



The Unitarian Church of Harrisburg: Building Bridges, Celebrating Community

The Wayside Pulpit: New Beginnings

By Rev. Michael Walker, Interim Minister



Dear (soon-to-be-) friends,

An old cliché tells us that there is nothing constant except change. Isn't that the truth! In a few days, my partner, Glenn, and I will be getting in a truck and driving from Washington State to Pennsylvania. In recent months, just as I've been in the midst of the whole crazy process of

"search," I realize that you have been, as well. Your search did not end as many of you hoped, so it seems that some of our work in the coming year may be about healing and mending (or building) bridges within the congregation. At the same time, it has been apparent to me (and other observers who have been in contact with at least some members of UCH), that there is a deep well of compassion and care, a yearning for justice, and many talented leaders. If it seemed like the congregation hit a wall, I recommend stepping back and looking around. Your congregation has the resources and experience necessary to chart your course forward. I don't yet know what your course will be, but I sure look forward to having those conversations with you all, as we figure it out.

As you are reading this in August, I will have just arrived and begun meeting as many of you as I can. I'm not planning on preaching in August (we still need to figure out how to arrange worship times, since UCH is going from two ministers to one, and me without the ability to be in two places at once!) I will, however, plan to participate in services at alternating campuses in August, just so that we have a chance to meet. By September, I anticipate we will have a plan for worship worked out and a team of interested lay leaders to help, and I will begin preaching in time for the kick-off of the new church year. And I'm looking forward to it!

I believe a biography of me has already been shared with you in a previous newsletter. But I thought you might appreciate a few words about me and my work. I came to ministry as a second career, after 15 years of nursing and medical work (eight of those years were on active duty in the U.S. Navy). Prior to UCH, I served at: a small fellowship in Washington (a 3-year developmental/interim ministry); a UU retreat center in Massachusetts (one year in residence); an internship at a large UU church in San Diego (one year); and as staff then as an associated community ministry at the UU church in San Francisco (two years total). My background also includes other non-profit work, e.g. a couple of years in management at the GBLT center in Sacramento in the mid-1990s.

On a personal note, I share my life with Glenn Morrison, my partner of many years. Sadly, our situation dictates that he continue to work and stay **(continued on page 8)**

Unitarian Church of Harrisburg

August 2015 At-a-Glance

DATE	TIME	SPEAKER
Sun 2	10:00	"Dirt Communion: Exploring Spirituality Through Gardening," Debbie Reihart
	10:30	"Sex, religion, abortion and poverty," Jim Cavanaugh
Mon 3	6:30	Amrit Yoga
Tue 4	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation Group
Wed 5	6:00	QueenSpirit
Fri 7	7:00	Green Sanctuary
Sat 8	9:00	Common Ground Café
Sun 9	10:00	"Of the Earth: Healing Through Grounding," Ann Stillwater
	10:30	"For Love of Self," Sandy Hamstra
	7:00	Philosophy and Literature
Mon 10	6:30	Amrit Yoga
Tue 11	6:30	Women's Night Out
	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation Group
Wed 12	7:00	Clover Grove
Sun 16	10:00	"Sabbath," Pete Trufahnestock
	10:30	"A Different Road," Healthy Congregations Task Force
Mon 17	6:30	Amrit Yoga
Tue 18	10:00	CroneSpirit
	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation Group
Thu 20	6:00	Clover Lane Choir potluck/rehearsal
Sun 23	10:00	"Peter's Principles for Living," Don Hoskins
	10:30	"Saved By the Rhythm," Rev. Richard Gordon
Mon 24	6:30	Amrit Yoga
Tue 25	6:30	Auction planning: Show YoUUR Colors!
	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation Group
Wed 26	9:30	Climate Advocacy Training Workshop
Thu 27	7:00	Clover Lane Choir Rehearsal
Sat 29	9:00	Common Ground Café
Sun 30	10:00	"A Different Road," Healthy Congregations Task Force
	10:30	"Following Our Tales," Rabbi Carl Choper
	2:00	MMG Presents: Cheri Huber
Mon 31	7:00	Amrit Yoga

Occurs at Market Street

August Theme: Sabbath

Share the Plate for August: Ecumenical Food Pantry

Message from the Board

By Laura Shemick, President



Today is a lovely, sunny July day, and it is my first day as President of the Board of the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg. Here is the first thing I want to say to all members, friends, and occasional attendees of our religious community:

Thank you. Thank you for attending services. Thank you for giving. Thank you for teaching our children in RGL classes. Thanks for taking care of the garden, and for cleaning up, and for visiting the members of our community who are in need. Thank you for sticking with church work when you'd rather be somewhere else. Thank you for making coffee, and smiling at visitors, and poring over numbers, and for your endless patience. Thank you for herding the cats.

