



THE COMPANION

JUNE
2024

ISSUE NO.
6

CUU'S MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER

President's Message

Written by Pres. Becky Zimmerman

Quick business, then reflection, then connection of the two:

Business: Please make every effort to attend **CUU's Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 9** after the service. You may attend in person or join via Zoom (same link as Sunday service). Anyone may attend the meeting; CUU members may vote. Members who cannot be present, email your vote to outreach@cedarhurstuu.org by June 8, or snail mail to CUU, P.O. Box 358, Finksburg, MD 21048 so that it is received by June 8. No late votes will be counted. **IMPORTANT VOTE THIS TIME!**

We will vote "yes" or "no" on moving forward with Elevate Cedarhurst!, our building renovation and addition proposal. Major discussion took place at the special meeting on May 5. On June 9 we encourage discussion, but ask that you limit your questions to "big picture" ones, as little details are impossible to predict.

Reflection: On Memorial Day I attended a powerful event that CUU member Shirley Eatmon had invited all of us to, via our Weekly UUpdate.



boardpresident@cedarhurstuu.org

443-789-1886

9 am – 9 pm

Sponsored by United Workers, a Maryland non-profit focused on empowering the working (and want to be working) poor of our state, the event served as the launch of their new initiative called **Right to Health**. This caught my attention because the title put the emphasis on all of us being worthy of the best health we can manage. Healthcare is the second half, but the first half is recognizing human worth – and dignity. Sound familiar? It should – it's a UU Principle.

I gave a woman I'll call Carol a ride to the event. Carol and I talked in the car, at the event, and on the way home. Home. She gave me directions as I was driving, and I didn't connect the dots until she said "turn here" that her home was the Night-by-Night Shelter in Westminster. I had never dropped anyone off there before. We had spent such a meaningful day together, and it seemed like we had a lot in common – children that we loved, a desire for more education & meaningful work, our faith, the challenges of human relationships.

But at the end of the day, literally, she joined a group of unhoused people where she would get dinner and a bed

for the night in a large, common room. I would go home to a single family home with a comfortable bed, food enough for days, plenty of clothes, gainful employment. Carol would get up and figure out where her next meal was coming from.

Again, I found myself connecting the dots, and it finally got through to me: I am part of a faith that believes systemic change is possible! I can feel personally empowered to help bring about such change by getting more involved in organizations such as United Workers, the Poor People's Campaign, and many others who are working daily, weekly, monthly, yearly for change.

Connection: Cedarhurst must continue to not only exist, but thrive and grow in place, because we are a catalyst for change. We believe Beloved Community is vital, and we recognize that the Carols and the Beckys of this world are equally beloved. I can give Carol a sandwich, but I can also work to make changes in all the systems that work against her: healthcare, fair wages, job training, affordable housing, affordable education, and more.

So, why should Cedarhurst improve and expand upon our building? Because there are many more people out there who want what we have, but haven't found us yet! We need to be as welcoming as we can possibly be for them, and we need to make room for them, because I believe they are coming - and maybe they need a ride? I believe that Cedarhurst can still be going strong in 2074. I want to look my granddaughters in the eye and say, "I did my part for the free & responsible search for truth and meaning, for the worth and dignity of every human being, and for the active dismantling of all forms of oppression."

I honestly don't believe I could say that to Sylvie and Sophia if I didn't think Cedarhurst should grow. And we can't grow effectively in our current building in its current state. Please think about this as you vote at our Annual Meeting June 9.

ELEVATE CEDARHURST! and Building Renovations

Presented by Dean Camlin, CUU Member

On May 5, 2024, following a church service and sermon by visiting minister Christin Green on “Change”, a new capital improvement project was presented to the CUU congregation. Dubbed “Elevate Cedarhurst!”, the project proposes to add a new entrance, stairway, and elevator to the west side of the building (facing the parking lot). The two-story addition would measure about 22 feet by 22 feet, and would also include a roofed porch to go along with the new entrance.

