

JULY 2024

## THE COMPANION

ISSUE NO.

CUU'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

### President's Message

Written by Pres. Becky Zimmerman

As I begin my second year as Board President, I'm reflecting on what went well this past year, and what could be improved in the coming year. I have my own thoughts on that, but I also want your input! Call, text, or email me your reflections and suggestions:

443-789-1886, boardpresident@cedarhurstuu.org

My three priorities as I continue my term as your President remain the same:

Communication.

Inclusion.

Momentum.

**Communication** has improved this year, and there is room for more improvement. We hung a bulletin board above the water cooler in the sanctuary, where you can read Board miniminutes, learn what special social events are coming up, and see contact info for all of the Board members, the Treasurer, and the Minister. It's a start! In September we plan to have the full minutes from Board meetings available in a notebook in the current library area, as well as available to members online on request. (cont. on page 2)



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

(from the Board President, cont.) Communication between the Board and CUU committees still needs work – mostly from my end, I will admit. The committees themselves are good about sending info to the Board on a regular basis.

Momentum is tangible at Cedarhurst these days, especially clear by the level of attendance and participation at what ended up being multiple congregational meetings. First was the one in February where over 40 of us came together, in person and online, to explore our thoughts and feelings about Religious Education (RE) for children & youth. This was facilitated by our UUA primary contact, Lenore Bajare-Dukes. We also talked about RE for adults, as well as our feelings about Rev. Amy's departure, which we had just learned about days before.

The second congregation-wide meeting was the Fellowship Lunch in April to kick off stewardship season. Again, many of you showed up, and we managed to get our pledges in close to "on time," even though we started stewardship much later than usual due to other priorities in March.

Then on May 5 about 30 people gathered at CUU, where we were presented with Elevate Cedarhurst!, the building renovation & addition proposal. We asked LOTS of questions, and the design was later modified to incorporate some of the issues that came up.

Elevate Cedarhurst! is all about **inclusion** – from finally being able to say "we have an elevator!" so that those with mobility challenges will be able to participate in upstairs AND downstairs activities – to making more room for a growing congregation, which I envision as already happening.

The level of involvement in all three of the above special meetings tells me that we are a congregation invested in our future, supportive financially, and eager to attract more families with children.

One thing I'm going to do differently this year is to hold a Board retreat, hopefully also including our new minister. A Board member suggested that last year, right after I took office, and I should have listened. A retreat will help us continue to get to know each other, and give us uninterrupted

time and space to do visioning and strategic planning. I also plan to connect committee chairs with the Board on a regular basis.

I am excited that Robin Bates has stepped up to be on the Leadership Development & Nominating Committee. He needs two more of you to join him! I have been on that committee in the past, and it is a wonderful way to get to know CUU members & friends! The emphasis is on developing leaders, not just filling vacancies.

Cedarhurst is starting fiscal '25 in a good place. Thank you for making that happen in big and small ways. It is exciting to be a faith community together, and I look forward to what this year will bring.

### General Assembly 2024



Something happened at the UUA General Assembly this year. Actually, lots of things happened, but one notable thing was the approval of a revised Article II of the UUA bylaws. The UUA bylaws are made up of 15 articles or chapters, with the second being about the relationship between congregations and the UUA. For decades, its title had been Principles and Purposes and included the list of our original seven Principles along with six Sources

The new Article II title is Values and Covenant and includes six Values all centered by Love. Most of us have seen the flower image with Love in the center and the Values as petals. The image along with the new text can be found here <a href="https://www.uua.org/files/2023-10/a2\_final\_line\_num\_10312023.pdf">https://www.uua.org/files/2023-10/a2\_final\_line\_num\_10312023.pdf</a>. In a nutshell, to me, the revisions say what our t-shirts have been saying for years – "Love and Justice in Action."

However, there was some impassioned discussion about the changes both during the GA business sessions <a href="https://www.uua.org/ga/off-site/2024/business">https://www.uua.org/ga/off-site/2024/business</a> and online <a href="https://discuss.uua.org/">https://discuss.uua.org/</a>. These links will take you to the videos of each general session and to the discussion boards for the various topics, respectively.

