Volume 9

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FROM THE MINISTER

As I write this newsletter article, I am preparing to go to upstate New York for study leave. The leave will include a visit to my sister and a great deal of study. The focus of my leave will be working on programs and sermons for the new congregational year. A second focus will be reading books to further my professional and spiritual development.

I find that I usually read three books at once, a practice that I will continue on study leave. The books include one non-fiction that has to do with theology, social justice, or another topic which furthers my mind and professional development. The second is usually a spiritual book to deepen my spirit, and the third is a fictional book which is for – well just for fun!

This year I am reading *On Repentance and Repair: Making Amends in an Unapologetic World* by Danya Ruttenberg. It is the UUA common read – something that congregations and individuals are invited to read and study together. The book is thought provoking and always interesting. I highly recommend it. The book looks at ways that repair can happen when there is and there is not repentance. It also explores what repentance looks like in our world and if repair is possible.

The second book is *Doorways to the Soul* edited by Elisa Davy Pearmain. The book contains wisdom tales from around the world and guides for study. If there is interest, we will have a program later in the year on Wisdom Tales. It will focus on how wisdom tales speak to us and help us grow spiritually. We will be using the spiritual practice of Lectio Divina which focuses on the ways to explore the writings spiritually and provide spiritual insights for growth.

FROM THE MINISTER cont.

My third book is truly fun, it is *Tristian Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky* by Kwame Mbalia. The book is about a young man who finds himself in the mythical world of Midpass, encountering legendary figures and gods of African-American and African mythology. Tristian needs to help the legendary figures and gods repair the hole in the sky, which Tristian accidently creates as he seeks to reclaim his dead friend's diary. The thief of the diary is Gum Baby, a trickster who has been sent to steal the stories contained in the diary. Though it is a book for young adults, it is one of excitement, drama, and encounters with a mythology to which many of us have never been exposed. I highly recommend it as well.

What books are you reading or want to read at this time? Reading has always been part of my life and talking to many of you, it has also been part of yours. Share the books you are reading with someone. And share them with me so I can put them on my book list!

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Amy



FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

September is one of my favorite months of the year. As a child I always looked forward to the start of school, even though summer meant bike riding whenever I wanted, among other freedoms. I still enjoy seeing the school buses around the county, and I work with kids at a nearby school. Our extended families have a total of eleven birthdays in September, so for us it is also a month of celebration.

September signifies change here at Cedarhurst, too. We transition from our summer lay-led Sunday services to our fall-winter-spring services (in person AND on Zoom) which include hymnals, our beloved Esther at the piano, the CUU Choir singing, and Rev Amy or a guest minister delivering the message for the day, with our customary dialog afterwards.

Other things that happen in the fall include:

- FallFest in downtown Westminster, where CUU will again have a booth contact Cindy Hirshberg to sign up for a 2-hour shift Sat 9/23 or Sun 9/24.
- Small Group Dinners in October (see Weekly UUpdate for sign-up info where we gather at each other's homes to enjoy good food and fellow ship).
- CUU's Annual Auction, happening on November 4 in the early afternoon
 this is our primary fundraiser and a lot of fun!

Your Cedarhurst Board meets monthly year-round, and over the summer we identified some top priority items, including scheduling a structural engineer to assess the condition of our boiler room and the adjacent outdoor staircase. There are some minor cracks in the walls of the boiler room (not unsafe, but needing attention), and the staircase needs securing or replacing.

FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT cont.

Restarting our Religious Exploration (RE) program for children and youth is also at the top of the list, and Sherry Dean is scheduling a visit from an RE specialist from the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) to meet with the Board and speak at a Sunday service, so you will be a part of this process! This person will help us clarify our goals, attract families, and look at our needs for staffing. A strong RE program needs a dedicated staff person. Personally, I am so excited about this! Having children with us every Sunday will add a dimension that will enrich us all. Our congregation will come "full circle" with participants of all ages.

Be sure and check our calendar for all the ways you can participate in Cedarhurst life beyond Sunday morning – in person and on Zoom. And let me or Rev. Amy know if you'd like to start something new, in person or online.