Frankly, I could go on for quite a while with thanks, since our community is boundlessly inventive and relentlessly energetic in making UCH a place where we all want to be. Even on those days when we sigh, we go on, continuing to work on making a Beloved Community where all feel safe, welcome, and nurtured.

At our Board meeting this month, the Board debated whether to recommend to the congregation a bylaws change to ensure that the Oliver LaGrone Fund, which provides scholarships to graduates of Harrisburg High School, will always exist to give those graduates a boost into their post-high school lives. The words are still being "smithed," as is the tendency of UUs, but I have no doubt that the proposed change will be ready for the October congregational meeting.

The October congregational meeting, which is not a typical practice for UCH, will take place so that you, the congregation, can vote on bylaw changes, hear what progress is being made on resolving our differences of opinion on important aspects of our ministry, and tell the Board and

AUGUST TRUSTEE ASSIGNMENTS		
DATE	CLOVER LANE	MARKET ST
2	Nan Cavanaugh	Dennis Hursh
9	Marilyn McHenry	Chris Dutton
16	Laura Shemick	Judy Linder
23	Laura Shemick	Chris Dutton
30	Laura Edinger	Dennis Hursh

other lay leaders whether you're satisfied with the work that is being done. The Healthy Congregations Task Force will deliver a report on its work thus far; our independent congregational consultant may have his report and recommendations done by that time; our new interim minister, the Rev. Michael Walker, will have the opportunity to see our community in action and speak, should he so desire, on whatever topic he feels appropriate. We will meet on a Sunday night, this being the time of week that seemed most popular with those attending the last congregational meeting, and I earnestly hope that you will be able to attend. Child care will be available.

I began attending UU congregations when I was three years old, in State College, Pa., and have been a member of three very different congregations – in State College, in Philadelphia, and in Harrisburg. I have facilitated lay leadership training and been the dean of the lay leadership school that served our Joseph Priestley District. I am a lawyer and an adult educator. While I haven't seen everything and been everywhere, I have been in enough hard places and seen enough difficult situations to know that with good intentions, good information, hard work, and persistence, any group can achieve its goals – including ours. From my point of view, every member of this community has been working to make our community a springboard from which every person can launch their dreams. I am honored to be a member of this community, and promise to work hard as a servant-leader to make our community's dreams come true.

Respectfully submitted,

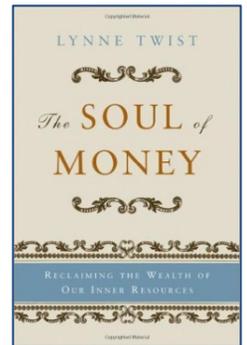
Laura

Stewardship Task Force

What is the *Soul of Money*? That is one of many questions the new Philanthropy Team¹ will be wrestling with this fall. The question comes from an excellent [book](#) by Lynne Twist that could be the focus of a fall discussion group. As Twist points out, "Examining our attitudes towards money – earning it, spending it, and giving it away – can offer surprising insights into our lives, our values, and the essence of prosperity."

The Board has authorized a one-year Stewardship Task Force to help the congregation think about money – and maybe hear about it from the pulpit outside the annual canvass.

Interested in learning more? [Jim Cavanaugh](#) and [Donna Hoskins-Helm](#) are the contacts, and our first meeting will be Aug. 5 at Clover Lane, 7:30p.m.



¹ *Because we will be dealing with far more than stewardship, a better name will be needed, and 'philanthropy team' is only one possibility.