There was grief expressed at the loss of our Principles and Sources within the bylaws (they can still be used by congregations and individuals). There was frustration expressed that the process hadn't been long enough (it was four years) or included enough voices. There was concern expressed that the revision didn't specify Reason and/or Peace as individual values to be included as petals on the flower; amendments were voted on to include these, both of which in the end failed. There was even some discussion around conjectures that the UUA and Article II Commission (the group that was charged with and developed the revision) have ulterior motives for the revisions, which honestly surprised and saddened me and I'm still a bit confused about.

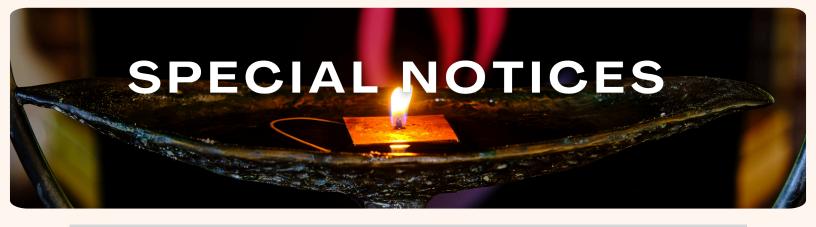
The vote to accept the changes was 80% in favor and 20% against; well above the 66% required to pass. I was not sure the night before the vote if it would pass and am glad that it did an with such a wide margin. Even so, I know there are some who are saddened by its passage. I hope that just as so many of us came to love our Principles and Sources, the same will happen as congregations learn to live into our Values.

Becky Zimmerman and I will be talking about some of this at our summer service on July 21. I am also happy to talk with anyone who has questions or concerns about Article II or any other pieces of General Assembly. And if you haven't heard yet – GA will be in Baltimore next year so mark your calendar for June 19-22 2025!

https://www.uua.org/ga

Maria Warburton
CUU General Assembly Delegate 2024



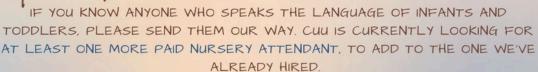


# Pastoral Care 🕠

There are capable, confidential, sensitive and supportive ministers available to you.

The way it works is: call or text me, Becky Zimmerman, at 443-789-1886 (day or night), let me know briefly what you're in need of (such as illness or death of a loved one, or a personal need) and I will contact the on-call minister to get you connected as quickly as possible.

Goo Goo Ga Ga



IF YOU HAVE A TEENAGE NEIGHBOR, GRANDCHILD, OR A MATURE FRIEND WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN SPENDING TIME HERE ON SUNDAY MORNINGS, PLEASE LET SHERRY DEAN OR JAN PENNINGTON KNOW.

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









# looking for something to do this month?

There is one Auction event that still has available spaces.

Check out the event below and contact Linda Joy at

<u>Linda.Joy@verizon.net</u> if you'd like to attend!

Linda & Dave Joy's Pool Party (clothing required) Event Date: 07/20/24 Donation: \$35 Spaces Open: 3

# Reminder to July 4 Shepherd's Staff Picnic Volunteers:

Please arrive at 11am at Shepherd's Staff, 30 Carroll St, Westminster, to set up canopies and tables. Serving at 12 noon. Please bring canopies, ice chests, food donations and serving spoons. An additional ice chest and ice is needed, as well as canopies.

Thanks for all your support!

Questions? Call Pamela Malkin 443-487-1299



# ENJOYING COMMUNITY AT CUU



### **CUU's Board of Trustees at June's Flower Communion!**

From left to right: Lisa Miller (Treasurer), David Pittman, Becky Zimmerman (President), Cindy Hirshberg, Sherry Dean (Vice President), and Steve Hirsch. (Photo by Jan Pennington)



### **LUNCH AT BAUGHER'S**

Thursday, July 11th at noon

No reservations will be made, but please contact Beth Schilpp at 443-904-1304 if you can attend so know how large of an area to save for the group.

