



The Unitarian Church of Harrisburg: Building Bridges, Celebrating Community

The Wayside Pulpit

Progress and Planning

By Rev. Michael Walker, Interim Minister



Dear friends,
 Spring flowers have begun to bloom, and I have hope that we have seen the last of the snow. It has not been quite warm enough for me to pack away all my funny hats for the summer. But, that day is coming soon, I think!

As the seasons roll on, so does the church year. It has been a productive year, and later this month, we will have our Annual Meeting. It's hard to believe I'm soon to complete my first year with you all. We have accomplished so much, although there is more work to do, and I'm honored that our Board asked me to continue our collaborative ministry for another year. Looking back at the goals the Board and I set together, last summer, I see that we had a great many grand plans (which are all still very worthy goals), but I've also seen that certain matters rose to the top and needed the most attention this year. Particularly, administration, finances, and human resources needed some focused attention and course-correction, and we have made significant progress in those areas.

After three years of deficit, the Board and I realized that we needed to drastically reduce our expenses. This has meant, in large part, reducing the number of staff. Some of this happened through attrition, some from retirements already planned, and one lay-off (in which the replacement service for that position costs about 1/3 of the combined salary and benefits for the position eliminated, and we actually get more for the money, to boot.) I've also worked very hard to write a balanced budget for next year, with wise counsel, suggestions, and corrections from members of the Finance Committee and Board of Trustees.

The course for the next year will be set based on what happens at the Annual Meeting, and during the goal-setting exercise at the next Board retreat. The proposal from the Multi-Site Task Force may, I imagine, take some focus and energy next year. It is also my hope to put some energy into some program-related initiatives, such as adult religious education courses, or small group ministry efforts, orwho knows? Let me hear what you want and need, because your input is very important to me. This is your church, and it is my honor to travel with you all during all the efforts to find a way to do church that meets your needs and is also sustainable.

Eagerly awaiting more sunshine...

May it ever be so and blessed be you all

— Rev. Mike

Worship Services

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Market Street, 11:30 a.m. Clover Lane

May 1 *One Song: The Science of One* JD Stillwater
 JD's sermon is an offshoot of his *Seven Candles* project. His multimedia talk *Seven Candles: Science for a Deeper Spirituality* had its public debut at UCH in 2013 and has since been to seven states and 46 venues.

Also, JD will present *Seven Candles* again at Just Plain Yoga in Camp Hill at 7:00 p.m. Friday May 13, 7:00 pm. Details at sevencandles.org.

May 8 *Mother's Day & Flower Communion* Rev. Michael Walker
 Today, we honor all those who have been mothers in our lives, whether they be our bio moms, or wise women who mentored us just when we needed some compassion. Part of the service will also be our Flower Communion. If able, everyone is encouraged to bring a flower (preferably from one's own garden) that will be shared with someone else, although we will have some extra flowers in case someone is unable to bring one or forgets.

May 15 *Music Service: Being "We" in an "I" World* Linda Hope and choir
NOTE: There is only one service today, 10:30 a.m. at Clover Lane
 We will celebrate what being in community means, sing together and listen to some wise words about being together. This Sunday is a ministry of music, led by our Clover Lane choir and musicians.

Afterwards, please join us for a reception/luncheon in honor of Linda Hope — she came out of retirement at a time of need for UCH and guided our feet as we sang [our] songs. Now, she is retiring from service at UCH and leaves us with our deepest gratitude and best wishes.

May 22 *Our Search for Truth and Meaning (with Bridging Ceremony)* UCH Youth
 With spoken word and music from youth members of the congregation, we will explore our Fourth UU Principle, the free and responsible search for truth and meaning. It is timely, at the end of the school and church year, to learn about searches for truth and meaning, as it is viewed by those who are in the midst of such a search now. On this day, we will also honor four youth-turned-young-adults, with our Bridging Ceremony. RGL Coordinator Sara Palmer and Rev. Mike will assist in this part of the service.

May 29 *Fallen Heroes (Memorial Ceremony)* Rev. Mike Walker
 For Memorial Day, it seems appropriate to remember those who have died in the service of our country. We may have very conflicted feelings about the "war on terror" and other wars, national defense as a major industry, and imperialism — and yet, we can still find it in our hearts to remember and honor those who have fallen.

Share the Plate for May
Harrisburg Inner City Outings
Multi-Site Town Halls
May 14 & 15
Annual Meeting
2:00 May 22

Message from our President

By Laura Shemick, President



By now, everyone has had a chance to see the Multi-Site Task Force presentation or review the materials; I hope this means everyone is ready to talk about what the plan for our two sites should be. We are holding Town Hall-style meetings this month so that questions and comments can be freely exchanged in large groups. Previously, we had discussed possibilities in small groups, where note takers could record specific concerns and ideas for incorporation into the proposal to be presented at the annual meeting.

