



Odyssey

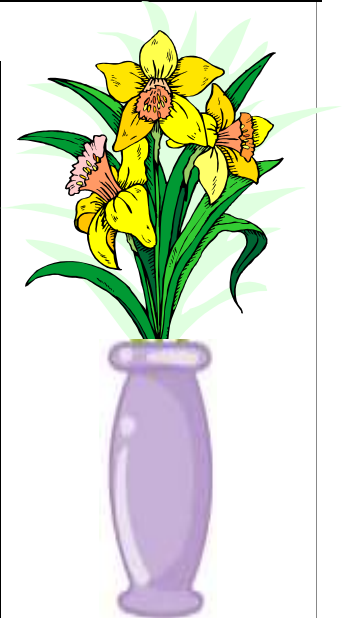
March 2015

Sunday Services

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

Mar 8	<i>Out of the Stars</i> “Out of the stars have we come...out of your heart, cry wonder, sing that we live,” Robert T. Weston. The experience of wonder or awe is a part of spirituality. Today we consider how we can prepare ourselves and our children to have such experiences.	Rev. Snavelly
Mar 15	<i>UUMAC Service & Special Collection</i> The Unitarian Universalist MidAtlantic Conference is a one week retreat held each year in July. In 2015 the retreat will be held July 12 – 18 at DeSales University, Center Valley, PA. The theme will be “Building Beloved Community, Beyond Partisan Division”, co-lead by Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael and Rev. Scott Sammler-Michael. The special collection will go toward scholarships to help those with limited means to attend.	Ken Shilling <i>et. al.</i>
Mar 22	<i>Finding Meaning in The Wizard of Oz & The Wiz</i> “Home is a place we all must find, child. It's not just a place where you eat or sleep. Home is knowing. Knowing your mind, knowing your heart, knowing your courage. If we know ourselves, we're always home, anywhere.” Glinda the Good in <i>The Wiz</i> .	Ken Shilling
Mar 29	<i>Spreading the Welcome Table</i> What does a ministry of food and drink look like? What do we need to be aware of to make our coffee hour and social activity food and drink welcoming to all?	Rev. Snavelly
Apr 5 8:30	<i>Ostara</i> At the Peerman home: 17312 Queen Anne Bridge Rd., Bowie The pagan holiday of Ostara is on the Spring Equinox, but it has been our tradition at Goodloe to celebrate it on Easter Sunday. We celebrate the rebirth of the earth as the land begins to warm, plants begin to green and animals give birth. There will be a special collection for the Goodloe scholarship fund.	Angela & Kris Peerman, Rev. John Gaffney, Rev. Snavelly
Apr 5 10:30	<i>Beyond Loss to an Embrace of Life</i> Jesus’s disciples first reaction to his arrest and execution was to go into hiding. They had to roll the stone from their own self-chosen tombs and come out to live again.	<i>Easter</i>

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From the Minister



Dear Members and Friends of Goodloe Memorial Unitarian Universalist Congregation:

I was recently asked to lead the monthly Unitarian Universalist worship service at the Collington retirement community. I will be speaking there on Thursday, March 19.

Because of the date on which I was asked to speak, just after St. Patrick's Day, a day on which it seems that all Americans of all ethnicities declare that they are Irish, I said that my sermon title would be "The Influence of the Celts on Modern Spirituality."

A sense of the sacredness of nature, a respect for the leadership of women, a belief in the natural goodness of humanity as opposed to a belief in original sin; these elements and others are being reclaimed today from the ancient Celtic tradition.

Nature has, for too much of modernity, been seen as something for humanity to use and/or to conquer. Since the beginning of the ecological movement there has also been a movement to reclaim pre-Christian pagan spiritualities, that honored the earth as sacred. Celtic spirituality is one of those reclaimed pagan traditions.

