



Cedarhurst  
Unitarian  
Universalists



P.O. Box 358 Finksburg, MD 21048

## FROM THE MINISTER

Our theme this month is widening the circle and as I began to consider the poem *Outwitted* by Universalist poet Edwin Markham came to mind:

### Outwitted:

He drew a circle that shut me out

Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout

But love and I had the wit to win;

We drew a circle that took him in.

- Edwin Markham (1852-1040)

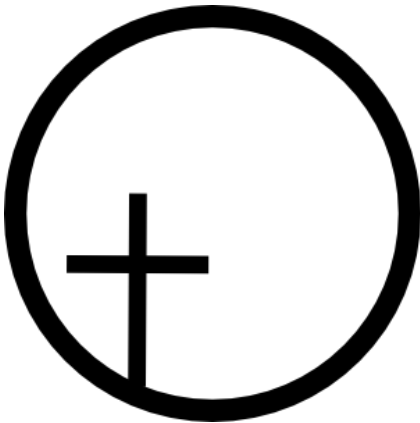
Universalism is one of our faith traditions that has deep meaning and deep history. Hosea Ballou, Clara Barton, Olympia Brown, and Edwin Markham are but a few Universalists in our history. Universalism is a faith tradition that is rooted in reaction to a theology where God is a judge and humans are always teetering on the edge of hell. Universalism taught that God is loving and so we must be also. There is no belief in hell in Universalism, because God loves us too much and desires for us to be close to God by living a life where we love one another.

Universalism is the basis of our diverse beliefs held within Unitarian Universalism. We do not believe that you must hold certain beliefs, be a theist, or agnostic, a pantheist, or atheist to be Unitarian Universalist, you “just” need to live a life that is inclusive of all. We can also see the roots of Universalism in our principles including the First, Second, Third, Seventh, and Eighth. The importance of human dignity, compassion, equity, interconnectedness and overcoming oppression have always been key Universalist ideals.

## FROM THE MINISTER

The Universalist symbol is a circle with a cross off to the side. It symbolized the important heritage of Christianity within Universalism, and that the circle was drawn large enough for all and that Christianity was not central or even necessary.

Universalism holds the “heretical” thoughts that God loves all people, that there is no original sin, that there is no hell. Also, God is love rather than judge, and there is room for all religious and even no religious beliefs. Many saw these beliefs as rebellious or even anathema -but instead of reacting negatively our forbearers responded in love by widening the circle.



Grace and Peace,

Rev. Amy

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

We are in the middle of the 30 Days of Love. The theme for the week of January 31st- February 6th is decriminalization and racial justice and the theme for the final week, February 7th- 14th is climate justice. Please visit [sidewith-love.org](http://sidewith-love.org) and check out the various activities (read, watch, act, listen, worship and political education) for each week and prior weeks if you haven't had a chance to participate. In January, we shared the Friday Songs of Joy gatherings with everyone on zoom. On February 11th, please join us for a special Friday Songs of Joy which includes Emma's Revolution. The Zoom starts at 7:30 pm and the link is on the calendar.

One of my favorite features of Soul Matters is the "Calendar Connections." Here is my pick of some interesting and just fun dates to take note of for February:

2/8 Nirvana Day/Parinirvana Day- Buddha's entry into Nirvana

2/12 NAACP is founded in 1909

Freedom to Marry Day

2/15 Susan B. Anthony's Birthday

2/17 Random Acts of Kindness Day

2/21 Malcolm X assassinated (1965)

2/26 Trayvon Martin killed (2012)

Our worship theme this month is Widening the Circle. We are familiar with the 2020 Widening the Circle of Concern report of the UUA Commission on Institutional Change to address diversity, equity and inclusion issues throughout the UUA. During services we will widen our circle in various ways by widening our understanding of history, this moment in time, our understanding of responsibility, our faith and empathy for others in pain. There are so many ways we can widen our circle to live fully into our principles. As you listen and learn each week, I invite you to think about how you can act or live into our faith.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Empathy is a good example. It is complex. It is hard and mistakes are made sometimes. It is worth the effort to learn, understand and act on. Consider this quote by Ijeoma Oluo, author of "So you want to talk about race" discussing the effects of tone policing.

"To refuse to listen to someone's cries for justice and equality until the request comes in a language you feel comfortable with is a way of asserting your dominance over them in the situation. The oppressed person reaching out to you is already disadvantaged by the oppression they are trying to address. By tone policing, you are increasing that disadvantage by insisting that you get to determine their grievances are valid and will only decide they are so if, on top of everything they are already enduring, they make the effort to prioritize your comfort. Whether you are consciously meaning to do this or not, this is the effect tone policing has on people of color."

