



Odyssey

May 2016

Sunday Services

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

May 8	<i>Beltane, Honoring the Divine Mother</i> The Peerman Family (Multigenerational) Join us as we celebrate Beltane with special emphasis on the Divine aspect of Mother, honor our mothers & those who have fulfilled mothering roles in our lives, and recognize when we (men too!) have done this for others. Note: Pot luck is moved to May 15.
May 15	<i>Flower Communion</i> Aléthea Shiplett Inter-generational service celebrating our unity and diversity. Pot luck & Annual Meeting immediately following the service.
May 22	<i>The Promise of Pluralism: Our UU Message vs. Our UU Culture</i> Aléthea Shiplett Persons of color are attracted to the promise and message of UU principles. But UU churches are struggling to welcome them. UU Seminarians of color are entering UU ministry in greater numbers than ever before. But they struggle to find churches willing to call them. Let's examine UU culture and UU promise together.
May 29	<i>Beyond the Partisan Divide</i> Pete Boudriault The current race for the Presidency has left us surprised and uncomfortable. How can we understand the dynamics that are happening in our country? What can we do to bridge the divides that are erupting from under the surface? We will have the opportunity to share our thoughts and express our concerns.
June 5	<i>Writing a Novel: A Spiritual Inquiry</i> Dick Morris Richard Morris describes the spiritual process he uses when writing novels, beginning with a theme based on UU principles and moving from reality into imagination. He will focus on how he delved into the tobacco planting, slave-holding, and Jim Crow history of Prince George's County when writing his novel <i>Well Considered</i> .

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Goodloe Prospects for 2016-17

We had a successful pledge campaign for 2016-17 year. With your generosity, we have a budget to continue our same level of services. At our congregation meeting on April 24 we provided an information session on the budget, membership, staff, and an approach to try some bold experiments.

On May 15 we will have our annual congregational meeting. We will include any updates from our April 24 meeting. Based on our discussions, we will present a final budget. At this time, we are still looking for people to serve on the board.

We will present a new approach to worship. We plan to implement this approach in the months of July and August. This is an experiment. We will try out the new approach, and make any adjustments. If successful, we will roll out this approach for the new year.

First, the Board has discussed using theme-based ministry. For a nominal investment, we will have access to professionally developed worship materials. We will have themed materials for a month. We can select the materials that we wish to use that month.

We will roll out Theme-Based ministry in July and August. The theme for July will be "Letting

Go". We will approach the theme from a number of perspectives: such as letting go in our personal lives, or letting go of past religious traditions. It could be letting go of our children — going to school for the first time, going off on their own, or even getting married.

The theme for August will be Awakening. In July, we will be letting go of some of our old traditions such as 4 formal sermons. In August, we will start awakening to a new future.

A typical monthly worship schedule will have 2 sermons and 2 experimental sessions. We will start the month with a formal sermon that introduces the theme for the month. There will be an intergen service format around the theme. We will adapt the adult RE on religious literacy to a worship format. This format will have traditional elements of our rituals, songs and offertory. The worship will be mostly discussion on religious literacy. There could be another format designed around Going Deeper type of discussion.

The theme-based ministry also has a component of small group ministry. Early in our history, we did not have worship in the summer. We had a family-oriented program. We enjoyed meeting each other and doing things together. We are hoping that small group ministry will

give us a chance to know each other better.

Outreach — we are hoping that other people may be more interested in small group discussion, then formal worship. We are hoping to use small group ministry for outreach.

We are beginning conversations about possible partnerships with other UU congregations to grow our faith in Prince George's County. We have meet with leaders from Davies and Paint Branch. There is some discussion of adopting theme-based ministry & small group ministry as we work together on some common projects.

We will review other discussions from our workshop with Rev. Christina. We will use our Great Loves to shape our way forward into next year.

We have accomplished a lot over the past year. We have had many meetings and discussed many ideas. As always, your Board is interested in knowing your ideas and opinions. We will make adjustments as we go through the summer. Thank you for your commitment and devotion over this past year.



