



MARCH
2024

THE COMPANION

ISSUE NO.
3

CUU'S MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER

Minister's Message

Written by Rev. Amy Williams Clark

Greetings -

This is my last newsletter to CUU and it is a difficult one. How do I say goodbye in only a paragraph or two? Rather than trying, I will leave my goodbye to my sermon on March 17.

Instead I will share with you a treasured ritual of farewell I found from the United Methodist Book of Worship and adapted for Unitarian Universalist sensibilities.

It goes something like this:
(Bolded words are said by congregation or in Unison as appropriate)

Ritual of Farewell

I thank you, the members and friends of this congregation, for the love and support you have shown me while I have ministered among you.



minister@cedarhurstuu.org

202-579-0823

March's Office Hours

Wednesday, March 6th

6:00-8:00pm on Zoom only



I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

We receive your thankfulness and accept that you now leave to minister elsewhere. We express our gratitude for your time among us.

Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave with your departure.

I accept your gratitude, trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to the spirit of all who is known by many names.

I release you from turning to me and depending on me.

I encourage your continuing ministry here and will pray for you and for your new minister.

Spirit of life, whose steadfast love for us is from everlasting to everlasting, we give you thanks for cherished memories and commend one another into your care as we move in new directions.

Keep us one in your love forever, blessed be and Amen.

By the way, I love you all and will treasure you always.

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Amy



Soul Matters

Let difficulty transform you. And it will. In my experience, we just need help learning how not to run away.

- Pema Chodron

And the day came when the risk to remain tight in a bud was more painful than the risk it took to blossom. - Anais Nin

Rev. Amy Invites you to join her in the spiritual practice of UULent. Each day invites you to contemplate a word or concept.

Link to UULent Practice: [2024 UULent](#)

President's Message

Written by Pres. Becky Zimmerman

March is here, finally! I'm not a winter person, and this winter has presented some unique challenges on the home front for me. Let's just say my husband Jay and I are grateful for mostly good health! We're also grateful for support from you as he went through surgery and I went through...everything else. Lol!

One challenge we all share this "winter-almost-spring" is having to say goodbye to Amy Williams-Clark, our Minister for the past nine years, and facing the uncertainty of what/who is coming next.

I hope that you will be able to attend our services (in-person or on Zoom) on March 3 and March 17, Amy's last two services with us. These are opportunities for us to wish her well and say/express our goodbyes. Our Congregational Life committee is coordinating a potluck lunch on the 17th so we have more time for fellowship with Amy. There may be some fun surprises, too (I heard that somewhere...).

Before I address "what's next" I want to reflect with joy on the Congregational Workshop we held on February 4 with Lenore Bajare-Dukes, our primary contact with the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). [Next time we'll hold a contest for the catchiest name for one of these events...]

About 25 people participated, and their feedback on that Sunday afternoon together has been overwhelmingly positive.

One of my main takeaways from the workshop is that perhaps it makes sense for us to think in terms of becoming a more multi-generational congregation instead of focusing on adding a Religious Education program for children. This is a surprisingly welcome mental shift for me – it seems much more doable somehow.

In small groups, we listed what we each saw as Cedarhurst UU's strengths, and those are listed elsewhere in the *Companion*.

Now to the "what's next after Rev. Amy leaves us?"

First, we will be searching for a Contract Minister, per UUA updated guidelines for small congregations. Rev. Amy has been a Contract Minister during her time with us, starting with a one-year renewable contract in 2015 and eventually reaching a three-year renewable contract.

Here is a general outline of the steps that will be taken to find a new Minister for Cedarhurst (some are already underway or done):

1. Connect with our UUA Transition Team, two people who are with us for whatever we need throughout the process. *Initial contact made.*
2. Put together a Search Committee. *Done!* In addition to the Board President, the committee consists of David Pittman, Lisa Miller, Alan Bogage, Roderic Hooks, and Beth Schilpp.



boardpresident@cedarhurstuu.org

443-789-1886

9 am – 9 pm

3. Elicit input from the congregation on the skills & qualities you are looking for in your new Minister.

4. Search Committee meets and puts together a job description, incorporating input from congregation, for Board approval.

5. Job description is sent to UUA Transition Team, who will post it on the online platform used by UU ministers looking for a congregation to serve.