Becky Zimmerman <u>boardpresident@cedarhurstuu.org</u> 443-789-1886 9 am – 9 pm



Thank you, thank you, thank you for everyone who made our summer services a resounding success! From those who offered a service, to those who served as lay leader as needed, to those who made sure the building was unlocked and welcomed visitors.

For something a little different, rather than a service, we will be having a potluck brunch on Sunday September 3, starting at 10:30 a.m. Bring your favorite (or easiest) breakfast or lunch dish if you are able. However, everyone is welcome, whether you are able to bring something or not. We will have tables set up inside and outside, weather permitting, along with piano accompaniment, courtesy of Esther.

Our 'regular' services begin on Sunday September 10 with Rev. Amy Williams Clark and the traditional water communion. The water communion traditions have changed over the years with people previously bringing water from their summer adventures and describing them, to simply bringing some water from a place special to you if you want. And of course, because it is a UU tradition, there are lots of writings around it, some of which can be found here. <u>https:// www.uua.org/search?as_q=water%20communion%20site%</u> <u>3Auuworld.org#gsc.tab=0&gsc.q=water%20communion%20site%</u> <u>3Auuworld.org&gsc.page=1</u>

For the rest of September, Rev. Amy will be with us on September 17 and Rev Lora Powell-Haney on September 24.

We plan to return to showing our services on Zoom beginning on September 10. As mentioned elsewhere, there will be Zoom training session on September 3 at approximately 11:30 following brunch. We need at least 2-3 additional volunteers to ensure we can offer this service week in and week out. All are welcome to attend the training even if you are not able to volunteer at this time. Additionally, if you are interested in helping with the hospitality table or being a lay leader, please contact me at <u>mariawarburton@comcast.net</u> for more information about the various opportunities and how to sign up.

Thanks and Happy September! Maria Warburton Worship Committee Chair

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CEDARHURST UU

Calendar is subject to change. Check the website calendar <u>here</u> for most current schedule.

3 September	Sunday	Labor Day Picnic at CUU	10:30 AM
3 September	Sunday	A/V System Training	11:30 AM
6 September	Wednesday	Ladies Who Lunch	12:00 PM
6 September	Wednesday	Minister Office Hours	4:00 PM
9 September	Saturday	CUU Virtual Game Night	7:00 PM
10 September	Sunday	Sunday Service—In-person & on Zoom	10:30 AM
10 September	Sunday	Clyburn Gardens Walk	12:00 PM
11 September	Monday	UUA General Assembly - Disrupting Church on Zoom	7:00 PM
12 September	Tuesday	Caregivers Support Group	5:30 PM
13 September	Wednesday	Ladies Who Lunch	12:00 PM
13 September	Wednesday	Minister Office Hours	4:00 PM
13 September	Wednesday	Board of Trustees Meeting	7:00 PM
15 September	Friday	Night-by-Night Shelter Dinner	6:15 PM
17 September	Sunday	Sunday Service—In-person & on Zoom	10:30 AM
17 September	Sunday	CUU Book Club	12:00 PM
18 September	Monday	Monday Musings	7:00 PM
19 September	Tuesday	Worship Committee Meeting	7:00 PM
20 September	Wednesday	Ladies Who Lunch	12:00 PM
20 September	Wednesday	Minister Office Hours	4:00 PM
22 September	Friday	Drinks & Dessert	7:00 PM
24 September	Sunday	Sunday Service—In-person & on Zoom	10:30 AM
24 September	Sunday	Congregational Life Committee	12:00 PM
27 September	Wednesday	Ladies Who Lunch	12:00 PM
27 September	Wednesday	Minister Office Hours	4:00 PM
30 September	Saturday	Game Night - In-person	6:00 PM

LADIES WHO LUNCH – Every Wednesday at noon on Zoom



LADIES WHO LUNCH is a social Zoom that is open to ANY woman who is a member or friend of CUU. We invite you to drop in any Wednesday between 12:00-1:00 pm. Whether you have 10 minutes to spare, or the full hour, you are welcome here! Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar.