The project is in response to congregational polling conducted by David Pittman, Becky Barbour, Bonnie Kauffman, and others several years ago, and is intended to address perceived longtime shortcomings in the building. Chief among these is the lack of easy accessibility to the lower level. Ever since the building was built by Congoleum as a clubhouse in 1947, access to the lower level has been hampered by a narrow, steep stairway which can only accommodate one person at a time. When CUU purchased the building in 1997, there was no money to address this problem. Fast forward to 2024, the time is long past for a positive change to this situation, to make the lower level as inviting and easy to use as the main level.

As shown in the accompanying sketches, the improvements will be accomplished in two phases. First, the addition will be built while the balance of the existing structure will remain essentially unchanged. This will allow the building, including the existing entrance and stairway, to continue in use while construction proceeds. On the lower level, the nursery and minister’s office will cede space in preparation for a generous connection to the new addition. After the addition is finished, new doorways will be cut in the west wall and a new accessible restroom will be installed where the Zoom coordinator now sits. The new stairway and elevator will be operational, allowing Phase 2 to commence.

With the opening of the new entrance, the old porch can now be enclosed to allow the minister to finally move out of the basement, and provide much needed extra storage and exterior entrance for the kitchen. The old stairway will be removed and floored over, and the space recaptured to allow an expanded kitchen and an office for the church secretary/administrative assistant. On the lower level, the removed stairway will allow for additional storage space on the way to the restrooms.



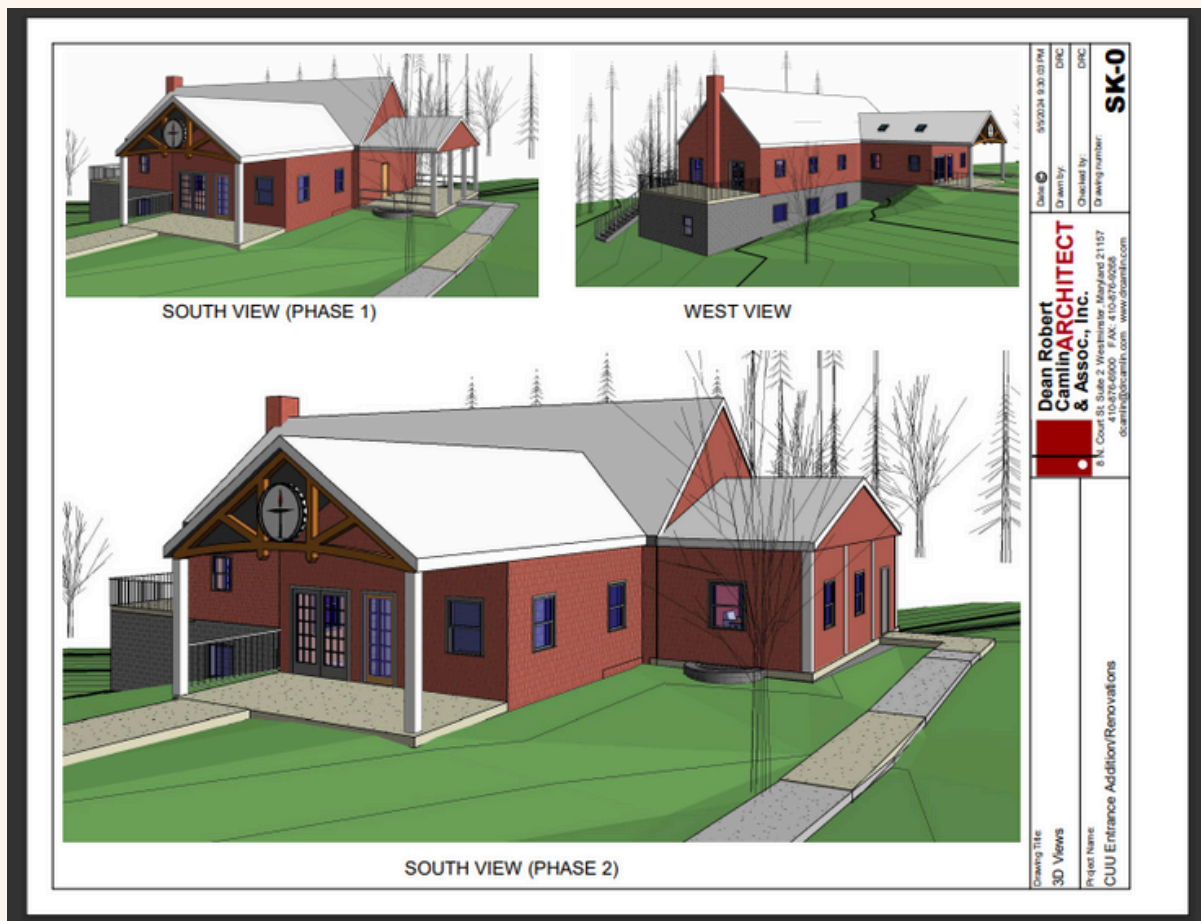
ELEVATE CEDARHURST! and Building Renovations