Many have noted that the Irish Church continued the Celtic pre-Christian tradition of having both male and female priests. Robert Vande Weyre in Celtic Fire writes, "The Druid priesthood included both men and women, enjoying equal status; and this was maintained in the Celtic church, in which, contrary to the practice in the rest of Christendom, women frequently ruled great churches and monasteries frequently contained both men and women, with a woman in charge, such as Kildare under Brigid and Whitby under Hilda."

Pelagius was a fourth/fifth century Celtic Briton and a Christian heretic. He spoke out against the doctrine of original sin. In a letter written in 413 Pelagius stressed "his views of natural sanctity and (hu)man's moral capacity to choose to live a holy life," <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pelagius>.

In a 2004 address to the Scottish Unitarian Association Alistair Bate said, "One of the marvellous things about Celtic spirituality, I think, is that it blurs the boundaries between Christian and Pagan and as a Unitarian Universalist I positively welcome blurred boundaries. [sic]"

And so to all who are Irish only in the month of March and to all who are legitimately of Irish heritage, an Irish blessing;

May the blessing of the rain be on you—
the soft sweet rain.

May it fall upon your spirit
so that all the little flowers may spring up,
and shed their sweetness on the air.

May the blessing of the great rains be on you,
may they beat upon your spirit
and wash it fair and clean,
and leave there many a shining pool
where the blue of heaven shines,
and sometimes a star.

Blessed be,
Cyn

MP3 audio files of Rev. Snavelly's sermons are now available on the Goodloe website via the [Sermon Archive page](#).

Services are generally available within a week or two after each service.



Our Whole Lives (OWL) for 4th-5th Grade

The OWL information session that was scheduled for Sunday, February 22 was canceled due to inclement weather. It has been rescheduled for Sunday, March 22 at 12:30 at Paint Branch UU Church in Adelphi. Childcare will be provided and pizza will be served for all families attending.

Parents are encouraged to attend this informational meeting and help us decide how often OWL will meet each month and other logistics.

If you would like to keep informed about planning for OWL, please submit your contact information to Alethea Shiplett, Director of Religious Exploration for Goodloe.

O.W.L. is a series of sexuality education curricula with age-appropriate materials for each of 6 age groups. A program for the 4th-5th grade age group is scheduled to begin in Sept 2015. Aléthea

Shiplett or Sid Soderholm are happy to provide more information. Also, please share information about this meeting with other parents you think might be interested in learning more about this OWL program. This program is open to families of all faiths and religious affiliations, or none.

From <http://UUA.org/re/owl>: **Our Whole Lives** offers:

- Up-to-date information and honest, age-appropriate answers to all participants' questions
- Activities to help participants clarify values and improve decision-making skills
- Effective group-building to create a safe and supportive peer group
- Education about sexual abuse, exploitation, and harassment
- Opportunities to critique media

messages about gender and sexuality

- Acceptance of diversity
- Encouragement to act for justice
- A well designed, teacher-friendly leaders' guide
- Parent orientation programs that affirm parents as the primary sexuality educators of their children

Our Whole Lives is appropriate for use in a variety of congregational, school, and community settings, including classrooms, after-school programs, and youth groups. Although developed by two religious organizations, *Our Whole Lives* contains no religious references or doctrine. Religious references are provided in a Unitarian Universalist and United Church of Christ companion publication, *Sexuality and Our Faith*.

Don't Short Change Maryland Public Schools

Maryland public schools have consistently been rated among the best in the United States for the past several years, and this is largely credited to state & local governments investing in education via the Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act of 2002. Unfortunately, Governor Hogan's budget plan for FY16 has threatened to cut estimated spending on Maryland public schools by \$144 million. The impact to Prince George's County public schools is

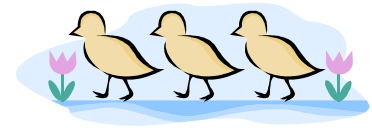


\$38 million, forcing cuts to significant enrichment programs like music and physical education and likely eliminating over 600 teacher & 1,100 staff jobs. Additionally, the PG County public school district includes sponsor households with nearly 1,500 unaccompanied minor immigrants that require ESOL and other support. Our students deserve the fully funded education that has shown so much success in recent years.