Healthy Congregations Task Force

As many of you know, the Board formed the Health Congregation Task Force to assist Mike Harris, our consultant, in facilitating a listening process within our congregation and in gathering information for him. Since our first small group session on June 14, we have convened with 72 members and friends of UCH who have gathered to share their thoughts, feelings, experiences, and concerns about UCH. We are pleased with the response so far, based on normal attendance at summer services; our goal is to involve at least half of our active members.

Please plan to attend one of the small groups. If Sundays are not good for your schedule, please suggest another time or place for you and a group of other UCH members/friends. The task force is available to travel to homes, restaurants, Starbucks, parks, wherever, to listen. Several groups are being offered with childcare to accommodate UCH members with children. And if you find a group experience uncomfortable, please contact a task force member for other options for sharing your experience. Task force members include Laura Edinger, Laura Shemick, Nancy Hall, Chris Dutton, Kate Carpenter, Debbie Reihart, and Sandy Hamstra.

The ultimate goal is to be able to provide Mike a clear picture of issues that may be keeping us from moving forward. Maybe you are holding the missing piece! Please contact [Sandy Hamstra](#) for additional information. —Submitted by [Sandy Hamstra](#)

August Small Group Sessions				
AUG	CLOVER LANE @ 11:15	MARKET STREET @ 11:45		
2	Debbie Reihart		Nancy Hall	Yes
9	Laura Shemick	Yes	Kate Carpenter	
16	Kate Carpenter		Laura Edinger	Yes
23	Kate Carpenter	Yes	Laura Shemick	
30	Chris Dutton		Sandy Hamstra	Yes

Please contact designated facilitator to pre-register. Childcare available by prior arrangement. Please request it 5-7 days in advance for either location from [Sarah Palmer](#) and bring a snack for your child/children.

Helping People in Prison and Their Families

The Community Connections Reentry Breakfast originally planned for September has been postponed and will be held early next year. But there is a lot going on! Read on:

- Our ever-popular congregation-wide *Bring in Your "Classifieds" section Each Sunday* continues year-round, since every Monday women from Work Release arrive at the PROGRAM needing to get a job in 30 days or be sent back to DCP. Many have few/no computer skills, so having enough classifieds so each can have her own is important. Please bring yours, put them in the basket at either location, and caring volunteers (and your help would be appreciated) will get them to 1515 Derry Street. MapQuest says it is a 6 minute trip from Clover Lane, and 1 minute from Market Street.
- We partner with [the PROGRAM](#), always in need of caring volunteers.
- We support and work with the [PA Prison Society](#), and you are welcome to join!
- We continue to work with Decarcerate Harrisburg in trying to reduce our state's prison population.
- The PA Council of Churches presents: "Lord, Let Our Eyes Be Opened: Breaking the Chains of Mass Incarceration," to be held Oct. 23-26 at the Red Lion East (formerly the Holiday Inn) in Harrisburg. This is also listed with UUPlan, below.

Clover Lane Choir Practice

Music adds dimension and depth to worship, and creating music together is a ministry to the church and to each other. The Clover Lane choir will begin regular Thursday evening rehearsals on August 20, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. (our first evening will start at 6:00 p.m. with a potluck followed by rehearsal). Everyone is welcome to join at any time; no auditions are required.

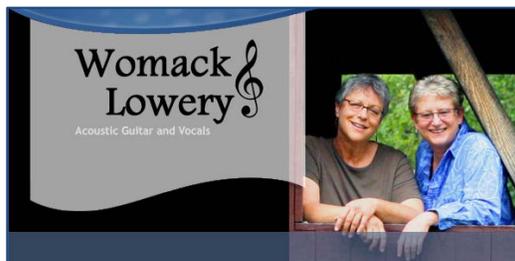
Instrumentalists are also needed periodically. If you play an instrument and would like to play with the choir or solo from time to time, let us know.

Contact [Linda Hope](#) with questions.

—Submitted by [Linda Hope](#)

Ed. note: rehearsals at Market Street begin on Thursday, Sept. 3.

— Submitted by [Jim Cavanaugh](#)



Clover Lane Coffee House

Clover Lane Coffee House is pleased to kick off its 14th season, with perennial favorites Womack & Lowery scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 18. Admission is \$10 donation; season tickets are \$45 for 9 concerts. Concerts are generally third Friday, September – May. Anyone interested in helping with concerts this year should contact [Bart Carpenter](#).



