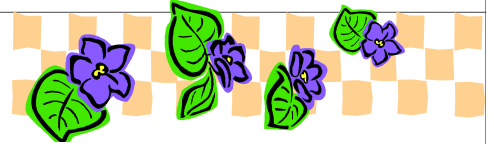




# Odyssey

February 2014

## Sunday Services



**Feb 2** *Sharing the UU Mid-Atlantic Community*

Sally Raymond, Ken Shilling, Ben Lighter, Sid Solderholm, Hazel Elbert, et al

The Unitarian Universalist Mid-Atlantic Community is an intentional community for people of all ages. We gather to be present and enjoy the moment with others. Worship every morning, dancing every night, having meals with new friends, fun activities. In one week, many find deep friendships. It is all a spiritual practice to renew yourself, and recreate community. Live our UU principles every day. Rejuvenate at UUMAC.

**Special Collection for UUMAC.**

**Feb 9** *What Does Beloved Community Look Like?* Rev Snavelly

Inclusive, non-violent, caring, respectful... These are just a few of the adjectives I would use to describe beloved community.

**Feb 16** *Come Sing a Song with Me* Rev. Snavelly

This Valentine's weekend sermon is based on a song chosen by Marlene Towle as a piece of music meaningful to her life.

**Feb 23** *Support for Goodloe's Vision and Missions* Sid Solderholm

2014-2015 Pledge Drive Kick Off: What are some of the missions of Goodloe that advance the members' shared vision for a better world? Does my pledge matter?

**Mar 2** *Choosing a Path or Making Our Own* Rev. Snavelly

How do we decide what we believe and how we live? Some of us follow a particular teacher or a particular path. Some of us make our own way.

### Inside This Issue

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**MP3 audio files of Rev. Snavelly's sermons are now available on the Goodloe website via the [Sermon Archive page](#).** The files start with the most recent Flower Service (May 19, 2013) and will generally be available within a week or two after each service. Many thanks to John Pietras for this contribution to our community!

## From the Minister



Dear Members and Friends of Goodloe Memorial:

What would the congregation of my dreams look like? It would be an intentional community. I would place it up by Bowie State University and the MARC. There would be a building of shared space where worship services, meditation, book groups, drumming, group games, group meals, etc. would happen throughout the week. There would be a day care center and a senior care center where children and seniors needing supervision would get loving care. There would be cottages for some privacy in living. There would be shared garden space.

What would the congregation of your dreams look like? I know one of you pictures the community having a building that looks more like a traditional church with artwork and stained glass. I know another pictures a

community that regularly drums and dances. Another pictures a community with a strong focus on service.

These are dreams of individuals, but what is our shared dream for the congregation? This is the question we consider each year as we begin our pledge drive. Because, only together will we make any dream into a reality. None of us will be able to create the community of our dreams on our own. Together?

Rev. Dr. Rebecca Parker, the President of the Starr King School for Ministry, has written a poem that begins “Your gifts, Whatever you discover them to be Can be used to bless or curse the world, “ and ends, “None of us alone can save the world, Together—that is another possibility, Waiting.”

Celebrating the Possibility,  
Cyn

## From the President: Goodloe & Education

When we renamed our congregation after Don Speed Smith Goodloe, we recognized his enormous dedication to education and his willingness to challenge the holders of power in Maryland to improve the lives and futures of African American youth. Last year, we voted to initiate a new Education Ministry for our congregation with a venture as a homeschooling umbrella. We are pleased to report that Goodloe Homeschooling Umbrella Group (HUG) is off to a great start with almost a dozen families with more that may join us in the coming year.

At the time we approved the new Education Ministry, many expressed strong interest in a parallel effort to support public schools in our area. Your Board is now exploring ways to become more involved with the local schools and would welcome member ideas and input to help us find



appropriate roles for us to play.

In the meantime, we are planning our annual Goodloe Celebration for March 29, 2014, at which time our speaker will be Dr. Kevin Maxwell, Superintendent of the Prince George’s County School System. We are pleased that he has agreed to come, and we will be inviting the public from the area to join us for the evening. We also hope to have musical performances from Bowie State students (compliments of Noreen Chin) to help make it a festive occasion.

