



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

Minister's Message



After my resignation last month as the minister at UCH, I want to take the opportunity to reassure you of some important things. First, I was not forced out of my ministry at UCH. I chose to move on in my career of my own accord. We all know that there are people in this congregation who like the direction it is going. And there are people who are

quite resistant to that direction. There are people who connect well with me, and there are people who resist my leadership. This is natural for any congregation. There is nothing that I have faced in my years at UCH that other ministers have not faced before me, here and in other churches. It is part of ministry to lead as well as you can for as long as you can, and then get out of the way. There is nothing any of you did that has driven me away. I will confess to being tired, but I am not burned out. My work here has not damaged me. I will happily go and serve another church.

THE SECOND THING I want to reassure you of is that we have made real progress together over the last 12 years. This progress has brought UCH to a different place institutionally. The very week in April 2000 that this congregation voted to call me as its minister, I promised the church's leaders that I would not fight with them. I would resign first. When I spoke those words, I did not know if I would last here even for one year! I rented an apartment rather than buying a house. This congregation was that prone to fighting. I have kept my promise. I have not fought with this congregation. And I have been able to serve you for over 12 years in relative harmony. Yes, we have had our disagreements. But the congregation itself has become a place where fighting is not allowed. We have matured to a place where kindness and compassion come first. And lest you think that my departure will take you back to those old days of fighting, let me assure you that it doesn't have to. And that leads me to my third reassurance.

MY THIRD REASSURANCE is that this congregation has the strength, skill, and leadership to move into its future without me. This congregation is talented. It is generous. It is brave. You will have to be patient with one another. And you will have to put up with some bad behavior on the part of some immature people. But you will make it

Unitarian Church of Harrisburg January 2013 At-a-Glance

Please check website for last-minute updates

DATE	TIME	SPEAKER
Tue 1	6:00	Mindfulness Meditation Group (MMG), Chuck Daley
Wed 2	6:00	Queen Spirit, Randa Todd
Thu 3	7:00	Unisinger open enrollment, Sparkie Radcliffe
Sun 6	9:00 11:00	"Friend Someone at Church," Rev. Howard Dana
Mon 7	6:30	Amrit Yoga, Ed Sykes
Tue 8	7:00	MMG, Daley
Wed 9	7:00	Board of Trustees, Judy Linder
Thu 10	7:00	Unisinger open enrollment, Radcliffe
Sat 12	9:00	Common Ground Café, Clay Lambert
Sun 13	9:00	Moral Issues Forum: U.S. Medics/Afghan Civilians
	11:00	Multigenerational Service: "Modern Day Moses"
	6:30	Philosophy and Literature, Dick Hoke
Mon 14	6:30	Amrit Yoga, Sykes
Tue 15	7:00	MMG, Daley
Wed 16	7:00	Clover Grove, Nikki Stone-Thonus
Fri 18	7:30	Clover Lane Coffee House, Bart Carpenter
Sun 20	9:00	"Tu B'Shvat—New Year of the Trees," Rabbi Carl Choper, followed by Coffee with the Board
	11:00	
	3:00	Roe vs Wade, Barb Pearce
Mon 21	6:30	Amrit Yoga, Sykes
Tue 22	7:00	Silent MMG, Daley
Sat 26	9:00	Common Ground Café, Lambert
	4:00	Tu B'Shvat Seder, Laura Edinger
Sun 27	9:00	"Are You Your Labels," the Rev. Terry Kranen
	11:00	
Mon 28	6:30	Amrit Yoga, Sykes
Tue 29	7:00	MMG, Daley

 Market Street Event

through the transition period needed to prepare for another long, harmonious ministry. We are in a different place for our having loved each other for 12 years. My leaving does not have to result in quarrels. But you are the ones who have to hold each other accountable to the congregation's Covenant of Right Relations.

I look forward to moving ahead with you into 2013. I will be devoting some of my time to looking for my next church. The UCH leadership will be planning for the interim ministry. Together we will be saying goodbye well to one another. More on that next month.

See you in church.