For the first time in quite a while, the congregation will consider a more-or-less balanced budget at the annual

meeting. Budgets are funny things; they are plans, and predictions, and hopes and fears. Most of all, they are a statement of what we think is important in our church. Reality frequently interferes with our desires, of course, with the result that many, many things that we think are important do not receive as many resources as we think they deserve. In my mind, it is much like the prioritization of monthly bill payments, and about as pleasant. We have many hopes and dreams at UCH, and we are doing our very best to achieve them in the most efficient and UU-fashion as possible. Your generosity – your gifts of time, talent, and treasure - makes it all possible.

If I seem to be preoccupied with the upcoming Annual Meeting, that’s because the topic is quite important. As a group, we at UCH don’t get together very often to make decisions. It makes sense to prepare thoroughly for the meeting, with plenty of information being circulated in advance, many pre-meeting discussions, and to set out very clear goals. Our bylaws have us using Robert’s Rules of Order in conducting our meeting; I find it ironic that those rules were created by a former Army officer with the idea of keeping very large groups of people (such as Congress) on track. That does not seem to have worked well for them over the past few years.

And Robert’s Rules are not the be-all and end-all of democracy, in my opinion. Strict adherence to them seems to be very un-UU in many ways. I prefer a longer process for discussion, and Rules for Reaching Consensus, which seem to me to be far more in accordance with our principles of reasoned, thoughtful discourse. UUs seem to do better when we can hear about an idea, then poke at it for a while, then roll it around in our collective hands to make it smooth and beautiful. But our bylaws require us to vote at our Annual Meeting, and vote we shall – after lots of pre-meeting information, discussion, and modification of proposals.

Speaking of lengthy discussions before decisions, now is a good time to mention policy governance, or, as we call it here, policy-style governance. Policy Governance® is a way of running an organization, and was designed with corporations in mind. Developed by John and Miriam Carver, policy governance can be adapted for use in non-profit groups, as we have done here at UCH. But, as many of you know, we have been very confused over the years that we have attempted to use policy-style governance at UCH, and the results have been, shall we say, mixed. Ordinary people don’t use policy governance principles in their daily lives, and, as with any unfamiliar process, there’s a learning curve. I regret to say that for most of our experience with policy governance, the “curve” has been pretty flat instead of trending upward. An upward curve indicates greater understanding and ease of use of the new knowledge.

Part of the flatness has been caused simply by the structure of our organization. We have staff, yes, but we could not possibly do church successfully without unpaid volunteers. And those unpaid volunteers are the people who make it possible to have staff, buildings, and supplies, and make it possible for the many events we have to occur. Members use our facilities regularly; we do not require

Unitarian Church of Harrisburg

May 2016 At-a-Glance

DATE	TIME	SPEAKER
Sun 1	Various	Sunday worship, both campuses
Mon 2	6:30	Amrit Yoga
Tue 3	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation Group
Wed 4	6:00	QueenSpirit
Thu 5	7:00	Choir practice
Sun 8	Various	Sunday worship, both campuses
Mon 9	6:30	Amrit Yoga
Tue 10	6:30	Women’s Night Out (off-site)
	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation Group
Thu 12	7:00	Choir practice
Fri 13	7:00	Active Hope Workshop
Sat 14	9:00	Common Ground Café
	10:00	Active Hope Workshop
	noon	Town Hall – Multi-Site Task Force
Sun 15	10:30	Sunday worship, Clover Lane only
	11:30	Lunch/reception for Linda Hope
	12:30	Town Hall – Multi-Site Task Force
	7:00	Philosophy and Literature
Mon 16	6:30	Amrit Yoga
Tue 17	10:00	CroneSpirit
	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation Group
Wed 18	6:00	Clover Grove
	7:00	Queen Spirit, Special Program
Fri 20	7:30	Clover Lane Coffee House
Sun 22	Various	Sunday worship, both campuses
	2:00	Annual Meeting
Mon 23	6:30	Amrit Yoga
Tue 24	6:30	Auction Committee
	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation Group
Sat 27	9:00	Common Ground Café
Sun29	Various	Sunday worship, both campuses
Mon 30	6:30	Amrit Yoga
Tue 31	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation Group

 Occurs at Market Street campus

MAY TRUSTEE ASSIGNMENTS		
DATE	MARKET STREET	CLOVER LANE
May 1	Tom Conners	Laura Shemick
May 8	Tom Conners	Mary Henninger-Voss
May 15		Dave Forster
May 22	Laura Edinger	Nan Cavanaugh
May 29	Laura Shemick	Laura Shemick

them to attend orientation sessions on security, or food safety, or how the vacuum cleaner works. If we were a business, we probably wouldn't let new employees lock up after their shifts were over, or guess at how the very expensive copy machine works; we would have a comprehensive new employee manual, a trainer, and a couple of weeks of how-things-work-around-here. But we are members, and know it is only through our generosity and the generosity of those who have come before us that this church exists. We know it is our church, not the property of anonymous shareholders who give over day-to-day operations to paid staff. We decide the mission, and make it possible to carry it out.