UUPLAN Activities

This year at General Assembly, three justice issues that UUPLAN has been promoting were adopted as Actions of Immediate Witness (AIW), including support for the Black Lives Matter Movement. To that end, UUPLAN is part of a multi-faith collaboration planning a conference on mass incarceration to be held in Harrisburg the weekend of October 23-25, culminating in a lobby day at the Capitol on Oct. 26.

Phone banking opportunities are being scheduled in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia UU churches to help the UUPLAN LGBTQ Team and Equality PA press for passage of the Pennsylvania Fairness Act, the nondiscrimination legislation to update the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act. Contact [Dave Greene](#) at First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh to participate.

In support of AIW End Family Detentions, recently approved at GA, the Immigration Team continues to press for the release of the mothers and children being held at the Berks County Detention Center near Reading. We are working with the [Unitarian Universalist Service Committee](#) (UUSC) and the Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services (RAICES) in Texas and Arizona to craft a comprehensive plan. In addition, legislation to reinstate an unmarked driver’s license for undocumented Pennsylvanians has been introduced in the Pennsylvania House, and UUPLAN has been asked to attend the press conference announcement.

RaisetheWage PA along with the UUPLAN Economic Justice Team will be scheduling in-district visits to pressure the Senate and House leadership members and the chairs of the Labor and Industry committees to allow legislation increasing the minimum wage to be scheduled for a committee vote.

Want to get money out of politics? Join the UUPLAN Convention of States movement – contact [Neil Goldstein](#) to set up an online training time to become a volunteer with this effort.

The UCH Environmental Justice Team is hosting a screening of *The Merchants of Doubt* at 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 7, at Clover Lane. The Team is also working on a talking points fact sheet about fracking.

To find out more about the work of any of these Justice Teams, please contact [Anita Mentzer](#). –Submitted by Anita Mentzer

Monthly UUPLAN Conference Calls		
Call in number: 641-715-3286 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.

Children’s Books Needed

Common Ground Café is badly in need of books for children (any age), which go home with children from our Saturday breakfast. These are often the only books that the children have in their home. Please bring donations to either campus and we’ll make sure they get into the right hands. – submitted by Tom Conners

Gather the Spirit for Justice

Gather the Spirit for Justice (GTS) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that brings together residents of Allison Hill, area organizations, businesses and churches to address issues of social justice and economic equity. GTS strives to be a place where people can find common ground, to meet and discuss the changes that need to be made to make Harrisburg a great place to live for all of its citizens.



GTS is currently forming a committee is to draft a three-year budget. Items for consideration include:

- ⊕ Program costs , such as food, supplies, bus tickets, IDs, office support
- ⊕ Administrative costs, such as rent, utilities, insurance, etc.
- ⊕ Reserve Fund: creation, allocation, use
- ⊕ One-time expenses, such as replacing heavy wooden tables or potential upgrades to the kitchen

Anyone/everyone who would like to serve on the committee is welcome. There should be a GTS Board member, representatives from various Common Ground programs, the fundraising committee, and UCH as the building owner. The committee will meet several times between August and November to create a preliminary budget and financial plan. If interested, please contact [Frances Myers](#). –Submitted by Frances Myers, Treasurer

DATE	TIME	GROUP	LOCATION
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Mon 4	6:30	Amrit Yoga (Weekly)	Clover Lane
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Amrit yoga is a form of hatha yoga developed by Yogi Amrit Desai. The entire process moves and stretches every part of your body for an energetic workout and includes a calming, meditative relaxation at the end. **Repeats every Monday.**



Contact [Ed Sykes](#). No experience necessary!

Tue 5	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation Group (Weekly)	Clover Lane
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Mindfulness is an acquired skill, practiced while meditating but vital in our everyday lives. Mindfulness is helpful in reducing stress, managing pain, focusing attention, and overcoming habitual negative behavior. Mindfulness can also point the way to spiritual practice, calming the mind and developing awareness and insight. The ability to be mindful is strengthened through consistent practice. Mindfulness Meditation Group provides a space for us to practice together in support of one another. Contact [Chuck Daley](#) or [George Hellmann](#). **Repeats every Tuesday.**



Wed 5	6:00	Queen Spirit (Monthly)	Clover Lane
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Queen Spirit is a co-created women’s spirituality circle that meets on the first Wednesday of the month. Please join Queen Spirit this month for a magical and meaningful evening of working with stones and crystals. Explore all the ways you can benefit from crystal, gem, stone, and metal magic. You will also use crystals to set an important intention and start the stirrings of something new and wonderful in your life.