Ken Shilling,
President,
Goodloe Memorial

Board Meeting Minutes

Attendance—Board Members: Ken Shilling, Jackie Lord, Pete Boudriault, Sid Soderholm, Dick Wobus

Guests: Megan Foley

Ken shared a spiritual reading from the gray hymnal by Eileen Karpeles.

Options for changing the format of worship services were discussed. Monthly themes for worship will be implemented during July and August on an experimental basis. The themes and resources from the UUA program “Soul Matters” will be used to plan services. The initial proposal for monthly service

formats include a traditional service, an intergenerational service, and more experimental services on the remaining Sundays. The proposed theme for July is “Letting Go,” and the August theme is “Awakening.”

The Board held an executive session meeting. Some of the topics discussed included nominations submitted by the Nominations Committee, budget and staff considerations, and path options for the future. Pete closed the meeting with a spiritual reading from the gray hymnal that discusses worship as serving the people.

A Message from Goodloe’s President: Spiritual Maturity - In a Good Place

As we approach the annual meeting, I want to express some gratitude.

First, we had a successful information workshop on Sunday, April 24. Some people noted some omissions, which we will can address on 15 May.

After the workshop, I briefly chatted with Rev. Christina. She commented that she observed our discussions had a high degree of spiritual maturity. We are able to discuss different views and trust that our own sharing will be respected. You are a great congregation.

Second, we have done a lot of work to know "who we are" and our "Great Loves". Your interest and participation — in multiple meetings and workshops, in Going Deeper sharing, in offering opinions or in holding me accountable — shows your deep commitment to our community and its future.

Third, your Board has addressed some complex issues — over and over again. There has been a lot of ambiguity and uncertainty. Even in tense

times, we held together. More importantly, we met with two other congregations in our county. Each board member took turns explaining what Goodloe has considered and what we are going to try as an experiment. I was impressed by their leadership — collaborative, cooperative in multiple voices.

We have successfully navigated this year with our style of lay leadership and staff. With your devotion and spiritual maturity, we are looking forward to even more exciting and inspiring year. It is time to make a decision, as best we are able.

See you at the Goodloe Annual Meeting on May 15 after worship.

Ken Shilling, President



Goodloe Activities

Worship Workshops

Worship Workshops are being offered every second Monday evening to help our volunteer worship leaders with the following:

- Goals and guidelines for preparing a service.
- Discuss options for incorporating music into your service.
- Tips for designing PowerPoint slides for a service.

Workshops are open to all who are interested, even if you are not yet signed up to lead a service.

Anyone who is signed up to lead a service should plan to participate in at least one workshop.

If you want/need to attend a workshop, please contact our worship coordinator (worship@goodloeuu.org) or Religious Exploration Director, Aléthea Shiplett, to arrange a date & time to meet.

Monthly Fundraiser

In March, Goodloe earned \$111 through Giant Scrip Sales. Thank you for supporting Goodloe.

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 mediation, 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, May 21, 7:30pm

Share your talents or just relax and enjoy. Performers, please arrive 15 minutes before the show to sign up for a slot. \$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 Bell Choir

New members are welcome to join the Sunday Services Bell Choir. Rehearsals start at 6:30 pm at Goodloe. Performances are the third Sunday Service of the month.

- ◆ Next performance: May 15.
- ◆ Upcoming Rehearsals: June 9, & 16.
Performance: June 19.

Goodloe Music Suggestion Box

Please provide your music suggestions: Suggest songs or music for a specific service or for use as the music director chooses.

Songs or music may be any genre, vocal or instrumental.

The Music Suggestion Box is a white floral decorated box placed on the food table in the coffee area.

Paper and writing utensils for your suggestions are located next to the box.

We welcome your input!

Goodloe Learning Programs (Adult Religious Exploration)

We can explore prepared materials from the UUA. We need to select one topic to explore. Here is some information about the topics that are available to us. Please let us know your interest and your commitment in learning.