To get more information and find out what you can do to help, please visit the Maryland State Education Association (MSEA) website:

<http://www.marylandeducators.org/hot-issues/school-funding>

Board Biz: Notes From Goodloe's President



The Board continues to work behind the scenes to move Goodloe forward, address the business that comes to us, watch the coffers and plan for future events. We have consistently wanted to bring more people to us and help promote the name of Goodloe near and far as a beloved spiritual community. We believe the actions of Goodloe with its emphasis on education and social justice for inclusivity of all is at the heart of all of our deliberations and decisions. This is who we are as a Board and as a congregation.

As a Board we have to work on big undertakings that have the potential to help us grow. We are looking ahead to the big Goodloe Celebration event. We want it to be successful and draw more people this year. Once we settle on a date (we are considering April 28), we need confirmation from the speakers. We are going to have a ministers' of color panel discussion as our main attraction. Noreen Chin will have the choir practice and sing two selections. We may have other musical offerings. Dick Morris will present his polished and fascinating account of the history of our namesake complete with artifacts and documents for display. We will have brochures to post and invitations to send out along with the normal distribution of email announcements and a blurb in the order of service. We should have an article in *The Odyssey* as well. If you have friends, relatives or neighbors to invite please do so. It will be a great event for our congregation to hold.

During our most recent meeting of February 9, we've worked on the FY 15-16 budget trying to balance what comes in with what goes out. One way that money comes to us, aside from pledges, is the so called non-pledges money which usually appears weekly in the Offering basket in the form of cash. I had commented that those folks who give in the form of cash have no way of claiming this as a donation expense on their 1040 tax returns. With that in mind we have created a cash envelope system such as many other churches have. Individuals will be encouraged to take an envelope, label it with their names and the amount of their donation, and place it in the offering basket. Records can be kept of each person's cash giving and when this information is requested it will be provided as documentation that can be used in filing his or her taxes. A formal announcement will be made in church.

This past month for Social Justice First Friday Movie Nights we showed a film called *Pay 2 Play* which portrays in great detail the descent of our elections to a system where the wealthiest few may virtually pick and choose whom they want to win and pour as much money into getting their guys elected. It was a superior and timely film. It's showing drew about 30 people, many of whom were from the community. We at the Board recognized that more events like this continue to spread our name and develop our reputation as standing for social justice.

The wonderful showing of *Pay 2 Play* was marred a bit by the use of outdated equipment which was also not ours. If we want to have a successful (*i.e.* well attended) movie night and have more showings of significant films that have the potential to attract new people to Goodloe, it would be in our best interests to own our own equipment. The Board is in deep discussion about the pros and cons of different types of projectors. We have also thought we might want a large flat screen TV but that too has its issues. We are leaning towards a projector that could be located in a fixed spot and used to project movies run on a laptop. It would also be available for slide shows or power points. A clear video image and good sound quality would provide watching pleasure. No decision is made. Dick Wobus is leading this effort. Please give him any of your ideas.

We have let a few balls drop; one in particular is the work we had agreed to do surrounding the development of a new Mission or Vision Statement. Following our October discussion, we thought we hoped for something catchy or pithy that would encapsulate who we are as a collective body. It was recommended that a task force be "volunteered" to figure this out. This is yet to happen but it is still with us as a goal to achieve.

Sally Raymond



General Announcements

Goodloe's Annual Pledge Drive

July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016

If you feel that Goodloe benefits you and the wider community, please support its basic operations with a financial pledge for the upcoming fiscal year. For your convenience, a pledge form is included on the last page of this newsletter. Estimate your giving and send in your pledge so that Goodloe can plan its annual budget. Mail your pledge to Goodloe (the address is on the pledge page), or send an email to sidsoderholm@yahoo.com, or put your pledge in the box on the table outside the sanctuary door. Pledges received before the end of March will be most useful for planning. Thank you!