Please join the lovely and loving Nikki Stone-Thonus and Rebecca Waldemar for a gentle evening of crystal magic. Bring a dish to share. Potluck starts at 6 p.m.; please bring your own table service and a dish to share; circle starts at 7p.m. Contact [Randa Todd](#).

Wed 5	7:30	Stewardship Task Force	Clover Lane
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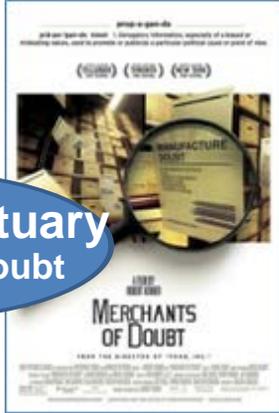
Stewardship Task Force Please see announcement on page 2.

Fri 7	7:00	Green Sanctuary	Clover Lane
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Green Sanctuary presents the movie, *Merchants of Doubt*, based on the book by Naomi Oreskes and Erik Conway. The film is a documentary that looks at pundits-for-hire who present themselves as scientific authorities as they speak about topics like toxic chemicals, pharmaceuticals and climate change. The book is subtitled, “How a Handful of Scientists Obscured the Truth on Issues from Tobacco Smoke to Global Warming.”

The authors also have created a [website](#) with original documents to support the conclusions articulated in the book and movie.

Described as “powerful....provocative....a devastating portrayal of organized scientific disinformation....why we have failed to act on climate change...” Don’t miss this eye-opening, disturbing, and inciting film. Free and open to public. Contact: [Rachel Mark](#).



Sat 8	9:00	Common Ground Café (Twice a month)	Market
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Common Ground Café occurs at our Market Street campus on the second and last Saturday of the month. The café opens at 9:00 a.m., and you can be a part of the action! No experience necessary, and drop-ins are always welcome.

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



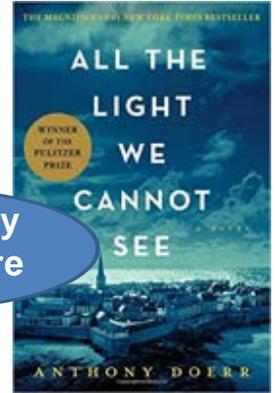
DATE	TIME	GROUP	LOCATION
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Sun 9 7:00 Philosophy and Literature Group (Monthly) Clover Lane

The Philosophy & Literature Group usually meets on the second Sunday of each month, usually at Clover Lane. This month, the group meets to discuss *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr. The novel won the 2015 Pulitzer Prize for fiction, was short-listed for the National Book Award, and spent more than 58 weeks on the New York Times Best Seller List.. From the *Washington Post's* Amanda Vaill:

I'm not sure I will read a better novel this year than Anthony Doerr's "All the Light We Cannot See." Enthrallingly told, beautifully written and so emotionally plangent that some passages bring tears, it is completely unsentimental — no mean trick when you consider that Doerr's two protagonists are children who have been engulfed in the horror of World War II. Not martyred emblems, like Anne Frank or the British evacuees on the torpedoed City of Benares, just ordinary children, two of thousands swallowed up in a conflict they had nothing to do with.

Philosophy & Literature



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

Tue 11 6:30 Women's Night Out (Monthly) 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. Each month at dinner, participants take a collection and contribute to the Ecumenical Food Pantry.

This month, we meet at Isaac's Restaurant at the West Shore Plaza. To join us for dinner and experience the friendship while providing support to the Ecumenical Food Pantry, please contact [Linda Brown](#) two days prior to the event.