- A. World Mythology:** Mythology from Greek, Norse, Roman, Egyptian, Indian, Persia, Africa, Chinese, Japanese, Pacific Islanders, Native American- approximately 5 years of discussion materials. Understand the Oral tradition of world 'scriptures.'
- B. Comparative Religions:** Discuss what is sacred in the five major religions. Look at people, places, texts, and temples. 3 years of discussion materials.
- C. Sacred Texts of the World:** What is the worldview of different traditions that provide core values and ethics for meaningful living? Five major religions plus Confucianism, Zoroastrianism, and Jainism. 3 years of discussion materials.
- D. Gnosticism:** Study various texts from Nag Hamadi. Explore alternative views of Christianity that did not get included in Orthodox Christianity.
- E. What Moves Us:** This program peels back the doctrine-rich theological language that can prevent us from affirming our faith experiences with one another and in the wider world. Through shared direct experiences and reflection exercises, readings and lessons, and ethical deliberations, What Moves Us creates an adult faith journey for Unitarian Universalists who want to preach and teach what they already experience but have not been able to articulate: the spiritual power of our faith.

Upcoming Sessions

May 22: Going Deeper. After the service and a lunch break, join our religious exploration director Alethea Shiplett to engage even further. How does your life reflect the values and principles that we explore together at Goodloe?

June 5: Religious Literacy.
Viewer's Choice—Those who attend can select which of 24 sessions they would like to review again.

- F. Faith Like a River:** Themes from Unitarian Universalism.
 - ◆ Introduce the rich history of Unitarian Universalism from the beginning of our theological heritage to contemporary times.
 - ◆ Explore our inheritance of theology, practice, and institutional organization as manifested in various times and places in our history.
 - ◆ Present some of the events, historical settings, and people that influenced Unitarianism, Universalism, and Unitarian Universalism.
 - ◆ Demonstrate connections between historical events, people, and stories and current Unitarian Universalist values, symbols, organizational structures, and traditions.

WHICH ONE of the above topics do you like most? Please contact Ken Shilling with your opinion.

Regional UU Activities

Northern Virginia Cluster Meeting Unitarian Universalist Association

Unitarian Universalist Church in Reston
1625 Wiehle Ave, Reston, VA 20190
Saturday, May 14, 10am—2 pm

Meetings occur regularly on the second
Saturday of every other month.

Rev. Dr. Kate R. Walker and Alice King
(Intern Minister), from Mt. Vernon, will
present a program on young adult ministry
in UU churches by looking at past and
present trends, how to engage this broad
age range, and why it's important to spend
time and resource on this age group.

Rev. Walker grew up UU, and just finished
her Doctor of Ministry looking at the faith
formation of UU youth and young adults.
Alice King was the Young Adult and
Campus Ministry Coordinator at the San
Diego UU church for nine years.

Contact: Rev. Megan L. Foley,
mfoley@uua.org or (301) 535-2956



UULM-MD Presents

Sara Jones, Award Winning Jazz Vocalist

In a benefit concert in support of the Unitarian
Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland.

Saturday, June 4, 2016, 4pm

At the home of Scott Eden and Jan Bird
in Edgewater, MD.

Jazz vocalist Sara Jones has been delighting audiences
nationwide with her trademark “lush vocals” and her
“velvet embrace” of the music.

Light refreshments will be served. Advanced ticket
purchase recommended.

Tickets: \$100 (\$75 may be considered a tax-deductible
donation to UULM-MD.)

Tickets may be purchased online at www.uulmmd.org, by
contacting us at info@uulmmd.org or by calling
410-266-8044, ext. 111. You may also send a check made
out to UUCA with UULM-MD Concert on the memo
line. Checks should be mailed to UULM-MD, c/o UUC of
Annapolis, 333 Dubois Road, Annapolis, MD 21401

Unitarian Universalist Mid-Atlantic Community (UUMAC) 2016

When: July 10-16

Where: DeSales University,
Center Valley PA
(Near Allentown PA)

Are you looking for a summer
vacation option that will be fun,
rejuvenating, multi-generational,
and affordable? The Unitarian
Universalist Mid-Atlantic
Community (UUMAC) '16 will be
held July 10-16 near Allentown,
PA. It is many things—a spiritual
retreat, a family summer camp, an
institute for learning and

exploration, a weeklong party and
reunion of kindred souls. We play
games and instruments, sing,
listen, discuss, learn, worship,
visit, laugh, work, eat, (and
sometimes sleep), dance and nosh
at Night Owls, and paint faces
and toenails at the Carnival.
UUMAC is intentionally a multi-
generational community, and
programming is a balance of
activity according to age grouping
and across age barriers. Children,
teens and adults each have
programming geared to their
interests. As well, ages mingle for

off-campus trips, and evening
activities.

