



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

## Minister's Message

Farewell message from Rev. Howard Dana



This final column is an excerpt from the sermon I preached during my interview process with three different churches. It gave me an opportunity to tell those congregations just how much I have loved the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg.

In her book *Traveling Mercies*, Anne Lamott writes:

Most of the people I know who have what I want—which is to say, purpose, heart, balance, gratitude, joy—are people with a deep sense of spirituality. They are people in community, who pray, or practice their faith; they are Buddhists, Jews, Christians—people banding together to work on themselves and for human rights. They follow a brighter light than the glimmer of their own candle; they are part of something beautiful.

I saw something once from the Jewish Theological Seminary that said, “A human life is like a single letter of the alphabet. It can be meaningless. Or it can be part of a great meaning.”

For over 12 years, I have served a community of the kind Lamott longs for, a “people banding together to work on themselves and for human rights.” What brings us together? What draws us to our Unitarian Universalist congregations? We, too, are people who seek purpose, heart, balance, gratitude, and joy. We are people who strive to have a deep sense of spirituality. We know that however imperfect a congregation is—and every congregation is imperfect—it is a people’s best attempt at community. Be it a church, a synagogue, a mosque, a sangha, a temple, or a meeting house, the gathering of people in religious community is always a quest for greater meaning. And in this regard, we Unitarian Universalists are no different from our religious neighbors. We, too, desire to bring our best selves to this church—“this workshop of our common endeavor,” to quote Rev. Ken Patton.

Most Sundays, as I stand before the congregation I have served for more than 12 years, I am keenly aware of the ways that our lives have become intertwined. As I stand at the pulpit and look out at the faces of the people I know so well, I see there before me a community that yearns to be of use in the world. As I stand in the sanctuary, I can easily remember all the people I have married in that space. I remember, even more poignantly, the many members I loved whose memorial services I led. I see the children that I have dedicated. The people who were new members a decade ago, sit before me, now leaders in the church. I serve this congregation as well as I know how. And its members join in that spirit of cooperation with me. We are not perfect. We

## Unitarian Church of Harrisburg

### May 2013 At-a-Glance

Please check website for last-minute updates

DATE	TIME	SPEAKER
Wed 1	6:00	Queen Spirit, Randa Todd
Sat 4	7:30	Movie Classics, Judy/Larry Linder
Sun 5	9:00	"Thinking Differently," Pete Trufahnestock Craft Group flower basket sale (Clover Lane)
	11:00	After both services: 2013-14 Budget Review and "Meet the Candidate" sessions with future trustees
Mon 6	6:30	Amrit Yoga, Ed Sykes
Tue 7	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation Group (MMG), Chuck Daley
Wed 8	7:00	Board of Trustees, Judy Linder
Fri 10	6:00	Howard Dana Farewell Party
Sat 11	9:00	Common Ground Café, Clay Lambert
Sun 12	9:00	Moral Issues Forum, "Reproductive Rights, 2013-14 Budget Review after both services
	11:00	Multigenerational Service: "Flower Communion," Rev. Howard Dana (Howard's final service) 2013-14 Budget Review after both services
Mon 13	6:30	Amrit Yoga, Sykes
Tue 14	7:00	MMG, Daley
	7:30	Helping Women In Prison & Their Families, Jim Cavenaugh
Fri 17	7:30	Clover Lane Coffee House, Bart Carpenter
Sat 18	5:30	All-Church Potluck
	6:30	<b>Annual Congregational Meeting</b>
Sun 19	9:00	Graduation Sunday; LaGrone Scholar Recognition
	11:00	Graduation Sunday
	12:15	Pasta dinner fund-raiser, Nej Meflah
	7:00	Philosophy and Literature, Don Brown
Mon 20	6:30	Amrit Yoga, Sykes
Tue 21	7:00	Silent MMG, Daley
Wed 22	7:00	Clover Grove, Nikki Stone-Thonus
Sat 25	9:00	Common Ground Café, Lambert
Sun 26	10:00	"Shavuot - Feast of Weeks, Receiving the Torah," Rabbi Carl Shoper (no RGL)
	10:30	Joint service with Shared Ministry, Rev. Richard Gordon preaching (no RGL)
Tue 28	7:00	Silent MMG, Daley

#### Market Street Event

have our ignoble moments. I have my critics. And I love deeply some of the people with whom I disagree most. The feeling that most comes over me those Sunday mornings when we are gathered for worship is how much I care for the members of the congregation. I am there to challenge them to care for one another, too. We are all like single letters of the alphabet. We can be part of a great meaning.