To make this happen, we are seeking volunteers to help with the program, setup, child care and outreach. We hope to have all of the pieces in place shortly so we can make the event successful. Please let us know how you can help. We look forward to making this year’s Goodloe Celebration memorable and meaningful for all.

*Steve Buckingham*

# Religious Exploration Spirit Play Corner

Greetings! And Happy 2014!

As we enter the new year, we also enter a new focus in our journey through the UU principles in the RE program. This past Fall, our journey began with principles which focused on our interpersonal relationships with others. We were concerned with treating others with respect, dignity, kindness, and fairness. We turned within and concentrated on our own learning—about ourselves, others, and the mysteries of Life. Our campaigns were organized around the theme of “tossing starfish,” helping individuals and families through the Food Bank, the Family Tree campaign, and collecting items for the Day of Service.

Now let us turn our attention to our community life. Our focus will be on how to

live in community in such a way that no one's voice is marginalized, that the democratic process is balanced with compassion for the needs and interests of minority members, that our institutions and organizations work best when they are free and fair.

In our Spirit Play lessons, we will look closer at the vision of “Beloved Community.” What will it look like, what role do we play—as children, adults, and a faith community? Who are its role models and heroes? What values need to shift to bring us closer to this vision? What will we need to start doing? What will we need to give up? I look forward to exploring these themes with you in the coming season.

Blessings,  
Alethea

## Adult Religious Exploration

Adult RE meets on 1st & 3rd Sundays 11:45am–1:15pm, on an alternating subject & 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:

### **Adult RE: Spiritual Practices.** 3rd Sundays

We talked about how our words shape our thoughts and

our actions. Are we mindful of our words and the tone in which we express them? Do our words include others? Are our words considerate and compassionate toward others?

### **16 Feb: Body Practices.**

How do we honor our bodies?

What is the mind-body connection? Volunteer workshop leader is needed for this date, as Ken has another commitment that may run later than this.

### **16 March: Soul Practices.**

What is our soul? How do we exercise it in a spiritual manner?

### **Adult RE: Cultural Literacy of World Religions.** 1st Sundays

#### **2 Feb: Shintoism**

#### **2 March: East Asian Buddhism—China, Japan**

We watch a half-hour video and have group discussions on various religions. Last month we learned about a variety of the different schools of Buddhism. Fun to reflect on how the different schools provide insight into human need and approaches for religious faith.

# Goodloe Activities

## Social Justice Film & Discussion

**Friday, Feb 7, 7:00pm**

*Wilderness Journey: The Struggle for Black Empowerment and Racial Justice within the Unitarian Universalist Association, 1967-1970 (2008).*

Ron Cordes filmed these interviews of many UU leaders who lived through those complex times and created this essential UUA historical record. 76 minutes.

**Friday, March 7, 7:00pm**

*Gasland II (2013)*

Expanding on his Oscar-nominated film about fracking, director Josh Fox explores long-term consequences of the controversial oil-extracting method, including earthquakes and poisoned water. 120 minutes.



## Goodloe Coffee House

Saturday, Feb 15, 7:30pm

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@goodloeeuu.org](mailto:coffeehouse@goodloeeuu.org)

Drumming from the Heart will not be meeting in February. Stay warm!

## Monthly Fundraisers

*In December, Goodloe earned \$80 through its Amazon.com fundraiser and \$118 through Giant Scrip Sales. Thank you for supporting Goodloe!*

## Goodloe Readers

Here is the upcoming book list. All are available through the PG County Library, Amazon, and local book stores. You do not need to finish the book in order to participate in the discussion. Meetings are at Goodloe at 7:30pm every 3rd Thursday.