Women's Night Out	
Date	Venue
July 14	Gilligan's on Eisenhower Boulevard
Aug. 11	Isaac's at West Shore Plaza
Sept. 8	Millworks in Midtown
Oct. 13	The Peppermill @ Wesley Drive Plaza
Nov. 10	Fiesta Mexico @ Tecport
Dec. 8	Cafe Magnolia

Second Tuesday @ 6:30 p.m., alternating shores

Tue 18 10:00 CroneSpirit (Monthly) 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 "The Role of Adult Children in Our Lives." 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

Crone Spirit
"The Role of Adult Children in Our Lives"

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

Wed 19 6:00 Clover Grove (Monthly) Clover Lane

Clover Grove is a group of earth-centered and pagan spiritualists that meets on the third Wednesday. This month, we are hosting a community picnic for pagans and earth-centered spiritualists of all stripes. We will gather from 6:00 pm - 9:00 for feasting and fellowship.

Please bring a dish for our picnic potluck. Hope to see you there! Please contact [Jen Wallitsch](#) for further information or to arrange for childcare (participants split the cost). All are welcome.

Clover Grove: Community Picnic

Tue 25 6:30 Auction Committee (Monthly) Clover Lane

Please join the UCH Auction Committee as we plan this year's Show YUUR Colors! We meet on the fourth Tuesday at Clover Lane. And please save the date: 5:30 p.m., Saturday, November 7! Contact [Patti Hazell](#).

Wed 26 9:30 Climate Advocacy Training Workshop Clover Lane

Pennsylvania Interfaith Power and Light will sponsor a day-long [Climate Advocacy Training Workshop](#), including lunch and snacks. Leaders include Don Brown, Professor of Sustainability Ethics and Law, Widener University; Matthew Stepp, Director of Policy, PennFuture; and Justin Wright, Mediator and Negotiation trainer, Active Neutrals. Please pre-register at this [link](#). Contact [Rachel Mark](#) for additional information.

Climate Disruption is a Moral Issue
Interfaith Climate Advocacy Training

DATE	TIME	GROUP	LOCATION
Sun 30	2:00	The Power of Practice: Cheri Huber Returns to UCH	Clover Lane

We are always practicing something. If we practice regretting the past and worrying about the future, that is the experience of life we have. If we practice the peace, joy, and well-being of the present moment, then that is the life we have. Awareness practice shines the light on our lives to help us see what we are practicing in each moment. Only then do we have the power to make a different choice!



The Power of Practice
with Cheri Huber and Ashwini Narayanan

Mindfulness Meditation Group is pleased to announce that Cheri Huber will speak at UCH this year, assisted again by Ashwini Narayanan, her frequent co-facilitator and collaborator. Both were warmly received in 2014. Join us in welcoming them again. Invite your friends and neighbors.

- 2:00 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 30
- No Tickets or Registration
- Reception and book signing will follow
- Donations to Living Compassion welcome

Cheri Huber has been a student and teacher of Zen for 30 years. She is the author of 20 books including *That Which You Are Seeking Is Causing You to Seek*, *The Depression Book*, *The Fear Book*, and *What You Practice Is What You Have*, a sequel to her widely read *There Is Nothing Wrong with You*. Her most recent title is *What Universe Are You Creating?: Zen and the Art of Recording and Listening*, - a collaboration with Ashwini Narayanan. In 1983, Cheri founded the Mountain View Zen Center, and in 1987 she founded the Zen Monastery Peace Center in Calaveras County. She, Ashwini, and the monks at the Monastery conduct workshops and retreats at these centers, other places around the U.S., and internationally.

Ashwini Narayanan oversees the offering of practice through both of the above organizations, as well as, creating and facilitating retreats. Join Cheri Huber and Ashwini Narayanan in exploring the power of practice in our life.

Other events

Shawn Thomas, 7:00 p.m. Saturday, August 17

MCC of the Spirit, 2973 Jefferson Street, Harrisburg

Shawn Thomas is a contemporary Christian singer/songwriter whose ministry includes an outreach to the LGBT community. In 2010, he published a book describing his experience as being both gay and Christian. *Unashamed - Coming Out of the Second Closet* deals with being in the crosshairs from both groups, as many Christians think his sexuality is incompatible with faith and many in the LGBT community believe his faith runs contrary to LGBT causes.

Peach Festival Pancake Breakfast, 7:30 – 10:00 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 15

The Peach Festival Pancake Breakfast at [Paulus Orchards](#) in Dillsburg will benefit the Ecumenical Food Pantry in Harrisburg. The venue includes 150 acres of fruit trees and a Playland for the kids.