6. Potential candidates will see our "ad" on the platform, and respond.

Of course, there is also word-of-mouth, and we are already aware of a couple of people who are looking for a congregation to serve.

The Search Committee and the Board will keep you informed along the way during this process, and you are encouraged to contact me or the Search Committee Chair with any questions you have. One thing to note: in Contract Ministry, the Board has the final vote on the candidate of choice that the Search Committee submits. But, as stated above, this is with major input from the congregation and the Search Committee. We are in this together!

Quotes Selected by the Board President

In 1972, **Shirley Chisholm** was asked why she, a Black woman, was running for president: "You don't have a chance. Why are you doing that?" And she said, "Because I am in love with the America that does not yet exist."

"Our universal calling as humans is to be the most loving people we can be."...

David Richo (from WorshipWeb ©2016)



UUA Liaison, Lenore Bajare-Dukes
February 4, 2024 Workshop at CUU



Cedarhurst's Strengths


As identified by the 25 participants in the February 4, 2024 workshop facilitated by Lenore Bajare-Dukes, our UUA primary contact. We worked in small groups and wrote these on large sheets of newsprint. Here they are copied verbatim; words in italics are intended to add clarification.

- ✓ Blue dot in a red county (or liberal force in a conservative county)
- ✓ Radically welcoming
- ✓ Community is supportive of its members
- ✓ Active in social justice
- ✓ We have the physical space for outreach activities
- ✓ Welcoming
- ✓ Community service
- ✓ Social events
- ✓ Music
- ✓ Safe home (building/property)
- ✓ Music – 10% of congregation in choir
- ✓ Coffee House (*a pre-pandemic monthly event that people want back!*)
- ✓ Food – for the Night-to-Night Shelter + hospitality food on Sundays
- ✓ Our sign – a welcoming door to fellowship
- ✓ Caring Committee – if you need help, we are there
- ✓ Discussion groups, e.g. Book Club, Monday Musings, Ladies Who Lunch
- ✓ July 4 picnic (*CUU joins with Shepherd's Staff to provide a meal for those who need it. The soup kitchens are all closed that day.*)
- ✓ Auction! (*Our annual fundraiser, which brings us all together for fellowship, food, and a fun night of bidding on items and events.*)
- ✓ Shelter meals
- ✓ We support activities in the community (*such as Transgender Day of Remembrance, vigils, protests, and a presence at events like Art in the Park, FallFest, Pride Day*)
- ✓ Welcoming – talk & listen, kiddie activities
- ✓ Opportunity to share during & after service
- ✓ Official communications (*Weekly UUpdate, monthly Companion, Special Announcements*)
- ✓ Relationship with other churches and faith communities
- ✓ Home space
- ✓ Music
- ✓ Food

Article 2 Discussion

Stay tuned as we continue to discuss Article 2, the Values of Unitarian Universalism. Discussions will start with a question and answer session after service on March 3.

[UU Principles & Values - Cedarhurst Unitarian Universalists \(cedarhurstuumd.org\)](http://cedarhurstuumd.org)



UU Principles

We, the member congregations of the UUA, covenant to affirm and promote:

- 1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person*
- 2. Justice, equity and compassion in human relations*
- 3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations*
- 4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning*
- 5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large*
- 6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all*
- 7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part*
- 8. Journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions*

Principles 1-7: adopted by the UUA 1985
Principle 8: adopted by the CLF in 2020

Article 2 Discussion

Stay tuned as we continue to discuss Article 2, the Values of Unitarian Universalism. Discussions will start with a question and answer session after service on March 3.

UU Values

Love is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our shared values. We are accountable to one another for doing the work of living our shared values through the spiritual discipline of Love. Inseparable from one another, these shared values are:

Interdependence

We honor the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. With humility and reverence, we covenant to protect Earth and all beings from exploitation, creating and nurturing sustainable relationships of repair, mutuality and justice.

Pluralism

We celebrate that we are all sacred beings diverse in culture, experience, and theology. We covenant to learn from one another in our free and responsible search for truth and meaning. We embrace our differences and commonalities with Love, curiosity, and respect.

Justice

We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities where all thrive. We covenant to dismantle racism and all forms of systemic oppression. We support the use of inclusive democratic processes to make decisions within our congregation and the society at large.

