



The Unitarian Church of Harrisburg is an inclusive, gloriously diverse, deeply connected spiritual community dedicated to the practice of radical service.

Revs. Christian and Kristin Schmidt

The Ministerial Search Committee is pleased and proud to present its candidate(s) for Senior Minister at the UCH: the Reverends Christian and Kristin Schmidt. The two are the unanimous choice of the committee; the congregation is invited to meet them during Candidating Week, May 9-17, then voting on calling them as our new Senior Minister at a Congregational Meeting on May 17. All members are strongly urged to attend this meeting



Rev. Christian Schmidt has a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from the University of Houston and a Master of Divinity degree from [Andover Newton Theological School](#). He is the 35th settled minister of the [First Parish \(Universalist\)](#) in Malden, Mass., which was founded in 1648. Rev. Kristin Schmidt has a Bachelor of Arts in Music from McDaniel College (Westminster, MD) and a Master of Divinity degree from [Wesley Theological Seminary](#). She is Director of Youth Ministry for consortium of UU youth from seven Boston-area churches and Consulting Minister for [Unity \(UU\) Church of North Easton](#), Mass. Both ministers have significant additional credentials, within the UUA (both), at Harvard Divinity School (Christian) and with UU Christian Fellowship (Kristin). A professional portfolio appears on the [website](#) they have prepared to introduce themselves to the UCH. In terms of personal [beliefs](#), Kristin considers herself a Universalist and humanist; Christian is deeply influenced by the teachings of Jesus, Tao Te Ching, and other world religions.

The Schmidts have lived in Massachusetts for the past four years and have two sons, CJ, age 3, and John, 4 months.

The Ministerial Search Committee has prepared a full week of activities for [Candidating Week](#). In addition to worshipping with the Revs. Schmidt, UCH members are encouraged to self-identify an opportunity to meet them in one of the 15 small-group events occurring during the week.

Candidating Week

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Unitarian Church of Harrisburg

May 2015 At-a-Glance

DATE	TIME	SPEAKER
Sun 3	10:30	"Nothing on My Tongue But Hallelujah," Rev. Eric Posa
	11:00	"Mercy - Strong Medicine for the Sick," Rev. Tom Herrold
Mon 4	6:30	Amrit Yoga
Tue 5	6:30	Women's Night Out
	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation Group
Wed 6	6:00	QueenSpirit
Thu 7	7:00	Choir Practice, both locations
Sat 9	9:00	Common Ground Café
		Clover Lane Garden Clean-Up
Sun 10	9:00	Revs. Kristin and Christian Schmidt
	11:00	Revs. Schmidt
Mon 11	6:30	Amrit Yoga
Tue 12	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation Group
Thu 14	7:00	Choir Practice, both locations
Fri 15	7:30	Clover Lane Coffee House
Sat 16	9:00	Adopt-a-Highway
Sun 17	9:00	Revs. Schmidt
	11:00	Revs. Schmidt
	12:15	Congregational Meeting
	7:00	Philosophy and Literature
Mon 18	6:30	Amrit Yoga
Tue 19	10:00	CroneSpirit
	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation Group
Wed 20	6:00	Clover Grove
Thu 21	7:00	Choir Practice, both locations
Sat 23	10:30	Movement as Spiritual Practice
Sun 24	10:30	"The First Memorial Day Mercies," Rev. Donna Renfro
	11:00	"Choose Life," Rev. Posa
Mon 25	6:30	Amrit Yoga
Tue 26	6:30	Auction planning: Show YoUUR Colors!
	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation Group
Thu	28	Choir Practice, both locations
Sat 30	9:00	Common Ground Café
	1:00	Annual Meeting
Sun 31	10:30	"Choose Life," Rev. Posa
	11:00	Coming of Age/LaGrone Ceremony

CANDIDATING WEEK - SPECIAL EVENTS ALL

Occurs at Market Street

**May Theme:
Transformation**

**Share the Plate:
The Community Check-Up
Center**

President's Message

Joint Message from Minister/President

By Rev. Eric Posa and Judy Linder



There is a great deal of excitement and anticipation in the congregation as we look forward to welcoming our candidates for senior co-ministers, the Revs. Christian and Kristin Schmidt. There is good reason to look forward

to candidating week May 9 - 17. It will be a fabulous opportunity for the congregation to get to know the candidates better and for the candidates to get to know the congregation better. We hope you will join us for worship on May 10 and May 17 and consider which events during the week you may be able to attend as well.