Love, Howard

President's Message



I suspect that many of you are asking the question "What's next?" after hearing of Howard's decision to move to the next phase of his career as a UU minister. Having someone else as senior minister may seem unusual, but it really is not. The average tenure for a UU minister is about seven years; Howard has been with us for more than 12. Most of us have been through promotions, career changes, management changes, etc. It is a very natural process. Your Board of Trustees will be working closely with the transition team at the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). This is a team with many years' experience in the process of certifying UU ministers and of being a resource for both churches and clergy for personnel placement. We are very fortunate to have the opportunity for a very smooth transition to an interim minister followed by a minister that our congregation will call for the long term.

I HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH UUA, and the time line is specific. The Board has to file a request for an interim minister by mid April; he/she will join us in August. The interim minister will also be one with skills appropriate to our congregation. We are now a church of more than 400 members and friends, so our needs are different from those of a much smaller church. I encourage everyone to watch the short video on the interim process at this link:

www.uua.org/careers/ministers/interim/173977.shtml

Once the interim minister is chosen, and the church moves forward with him/her, the Board then forms a Search Committee. They in turn have the task of asking the important questions about our congregation and deciding what qualifications are needed for a settled minister. They then review potential candidates and ultimately present a candidate to the congregation for approval at a congregational meeting. According to the UUA, this search process usually takes 15 months. It is important, careful work with great responsibility, and great potential and shouldn't be hurried. Since most assignments start in August, we can anticipate having a new minister in place by fiscal year 2015-16.

IN THE MEANTIME, we will continue this church year probably without major changes. As planned, the Communication Task Force will organize workshops for the remainder of the year church, and, hopefully, have a survey by the end of January. The Board is holding a special session in January to analyze the comments and suggestions from the December workshop. We felt that the information was important enough to spend time carefully sorting it out. I was very pleased with all of the

positive comments about the workshop. The tone of the discussions was very positive. This seems to be a very effective method to discuss important issues, and I am very thankful for the work that Mary Henniger-Voss, Laura Shemick, Joan Hellman, and the facilitators put into the project. We will have our Annual Pledge Drive on schedule, the usual Lay Led Ministry activities, perhaps some other events that will give us time to get together for a less serious focus. We will have our Annual Meeting in May.

THIS TRANSITION IS AN OPPORTUNITY for all of us to be at our very best relating to our Beloved Community. The greatest asset of the UCH is not its buildings but its members. We are a caring, generous group of people. We are a congregation of free thinkers, but we have the Covenant of Right Relations to guide our behavior. This will be a time to be mindful of the feelings of others and to remember that comments need not be hurtful if expressed as "I" statements, i.e., "I" instead of "us," "we," or "they." This is a time to remind each other to find out facts before telling things to others. The members of the Board are your resource. Remember also that face-to-face conversations are more effective than e-mails and online comments, and blind carbon copies by definition involve deceiving the primary recipient. If you have an opinion, you should be proud enough to put your name on it. You have a very capable Board elected to make the decisions for this church. As a congregation we should be solidly focused on our mission. The Board is organized and has a workable plan to take us to the next stage.

I'd also like to remind all about Michael Durall's advice:

During this period of transition, I hope church members will hold true to our current mission statement and "be a beacon of love and tolerance." As you do this, I suggest a two-part ground rule. If the leadership makes a decision that creates concern among church members, said members may express their views. All voices can indeed be heard. This is Part A of the ground rule.

Part B is that every concern should be accompanied by an alternative suggestion or idea. Church members cannot merely sit on the sidelines and criticize the work of others. Being open and honest with one another will be one of the congregation's greatest strengths. Anonymous communication of any kind is discouraged. The ground rule of "all voices being heard" does not mean that all proposals will prevail. If a member's wish is not the direction the leadership decides, I urge members to be slow to anger and quick to forgive, and remain team players. Maybe the next decision will go your way.

May we all be well, happy, and peaceful!

Judy

Please check website for last-minute updates. All events at Clover Lane unless otherwise indicated.