This, in my opinion, is the essential tension between policy-style governance and Unitarian Universalism. When a congregation is 75 members and has a part-time minister, a part-time office assistant, and meets in rented space, using policy-style governance seems to me to be fairly silly. When a congregation is 500 members and has 8 full-time equivalent staffers, using policy-style governance seems to me to be fairly necessary. The complexity of operations and programs in a larger church requires the presence of paid staff, who deserve individual supervisors who are present during the working day, a clear chain of command, and consistent, understandable policies to follow. That is the essence of policy-style governance.

As always, how to make policy-style governance actually work in a mid-size church like ours is the tricky part. Fortunately, your Board is willing and able to continue its work on this issue, and will do so in the coming church year.

At the annual meeting, we will elect new trustees, adopt the budget, consider bylaw changes, and decide how to handle the Multi-Site Task Force's proposal. Please make time in your schedule on May 22 for a potluck lunch and the annual meeting. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Shemick

Task Force Reports

Healthy Congregations

The Healthy Congregations Task Force happily hosted 38 UCH members and friends April 2 at a workshop on Crafting Community out of Conflict. It was exciting to see a mix of long-time and new members, as well as friends and members from both our campuses.

Dr. John Reuwer, our facilitator, introduced us to the basics of Nonviolent Communication (NVC), which was developed by Dr. Marshall B. Rosenberg (1934-2015) as a tool for managing interpersonal conflicts. NVC has been called a "language of compassion" that can help us connect to ourselves and others. There are two parts to this language: listening with authentic empathy, and expressing ourselves honestly. A concise guide to NVC can be found online, including a 10-minute interview with Dr. Rosenberg.

In our workshop, we learned that underlying all human actions are needs that people are trying to have met. When we learn how to focus on these needs (and avoid blame, criticism, and demands), then we can tap into a deep creativity where misunderstandings and conflicts can more easily be resolved. Dr. John then guided us as we engaged in some role-playing so that we could practice putting some of the principles of NVC into action.

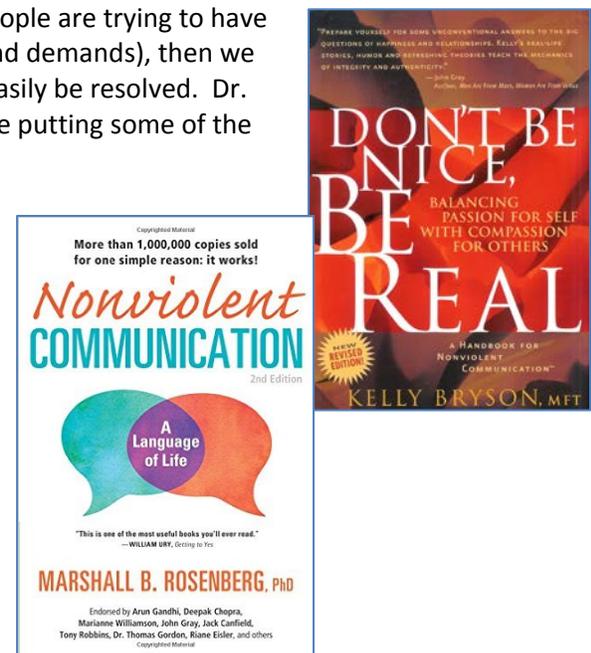
As a follow-up, he recommended the following resources:

- 🍌 *Nonviolent Communication: A Language of Life, 3rd Edition: Life-Changing Tools for Healthy Relationships*, by Marshall B. Rosenberg PhD (Author), Deepak Chopra (Foreword)
- 🍌 *Don't Be Nice, Be Real: Balancing Passion for Self with Compassion for Others*, by Kelly Bryson.
- 🍌 Additional resources available at the [Center for Nonviolent Communications](#).

If you attended the workshop, please take a moment to give us feedback about what you experienced and learned. If you would be interested in further (and more in-depth) training in the principles and practice of NVC, let us know that as well by contacting [Kate Carpenter](#)

The HCTF thanks you for your participation in this ongoing process as UCH moves forward! Members of the HCTF include Kate Carpenter, Nancy Hall, Bob Bargh, Karen Mallah, Joyce Stoltzfus, Kendra Trufahnestock and Sandy Hamstra. If you have questions and concerns, you can write to us at hctf@harrisburguu.org.

