



Odyssey

December 2013

Sunday Services

Dec 8 *What Makes a Home?* Rev. Snavelly

“Home for the Holidays,” “I’ll be Home for Christmas”, “Over the river and through the woods to Grandmother’s house we go....” This is the season we may long for some ideal of home even as our own home doesn’t somehow measure up. Finding a way to live with the imperfections of home may be a first step toward the home for which we long.



Dec 15 *Music Marks Our Seasons* Rev. Snavelly

In asking for music that is meaningful to you on which to base services throughout this year, Marcia Geiger said, “Anything by Tchaikovsky. Can we celebrate Christmas without the Nutcracker or the fourth of July without the 1812 Overture?”

Dec 22 *Holiday Choir Service*

Musical selections by the Goodloe Memorial UU Congregation Choir.

Dec 24 *Multigenerational Christmas Eve Service*

7:30pm “The Miraculously Ordinary Story of a Baby” Written by Ralph Roberts. Please bring cookies to share following the service.

Dec 29 *Multigenerational Kwanzaa Service*

Do you and/or your family celebrate Kwanzaa? Please contact Rev. Cyn 240-47-2111 minister@goodloeuu.org to help lead this service.

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“Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love.”

Hamilton Wright Mabie

From the Minister



Dear Members and Friends of Goodloe Memorial:

Happy Hanukah to you. May you be dedicated to the good in all you say, think and do. Good Solstice to you. May you rejoice at the beauty of each day and each night as you see the turning of the seasons throughout the years. Merry Christmas to you. May you find every child of the earth to be a holy child and treat all with the kindness and love such holy beings deserve. Happy Kwanzaa to you. May you celebrate family and heritage, giving the best of



the past to your children to guide them into the future. Happy New Year to you. May you find joy in all things; a kiss, a dance, a toast, a clock's chime.

And when this holiday season ends, may you continue to find in each day reasons to celebrate, reasons to give thanks, reasons to share your love.

Blessed Be,
Cyn

Congratulations!

You the members and friends of Goodloe gave generously in response to the matching contribution challenge. We raised \$8350 in designated funds that will be matched with another \$8350 by an anonymous member allowing us to nearly erase the budgeted deficit for the 2013-14 fiscal year.

Ongoing Fundraisers

In October, Goodloe earned \$31.79 through its Amazon.com fundraiser. From October 1 through Nov. 21 we made \$130 through Giant Cash for Causes. Small efforts do add up. Thank you for supporting Goodloe!

Holiday Decorating Saturday, Dec 7

Please come to Goodloe on Saturday Dec. 7 at 10am (not 9am, as previously published!) to decorate for the holidays. Ms. Ale' will also have special activities for the children.

Goodloe Building Access

There has been some confusion about whom to call to access the church building beyond our regular service times. This includes some evening meetings, donation drop-offs, etc. To access the church building, please call either of the following cell phone numbers: Sally 240-643-3684 or Sid 301-789-8638.

Religious Exploration Starfish Campaign

“May I Introduce...”

This holiday season, as part of our Starfish Campaign, we are bringing Christmas to a family who is struggling. Our "family" this season is a mom, named Melanie, struggling to maintain housing for her 3 kids, while their father is incarcerated. The youngest daughter, Tiniya, is only 1 year old. Her older sister, Mia, is 12. Their oldest brother is Mark. He is 14.

The family has provided a "Wish List" that Goodloe has committed to fulfill. A basket of gift tags will be located in the entryway on Sunday, December 1st. You are invited to pick a tag and purchase the item. Wrap it, attach the tag, and drop it off at the church BY December 13th. It will be

delivered to the Family Tree program for delivery to the family by Christmas Eve.

If you want a head start, here is a list of items that are always needed that you may consider donating:

- Diapers - size 4
- Wipes
- Walmart Gift Cards

Imagine how the children will feel when they see presents on Christmas morning. Imagine the relief in the mother's heart. Time to toss some starfish!