In response to some comments received during and after the meeting, the design shown on these sketches is slightly different from the one presented. And as it is developed into the detailed drawings and specifications necessary to secure a building permit and contractor bids, further evolution can be expected, including responses to constructive comments from the congregation. Design is inherently a process of revision and change.

This ambitious project will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on June 9, 2024. Phase 1 is estimated to cost \$400,000, and Phase 2 may run another \$100,000. Design fees may total ten percent of the construction cost. It is proposed that the CUU Endowment Fund, initiated years ago for such a purpose by a generous bequest from Elizabeth Morrow before her passing and now containing about \$800,000, fully pay for Phase 1, and that a capital campaign commence to pay for Phase 2.

To view the most recent version of renovation schematics, click the link below.

[Link to Complete Schematics 5-5-24](#)



Sunday Service Updates

At the time of my writing this, we are one-third of the way there to filling our summer service slots! But we still have eight to fill, including June 30 and July 7.

The summer services are often a time for extended discussion, with 20 minutes or more of congregational dialogue. Although if you have a presentation that takes up most of the hour, that's ok as well.

Zoom will not be offered for the summer services. Our summer service set-up is not very compatible with our Zoom set-up and our volunteers are thankful for a break.

We will have a building coordinator who can open the building, put on coffee if desired and set out a few snacks. A lay-leader can also be provided to help with the service if that's desired.

Here is the link to sign-up: [Sermon Form](#)

A paper copy is in the building if you are unable or prefer not to sign up on line.

Please reach out to me with any questions you have about the summer services at either mariawarburton@comcast.net or 410-967-2100.

Thanks!

Maria Warburton
Worship Committee Chair

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.



HAVING FUN AT CUU EVENTS

Thank you Pamela Malkin and Linda Joy for these beautiful photos from CUU's events!



Beth Schilpp, Linda Joy, Pamela Malkin, and Holly Thompson.



**CUU's May 2nd visit
the U.S. National
Arboretum in D.C.!**



HAVING FUN AT CUU EVENTS



Our Outreach team at the Westminster Flower Festival!



Esther Shumatskaya, CUU's pianist, in her Cinco de Mayo outfit!

Photo compliments of Linda Joy.

From the Auction Event "Trip to Visit Patty and Henry Koch." Unfortunately Henry had passed away less than 2 weeks earlier, but Patty was still eager for our visit. Pictured here are Linda Joy, Beth Schilpp, Jan Pennington, and Sharon Kennedy. Patty took this picture of us in her kitchen.



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

General Assembly: The Unitarian Universalist Association's Annual Meeting



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
VIRTUAL GA • JUNE 20 - 23, 2024

General Assembly 2024

General Assembly is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists, where we conduct business of the Association, explore the theological underpinnings of our faith, and lean fully into our mission and principles.

Love Unites, Stories Ignite

In a world filled with division and challenges, the theme for this year's General Assembly is a powerful reminder of the core principles that unite us as Unitarian Universalists. "Love Unites, Stories Ignite" celebrates the profound impact of love as a binding force that transcends boundaries and fosters connections within our faith community and beyond.

Our faith has always been rooted in the power of storytelling, and this year we'll explore how our stories can ignite change, inspire compassion, and help us build a more just and equitable world. Through storytelling, we share our experiences, our dreams, our struggles, and our triumphs. It is through these stories that we can find common ground, deepening our understanding of one another and the world around us.