-Submitted by Kate Carpenter



Multi-Site Task Force

The Multisite Task Force (MSTF) has designed a series of webpages to help members make a decision about our congregation. They will be accessible through UCH's website and provide you with information, including the Power Point presentation from the group sessions, a synthesis of the feedback gathered during the group sessions, answers to frequently asked questions, the proposed high stakes bylaw amendment, and information about Gather the Spirit (GTS). A link to these pages will be provided via the *News You Can UU's* before the Town Hall meetings discussed below.

The MSTF is a task force of the Board of Trustees, and includes Rev. Mike Walker as an ex officio member. The MSTF was established in order to explore options for utilizing or consolidating our church campuses. The Task Force studied current models of multi-site worship; examined the costs of operating our two campuses, explored the possibility of selling one or the other property, and developed a plan for moving forward.

The Multi-Site Task Force recommends that the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg develop a "CHALICE CENTER," an interfaith community center at its Market Street Location. The Market Street building would serve as a hub for a variety of efforts that serve the Allison Hill community either through worship or through the provision of services. While the UCH would continue to have a presence, we would bring other partners to the table. Space would be rented out to other churches and non-profit organizations in the area. This would not only help us share costs, but provide common ground for a variety of groups working to make downtown Harrisburg a safer, happier place.

The task force has researched the possibilities for rentals, and we are satisfied that our Market Street site has potential to rent to various community and religious groups. Congregants have offered further ideas in recent meetings. No possibility can be developed until the Congregation gives permission to develop a business plan for the Chalice Center. We believe that the Chalice Center would be financially feasible, spiritually fulfilling, and would strengthen community both within UCH and between UCH and the Harrisburg faith community....IF OUR CONGREGATION HAS THE WILL.

Obviously, the acquisition of the Market Street building in 2009 has led to deep divisions in our church. The MSTF has taken the stance that no matter what the past has been, we now have to deal with the realities of our holdings. The MSTF believes that even while healing in our congregation must continue, we now have the opportunity to come together in united purpose by intentionally creating an institution we can be proud of. We hope that the congregation will unite around a mission that gives us a rationale for our two campuses, but is beyond the provision of worship services.

The MSTF will present a proposal to the congregation in the coming weeks. The proposal will NOT be a completely worked-out plan that addresses all details. Rather it will ask the congregation for the PERMISSION for the Board of Trustees to develop and enact such a plan. While the MSTF has laid groundwork in its consideration of options and exploration of the feasibility of the Chalice Center, much more work needs to be done in order to plan for all the details that inevitably must be addressed. This will require efforts that would be unfair to ask of a group of people to embark upon without the agreement of the congregation that this is the direction in which we want to put our energies. Until further study is made, for example, we intend to honor the worship traditions of members who currently enjoy services at Market Street, but we have no firm idea about service time, form, frequency, or RGL. We have no absolute answer to detail questions.

The answer is in the UCH membership: we can do what our members are willing to do. To make the Chalice Center work, for it to become a thriving center of interfaith community and compassionate practice, we need to rely on each other in a spirit of mutual respect and cooperation. We cannot depend on paid staff to make the Chalice Center a success.

The Process:

- 🕒 The MSTF, with the help and cooperation of the Healthy Congregations Task Force, gave a power-point presentation on the factors that led us to propose the Chalice Center, and the reasoning behind it, on April 3, April 10, and April 11. The power-point was followed by small group meetings in which congregants could react and respond to the proposed Chalice Center.
- 🕒 The MSTF will develop the DRAFT of a formal proposal that will be voted on at the Congregational meeting in May. The process for that vote will follow the new rules for a high-stakes proposal, IF the current proposed process for high-stakes decisions is approved by the Board and congregation.
- 🕒 The MSTF will hold Town Hall style meetings: At Market Street on Saturday, May 14, at Noon, following the breakfast; and At Clover Lane on Sunday, May 15, at 12:30, following the combined services and the reception for Linda Hope. These meetings will allow congregants to voice their concerns or enthusiasm for the proposal and to hear the ideas of others.
- 🕒 The proposal will be refined and put to a vote by May 22.

— Submitted by *Chris Dutton*

Candidates for Board of Trustees

The Nominating and Leadership Development Committee, led by Margaret Carrow, is pleased to present the following slate of candidates for open positions on the Board of Trustees. All positions are for initial three-year terms unless otherwise noted.

Nan Cavanaugh

Nan Cavanaugh joined the UCH in 1975 and with her husband, Jim, is a Life Member. In the past she has served as a Board President and has held every Board office except treasurer; she is currently completing a three-year term where she often serves as a note-taker, a source of UCH history, and another set of hands. She has served as a lay liturgist, Pastoral Associate, chaired the RE Committee and was on the Committee on Shared Ministry. In 41 years, she has served on the majority of UCH committees, except those of budget and finance

“I want to help UCH complete this 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. I would like to finish the next year of working with Rev. Mike and the plans for next minister.”

