



Cedarhurst
Unitarian
Universalists



P.O. Box 358 Finksburg, MD 21048

FROM THE MINISTER

As we begin a new congregational year, we come with challenges, changes, and resilience. As I write this newsletter the congregation is being polled regarding preferred mode of worship – online or dual platform. Whatever we decide, we will be together, in some way, in the coming weeks and months. Last year showed us clearly that we are interconnected and can still be together as a congregation while being socially distant from one another.

As I begin to prepare for the coming congregational year, I found a reading that I wrote, but have not shared with you yet. I think this is a piece to share as we begin another congregational year in the midst of COVID.



Creative tension of social distance.

By Rev. Amy Williams Clark

In a time of social distancing we can feel helpless, the ways of connection can feel vague and difficult.

Then we remember – the promise of our faith – interconnection.

The promise of our faith is that we are interconnected. Within this, we can hold one another in times of fear and discover community within isolation

Throughout our history, in difficult times and in times of joy, Unitarian Universalists have connected to one another through the “interlocking webs of reality.”*

This is not the first, nor will it be the last, that we have felt helpless or afraid

AND

This is not the first, nor the last, that interconnection brings the dance of creativity and hope.

We find ourselves now in a time of social distancing. How can we be social and distant? Are these terms not antithetical? Are they not in tension?

Within interconnection of all beings we find space for a creative tension. We can seek out one another and connect within our social distance. Through creativity we dance and revel in our interconnectedness.

We must defy fear and despondency and seek one another out to dance within the distance. In this way, spiritual distance is diminished.

Through small, and at times halting, dance steps of interconnection we form beautiful movements across the miles, across towns, streets, and across the 6-foot safety zone.

To begin the dance of interconnection – find your first small step.

A kind word to those whom you are isolated with,

A joke with a family member,

A wave across the street,

A smile to those six feet away,

A call or video chat with a friend,

Discovering online worship,

Elders teaching the young to write letters again,

The young teaching elders connection through technology.

If we each take a step, we will soon find ourselves dancing across the distance and learning new steps and movements of interconnection.

Blessed Be.

* Mary Elizabeth Moore:

[Teaching from the Heart: Theology and Educational Method](#)

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Amy

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT CEDARHURST UU

HELP FEED THE HUNGRY – LUNCH ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 AT 11 AM AT THE WESTMINSTER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Cedarhurst is collecting food for 60 hungry individuals. We need sandwiches (10 sandwiches brought by 6 people), water (60 bottles), beverages (30 items brought by 2 people), chips (60), fruit (30 items brought by 2 people). Contact Pamela Malkin to help with food or monetary donations.

BOOK DISCUSSION AT FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH BALTIMORE – SEPTEMBER 4 & 18—7PM

First Unitarian Church of Baltimore is holding a two-session book discussion via Zoom of Parable of the Sower by Octavia E. Butler on September 4th and 18th at 7:00 PM. All are welcome to join in. If interested, you can register [here](#).

GAME NIGHT—SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 AT 7:00 PM

No reservations required -- just Zoom in and have fun! [Zoom Link here](#). The ID is 874 9447 4228 and the Password is 841804.

BOOK CLUB SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 12

The Book Club selection for the Second Sunday Book Club on September 12 is “Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant” by Anne Tyler (1982). Join the Zoom discussion at 12 PM, after the service.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP—TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 AT 5:30 PM

On the Second Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm is the Cedarhurst Caregiver Support group. Join in to share/support the folks doing this arduous task. Maybe learn some stress relief techniques or just vent—it’s all safe here.

MONDAY MUSINGS—MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 AT 10:30 AM

Done in the style of "Mysteries", Monday Musings is a discussion group on general topics, chosen each week. More information on the [CUU Calendar](#).

GROUP ACTIVITIES FOR CEDARHURST COMMUNITY

The Congregational Life Committee is always searching for ideas for activities that bring us together in small or large groups. During the pandemic, all of our activities (except a few picnics) have been on zoom. Now that the world is opening up more again, we would love some suggestions for in-person daytime or evening activities. Maybe you could share your interests/passions with a trip or discussion activity or other venues. Please contact Beth Schilpp at 443-904-1304 if you have ideas and or would like to lead an activity.

MINISTER OFFICE HOURS: WEDNESDAYS FROM 3 TO 5 PM

Rev. Amy's Office Hours are now 3 to 5 PM on Wednesdays. Office Hours are presently over Zoom. Any changes will be reflected in the calendar and announcements. You can also make appointments with Rev Amy on Tuesdays or Thursdays. She is always available for urgent pastoral matters and can be reached at minister@cedarhurstuu.org.

