



# Odyssey

September 2015

## Sunday Services

**INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE:**

<b>Sept 6</b>	<p><i>Economic Justice</i> <span style="float: right;">Rev. Cyn Snavely</span></p> <p>On this Labor Day weekend we consider this commitment from the website of the Unitarian Universalist Association, “We work for justice, equity, and compassion in our relationships and systemic change in our society. We know that the escalation of economic inequality undergirds a thousand injustices, from climate change to homelessness, from mass incarceration to low-wage worker exploitation. Economic inequality also disproportionately impacts people of color. A better world is possible, and we strive to be part of the solution.”</p>	<table border="1"> <tr><td>Sunday Services</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>From the Minister</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>From the President</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>Board Minutes &amp; Exploring Our Goals</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>Financial Report</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>Monthly Activities</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>Regional UU Events</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>Calendar</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>Staff Directory</td><td>9</td></tr> </table>	Sunday Services	1	From the Minister	2	From the President	3	Board Minutes & Exploring Our Goals	4	Financial Report	5	Monthly Activities	6	Regional UU Events	7	Calendar	8	Staff Directory	9
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<b>Sept 13</b>	<p><i>Multigenerational Water Communion Ingathering</i> <span style="float: right;">Aléthea Shiplett, DRE</span></p> <p>Bring some water from a place special to you to place in our shared waters bowl. We combine our water offerings to use throughout the year in child dedication ceremonies or send some with someone moving from the area to be added to their new congregation’s waters. This service marks the "Ingathering" of the congregation from our summer journeys.</p>																			
<b>Sept 20</b>	<p><i>We Begin Again in Love: Rosh Hashanah/Yom Kippur Celebration</i> <span style="float: right;">Rev. Cyn Snavely</span></p> <p>Yom Kippur begins at sundown, Tuesday, September 22 and ends at sundown Wednesday, September 23. Whether you choose to fast or not, make it a day for resolution of conflicts and new beginnings.</p>																			
<b>Sept 27</b>	<p><i>A Parting Blessing</i> <span style="float: right;">Rev. Cyn Snavely</span></p> <p>This will be my last Sunday with you. I remember words from T. S. Eliot, “What we call a beginning is often the end and to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from.”</p> <p><b>Please join us for a special farewell potluck lunch for Rev. Cyn following the service.</b></p>																			



*"Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some stay for a while, leave footprints on our hearts, and we are never, ever the same."*

*Flavia Weedn*



## From Our Minister



Dear Members and Friends of Goodloe Memorial:

As I leave you I wish the best for the future of Goodloe. Please consider well the part you can play in moving the congregation forward.

An aunt sent the following internet story around my family back in February:

She hurried to the pharmacy to get medication.

Got back to her car and found that she had locked her keys inside. The woman found an old rusty coat hanger left on the ground.

She looked at it and said, "I don't know how to use this." She bowed her head and asked God to send her some HELP.

Within 5 minutes a beat-up old motorcycle pulled up, driven by a bearded man who was wearing an old biker skull rag. He got off of his cycle and asked if he could help.

She said: "Yes, my daughter is sick. I've locked my keys in my car. I must get home. Please, can you use this hanger to unlock my car?"

He answered, "Sure." He walked over to the car, and in less than a minute the car was open. She hugged the man and through tears said, "Thank You, God, for sending me such a very nice man."

The man heard her little prayer and replied, "Lady, I am NOT a nice man. I just got out of prison yesterday; I was in prison for car theft." The woman hugged the man again, sobbing, "Oh, thank you, God! You even sent me a Professional!"

The story reminded me of a lecture my New Testament professor gave back when I was in theological school. He was talking about Jesus' parable of the "Good Samaritan." Dr. Dey said the point of the story is not that the Samaritan was "good." Dr. Dey said the man may have been cursing and complaining the whole time he was helping. The point of the story is not that the Samaritan was a "good" person but that the Samaritan was there to help when another person was in need.

Similarly my point in sharing the story of the locked car, the prayerful lady, and the ex con is not to tell you to pray or to believe in God. My point is that you should never discount any one's ability to be of use including your own.