This year's UUMAC will focus
on Radical Hospitality and Radical
Justice. Rev. Libby Smith, an
adjunct staffer at the Joseph
Priestly District, and Rev. Dr.
Tracy Spowls of our served
Plainfield UU church will be our
Minister of the Week and Theme
speaker.

For more information, please go
to www.uumac.org and/or speak
with Ken Shilling.

UU General Assembly

June 22-26, Columbus, OH

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend; congregations must certify annually to send voting delegates.

The theme for GA 2016 will be **Heart Land: Where Faiths Connect**. The faith world is increasingly multifaith. People are crossing borders of religion and spiritual practice to create wholeness in their lives individually and collectively. The labels—Christian, Jew, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, theist and non-theist—no longer define who or what we love, or how spirit moves in our lives. General Assembly 2016 in Columbus Ohio will assemble leaders and communities of many faiths to worship together, learn from one another, and create a new vision of faith that no longer divides us, but connects us to an interdependent future that works for all.

- ◆ Most events will be held in the Greater Columbus Convention Center, 400 N High St, Columbus, OH 43215.
- ◆ [Housing reservations](#) and [Registration](#) are open.
- ◆ [Preliminary program schedule](#) (subject to change)
- ◆ [Other program highlights](#)
- ◆ Tentative [Business Agenda](#)
- ◆ New: [Choir sign-up](#) is open. Space is limited and is going quickly.
- ◆ New: General Assembly [Stories & Testimonials](#)
- ◆ New: [GA Forum](#), an online discussion about General Assembly (and place to post room-share or ride-share listings)
- ◆ New: Preparing to join the GA 2016 Learning Community Unitarian Universalists come together not only to do the business of our association, but also to learn from one another and from presenters, to worship and witness together, and to focus together on questions and commitments facing our faith today. We form a learning community. As you prepare for General Assembly in Columbus, we ask that you prepare your mind, heart, and spirit for what you will experience. Get ready to learn, to grow spiritually, and to increase your capacity to be a leader in your own faith community and in your local context! [Here are three ways to prepare.](#)

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

“There are times where... it only matters that we are present and willing to serve the Creation. In such moments words end and a genuine humility can rise in us.”

Josh Pawelek, UU Minister

May 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 10:30 Worship	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 10:30 Multigen Service	9 7pm Board Meeting	10 7:15 Bowie Springs Meditation	11	12	13	14
15 10:30 Flower Communion Pot Luck & Annual Meeting	16	17	18	19	20	21 7:30 Coffeehouse
22 10:30 Worship Lunch Bunch	23	24 7:15 Bowie Springs Meditation	25	26	27	28
29 10:30 Worship	30	31				

Goodloe Memorial Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Ministry: Congregational Lay Leadership

Minister Emeritus: **Rev. John Gaffney**

Religious Exploration Consultant:
Aléthea Shiplett

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

Accompanist: **Lorraine Webb**

Board of Trustees (board@goodloeuu.org)

President:
Ken Shilling (president@goodloeuu.org)

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

Financial Officer:
Sid Soderholm (finance@goodloeuu.org)

Secretary:
Jackie Lord (secretary@goodloeuu.org)

At-Large Trustees:
Debra Braswell (trustee1@goodloeuu.org)
Dick Wobus (trustee2@goodloeuu.org)

Committee Chairs

Worship Coordinator: Jackie Lord
(worship@goodloeuu.org)

Building & Facilities: Sally Raymond

Coffee House Chair:
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

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Giant Scrip. Use the scrip like a gift card
at the check-out line.**

**Deadline for Next Odyssey:
May 22, 2016**

**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 Snavelly
Service and Religious Education 10:30 am Sundays