Blessings to all,
Alethea



Guest At Your Table & the UU Service Committee

Guest at Your Table is an annual tradition in which congregation members learn about several people with whom the UU Service Committee (UUSC) is working. This year, UUSC is featuring people who have empowered others to realize their human rights. Read about those guests here:

<http://www.uusc.org/guest/2013-2014/myguests>

Envelopes and boxes are available in the lobby to take home and place on your table between now and New Year's. Please place monetary gifts in your box or envelope throughout the holiday season. Return the box or envelope to Goodloe so that we may send a donation to the UU Service Committee from the congregation.

Goodloe Activities

Social Justice Film & Discussions

Friday Dec 6, 7:00pm

[Capitalism: A Love Story \(2009\)](#)

Filmmaker Michael Moore takes on capitalism's roots, the floundering U.S. economy, and 2008's global financial meltdown and subsequent bank bailout in this rousing documentary. Combining stories about those who suffer most from Corporate America's greed and insatiable thirst for profits and the people most responsible for myriad crises, Moore embarks on another shocking fact-finding rampage. 127 minutes

Friday, Jan 3, 7:00pm

[Chasing Ice \(2012\)](#)

Environmental photographer James Balog deploys time-lapse cameras to capture a record of the world's changing glaciers, compressing years into seconds to illustrate how these ice mountains are disappearing at a breathtaking rate. 76 minutes

Bowie Springs Meditation

The Bowie Springs Meditation group meets on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays each month from 7:15 ~ 9pm. Three rotating facilitators lead the group in sitting meditation, walking mediation, and a dharma talk and discussion. Participants are invited to stay & enjoy a cup of tea following the activity on 4th Tuesdays.



Goodloe Coffee House

Saturday, Dec 14, 7:30pm

NOTE: Goodloe's monthly Coffee House is moved to the second Saturday for December only. We will return to our normal time in January.

Share your talents or just relax and enjoy. Bring a dish to share as well as \$1 for performers and \$5 for audience members. Guests & friends are always welcome. Contact the coordinator if you need child care for younger children. For this as well as other information contact: coffeehouse@goodloeuu.org

Goodloe Readers

The Goodloe Readers group will NOT be meeting this month. See you in January!

Spiral Scouts

Spiral Scouts meets on the first Thursday of the month at 6:30pm in the RE room. This co-ed group earns badges, goes camping, and much more. For more information, contact Misty Cole (playmisty4me@gmail.com)

Bell Choir

The bell choir rings out songs during services on the 4th Sundays. They are looking for at least one more ringer. If you are interested in playing bells, please contact Ken Shilling (pinball157@aol.com).



Goodloe Youth & Adults

Adult Religious Exploration



Adult RE meets on 1st & 3rd Sundays 11:45am-1:15pm, on an alternating subject series & format. Each session is self-contained, so you can join any time and as often as you are able. Each session includes lively interactive and respectful discussion. We learn and share with each other. No prior knowledge or experience is required, and you do not need to register. Upcoming session topics are listed below:

RELIGIOUS LITERACY (First Sundays)

We are exploring Chinese Daoism. It emphasizes the importance of being in harmony with nature, and going with the flow. In January, we will shift over to Japan and its ancient religions. We are watching a half hour video presentation from an

excellent professor who is both informative and entertaining. Each session is new, so drop in on any or all the sessions, as you are able. We feel that it is important to understand our neighbors around the world. We also learn something that we believe.

Dec 1: Daoism – Nature, Harmony, and the Way

Jan 5: Japanese Shinto and Shamanism

SPIRITUAL PRACTICES (Third Sundays)

We have discussed our individual practices and our need for participating in community. We are an open discussion group and welcome anyone who wants to participate. Each person shares ideas on the topic. We listen and learn, as we are able. There is no single truth or right way. It is fascinating to discover what other people do for their spiritual

practice. If you are interested in leading a discussion, please contact Ken Shilling. Materials are available in advance.

Dec 15 Spiritual Partnerships: Spiritual development is hard work, and most faith traditions affirm the usefulness of companions on the journey. A spiritual partnership can take the form of participation in a small group, a one-on-one relationship with another congregant, spiritual guidance with a minister, or one's own personal therapy healing. What matters most is the intentional relationship with another person and a mutual commitment to the journey.

Jan 19 Mind Practices: Could a program of spiritual development be Unitarian Universalist without an intellectual component? This is a role of adult religious education: book studies, film discussions, lectures, adult forums, scripture studies, courses in UU history, and other RE offerings are all ways to fulfill this dimension of a "rich, integrated program."