As Goodloe moves into this time of discernment you may be the one with the talent needed at some particular time and place by someone else in the community or the community as a whole. Do not be afraid to step up and help. YOU may be just what is needed.

Blessed be,

Cyn

# Message from Goodloe's President

Each time this congregation has faced a challenge, we have reached deep into our sense of community. Our community has evolved and grown based on our ability to Inform, Involve, and Inspire each other. In the past, we have accomplished what others had thought was not possible. For a congregation our size, we have a Minister, a DRE, a Choir Director, a choir, a bell choir, a diverse congregation, a connection with a college campus, involvement in district wide justice programs, and our own building. This time, we will face new challenges of less income and the departure of our senior minister.

There will be lively interest and vibrant discussion on preferences, options, and alternatives for what we want to accomplish this year. The board has an approach to balance the budget. The board also has an approach for pursuing professional ministerial support after September 2015. The board has developed a schedule for various types of discussions that we need to have with each other.

There will be sessions focused on the implications of the smaller budget. There will be options for professional ministerial support: interim minister, developmental minister, student minister, etc. There will be conversations on how we care for ourselves and others (our ministries). We will rediscover what is really important to us. We may have to experiment with new ideas and different

approaches.

The schedule provides for a variety of forums. (see related article on schedule). If you don't like large public forums, you can speak one on one with a board member. If you perceive a need to bring the community together, you can raise an issue at the Going Deeper discussion. We practice "emotional mindfulness" and collectively seek ways to communicate so we can all reach a new understanding.

During this period, we want to listen to each other and speak with compassion. We want to accept each other as we are. We want to learn and grow together in community. We strive to leave a legacy of liberal faith here in Bowie.

I invite you to review the schedule and participate in the forums that best suit you and your summer schedule. The board intends to present information. As we explore ideas and possibilities together, we will create a path to a new future. We will accomplish what we are committed to do this year and build into the new year.

I am ready to enter a period of Deep Listening and Deep Learning with you.

Ken Shilling  
President  
Goodloe Memorial  
UU Congregation

*"If you believe it will work out, you'll see opportunities. If you believe it won't, you will see obstacles."*

*"If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change."*

*Wayne Dyer  
(R.I.P. 1940-2015)*

# Congregational Transition: Exploring Our Common Goals

Our congregation will go through a major transition this year. There are multiple ways forward. We want to think about our goals. With common goals, we can apply our energy and resources to achieving them.

**PROCESS:** Keep everyone in the congregation Informed, Involved, and Inspired.

**SUSTAINABLE:** Develop a new organizational culture that is sustainable for the next two years. We need to live within a smaller budget and with our available pool of talent.

**LEGACY:** Leave a legacy for young adults and new members to enjoy in their spiritual journeys.

**SPIRITUAL PRACTICE:** Fully engage in discussions and conversations as a spiritual practice. Develop emotional literacy, multi-cultural competency, and other skills.

**COMMUNITY BUILDING:** We have to do this transition together.

**OUT OF THE BOX:** Experiment with the ways we organize and serve our community. Be bold in thinking big.

**REACH OUT:** Call upon outside experts for advice and financial support.

With common goals, we can know if we have been successful in achieving those objectives. Come and participate in this exciting time of spiritual growth and change.

Please let us know what you think about these goals.

Ken Shilling  
President  
Goodloe Memorial  
UU Congregation

## Board Meeting Minutes

**Date:** June 9, 2015

**Attendance:**

Minister & Board Members: Ken Shilling, Jackie Lord, Pete Boudriault, Sid Soderholm, Dick Wobus, Sally Raymond, Cyn Snavelly.

Guests: Dick Morris, Laird Towle

The Goodloe Board holds a joint meeting in June for old and new members: Ken greeted new Board members; Ken thanked Sally for her service as President this past year.

Concerns and comments about the future of Goodloe were expressed and discussed by the



Board members and guests.

An agenda was developed for the Board Retreat scheduled for Saturday June 20; items planned for discussion include Goodloe Ministries, review of the budget, possible financial options, worship services, communication with the congregation.