It has been so good to walk among you.

Love, Howard

**Annual Meeting  
Saturday May 18**

## President's Message



May is the month we exercise congregational polity. We do this through an annual meeting, required by our bylaws. The basic purpose of the meeting is to transact the official business of the church; review the past church year (a written Annual Report will be presented); and adopt the

budget for the coming year. We have a fine slate of candidates for Trustee this year; highlights appear on page 5, with details on the church website. In order to vote, you must be a current active member, age 13 or older, with a financial or service contribution of record within the prior 12 months. As with any democratic process, voting is a responsibility: to have a voice, you must show up to vote. So please join us May 18 at Clover Lane at 5:30 to enjoy a potluck, conversation and fellowship, then at 6:30 to participate in the governance of your church.

**This year we have made some changes** to our organizational structure. In November, the Board created an Executive Team to relieve our Senior Minister from many administrative tasks and thereby allow him to spend more time on ministry. Last month, the Board further refined the structure of this team. It will now consist of the Senior Minister as chief of staff, plus Blaise Liffick and Phil Hoskins-Helm. Having a team will enable us to provide closer attention to administrative issues, including better reporting and compliance with the "Policy Governance Ends Statements" and "Executive Limitations." Having an Executive Team will allow the church, as an organization, to be better managed. Blaise has also decided to focus his time and talent on being a member of the Executive Team instead of running for Trustee. We are so fortunate to have both of them who are skilled and familiar with our church to volunteer for this position. Neither will be Board members, removing any possible conflict between Board and staff roles.

Our process of finding an interim minister is right on schedule. The UUA timetable is to make an offer no earlier than May 3. At this writing, we have a candidate, and the Interim Minister Team on the Board will be conducting an interview and reference check. As soon as we have a contract/acceptance, we will make a formal announcement.

**Our new minister should arrive** in mid-August and be in the pulpit by Sept. 8. The next part of the process is for the interim minister to carefully evaluate our situation and most likely propose some changes. Each of us needs to be open, to listen, and to be flexible. It is not about "what I want" but about "what we need." One problem with focusing on the individual is that it does not take into account the needs of our Beloved Community. I attended Frederic Muir's (*Move from iChurch to Beloved Community*) seminar at the District meeting. The Transcendentalist philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson was not entirely right in spotlighting individualism; we can't build a church on individualism because it does not encourage people to live and work together. Mutual trust and support takes hard work, and I suspect that we will be doing a lot of that next year.

**Other news:** the newly formed Worship Arts Ministry is working on creating an exciting series of summer worship services. Linda (Pehlman) Hope, Kate Carpenter, and Sparkie Radcliffe are trying some new things this summer as well as keeping some very successful ones. We switch to a new worship schedule on Memorial Day weekend, with Clover Lane services at 10:00 a.m. and Market Street at 10:30; both will be held in the sanctuary of each campus. From June through August, Clover Lane speakers will preach on "This I Believe." Market Street speakers will create a sermon based on the topic for the month.

May we all be well, happy, and peaceful!

Judy

## Sunday Service Assignments for May

MAY	9:00 CLOVER LANE		11:00 MARKET STREET	
DATE	TRUSTEE	USHER	TRUSTEE	USHER
May 5	Phil Hoskins-Helm	Susan Rimby/John Katz	Dennis Hursh	Cordell Affeldt, Steve Todd
May 12	Mary Henninger-Voss	David Spear	Marilyn McHenry	Kim/Chris Cain
May 19	Warren Hardman	Steve Todd	Laura Edinger	Tracy/Greg Richards
May 26	Judy Linder	Hannah Belser and Wally Wenklar	Chris Dutton	Jeff Sigel and Amy Allen

### Executive Team

As noted above, the Board of Trustees has appointed two long-time UCH members to the Executive Team.