Sid Soderholm,
Financial Officer



JPD District Assembly: Weaving the Fabric of Our Faith

When: April 10-11, 2015

Where: ACE Conference Ctr,
800 Ridge Pike,
Lafayette Hill, PA

Keynote Speakers: Mark Bernstein & Patricia Infante,
both from UUA Congregational Life Staff, Central
East Regional Group (CERG).

Warm Nights Dinner for People Who Need Shelter

Friday March 13, 2015
Village Baptist Church,
Bowie

Goodloe will serve dinner to guests who are sheltered at Village Baptist Church as part of the Prince George's County Warm Nights program on Friday, March 13.

Warm Nights is an interfaith program that provides shelter and food to people who are homeless during the winter months. As part of a partnership with PG County Social Services, transportation and other support services are also provided.

A big pre-emptive thank

you to our many volunteers who have signed up to serve dinner and help with preparation/clean-up. As a reminder, dinner items should be delivered to Village Baptist Church at 6pm. If you are not available, please get in touch with Jackie asap to make alternate arrangements.

All volunteers are welcome to share the dinner and visit with the guests during the meal.

If you have questions or wish to participate, please contact Jackie Lord (snolord@gmail.com or Ph 301-249-7713).

UUMAC Registration Open

When: July 12-18, 2015

Where: Allentown, PA

Early Bird Registration (50% off) through April 1. Full payment due by June 1. More information is available at UUMAC.org or ask other Goodloe members, particularly Ken Shilling & Sally Raymond.



Goodloe Monthly Activities

Social Justice Film & Discussion

Friday, March 6, 7:00 pm

[*Harvest of Empire \(2012\)*](#)

Based on the groundbreaking book by award-winning journalist and Democracy Now! Co-host Juan González, *Harvest of Empire* takes an unflinching look at the role that U.S. economic and military interests played in triggering an unprecedented wave of migration that is transforming our nation's cultural and economic landscape. 93 minutes.

Friday, April 3, 7:00 pm

[*Fed Up \(2014\)*](#)

Childhood obesity has become an ever-more serious medical issue in the United States. This ... documentary examines the underlying causes behind the epidemic, including the marketing strategies of major U.S. food producers. 90 minutes.

Bell Choir

The Bell Choir is looking for more budding performers to join their ensemble. Rehearsals are at 6:30 pm on successive Thursdays leading up to the Sunday service performances. This month, rehearsals are March 5 & 12 to play music at the March 15 worship service.

Bowie Springs Meditation

The Bowie Springs Meditation group meets on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays each month from 7:15 ~ 9 pm. 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.

Drumming From the Heart will not be held this month, as we will be participating in the Warm Nights event.

Goodloe Coffee House

Saturday, March 21, 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@goodloeuu.org

Adult RE: Cultural Literacy of World Religions

March 15. The Many Forms and Rituals of Protestantism. After the service, until 1pm. This is an example of one of the workshops available at summer camp called UUMAC. This video and discussion will help us understand our roots in Protestant history. This has been rescheduled from last month due to inclement weather. Again. Hoping and praying that this will finally happen!

Monthly Fundraisers

In January, Goodloe earned \$41 through its Amazon.com fundraiser and \$48 through Giant Scrip Sales. Thank you for supporting Goodloe!



What is Worship? Musings by Ken Shilling

I attended the JPD Worship Arts Festival until it was cancelled due to weather. A

hundred years ago, worship was a sermon for 1.5 hours complete with footnotes. Our notion of worship has changed over the centuries. Worship is finding meaning in what we value. Some churches are experimenting with alternating Pagan, Christian, Buddhist and UU services. Some are empowering lay leaders to lead a special service. We were treated to experience The Sanctuaries - UU artists under guidance of UU minister.