Rev. Cyn closed the meeting with a spiritual message.

*(Continued on page 5)*

# Goodloe Updated Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-16

**Budgeted Income:**

\$56,330	Pledge Offerings
\$5,980	Matching Challenge
\$3,100	Non-Pledge Offering
\$3,050	Fundraising
\$7,200	Building Rentals
<b>\$75,660</b>	<b>Total Income</b>

## Very Successful Matching Challenge

An anonymous donor offered to match contributions beyond normal pledges up to \$2500. The response was great! As of August 24, Goodloe had raised \$5980, including the original offer of \$2500. Thank you for your support of Goodloe!!

**Budgeted Expenses:**

\$36,950	Professional Staff
\$26,760	Facilities (mortgage, condo fees, insurance, utilities, maintenance)
\$1,000	Worship Honoraria
\$3,738	UUA & JPD dues
\$1,845	Other (choir & RE expenses, publicity)
?	Transition Expenses
<b>\$70,293</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>

## Summary

With the matching challenge, we can budget for Cyn's final 3 months, a student minister preaching twice monthly for 9 months, Director of Religious Exploration, Choir Director and Accompanist and still expect a small surplus that might be needed for unforeseen transition expenses.

**Budgeted Income Over Expenses: \$5,367**

*Respectfully submitted by  
Sid Soderholm, Financial Officer*

## Board Meeting Minutes (Continued from page 4)

**Date:** July 7, 2015

**Attendance:**

Minister & Board Members: Ken Shilling, Jackie Lord, Pete Boudriault, Sid Soderholm, Cyn Snavelly

Rev. Cyn began the meeting with a spiritual reading.

UU Church of Annapolis was contacted regarding an exploratory meeting regarding

a possible relationship. Meeting is scheduled for July 30.

Topics for the congregational meeting on July 12 were discussed. A tentative agenda was developed with the focus on information sharing.

Goodloe plans to continue to be a fair share contributor to UUA and JPD and included this expense in the draft budget.

# Goodloe Monthly Activities

## Farewell Potluck for Rev. Cynthia Snavelly

Sunday September 27 will be Rev. Cyn's last service. Please join us for a special lunch after the service to bid her a fond farewell, show our appreciation for her service to Goodloe, and wish her the best in the next phase of life's path.

Please bring a very special dish (appetizer, salad, main dish, dessert) to share at the luncheon. A signup sheet will be posted in the coffee area.

This special lunch will replace the normal second Sunday potluck.

## Goodloe Readers

Tuesday, Sept 15, 7:30pm

We will meet to discuss an article written by Richard Heinberg. Copies are available from Laird Towle. All are welcome to attend!

Also, see our upcoming books:

- **October:** *The Road to Character* by David Brooks

## Monthly Fundraisers

Thank you for supporting Goodloe through our ongoing fundraisers. Our Amazon fundraiser brought in \$28 for the summer. Giant Scrip totals are below:

	May	June	July
Giant Scrip	\$99	\$160	\$58

## 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.

## Goodloe Coffeehouse

Saturday, Sept 19, 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:

**MP3 audio files of sermons are available** on the Goodloe website via the [Sermon Archive page](#). Services are generally posted within a week or two after each service.

# Regional UU Events

## NOVA Cluster Music, Faith & Fun Fest

The Northern Virginia Unitarian Universalist Cluster announces its first ever big event - the "Music, Faith and Fun Fest" - Saturday, October 3rd, 11am - 5pm at Accotink UU Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke, VA 22015.

The event is rain or shine and family friendly; sponsored by the UU Northern Virginia Cluster of Congregations. Weather permitting, we will use the outdoor "WUUDStock Stage" for music and worship.

Bring yourself, family and friends and plan to have a good time spreading the light of UUism in our area! Tell everyone to bring a blanket or camping chairs. There will be accommodations for people with special needs, including priority seating and parking, as well as shuttles to bring people from our overflow parking sites.

Please call Rev. Scott at Accotink UU Church 703-503-4579 if you have questions. See Ken Shilling about carpooling.