Tue 1 6:00 Mindfulness Meditation (weekly)

Normally, two 25-minute periods of meditation with a short reading, discussion and rest between. Coordinated by Chuck Daley, MMG@harrisburguu.org. Repeats every Tuesday. Third Tuesday is silent meditation, fifth Tuesday a special program. For today's event, we have a single (early) New Year's Day meditation in Fuller Chapel at 6:00 p.m., followed by a simple potluck in the Common Room: soup, salad, bread, beverage, or dessert. RSVP requested but last minute walk-ins are very welcome. RSVP to coordinate food contribution with Gen Reed at genareed1@gmail.com, if possible.



Wed 2 6:00 Queen Spirit: "Letting Go and Moving On"

Queen Spirit is a co-created women's spirituality circle that meets on the first Wednesday of the month. This month, Randa Todd and Debbie Page present a circle on letting go of the past and envisioning the coming year. Participants should bring ornaments for the altar tree and gifts to share; the gifts should be a symbol of letting go (think recycle). Bring a favorite dish, dessert or beverage to share and your place setting and serving spoons and plates. We come together to share our stories, be nourished and affirmed in our journeys, and provide and receive spiritual enrichment. Potluck at 6:00, followed by the circle. Contact Randa Todd, lrrt1946@yahoo.com.

Thu 3 7:00 Unisinger Open Enrollment

Unisingers wants yUU to give it a try! The first two Thursdays in January, we welcome all and sundry to our weekly rehearsals, no experience necessary! If you've been wondering about how to lift your voice, we'll show you how! No reservations necessary ~ just come a little early (6:45) for orientation. Repeats Jan. 10. Contact Sparkie Radcliffe, sparkier@comcast.net.



Unisinger for the Uninitiated

Through all the tumult and the strife
I hear the music ringing;
It finds an echo in my soul—
How can I keep from singing?

Mon 7 6:30 Amrit Yoga (weekly)

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. Led by Ed Sykes, esykes@state.pa.us. No experience necessary! Repeats every Monday.

Sat 12 9:00 Common Ground Café Market Street

In collaboration with the Shared Ministry, the UCH is now in its fourth year of operating the Common Ground Café at our Market Street campus. It occurs on the second and last Saturday of the month, and attendance continues to increase! 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. We also need volunteers to work with neighborhood children. To join the e-list of community volunteers, please contact Clay Lambert, commongroundbreakfast@gmail.com.

Sun 13 9:00 Moral Issues Forum: "U.S. Medics vis-à-vis Afghan Civilians?"

The Forum meets on the Second Sunday for lecture/discussion on moral and ethical issues from a non-religious viewpoint. A speaker presents his/her views on a topic with ethical and moral implications for approximately 30 minutes. After the presentation, the floor is open for discussion and questions. Attendees share their views on the day's topic so that we learn, not only from our speaker, but from each other. This month, we discuss the American military's responsibility to local civilians during wartime, specifically in Afghanistan. The military code of conduct forbids treating civilians uninvolved in the war, but this policy raises a host of ethical questions. Come hear the personal experiences of one person who has faced this dilemma and discuss the larger implications that it raises. Our speaker is Scott McClellan, a medic who spent time in Afghanistan with the U.S. Marines and is now based at the Army War College in Carlisle. For more information, please contact David Spear, spear130@gmail.com.



Sun 13 6:30 Philosophy & Literature Group

The Philosophy & Literature Group meets on the second Sunday of the month. This month, the group meets at Clover Lane to discuss Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide, by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. From Publishers Weekly:

New York Times columnist Kristof and his wife, WuDunn, a former *Times* reporter, make a brilliantly argued case for investing in the health and autonomy of women worldwide. More girls have been killed in the last fifty years, precisely because they were girls, than men were killed in all the wars of the twentieth century, they write, detailing the rampant gendercide in the developing world, particularly in India and Pakistan. Far from merely making moral appeals, the authors posit that it is impossible for countries to climb out of poverty if only a fraction of women (9% in Pakistan, for example) participate in the labor force.



Contact Dick Hoke, Rrhoke@aol.com.