Youth Event: WinterCON

Save the Dates! JPD Youth Steering Committee is hosting WinterCON in January. Details follow:

[Unitarian Society of Germantown](#)

6511 Lincoln Dr,
Philadelphia, PA 19119-3625

WHEN: 8pm Fri Jan 24 – 8 am Sun Jan 26 2014

WHAT: Social Action / Social Justice theme to be announced.

Regional Activities

Help Fix Alpha House in Bowie

Join local churches' 2nd Saturday Serve for December when in sprucing up Alpha House. Alpha House, located in "Old Bowie" provides rent-supported housing to low-to-moderate income families. There are activities for all: young or not so young, skilled or unskilled. We will paint, clean, dig, swing hammers, and just about everything else! Non-church members are not only welcomed, but expected! We can all do something to bring about Christmas cheer to the Alpha House residents. We have scheduled one more all day work day – come for an hour or for the entire day. Please contact [Dan Blades](#) or [Pattie Klein](#) if you plan to attend.

Click [here](#) to download permission form for youth ages 14-17 to participate, and bring with you on the day you volunteer. We'll also accommodate any other work schedules where you can make it on other days. Please contact Dan to make other arrangements.

UUSJ invites you to participate in a

Newton Memorial Vigil

Let's tell the NRA:

Protect children, not guns!

Saturday, December 14, 10am
in front of
NRA Headquarters
11250 Waples Mill Rd
Fairfax, VA

We'll have speakers and signs.
We only need YOU!

7th Annual Bethlehem Prayer Service

Saturday, December 21, 10am

A joint simulcast service with the people of Bethlehem at the

Washington National Cathedral
Massachusetts & Wisconsin Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20016-5098

Are you in the DC area? Then you are invited to join worshipers in the National Cathedral.

If you are elsewhere, we encourage to you gather with others in your community to watch the service live at www.nationalcathedral.org.

In Bethlehem, Palestinian Christians continue to bear witness to their faith this Christmas, as they have done for generations. Once again, let us join our voices with theirs in seeking and offering hope for a better future. Prayers, readings, and hymns alternate between Washington, DC and Bethlehem via the Internet, bringing together people of different lands, languages, and ethnic backgrounds in celebration of the birth of the Prince of Peace.



Board Policy #7: Inclement Weather



The following policy will apply whenever weather or other conditions could prevent our congregation from holding scheduled services or any other activity or event. These conditions include:

- ◆ Winter storms: snow, ice, sleet, freezing rain, icy roads, etc.
- ◆ Water-related problems: hurricane, flooding, etc.
- ◆ Building problems: power outage, leaking roof, etc.

Responsibility for determining whether a Goodloe activity will be cancelled or moved to another location resides with:

The convener or chair of a committee meeting, social event, or other activity that is not a regularly-scheduled worship service

For a regularly scheduled worship service, the following persons will confer with each other in making the decision whether or not to cancel services:

- ◆ President or, in his/her absence, the Vice President
- ◆ Minister
- ◆ Worship Committee Chair

- ◆ Leader of the service
- ◆ Director of Religious Exploration or RE chair

In the event that any condition exists that could interfere with holding a regularly-scheduled worship service, the President shall:

Contact the person scheduled to lead the service (the minister, lay leader or visiting presenter) to determine whether that person will be arriving as planned.

In the event that the President, Minister or Worship Chair determines that a regularly-scheduled service should be cancelled or moved to another location, he/she shall immediately notify the following people by phone:

- ◆ The email administrator who will send out an email message to the congregation
- ◆ The webmaster who will post a notice on the Goodloe web site
- ◆ DRE – who will notify all teachers scheduled that day
- ◆ Choir Director – who will notify all choir members
- ◆ Set-up crew

In addition, the President shall:

- ◆ Record a new outgoing message on the answering machine

In the event that the convener

or chair determines that the event or activity should be moved or cancelled, he/she shall:

If the event is a congregation-wide or public event:

- ◆ Notify the email administrator who will send out an email message to the congregation
- ◆ Record a new outgoing message on the answering machine.

If the event is a regularly scheduled meeting and the group has elected to follow the inclement weather policy of a county group (e.g., Prince George's County School System), no notification is necessary for inclement weather.