Language proposed by the Article II Study Commission in 2022; up for a vote to adopt denomination-wide at UUA General Assembly in 2024

Transformation

We adapt to the changing world. We covenant to collectively transform and grow spiritually and ethically. Openness to change is fundamental to our Unitarian and Universalist heritages, never complete and never perfect.

Generosity

We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope. We covenant to freely and compassionately share our faith, presence, and resources. Our generosity connects us to one another in relationships of interdependence and mutuality.

Equity

We declare that every person has the right to flourish with inherent dignity and worthiness. We covenant to use our time, wisdom, attention, and money to build and sustain fully accessible and inclusive communities.

Language proposed by the Article II Study Commission in 2022; up for a vote to adopt denomination-wide at UUA General Assembly in 2024

HAVING FUN AT OUR CUU EVENTS



Barb Bradley and Beth Schilpp at Visionary Art Museum outing, February 15th. Photo by Pamela Malkin.

HAVING FUN AT OUR CUU EVENTS



CUU Members having a wonderful meal at our CUU fundraiser Auction event, *Taste of Home Dinner* provided by the Shelter cooks on February 24th!

SPACES STILL AVAILABLE FOR CUU AUCTION EVENTS

LOOKING FOR THINGS TO DO IN THE COMING MONTHS?

THERE ARE MANY AUCTION EVENTS THAT STILL HAVE AVAILABLE SPACES.

CHECK OUT THE EVENTS BELOW AND CONTACT LINDA JOY AT LINDA.JOY@VERIZON.NET OR TERRI DON EBAUGH AT TERRIDONEBAUGH@GMAIL.COM IF YOU'D LIKE TO ATTEND!

PLEASE NOTE THE DATE ON THE SKINNY DIP POOL PARTY HAS CHANGED FROM JULY 6 TO JULY 13, 2024.

| Donor | Event | Event Date | Donation | Spaces open |
|----------------------------------|---|------------|----------|-------------|
| Beth Blevins and Becky Zimmerman | Dance Party! | 03/02/24 | \$20 | 10 |
| Sherry & Rich Dean | Toby's Dinner Theater | 03/22/24 | \$60 | 1 |
| Gerald Galuardi and Barb Bradley | An Afternoon of Live Music and Refreshments | 04/07/24 | \$25 | 24 |
| Dave Joy | Skinny Dip Pool Party (clothing optional) | 07/13/24 | \$35 | 9 |
| Linda & Dave Joy | Pool Party (clothing required) | 07/20/24 | \$35 | 4 |

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Goo Goo Ga Ga

IF YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO SPEAKS THE LANGUAGE OF INFANTS AND TODDLERS, PLEASE SEND THEM OUR WAY. CUU IS CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR A PAID NURSERY ATTENDANT TO JOIN THE STAFF.

IF YOU HAVE A TEENAGE NEIGHBOR, GRANDCHILD, OR A MATURE FRIEND WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN SPENDING TIME HERE ON SUNDAY MORNINGS, PLEASE LET BECKY ZIMMERMAN, BOARD PRESIDENT, KNOW.

WE ARE CURRENTLY RE-VAMPING OUR RE PROGRAM AND THE PAID NURSERY ATTENDANT IS OUR FIRST STEP.



Do we have any budding or closet photographers in the group?

We'd love to see your photos from CUU events!

They might get shared in our Weekly Newsletter, monthly *Companion*, or even placed on the Website!

Please share your event photos with Nalina at outreach@cedarhurstuu.org



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



It isn't too early to plan your summer vacation!
Consider Summer Institute as a perfect vacation for
the whole family. Spend a week with a few hundred
UUs and make some life-long friends.

Summer Institute 2024: July 7th-13th

Summer Institute 2024 is going to be jam-packed full of fun,
community, music and learning, back at Penn West California
University.