Joe Crookston and “Blue Tattoo,” 2:00 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 16

Rose Lehrman Theater/HACC

Jewish Family Service (JFS) of Greater Harrisburg presents a concert with [Joe Crookston](#) (Clover Lane Coffee House, June 2011) and a screening of the [Blue Tattoo](#) documentary. Crookston’s song about the Auschwitz survivor inspired the film of the same name. Advance tickets available at [JFS](#).

Harmony Walk, 2:00 p.m. Sunday, September 20

Wesley Union AME Zion Church, 2219 N 5th Street

InterReligious Forum of Greater Harrisburg is pleased to sponsor Harmony Walk, starting at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 20, at the entrance to Wesley Union AME Zion Church, 2219 N 5th Street, Harrisburg. Included in the Walk are representatives from Christian, Jewish, Islamic, and other religions. At each stop, a religious leader will share words about the value of harmony among religions and about the theme of the Walk: Unity in Diversity. A bus will be available for individuals who have difficulty walking.

From the Wesley Union AME Zion Church, participants will proceed to Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, St Paul Episcopal Church, Goodwin Memorial Baptist Church, Keshet Israel Congregation, ending at the Hadee Mosque. At the mosque, a light dinner will be provided by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

Other News

Show YUUR Colors! All-church auction.

Please save the date: 5:30 p.m., Saturday, November 7, at Clover Lane

How you can help?

- Come to the auction and bid often. The auction is one of our largest fundraisers and helps the current-year operating expenses.
- Buy your admission ticket early. Ticket sales start in October at both locations after Sunday services. Tickets are \$10 per person or \$20 per family (including childcare) for an evening of food, fun, and fund-raising for our fantastic Church community!
- Donate a product, service, hosted event or dinner to the auction! Instructions are at [this website](#), or you can stop by the auction table after services, starting in mid-September.
- Ask a local business to donate an item for the auction. It works best to ask businesses that you normally patronize, such as stores, dry cleaners, yoga studios/gyms, or health care practitioners. A sample letter appears on the [website](#).
- Help with the auction. Volunteers are needed for the auction and related activities.

For more information contact [Patti Hazell](#) (717-576-9848).

Notes from the Office

I need some help! I need to:

- Use the projector for a church presentation
- Let someone know a church member is in the hospital
- Sign up for the gift card program
- Reserve a room at the church
- Publish something in the REPORTER

Answers to these and other questions are as close as your fingertips. We want to make it as easy as possible to connect you to the person who can help you with your concern or question. As we work to streamline internal procedures in the office, it's important that we include you on the necessary information of where to get your questions answered.

To that end, the [Who Do I Contact?](#) page will give you those answers. From the main web page, click on "About Us," then click on "Who Do I Contact?"

—Submitted by Kel Kyle, Congregational Administrator

Minister's Message

(from page 1) in our home in Washington, while I am in Harrisburg for the next year. That will be a bit of a challenge, but I'm sure we'll figure it out. Most of my family is located in or fairly near the Pacific Northwest, as well. Glenn's family is in Boston, however, so he's looking forward to visits with me in Harrisburg and quick jaunts up to see his family, too.

The primary mission of UCH for the next year, I believe, is to collectively develop a plan for your future. My role is to facilitate discussions and provide resources and ideas, but the benefit of interim ministry is that I don't have a pre-set agenda or plan. That's for you to decide — and I can't wait to

learn what it will be! Until we meet, I wish you all a wonderful summer.

May it ever be so and blessed be you all!

— Rev. Mike

Rev. Michael Walker is the Interim Minister at the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg. He is interested in connecting with you! You may email him with questions and concerns at revmike@harrisburguu.org. If you need an appointment with our minister, you may schedule one by calling the office at 564-4761 or emailing one of the administrative staff.

Note: The Board is pleased to announce the following Transition Team to assist Rev. Mike Walker in starting his ministry with us: Joan Hellmann, Michael Mark, Cordell Affeldt, and Margaret Carrow.

Farewell to Rev. Renfro



UCH members bid farewell to our associate minister, Rev. Donna Renfro, after services on Sunday, July 26. Donna will serve as interim minister at Northwoods UU Church, near Houston, Texas, beginning in September.