



**The Unitarian Church of Harrisburg: Building Bridges, Celebrating Community**

**The Wayside Pulpit:**

**Warmth in the Wintertime.**



Dear friends,  
*Hot apple cider, cinnamon and spice, a season of all things nice...*  
*Snow on the lawn, lights in the trees – thankfully, the dog has no fleas...*  
*Many gifts to wrap, cards to write, so many candles to light...*

*Families gather, windows frosted in rime, yet we find warmth in the wintertime!*

Please join us for Christmas Eve services, 3:00 p.m. at Market Street and 7:00 p.m. at Clover Lane. Bring your family, friends, neighbors... Please note that the church will be closed the following day; we are not having a Sunday service on Christmas, December 25.

Whether you are with us during the holidays, or traveling elsewhere to see family, may your holiday season be filled with joy. As you connect with loved ones that you haven't seen all year, let us remember loved ones that are now lost to us, but also welcome into our families any new little ones born this year. Let's reach out and be there for church members who may have no family – other than us. Finally, remember to be open to new possibilities that may present themselves to you, for the coming year.

May it ever be so and blessed be you all!

– Rev. Mike

**December Share the Plate**

*Each month, we share half of our Sunday plate with a local non-profit organization. This month's recipient is CRN.*

The [Community Responders Network](#) (CRN) is a coalition of local leaders and concerned citizens who seek to build a stronger, more inclusive community by educating, preventing and responding to instances of bias and intolerance in Central Pennsylvanian. They have active and dedicated members representing a wide variety of faith communities, non-profit organizations, businesses and government entities. The CRN is overseen by the YWCA of Greater Harrisburg.



The CRN was established in 2008 following an incident that targeted a local Muslim family. Concerned individuals from various faith communities came together to stand with the family, and out of this came the Community Responders Network – a structure to provide leaders and concerned citizens with support in dealing with the immediate impact of incidents of intolerance based on personal characteristics such as religion, race, gender, age, sexual orientation or cultural heritage.

Their work has a dual approach, focused on both responding to incidents that occur and taking pro-active steps to prevent these types of incidents.

–Submitted by Lois Voigt, Finance Committee

**Worship Services**

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

**Dec 4 Can You Fix Me? Rev. Michael Walker**

It sometimes seems like the holiday season amplifies whatever propensity or way of being in the world we have available to us. Are we generally happy – and does that translate into overabundant good cheer, at this time of year? Do we really rely on others, and find that starting to look like codependency? Do we like to help others, to such an extreme that they are unable to help themselves? As always, finding a balance is important, especially at this time of year.

**Dec 11 Can I Help You? Rev. Michael Walker**

Generosity of spirit is a common attribute during the holiday season. Following the exploration of codependency last week, this week we consider further how to help others help themselves. We consider positive and heartwarming ways of relating to others in our lives (even that proverbial relative that I have to see at Christmas, who just happens to get on my last nerve!)

**Dec 18 Warmth in the Winter/ Gratitude for Friends and Family Rev. Michael Walker**

This service – the last Sunday service that will be held at UCH this year – will be a celebration of friends and family. If you have guests in town, please invite them to join us. If not, we hope you are here to share the day with friends and family right here at church. Oh, yes, and ugly Christmas sweaters are encouraged...

**Dec 24 Christmas Eve Service Rev. Michael Walker**

- 🕒 **3:00 p.m. Multigenerational Service** (Market Street)  
Families of all ages and sizes are invited to this participatory service, scheduled to be done before your Christmas Eve dinner.
- 🕒 **7:00 p.m. Contemplative Service** (Clover Lane)  
This will be a traditional Candles & Carols, contemplative and musical service. All are welcome.

**Dec 25 No Services on this Sunday**

# Message from the President

By Laura Shemick, President



Sometimes life seems like a very long slog, with questionable results. Anyone who was hoping for a continuation of Barack Obama’s progressive (relatively speaking) policies for the next four years was, of course, disappointed on Nov. 9 in the election of Donald Trump as our country’s next Commander-in-Chief. And I hasten to point out that there are members of our UCH community who are quite happy with the results and happy to see upcoming

changes in policies. We, as members of a creedless religious community, need not think alike in all things to seek the truth in love and to be in community. Like the author of *Everything I Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten* says, we need to hold each others’ hand while crossing the street.