Fri 18 7:30 Clover Lane Coffee House \$10 admission

Clover Lane Coffee House offers a series of concerts by local and traveling artists, normally monthly on the Third Friday. This month we welcome back Voxology, for their third engagement with us. Admission is \$10 at the door; all are welcome.

Kevin Neidig and Les Vonderlin make up this award-winning group based in Central Pennsylvania. Just four months after forming Voxology, Neidig and Vonderlin were named finalists in the 1998 Lilith Fair/Levi's Talent Search. Both are two-time first place winners at the North Bay Deer Creek Fiddler's Convention in Westminster, MD, Les winning vocal competitions and Kevin winning guitar and vocals. Vonderlin's songwriting has been recognized by the South Florida Folk Festival and the Susquehanna Music and Arts Festival. They also played 16 sets at the 2002 Olympic Games in Salt Lake City.



Contact a.bart.carpenter@gmail.com.

Sun 20 3:00 Roe vs Wade: "What Starts with Choice and Ends with Justice?" Market Street

You are cordially invited to the annual Central Pennsylvania Roe v. Wade Interfaith Service, sponsored by the Reproductive Rights lay-led ministry. Keynote speaker is the Rev. Rob Keithan, Director of Public Policy for the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice (RCRC) in Washington, D.C. A UU minister, Rob is also the son of UCH members Jim and Nan Cavanaugh and grew up in our church. Other speakers include Rabbi Eric Cytryn of Beth El Temple; Zen Shuso Julie Good-Kruger; and Chaplain Jim Cavanaugh of the UCH. Contact Barb Pearce, barbpearce@verizon.net.



Sat 26 4:00 - 7:00 Tu B'Shvat/New Year for Trees

Tu B'shvat occurs on the 15th day of the Hebrew month Shevat; it is also called "Rosh HaShanah La'llanot," which means the "New Year of the Trees." Tu B'Shvat is a celebration of the renewal of vision and awareness, a celebration of connections and connectedness—to our own inner-selves, to the social world of human beings, and to the natural world and its Source. Please plan to join your fellow UCH members for a get-together like no other as we celebrate a Tu B'Shvat Seder meal, coordinated by Green Sanctuary, Clover Grove, and the newly formed Volunteer Ministry and UCH Events Committee (see below).

Tu B'shvat (ט"ו בשבט), "The New Year For the Trees"

The Seder offers a unique opportunity for insight into living and personal growth and involves partaking of certain foods and discussing philosophical and Kabbalistic concepts associated with them. Among other things, the Seder is a great way to appreciate the bounty that we so often take for granted, and to develop a good and generous eye for the world around us. This promises to be an inspiring event celebrating the abundant gifts of the natural world which gives our senses delight and gives life to our bodies. Our Tu B'Shvat Seder will present an opportunity, in UU fashion, for us to reawaken our spiritual connections both to each other and to our Earth by sharing a feast of fruits of the tree and fruits of the vine as we are led through a program by Alanna Berger. We will enjoy dishes with four types of fruits that symbolize both the four seasons and the four elements of nature.

Please RSVP to Laura Edinger, laura.edinger@ymail.com (yes it's ymail). We will need volunteers to prepare specific (uncomplicated) food items aligned with the Seder meal and help with setup/cleanup.

For Planning Purposes

News on UCH members and activities

Volunteer Ministry

Happy New Year! We have cause for celebration at the UCH – we are growing in numbers! This is great news! This expansion also brings expanded opportunities for personal growth and camaraderie, opportunities to lend your time and talent to the needs of our growing congregation. With this in mind, we are developing a new Volunteer Ministry, and the UCH Volunteer Ministry needs YOU! We need your talent, your passion, and your help to move our church forward.

The Volunteer Ministry needs UCH members to serve in an administrative role, such as helping identify and define specific volunteer opportunities, and others to serve as cheerleaders for the group, e.g., recruiting volunteers and matching talent to tasks. We intend for the new Volunteer Ministry to jumpstart volunteer efforts at UCH. Let's capitalize on the vitality of our church! Let's put our ideas into action!