Unfortunately, this news comes at the same time as a growing realization among church leaders that our finances are in serious condition. The staff restructuring that we underwent last year to change the functioning of our church on Sunday morning has made a notable difference in many aspects of church life. However, it has not led to improvements in our financial situation. We have mounting expenses with no matching increase in our income.

So please know that we, the Interim Senior Minister and President, along with other church leaders, are looking seriously at restructuring our budget priorities for next year, in ways that will stay within our means, while still providing the basic services that we as a church require to carry us forward into this new time of ministry. We are also in touch with the candidates for senior co-ministers to keep them informed of

how this is developing. As soon as we have more information to share with the congregation, we gladly will do so, in the interest of transparency and informing you all of any changes that may be coming.

Two side notes:

Annual Congregational Meeting

This is at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, May 30, for presentation of the 2015-16 budget. At this time the budget is still being reviewed by Rev. Posa, the Finance Committee, and the Board of Trustees. It is important that members of the congregation participate in this opportunity to discuss and vote on the budget, so please plan to attend both congregational meetings (May 17 and May 30).

"Sweet Sorrow"

Rev. Posa's sermon for June 7 (Clover) and June 14 (Market) is entitled "Sweet Sorrow." June 14 is his final day with the UCH.

Thank you all for your support of the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg, and let us continue to look forward to a wonderful future in this church is next phase of ministry.

In faith, *Eric*

May we be well, happy, and peaceful! *Judy*

MAY TRUSTEE ASSIGNMENTS		
DATE	CLOVER LANE	MARKET ST
3	Laura Shemick	Tom Conners
10	Mary Henninger-Voss	Chris Dutton
17	Dave Forster (11:00)	Judy Linder (9:00)
24	Marilyn McHenry	Judy Linder
31	Laura Shemick	Dennis Hursh

Assistant Minister's Message

By Rev. Donna Renfro



Do you know the history of why UU congregations historically closed in the summer? Our New England forebears who could afford this had summer homes at the seashore to escape the heat of the summer. Homes and churches were of course not air-conditioned.

Our Harrisburg UU church locations are not air-conditioned, and, we will still have church services and activities for the children. I follow the emerging trend in UU churches, to have a combination of lay-led and minister-led services in June, July, and August. At Market Street, there is also a tradition of having an entire family lead a worship service. We are still working out the exact dates for each of those, and will have more information in early June.

The last worship service in May at Market Street will be for all ages, and families who attend both Clover Lane and Market Street. It will be led by the Coming of Age youth, their mentors and myself. The 'sermon' will be the youth sharing their credos, or belief statements.

Many UU congregants say this service is what made them decide to join the church, seeing these middle school youth be so articulate in their beliefs. I have devoted more time this year to this group than any other in Religious Growth and Learning this year, because this intense year long program is most often what solidifies their identity as UUs. Come be amazed and inspired by these incredible young people! .

In love, faith and hope.

Donna

Candidating Week

May is an exciting time, as we welcome our senior co-ministerial candidates, Revs. Kristin and Christian Schmidt, and get a full week to spend time hearing their thoughts and sharing our own. The schedule appears in the accompanying calendar. By now, most people will see times when they can meet the Revs. Schmidt if you are part of an organized activity. We really need help organizing the three potlucks so if you are contacted please plan to help set up and clean up.

We especially need lots of help for the all-church potluck on Sat. May 16 (please note the small time change for this event). We can only begin setting up at 5 p.m. due to a church rental, so we will need many hands to help. We need people to organize the set up and clean up. The search committee is there to facilitate and help but we need our community to do this.

Candidating week is the time for you to ask questions, get clarity and get to know the two ministers the search committee feel can help us move into our future at UCH. Please take some time to engage with our candidates and find out the information that you need to know so you can make an informed choice when voting.