Location: 289 W. Main St., Westminster, 21158.





### 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.

# CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Committee will not meet in July.

Meetings will resume Monday, August 5 at 7:00 pm on Zoom.



### CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

Tuesday, July 9th at 5:30 pm 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, July 10th at 7:00 pm 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,



### **CUU VIRTUAL GAME NIGHT**

Friday, July 12th at 7:00 pm on Zoom

Zoom in to play games just for fun. We do not really keep score. The games we have usually played are Scattergories, Tribond or Taboo - mainly because the owner of the game can also play. However, if you have another game that you think will work on Zoom, please come and we can try it. Call Beth Schilpp at 443-904-1304 with questions.



Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar to join,



### **CUU BOOK CLUB**

Sunday, July 14th at noon on Zoom

June's book is Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng.

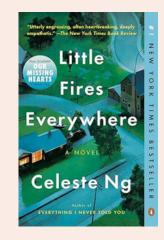
"From the bestselling author of Everything I Never Told You and Our Missing Hearts comes a riveting novel that traces the intertwined fates of the picture-perfect Richardson family and the enigmatic mother and daughter who upend their lives.

Little Fires Everywhere explores the weight of secrets, the nature of art and identity, and the ferocious pull of motherhood—and the danger of believing that following the rules can avert disaster." ~Amazon

We'd love to have new folks participating in this group. Call Beth Schilpp with questions.

NOTE: August's book is *Between Sisters* by Kristin Hannah. There are quite a few books on hold at the Library, so reserve yours now!

Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar to join.





### **MONDAY MUSINGS**

Monday Musings will be taking a break during the months of July and August.

Please join us on Monday, September 16 at 7:00 pm on Zoom when we resume.





### WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, July16th at 7:00 pm 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.



### **NIGHT-BY-NIGHT: FOOD PROGRAM**

Friday, July 15th at 6:15 pm

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.



### **DRINKS AND DESSERT**

Friday, July 26th at 7:00 pm 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 summer stories or whatever you wish.

Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar to join.





### IN-PERSON THEATRE EVENT - ANASTASIA Performed by the Glyndon Players

You can order tickets early or get them at the door. This group only does one play a year and I personally have never been disappointed...always excellent. Let's meet in the lobby at 12:45.

Location: 63 Sacred Heart Lane, 21071.

Tickets for adults are \$20; seniors are \$18; children under 12 are \$15.

Sunday, August 4th at 1:00-4:00 pm



# DINNER AT UPPERCO FIRE DEPARTMENT

Monday, August 19th at 5:30 pm

Suggesting a new experience in August with dinner from the food trucks at the fire department. No reservations needed – hope to see you.

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

Location: 5500 Fringer Rd., 21155





### JUSTICE JAM PICNIC!

Saturday, August 17th at 4:00-6:00 pm

Westminster City Park

Poverty is one of the top 4 leading causes of death in America. People are struggling to pay for basic needs like food, housing & healthcare.

We are organizing because this poverty producing system is killing us!

Unite with your neighbors to defend our basic human rights. We believe that everybody has a right to health!

Free food! Kids Activities! Music! Family Friendly!

Want to volunteer to help? Let us know -  $\underline{\text{central-west@unitedworkers.org}}$ 



Telephone: 410-861-8820

Email: <u>Outreach@CedarhurstUU.org</u>

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

President: Becky Zimmerman <u>BoardPresident@cedarhurstuu.org</u>

Vice President: Sherry Dean <a href="mailto:sherrydeann21@gmail.com">sherrydeann21@gmail.com</a>

At Large Board Members:

Steve Hirsch <u>steveh46@yahoo.com</u>

David Pittman <u>d.s.pittman@verizon.net</u>

Treasurer: Lisa Miller <u>Treasurer@cedarhurstuu.org</u>

Outreach Coordinator: Nalina White Outreach@cedarhurstuu.org

Header and calendar photos by Mark Pollitt

# EDARHURST UU &

# JULY 2024