Angela Gross.

Register Now for Women's Retreat April 6-8!

The annual Women's Retreat is scheduled for April 6-8 at the Oregon 4-H Center. Registration is now open. The cost is \$130 for two nights lodging (\$145 for a private room) or \$60 for Saturday-only, no lodging. Meals and activities are included. Don't let the cost stop you from attending. Full and partial scholarships are available. Registration forms are at the Welcome Table during Fellowship Hour as well as [online](#). If you have questions, contact Danna Parmley or Stephanie Jernstedt by emailing retreat@uusalem.org.

Cordon Road Cleanup April 7

Please come help with the Cordon Road Cleanup effort on Saturday, April 7th, from 9 am to 11 am. Twice a year, our members pick up litter along the segment of Cordon Road near our property, in return for having our name on the Adopt-a-Road sign - a great way of increasing our visibility in the community. We need at least 7 volunteers to participate in this worthy endeavor.

Meet at the UUCS parking lot at 9 am on April 7. Safety vests and garbage bags will be provided. First-time adult volunteers must sign a waiver. Children under 18 must have a waiver of liability and indemnification form signed by their parent or guardian. Children 10 and 11 may participate if accompanied by a parent or guardian. Sign up at the Social Justice Table in the Fellowship Hall, or contact Michael Pollard at mpollard608@aol.com.

In-Depth Mediation Training in April

Neighbor 2 Neighbor Mediation (N2N) will provide 36 hours of Mediation training on April 6-7 and 13-15 at the Albany Mennonite Church (3405 Kizer Ave NE, Albany OR). The cost of this training is \$595 or \$295 for volunteers (includes Practicum with 1-year commitment). Scholarships are available, but limited for each training. For more information and to register, visit [the N2N site](#) or call 503-585-0651.

Regional Assembly is for the Whole Family!

The Pacific Western [Regional Assembly in Portland](#) (April 27-29) has something for people of every age. In addition to the main programs for adults, there will be a [UU Kids Camp for ages 5-14](#), a [Youth Assembly for ages 14-18](#), and [high-quality childcare for infants to age 4](#). Families can spend time together, too, sharing the experiences of the opening ceremony, the Sunday morning worship, mealtimes, and more. Because of our UU commitment to including children and youth, the PWR is covering much of the cost of the programs for young people. The registration fee is just a portion of what it costs for these engaging, inclusive, and faith-building programs.

The Pacific Western Regional Assembly promises to be an experience that deepens UU identity and fosters hope and resilience in people of all ages. [Register now and join us](#) in Portland this spring!

News of the Community

Lennie Martin Book Presentation March 23



On March 23 from 7:00 -8:00 pm at The Book Bin in downtown Salem, Lennie Martin will have a presentation on "Discovery of the Mayan Red Queen's Tomb: An Archeological Puzzle" with a reading from her just published book "The Mayan Red Queen: Tz'aakb'u Ahau of Palenque." When the Red Queen's tomb was discovered in 1994, it rocked the archeological world. It was the second richest burial yet found, and the first interment of a royal woman. Following the presentation, there will be discussion, Q&A, and book signings. Join Lennie for this fun event. You might even get a taste of some Mayan chocolate!

Social Justice News

A film to see! March 27

Gene Sharp's *How to Start a Revolution* will be presented on March 27 at 7 pm in the Anderson Room of the Salem Public Library. The film explains how nonviolence pioneer Gene Sharp's work has been used by activists all over the world to peacefully effect huge social and political changes. It is now well-documented that nonviolence is twice as effective and twice as long-lasting as violence as a tool for change. See how and why.

Admission is free, but donations will be accepted. The Library is located at 585 Liberty St SE. This film is presented by Oregon Peace Works and the Salem Progressive Film Series.

March for Our Lives at the Salem State Capitol March 24

Join others from UUCS on March 24 from 8:00 am – noon for the March For Our Lives. The march will take place at the Oregon State Capitol. This march is created by, inspired by, and led by students across the country who will no longer risk their lives waiting for someone else to take action to stop the epidemic of mass school shootings. In the wake of the seventeen lives brutally cut short in Florida, politicians are telling us that now is not the time to talk about guns. March For Our Lives believes the time *is* now.