This is a time when the future is being made! These times of constructive change make it easy to start worrying.... Instead, we encourage you to join the discussion and help us move forward together in a way that benefits all. Do we want to see the UCH grow and flourish? Do we want to see past difficulties diminish as we move forward as one congregation? None of us has all the answers, because we are still asking the questions. We all know there has to be some change, because nothing new can begin without it. Although speculation often runs high at times like this, I would ask that, if you have questions, please don't make assumptions. Please address them to the Search Committee and, when our candidates are here, ask them your questions. Real answers give real facts.

As senior co-ministers, remember that the Revs. Schmidt comprise only one person in terms of time. We still have two campuses and will need to figure out what roles each of the three ministers will play as we move forward. It is up to them, together with the Board, to work collaboratively to decide their roles. They are all aware of this. Please warmly welcome our candidates and take time to get to know them.

—Submitted by Linda Hope, Chair

Search Timeline

✓	UUA Ministerial Settlement Representative visits
✓	Ministerial Search Committee selected
✓	Committee meets with MSR and plans its work
✓	Search Committee holds its retreat
✓	Congregational Survey distributed and tabulated
✓	UUA Ministerial Settlement Representative visits
✓	Congregational Record Completed on UUA Transitions website
✓	Cottage Meeting results summarized
✓	Packet completed (Dec. 31)
✓	Beyond Categorical Thinking Workshop
✓	Search committee begins considering potential candidates
✓	Search Committee interviews / observes several candidates
✓	Search Committee selects one candidate
	CANDIDATING WEEK AND CONGREGATIONAL VOTE

SCHEDULE FOR CANDIDATING WEEK

	5/9 Sat.	5/10 Sun.	5/11 Mon.	5/12 Tues.	5/13 Wed.	5/14 Thurs.	5/15 Fri.	5/16 Sat.	5/17 Sun.
9	9:00 Common Ground Café	9:00 Sunday Service							9:00 Sunday Service
10							10:00 Common Ground		11:00 Sunday Service
11		11:00 Sunday Service		11:00 Staff Lunch	Pastoral care luncheon @ Karen Sykes'		Day Open for Candidate		Congregational Meeting/Vote
12									
1									
5									5:00 RGL group Priestley
6				5:30 Potluck w/Lay-led Groups Common Room	5:30 Potluck Social Action Groups	6:00 Dinner SOS Priestley			6:30 All-church potluck Common Room
7		7:30 Worship Leaders	7:00 Board of Trustees Latimer	7:30 Finance Committee (Room?)	7:30 GTS Board Latimer	7:00 CL Choir Sanctuary			
8						8:00 or 8:30 MS Choir Sanctuary			

Key: Market Clover

Search Committee	Member	Email
	Group Email	searchcom@harrisburguu.org
	Linda Hope, Chair	neesa46@gmail.com
	Nick Wilson, Co-Secretary	nicholasr72@gmail.com
	Peter Adams, Treasurer	peterjeffreyadams@gmail.com
	Karan Mallah	kmallah@msn.com
	David Spear	spear130@gmail.com
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	Kendra Trufahnestock, Co-Secretary	ktrufahnestock@gmail.com

Preparing for New Ministers



It is said you can't go home again. Well, you can, but have you ever tried? I have, with great disappointment. You remember fondly those luscious chocolate cakes your grandmother used to make, all gooey and moist. When you bring your kids years later, Grandma bakes you her chocolate cake. As you bite into it, you wonder how you ever thought it was so terrific: it's dry as dust and tastes like cardboard.

OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS, I've heard a number of people hearken back to the way some things used to be here at UCH, often with the intent of recreating that wonderful time. Interestingly, that time is often much longer ago than the people reflecting on it think it was. Some even want to return to things that were done prior to our last settled minister. That would be 16 or more years ago.

What was it actually about that time that we want to recapture? It's usually the emotional experience associated with something. The structure of it may look very different today, but what we yearn for is that shared experience.

WE ARE STANDING ON THE EDGE of new shared experiences if we will allow them to come, but we can't really find them by going back to the "good old days." The only way is to move forward into the future. Our church is not the same place or same people it was years ago.

It is great that we want to put our best foot forward for our candidates—we should want to do that. How we look our best, however, isn't by quickly rebuilding vintage structures before the candidates get here. Instead, we should impress our candidates with our openness to new ideas, our desire to understand and get to know them, our welcoming attitude, our willingness to reflect on the difficult things, and the many more good qualities we possess. We should show them we are ready to move into a new church era.