How can we do better both individually and collectively to be better listeners and truly meet people where they are? I think of this in the context of my queer child's life. I have to reach outside of my comfort zone at times to do my best to be an ally and not another barrier. I would love to hear your ideas about how we can widen our circle as a congregation. Is it worship, religious exploration, social justice, governance, social events or outreach? Please feel free to share with me on email at [boardpresident@cedarhurstuu.org](mailto:boardpresident@cedarhurstuu.org).

♥ 30 DAYS OF LOVE ♥

Jan 17 - Feb 14

Act ♥ Listen ♥ Watch ♥ Read ♥ Worship

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT CEDARHURST UU

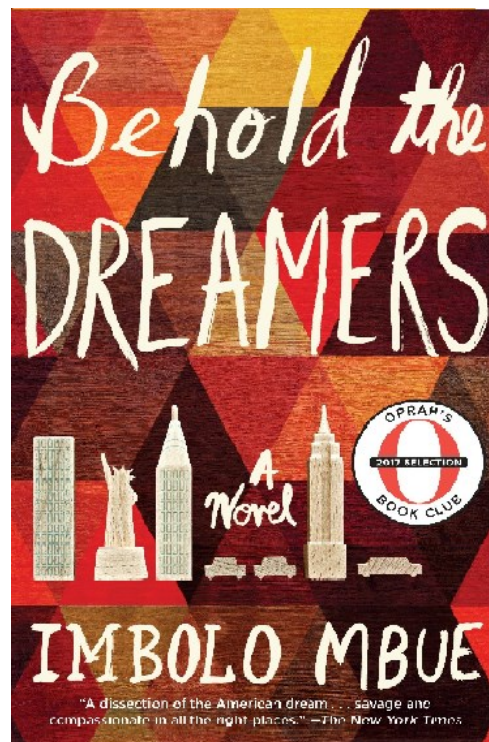
**OUR BUILDING IS CURRENTLY CLOSED UNTIL FEBRUARY 13th,**  
**AT WHICH TIME THE BOARD WILL REEVALUATE.**

### **GAME NIGHT—SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12 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, FEBRUARY 13 AT NOON**

The CUU Second Sunday Book Club will discuss “Behold the Dreamers” by Imbolo Mbue on Sunday, February 13th at 12 noon on Zoom Meeting ID: 910 3702 3644 Passcode: 499965



### **CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP—TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8 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 - THIRD MONDAY (FEBRUARY 21) AT 7:00 PM**

Monday Musings meet the third Monday of each month at 7 pm on Zoom. All are welcome. We gather to ponder quotes on a different topic each month. Monday, February 21 at 7 pm on Zoom, discussing quotes provided by UUA's Soul Matters.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT CEDARHURST UU

## BALTIMORE CLUSTER MEETINGS WINTER/SPRING

### TUESDAY FEBRUARY 22

Rev. Renee Ruchotzke, Topic: Right Relationship Teams, how to get started and why they're important

### WEDNESDAY MARCH 2

Cherie Taylor: Stewardship this year amidst an ongoing pandemic

### TUESDAY APRIL 26

Rev. Rob Keithan: Social Justice in congregations with a spotlight on reproductive rights (Rob is the minister of social justice at All Souls and heavily involved in organizing around reproductive rights. He's got close networks and ties with great organizations working on this in the DMV.)

### TUESDAY MAY 24

Rev. Dayna Edwards: Poor People Campaign & UU Congregations



## STAY TUNED FOR ZOOM INFORMATION!

### A Second Slice of Pi: An Online Conference for Smaller Congregations

What will be happening? We'll have on demand, easy to access resources housed at UU Institute plus a live, virtual 2 hour networking conference with a variety of conversational topics on March 12, 2022 from 3p-5p ET/12p-2p PT. Registration is on a sliding scale from \$5-25 to fit your budget and is open now. [Learn more.](#)

## Learning Opportunities for Members and Congregational Teams

### Widening the Welcome: A Virtual Workshop for Your Congregation's Greeting Team - February 12

*Build the Beloved Community by Being Inclusive of All*

This is an online webinar on February 12, 2022, which will have two sessions from 10a-12p and 2-4 pm ET, including presentations and practice opportunities. Please plan to attend both sessions. Attendees from other regions are welcome.

**Cost:** \$25 for individuals. If you are attending as part of a congregational team, the cost is \$5 per person. [Details and registration at the CER Website.](#)



## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT CEDARHURST UU

### From Reactivity to Resilience: Doing Our Inner Work in Congregations - March 5 & 26

Part I - March 5, 2022 - 2:00 to 4:00 PM (ET)

Part II - March 26, 2022 - 2:00 to 4:00 PM (ET)

This webinar series focuses on the Spiritual Leadership practice of "doing our inner work." It is rooted in an awareness of the human tendency to fight, freeze, or flee when we are activated. It rests in a belief that congregations are called to create a container in which everyone can learn, hone and use tools that bring us through activation into resilience.