Community Homeless Connect: Volunteer Training March 26

See article under Help Wanted.



Celebration Sunday: Service, pledges, mimosas and Lots of food!



Help Needed and Appreciated!

Thanks For the Lovely Day!

Dear UUCS Members,

Thank you so much for your support of and participation in my ordination. What a lovely day! My family commented on how welcome you made them feel and how hard you worked on that day. My heartfelt gratitude to you all for your part in supporting me and my ministry.

In gratitude,
Rev. Mary Mangione Gear

Thanks to our Kairos Volunteers

On March 4, 56 community members in need were fed a sack lunch with many treats tucked in with help from the mighty UUCS volunteer team. Many thanks to Joan Erickson, Gayle Gilmour, Loraine Stuart, John Sorenson, Caroline Bridges, her grandson Cameron and his friend, and Michael and Patrice Pollard. The Kairos program is undergoing changes, but hopefully will soon be back to serving a sit down meal in the coming months. Our next service date is June 10. Watch for sign ups at the Social Justice Table. If you have any questions, call Mary Beth Hustoles at [503-587-7949](tel:503-587-7949).

Our Indoor Plants are SO Happy!

All of our indoor plants have been adopted!! YAY for quality care. Thanks go to Claudia Koch, Sarah Rohrs, Craig Rowland, Carelyynn Patterson, Alex and Elizabeth Bauman for adopting our indoor plants! Overwatering is the #1 cause of plant death. Please do not be tempted to water, prune or otherwise maintain the indoor plants. They are on a schedule and are being loved!! ~ Angela Gross, UUCS Landscape Team Chair

Gratitude to Some Hardy Souls

Thank you to Tom Ellis who braved a very wet, blustery day to come to the Garden Cleanup Day February 17. Thank you also to Sara Shatto, Benjahmin Boschee, Craig Roland, Dixie Torsak, and Elsa Struble for coming to the very impromptu Garden Day February 24. We "combed" the strawberry patch, transplanted a blueberry and found new baby blueberry plants! We cleared the trails in the woods for safe walking. Deep appreciation for all the work done on those two days!!

~Angela Gross, UUCS Landscape Team Chair

Community Homeless Connect: Volunteer Training March 26

Community Homeless Connect is a one-day resource and health fair connecting homeless and those at-risk of homelessness with much needed services and resources. We need some help. If you would like to volunteer please attend an orientation on Monday, March 26 from 5:30 -7:00 pm at Salem First Baptist Church. This event is being put on by Marion County Community Homeless Connect. For more information contact:

arlenejanssens@gmail.com.

Sunday Service Hosts Needed!

The Membership Team is looking for Sunday hosts to fill some vacancies. If anyone is interested in being a happy smiling face on Sunday mornings to welcome people please contact Brenna Norval at brennanorval@gmail.com. This would be a once a month commitment. For more information, talk with someone from the Membership Team: Anna Tally, Michael Pollard, Cecilia Craig, Lynn Cardiff or Brenna Norval.

UUCS Landscape Team Needs Rocks

The Landscape Team is looking for retaining wall rocks, decorative rocks, and patio pavers an inch thick or more. If you have any of these supplies you would like to donate to UUCS, contact Angela Gross at uu4peace@gmail.com *before* you bring them to UUCS. Thank you.



Calendar

Membership Team Meeting

Tuesday, March 6, 6:30 pm

Titlakawan - The Flowering of the Self

Tuesday, March 6, 7:00 pm

The teachings of the Aztec Dance are tied to the Pre-Hispanic roots of ancient Mexico. It serves to connect the dancer to a universal view of the Anawak culture and the Nawatl philosophy: a worldview of nature. The Aztec dance depends on understanding nature and draws its sustenance from it. Hence, the dance does not depend on the Western pedagogical approach but depends on the physical activity, with heavy symbolism in each dance and its specific steps. Aztec dance awakens and develops various human faculties which are essential across society but which the current educational system fails to implement in a conscious and permanent manner. The group meets on Tuesdays from 7 pm to 9 pm. All are welcome to attend.