OUR MINISTERIAL CANDIDATES KNOW OUR PROBLEMS and issues—the Search Committee was very clear about those things. They know volunteerism isn't what we would like it to be, they know finances are difficult, they know the kinds of issues we have with two buildings. They also know we are a hopeful lot

and have great potential to move into our future. They chose us in spite of our issues, and because they see our potential.

During the search we were told a story by one of our advisors, a minister provided by the UUA to assist our search process. When he took his current ministry position, the church had a very active worship committee. It had been needed for years by his predecessor, who had weaknesses in worship. However, the new minister didn't need to be shored up in that way. It took him three years to move the committee to a more manageable place so he could work in ways that served both him and the congregation better. Things that are already in place often have to be altered or replaced during a ministerial transition. This is what normally happens, and it should.

OUR NEW MINISTERS WILL HAVE IDEAS about how they want to organize things, and for us to try to organize before they arrive means they might be stuck with a structure that does not work for them, and they would have to tactfully dismantle it. This kind of action on our part could actually hinder moving forward. No one will come in and be so unkind as to immediately take apart something already in place, even if it doesn't meet their needs or our needs. It's hard to wait just a bit longer, but it's important that we do so.

What we can and should do now is to prepare ourselves to be involved in new and different ways with our church community. We can welcome our ministers genuinely and find out what they think about things. When they float a new idea, we can work on staying open and giving it our full consideration. We can and should build our new future collaboratively with our new ministers. We are entering into a covenant with our ministers which involves building relationships as we move forward.

WE CAN'T GO BACK AND DO CHURCH the way we used to—times have changed and we aren't what we used to be—we aren't who we used to be—and our world has changed significantly around us. We can, however, move forward into a brighter future, doing church in new and exciting ways that we can then remember fondly 20 years from now when we hearken back to the "good old days."

– Submitted by Linda Hope, Chair, Ministerial Search Committee

Share the Plate

The Community Check-Up Center

Our Share the Plate for the month of May is [The Community Check-Up Center](#), 38C Hall Manor. The center provides a full-service Pediatric Practice for patients up to age 21 and a GYN/family planning practice for women from teens through menopause. No one is ever denied services due to lack of insurance/inability to pay; the Center has bilingual Spanish/English medical staff always available. The Community Check-Up Center is a registered 501(C)(3) that depends on the support of the community to provide its much-needed services to patients.

UCH members are encouraged to [recommend](#) local non-profit organizations for our monthly Share the Plate.

Share the Plate:
The Community Check-Up
Center

2015 Scholar: Mark Santana Crespo



Mark Santana Crespo has been selected as the 2015 LaGrone Scholar. Mark graduates this month from John Harris High School in Harrisburg. He will be the first in his family to go to college and plans to study criminal justice, pre-law, or communications at Pennsylvania State University Harrisburg. He will receive \$6,000 from UCH's Oliver LaGrone Scholarship Fund over the course of his post-secondary studies.

The 2015 Selection Panel included Shamaine Daniels, Esq., a Harrisburg resident and City Council member; Charlotte Henniger-Voss, representing UCH Youth; and UCH member Wendy Colby. The LaGrone Scholarship Committee is in the process of identifying a UCH Mentor for our newest Scholar, Mark Crespo. If interested, please contact Margaret Carrow at 260-9449. This is a satisfying opportunity to put UU values into action at the local level.

The LaGrone Award will be made during the May 31 service at Market Street, when all current Scholars and Mentors will be recognized. A reception will immediately follow, featuring cake, beverage, and LaGrone memorabilia; we will also have a celebratory cake following the Clover Lane service. Come learn more about these admirable young Scholars and interact with them and their Mentors! - Submitted by Cordell Affeldt

LaGrone Invitational: Laughter, Tears, Emotional Connection

The April 18 LaGrone Invitational program featuring four talented UCH writers provided those in the audience with some laughs, some heart-wrenching emotional moments, and some tears. And in the process also raised money for the church's Oliver LaGrone Scholarship Fund.



Attendance was not what was hoped for or anticipated, but those present agreed the effort was worth trying again, preferably at a time when it does not conflict with a beautiful, warm, sunny April afternoon. (Maybe a February evening?)