Theme Speaker is Rev. Julian Soto, a UU minister and activist,
presenting "Unlikely Superheroes: Skills for Practicing Faith and
Ethics in Tough Times." Rev. Soto brings a remarkably loving
presence and a depth of spiritual leadership. Prior to being a
minister, they were also a teacher and a lawyer. Each of these has
been a way for them to engage with people, with transformation, and
with the goal of making the world a better place.

|

In peace and love, The Summer Institute Planning Committee

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO](#)

MARCH SPECIAL EVENTS

DANCE PARTY - AUCTION EVENT! Saturday, March 2nd at 7:30pm

Dance the night away at a CUU Dance Party! We'll play Motown, disco/groove, a little bit of 80s pop, and a tad of 90s hip-hop. Come dressed as your favorite decade (e.g., disco dresses, tie-dye, ripped punk jackets, Goth black lace, grunge flannel, etc.). Prizes given for best costume!

This will be a two-hour party (with an intermission). Winning bidders are invited to submit up to three favorite dance songs for the evening's playlist. Wine, beer, soft drinks, and finger food will be available. Note: Ages 18 and up (no babysitting available). \$20 Entry Fundraiser Fee

Rides can be arranged for attendees who find driving at night a challenge.



LUNCH AT FULL MOON PUB & GRILL Monday, March 11th at noon

All are welcome to lunch together at the Full Moon Pub & Grill, Located at 1100 Westminster, Pike Reisterstown.

On the side there is an ramp so one does not have to use the stairs. Do not think we need a reservation, but please let Beth know if you are coming so can hold enough space for all. 443-904-1304 - call or text.



MARCH SPECIAL EVENTS

FAREWELL LUNCHEON FOR REV. AMY WILLIAMS CLARK

Sunday, March 17th at noon

March 17th will be Rev. Amy's last service with us as our minister – starting at our regular 10:30am time. To send Rev. Amy on her way for the next portion of her career with our best wishes, we will have a pot luck lunch after the service. PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE –and have a chance to say farewell. To make the transition from worship service to lunch easier, we will actually sit at the tables during the service so do not be shocked when you come.



TRIP TO CRYPTOLOGY MUSEUM

Thursday, March 21st at 9:30am

Meet at CUU at 9:30am to carpool to the museum. In addition to the museum visit we will have lunch in the area...Contact Beth Schilpp with questions. We should be back by 3:30 or 4pm.



MARCH EVENTS

LADIES WHO LUNCH

 every Wednesday at noon on Zoom

LADIES WHO LUNCH is a social Zoom gathering 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 to join.



CUU VIRTUAL GAME NIGHT

 Friday, March 8th 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 to join.

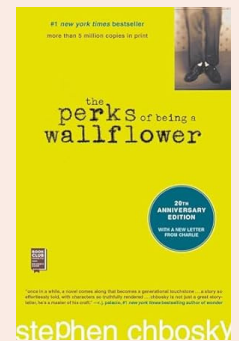


CUU BOOK CLUB

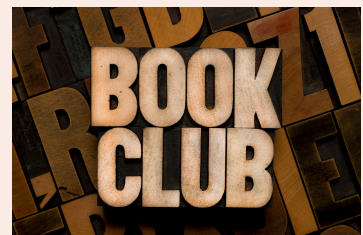
 Sunday, March 10th at noon on Zoom

March's book is *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky.

The critically acclaimed debut novel from Stephen Chbosky follows observant "wallflower" Charlie as he charts a course through the strange world between adolescence and adulthood. First dates, family drama, and new friends. Sex, drugs, and *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. Devastating loss, young love, and life on the fringes. Caught between trying to live his life and trying to run from it, Charlie must learn to navigate those wild and poignant roller-coaster days known as growing up. ~ Amazon



We'd love to have new folks participating in this group. Call Beth Schilpp with questions. Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar to join.



MARCH EVENTS

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

Please Zoom in if you are or have been the physical or emotional caretaker for a loved one. We have no experts – this is just a place to share your issues and experiences.

Call Beth Schilpp at 443-904-1304 with any questions.

Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar to join.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING Wednesday, March 13th at 7:00pm on Zoom

Board meeting will be on Zoom for all who wish to attend.

Board meetings are open to all unless otherwise noted.

Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar to join,



NIGHT-BY-NIGHT: FOOD PROGRAM Friday, March 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 at 410-857-5071.



MARCH EVENTS

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

Join in a discussion based on quotes from [Soul Matters](#), provided by the UUA on the theme of the month. All are welcome to join; no preparation needed.

Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar to join.



WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday, March 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 to join.



DRINKS AND DESSERT Friday, March 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 to join.