#### Blaise Liffick

Blaise Liffick has been a UCH member since 1993 and served 2003-2009 on the Board of Trustees, including three years as President. While serving on the Board, he was also chair of the Communication Committee. Highlights of his UCH activities include participation in Unisingers, UUPLAN, and serving as lay liturgist. With his wife, Alanna Berger, he helped found Silent Witness Peacekeepers, expanding it from a UCH lay-led ministry to a formal non-profit organization. Professionally, he is a professor of computer science at Millersville University (MU), a member of the President's Commission on Cultural Diversity and Inclusion there, and served as a commissioner on the national Computing Accreditation Commission.



#### Phil Hoskins-Helm



Phil Hoskins-Helm joined the UCH in 1989 and served on the Board of Trustees 1999-2002 and 2007-2013, serving two years as Vice President. He also participated in drafting the Communications Strategic Goals & Objectives for the *UCH Strategic Goals 2011-2015*. He has participated in numerous activities at UCH, including Unisingers (1991-date), UCH representative to the the Inter-Religious Forum of Greater Harrisburg (1992-2001), and co-chair of Silent Auction (1995-99), Stewardship Canvass co-chair (2000, 2001, 2003, 2004). While on the "Chair & Glare" task force, he helped build the dais in the Clover Lane sanctuary and worked on the wiring and permanent mounting of the theater lights there. He and his wife, Donna, are among the group leaders who coordinate Saturday breakfasts at Common Ground Café at our Market Street campus.

### Religious Growth and Learning

May is annual registration month for Children and Youth Religious Growth & Learning (RGL) for the 2013-14 church year. Please complete the registration form and return it by Memorial Day. Forms will be sent to families currently registered via email in early May; copies will be available at both campuses and on the UCH website. Forms may be submitted electronically, mailed in or dropped off at either church. Other dates for families to note:

Please register your child for next year's RGL class

🕒 **May 10: Farewell Party for Howard**

This is a family-friendly event for all ages. Please plan to attend the potluck and ceremony (page 8) and let me know in advance if you need nursery/childcare.

🕒 **May 12: Flower Communion**

Children should bring a flower to share for Flower Communion. This is also Howard's final service.

🕒 **May 26 (Memorial Day Weekend): childcare only**

For both services on May 26, we will have childcare only, for babies and young children. Children are welcome and encouraged to attend the full service with their family.

🕒 **Summer RGL**

We will have programming for children at both services after opening rituals. Please contact me or Kate Carpenter to volunteer.

🕒 **August 24: Family Chalice Camp**

Save the date! We are not holding week-long Chalice Camp this year. Instead, we are working on an All Church Fun Day at Pinchot Park, coordinated by Wendy Shaver/Nick Wilson and the Events Coordinating Group.

— Submitted by RGL Director Trish Brandon

### **2013 LaGrone Scholar: Daouda Kassimou**

Daouda Kassimou will be honored as the 2013 LaGrone Scholar in a ceremony and reception at our Clover Lane campus on Sunday, May 19, 2013. A student at Harrisburg High School's John Harris Campus, Daouda has been an outstanding student as well as a leader in academic and community activities. He is an active member of Respect, Responsibility, Attitude and Preparation (R.R.A.P), the S.P.I.R.IT club and is a member of the National Honor Society (NHS). He is a member of the Rotary Club. He plans to major in mechanical engineering at Penn State Harrisburg.



External members of the Selection Panel included Aaron Johnson, Deputy Director, City of Harrisburg Public Works; Jennifer Rash, Counselor (graduate intern) with the Steelton-Highspshire School District; and Joshua Group, tutor. UCH panelists include Libby Bechtel, Chris Dutton, and Nancy Hall.

—Submitted by Margaret Carrow

### **Pastoral Associates**

As we prepare for the departure of the Rev. Howard Dana, many of us find ourselves headed into uncharted waters. The Pastoral Associates want to assure the congregation that there will be a team of folks familiar with you and your needs. Our goal during this time is to continue to provide personal support in a confidential and compassionate manner.

Over the summer months, both I and our able team will personally be available to the congregation. When the interim minister arrives in August, we will continue to serve you and act as a bridge between you and the new minister as he/she begins to become acquainted with all of us.