With the light attendance, there were plenty of snacks to start the afternoon for those present. And there was considerable interest in the two tables that were packed with OLIVER COLLECTIVE art works to be raffled off between the readings. Those who won the raffles received large shopping bags with 10-15 items or more ranging from CDs and books to pottery, jewelry, knitted items, framed photos, framed assemblages, and woodwork. Each of the five raffles seemed to reflect a theme, so guests could spend their tickets on those likely to mean the most to them.

Following a brief tribute to Oliver LaGrone's life and works and the scholarship that bears his name and honors his legacy, the four readers came forward to share their works. Lois Voigt's essay spoke lovingly and movingly of one of her late uncles, weaving her remembrances of him into the formal words of

the obituary in his community's newspaper. She also shared one of her poems.

Dorothy Brown brought the room to silence with an anti-war poem and to nods of delight with a poem about her grandchildren and another about the dragonfly art and artifacts collected by UCH member Linda Hope that Dorothy

had seen when doing an auction poetry reading on Wendell Berry in the Hopes' home.

Cordell Affeldt also brought those in attendance to laughter and tears as she recounted her decade-long work as a tutor and advocate for a Somali refugee now living in this country.

And Wendy Colby, who organized the event to support the LaGrone scholarship fund, brought the house down with reflections on her challenges in mastering a cell phone and through a second piece of humorous writing based on a family situation that rang true to many people.

While the refreshments (thank you, Patti Hazell and others) were delicious and the readings were poignant and moving, the ultimate goal was to add to the scholarship fund and that goal was met with an additional \$610 added to the account.

Thanks to all involved in the planning, all who participated, and all who attended. We hope to see many more of you at the next LaGrone Invitational.

- Submitted by John Hope

UUPlan Activities

UUs are mobilizing for justice in May! Join us for any/all of the following:



- Join the [Berks County Detention Center](#) rally May 2 to end imprisonment of immigrant mothers and children. They are fleeing violence and persecution in their home countries and face indefinite imprisonment in the U.S.
- Meet May 4 (11:00 am) on the Capitol steps for a [“Speak-In”](#) about mass incarceration with Decarcerate PA. Then join a UUPLAN team to speak with legislators about several issues before the PA General Assembly regarding criminal justice.
- Write letters to your state legislators to urge them to re-instate drivers’ licenses for everyone including undocumented immigrants.

If you share my desire to have our UU principles reflected in public policy on these and other issues, please consider joining one of our statewide UUPLAN Justice Teams, shown in the accompanying chart. Call in once a month to stay informed about social justice issues that matter to you and hear about what we’re doing to bring UU values to the public square in Pennsylvania. If you are not yet a member and would like to join, please click [here](#) for additional information!

Monthly UUPlan Conference Calls		
Call in number: 760-984-1000 Access code: 107933#		
Team	Meeting Day	Time
Anti-Mass Incarceration	Last Monday	8:00 p.m.
Economic Justice	Second Monday	7:00 p.m.
Environmental Justice	Second Thursday	7:30 p.m.
Immigration Justice	Third Monday	Noon
LGBTQ	Fourth Thursday	7:30 p.m.
Reproductive Justice	Third Wednesday	7:00 p.m.

—Submitted by Anita Mentzer

InterReligious Forum of Greater Harrisburg

Each year, the InterReligious Forum sponsors a city-wide Interfaith Service of Thanksgiving on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Among other things, the Thanksgiving offering is a significant source of funds for the Forum’s annual college scholarship given to student(s) from Harrisburg High School. Due to inclement weather, the 2014 service was cancelled, the offering did not occur, and the Forum is seriously behind in funding this year’s **Peace Maker Scholarship**.

If interested in donating, please contact UCH’s representative, [Susan Jones-Sink](#). You can also send a check directly to **Peace Maker Scholarship**, Spiritual Assembly of Baha’i, P. O. Box 3108, Harrisburg, Pa 17105.