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation

Wednesday, March 7, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm

A welcoming place for meditation practice. Session I is for experienced meditation practitioners. Session II provides attendees with basic instruction, and explanation. The last hour, 8:00 – 9:00 pm, is for discussion, compassion, about how to use meditation as a spiritual practice.

Board Meeting

Thursday, March 8, 6:00 pm

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 8, 6:30 pm

Refuge Recovery

Friday, March 9, 7:00 pm

UUCS' Addiction Recovery Ministry and Support program is glad to sponsor the Refuge Recovery group meeting every Friday from 7 to 8 pm at UUCS. The mission of this national non-profit organization is to build an extensive and comprehensive network of groups, meetings, and communities that practice and promulgate Buddhist teachings and meditations for anyone seeking recovery from addiction. Drawing inspiration from the core teachings of the Four Noble Truths, emphasis is placed on both knowledge and empathy as means for overcoming addiction and its causes. Those struggling with any form of addiction greatly benefit when they understand the suffering that addiction has created while developing compassion for the pain they have experienced.

Compassionate Connections

Sunday, March 11, 10:30 am & 12:15 pm

Life Lines Lay Ministers and sympathetic members of the congregation meet with those who want to share their life challenges with a small group

and receive 'hands on' comforting. While the circle is not comprised solely of Life Lines Lay Ministers and therefore matters spoken of there should not be assumed to be held in confidence, many derive solace from sharing and connecting with a small group.

Soul Matters Discussion Group - All are Welcome!

Sunday, March 11, 12:45 pm

If your schedule did not allow a commitment to an ongoing monthly covenant group or you are new to our congregation and missed the sign-up period, plan to join our Drop-in group on second Sundays to discuss the Soul Matters theme for the month. You are welcome to attend every meeting or just come when you can! This is an opportunity to extend the second Sunday Soul Matters sermon topic into a small group discussion.

WOU Early Music Ensemble Concert

Sunday, March 11, 3:00 pm

(See article.)

Social Justice in Action Team meeting

Monday, March 12, 6:00 pm

Regular monthly meeting.

Salem Covenant of UU Pagans Meeting

Monday, March 12, 6:30 pm

Monthly business meeting for the executive team of Salem Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans, discussing items that are relevant to the spiritual and business needs of the group, planning for events, and addressing and supporting the greater pagan community at UUCS. The meeting is open to anyone to attend.

Women's Alliance Meeting

Tuesday, March 13, 7:00 pm

Monthly program and meeting

(See article.)

Silent Book Club

Tuesday, March 13, 7:00 pm

There is no assigned reading for this book club. Bring whatever you are already reading! We'll spend a few minutes introducing ourselves and what we are reading, then will spend an hour reading in silence. There will be time for fellowship following.

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation

Wednesday, March 14, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm

(See March 7)

Long Term/Strategic Planning Team Meeting

Wednesday, March 14, 7:00 pm

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 15, 6:30 pm

Journey to Belonging

Thursday, March 15, 6:30 pm

A 3 month covenant group to explore our spiritual journeys.

Dances of Universal Peace

Thursday, March 15, 7:00 pm

Simple, easy-to-learn movements and songs honoring spiritual traditions from around the world. The dances bring together sacred phrases from the world's religious traditions in heart-awakening circle dances dedicated to peace within and without.

Finance Team Meeting

Friday, March 16, 10:00 am

Refuge Recovery

Friday, March 16, 7:00 pm

(See March 9)

Meditation Retreat

Saturday, March 17, 10:00 am

(See article.)

St Patrick's Day Dinner

Saturday, March 17, 6:00 pm

(See article.)

YRUU Faith Exploration

Sunday, March 18, 11:00 am

Every third Sunday, our YRUU (Young Religious UU's/8th-12th grades) group will travel to a different faith service as part of their learning about diversity and exploring their own faith development. Locations and times will be announced when confirmed.