As many of you may already know, my husband and I are retiring to New Mexico later this year. My commitment to UCH is to remain with the Pastoral Associates until the interim is in place. To that end we also want to announce that longtime member Marj Forster has agreed to head up the Pastoral Associates when I step down at the end of August. She has a solid background with UCH, having worked with many committees. Her background as a former social worker continues to be a tremendous asset to the team.

We want to extend our gratitude to Denny and Barb Byrne who joined the Pastoral Associates at our inception and have now asked to be placed on inactive status. They have assured us they will be available for specific support services. We also welcome two new members to the team: Paul Showalter and Kathleen Daugherty. Paul is a long-time UCH member, a former Lutheran minister, and a retired caseworker in child welfare. Kathleen Daugherty is relatively new, partially retired, and extremely active in local public policy issues. We are grateful for the expertise and passion they bring to the associates. Please rest assured that we are here to provide continuity as we move forward together.

—Submitted by the Rev. Kathie Teeter

### **UU Pennsylvania Legislative Advocacy Network**

UCH member Anita Mentzer has joined the Board of Directors of UUPLAN, an advocacy organization that serves 6,000 UUs in 40 congregations across Pennsylvania. She also serves as our congregation's liaison to the advocacy organization. Among other things, she has been very active on the UUPLAN'S Economic Justice/Basic Human Needs Team where she serves as the lead delegate to the Coalition to Stop Payday Lending, a group of 92 organizations opposed to efforts to remove safeguards that cap payday lending for both banks and small-loan lenders. Several times this spring, UCH members of UUPLAN participated in letter and literature drops to all 50 state senators and 253 representatives.



The UUPLAN Economic Justice Team has scheduled a Restaurant Workers' Justice Workshop June 1, at First Unitarian Church in Philadelphia. We hope for at least two UCH members to attend. Please contact [anita.s.mentzer@gmail.com](mailto:anita.s.mentzer@gmail.com) to sign up and/or carpool.

UUPLAN is also joining forces with the Better Choices for Pennsylvania coalition to protest the proposed Pennsylvania budget, which cuts the corporate income tax rate by 30 percent, resulting in continuing shortfall in allocations to support Pennsylvania schools, universities and human services.

UUPLAN Environmental Justice Team is conducting a survey of UU congregations in Pennsylvania to document a baseline of Green Sanctuary activities. Our focus this year is education and advocacy on issues of Marcellus shale drilling.

— Submitted by Anita Mentzer and Rachel Mark

## Candidates for Board of Trustees

The narrative that follows is excerpted from the candidates' profiles available on the UCH website.

### ONE YEAR TERM

#### Andy Loza

Andy Loza has been a member of the UCH since 2004, with multiple years' experience teaching children's RGL; he is currently completing a one-year term as trustee. Over the next three years, he hopes to see a congregation "thriving at both Clover Lane and Market Street locations, with many pathways for members to be a part of the church's life – whether through social services at Market Street, helping women in prison, creating sustainable ways of living, advocacy at the Capitol or any number of ministries that go beyond ourselves, as well as engaging in the internal workings of the congregation, from shaping Sunday services to organizing fun events."



### THREE YEAR TERM

#### Nan Cavanaugh

UCH Life Member Nan Cavanaugh has been a member of the UCH since 1975. She is a former Board President and identifies herself and her husband, Jim, as "chronic UUs."

As a trustee, she hopes to "help UCH through the transition time as we remember perspectives learned from the past, do self-assessments to examine where we are in the present and envision realistic options for the future working with an interim and then a settled minister. At present I personally favor exploring: (1) further coalition building to support the work and use of Market Street and (2) continuing worship/services options and activities at both campuses."



#### Dave Forster

Dave Forster and his wife, Marj, have been active members of the UCH since 1991, serving on multiple committees. Dave has also held a number of civic leadership positions in Wormleysburg, including serving five years on the borough council. Where he would like to see the UCH in three years: "Settled with a new minister and staff that are fairly paid and enjoy their work. Providing the congregation not only a time convenient, spiritually rewarding Sunday service but also continue the offering of alternative programming such as the Humanist Forum and lay-led services. Making the best use of both campuses, for the benefit of our members and surrounding communities."



#### Clay Lambert

Clay Lambert has been a UCH member since 2005, has served in multiple leadership roles, and is a driving force behind the Community Café at our Market Street campus. With Rev. Yvonne Schumacher Strejcek, he led the year-long anti-racism seminar, "Building the World We Dream About." He and his wife, Erica, live in Uptown Harrisburg with their son, Aiden.