## DMV UU People of Color

Friends,

When we kicked off Building Community Together, for people of color in the DMV, the goal was to provide a space for spiritual and collegial support for families, youth and leaders of color active in our UU congregations.

Participation was not as strong as hoped. We suspect that while interest may be there, making time for another activity may have been difficult.

Starting with this new church year, we will hold gatherings quarterly. They will be open to all ages.

As our congregations begin to address the Black Lives Matter movement, it may increase the

emotional challenge for many of us. Our first gathering will allow us to focus on our spiritual health as we are impacted.

Please hold the date: Saturday December 12th!

Our special guest will be Raziq Brown, the incoming Youth and Young Adult Coordinator for the Central East Regional Group (CERG). More detailed information will follow.

Yours in beloved community,  
Rev. Archene Turner

Affiliated community minister at Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist church in Bethesda, MD



## Seeking DC Region Hosts for Social Justice Action Attendees

UUSJ is putting together a database of those who are willing to occasionally host people coming to DC for short-term social justice actions and events. We don't expect that anyone will host more than twice a year. Hosts, of course, always have the right to decline the request. And, hosts are not expected to provide meals or transportation, or accompany guests to an action.

If you are interested in becoming an occasional host, please fill out this survey. The first opportunity to host will be next month for the Moral Action on Climate, the week of September 20.

Thank you to all who complete this survey. You will be helping to make participating in social justice issues easier for those who do not live in the area.

If you can host someone during the week of Sept. 20 or you have other questions or need more information, please contact me, Mary Pike at [marylpva@gmail.com](mailto:marylpva@gmail.com) or 202-746-4494.

Sincerely,  
Mary Pike,  
UUSJ Hospitality  
Committee

# September 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6 10:30 Worship/RE	7	8 7:15 Bowie Springs Meditation	9	10	11	12
13 10:30 Worship/RE	14	15 7:30 Goodloe Readers	16	17	18	19 7:30pm Coffeehouse
20 10:30 Worship/RE	21	22 7:15 Bowie Springs Meditation	23	24	25	26
27 10:30 Worship/RE 11:30 Farewell Potluck for Rev. Cyn	28	29	30			



## Goodloe Memorial Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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

Minister Emeritus: **Rev. John Gaffney**

Religious Exploration Consultant:  
**Aléthea Shiplett**

Music Director: **Noreen Chin**  
[choirdirector@goodloeuu.org](mailto:choirdirector@goodloeuu.org)

Accompanist: **Lorraine Webb**

### Board of Trustees ([board@goodloeuu.org](mailto:board@goodloeuu.org))

President:  
Ken Shilling ([president@goodloeuu.org](mailto:president@goodloeuu.org))

Vice President:  
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Financial Officer:  
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At-Large Trustees:  
Debra Braswell ([trustee1@goodloeuu.org](mailto:trustee1@goodloeuu.org))  
Dick Wobus ([trustee2@goodloeuu.org](mailto:trustee2@goodloeuu.org))

### Committee Chairs

Worship Coordinator: Dick Wobus  
([worship@goodloeuu.org](mailto:worship@goodloeuu.org))

Building & Facilities: Sally Raymond

Coffee House Chair:  
[coffeehouse@goodloeuu.org](mailto:coffeehouse@goodloeuu.org)

Goodloe Green Sanctuary: Vacant

Goodloe Readers: Karen Ackermann

Kiva Investing: Laird Towle

Membership: Ken Shilling

Ministry:  
Ken Shilling, Steve Buckingham,  
Nita Page Daves

Odyssey Editor: Angela Peerman

## 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.**

## Remember to Click Through Goodloe for Amazon.com Purchases

Go to Goodloe's [Fundraisers](#) page. (If you use an Ad-Blocker, be sure to Whitelist this page.) Click the Amazon.com button and make your online purchases. **There is no additional cost for your items, but Goodloe gets a percentage of the sale.**

**Deadline for Next Odyssey:  
September 22, 2015**

**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



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301 218-5277  
[www.goodloeuu.org](http://www.goodloeuu.org)  
Reverend Cynthia Snavelly  
Service and Religious Education 10:30 am Sundays