But regardless of who won, the world has not ended, and it shall not end, if concerned citizens continue to speak up for what they believe is right, as they have for the past eight – indeed, the past 16 years. Members of UCH will continue to speak up for our environment, for the use of negotiations to resolve conflict, for justice and dignity for oppressed peoples, regardless of where they live or what religion they practice.

Come to think of it, members of the UCH community have been speaking out not just for the past 16 years, but for pretty much their entire lives. I don’t think anyone believes that each and every one of the policies adopted by the United States of America over the course of our lives has been perfectly crafted and flawlessly executed.

We Pennsylvanians have a great deal to celebrate, in truth. Our state Constitution recognizes and protects our rights to clean air and water – something the federal constitution has never done. Same-sex marriage became legal in Pennsylvania a year before the U.S. Supreme Court decided states could not prohibit same-sex marriage. Unscrupulous lenders cannot impoverish our working poor through “payday loans,” although they have lobbied mightily for the right to do so. Our governor has adopted policies that strengthen the safety net for our most vulnerable residents, and has required that persons working for the state or for state contractors receive wages of at least \$10.15 per hour. Our state, while not the most progressive in the country, has made progress in important social issues and can continue to do so, as long as we are willing to step forward to “walk our talk.”

The Oliver LaGrone Scholarship Fund is a fine example of how UCH “walks the talk.” For 25 years, young graduates of Harrisburg High School have been able to apply for an Oliver LaGrone scholarship to help fund their education after high school. Dedicated and passionate volunteers review applications, select recipients, find mentors for the students, and track them through their post-high school lives. Funding is modest, but hugely necessary for students who want to achieve and contribute in a society that all too often has loaded an anchor on their backs and told them to swim through the waters of life.

SUNDAY TRUSTEE ASSIGNMENTS		
DATE	MARKET STREET	CLOVER LANE
Dec 4	Marilyn McHenry	Laura Edinger
Dec 11	Mary Henninger-Voss	Rima Cameron
Dec 18	Guy Dannelley	Debbie Reihart
Dec 24	Rima Cameron	TBD

This April will mark the 25th anniversary of the OLG Scholarship Fund. Many of you know the story of the boy who, picking up starfish on the beach after a storm and throwing them back into the sea, is questioned by a passer-by about how useful his efforts are, in the face of the number of starfish and the frequency of storms. The boy points out that to any single starfish that is saved from death, his actions make a big difference. So too, the OLG student-by-student approach makes a big difference.

You can participate. Offer to help select scholarship recipients, or become a mentor. Give to the Fund. At the very least, come to the special Sunday service where OLG scholars are introduced to the congregation, hear their stories, and cheer them on as they embark on their voyages of exploration and achievement.

I am fond of saying we should do what we can, when we can. We need not save the world every day, or even improve the world in some way every day; some days it’s all we can do to keep evil from prevailing over good. Oliver LaGrone was one of us. He was a scholar, an educator, a poet, a sculptor, and a man dedicated to working toward a just society. He created beauty in words, in wood, in bronze. He was a part of UCH for just 11 years, but his legacy lives on, and his spirit lives on, in the tangible works of art he created and in the scholarships awarded in his name.

Oliver LaGrone lived in the Jim Crow Era of U.S. society and in the Civil Rights Era as well. He did not bow, and he did not bend. Let us honor him, and our UCH history, by supporting young scholars, by raising our voices to fight for justice, and by organizing to work for equity, compassion, and democracy in our beloved Commonwealth and country.

Two final notes:

**Town Hall Meetings**

We have scheduled Town Hall meetings after services on Dec. 11 (Clover) and Dec. 18 (Market), to update the congregation on plans for interim and settled ministry.

**Board Update**

Since the Annual Meeting, two Board members have resigned their positions and one new member has been appointed to the Board. Tom Conners and Chuck Daley tendered their resignations in October and November, respectively. Rima Cameron, a church member since 2004, was appointed to fill Tom’s position.