As a trustee, he hopes to accomplish the following:

- Assist members in becoming more comfortable at both UCH campuses
- Expanding UCH's charity and social justice work
- Expanding UCH's partnership with local community organization
- Increasing the human and financial investment of UCH members and friends



#### Judy Linder

Judy Linder and her husband, Larry, moved here in 2009, and the active, welcoming presence of the UCH was a major factor in their choice of Harrisburg as a retirement location. They had been members of First Universalist Society of Central Square NY, where Judy was a Board member and later Treasurer. She has served three years on the UCH Board of Trustees, including two as President.

Where she sees us in three years: "I would like to see the UCH grow into a multi-cultural, multi-generational congregation. With the demographics of our country changing (people of color are projected to be the majority in a short time) our church has to recognize that change, and truly welcome others of different ethnic, cultural, and socio-economic backgrounds. I would like to see us all open our hearts to people different from most of us, without fear, without derision. I would like us to live the principle of the inherent worth and dignity of everyone. I would like to see a re-energized church with more members who work on social action, social justice, and environmental projects."



## Membership

News about your fellow UUs

### ***Ella Landis***

Ella Louise Landis, daughter of UCH member Lisa Landis, was dedicated at the 9:00 a.m. service on April 21, 2013, the Rev. Howard Dana officiating. Present at the ceremony were her sponsor/ godparents, Matt Glaspey and Parul Luthra (shown); her father, Shawn Stephens; grandparents, Joseph & Robin Landis; and a number of other family and visitors.



### ***Brynne and Kate Bolling***

Brynne Elizabeth and Kate Elizabeth Bolling, daughters of UCH members John and Emily Bolling, were dedicated at the 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, April 21, 2013, the Rev. Howard Dana officiating. In addition to their parents, also present at the ceremony were grandparents Ann Walker and Bruno Dario and aunt Alicia Normand.



### ***Guy Dannelly***

We welcome to membership Guy Dannelly. He was a UCH member from 1976 through the late 1990s, active in a number of building and grounds efforts at our Clover Lane campus. He and his wife, Linda, live in Elizabethtown.



Guy is an avid fisherman and involved in the local Questers organization. He plans to work with Pastoral Associates making visits to nursing homes.

### ***Linda Pehlman, John Hope***

Congratulations to Linda Pehlman and John Hope, who were married in a private ceremony on Sunday, April 14, the Rev. Howard Dana presiding. Linda is co-chair of the new Worship Arts Ministry, and she and John are both active in the Unisingers. She is now Linda Hope. The new couple lives off Linglestown Road in Harrisburg.



### ***Race Against Racism***



The UCH fielded a team of 35 registered participants for the annual Race Against Racism run/walk on Saturday, April 27. This year's team was organized by Libby Tisdell, third from right, and Marj Hartman.

### ***Jonathan Sykes***

Former UCH member Jonathan Sykes, son of Karen and Ed Sykes, has received a Certificate of Congratulations for demonstrating exemplary dedication to duty and professionalism and was recognized for scoring 92% on his Career Development Course. Jon is in the U.S. Air Force; he and his wife, Adriana, are stationed at Whiteman Air Force Base near Kansas City, MO, where they are expecting their first child in June.



## May Graduates

*Congratulations to these three college seniors, graduating in May (and if we missed any others, please notify the REPORTER!)*

### **Maeda Myers**

Maeda Myers, daughter of UCH members Frances and Daniel Myers, graduates from Loyola University Maryland with a Bachelor of Arts in Communications, focusing on Advertising and Public Relations.

After graduation, Maeda plans to return to Harrisburg and spend the summer volunteering with the Harrisburg Riverboat Society and working with Creative Vision Media and Simple Point Printing. For the Riverboat Society, she will help organize events and promote awareness about the Riverboat; she looks forward to leveraging her training to benefit the non-profit. For Creative Vision Media and Simple Point Printing, she will be responsible for selling advertising for their real estate publication and in assisting clients in creative design.