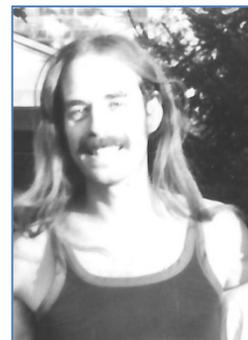
Note: Nan is running for a one-year term, created by a resignation last year.



Chuck Daley

Chuck is a Philadelphia native who studied at Montgomery County Community College and Drexel University (photo), then worked as a housing inspector for Neighborhood Housing Services, a pilot program in Philadelphia to combat red-lining; he subsequently was self-employed purchasing, repairing, and renting 'row houses' in the West Mount Airy section of Philadelphia. He moved to Harrisburg in 1990 with his partner and became a stay-at-home parent.

In 2005 he started attending Mindfulness Meditation Group (MMG) and has been actively involved in it since that time. He became a UCH member in 2010 and facilitator for MMG, a position he continues to hold at UCH. He and his daughter Emma participated as Silent Witnesses 2007-09. In late 2014 Chuck began volunteering with his daughter Maya at Common Ground Community Center, and he works most Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings at our Market Street campus. In 2016 he joined the board of Gather the Spirit.



Guy Dannelly

Guy graduated from high school at Patton Masonic School in Elizabethtown, then served a machinist apprenticeship at AMF in York. He simultaneously went through a five-year night school program in machine and tool design at Penn State/York, then spent his working years as a machinist, tool & die maker, model maker, machine builder and machine designer. He also taught a night school class in Jig & Fixture design and Basic Die Making to third-year Machinist/Tool Maker Apprentices (1976-1985). He retired in 2013 as Manager of the Machine Building division at Industrial Services Inc.

Guy found and joined UCH in 1976. He notes, “There were plenty of opportunities for an even-more-naïve-than-I-am-now 26-year-old to volunteer for.” He helped and taught in the religious education program while his son was young; worked on the property group-repairing, painting, pulling weeds, mowing grass and whatever else was needed to keep the building and grounds functional. He also helped with the pledge drives.

Guy drifted away from the Church in the early 1990s but kept in touch by reading the Reporter and visiting from time to time, saying “This welcoming community always made it feel like coming home.” In 2013, he decided it was time to come back and rejoin this community. “I have no agenda other than seeing this Church thrive and would like to do what I can to help.”



David Spear

I joined the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg in 2007. It has been an important place for me to explore ideas and values and to be in community with like-minded people. The church has become an essential part of my life.

I have been involved in the work of the church since joining, first by organizing speakers for the humanism lectures and then the second-Sunday forum. I later served on the transition team for Rev. Eric Posa and the 2014-15 Search Committee and was the co-executive during the summer of 2015. I enjoy working with technology, including audio, video, and computers.

If elected to the board, I would work to effectively implement the multi-site decision from the upcoming congregational meeting, as well as clarify the church's mission and direction as we move forward. I would also promote openness, transparency, and communication.



Music Search Committee

Greetings! As we say farewell to our beloved UCH music directors, our music program enters a time of transition. Times of transition, faithfully attended to, can be periods of personal and spiritual growth. While saying goodbye is never easy, we honor what was, by continuing to develop what is, with an eye trained on what could be. As such, the Music Director Search Team would like feedback and input from choir members, musicians, and anyone else who may be interested.

Please join us for dessert at Perkins Restaurant, 7 Erford Road in Lemoyne, at 7:00 p.m. Friday, May 13. We invite you to participate in a discussion around how we want to craft the music ministry going forward, including what qualities we would like to see in new music staff, what we would like to see the future structure of the music program look like, etc. Please bring your passion and creative fire and join us as we plan to move into this new time in community with one another.

Since we will be providing dessert, if you plan to attend, please RSVP to [Debbie Reihart](#) no later than May 11. If you don't have transportation, or have other questions, please direct them to any team member: Jim Handshaw, Marsha Dulaney, Laura Edinger, Debbie Reihart or Reverend Mike.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting! And if you have feedback but cannot attend, please send an email to our task force at MusicSearch@HarrisburgUU.org.

—Submitted by Debbie Reihart

Getting Ahead, Now through June 29

Ed note: as we go to press, meal sponsors are needed for May 25 through June 29.

Once again, the Getting Ahead program is taking place at our Market Street campus, each Wednesday through June 29. UCH donates space for the classes; members and friends are asked to consider providing a meal for approximately 20-25 folks on a Wednesday evening at 5:30 p.m. These meals can be prepared by an individual, a family, a lay-led ministry, or by an organization you may belong to outside of UCH, i.e., Rotary Club, scout troop, etc. Please [sign up](#) to donate all or part of a meal, or contact [Marjy Hartman](#).