**Feb 20** *Fight for the Bay: Why a Dark Green Environmental Awakening is Needed to Save the Chesapeake Bay* by Howard R. Ernst

**March 20** *Reality Is Broken: Why Games Make Us Better and How They Can Change the World* by Jane McGonigal

**April 17** *The Sociopath Next Door* by Martha Stout

**May 15** *Sand County Almanac* by Aldo Leopold

## 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 meditation, and a dharma talk and discussion. Participants are invited to stay & enjoy a cup of tea following the activity on 4th Tuesdays.

# Financial Report – First Half of FY 2013-2014

Summary report of income and expenses for July 1, 2013 – December 31, 2013 (All figures are rounded to the nearest \$100.)

**SOCIAL ACTION** (transfers of special collections to other organizations)

- ◇ \$300 – Goodloe scholarship at Bowie State University
- ◇ \$400 – One second collection (UU Legislative Ministry-Maryland)

## OPERATING INCOME

- ◇ \$36,100 – Pledges and plate offerings
- ◇ \$16,700 – Mid-Year Match
- ◇ \$4,700 – Kaplan and other building rentals
- ◇ \$500 – Homeschool Umbrella Group Support (HUGS)
- ◇ \$200 – Coffee house
- ◇ \$100 – Amazon sales
- ◇ \$200 – Other fund-raising events and miscellaneous income

Total Income for operations: \$58,600

Plus, there was Memorial Fund income totaling \$450 added to our savings account.

The Financial Officer sent letters to contributors in mid-January. They include a report of your (individual/family) contributions toward your pledge for the first half of fiscal year 2013-2014 and a report of your total donations for calendar year 2013. If you did not receive yours by email or mail or feel there is an error in the numbers, please contact [sidsoderholm@yahoo.com](mailto:sidsoderholm@yahoo.com) (301-789-8638).

The bell choir rings out songs during services on the 4th Sundays. If you are interested in playing bells, please contact [Ken Shilling](#).

## OPERATING EXPENSES

- ◇ \$31,000 – Personnel (Minister, Director Religious Education, Choir Director, Accompanist)
- ◇ \$14,100 – Facilities (mortgage, condo fees, insurance, utilities, maintenance)
- ◇ \$1400 – UU Association dues
- ◇ \$600 – Joseph Priestly District dues
- ◇ \$300 – Worship Honoraria
- ◇ \$400 – Other expenses (Religious Exploration, Minister's discretionary fund, other small expenses)

Total Expenses for operations: \$47,800

Observations:

1. The Mid-Year Match fundraising effort increased income a lot!
2. Many donate supplies and even maintenance/repairs without submitting a donation slip; this keeps our expenses artificially low.

Respectfully submitted by Sid Soderholm, Financial Officer. I appreciate the excellent work of the Collector, John Pietras, and Treasurer, Cathy Weber!

## Save the Dates

**Friday, March 14** Goodloe serves dinner at the Warm Nights Shelter when it is housed at Village Baptist, 1950 Mitchellville Rd, Bowie, MD 20716

**Saturday, March 29** Goodloe Celebration to Raise Money for Goodloe Scholarship at Bowie State University This year's keynote speaker will be Dr. Kevin Maxwell, Prince George's County Schools' CEO.

## Day of Service/Starfish Campaign



On January 20, Goodloe distributed sixty bags of clothing, food and toiletries to people who have no



Morris met at the church at 6:00 A.M., put a sandwich and orange in each bag, drove to the convention center in D.C. and began wandering, looking for people sleeping in doorways or walking the street carrying bedding. Dick

drove Sid's van, and Sid and Cyn hopped out to ask people if they wanted a sandwich. After delivering a dozen or so bags, they stopped at the shelter at E and 2<sup>nd</sup> Streets, NW, and delivered the rest of the bags in short order. Dick was delighted to see a man "wolfing down" one of his sandwiches. "They were good," said Dick. "I know. I ate one. We put spicy brown mustard and mayo on them." He also noticed people exploring all the things in the bags like they were opening Christmas presents, bags lovingly put together by the people at Goodloe.