Please contact Warren Hardman (warrenhardman@gmail.com) or Laura Edinger (laura.edinger@ymail.com) to get involved.

Events Coordination

We have also formed a "UCH Events Coordination" group to serve as a supergroup of gregarious gurus of fun! This group has just formed and is in its development stage as well. Our mission is to arrange and coordinate fun events to appeal to the widest-possible cross-section of other UCH groups. These events will be planned for members to come together to have fun, enjoy each other's company, and get to know one another on a purely social level. Our first event (in collaboration with three other groups) is the Tu B'shvat Seder on Jan. 26 (page 4). To participate, please contact Laura Edinger (laura.edinger@ymail.com).

— submitted by Laura Edinger

Clover Lane Coffee House Winter/Spring 2013		
DATE	ARTIST	
7:30 Jan 18	Voxology The third Clover Lane appearance by this award-winning duo from Central PA. Harmony heaven!	
7:00 Feb 22	Alash Throat-singers from Tuva, by way of Carnegie Hall (2/16)! This is a family-friendly concert, with an early 7:00 pm start.	
7:30 Mar 15	Montana Skies Cello-guitar fusion - a mix of spaghetti western, flamenco, and R&B -- with a little Top 40 thrown in!	
7:30 Apr 19	Ben Bullington The country doctor from Montana (still practicing) with a side job as troubadour.	
7:30 May 17	UCH Talent Two of our own! Bill Manlove brings Nite Vision quartet (covers and originals), and Ben Stone-Thonus (Trypod) is back after a fabulous premier with us last summer!	

Philosophy and Literature Group 2013 Booklist

The Philosophy & Literature Group normally meets on the second Sunday of the month. Selections for 2013 are:

MONTH	TITLE	AUTHOR
January	<i>Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide</i>	Nicholas Kristof
February	<i>Flight Behavior: A Novel</i>	Barbara Kingsolver
March	<i>The Emperor of All Maladies: A Biography of Cancer</i>	Siddhartha Mukherjee
April	<i>The Wisdom of Insecurity</i>	Alan Watts
May	<i>Religion for Atheists. A Non-Believers Guide to the Uses Of Religion</i>	Alain de Botton
June	<i>Nature Wars: The Incredible Story of How Wildlife Comebacks Turned Backyards into Battlegrounds</i>	Jim Sterba
July	<i>Kids For Cash</i>	William Ecenbarger
August	<i>What a Plant Knows</i>	Daniel Chamovitz, Ph.D.
September	<i>Strange as This Weather Has Been</i>	Ann Pancake
October	<i>What Money Can't Buy</i>	Michael J. Sandel
November	<i>John Quincy Adams</i>	Harlow Unger

Youth Group

Submitted by Leeann Rhoades

December: Soup/Bake Sale

The Youth Group thanks you for purchasing soup and cookies to support the scholarship fund for their mission trip next summer; the photo at right is from our sales table at Clover Lane on Sunday, Dec. 2.

The service trip is to The Pilgrimage from June 16-22, 2013. The Pilgrimage is a service-learning hostel based in the heart of the nation's capital. I believe this is a transformative and exciting opportunity for the youth at our church.

January: Recycled Electronics

Every Sunday in January, UCH Youth Group will be collecting recyclable electronics at both locations, as a fund-raiser for the 2013 Service Trip to Washington DC. Manufacturers pay cash for these items and either refurbish them or reuse the parts. Any electronic item is recyclable: cell phone, MP3 player, iPod, iPad, e-readers, digital cameras, digital games, etc.

Collection bins will be available in the Common Room (Clover Lane), and Youth Group will have donations tables in the Social Hall at Market Street. Otherwise you can drop them off at Clover Lane or contact Theresa Alberici (717-439-0032, alberbaugh4@verizon.net) to arrange an alternate drop-off.

Thanks to Theresa for organizing the fund-raiser!