In addition, Ed Sykes was appointed Treasurer and serves as a non-voting officer.

Your servant in leadership,

*Laura Shemick*, Board President

## ***MUUsical Opportunities – For Singers and Non-Singers***

December brings a wealth of opportunities for participating in UCH music. Please join us for any of the following:

🎵 **Dance Rehearsal: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8**

On Dec. 11, the UCH Choir will be singing a piece called “Dance with Me,” which features a simple circle dance. Kate Carpenter, folk dance guru, will be leading the group of dancers at both campuses. A short rehearsal for the dance will be held during choir rehearsal at Clover Lane at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 8. All are welcome!

🎵 **Handbell Rehearsal: 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13**

One week later, on Dec. 18, the UCH Choir will be singing a piece called “Bless Us All,” which includes a short part for hand-bells. UCH just happens to be lucky enough to have a small set of hand-bells! Anyone interested in being part of this small bell ensemble is invited to just one rehearsal on Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 7:00 in the Clover Lane sanctuary. This requires at least five ringers, so please come out if you are at all interested! No prior experience needed!

🎵 **Christmas Rehearsal: 2:00 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 24**

At the 3:00 service at Market Street on Christmas Eve, we will have an open rehearsal at 2:00 for anyone interested in singing one song for the multi-generational service. Anyone – especially singers home for the holiday – is welcome to be part of this holiday celebration. The more, the merrier!

## ***The UCH Choir***

After a deliberate process of pondering, creating a list of more than 20 alternatives, and voting, the singers of the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg have claimed a new name: The UCH Choir.

This title represents the reconnected, inclusive choir where one group of singers rehearses together and serves at both the Market Street and Clover Lane campuses. The “Unisingers” name will now be a historic title, reserved for UCH’s past. Reunited, The UCH Choir moves into the future!

— Submitted by *Ann Hossler, Director of Music*

## ***Lay Liturgist Training***

Training for lay liturgists is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 14, 2017, at our Clover Lane campus, focused on the Sundays of late winter/spring.

Lay liturgists are a bit like the stage managers for Sunday morning services. Duties include arriving early and preparing the sanctuaries for worship, assisting with service elements and often giving a member reflection on the given topic the minister has chosen for the sermon. Lay liturgists are asked to sign up for one or two Sundays when they can perform these duties at both services.

We hope to have lots of willing hands to add to the spiritual richness of our Sunday services! If you are interested in becoming a lay liturgist, please contact [Laura Edinger](#) or [Karen Sykes](#).

— Submitted by *Karen Sykes*

## ***Adult Religious Exploration***

Rev. Mike’s final class on *A Chosen Faith*, by John Buehrens and Forrest Church, ends on Dec. 2. All are welcome.

—Submitted by *Rev. Mike Walker*

## ***Join the Gift Card Program Family!!***

If you shop at Giant, Weis, or Karns, you can also support the church by buying their gift cards through UCH. There is no surcharge or markup. Giant pays 10% of the face value to the church; Weis and Karns pay 5%. The \$500 a month you spend at Giant would mean \$50 to UCH, an annual contribution of \$600! The grocery gift card forms are available [online](#) or on the hallway bulletin board (near the restrooms) in the Common Room at Clover Lane and in the Fellowship Hall at Market Street.



**Gift Card Sales at UCH:** Gift Cards are also available for direct purchase after services, on the last Sunday of the month at Clover Lane and the first Sunday of the month at Market Street. If you have any questions about the gift card program, please email [Tavia Flanagan](#) or call the church office. Thank you for your support!

## ***Year-End Contributions Greatly Appreciated***

Are you worried about the future of liberal religion and values in the mid-state and beyond? Do you want to care for your church and reduce your tax bill at the same time?

### **Cash Donations**

Cash donations are certainly a way to promote our values, especially the time of year when the church enters the peak of the utility and snow removal expenses. And for those who itemize on their federal tax returns, this is the time of year to get in one final deduction. Please make sure "cash" donations occur in the form of a paper check or electronic transfer from your "[Give Now UCH](#)" account, prior to Dec. 31.