### **Katharine Uvick**

Daughter of UCH member Della Hoke and Don Uvick and the granddaughter of UCH member Nathalie Hoke, Katharine Uvick graduates summa cum laude with honors from Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Science. At IUP, she learned multiple computer languages, 3D modeling, and multiple aspects of game development. She twice attended the annual Game Developers Conference (GDC), a professionals-only game industry event held in San Francisco. Over the past 12 months, she has worked with a team of students developing a mobile game for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

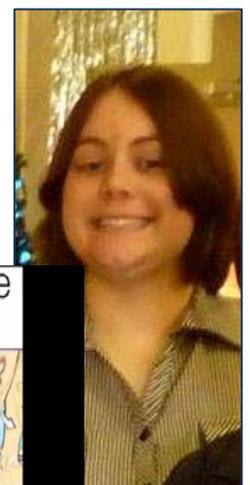
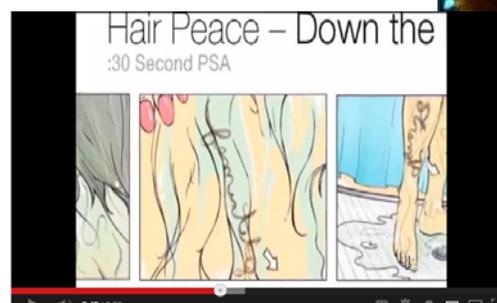
She is interested in pursuing a career in developing video games and will continue working with the DOE team to hone her skills and gain game-publishing experience. Appropriately for her skill set, she has developed an interactive website to promote her various interests. Among other things, she wears a number of baseball caps themed around her video games.



### **Sarah Uvick**

Sarah Uvick is the daughter of UCH member Della Hoke and Don Uvick and the granddaughter of UCH member Nathalie Hoke. She graduates summa cum laude from IUP with a Bachelor of Science in Communications Media. At IUP, she provided technical support to WIUP-TV (camera operator, audio operator, floor director, etc.) as well as performing creative jobs such as director, editor and producer. She served as a Production Assistant (PA) creating a charity public service announcement (PSA) for Women in Film and Media (WIFM) Pittsburgh. She also had an internship at WITF working with both radio and television.

She plans to work in the video/film production field after graduation.



Please synchronize your calendar for these UCH-sponsored events.

**Wed 1 6:00 Queen Spirit Clover Lane**

Queen Spirit is a co-created women's spirituality circle that meets on the first Wednesday of the month. This month, it is a Red Tent Circle. All women are encouraged to bring something that represents our connectedness to each other for the altar. Bring a favorite dish, dessert or beverage to share, plus 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, [Irrt1946@yahoo.com](mailto:Irrt1946@yahoo.com).

**Sat 4 7:30 Movie Classics Clover Lane**

Come one, come all! UCH members and friends are invited to a family-friendly "Saturday Night at the Movies," featuring *Ed Wood*. The 1994 American comedy-drama biopic stars Johnny Depp as cult filmmaker Ed Wood. The film concerns the period in Wood's life when he made his best-known films as well as when he developed his relationship with actor Bela Lugosi, played by Martin Landau. In one of his best-ever performances, Johnny Depp plays Ed Wood, a grinning goof with a sunny disposition who was heralded as the "worst director of all time" -- and certainly made the movies to prove it. Martin Landau turns in an Oscar-winning performance as aging horror icon Bela Lugosi, while Sarah Jessica Parker and Bill Murray co-star. 127 minutes.



Bring snacks or finger food to pass. Contact Judy Linder, [jlinder09@gmail.com](mailto:jlinder09@gmail.com).

**Mon 6 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.

Led by Ed Sykes, [esykes@state.pa.us](mailto:esykes@state.pa.us). No experience necessary! Repeats every Monday except Memorial Day.

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

Two 25-minute periods of meditation with a short reading, discussion and rest between.

Coordinated by Chuck Daley, [MMG@harrisburguu.org](mailto:MMG@harrisburguu.org). Repeats every Tuesday. Third Tuesday is silent meditation.

**Fri 10 6:00 Farewell Party for Rev. Howard Dana Clover Lane**

Join us for a farewell celebration honoring "our own" Rev. Howard Dana on his last weekend on duty. Potluck is at 6:30, followed by a ceremony in the sanctuary. Please RSVP to Nathalie Hoke (737-3972, [nathhoke@aol.com](mailto:nathhoke@aol.com)) to coordinate your food item. The committee is also requesting modest cash donations for gifts/expenses.