MARCH EVENTS

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Congregational Life Committee sponsors a variety of activities for friends and members of the congregation. Some events remain on Zoom, while others are in-person. Check the “CUUpdate” weekly announcements or the CUU website calendar for details. 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 to join.

Sunday, March 24th at noon on
Zoom



SAVE THE DATE

SHERWOOD GARDENS Thursday, April 11th at 10:00am

Meet at CUU at 10am for a visit to Sherwood Gardens, located at 4310 Underwood Road, Baltimore. Bring your own lunch for a picnic in the gardens. We should be back by 2:30 or 3pm.



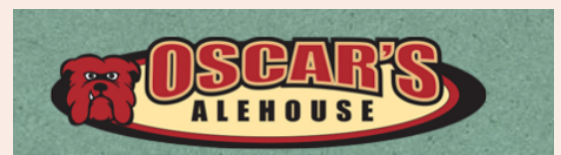
“ANNIE” - PLAY AT LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL Saturday, April 20th at 2:00pm

The school is located at 5855 Bartholow Rd. Eldersburg. Make it a day by enjoying the play and then having dinner at Oscar's or just go to the play or just go to Oscar's. Tickets can be obtained at the door or on line at <https://www.lhsdramaclub.com/>

Attending - Pamela Malkin, Sharon Kennedy, Barb Bradley, June Clarke, Beth Schilpp

IN-PERSON DINNER AT OSCAR'S ALE HOUSE Saturday, April 20th at 5:00pm

Enjoy dinner with CUU friends at Oscar's - 1438 Liberty Road, Eldersburg. Please contact Beth Schilpp by 5pm on the 19th so reservations can be made.



SAVE THE DATE

Mosaic Virtual Spring Gathering Saturday, March 16, 2024

2pm-3:30pm ET / 1pm CT / 12pm MT / 11am PT



The Mosaic is a hub of connection, resources, and support for Unitarian Universalists dismantling racism and oppression. Through resources, programs, trainings, and gatherings, The Mosaic fosters belonging and liberation in Unitarian Universalist congregations and communities. Our work for collective liberation can be as colorful, multi-faceted, and diverse as the tiles of a mosaic. Together, all of our contributions create something beautiful.

To learn more about The Mosaic, visit www.uua.org/mosaic.



CONTACT

*Minister's
Office Hours*

Telephone: 410-861-8820

Email: Info@CedarhurstUU.org

Web address: <http://www.cedarhurstuu.org>

*On-line Only
Wednesday
March 6
6:00-8:00pm*

Minister Rev. Amy Williams Clark Minister@cedarhurstuu.org

President Becky Zimmerman BoardPresident@cedarhurstuu.org

Vice President Sherry Dean sherrydeann21@gmail.com

At Large Board Members

Cindy Hirshberg cdh2010@aol.com

Steve Hirsch steveh46@yahoo.com

*Rev. Amy is available
for urgent pastoral
matters and can be
reached via phone or
text until March 6,
2024.*

Treasurer David Pittman Treasurer@cedarhurstuu.org

Outreach Coordinator: Nalina White Outreach@cedarhurstuu.org

202-579-0823

Header and calendar photos by Mark Pollitt

MARCH 2024

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 7:30pm Dance Party! |
| 3 10:30am Sunday Service | 4 | 5 | 6 12pm Ladies Who Lunch 6pm Rev Amy's Office Hours | 7 | 8 7pm CUU Virtual Game Night | 9 |
| 10 10:30am Sunday Service 12pm Book Club | 11 12pm Lunch at Full Moon Pub & Grill | 12 5:30pm Caregivers Support Group | 13 12pm Ladies Who Lunch 7pm Board of Trustees Mtg | 14 9:30am Trip to Cryptology | 15 6:15pm Night-by-Night Shelter Dinner | 16 |
| 17 10:30am Sunday Service 12pm Farewell Luncheon for Rev. Amy | 18 7pm Monday Musings | 19 7pm Worship Committee Meeting | 20 12pm Ladies Who Lunch | 21 | 22 7pm Drinks & Dessert | 23 |
| 24 10:30am Sunday Service 12pm Congregational Life Committee Meeting | 25 | 26 | 27 12pm Ladies Who Lunch | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 10:30am Sunday Service | NOTES: | | | | | |