Fee per person is \$25 or pay-what-you-can using our coupon codes. [Learn more and register here.](#) From the New England Region.

### Jubilee Anti-Racism Training - April 1-3- Online; If safe, a small group can gather at the CUU building to watch and learn together.

Do you wish to deepen your understanding of how race and ethnicity play out in our institutions and our daily lives? Are you ready to take a leading role to nurture a multicultural future in the face of opposing cultural currents? Come Join Us for this Life-Changing Weekend!

Weekend Activities: The training includes presentations, discussions, videos, exercises, and small group work. This 2 ½ day workshop is open to anyone who wants to journey toward making a stand against racism. Church members and church leaders of any faith, as well as non-church members are all welcome! [Registration and details at the CER website.](#)

### General Assembly 2022- CUU has money budgeted to assist with GA expenses. Please ask a Board member for info!

General Assembly 2022! In 2022, we will have the option of meeting online or in-person! For those who enjoyed the convenience and accessibility of remote participation, General Assembly will continue to offer a virtual experience with robust programming and enhanced delegate discussion tools. For those who miss the in-person experience, GA 2022 offers opportunities to re-connect with friends old and new, local site attractions, and more! Join us

June 22 - 26, 2022 online or in-person in Portland, Oregon. *In Person Registration and the Housing Reservation system is now open. Find out about all the plans at the [UUA website.](#)*



### MINISTER OFFICE HOURS

Rev. Amy's Office Hours are 3-5 PM on Wednesdays. Office Hours are presently over Zoom only. 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](mailto:minister@cedarhurstuu.org).

#### [Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 980 9298 0551

Passcode: 121055

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CEDARHURST UU

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

1 Feb	Tuesday	Religious Services Committee Meeting	7:00 PM
2 Feb	Wednesday	Ladies Who Lunch	12:00 PM
2 Feb	Wednesday	Minister Office Hours	3:00 PM
5 Feb	Saturday	CUU Virtual Movie Night	7:00 PM
6 Feb	Sunday	Online Sunday Service	10:30 AM
8 Feb	Tuesday	Caregivers Support Group	5:30 PM
9 Feb	Wednesday	Ladies Who Lunch	12:00 PM
9 Feb	Wednesday	Minister Office Hours	3:00 PM
9 Feb	Wednesday	Board of Trustees Meeting	7:00 PM
11 Feb	Friday	Conversation & Emma's Revolution	7:30 PM
12 Feb	Saturday	CUU Virtual Game Night	7:00 PM
13 Feb	Sunday	Online Sunday Service	10:30 AM
13 Feb	Sunday	Book Club	12:00 PM
16 Feb	Wednesday	Ladies Who Lunch	12:00 PM
16 Feb	Wednesday	Minister Office Hours	3:00 PM
18 Feb	Friday	Night to Night Shelter Dinner	6:15 PM
20 Feb	Sunday	Online Sunday Service	10:30 AM
20 Feb	Sunday	Congregational Life Committee	12:00 PM
21 Feb	Monday	Monday Musings	7:00 PM
23 Feb	Wednesday	Ladies Who Lunch	12:00 PM
23 Feb	Wednesday	Minister Office Hours	3:00 PM
23 Feb	Wednesday	Drinks and Dessert	7:00 PM
27 Feb	Sunday	Online Sunday Service	10:30 AM
1 Mar	Tuesday	Religious Services Committee Meeting	7:00 PM
2 Mar	Wednesday	Ladies Who Lunch	12:00 PM
2 Mar	Wednesday	Minister Office Hours	3:00 PM
5 Mar	Saturday	Virtual Fellowship Dinner	5:30 PM
6 Mar	Sunday	Online Sunday Service	10:30 AM
8 Mar	Tuesday	Caregivers Support Group	5:30 PM



## CONTACT

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**President** Francine Hahn [BoardPresident@cedarhurstuu.org](mailto:BoardPresident@cedarhurstuu.org)

### At Large Board Members

Alan Bogage [abogage@cedarhurstuu.org](mailto:abogage@cedarhurstuu.org)

Rebekah Waters [rlwaters422@gmail.com](mailto:rlwaters422@gmail.com)

Pete White [PWhite@cedarhurstuu.org](mailto:PWhite@cedarhurstuu.org)

**Treasurer** David Pittman [Treasurer@cedarhurstuu.org](mailto:Treasurer@cedarhurstuu.org)

### Committee Chairs:

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**Outreach Coordinator:** Emmett Waters [outreach@cedarhurstuu.org](mailto:outreach@cedarhurstuu.org)

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