June: Mission Trip

Performing service for those in need is a major growth opportunity. A prior-year participant in program at the The Pilgrimage tells the following anecdote:

On our D.C. mission trip we noticed while passing sandwiches out that the homeless were astonished to find a group of kids, coming up and conversing with them and not just throwing sandwiches to them and carrying on with there business. Stopping and conversing with the homeless was a clutch moment while in D.C. Having them open up to us and getting to know the personally really made them happy. And then remembering them and saying hey and calling them by their first name on the streets and not referring to them as "hey man" or "hey sir". Some homeless people go weeks maybe months without being called by there first name they are referred to by nicknames or no names at all. Just remembering who they where and saying "hey Reggie" or something really impacted their lives and made them realize that they are somebody and that someone out there really cares about them.



Prison Ministry

Helping Women in Prison and Their Families: Diane Metzger

In response to a request from Diane Metzger (b. 1949), HWICF is organizing a "Free Diane's Spirit" fund-raiser. Diane has been in prison continuously for 37 years. Her extraordinary accomplishments during that time have been recognized in educational, religious, and cultural forums. She is the first woman in prison in Pennsylvania history to earn a bachelor's degree while incarcerated; she subsequently received a master's degree in history/humanities.

I visited with Diane in December. She is finding it increasingly difficult to create literary work by writing it longhand, and she has requested a typewriter and ribbons. HWICF is planning to sell some of her poetry during coffee hour in January to raise \$300 for a typewriter and ribbons, available from the prison commissary. Please watch the [Weekly Reminder](#) for details.

—Submitted by Jim Cavanaugh

Membership

Older Teens/Young Adults

A large group of Youth Group graduates attended the Winter Solstice at Clover (fornow) former Youth Group leader Wendy Shaver, Tim Hoepfer, and Clare Myers; (second row) Annisa Lopez-Jacobs, Eric Bronder, Beverly Roth, Suusey Fleeger, Dustin Hoepfer, and Emily Alberici; (third row) Jordan Wright, Taylor Wright, and Sasha Lopez-Jacobs; and (standing) Scott Bronder.



New Members

Please welcome the following new members to our congregation, from our New Membership Class in November.

Donna Hoover with sons Justin (left) and Simon. She is originally from Lewistown and grew up in the Church of the Brethren. The family live in Hummelstown and enjoy camping in their free time. Their Connection Coach is **Tracey Richards**.



John and Maura Cadell with sons George (left) and Charlie. They found us on the Internet and were impressed by our Market Street location, our liberal and active church. Their Connection Coaches are **Tom/Meg Conners**, who live just one street over from them in Camp Hill.



Jenny Pomerantz with husband, Brad; daughter Sophie; and son Alex. They come from non-religious Protestant/ Jewish backgrounds and enjoy camping, hiking, and other outdoor activities, including multiple sports: aikijutsu (Jenny); softball and basketball (Brad); swimming (Sophie); and basketball and skiing (Alex). They found us via their friends and neighbors in Enola, **Jen** and **Chris Ziegler**, who are also serving as their Connection Coach.



Chuck Black is a recent political science graduate of Shippensburg University and active in politics. Among other things, he just finished a term as state Vice President for the Pennsylvania College Democrats; participated in the White House Open House Holiday event this year (photo); and recently attended national candidate and campaign training for the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund in Long Beach, CA.



He works part-time as a zumba and water fitness instructor and begins a new position at the Pennsylvania Department of Education this month. His Connection Coach is **Bart Carpenter**.

Kay Cox Obituary

Katherine Collins Cox, 93, died December 14, 2012, at Harrisburg Hospital. She was a woman's advocate and founder of the UU Church of Delaware County; supporter of the Unitarian Universalists of Cumberland County; and UCH Life Member. For several years Kay was a member of the Joseph Priestley District of the UUA Women and Religion organization and a member of the Board of Trustees for the Murray Grove UU Conference Center in Lanoka Harbor, NJ.



Services were held at the UCH Clover Lane campus on Dec. 22, 2012, the Rev. Howard Dana officiating. Kay was preceded in death by her husband of 67 years, J. Frederic Cox, on May 17, 2011. She is survived by a son, David Cox, of Camp Hill; two grandsons; and a great granddaughter.