RE Team Meeting

Sunday, March 18, 1:00 pm

Worship Team meeting

Monday, March 19, 6:00 pm

Monthly Meeting to plan & discuss Sunday Services

Committee on the Ministry Meeting

Tuesday, March 20, 3:30 pm

Safer Congregation Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 20, 6:00 pm

Spring Equinox Ritual & Potluck

Tuesday, March 20, 6:30 pm

(See article.)

Titlakawan - The Flowering of the Self

Tuesday, March 20, 7:00 pm

(See March 6)

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation

Wednesday, March 21, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm

(See March 7)

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 22, 6:30 pm

Team Council

Friday, March 23, 4:00 pm

Refuge Recovery

Friday, March 23, 7:00 pm

(See March 9)

Communications Team Meeting

Monday, March 26, 4:00 pm

Join the communications team for discussion of progress on our UUCS newsletter, website, Facebook, publicity and video projects. Newcomers or visitors welcome.

Titlakawan - The Flowering of the Self

Tuesday, March 27, 7:00 pm

(See March 6)

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation

Wednesday, March 28, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm

(See March 7)

Refuge Recovery

Friday, March 30, 7:00 pm

(See March 9)

Newsletter Deadline

Friday, March 30, 8:00 pm

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 1

Religious Exploration - All Ages Yoga!

Sunday, April 1, 9:30 am



Rick sporting the stole the congregation gave him for his 25th anniversary.

Worship Services and Religious Exploration

March Share the Plate Recipient: [Partner Church in Simenfalva, Romania](#)

Service Times: 9:30 am and 11:15 am

Sunday, March 11

The Rev. Richard R. Davis

"Life: The High Wire Act"

Daylight Savings Begins

Celebrant: Sara Pickett; Anchor: Janet Stevens

First Service Music: Sara Greenleaf; Second Service Music: UUCS Choir

Life is often like a high wire act. What knocks you off balance? What might help you regain it?

RE Information: On this month's Soul Matters Sunday, all ages will share in the worship service to better our understanding of the theme of balance. Coloring and activity tables will be available in the sanctuary for exploration during the service.

Sunday, March 18

Monica Jacobson-Tennessee

"The Heart of Unitarian Universalism"

Celebrant: Lennie Martin; Anchor: Laura Christian

First Service Music: Sara Greenleaf;

Second Service Music: Kurleen Nowickas, performing African-American Spirituals

In February Monica traveled to Nepal to be part of the 2018 International Council of Unitarians and Universalists' conference with UUs from 15+ countries. The topic of the conference was "The Heart of Unitarianism and Unitarian Universalism." What is at the heart of our faith, across many cultures?

RE Information: WOW Children will discuss the symbolism of an egg and start a special egg art project. Youth will explore the theme of balance with advisors.

Sunday, March 25

The Rev. Richard R. Davis

"The Long Journey to Freedom"

Celebrant: Janet Stevens; Anchor: Sara Pickett

First Service Music: UUCS Choir; Second Service Music: TBD

The journey toward freedom is one of the core narratives in the great religious traditions. What does it mean for you?

RE Information: Spring break. **No RE classes.**

Sunday, April 1

The Rev. Richard R. Davis

"Jesus! What a Surprise"

Celebrant: Sara Pickett; Anchor: Janet Stevens

Music Both Services: UUCS Choir

Easter Sunday is a good time to take a fresh look at Jesus. He's full of surprises.

RE Information: We'll have our third annual "Canned Food Hunt". See details on Page 3.

Unitarian Universalist Congregation Of Salem

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This issue was edited and formatted by Sharon Pierson, edited and proofed by Elsa Struble and Vicki Cunningham.

EVENT SCHEDULING: please use the [Event Scheduling Request](#) form on the UUCS website to add your event to the UUCS calendar and/or reserve a UUCS space.

PUBLICITY and ANNOUNCEMENTS: Fill out the [Publication Request](#) form on the UUCS website for any announcement, event or news item. This form is a one-stop place to put a notice in the Sunday announcements, the UUCS newsletter, the UUCS website and or Facebook.

DEADLINES:

Use the [Publication Request](#) form for all submissions.

Newsletter: The deadline for the **next** newsletter is 8:00 pm on Friday, **March 30.**

Sunday Announcements and This Week email by noon **Tuesday.**