Labor Day Picnic – Sunday, September 3rd at 10:30am

In lieu of service we will be having a pot-luck brunch/picnic at Cedarhurst.

Please bring a dish to share if you are able. Drinks will be supplied.

Come enjoy some good food and casual conversation. Esther will also be joining us to provide some wonderful music.

Zoom Training for Sunday Services - Sunday, September 3rd at approx. 11:30am

This should only take 15 -20 minutes. We are looking for at least 2 -3 additional volunteers to ensure we can return to providing an on-line option for services beginning on September 10. Contact Maria Warburton at <u>mariawarburton@comcast.net</u> if you'd like more information or need an alternative training time.

CUU VIRTUAL GAME NIGHT – Saturday, September 9th at 7:00pm on Zoom



Zoom in to play games with CUU friends! We usually play Tribond, Taboo, or Scattergories, but are always open to new ideas. We do not keep score - just have a lot of fun! Contact Beth Schilpp with questions. Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar.

Clyburn Gardens Walk - Sunday, September 10th at 12:00pm



After coffee hour, all who wish to attend are invited to carpool to Clyburn Gardens for a nice walk to enjoy the fall flowers and plants. No reservations needed. We'll be meeting at the CUU porch at noon and leaving from there.

UUA General Assembly – Monday, September 11th at 7:00pm on Zoom

Francine Hahn and Maria Warburton will be hosting a final Zoom event showing video recordings from this year's UUA General Assembly. The recordings are only available to registered attendees, however, we are allowed to show them in a group setting.

The final event is *Disrupting Church*. A though-provoking presentation by the Director of Religious Education and Senior Minister at the Community Church of New York.

Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP - Tuesday, September 12th at 5:30pm on Zoom

On the Second Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm is the Cedarhurst Caregiver Support group. If you are or have been a physical or emotional caregiver, please Zoom in to share your experiences, vent a bit or just listen. Our goal is to support each other. Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar. Call Beth Schilpp at 443-904-1304 if you have trouble getting onto Zoom.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING - Wednesday, September 13th 7:00pm on Zoom

Board meetings are open to all unless otherwise noted. Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar.

NIGHT-BY-NIGHT: FOOD PROGRAM - Friday, September 15th at 6:15pm

Every third Friday of the month we provide dinner for approximately 30 homeless in Carroll County, a community service CUU has provided for over ten years.

Interested in helping provide food or drinks? Contact Pamela Malkin.

Friday, September 15th - Last day to order cards for October 14th card making session. Contact Pamela Malkin for more information.

CUU BOOK CLUB – Sunday, September 17th at noon on Zoom

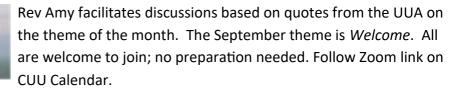
The book for September is *The Mother-in-Law* by Sally Hepworth. Zoom in to discuss!

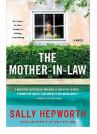
A twisty, compelling new novel about one woman's complicated relationship with her mother-in-law that ends in death...

You might want to get a head start on the October book, *Dead Wake* by Erik Larson, which is considerably long.

For a list of the selections for 2023, please contact Pamela Malkin. We'd love to have new folks participating in this group. Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar.

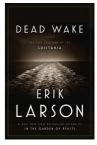
MONDAY MUSINGS - Monday, September 18th at 7:00pm on Zoom





Soul Matters





WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – Tuesday, September 19th at 7:00pm on

Zoom

Interested in helping to create the Sunday worship services?

Then this is the committee for you! All are welcome. Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar.

DRINKS AND DESSERT - Friday, September 22nd at 7:00pm on Zoom

This is our no agenda social time – come with or without drinks and dessert to chat and enjoy each other. Maybe share your holiday stories or whatever you wish.

Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar.



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE MEETING — September 24th at 7:00pm on Zoom

The Congregational Life Committee sponsors a variety of activities for friends and members of the congregation. Many of these are on Zoom as the result of COVID, but we are moving toward more in-person events. The committee meets on Zoom on the 4th Sunday of the month at noon and anyone is welcome to attend. Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar.