LaGrone Report

Compiled from reports by Jessica Chuckalovcak, Amy Allen, Cordell Affeldt and Margaret Carrow

Members of the LaGrone Scholarship Committee hosted lunch for scholars and their UCH mentors between Christmas and New Year's. Here is a status update on the current scholars:

Stanley Lumpkin (2012) had a good first semester at Shippensburg, where he is majoring in Sports Programming and Management. "It was a real learning experience with balancing school, football, and personal time," he reports. "I feel I did a good job at being as time-efficient as possible." His mentor is UCH member Rick Hawley.

Dana Washington (2010) is in her third year at Penn State main campus. She is majoring in Biobehavioural Health with plans to become a physician's assistant. She reported carrying a tough course load last semester, but said she was pretty sure that she was getting an "A" in Organic Chemistry and that she would make the Dean's List.

"Each of us at the lunch today was so impressed with her," reports Jessica Chuckalovcak. "Dana is a motivated, driven, accomplished young woman who knows exactly what she wants to do with her life and she knows what she needs to do to get there."

While home for winter break, Dana is working for Keystone Services, helping people with mental disabilities. This summer, she plans to shadow a physician's assistant in Neurology at Hershey Medical Center. Dana's UCH member mentor, Maureen Callahan, describes their relationship as having progressed from a mentorship to a friendship.



Scholar Dana Washington with her mentor, Maureen Callahan

LaConteau Williams (2007) is enrolled at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, NC, majoring in Communications. Her work-study program includes an assignment in the Public Relations Department, where she writes press releases and creates content for university publications.

"I work there as a work-study student," she said. "But they always say it's more like an internship for me because I'm such a good writer." LaConteau hopes to work at an internship in Charlotte over the summer. Her mentor is UCH member Ann Sitrin.

Stewardship

Espresso Your Love for the UCH!

This is the theme that the Stewardship Committee has chosen for our annual pledge campaign. This year we are working on a plan to meet with 1/3 of our congregation, face to face over a cup of java. I give to this church because I am so proud of all the things we do. I love our diversity and yet we all come together to create programs that benefit ourselves, our church, our community and our planet.

In preparing for the pledge drive, we all read an article on "Why We Give," written by Stephen Gray, a United Church of Christ (UCC) minister and noted authority on stewardship. "Giving can be a way of saying thanks for the gifts that have been bestowed upon us," Gray says. "We give because we acknowledge that we are fortunate to have already received many gifts. Giving can feel like an act of worship; a celebration of abundance."

We are hopeful that your love for our church will move you to increasing your "celebration of abundance." We will be glad to talk to you about any specific needs of the church if you have questions. Just call me to set up a coffee date: Kathy Stewart (717-651-9648, gram-s@comcast.net).

—Submitted by Kathy Stewart



December in Review

The end of the year is always busy for UCH members, and 2012 was no exception. We had multiple season-specific services at both campuses, with particularly heavy attendance at Winter Solstice and Christmas Eve services.



Rabbi Carl Choper leads services on Hanukkah, assisted by lay leader Laura Edinger.

Multigenerational Christmas Service: "Would You Like to Hold the Baby?"

The multigenerational Second Sunday service featured an All Star cast: RGL children and youth. Maggie Shaver-Wilson, daughter of Wendy Shaver and Nick Wilson, cuddles baby Jackson Douglas Stone as "Mary" watches. Mary and Joseph were played by parents Ben and Nikki Stone-Thonus.



Sunday morning with Youth Group

The turning of the year is a time to rid ourselves of unproductive behaviors. At the solstice ceremony, we each wrote on a slip of paper a negative trait or characteristic to let go of, dropped the slip into the Mayan corn husk doll, and proceeded en masse to carry the doll to the pyre behind the church.



Winter Solstice 2012



Holiday Cleaning

Jeff Sigel (far right) led a crew of 14 in transforming the kitchen for the New Year. Shown with him are wife Amy Allen and son Noah.