[Zoom Link](#) -- Meeting ID: 980 9298 0551 -- Passcode: 121055

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Auction 2021



After enjoying two consecutive online auctions, Cedarhurst is poised to return to a beloved tradition: A single Fall auction. Please mark your calendars and save the date for Cedarhurst's 2021 Fall Auction to be held on **Saturday, November 6, 2021, 2:00 to 4:00 PM**. At this distance, we foresee offering a combination of live, in-person and online bidding. There will be other new features to this treasured event. However, one unchanged constant is you. It's the Donors and Bidders who make it possible, make it fun, and also make the auction financially beneficial to Cedarhurst UU. Your participation is the foundation of our own spiritual community at Cedarhurst and of all we seek to do in the wider community.

This Fall, since we will host only one Auction, we encourage you to start now. Be on the lookout for wonderful things to donate to this important fund-raiser. Remember, it's never easy to predict what will spark a lively bidding 'volley,' so feel free to be imaginative. We always enjoy the array of 'experiences' offered to each other. Think of the hikes, picnics, home-cooked dinner parties and other delights to be shared. Since this Auction will encompass most of 2022, feel free to schedule events throughout the Spring and Summer of that year.

We have always welcomed an amazing array of goods, so please think about the things you haven't used for a while, from tools, to neglected jewelry, rarely-used counter top appliances and just about everything in between. Services, too, are always a welcome way of lending a hand to help accomplish a project. Your ingenuity and generosity also lead to one of the best moments of the Fall Auction – looking over the catalogue contents to marvel at the items available and earmark your most desirable bidding targets. An email invitation will be sent to everyone in a few weeks explaining how and when to provide your donation information.

Several important innovations are underway. The time change to afternoon hours offers multiple benefits. Logistically, this simplifies the inevitable scramble following the Auction to set up the space for Sunday's service. Plus, this is a more welcoming time for any of our friends and members who prefer not to drive as nightfall approaches. And certainly, we can experiment with new kinds of menu and beverage options. All are good opportunities to grow our event.

A final, more serious comment is in order here. In this time of pandemic, the Auction Committee is paying very close attention to COVID issues and recommendations and will keep you informed of safety decisions and protocols as the Auction draws closer. Meanwhile, please investigate those cupboards, closets and work benches. There is treasure to be discovered and shared!

With Kind Regards,

The 2021 Auction Committee

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CEDARHURST UU

Calendar is subject to change. Check the website calendar [here](#) for most current schedule.

1 Sept	Wednesday	Ladies Who Lunch	12:00 PM
1 Sept	Wednesday	Minister Office Hours	3:00 PM
4 Sept	Saturday	Food Drive—Westminster Church of the Brethren	11:00 AM
4 Sept	Saturday	Book Discussion at First Unitarian Church Baltimore	7:00 PM
5 Sept	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
8 Sept	Wednesday	Ladies Who Lunch	12:00 PM
8 Sept	Wednesday	Minister Office Hours	3:00 PM
8 Sept	Wednesday	Board of Trustees Meeting	7:00 PM
11 Sept	Saturday	Virtual Game Night	7:00 PM
12 Sept	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
12 Sept	Sunday	Book Club	12:00 PM
14 Sept	Tuesday	Caregivers Support Group	5:30 PM
14 Sept	Tuesday	Religious Services Committee Meeting	7:00 PM
15 Sept	Wednesday	Ladies Who Lunch	12:00 PM
15 Sept	Wednesday	Minister Office Hours	3:00 PM
17 Sept	Friday	Night to Night Shelter Dinner	6:15 PM
18 Sept	Saturday	Book Discussion at First Unitarian Church Baltimore	7:00 PM
19 Sept	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
19 Sept	Sunday	Congregational Life Committee	12:00 PM
20 Sept	Monday	Monday Musings	10:30 AM
22 Sept	Wednesday	Ladies Who Lunch	12:00 PM
22 Sept	Wednesday	Minister Office Hours	3:00 PM
22 Sept	Wednesday	CUU Read-Along	7:00 PM
26 Sept	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
29 Sept	Wednesday	Ladies Who Lunch	12:00 PM
29 Sept	Wednesday	Minister Office Hours	3:00 PM
3 Oct	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
5 Oct	Tuesday	Religious Services Committee Meeting	7:00 PM
6 Oct	Wednesday	Ladies Who Lunch	3:00 PM

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