Sunday May 12 is Howard's last Sunday in the pulpit, for Flower Communion. Please bring a flower as we wish him well in his move to First Parish church of Concord, MA.



**Sat 11 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](mailto:commongroundbreakfast@gmail.com). **Repeats May 25**

**Sun 12 9:00 Moral Issues Forum: "Reproductive Rights" Clover Lane**

The Forum meets each month on the Second Sunday for lecture/discussion on moral and ethical issues from a non-religious viewpoint. Normally, a speaker presents his/her views on a topic with ethical and moral implications, then the floor is open for discussion and questions. This month, our topic is "Reproductive Rights," presented by Dorothy Fulton.



The topic of reproductive rights touches on many of the most inflammatory issues in America: women's rights, the role of government, birth control, abortion, religion, and cultural norms, among many others. But there is common ground. Most voices would like to reduce the number of abortions, improve conditions that could lead to them, and promote responsible behavior.

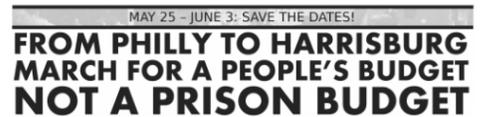
Join us for a thoughtful, broad-based discussion about the current state of matters, areas of agreement and disagreement, and a deeper understanding of the issues. For more information, please contact David Spear, [spear130@gmail.com](mailto:spear130@gmail.com).

**Tue 14 7:30 Helping Women In Prison & Their Families Clover Lane**

Since 2001, the Helping Women In Prison & Their Families (HWIPTF) lay-led ministry has supported multiple initiatives to support individuals involved with the criminal justice system, primarily women and children, in efforts to promote crime-free lives. Most of these initiatives are coordinated by the non-profit organization, The PROGRAM: It's About Change.

On the agenda for this month's meeting:

- 🍌 Support for June 2-3 march by "Decarcerate PA," a grassroots campaign working to end mass incarceration in Pennsylvania
- 🍌 Support for the June 7 "Party for the Program"
- 🍌 Follow-up discussion of *The New Jim Crow*
- 🍌 Planning for Community Connection re-entry breakfast, hosted at the Market Street campus in September
- 🍌 Logistics for collecting classified ads and transporting them to the PROGRAM's Community Center
- 🍌 Report on Diane Metzger, a life inmate at Muncy State Correctional Institution



The session is open to anyone interested in participating. Contact Margaret Carrow, [margaret.carrow@navy.mil](mailto:margaret.carrow@navy.mil).

**Sun 19 12:15 American Cancer Society Pasta Dinner Market Street**

The Breast Cancer Awareness lay-led ministry and UCH members Nej Meflah and Ruth Salinka invite you to a pasta dinner fund-raiser for the American Cancer Society (ACS) Relay for Life. "Pay what you will" donations accepted, with all proceeds benefitting the annual relay. If interested in serving, please contact [nejyra1@yahoo.com](mailto:nejyra1@yahoo.com), otherwise please just plan to stay for dinner after church services!



**Sun 19 7:00 Philosophy & Literature Group Clover Lane**

The Philosophy & Literature Group normally meets on the second Sunday of each month. This month the group meets on the third Sunday. The book is *Religion for Atheists. A Non-Believers Guide to the Uses of Religion*, by Alain de Botton. From Amazon.com:

The book is a bold attempt to convince atheists, or those who don't believe in the existence of God, that it is possible to derive important lessons from religions around the world without accepting any supernatural claims they might make.

With deftness, wit, and a wry tone, de Botton explores some of religion's greatest hits, including wisdom, community, kindness, tenderness, perspective, education, architecture, and art. He shows us how effective religion is at what we might call a customer-centric approach to presenting itself and suggests many secular institutions like universities, art galleries, and museums might be much more effective at engaging us with our culture if they borrowed a few tips from the assorted god squads.

Any person who loves serious fiction and non-fiction is invited to join the group. Contact Don Brown, [dabrown57@gmail.com](mailto:dabrown57@gmail.com).