The Sanctuaries read poetry, sang hip-hop, showed videos, did some artsy stuff. What's this stuff about coming to "talk with one of us" to receive a blessing? I felt love in their gentle style. Oh, and they don't do Sunday worship but have events.

I remember the first time I saw liturgical dance as part of worship. Awe is the only word for it. Over the many years, we have invited different dance groups to lead liturgical dance worship. Dance is a good community builder as well. How do we want to include dance in worship? and in our community?



The minister from Davies Memorial demonstrated how to tell Bible stories, and how she

emphasized points in the story. The verbal and visual made an engaging presentation - and I still see the staircase to heaven with angels going up and down. What are our stories? and how do we tell them?

At the end of the Sanctuaries, people were just talking. So two of us gathered our drums and provided some soulful rhythms. I just bring a drum to JPD events. There was the time many years ago when Rev Thendeka asked us to liven the worship and I had my drum then. Over the years, we have had harps and saxophones, flutes, guitars at Goodloe. What is our sacred music? and who plays?

I remember Sid Peterman (a JPD district executive) from 25 years ago. He got us to have inter-generational discussion as part of worship - relating to each other. How do we share our personal stories? in meaningful relation?

There are many different ways to share what we value. The new JPD district executive clearly stated that no minister has all the skills to perform such a wide

array of worship mediums on such a diversity of topics. We have an ongoing need to discuss worship and what is meaningful. We have an ongoing need for including lay people with talent into planning worship. We can develop some skills, we can encourage new leaders, we can bring in professionals with experience.

We choose. Chose wisely.

Register for the JPD Spring Assemble. Go the the General Assembly. Go to UUMAC. Experience the larger UU community and return with new ideas for Goodloe Memorial.

Oh, yes, expect that the UUMAC service will be experiential and participatory because that is just the way I have learned to do worship. Play is my prayer.

Ken Shilling



Social Justice Activities

How to Make Your Climate Efforts Count

When: Saturday, March 14, 9:30am-12:30pm

Where: Howland Center, 5 Thomas Circle NW
Washington, DC

- ⇒ Strategize together with Pamela Sparr, UU Service Committee (UUSC) Associate Director and Commit2Respond (a UUA and UUSC climate initiative) Steering Committee Member
- ⇒ What can your congregation do about climate change?

⇒ EARTH DAY AND BEYOND.... Learn about exciting UU short- and long-term activities, programs, worship and educational resources including General Assembly, Paris UNFCCC talks, and Papal Visit.

⇒ How can UUs in the metro DC region play a key role in national climate change advocacy efforts and work with the interfaith community?

Find more information and register to attend at UUSJ.org or [click here](#).

Young Adult Spring Lobby Day: Training and Advocacy on Climate Justice

Saturday, March 14, 12:00 noon -
Tuesday, March 17 in Washington, DC

Calling all young adults interested in climate justice! The UU College of Social Justice and the UU Service Committee are partnering with the Friends Committee on National Legislation and the Franciscan Action Network on a national, multifaith training. The Spring Lobby Weekend will feature time to explore the moral grounding for working on climate change, a “deep dive” look at current climate justice issues and the need for changes in federal policy. Following the lobbying training there will be Capitol Hill meetings with legislators and their staff. Participants will have a chance to meet and work with young adults from various faith traditions. Young adults, age 18-35 may

request scholarships from Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice in the National Capital Region. UUSJ encourages teams of young adults from your congregation to attend together.

Register at <http://www.fcnl.org/events/slw>. The registration deadline has been extended to Friday, March 13. The registration fee is \$50 (regular) and \$25 (low income). Housing cost is approximately \$35 a night. [Request a UUSJ scholarship online here](#).

If you have questions or need more information on the young adult training contact Andrew Silva at Andrew@fcnl.org. For info on the UUSJ scholarships contact Rev. Cyn Snively at 202-600-9132 or info@uusj.org.