### **Investment**

UCH also has an Ameritrade account that can receive gifts of investments. For example, if you sell securities and donate the proceeds to UCH, you pay capital gains taxes based on the appreciated value. For stocks or mutual funds (1) that you have owned for more than a year and (2) that have in fact appreciated, a wiser tax strategy is to transfer them directly to the church's account. You get a deduction based on the value of the shares on the transfer date AND you save on taxes you would otherwise pay if you simply sold them yourself. It's a great way to avoid paying capital gains taxes on that Apple stock you bought 10 years ago at 1/8 the price it is today.

### **IRA Rollover**

Charitable rollovers from your Individual Retirement Accounts can also be a great way to give at the end of the year. The Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 restored the popular IRA charitable rollover provision, allowing donors age 70½ or older to realize significant benefits for gifts completed before December 31, 2016. Benefits of funding charitable gifts from Traditional or Roth IRA assets include:

- 👉 Donors avoid paying income taxes on transferred funds.
- 👉 Direct rollovers satisfy the IRS Required Minimum Distribution.
- 👉 Donors reduce exposure to substantial estate taxes incurred on IRA assets

Rules applicable to IRA rollover gifts:

- 👉 Donors must be 70½ years old or older when making the qualified charitable distribution.
- 👉 Gifts can be any amount, with a limit of \$100,000 in total transfers.

For more information or to discuss gifts to the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg, please contact [Ed Sykes](#), UCH Treasurer

### ***Get Ready for the Volunteer & Community Engagement Fair!!!***

Did you know that through UCH you can help keep a neighboring highway clean, practice yoga or meditation, talk about some excellent non-fiction books, participate in charity walks, work with our children on Sunday mornings, beautify the church grounds, and many other diverse activities.

Your chance to learn more about these opportunities and many others comes on Sunday, January 22, at Market Street, and Sunday, January 29, at Clover Lane, during the Volunteer & Community Engagement Fair. The Volunteer & Community Engagement Fair team is hosting nearly 25 lay-led ministries and other organizations that are looking for new people to join their ranks.

The Fair will be held in the Common Room at each campus following worship. Each participating group will have a display explaining its purpose and work, handout materials, and a sign-up sheet for new members. Someone from each organization will be at the display to discuss the group's activities, the time commitment involved, and the need for new members. Each group also will provide some snacks to go with your coffee!!

By working together in a variety of ways, we can do great things at both of our church locations, building a stronger bridge between the suburbs and the city. The Fair is a fun way to find out what all is going on and how you can be a bigger part of the action. Please join us on January 22 and/or 29 to help build a more inclusive community.

*—Submitted by Guy Dannelly*



## RE Report

Submitted by Sara Palmer, Direct of Religious Exploration

## Post-Election Resources

The repercussions of the 2016 Presidential Election continue to rebound and resonate.

If you are hurting, angry, bereft, or know someone who is, [Border Crossers](#) has compiled a list of [Post-Election 2016 Resources for Families, Caring Adults & Educators](#). The organization is a 501(c)3 nonprofit whose mission is to train and empower educators to dismantle patterns of racism and injustice in our schools and communities. The list is aimed at educators who work with children and youth, but I benefited from several of the articles and tips as an adult in community with other adults. Take a look.

If you have additional resources that promote self-care, communication, advocacy, safety, and anything that honors our calling as UUs in the face of hatred, please send them to DRE [Sara Palmer](#) and we'll work to compile them on our website.

## UCH Racial Justice Task Force

A RJTF convened for the first time in October, and we are ready to begin the rewarding experience of “unwrapping” race in America. Members are planning opportunities for the UCH community to increase awareness about issues of White Privilege, dialogue about what Black Lives Matters means, discuss advocacy, and affirm with respect and dignity our life journeys.

Look for:

- ⊕ A January worship service on Racial Justice
- ⊕ An upcoming Adult RE (Religious Exploration) workshop series on Examining Whiteness
- ⊕ Opportunities to engage in formal and informal discussions about race, racism, and personal experiences.