—Submitted by Marjy Hartman

ALL DATES WEDNESDAYS, DINNER SERVED AT 5:30 PM

March 16	April 13	May 11	June 8
March 23	April 20	May 18	June 15
March 30	April 27	May 25	June 22
April 6	May 4	June 1	June 29

This could be you!



Helping People in Prison and Their Families

🌟 Saturday, April 23: Re-Entry Breakfast (Market Street)

The April 23d Community Connections Reentry Breakfast was a success, thanks to a lot of volunteers from UCH and elsewhere. The ones we know of include Pat Spader, Margaret Carrow, Kristen Dawson, Wanda Givens, Chris Dutton, John Hargreaves, Jim Cavanaugh, Tom Conners, Dennis Byrne, Darlene Kvaternik, Guy Dannelley, Judy Linder, Larry Linder, Naed Smith, and four friends from Messiah College: Darby, Hannah, Elliot and Victoria.

We offered a bountiful hot breakfast to 62 women and men from Promise Place, Dauphin County Work Release, Capital Pavilion, Keystone Correctional, and Daystar, all brought by volunteer drivers. Velma Madden spoke of the challenges of her journey from prison to a responsible position with the YWCA. And Chaplain Larry Coleman, who has attended dozens of these breakfasts, gave us a positive 'review': "I think it was a very successful breakfast. I appreciated your approach to engaging "returning citizens" who were in attendance. Please express my appreciation to your church for hosting this event."

🌟 Sunday, June 12, *Just Mercy*, following Market Street service

Many of us are reading *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Brian Stevenson, the UUA Common Read for this year. Please take a moment to 'see' the stories by visiting Bryan's [website](#). Then join John Hargreaves and Jim Cavanaugh for a stimulating discussion of this year's UUA Common Read. Note: this is a new date.

—Submitted by Jim Cavanaugh

UU Christian Fellowship

Since the Palm Sunday communion service led by Rev. Gordon, several UUs have expressed interest in having such services regularly, perhaps quarterly. If you are interested in this possibility and will help make it a reality, please contact [Jim Cavanaugh](#).



UUPlan



UUPLAN’s Anti-Mass Incarceration (AMI) Team is currently involved in a multi-faith visioning effort to address many of the concerns associated with mass incarceration. Think that mass incarceration does not affect you? Think again. In 1980, Pennsylvania had 8 state correctional institutions; today we have 28 - and 63 county jails. The state prison population has swelled by 500% since 1980 although our crime rate has decreased. In October of 2015, the total prison population in Pennsylvania was 87,756. The increase is due to two factors: legislation that criminalizes more and more behaviors and mandatory minimum sentences. Two percent of the growth in prison admissions is due to violent crime. Almost one third of those incarcerated have been diagnosed with mental illness. Each year there are approximately 20,000 new admissions to the system and 20,000 returning citizens.

Pennsylvania is one of six states where life means life, with over 5,100 inmates serving a life sentence without parole and an additional 472 who were sentenced to life without parole as juveniles – the highest in the nation. The Pennsylvania Department of Corrections has requested \$2.6 billion in the 2016-2017 state budget, second only to Human Services and Education. We invite you to become part of the conversation. Join the next AMI call on the last Monday of the month at 8:00 pm. To find out more about the work of any of our Justice Teams, please feel free to participate in monthly conference calls (chart) or contact [Anita Mentzer](#).

Monthly UUPLAN Conference Calls		
Team	Meeting Day	Time
Anti-Mass Incarceration	Last Monday	8:00 p.m.
Economic Justice	Third Thursday	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.
Call in number: 641-715-3286 Access code: 107933#		

—Submitted by Anita Mentzer

Share the Plate

Ed. note: During May, half of the plate each Sunday goes to Harrisburg Inner City Outings. The following email is from the targeted agency.

It was very exciting to receive your email and potential offer to donate some of your plate collections to our organization. In a simple answer, yes we serve children from the Alison Hill area of Harrisburg.

Harrisburg Inner City Outings (HICO) is a non-profit 403-C completely volunteer organization that helps children from inner city Harrisburg explore and learn about nature. We hike, bike, kayak, camp, and learn outdoor skills such as fire building, food preparation, orienteering and just having fun. The children develop communication & leadership skills while learning to appreciate nature and each other.

Your timing of this offer is perfect. After 20 years of our strong core group successfully working with inner city youth, we have designed new goals to ensure we not only continue for the next 20 years but also expand by more than doubling the amount of children we serve. That is why your offer is a blessing beyond words.