Clover Lane Coffee House offers a series of concerts by local and traveling artists, normally on the Third Friday of every month. This month, we present a double-header of UCH talent! Admission \$10 at the door; all are welcome.

**Nite Vision** is an accomplished group of musicians who first played together in 1975. Their music is a mix of cover tunes, originals and different genres that appeal to a wide variety of listeners. They re-formed three years ago with Bill Mark on keyboards. Charlie Hollister (guitar) is the creative and driving force behind the music. His originals and arrangements are tastefully expressed by the group. Ben Hartman (bass) is among the best in his mastery of his instrument. Bill Mark brings a joy and love to his playing that is instantly recognized. And "our own" Bill Manlove (drums) provides the heartbeat with a sensitivity toward the audience and a creativity for the music as a whole.

**Trypod** is an acoustic duo made up of Josh Dominick on guitar, harmonica, and vocals and "our own" Ben Stone-Thonus on bass guitar, mandolin, and vocals. The Harrisburg-based duo regularly performs in York, Lancaster, Philadelphia, and State College. Trypod consistently entertains crowds with their impressive vocal harmonies, intricate musical abilities and wide range of musical styles. Their live performances draw from an impressive repertoire of elaborate cover materials as well as originals that can only be described as "a refreshing alternative to the current music scene." The duo was a smash hit last summer at Clover Lane.

Contact [a.bart.carpenter@gmail.com](mailto:a.bart.carpenter@gmail.com).

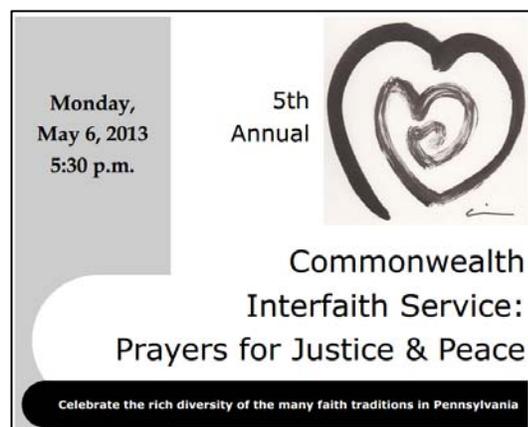
## Other Upcoming Events

🕒 **Saturday, May 4: 11th Annual South Allison Hill Multicultural Festival**

This annual festival (1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.) celebrates the cultural diversity of the South Allison Hill neighborhood. Parade goes down Derry Street at 1:00 p.m., then the festival starts at 1:30 p.m. at the Boys & Girls Club, 1227 Berryhill Street.

🕒 **Monday, May 6: 5th Annual Commonwealth Interfaith Services: Prayers for Justice and Peace**

In connection with National Day of Prayer, the Pennsylvania Council of Churches Ministry of Public Witness is pleased to sponsor the 5th annual interfaith service. This year's service is at 5:30 p.m. Monday, May 6, at Pine Street Presbyterian Church, 310 N. Third Street. The service will celebrate the religious diversity of our state and our nation, as well as the diversity of ways to pray. It includes music and dance, including our own Unisingers! Reception follows.



🕒 **Sunday, May 19: St. Paul's UCC 10th Anniversary**

Saint Paul's United Church of Christ, 626 Williams Grove Road, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055, invites all its friends and supporters to a 10-year celebration of being an open and affirming church in the tradition of the United Church of Christ. St. Paul's is a long-time supporter of Common Ground Café at our Market Street campus. Festivities begin with services at 10:30 a.m. on *Diversity: The Gift of Speaking the Languages of Openness and Affirmation*, followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall.

## Save the Date

🕒 **Friday, June 14: Urinetown, the Musical**

A benefit performance to help women in Kenya, co-sponsored by lay members of the UCH and of Market Square Presbyterian Church. Presented by Theater Harrisburg; details forthcoming. —*Submitted by Rachel Mark*

🕒 **Saturday, Aug 24: 11th Family Fun Day at Pinchot Park**

On August 24, we will come together as a congregation for a day of outdoor FUN! Local canoe instructors Phyllis and Scott Brown have offered to organize free morning and afternoon canoe session: paddling instructions, all equipment, and team building spirit included. You can enjoy swimming at the beach and/or hiking the trails! Details forthcoming. —*Submitted by Wendy Shaver*