Any questions? Interested in joining the RJTF? Please contact [David Spear](#) or DRE [Sara Palmer](#).

## Vegetarian Bean Soup Mix Sale

The UCH chapter of Dumbledore's Army is fighting the Oppression Horcrux by raising money for the American Civil Liberties Union. We want to help oppressed groups of children and teens in America: people of color, females, Muslims, people with disabilities, immigrants, and anyone else who feels less safe in their schools and communities.

RE kids at both campuses are selling a homemade Vegetarian Bean Soup Mix for \$7 a jar. They look beautiful, taste delicious, and make great gifts for the upcoming holidays!

Look for us during Coffee Hour on December 4, 11, and 18.

If you have questions or wish to make direct donations, please contact DRE [Sara Palmer](#) (phone/text 717-579-2026).



UCH Youth Preparing Bean Soup





**Austin Killian**

Shannon and Matt Killian are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Austin Matthew, born Sept. 16, 2016, at Harrisburg Hospital. He weighed 8 lbs, 10 oz and was 21 inches long. He joins a brother, Tyler (now 2).

Shannon grew up at the UCH and is the daughter of UCH member Roger Ostdahl and his wife, Maureen Callahan (1946-2013).

**LaGrone Report**

Our 2012 scholar, Stanley Lumpkin, is scheduled to receive a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in December from Shippensburg University, with a major in Marketing.

As told to his mentor, Rick Hawley:



Things are going great this semester, while this semester has naturally been stressful because the next step after this is such a big one ("the real world"). I have been taking four classes, three of which are free electives and the last one is Managerial Accounting, which is the course that I need to graduate.

Accounting has been tough I never really liked the subject as a whole but I have a really understanding professor who has been a great help throughout the year. With that being said, I am on track to graduate (thank God). My graduation date is December 17.

As far as plans after, I have accepted a management position with PepsiCo that I will be starting January 17. I was offered the position as a result of my performance during my summer internship.

Congratulations to Stanley and best wishes at PepsiCo!

*—Submitted by Rick Hawley*



**Youth Group Trip**

The UCH Youth Group traveled to the Joseph Priestley house, near Northumberland, on Nov. 13. The youth learned lots about the history of science and one of the founders of Unitarianism ... while also having a great time together!

Participants included (back row, from left) Andy Loza, Zander Woodward and David Platt and (front row) Rhiannon Loza, Maggie Shaver-Wilson, Maddie Cain and Lenka Platt.

*— Submitted by Maggie Shaver-Wilson*

***UUPLAN Annual Meeting***

On Nov 11-12 at Clover Lane, 79 UUs from 21 congregations throughout the state gathered for the Annual Meeting of UUPLAN. The Friday evening program featured Rev. David Pyle from the Central East Region, who conducted a workshop entitled "The Practice of Bearing Witness." It offered advice for self-care as we move into the challenging work in the months ahead.

On Saturday, Rev. Pyle provided the keynote address, *A Vision for Justice Ministries*. His central message was, "It matters not only that our congregations are engaged in matters of justice, but that they are engaged well." An abridged version of Rev. Pyle's message can be found [here](#).

UUPLAN is also exploring the possibility of a new Justice Team. This year the UUA General Assembly adopted *The Corruption of Our Democracy* as the Congregational Study Action Issue (CSAI). In response, Tom Ulrich, UU Church of the Lehigh Valley, surveyed those in attendance to consider the merits of creating a UUPLAN Good Government Justice Team. The topics would include gerrymandering, voter access and participation, securing the vote, public financing of elections and strengthening ethical behavior in government. If you would be interested in joining a Good Government Justice Team, please contact [Anita Mentzer](#) or [Tom Ulrich](#).

***Monthly Virtual Meetings***

Join the UUPLAN Justice Team meetings online with ZOOM!

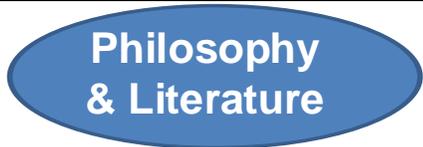
Online link: <https://zoom.us/j/7132347624>

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](#).