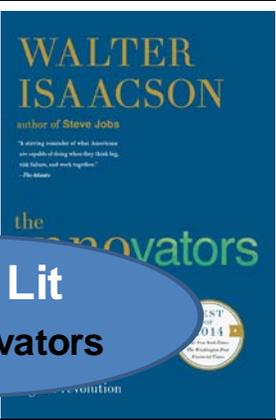
We already have more than enough students that desire to be part of HICO. The City of Harrisburg and the school district have struggled for decades and the children are the ones who have been suffering the most. We turn away children who really want to be part of this experience. We have developed a strong relationship with the Math/ Science Academy a 5th - 8th grade STEM-focused school in the Harrisburg School District.

Students who attend the Math / Science Academy are from an impoverished and ethnically diverse community, with 90% of the students receiving free and/or reduced lunch. The Academy has students representing a dozen different ethnic backgrounds. We have found that working directly with the teachers gives the teachers extra help in encouraging the best out of the students.

The children truly respond to this program. They constantly tell us how amazing nature really is and that this is the first time they have experienced something like this. We have letters and pictures from the children that we can offer if you need to have added visuals and stories in first person of how this program positively affects these kids from the Hill and how your gift will go towards a very meaningful program.

Thank you for contacting us and please do not hesitate to email me with any questions or ideas you may have to move this forward.

—Submitted by Donald Hoskins (Finance Committee)

DATE	TIME	GROUP	LOCATION
Mon 2	6:30	Amrit Yoga (Weekly)	Clover Lane
<p>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.</p> <p>Repeats every Monday. Contact Ed Sykes. No experience necessary!</p>			
Tue 3	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation Group (Weekly)	Clover Lane
<p>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.</p> <p>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. Repeats every Tuesday.</p>			
Wed 4	6:00	Queen Spirit (Monthly)	Clover Lane
<p>Queen Spirit is a co-created women's spirituality circle that meets on the first Wednesday of the month. This month's circle will be led by Ann Christine Warneka, who joined UCH last fall after having been a member of a UU church in Phoenix AZ.</p> <p>She will share ideas from the book by Brene Brown, <i>The Gifts of Imperfection</i>. This book is about a lifelong journey from "what will people think?" to "I am enough." Come share with us the journey of self-compassion, contentedness, and courage, unraveling the illusion of perfectionism and get inspired to create your creative, authentic resilient spirit full of laughter, song and dance.</p> <p>Bring a favorite dish, dessert or beverage to share; bring your place setting, cutlery and plates. Potluck at 6:00; circle from 7:00 to 8:00 P.M. Contact Randa Todd.</p>			
Sat 14	9:00	Common Ground Café (twice a month)	Market
<p>Common Ground Café occurs at our Market Street campus on the second and last Saturday of the month. The café opens at 9:00 a.m., and you can be a part of the action! No experience necessary, and drop-ins are always welcome. Repeats May 28.</p> <p>To join the list of volunteers, please contact Clay Lambert.</p>			
Sat 14	10:00	Green Sanctuary	Clover
<p>Green Sanctuary is the lay-led ministry at the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg focusing on environmental concerns. All members of the congregation are welcome to join and participate.</p> <p>This month, we will host an Active Hope Workshop from 10:00 a.m. to noon, Saturday, May 14. Facilitator: Marcia Berry, member of PA-Interfaith Power & Light. The workshop offers a program for all who are interested in building sustainable, diverse, and caring communities for today and for the future. It offers an empowering framework to help move people from overwhelmed to engaged - coming together, supporting one another to create the kind of world we long for.</p> <p>Everyone welcome - Open to Public - Donations accepted. For further information, please contact Rachel Mark.</p>			
Sun 15	7:00	Philosophy and Literature Group (Monthly)	Clover Lane
<p>The Philosophy & Literature Group normally meets on the second Sunday of each month, usually at Clover Lane. This month, we meet to discuss <i>The Innovators: How a Group of Inventors, Hackers, Geniuses and Geeks Created the Digital Revolution</i> by Walter Isaacson. From the <i>San Francisco Chronicle</i>:</p> <p>Isaacson provides a sweeping and scintillating narrative of the inventors, engineers and entrepreneurs who have given the world computers and the Internet...a near-perfect marriage of author and subject...an informative and accessible account of the translation of computers, programming, transistors, micro-processors, the Internet, software, PCs, the World Wide Web and search engines from idea into reality...[a] masterful book.</p> <p>The group meets at Clover lane this month. All are welcome. Please contact Don Brown for information.</p>			 

DATE	TIME	GROUP	LOCATION
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Tue 10	6:30	Women's Night Out (Monthly)	Off-site
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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. Proceeds are divided between the Ecumenical Food Pantry and the UCH. Our group meets Tuesday, May 10, at 6:30 p.m., at Nick's 114 Café, 114 Bridge Street, New Cumberland. Please RSVP to ann.sitrin@gmail.com at 717-766-4767 by Sunday, May 8.