—Submitted by Susan Jones-Sink

May 15: The Addams Family

This zany award-winning musical comes to Sunoco Theater at the Whitaker Center this year, performed by Theatre Harrisburg. The Ecumenical Food Pantry has a block of front orchestra seats (\$35 each) for the performance at 8:00 p.m. Friday, May 15, with two-thirds of the ticket price going to the Pantry. Purchased from a Pantry representative. Contact [Michael Mark](#) to reserve a seat! We are looking forward to your support and making this a sold out event. Bring your friends! Bring your support!

Sold Out



Sept 19: PAC Breakfast

The Prison Action Committee (PAC) is a ministry of Christian Churches United (CCU) of the tri-county area. One Saturday each month, churches in Central Pennsylvania welcome pre-release inmates to eat breakfast and hear a message of hope. UCH’s turn to host is September 19, coordinated by our lay-led ministry Helping People in Prison and their Families. Volunteers needed (cooks, servers, table host etc.) – no experience necessary! Please contact [Margaret Carrow](#) for information.



Now through May 9

We have rescheduled the annual Cleanup/Mulch for Saturday, May 9. I hope the activity on May 9 will be mostly, if not only, one of mulching. We are hoping that some of the options below will enable volunteers to work ahead of time to enable May 9 to be simply "final touches."

Various ways you can help:

1. Become a caretaker of a garden space.

This assignment involves the continuing care of an identified garden space during the spring, summer and fall. Currently few spaces have active caretakers. If you have an interest in a space let me know. If someone is already involved in that space or has also expressed interest, I will connect you with that or those persons.

2. Volunteer to partner with someone else.

In this case a given space need not be identified. The interest is to connect with someone else in caring for a space. Once the connection between the people has been made, we'll find a suitable space.

3. Volunteer to perform a given one time task. There's no commitment expected beyond doing that one deed.

Some that I have identified so far:

4. One-time cleaning of any garden bed.

Just appear any time with the tools you need and go to work. I can assure you no one will object to being surprised to finding a cleaned garden. Some tools are available in our storage shed.

Upper Parking Area: Stand of Arborvitae.

5. Cut back /remove grasses from between the arborvitae.

I think that space would look better without them, and whatever visual appeal they may have during the growing season doesn't justify their maintenance requirements.

6. Remove irises and the peonies I think are somewhere there.

- 🌱 Spread mixture of mulch and paving gravel on surfaces between the arborvitae.
- 🌱 Cut back/cut out witch hazel crowding western edge of arborvitae.
- 🌱 Garden area on Western edge of arborvitae

This was a native garden area that has gone wild and should be redeveloped in some way. Some options:

7. Clean and convert to lawn. There a several areas where this might be the best option. While many of us hate lawns and their seemingly wasteful requirements, absent someone to care for a space, grass and periodic its mowing is often the most cost effective way to maintain some minimal visual appeal.

8. Reestablish any kind of garden (perhaps one with mixed vegetables) someone is interested in developing and maintaining.

Garden along eastern wall

9. Cut back grasses.

10. Prune by 1/3 two large Holly trees touching gutter, but wait until the mother robin I disturbed finishes with what she is doing in her nest. Prune roses back to about one foot above soil's surface

11. Prune back Hydrangeas by half

Back of church west of entrance

12. Cut back 1/3 of canes

Space on western edge of garden

13. Trim dead portion of lilac.

Here's another good candidate for conversion to lawn. It would require the removal of daffodils, peonies other plant material

Small plot, Southwest area near parking lot.

Here's another area suitable for conversion to lawn, but leaving the pear tree.

14. Remove Yucca and possibly replant in drainage area next to playground.

Island in rear parking lot.

15. Cut back Holly 30-50%

16. Trim juniper removing dead branches

17. Clean peninsula, prepare for possible lawn conversion or other plant material..

Trash Dumpsters

19. Cut back grasses.

20. Remove grass clump closest to Clover to improve visibility.

21. Divide 2 grass clumps and plant to better shield dumpsters

Market Street

22. Clean bed 16th street

23. Clean bed Market Street

24. Edge bed Market Street

If doing any of the above appeals to or you have any questions, please contact:

Ron Skrabut, 236-1876. ronskrabut@hotmail.com

Please synchronize your calendar for these UCH-sponsored events.