—Submitted by 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
Gun Violence Prevention	Third Tuesday	7:00 p.m.
Reproductive Justice	Third Wednesday	7:00 p.m.
<b>Telephone: 408-638-0968 or 646-558-8656</b> <b>Meeting ID: 713 234 7624 Access code: 107933#</b>		

Detail Calendar			December 2016
DATE	TIME	GROUP	LOCATION
Sun 4	10:00	Sunday Morning Forum	Clover Lane
<p>The lay-led Sunday Morning Forum meets each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. at Clover Lane. The group meets for an hour of discussion about an important societal topic. Topics change every week and are led by different individuals.</p> <p>The weekly facilitator will choose the topic in advance so attendees can read ahead. Please contact <a href="#">Susan Jones-Sink</a> or <a href="#">Kathryn Ersoz</a> with your ideas for discussion topics. <b>Repeats weekly. No forum on Dec. 25.</b></p>			
Sun 4	11:30	OLIVER COLLECTIVE	Clover Lane
<p>One more chance in 2016 to gain an artist's work in return for your contribution to the Oliver LaGrone Scholarship Fund: Sunday, December 4, 2016, following the Sunday service at Clover Lane.</p> <p>How does <b>THE OLIVER COLLECTIVE</b> function? Artists contribute their work. YOU contribute to the Oliver LaGrone Scholarship Fund at the artist's identified level AND YOU GET THE PREMIUM OF YOUR CHOICE. Choose from among freshly hand crafted work that includes note cards, box-framed assemblages, crochet wearables, jewelry, ceramics, framed photography, textile wearables, and more.</p> <p>The Oliver LaGrone Scholarship Fund is sponsored by the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg. Annually, one graduate of Harrisburg High School, is selected as a LaGrone Scholar. This year's Scholar, Taryana Peterson, is receiving \$6,500 over the course of her matriculation in pre-med at Xavier University in Louisiana. UCH member, Dr. Mary Lynn Fecile, is her mentor.</p> <p>For further information on <b>THE OLIVER COLLECTIVE</b> or the LaGrone Scholarship Fund, please contact <a href="#">Cordell Affeldt</a>.</p>			

DATE	TIME	GROUP	LOCATION
<b>Mon 5</b>	<b>6:30</b>	<b>Amrit Yoga (Weekly)</b>	<b>Clover Lane</b>
<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. <b>Repeats every Monday.</b> Contact <a href="#">Ed Sykes</a>. No experience necessary!</p>			
<b>Tue 6</b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>Mindfulness Meditation Group (Weekly)</b>	<b>Clover Lane</b>
<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 <a href="#">Chuck Daley</a>. <b>Repeats every Tuesday.</b></p>			
<b>Tue 6</b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>First Tuesday Forum</b>	<b>Clover Lane</b>
<p>UUPLAN offers a monthly <i>Journey to Justice</i> discussion series at Clover Lane on the first Tuesday of each month. This month, Brook Lenker of FracTracker will present and discuss <i>Exploring the Impact of Oil and Gas Development in America</i>. Brook is Executive Director of the FracTracker Alliance, based in Camp Hill. Previously, Brook served as Manager of Education and Outreach for the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and Director of Watershed Stewardship for the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay.</p> <p><b>Looking ahead:</b> On Jan. 3, 2017, Dr. Donald Brown will provide an update from the COP-22 conference on Climate Change, held Nov. 7-18 in Marrakesh, Morocco. The Forum is free and open to the public. Contact <a href="#">Anita Mentzer</a> or <a href="#">Rachel Mark</a>.</p>			
<b>Wed 7</b>	<b>6:00</b>	<b>Queen Spirit (Monthly)</b>	<b>Clover Lane</b>
<p>Queen Spirit is a co-created women's spirituality circle that meets on the first Wednesday of the month. This month our theme is bare essence. In our time together, we will be allowing the dynamic of the deciduous trees losing their leaves and becoming naked to the impetus for getting in touch with one's naked self, one's bare essence.</p> <p>You are invited to bring something to put on the altar that is expressive of your spirituality or your essence. Deb Ellenberger will be leading our circle.</p> <p>Bring a favorite dish, dessert or beverage to share. Bring your place setting and serving spoons and plates. Potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m. Circle from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Contact <a href="#">Randa Todd</a> for further information.</p>			
<b>Sat 10</b>	<b>9:00</b>	<b>Common Ground Café (twice a month)</b>	<b>Market</b>
<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.</p> <p><b>Repeats December 31.</b> To join the list of volunteers, please contact <a href="#">Clay Lambert</a>.</p>			
<b>Sun 11</b>	<b>6:30</b>	<b>Philosophy and Literature Group (Monthly)</b>	<b>Clover Lane</b>
<p>The Philosophy &amp; Literature Group normally meets on the second Sunday of each month, usually at Clover Lane. This month, we meet to plan the book list for 2017! Optional pot luck at 6:30 p.m.; planning discussion begins around 7:00.</p> <p>All are welcome. Please contact <a href="#">Don Brown</a> for information.</p>			
<b>Tue 13</b>	<b>6:30</b>	<b>Women's Night Out (Monthly)</b>	<b>Off-site</b>
<p>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 UCH.</p> <p>Our group meets Tuesday, December 13, at 6:30 p.m., at Rock Bass Grille in Wormleysburg. Please RSVP to <a href="#">Yvonne Werzinsky</a> (570-617-2768) by the Sunday beforehand.</p>			