homes in Washington, D.C. We did it to celebrate Martin Luther King's birthday, the National Day of Service, and our own Starfish social justice program. We collected the items after Christmas – hats, scarves, gloves, socks, homemade cookies, bottled water, razors, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, hand lotion, soap, zip-lock bags, etc. – and packed the gift bags during the Martin Luther King, Jr. service on January 19. Sunday afternoon, Dick and Barbara Morris made sixty ham sandwiches. Monday morning Jan. 20, Sid Soderholm, Rev. Cyn, and Dick



## Coming Soon—The Return of Circle Suppers

Circle Suppers are intended to give members & friends of Goodloe a chance to socialize and get to know each other away from the structure and timelines of Sunday services. Some of you may remember these pot luck events, hosted in members' homes. In the past, people enjoyed these fun, relaxing and delicious evenings!

Some Goodloe members are interested in resurrecting Circle Supper social gatherings.

Hosting a dinner is voluntary and requires minimal effort, just a nice place for 8 or so others to gather, eat, laugh and chat. Music, board games, charades and such can be added to enhance the evening. Folks who sign up will bring the food and beverages following the hosts' suggestions of what to bring.

Be on the lookout for announcements and sign up sheets for an upcoming pilot Circle Supper.

## Snow or Rain or Gloom of Night: Are We Still Meeting?



Goodloe's full policy about inclement weather is now posted on our web site:

<http://www.goodloeeu.org/weather/>

Here's a quick summary of *how to find out* if an activity or service is canceled.

If you're part of a group that meets at Goodloe, ask the group's coordinator whether the group follows the local public school operating status. If not, they will let you know how they manage cancelations.

For Sunday services or any other Goodloe activity when the status is uncertain, there are several places where the information is provided:

- The cancelation will be listed at the top of the web page listed earlier in this article.
- An appropriate staff member will add the cancelation information to the church's recorded phone message (301-218-5277).
- A message will be sent to Goodloe's email list. If you already receive emails about upcoming services, this newsletter\*, etc., then you are on the email list. If not, you can request to be added at any time: [Goodloe.memorial@gmail.com](mailto:Goodloe.memorial@gmail.com).

\* *The Odyssey is available through post or email.*

## Voting Rights March—Raleigh, NC

In 1965 the Rev. James Reeb, a former minister of our church, was killed on the streets of Selma marching for voting rights. His death moved President Johnson to introduce the Voting Rights Act into Congress 49 years ago. But last June the Supreme Court eviscerated that law, and since then states like North Carolina have passed legislation intended to suppress the vote of students, the working poor, people of color and the formerly incarcerated.

In the name of James Reeb and all those who struggled and died for the right to vote, we have a personal and moral obligation to protect their hard-won freedoms. Join the Voting Rights March in Raleigh, NC, on Feb. 8, 2014. [Click here to register and learn more.](#)

Can't come to Raleigh, but still want to make a difference? Here are ways you can be involved from where you live:

- ⇒ Light candles/say a solidarity prayer or message at February 9th worship service.
- ⇒ Watch a 10 min. video of Rev. William Barber, President of the NAACP NC, on the Forward Together Moral Movement.
- ⇒ See Bill Moyer's January 3rd program on the Moral Mondays movement (45 min.).
- ⇒ Donate and/or take up a collection at your congregation for the NAACP NC to continue their important work. Your gift to the UUA will go to support the NC NAACP.
- ⇒ Sign and circulate the NAACP's petition to restore the Voting Rights Act.
- ⇒ Find out if a people's assembly has been organized or is organizing in your state. If so, join it. If not, offer to help your local NAACP chapter in organizing one.

# Board Meeting Minutes\*

January 8, 2014

\* 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 Snavelly, Steve Buckingham, Kris Peerman, Pete Boudriault, Sally Raymond, Yaa.

**Building & Facilities:** Sally submitted an article about accessing the building to the Odyssey.

**Office Equipment:** John Pietras hooked the hotspot to Rev Cyn's & Alethea's computers, & they were able to use the printer via USB. Still want to fix the WiFi to enable large downloads/streaming video.

**Holiday Events:** Holiday services were good, but attendance was sparse.

**Upcoming Activities:** There is a memorial service for Marcia Giger on 1/11, 3pm. There is a multigen service on 1/19 for MLK & assembling bags for the homeless.