Sun 3 7:30 Clover Lane Coffee House Clover Lane

Clover Lane Coffee House is pleased to welcome Boston-based Amy Black for our final coffee house of the season. Admission is \$10 at the door (\$25 max per family); all are welcome. **Please note we are hosting this on Sunday this month.**



The daughter of a minister, Amy spent her early years in Missouri and Alabama before relocating with her family to Boston. During her college years she pursued singing as a pastime, forming several bands. After graduation, she worked in marketing for a number of years before returning to music.

She formed the band Amy Black and the Red Clay Rascals, an acoustic roots music ensemble that released a self-titled debut album in 2009 which primarily included classic covers by country legends. In 2011, Amy released her first solo album One Time, a rootsy Americana music mix, with a dash of rock and soul. Her sophomore album, This Is Home (2014), was recorded in Nashville and features Will Kimbrough on guitar.

Since 2011, Amy has opened shows for Chris Isaak, The Court Yard Hounds, Rodney Crowell, Suzy Bogguss, Joe Ely, Eilen Jewell, Lori McKenna, Emmylou Harris and Kelly Willis. In 2012, she was a featured singer/songwriter at the Americana Music Association's annual conference. In 2013, she was selected for an official showcase at the International Folk Alliance conference in Toronto and was selected to perform as an Emerging Artist for the 2013 Falcon Ridge Folk Festival.

Please contact [Bart Carpenter](#) for information.

Mon 4 6:30 Amrit Yoga (weekly) Clover Lane

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!

Tue 5 7:00 Mindfulness Meditation (weekly) Clover Lane

Mindfulness is an acquired skill, practiced during meditation and vital in our everyday lives. The Mindfulness Meditation Group (MMG) provides a space to practice together in support of one another.



- ⊕ Everyone is welcome. Affiliation with any organization/belief system is neither promoted nor discouraged.
- ⊕ Engaging in safe, respectful, and welcoming conduct is the only expectation. Participation is entirely voluntary.
- ⊕ Two 25 minute periods of meditation with a short reading, discussion, and rest between. Stay for one sitting or both.
- ⊕ Bring your own seating or use our cushions, benches, and chairs.

Contact [Chuck Daley](#) or [George Hellmann](#) **Repeats every Tuesday.**

Wed 6 6:00 QueenSpirit Clover Lane

Queen Spirit is a co-created women's spirituality circle that meets on the first Wednesday of the month. Come join us in a circle facilitated by Debbie Page: on "The Untethered Soul."



What does it feel like to be free? To live without limits? How does that look?
.....Have you ever wanted to "FLY" ???

Come visit with us on May 6th.....as we explore the landscape of
"THE UNTETHERED SOUL"

Our altar will hold a space for you to share whatever represents freedom and/or "flying."

Dinner starts at 6:00; please bring your own table service and a dish to share; our flight is from 7-8. Contact [Randa Todd](#).

Sat 11 9:00 Common Ground Café Market Street

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.

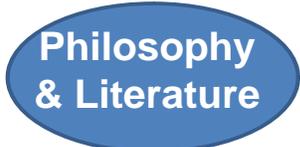


Repeats May 30. To join the list of volunteers, please contact [Clay Lambert](#).

Sun 17 7:00 Philosophy & Literature

Clover Lane

The Philosophy & Literature Group usually meets on the second Sunday of each month, usually at Clover Lane. **This month**, the group meets on the third Sunday to discuss *Becoming More Fully Human: Religious Humanism as a Way of Life* by William R. Murry. It was the 2014 Pulitzer Prize Winner in the General Nonfiction category. From amazon.com:



Many Americans classify themselves as "religious" by belonging to a particular church, synagogue, mosque or sect. Those persons who do not wish to join such groups are usually given short shift in our society. What everyone seems to forget is that there are ways of living that celebrate common human values and nature without having to define themselves as being "made" in anyone else's image other than their own. William R. Murry's book "Becoming More Fully Human: Religious Humanism" as a way of "life" addresses those persons who find worth in living this way. It discusses many of life's questions with great honesty. A good read for all.

The group meets at Clover Lane this month. All UCH members and friends are welcome. Please contact [Don Brown](#) for additional information.