DATE	TIME	GROUP	LOCATION
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<b>Wed 14</b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>Winter Solstice planning</b>	<b>Clover Lane</b>
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Clover Grove is planning the 2016 Winter Solstice event, scheduled for Saturday, December 17, at Clover Lane. We have roles for everyone from behind-the-scenes to front-stage to clean-up crew. December 14 is our final planning meeting before the event! Come join the fun! Direct questions to [Jen Wallitsch](#)



<b>Fri 16</b>	<b>7:30</b>	<b>Clover Lane Coffee House (monthly)</b>	<b>Clover Lane</b>
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Clover Lane Coffee House occurs monthly from September to April, normally on the third Friday. This month, we are pleased to host a Christmas Cèilidh.

UCH member Bill Brown plays Irish bouzouki, banjo, tin whistle, bagpipes, acoustic guitar, and bass; for tonight's concert he will be joined by colleagues from The Killmaine Saints and other local Celtic musicians. Admission \$10 donation, \$25 max per family. All are welcome. Please contact [Bart Carpenter](#).

**Looking ahead:** January 20 we welcome the jazz trio of Jay Umble (guitar), Steve Meashey (bass), and Theo Umble (drums). Among other things, Jay is an adjunct music faculty member at Bucknell University, Susquehanna University and Messiah College; leader of several local bands; and the author of nine publications on jazz and blues guitar. He has four solo CDs and another one with long-time collaborator Bill Druck.



CL Coffee House Christmas Cèilidh

<b>Sat 17</b>	<b>5:30</b>	<b>Winter Solstice</b>	<b>Clover Lane</b>
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The darkness of the autumn is now over. Here comes the sun! Please join Clover Grove for our annual Solstice Celebration and potluck dinner. This year we will welcome the sun's rebirth with a ritual honoring that jolliest of elves, Santa Claus! Gather at 5:30 at the Clover Lane sanctuary for the solstice ritual and then stay for the potluck dinner and bonfire. Please bring a dish to share. Merry meet! Contact: [Jen Wallitsch](#)



<b>Tue 20</b>	<b>10:00</b>	<b>CroneSpirit (Monthly)</b>	<b>Clover Lane</b>
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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 "What Triggers Feeling Old." 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 to or about each other

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



<b>Wed 21</b>	<b>6:00</b>	<b>Clover Grove (Monthly)</b>	<b>Clover Lane</b>
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Clover Grove is a group of earth-centered and pagan spiritualists that meets on the third Wednesday. On December 21, you are invited to join Clover Grove to celebrate Yule and snack on seasonal treats. We have no child care for this event. Feel free to bring a treat to share. All are welcome!