IN-PERSON GAME NIGHT – Saturday, September 30th at 6:00pm

We will eat at 6:00pm and begin games at 6:30pm. Bring your own dinner or eat before you arrive. No food will be shared this evening. Feel free to show up and chat either way!

If you have a favorite game, please bring it along. The more people who join, the more games we can play! Call Beth Schilpp at 443-904-1304 with any questions.

Interested in receiving more information? Contact Nalina at outreach@cedarhurstuu.org to be added to our weekly CUUpdate mailing list!

GRIEF GROUP -

Grief Group will reconvene again this year. If you are interested in attending, please contact Rev. Amy at <u>minister@cedarhurstuu.org</u>.

NEW MINISTER OFFICE HOURS

Wednesdays In-Office Meetings 4:00-6:00pm

Rev. Amy's Office hours for the Fall are now on Wednesdays, in-person only.

Feel free to stop in any time.

Reminder: Rev. Amy is always available for urgent pastoral matters and can be reached via phone or text.

October – Small Group Dinners are Returning!

Signup sheets will be at CUU by September 10th to sign up for small group dinners or lunches. These are held in our homes so both hosts and guests are needed. The host usually provides the main dish and asks the guests to bring the sides and desserts. For instance, the host will make baked chicken and will ask one guest to bring potatoes or rice, another guest to bring a vegetable, another to bring a dessert and maybe another to bring an appetizer. Everyone should keep it simple – the main idea is to enjoy each other and get to know a few people a little better. Most dinners are for 6 to 8 people including the host(s) but that is not a hard fast rule – just a suggestion. The last day to sign up is October 15th at noon. Call Beth Schilpp at 443-904-1304 or talk to Pamela Malkin, Sharon Kennedy, June Clarke or Barb Bradley.

October - New Members Class begins!

In October, Rev. Amy is inviting you to join a New Members class on Wednesdays at 6:00pm. For six weeks, we will learning (and grilling Rev Amy with all your questions) about Unitarian Universalism. Classes will be held both in person and via Zoom. Come, gather together for an opportunity to learn, join our community, and have fun!! Each session will be one hour in length—come and join the gang!

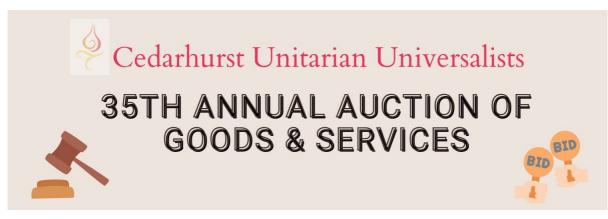
Pick Your Own Card Kit Class - Saturday, October 14th at 10:00am

We'll be gathering at CUU to make 8-9 cards together. Order your kits by September 15th. Prices on selected kits vary from \$15-\$28. Contact Pamela Malkin for more information.

Newcomers Breakfast – Sunday, October 15th at 9am

If you have visited CUU for the first time since the pandemic, you are especially invited to breakfast on the 15th. Just bring yourself and your family. It is a time for all of us to share how we got to CUU and to get to know each other a little better. While newcomers are particularly invited, if you have never been to a newcomer breakfast, please come to this one.

Reservations are not required, but if you have any special food allergies etc., please call Beth Schilpp at 443-904-1304 so we can make sure to accommodate everyone.



November - CUU's Annual Auction!

Saturday, November 4th at 1:00pm is the date and time for this year's annual auction.

Don't miss out on the fun, good food and opportunity to set your social calendar for the next year. The Auction is CUU's largest fundraiser. It is a chance for you to make a difference in our operating fund by your generous donations and purchases the night of the auction. This is a time of fellowship with your CUU friends along with the opportunity to make new friends. Mark your calendars now.

Watch for Auction announcements in the weekly CUUpdates for information on how you can donate or offer your help to make this event a success.

Thank you from the Auction Committee: Terri Ebaugh, Linda Joy, Sharon Kennedy, Barb Bradley, Maria Warburton, Jan Pennington, Cindy Hirshberg, Beth Schilpp, and Sherry Dean.

CONTACT

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