If the event is not congregation-wide and no county inclement weather policy is selected or the reason for cancellation is not due to weather, notify all planned participants of the decision.

Inform the congregation annually in the Autumn of the inclement weather policy.

Board Meeting Minutes*

October 9, 2013

* The format of the Minutes has been condensed for space while preserving content as much as possible. Complete minutes & additional months' meetings are available by request.

Attendees: Cynthia Snavely, Steve Buckingham, Kris Peerman, Sid Soderholm, Sally Raymond, Pete Boudriault.

Building Repairs &

Improvements: There is a chain on the ceiling fan in the RE room. The louvered doors were added. Unit C has a leaky outside coil unit. The HVAC company is still working on an estimate. The original estimate was \$1400-1600. They are pricing out a new unit. New ceiling tiles have been purchased and they need trimmed and installed. Sid redid the return air vent in the sanctuary.

Building Access: The codes have been changed on the lockbox. We need to give the new access numbers to the COSA. The person who leads the group needs to have the phone numbers for access to the key box. This will be resent in the order of service and in the Odyssey.

Kaplan Scheduling: Seems to be going ok we are down to one class. Cathy does not want to be the interface with Kaplan. Sid will be the new POC for Kaplan.

Upcoming Events/

Activities: The Memorial Service went very well. The deposit has been returned.

There was a water station setup and all went well with the CROP walk. Steve observed that cosponsoring events like this in the future would be good for the church.

A Goodloe orientation session is scheduled for Sunday, Oct 13, after church.

The special collection for UULM is scheduled for Oct 27.

Alethia is checking with families to see if there is interest in a Halloween event at the church.

The murder mystery party is scheduled for Nov 2.

A holiday decorating event is set for Saturday Dec 7 and must be done by noon.

Finances: First quarter of fiscal year income was \$2k less than expenses. \$1860 was transferred from the capital fund to the operating fund. \$10K is committed to remain in the bank for the terms on the mortgage. The capital fund bears a small amount of interest. Steve questioned the need for multiple accounts unless there is a financial advantage such as interest bearing accounts. There is a separate account for the Giant scrips. We still need a new person to manage Giant scrip sales.



Sid sent the first quarter pledge reports. We are running a deficit. We are paying an extra \$120/month toward the mortgage principle.

Cathy suggested that we should have credit cards for Cyn to handle discretionary fund. Currently we have 2 credit cards, and Hazel has one that has been used to pay web hosting fees, and the other may be in the possession of Diane Rappaport. This credit card has not been used in three years. It was decided to add Cyn to the list of people who have a credit card for the church.

The Hugs page says that it was \$50 per family not \$50 per child. This will be per family this year and changed to \$50 dollars per child. Sid will talk to Kelly to ask about the fee.

Committee on Ministry – Representatives: Cyn has asked for help finding a representative for the Committee on Ministry. Dick can not be the congregational rep as well as Noreen. There were a few suggestions for a representative for Cyn.

Alethia has asked Sid to be her representative to this committee. Once a rep for Cyn

(Continued on page 9)

"Christmas gift suggestions: To your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance. To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect."

Oren Arnold

Board Meeting Minutes (Continued)

(Continued from page 8)

has been found then Steve will call a meeting.

Education Ministry: Kelly has given an informal report to Steve. Everything seems to be going well. Steve will ask Kelly about the deadline for reporting to the State and it was agreed to waive the fee for Kelly's family.

Communications: Steve used the communications guidelines presented by Sally at UULM. UULM is currently developing a communications guideline using this as a model. We will look at what they come up with for possible adoption the congregation. We need to send a write-up for the Odyssey communications model to out to the general populace.

Facebook Page & Google Account: There is nothing new to report on the Facebook and Google pages. Cyn and Steve attended a conference to help use technology to promote the

congregation. Steve is the owner and Cyn is on the page.

Temporary Signs: There has been no progress on the temporary signs.

Adopt-A-Road: Pete followed up on the adopt a road. He made telephone contact with the PG county representative. Pete will send the form in and then the PG county representative will contact Pete.

Goodloe Celebration: Steve has not been able to get ahold of Dr. Hrabowski. Noreen is excited about the Goodloe celebration.