Contact [Jen Wallitsch](#) or [Wayne Minich](#) for further information.



December 2016 At-a-Glance

Week	Time	Sun 27-Nov	Mon 28-Nov	Tue 29-Nov	Wed 30-Nov	Thu 1-Dec	Fri 2-Dec	Sat 3-Dec
1	a.m.						10:00 Comm. Center	
	p.m.					7:00 Hamstra/Stoltzfus Small Group 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	7:00 Adult RE (Final Class)	
2	a.m.	9:30 Worship	10:00 Comm. Center				10:00 Comm. Center	8:00 Comm. Breakfast
		10:00 Forum						11:30 Cameron/Ersoz Small Group
		11:30 Worship						
	p.m.		6:30 Amrit Yoga	7:00 MMG 7:00 UUPLAN Forum <b>Oil &amp; Gas</b>	6:00 Queen Spirit <b>Bare Essence</b>	7:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 Dance Rehearsal		
3	a.m.	9:30 Worship	10:00 Comm. Center				10:00 Comm. Center	
		10:00 Forum						
		11:30 Worship/Town Hall						
	p.m.	6:30 Phil/Lit	6:30 Amrit Yoga 7:00 Hall/Reihart Small Group	7:00 MMG 7:00 Handbell Rehearsal	7:00 Clover Grove: Solstice Planning	7:00 Choir Rehearsal	7:30 Coffee House: <b>Christmas Cèilidh</b>	5:30 Winter Solstice Service/Celebration
4	a.m.	9:30 Worship/Town Hall	10:00 Comm. Center	10:00 Crone Spirit <b>What Triggers Feeling Old</b>			10:00 Comm. Center	2:00 Song Rehearsal
		10:00 Forum						3:00 Christmas Service
		11:30 Worship						
	p.m.		6:30 Amrit Yoga	7:00 MMG 7:00 Melillo McCauslin Small Group	6:00 Clover Grove: <b>Yule Season</b>	7:00 Choir Rehearsal		7:00 Christmas Service
5	a.m.	<b>Christmas Day (No Services)</b>				10:00 Comm. Center	10:00 Comm. Center	8:00 Comm. Breakfast
	p.m.		6:30 Amrit Yoga	7:00 MMG				

Non-Repeating @ Market Street

Save the Date!

**Jan 15: Communion Service**  
The UU Christian Fellowship (UUCF) will offer Communion after the Market Street service on Sunday, Jan. 15. If you can bring bread or juice or wine, please contact [Jim Cavanaugh](#) or [Yvonne Hursh](#).

**UU Christian Fellowship  
Communion Service**

**April 30, 2017: Twenty-fifth Anniversary of Oliver LaGrone Scholarship**  
The mission of the Oliver LaGrone Scholarship Committee is to facilitate and broaden the aspirations of the Harrisburg School District student toward furthering their education. For the past 24 years, we have accomplished this by providing personal support, advocacy and financial assistance for the students' post-secondary education. With the help of UCH members, we have maintained the legacy of Oliver LaGrone, the inspiration for this scholarship.

**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
LaGrone Scholarship  
4/30/17**

We are cordially inviting everyone to celebrate with the Oliver LaGrone Scholarship Committee – whether you have been a Groupie, part of the **OLIVER COLLECTIVE**, on the yearly Selection Panel, a mentor, on the Scholarship Committee, or a member of UCH – to the 25th anniversary of the Oliver LaGrone Scholarship on Sunday, April 30, 2017. Meet the 2017 scholar and celebrate with us.

So remember -"Save the Date" - Sunday April 30th, 2017. Looking for volunteers to make this an even greater celebration! Please contact [Margaret C. Carrow](#) (717-260-9449) for further information.

**June 3, 2017: All-Church Picnic**  
The all-church picnic will be Saturday, June 3, 2017, at the Lakeview Pavilion (last year was at Woodlawn) at Pinchot State Park. Stay tuned for details in the spring. Please contact [Marj Hartman](#) if interested in assisting with planning and coordination.

**UCH Picnic 6/3/17  
Pinchot Park**