Women's Night Out
Nick's 114 Café

Tue 17	10:00	CroneSpirit (Monthly)	Clover Lane
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The lay-led ministry CroneSpirit meets from 10 a.m. - noon in Fuller Chapel at the Clover Lane campus. Our topic this month is "Stereotypes in Aging." We are:

- ☺ A discussion group for women over 65, both UCH members and non-members
- ☺ Honoring a crone tradition of conscious female aging and self-power
- ☺ For personal enrichment, such as through intellect, knowledge, comfort or companionship, anticipating a maximum of 10 women
- ☺ Sharing, listening and learning, without gossip or speaking disrespectfully to or about each other

We look forward to seeing you. For information, please contact [Joan Hellmann](mailto:Joan.Hellmann@UCH.edu).

CroneSpirit
Stereotypes in Aging

Wed 18	6:00	Clover Grove (Monthly)	Clover Lane
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Clover Grove is a group of earth-centered and pagan spiritualists. On May 18, Clover Grove will observe Beltane to celebrate fertility, fire, abundance, and the onset of summer. Join us from 6:00-8:00 at Clover Lane. Snacks welcome but not required. Contact [Jen Wallitsch](mailto:Jen.Wallitsch@UCH.edu) for further information. Contact [Kirsten Salvatore](mailto:Kirsten.Salvatore@UCH.edu) about arranging childcare. All are welcome.

Clover Grove
Beltane

Wed 18	7:00	"Drawing the Tiger"	Clover Lane
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QueenSpirit is pleased to sponsor a screening of the documentary film *Drawing the Tiger*, by filmmaker [Amy Benson](http://www.amybenison.com), Scott Squire, and Ramyata Limbu.

A family in Nepal living on less than a dollar a day wins the globalization jackpot: a charity scholarship for their daughter to go to school in the capital city. She promises to return, to free her family from poverty.

Shanta Darnal was an Untouchable village girl in Nepal, with a scholarship to study in the big city. She was at the top of her class, and on the brink of breaking the generational cycle of poverty. The filmmakers set out to make a film about how girls' education is the best thing we can do in the world and Shanta was to be the star. But Shanta did not make it. She did not find success. The question is WHY?



Drawing the Tiger

Screening, followed by
Q&A with director
7:00 p.m. May 18

Director Amy Benson (*Called to Shine, Three*) has given presentations at TedX Monterey on the effects of girls' education in the developing world, and has had a variety of short films premiere at various international film festivals. She will be present to answer questions after the movie until 9:00 p.m. Love offering (\$10 suggested).

Fri 20	7:30	Clover Lane Coffee House	Clover Lane
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Clover Lane Coffee House sponsors concerts monthly from September to May, normally at 7:30 p.m. on the third Friday. Admission \$10 at the door, maximum \$25 per family. All are welcome.

This month, we are pleased to present perennial favorite Janie Womack. Janie is well-known on the Central PA folk circuit as part of Womack & Lowery; her first full-length album was *Songs in the Key of J* (2012). Tonight she will be performing with guest artist Jody E.

Please contact [Bart Carpenter](mailto:Bart.Carpenter@UCH.edu) for additional information.





DATE	TIME	GROUP	LOCATION
Tue 24	6:00	Auction Committee (Monthly)	Clover Lane

SPRING CLEANING? Save your nice, gently used items to donate to the Cash and Carry Sale during the November auction. Drop-off times will be announced in October. All proceeds benefit UCH. We meet at 6:30 and your talent and help planning the 2016 All-Church Auction is needed. We are looking for ideas to make this year's auction the best ever! Please contact [Patti Hazell](#) for additional information and mark your calendar for auction night: Saturday, November 5th, 2016!

UCH Auction
Saturday, Nov. 5, 2016

Membership News

Phyllis Slater

UCH Member Phyllis A. Slater, 82, died April 8, at her home, following a long illness. Services were held April 30 at UCH, the Rev. Michael Walker officiating.

Phyllis was an active member of UCH and a long-time COUCH leader. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bob. Surviving are two sons, Steven Slater of Camp Hill, and Todd Slater (Leyna) of Camp Hill; a grandson, Zachary Slater and a brother, Phillip Mack of Needham, MA.



Save the Date:

June 4, UCH All-Church Picnic

An all-church picnic is planned for Saturday June 4 from noon to 4 p.m. at Woodlawn Pavilion of the Quaker Race Day Use area of Pinchot Park. Fun and frolic are guaranteed.



General Assembly 2016
June 22-26, Columbus, OH