Social Activities – Circle Suppers: Sally would like to see us start circle suppers. Circle suppers are a pot luck that rotates with different hosts. This would be a social event to get people to socialize outside of church. You would need people who want to run then hosts.

Fundraising: The coffee house got off to a great start and the

Murder Mystery is coming up in November.

Office Equipment (computer, copier/printer & wi-fi): The computer in the office is running slowly. Alethia and Cyn have been just bringing in their laptops. Alethia has asked about printing. You need to connect to the printer there is no wireless connection. Should we think about updating the printer or computer? Sally has asked if Kelly can look into the price of upgrading to a higher internet connection. We will look at the price of new equipment.

Affordable Care Act – Maryland Health Insurance Exchange: UUA sent out an email asking employees of the church to be informed about the Affordable Care Act and the fact that the exchanges are open. To compare coverage against what they are currently getting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

December 2013

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|------------|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| 1 10:30 Worship/RE 11:45 Adult RE | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 6:30 Spiral Scouts 7:00 Choir | 6 6:30 Social Justice Film/Discussion | 7 10:00 Holiday Decorating |
| 8 9:45 Family Choir 10:30 Worship/RE 11:30 Pot Luck | 9 | 10 7:15 Bowie Springs Meditation | 11 7:00 Board of Trustees | 12 7:00 Choir | 13 | 14 7:30 Open Mic Coffeehouse |
| 15 9:45 Family Choir Practice 10:30 Worship/RE 11:45 Adult RE | 16 | 17 Full Moon ☉ | 18 | 19 7:00 Choir | 20 | 21 |
| 22 10:30 Worship/RE 12pm Chinese Buffet | 23 | 24 7:30 Christmas Eve Service | 25 | 26 7:00 Choir | 27 | 28 |
| 29 10:30 Worship/RE | 30 | 31 | | | | |

Goodloe Memorial Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Minister: **Rev. Cynthia Snavely**
240-475-2111 (cell)

Minister Emeritus: **Rev. John Gaffney**

Religious Exploration Consultant:
Alethea Shiplett

Music Director: **Noreen Chin**
choirdirector@goodloeuu.org

Accompanist: **Lorraine Webb**

Board of Trustees

President:
Steve Buckingham: 443-838-2228

Vice President:
Vacant

Financial Officer:
Sid Soderholm 301-789-8638

Secretary:
Kris Peerman 301-249-2680

Trustees:
Kevin Smith: 410-258-0928
Rev Cyn Snavely

Committee Chairs

Worship: Karen Scrivo

Building & Facilities: Sally Raymond

Religious Exploration: Lisa Jacobus

Membership: Ken Shilling

Ministry:
Ken Shilling, Steve Buckingham,
Nita Page Daves

Goodloe Green Sanctuary: Vacant

Coffee House Chair:
Betsy Delaney 301-922-1865

Goodloe Readers:
Laird Towle: 301-464-1159

Kiva Investing: Laird Towle

Odyssey Editor: Angela Peerman

Notice: Lorraine Webb, Maryland Notary

Lorraine Webb, a certified Maryland Notary, offers her services, free of charge, to Goodloe Memorial members and friends. If you would like to utilize her notary services, contact her: (301) 218-1516 or lacey33@verizon.net.

Please Buy Giant Scrip

Use scrip as cash at Giant Food Stores.
Goodloe makes 5% each time you shop.

There is no additional cost to purchase Giant Scrip. Use the scrip like a gift card at the check-out line.

**Deadline for Next Odyssey:
December 22nd, 2013**
Please email submissions to
goodloe.newsletter@gmail.com

If you have changed your address, phone, or email, please let us know by emailing goodloe.memorial@gmail.com or call Jackie Lord 301-249-7713 or Nancy Choice 301-805-5345.

**Goodloe Memorial
Unitarian Universalist
Congregation** is named
for Don Speed Smith
Goodloe, first principal of
Maryland Normal and
Industrial School, Bowie.



Goodloe Memorial Unitarian Universalist Congregation



1540C Pointer Ridge Place
Bowie, MD 20716
301 218-5277
www.goodloeuu.org
Reverend Cynthia Snavely
Service and Religious Education 10:30 am Sundays