**Finances:** The pledge drive will kick off 2/23 with service led by Sid. Steve & Cyn will submit articles to the Odyssey. Last year's pledges had us in the red but anonymous mid-year donor helped 2013 deficit.

Feb meeting will include budget discussion.

**Staff:** Noreen graduates in the Spring & is unsure whether she will be staying in the area.

**Committee on Ministry:** Steve will schedule a meeting soon.

**Education Ministry:** Steve will ask Kellie to write an article for the Odyssey to provide more information about what is happening with this. Cyn suggested teaching music sessions & including children from Beacon House. Yaa suggested reaching out to Beacon House to find out what they need.

**Goodloe Celebration:**

- Dr. Hrabowski's schedule is booked solid & will be unable to speak at the Goodloe Celebration. Dr. Kevin Maxwell (PGCPS superintended) has been asked. If he is able to confirm, Steve suggested a direct mailer about it. Yaa suggested that we include time for a Q&A session afterward with Dr. Maxwell.



- Steve will work with Noreen to set up a concert in conjunction with this, such as a joint choral program including Bowie State members.
- Steve suggested a February Odyssey article requesting volunteers from the congregation to help plan the event.

**Membership & UUA:** The congregation cannot vote on the social justice issues until the membership numbers have been certified. We need to distribute the information about the issues & poll the members on which issues they would like to support for action study issues. Ken & Sid are checking with those who are no longer pledging to see if they still want to remain a member of the congregation. The website for the issues is: <http://www.uua.org/statements>

Steve suggested that after packing the bags at the MLK service, we discuss the

(Continued on page 9)



# Board Meeting Minutes (Continued)

(Continued from page 8)

6 social justice action items — Congregations can choose up to 5 of the 6 issues.

**New Signs:** Sally has submitted a proposal for the new temporary signs.

**Adopt-a-Road:** There are at least 7 people signed up for the Adopt-a-Road.

**UU Pension Plan Changes:** There was not a quorum to talk about the pension plan

changes. We will vote on this at the next Board meeting.

**Minister's Report:** There is a Civil/Voting Rights March in Raleigh, NC on 2/8 to support voting rights reforms & to stop those who are trying to impede voters. We will send information to All Souls church & may be sending a bus to the event.

**General Information:** Goodloe has been informed that the owners of the

property behind the church are seeking to change it from commercial zoned to mixed-use zoned.

**Order of Service—Goodloe Legacy:** Yaa has offered to write a few paragraphs about Don Speed Smith Goodloe's legacy to appear at the bottom of the weekly Order of Service. This proposal was approved by the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

## UUA On-Demand Webinars

Goodloe Community depends upon many, many volunteers. Volunteers can always benefit from new ideas, some fun, encouragement. Our local UU region has several different courses that you can access on web - they are "webinars." Find one that you want to take, and register:

<http://www.cerguua.org/moodle/>

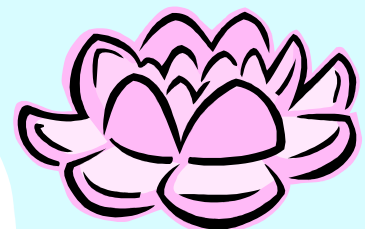
You will enjoy talking with other UU's. You can bring your new learning back to Goodloe. "A community willing to learn is a community willing to grow."

Ken Shilling

*"Love is a consistent passion to give,  
not a meek persistent hope to receive.*

*The only demand of life is the  
privilege to love all."*

*Swami Chinmayananda*



# February 2014

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

## Goodloe Memorial Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Minister: **Rev. Cynthia Snavelly**  
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 Snavelly

### 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](mailto: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: February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014

**Please email submissions to**  
[goodloe.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:goodloe.newsletter@gmail.com)

If you have changed your address, phone, or email, please let us know by emailing [goodloe.memorial@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.goodloeuu.org)  
Reverend Cynthia Snavely  
Service and Religious Education 10:30 am Sundays