"With our lives we make our answers all the time, to this ravenous, beautiful, mutilated, gorgeous world. However prophetic our words, it is not enough simply to speak."

*Rev. Victoria Safford, UU Minister,
from "The Gates of Hope:"*

March 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 10:30 Worship/RE	2	3	4	5 O Full Moon	6 7pm Social Justice Film & Discussion	7
8 10:30 Worship/RE 11:30 Potluck	9	10 7:15 Bowie Springs Meditation	11	12	13 6:30pm Warm Nights Volunteering	14
15 10:30 Worship/RE	16	17 7:30 Goodloe Readers	18	19	20	21 7:30pm Coffeehouse
22 10:30 Worship/RE 12:00 Chinese Buffet	23	24 7:15 Bowie Springs Meditation	25	26	27	28

Goodloe Memorial Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Minister: **Rev. Cynthia Snavely**
240-475-2111 (cell) minister@goodloeuu.org

Minister Emeritus: **Rev. John Gaffney**

Religious Exploration Consultant:
Aléthea Shiplett

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

Accompanist: **Lorraine Webb**

Board of Trustees

President:
Sally Raymond (president@goodloeuu.org)

Vice President:
Pete Boudriault (vp@goodloeuu.org)

Financial Officer:
Sid Soderholm (finance.goodloe@gmail.com)

Secretary:
Debra Braswell (secretary@goodloeuu.org)

At-Large Trustee:
Dick Wobus (trustee2@goodloeuu.org)

Committee Chairs

Building & Facilities: Sally Raymond

Coffee House Chair:
coffeeshouse@goodloeuu.org

Goodloe Green Sanctuary: Vacant

Goodloe Readers: Laird Towle

Kiva Investing: Laird Towle

Membership: Ken Shilling

Ministry:
Ken Shilling, Steve Buckingham,
Nita Page Daves

Odyssey Editor: Angela Peerman

Worship: Vacant

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 llacey33@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:
March 22, 2015**

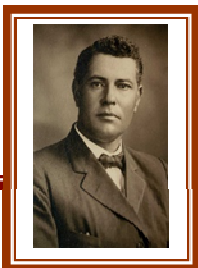
**Please email submissions to
goodloe.newsletter@gmail.com**

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.

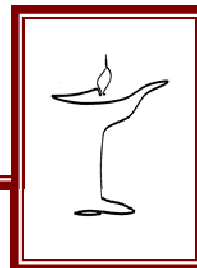
**Goodloe Memorial
Unitarian Universalist
Congregation** is named
for Don Speed Smith
Goodloe, first principal of
Maryland Normal and
Industrial School, Bowie.



Goodloe Memorial Unitarian Universalist



Congregation
 1540C Pointer Ridge Place
 Bowie, Maryland 20716
www.goodloeuu.org



Pledge for Fiscal Year 2015-16

July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016

Donor Name _____ Donor Name _____

Email _____ Email _____

Mailing Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

Telephone Number _____

Date _____

I / we plan to contribute the amount indicated below on the selected schedule (fill out one of the following 4 lines):

\$ _____ Weekly \$ _____ Monthly
 \$ _____ Quarterly \$ _____ One-time (by date _____)

As a result, I / we commit a total amount of \$ _____ to support the operating budget for the 2015-16 fiscal year.
 (Leave blank, if you want the Financial Officer to compute this.)

It is understood that financial situations sometimes change. If you need to revise your financial commitment, please contact a member of the Board or the Financial Officer.

(Remove and save this bottom portion for your records.)

Reminder

I / we committed to contribute \$ _____ [circle one: weekly, monthly, quarterly, or one-time
 (if one-time, by the date _____)].

My / our total commitment for the 2015-16 fiscal year is \$ _____.

Goodloe Memorial Unitarian Universalist Congregation



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