Tue 19 6:30 Women's Night Out

Off-Site

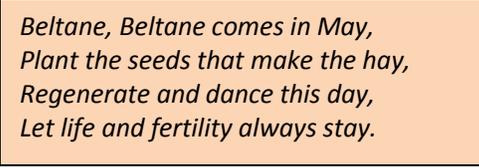
Women's Night Out is a lay-led ministry that focuses on the friendship and support of its members and giving back to our local community. We normally meet on the second Tuesday of the month at a local restaurant, alternating locations between the East and West Shores.



This month, we meet on the third Tuesday. To join and experience the friendship while providing support to the Ecumenical Food Pantry, please contact [Rima Cameron](#) by May 17.

Wed 20 6:00 Clover Grove

Clover Lane



All are welcome to join Clover Grove for a Beltane bonfire and bardic drum circle. Delicious treats are always welcome, but never necessary! Just bring yourself, your rhythm, and a smile! Please contact [Jen Wallitsch](#) for further information or to arrange for childcare. All are welcome.



Sat 23 10:30 Movement Class

Rev. Renfro will lead those who want to experience a deepening, an integration of mind, body, and spirit through two movement modalities, Interplay and Dancing Qigong. Interplay is improvisational, and has been described as being for 'recovering serious persons'. Dancing Qigong is highly stylized and choreographed. This version is set to the music 'Let It Be' and is a wonderful meditative journey, with or without the music. No experience necessary!

Tue 26 10:00 CroneSpirit

Clover Lane

The lay-led ministry CroneSpirit will meet from 10 a.m. - noon in Fuller Chapel at the Clover Lane campus. Our topic this month is "Living Arrangements for Us As We Age." 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 or speaking disrespectfully to or about each other

We look forward to seeing you. For information, please contact [Joan Hellmann](#).

Tue 26 6:30 Auction Committee

Clover Lane

Come brainstorm ideas, themes and be a part of the fun, food, and fabulous auction committee. Your talent and help planning the 2015 All Church Auction is always welcome. The theme this year is *Show YoUUr Colors!* With the new minister coming, we thought this would be a suitable, easy-to-execute theme, and lots of fun for everyone. Start planning your own donation – time, talent, or treasure!



The committee meets on the fourth Tuesday each month. Please contact [Patti Hazell](#) for additional information – and mark your calendar for auction night: Nov. 7, 2015!

10th annual **race AGAINST racism**

eliminating racism
empowering women **ywca**

The UCH fielded a team of 22 runners and walkers in this year's Race against Racism, held April 25 in Riverfront Park. Sponsored by the YWCA of Greater Harrisburg, the annual 5K run/walk promotes awareness of the issues that surround racial injustice in our community, and raises significant funds to support the YWCA Greater Harrisburg's racial justice programs.



Don Brown and Michael Mark

Two UCH members active in climate issues were interviewed April 23 on ABC27 News in Harrisburg. Don Brown and Michael Mark appeared in a feature story on Earth Day. Don spoke about the moral issues associated with climate change and Michael spoke about the Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) carbon fee and dividend proposal. The Harrisburg chapter of CCL meets at our Clover Lane campus.

Josh Hooper

The U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) honored the Pennsylvania Environmental Resources Consortium (PERC) last month for recruiting 22 Pennsylvania colleges and universities to participate PERC's PA Higher Ed Food Recovery Challenge to help reduce, donate, and compost excess food from more than 100,000 students. EPA Regional Administrator Shawn Garvin presented PERC Executive Director Josh Hooper with EPA's prestigious Food Recovery Challenge Endorser of the Year Award for 2014 during a ceremony April 23 at Franklin & Marshall College, one of the 22 participating Pennsylvania schools. Josh is a long-time UCH member and active in environmental affairs.

Frank Haas (1926 - 2015)

Francis B. Haas, Jr., 88, a life member of UCH, died April 18 in Harrisburg. , 2015 at Osteopathic Hospital. Services are scheduled for 1:00 p.m. May 9 at the UCH Clover Lane campus, with Rev. Donna Renfro officiating.

Frank graduated from Bucknell University in 1947 and the University of Pennsylvania Law School in 1951. He was a member of McNees, Wallace & Nurick from 1951 until his retirement in 1995. At UCH, he served in many capacities, including as a member of the Board of Trustees.

Frank is survived by his wife, Joan; two sons, David and Steven; and two grandsons. Contributions in his memory may be made to the HACC Foundation.