The 63rd General Assembly will take place **virtually** Thursday, June 20 through Sunday, June 23, 2024.

You may now [view the GA schedule](#) to see the lineup of informative workshops, inspirational worship services, and more!

JUNE SPECIAL EVENTS

DINNER AT BISTRO 91 Wednesday, June 19th at 6:00 pm

Our monthly dinner gathering will be at Bistro 91!

To attend, please call or text Beth Schilpp by 5pm on June 18th so reservations can be made.

Location: Finksburg Plaza, 3000 Gamber Road, Finksburg, 21048.



JUNE 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.



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, June 3rd at 7:00 pm on Zoom

June's meeting will cover plans for July and August as there will not be a July meeting.

The Congregational Life Committee sponsors a variety of activities for friends and members of the congregation. Check the "CUUpdate" weekly announcements or the CUU website calendar for details. Everyone is welcome to attend.



Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar to join.

CUU ANNUAL MEETING Sunday, June 9th at noon in-person and on Zoom

CUU's Annual Meeting is to be held after Sunday Service. We will be voting on important Cedarhurst issues so we hope everyone can attend.

If you are Zooming in, please use Sunday Service's Zoom link as found on website calendar.



JUNE EVENTS

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP Tuesday, June 11th 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, June 12th 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 GAME NIGHT Friday, June 14th at 6:30 pm In-Person

Friday's game night will be in-person this month!

If you'd like to eat with the group, bring your own food and arrive at 6:00 pm. If you're just coming for games, arrive at 6:30 pm. Everyone is encouraged to bring a game that they love to play, but it is not required. We have plenty of games! Call Beth Schilpp with any questions.



JUNE EVENTS

CUU BOOK CLUB Sunday, June 16th at noon on Zoom

June's book is *All Boys Aren't Blue* by George M. Johnson.

"In a series of personal essays, prominent journalist and LGBTQIA+ activist George M. Johnson explores his childhood, adolescence, and college years in New Jersey and Virginia. Both a primer for teens eager to be allies as well as a reassuring testimony for young queer men of color, *All Boys Aren't Blue* covers topics such as gender identity, toxic masculinity, brotherhood, family, structural marginalization, consent, and Black joy. Johnson's emotionally frank style of writing will appeal directly to young adults." ~ Goodreads.com



We'd love to have new folks participating in this group. Call Beth Schilpp with questions. Beth Schilpp noted that Lt. Clark Welch in Vietnam was a year younger than her and grew up 2 houses away from her family.



Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar to join.

Please Note: Due to CUU's Annual Meeting, June's Book Club has been moved to June 16th.

MONDAY MUSINGS Monday, June 17th at 7:00 pm 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.

JUNE EVENTS

WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday, June 18th 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, June 21st 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, June 28th 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 holiday stories or whatever you wish.

Follow Zoom link on CUU Calendar to join.





CONTACT

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Steve Hirsch steveh46@yahoo.com

David Pittman d.s.pittman@verizon.net

Treasurer Lisa Miller Treasurer@cedarhurstuu.org

Outreach Coordinator: Nalina White Outreach@cedarhurstuu.org

Header and calendar photos by Mark Pollitt

JUNE 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 10:30am Sunday Service	3 7pm Congregational Life Committee Meeting	4	5 12pm Ladies Who Lunch	6	7	8
9 10:30am Sunday Service 12pm Annual Meeting	10	11 5:30pm Caregivers Support Group	12 12pm Ladies Who Lunch 7pm Board of Trustees Mtg	13	14 7pm CUU In-Person Game Night	15
16 10:30am Sunday Service 12pm Book Club	17 7pm Monday Musings	18 7pm Worship Committee Meeting	19 12pm Ladies Who Lunch 6pm Dinner at Bistro 91	20	21 6:15pm Night-by-Night Shelter Dinner	22
23 10:30am Sunday Service	24	25	26 12pm Ladies Who Lunch	27	28 7pm Drinks & Dessert	29
30 10:30am Sunday Service	NOTES:					